

**Chalmers Memorial Church**  
**Kirk Session Workshop Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

Considering each of the 3 priority areas identified by the Kirk Session in 2014, the Session considered for each area “what had moved things on” and “what had held things back”

**Pastoral Care and Community Outreach**

**What has moved things on?**

**Pastoral Care**

- Lyn’s good organising
- Trust in the new system of communication
- Well established elder & pastoral team (coordinators)
- System we have to alert elders is working
- Training is going well – 8 trained in Bereavement support
- Good visit from minister when unwell, also prayer
- Visits by elders well appreciated, especially when not well

**Bereavement group**

- Leader’s & supporters’ enthusiasm and commitment
- Opportunity to have bereavement group in this area
- Team members
- Publicity – health centres, community centres, local church
- Tom’s experience & leadership

**“Other”**

- Wednesday groups – lunches etc.
- Churches’ Group (3 churches)
- Chalmers’ “Adventurers”
- Being kept up to date with church matters when “off church”

**What has held things back?**

**Pastoral Care**

1. Could the K.S. and congregation be reminded who the 8 trained are?
2. More men required as pastoral visitors
3. Assistance for district elders
4. Rebalance some districts (with Roll Keeper)
5. Lack of association or events with other (all) churches
6. More support needed for people “on the fringes” or not as well known
7. Elderly visiting could be improved

## **Youth and Children's work**

### **What has moved things on?**

- 10.15 service (variety of service)
- Early service – youngsters very comfortable
- Trying to be aware of things for children at Early Services– percussion etc.

### **Kids' Kirk and Y Kirk**

- Commitment of organisers
- Well run/well organised
- Training of leaders
- Leadership preparation
- Youth Kirk is now established with regular attenders
- Full support of the church
- Congregation's support and prayer
- Social media to advertise kids' sessions (+church)
- School visiting the church
- All going to plan

### **What has held things back?**

1. Additional help from elders for Kids' Kirk
2. Contact difficult with the school after the retirement of the depute

## **Finance and Buildings**

### **What has moved things on?**

- Commitment of conveners
- Finance planned as far as possible meantime
- We have someone who has been good at contacting people and ensuring the jobs are done
- Priorities have been attended to including emergency work
- Somethings getting done, e.g. hall, counting room
- Managed to establish a priority list
- Formation of Stewardship group and enthusiasm of convener
- Fundraisers – many different events; widened social activities
- Met initial first year target

### **What has held things back?**

- Maximising Gift aid
- Difficulty in finalising funding; grants not yet applied for
- Information about loans ongoing
- Difficulty of access for estimates & work
- Presbytery guidance re manse before deciding where we go forward
- Lack of Fabric convener for decision making process
- Communication between Fabric and Stewardship
- List changed (priority or new)

## **Emerging priorities**

### **Communication**

1. Notice board – reposition
2. More posters and communication generally
3. Communicate with folk in Seton Sands

### **Ministry**

4. Focus on younger people
5. Young people and families “champion”
6. Consider concept of older people’s ministry
7. Review elders’ districts
8. Communion at John Bellany centre

### **Practical**

9. Future of the manse
10. Next steps to move priority areas on/resources required
11. Any IT “experts” to help with website etc.
12. Recording of services for housebound/elderly

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