

Minutes of a meeting of St Saviour's Episcopal Church Vestry, held on
Thursday 1 May 2025, at 7 p.m.

1. Welcome and Prayer
2. Apologies: Bill Logie.
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: none.
4. Minutes of Vestry Meeting of 13 February - approved. Proposed: JG, seconded: MW
5. Membership of Vestry and related matters. OSCR's now requires personal information about all Charity trustees. **Action: JG** to send requirements to **AD**. **AD** to gather the required information from all Vestry members.

CARING FOR THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE CONGREGATION

6. Worship. The "Learn to Pray Course" conducted by the Rector and the Rev. Dan Harper of the Parish Church in Lent was well attended. The Rector plans a follow-up series of "Lectio divina". The Rector's wife, Gemma, is organising a Rosary group.

The Maundy Thursday Meal and Foot-washing held jointly with St Modoc's in Doune was much appreciated.

The Easter Sunday service held jointly with the Parish Church was very well attended. The Eucharist took the Episcopal form. On future such occasions catering should be better co-ordinated. Coffee was served at both venues.

The Rector's intention is subsequently to hold the services on big celebratory Feast days in St Saviour's.

Rev. Nelson Okeke has been granted a postgraduate visa for two years. He has applied for skilled worker's visa. He is to meet the Dean and Bishop along with Aaron on 7 May. He is recognised as priest in the SEC and has obtained a PVG. Has asked for formal training to learn about SEC. He will become non-stipendiary. Will be available once every two weeks.

The Rector plans confirmation classes to meet once a month from November to April.

7. Choir. The choir is delighted to welcome Horeb: Yuchen is still with us but might be going home later in May. The Easter season liturgy music is the Rutter setting. Next service with choir and organ is May 11. The Rector will meet Sue Horne to simplify the annual sequence of Orders of Service.

8. Young Church plans a garden party for 22 June, to be coordinated with Fundraising group. Leaflets about Young Church have been prepared by Sarah Lamont.

Sarah's name needs to be added on the back page of the next Newsletter.

9. MISSION:

Wednesday Welcome. The final event this season was a sandwich lunch in church accompanied by the playing of the BoA/Dunblane Ukelele band. Many non-church people attended. **ACTION: AD** to write to Kathleen to thank her.

Young Adults Group plans a 10 pin bowling party with the older members of Young Church in June. Meetings of the Young Adults will take place on 12 or 13 May, 9 June, 8 July, 11 or 12 August.

Prayer shawl group. Recently two shawls have been given out; one to a member of our congregation and another to a member of the church community. Two members of our team have just completed their shawls ready to be delivered to anyone in need. New batches of yarn have come in. 5 new knitters have joined the group. Agreed to advertise in the pewsheets about the group and for more knitters. **Action: MP**

Friends of BofA Communities Day on 14 June. We will provide refreshments, as last year. **Action: Rector.**

Start Up. Contributions to the monthly collection in Church have been dwindling. Agreed that in the period up to the summer holidays we would explore taking part in the Primary School collection of supplies for needy families. **Action :** AMJ to speak to Fiona Buchanan, head teacher of the primary school. **ACTION:** AMJ and JK will contact Amanda Magnusson of 'Start Up' with a view to inviting her to preach.

CARING FOR THE FINANCIAL WELLBEING OF THE CHURCH

10. Treasurer's Report. Bill had previously circulated his report.

Agreed to explore possibility of making a QR scan code available in church to enable donations. **Action: JG.**

Appointment of new accounts examiner. No progress as yet.

Vestry agreed to a proposal from the Fundraising group to buy new 30 new stacking chairs for the hall for an estimated price of £802.20, including delivery. Proposed : TM, seconded: JG **Action ?**

11. Lettings. An updated poster has been printed and is ready for distribution. One enquiry has been received but not pursued.

12. Fundraising: The Edinburgh Mandolin Group is to play on October, 11 at 2.30p.m.

CARING FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE CHURCH'S ASSETS

13. Property.

An estimate has been received from Jim McGee to build and install a new timber door for the Keir St entrance to the garden church and hall for £638. Vestry decided not to go ahead but give priority to repairing or altering the wall. **ACTION:** AD to write to Jim McGee to decline his estimate and to Alex Gifford to ask him to obtain an estimate for repairing the wall and arch.

Net Zero. The Vestry secretary attended a “Solar Panel Event” at St Andrew’s, Saint Andrews on Friday 25 April. His report and some suggestions are attached.

Bethany Nelson, Diocesan Net Zero coordinator, coming on Thursday 22 May, 5 pm to meet both churches. M.Cordwell-Smith has suggested ground-based solar panels.

An emergency push bar to enable the hall doors to be locked during meetings. Alastair Williamson reminds us of this suggestion. **Action:** Rector to speak to Alex about getting a quote. This will be added to Elaine's report on the church hall that will form the basis for the proposed working group on the future of the hall.

14. Garden. The table and chair donated by two members of the congregation. The Secretary has written to thank them both for this very welcome addition to the attractiveness and potential use of the garden.

CARING FOR THE SAFETY OF THE CONGREGATION

15. Health & Safety raised the matter of the Keir Street wall, dealt with above.

16. Pastoral Care and protection of Vulnerable Groups. 1st April, 2025 – Update Disclosure Act. All the files have been reviewed and those members who no longer actively volunteer for the church have been removed. Relevant forms have been sent off to Vicky Anderson, in the Perth Office, for those who require to complete the them. Any new Volunteer will join the PVG scheme electronically in the future.

Data Protection and other permissions. Four new GDPR forms have been filled out and the names added to the pewsheets distribution list. A number of others are in progress.

OTHER MATTERS

Communications. Storage of archives. Process is still ongoing.

Provincial Update from Dee Bird, General Secretary of the SEC. “The Standing Committee, College of Bishops and I are working together to develop a multi-year strategy for the Province. To ensure the strategy is focused on the right things, we require input from local charges. I would be grateful if you would work with the Vestry to populate this survey which will feed into the development of strategy:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XMTMKB7>

Thanks to Gemma for inviting us to the Rectory for a Bring and Share lunch on Saturday 3 May, at 3pm. The 20th anniversary of Sue White's licencing as Lay Reader will be celebrated. that day.

AOB: Catriona Duncan would like to suggest that, since we have two Alastairs in the congregation, we should adopt the custom of referring to them using their first name together with their surname, so as to avoid any confusion, and also as a courtesy to the gentlemen concerned. Alastair D and Alastair W. The Vestry was happy to agree to this suggestion, where necessary, often the context makes clear which Alastair is being referred to.

Date of next meeting: 3 July 2025 at 7 pm in the church hall

We concluded the meeting with The Grace.