



SCOTTISH BAPTIST LAY PREACHERS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON SATURDAY 7TH MARCH 2009 AT 10:30AM
AT PERTH BAPTIST CHURCH

PRESENT

Jim Brownlee (Stenhouse Gorgie), Glen Cartwright (Newton Mearns), Jim Ewing (Bearsden), Ken Forrest (Cathcart), David Geddes (Rutherglen), Alastair Kay (Sheddocksley), Jack Leng (Kirkintilloch), Jim McFarlane (Kirkintilloch), Jim McNulty (Perth), Florence Mackenzie (Aberdeen Christian Fellowship), James Mackenzie (Aberdeen Christian Fellowship), Allan McLeod (Tillicoultry), Phil Magee (Dingwall), Alex Marshall (East Mains), Oliver Martin (Baptist Union of Scotland), Trevor May (Denny), Alan Milnes (Leslie), Fraser Mitchell (Partick), Andrew Page (Greenock), George Petrie (Broxburn), George Ramsay (Springburn), Hugh Tannock (Drumchapel), Iain Telfer (Irvine), Philip Usher (Sanquhar), Joy Weightman (Cambuslang) & Michael Wray (St Andrews).

OPENING DEVOTIONS

Opening praise and worship was led by some of the Praise Band from Perth Baptist Church, after which the President, Jim McFarlane, welcomed all present to the Annual General Meeting and led in a short devotion from 2 Timothy 3 & 4 on the power, the presence and the principles of God and preaching.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Secretary intimated that the following apologies for absence which had been received : Richard Alexander (Dennistoun), David Andrew (Denny), John Asbury (Bearsden), Stephen Barton (Culloden), David Bebbington (Stirling), Paul Brightey (East Mains), Jim Brooks (Queens Park), Bill Brown (Leslie), Marion Carson (Queens Park), Wayne Cowpland (Dundee Central), Jim Edmiston (Kings Park), Robert Ferguson (Broxburn), Stuart Gerrie (Ellon), Walter Grant (Pitlochry), Peter Heaton (Dingwall), Stewart Hendrie (Larbert), Ken Honeyman (Partick), Robert Hornby (Stirling), Stephen Ilett (Alness), Nigel Johns (Ayr Southside), Kenneth Laing (Tillicoultry), Mark Laing (Larbert), Peter Lanigan (Falkirk), Bob Leslie (Dumbarton), Hector Livingston (Nairn), Sam McCutcheon (Hamilton), Robert McGowan (Culloden), Cindy Mackenzie

(Wishaw), Philip March (Shettleston), Steve Marr (Newton Mearns), Debbie Meehan (Ayr Southside), Arthur Miles (Mosspark), Eleanor Miles (Mosspark), Andrea Mill (Bristo), Riaz Mohammed (Newton Mearns), Harry Mooney (Shettleston), David Murray (Cathcart), Jim Parratt (Castlehill), Eric Renfrew (Cathcart), Graeme Scott (Newton Mearns), Sandy Small (Larbert), Michael Stalker (Tillicoultry), Peter Trotter (Glasgow), Mark Walker (Ayr), David White (Dumfries), Shawn White (Duncan Street, Edinburgh), Nimal Wijesinghe (Airdrie), Andrew Young (Fraserburgh) & Janet Young (High Blantyre).

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 1st March 2008 at Partick Baptist Church were approved on the motion of Jack Leng (Kirkintilloch), seconded by Iain Telfer (Irvine).

ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Given that since the last Annual General Meeting, there was no longer a need for all members to have an Enhanced Disclosure, the Secretary intimated that the amendment to the Constitution to reflect that was no longer required under section 4(e), but that under item 6, the notice of amendment to the Constitution, having lain on the table for a year, now required formal adoption, this being to remove under item 6 the words:- *“President, Treasurer, General Secretary, and Supply Secretary (these posts may be combined on occasion at the discretion of the Committee”* and replace with the words *“President, Treasurer and General Secretary”*. This was formally adopted on the motion of Fraser Mitchell (Partick) and seconded by Trevor May (Denny).

PRESIDENTS REPORT

In presenting his first report, the President, Jim McFarlane, highlighted the importance of preaching and the valuable ministry of the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association, and commended within the Association who had recently been bereaved, were unwell and who needed prayer.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary, Glen Cartwright, presented his report to the meeting, touching on his reflections, convictions in preaching, the growth in new members, the Committee, preaching statistics, learning and development, the 2008 survey, the website, and promotion of the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer, Alan Milnes, reported in presenting his report, that to 31st December 2008, the total income for the year had been £1,048.93, against an income figure of £655.44 for the previous year. Expenditure had been £1,387.15, against a total expenditure for the previous year of £767.94. Albeit this represented in and of itself a deficit of £338.22, this was offset by the opening balance for the year of £509.24, giving,

in reality, a modest surplus for the year of £171.02. The budgeted figures for the year to 31st December 2009 were noted as being, for income, £1,155.50 and for expenditure, £1,131.50, though these are merely indicative at this stage. It was noted that the accounts had yet to be audited by Stephen Ilett (Alness), but they would be remitted to the Committee to arrange and accept.

WEBMASTERS REPORT

Presenting the website report, Phil Magee highlighted how it had developed during 2008/2009, and mentioned the news & views section, resources, the members list, and the increase in visitor statistics. He encouraged all present to visit the website regularly and contribute to it.

Jim Ewing (Bearsden), in relation to the promotional publicity mentioned in the report by the Secretary, asked whether the images used infringed any copyright, and had permission been gained for the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association to use them. The Secretary intimated that these had been produced by a professional Christian printing company who did work for Mission Scotland, Scripture Union, etc, but notwithstanding this he would gain an assurance from the company concerned, Verve Creative. Subsequent communication with Verve Creative confirmed they had license to use the images in promotional publicity for any clients, and therefore there was no problem in their being used by the Scottish Baptist Lay Preachers' Association. For the purposes of the minute, this was relayed back to Jim Ewing who stated he was content with the response and thanked the Secretary for investigating.

The four aforementioned reports were approved on the motion of Fraser Mitchell (Partick) and seconded by Michael Wray (St Andrews).

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No further business was intimated.

DATE & VENUE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010

Notice was given by the General Secretary that the 2010 Annual General Meeting would be held on Saturday 13th March 2010 at a venue in Edinburgh (to be confirmed), at which the guest speaker would be Rev Edwin Gunn (former Senior Pastor of Queen's Park Baptist Church, Glasgow and a former President of the Baptist Union of Scotland).

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting in prayer at 11:25am.