

## **UPDATE FROM JUNE KIRK SESSION MEETING**

The Kirk Session of Linlithgow and Avon Valley Church met on Tuesday 10 June in Longcroft Hall, Linlithgow. These are some of the matters discussed:

The Accounts for the year to 31 December 2024 were approved by Session and will be presented to the Annual Stated Meeting which is being held in Cross House, Linlithgow on Tuesday 24 June at 7pm. All members and adherents are encouraged to attend this first Stated Annual Meeting of Linlithgow and Avon Valley Church. There will also be a few short presentations about a number of other areas of the work of the Kirk Session.

Some essential work inside the sanctuary at St Michael's will involve the building being closed for two to three weeks, probably in late September or early October. Session was glad of the suggestion that those who normally go to St Michael's would be warmly welcomed at the other parts of the parish, providing an opportunity to worship together.

Session welcomed the news that the first magazine for the new parish is being printed and will be distributed shortly. In addition, a new logo is being developed and work continues to update the website.

The post of Toddler Group Co-ordinator at St Michael's will shortly be advertised within the parish and more widely, with Session agreeing to a fixed term contract to June 2026. Tracy Curle, who heads up the Children and Young People Team shared some of the plans to further develop the work which we do with young people in the parish.

Session considered instructions from the General Assembly and recent changes in legislation relating to safeguarding. For example, these affect those visiting care homes on behalf of the church who will now require to have PVG clearance. We will be contacting the relevant people as soon as possible.

Session agreed to the establishment of an Energy Group to facilitate all the Church wants to do as efficiently, and carbon-efficiently, as possible, in terms of energy. Options for reducing Linlithgow and Avon Valley's carbon footprint including through alternative sources of heating and solar panels will be explored.

Matters relating to the calling of the second full time minister lie currently with Presbytery, while work on the manse at Torphichen is underway in anticipation.

Our next full meeting will be in September, but the Session appointed a small group to deal with any urgent business over the summer.

Linlithgow and Avon Valley Church  
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