

GENERAL MEETING FOR SCOTLAND TRUSTEES

Minutes – Tues 15 October 2024 by zoom

Present – Robin Waterston (Clerk), Andrew Blackadder, Katrina McCrea, Malcolm Crosby

1. Budget proposals for 2025

Katrina has presented a draft budget for 2025 and proposed donations. After discussion and some amendments, Katrina will recirculate a revised budget for our final approval. This will be considered by GM on 9 November. We recommend transferring the £300 contribution to SCPO to the new Scottish Quakers Community Justice Group. And moving the £50 from Together Scotland to Stop Climate Chaos, bringing their total to £230.

Katrina will forward the budget and proposed donations to the GM Clerk, and will speak to it at GM.

2. Independent examiner of accounts

On Katrina's recommendation, we agree to ask Graham Morton to examine the accounts for 2024. He is a retired banker who regularly audits and independently reviews various organisations. We would offer him £100 honorarium.

3. Reflections on Quakers in Scotland, next steps

Robin has introduced a discussion on where we are with the Quakers in Scotland proposals following GM on 21 September.

We welcome the ideas arising from the Community subgroup of QiSCG for an intermediate level between a new unified charity and local Meetings. This could allow more flexible arrangements to be made with groups of local meetings. We hope that progress can be made on the discussions with OSCR about the draft Governing Document.

4. Update on ACTS and ecumenical work

We have reflected on correspondence from Martin Burnell about the situation with ACTS and the new Scottish Churches Forum. Martin has reported that the Church of Scotland are not supporting the creation of a new charity to disburse the funds of ACTS. There is something of a paralysis as a result. He has also said that there is minimal communication between the Church Leaders Forum and the Ecumenical Representatives Forum, which together form the Scottish Christian Forum. Martin is a Trustee of ACTS, appointed by GM. We uphold him in his efforts to achieve a fair and legal outcome for the laying down of ACTS and use of its financial reserves.

We uphold everyone trying to find a way forward to allow practical cooperation on issues of common concern among the churches in Scotland.

5. Dates of next regular meetings 2025

- Weds 19th Feb, 7.30 pm (to consider annual report and accounts to GM)
- Tues 14th Oct, 7.30 pm (to consider budget for 2026).

Additional meetings will be arranged as required.

Robin Waterston, Clerk