



## **Draft Minute**

### **G4G Membership AGM**

**Date Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**at 7.00pm**

#### **Location**

Victoria Hall

Torry

Aberdeen

#### **Present**

Brian Boyd (Chairman), Jim Buchan (Secretary), Tom Morrow (Treasurer), Rob Rowe (Director), Brian Boyd (Member of BOT), Mr & Mrs Rowe – Senior (Members), Brian Cran (Volunteer), Mary Buchan (Member), Helen Rowe (Member), Elspeth Morrow (Member) and Jane Hancock (Member)

#### **Apologies**

Alan Gorvett (Member of BOT), Rachael Summers, Ann Brown,

#### **1 Welcome – Open with Prayer**

Tom opened the meeting with a short prayer giving thanks for the ongoing work of G4G and God's faithfulness in supporting it. He prayed for the continuing ministry of G4G and that people might come to know Jesus as their personal saviour as a consequence of it. He also committed the meeting and asked that God will bless the meeting as we fulfil our legal obligation to the Scottish Charities Registrar - OSCR.

#### **2 Approve Minutes from last years AGM – All**

Brian stated that the Minute from the last meeting had been published on the Website and reviewed by the BOT who considered it to be an accurate account of the business on that occasion. Brian asked for proposer and seconder. Proposed – Rob Rowe - Seconded – Tom Morrow.

The Minute was then unanimously approved by the members present.

#### **3 Chairman's remarks – Brian**



Brian reflected as a relative new-bee to the G4G BOT of the faithfulness of God to the project and to that of the office bearers and members. He also reflected on the way that those involved have prayed over G4G's activities and the commitment of those who are involved in the practicalities of keeping the station on air. Brian also mentioned the immense amount of work that takes place admitting that much of the technical discussion that take place goes right over his head. But all of this is necessary non the less. Rob has reported that we are broadcasting on the internet and have listeners in 124 countries – which is quite astonishing and wonderful. Jim also reported similar figures throughout the year so this is not a one off occurrence.

Brian then read from Romans Ch10 Vs 9 as follows

If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. <sup>11</sup> As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." <sup>12</sup> Jew and Gentile<sup>[i]</sup> are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>14</sup> But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? <sup>15</sup> And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"<sup>[h]</sup>

This is Swindle version and there is a note on verses 14 and 15 as follows

"In order for people to believe a message they need to hear it from someone else – in Pauls rhetorical questions he implies human responsibility, if I am called to ministry I should go to ministry if I am called to a different vocation or place, I should go there. As a believer, wherever I am I should share the Gospel message and then mine will be beautiful feet as Paul said. He is not talking about literal feet of course but is talking about a symbol of walking in a path of obedience to make the message known. This is a fulfilment of our Christian responsibility. Brian observed that the phrase "walking a path of obedience to make the message known" summed up what G4G is about when the message is being sent out weekly. We rarely know about the outcome of this faithful work.

Brian then related a story about a cassette tape that the Grampian Police Quartet made which found its way to the Bahamans where it has been played on a radio station there many times. It has been a huge blessing to the people of the Bahamas. The tape had been lost when it was on a sailing boat that sunk. But the person who owned it came to Aberdeen and went to the Police HQ to see if it was



possible to get another copy to “keep the ministry of the tape” alive. The members of the quartet of course knew nothing of this. But because the Quartet did faithfully what they believed God wanted them to do, their work reaped benefits that they were totally unaware of. This is so like G4G – we have no real idea where the message being broadcast is bearing fruit – but God knows and he is at work through it. Let this be an encouragement to all who are engaged in the ministry of G4G.

In summary Brian said “I want to encourage all to keep going with this work – perhaps when we get to heaven one day – people will say we heard of this project and perhaps came to faith through it”.

#### **4 Secretary’s report - Jim**

Jim started by stating that by any human standards this project is one that would be destined to fail. However, it continues and this is a direct result of an unrelenting effort by Rob and his commitment to it week on week. Of course, others also assist not least including Helen who tolerates Rob’s immense commitment and also Brian Cran who faithfully comes every week to talk about good news, something that we hear too little of today.

The Trustees annual report to OSCR has been produced following the usual format and highlights any new work that has been done this last year. New work includes, enhancements to the website and work in the studio to tidy up the wiring and also resolve some long standing connection and software issues. This report is submitted to OSCR and is a legal requirement. Much of the content is the same from year to year. We have started to review the station equipment with a view to replacing items that are now too old to support the most recent versions of the Myriad Software. The report will be published on the website but it is also available tonight for review as required.

#### **5 Treasurers report – Tom**

Jim mentioned that Richard Gray has again completed a review of the accounts at no cost to G4G for which we are all most grateful.

Tom shared a paper copy of the audited accounts (see below). We have one less member due to a member passing on. Tom explained the state of our accounts and acknowledged the fund-raising effort of Ann Brown in Kemnay who had arranged a quiz night. The sale of calendars has also been very beneficial in raising a substantial amount of income. In summary the project is in a reasonable position financially and able to meet its current commitments.

We are grateful to the Elders of Victoria Hall who are happy to receive £20 per month to cover electricity costs and will underwrite any short fall on actual costs incurred.



## Receipts & Payments Account

SC

April 2017 - March 2018

	2018	2019
Income	£	£
Member Donations	2220	2160
Other Donations	2220	1493
Quiz Night Kemnay	-	430
Gift Aid Received	-	876
Sale of Cards	-	1208
TSB Compensation	-	655
Refund	-	14
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4852</b>	<b>6835</b>
Expenditure		
Telephone & Broadband	599	917
Computer Upgrades	919	-
Broadcasting licence	-	1334
Computer Maintenance	692	692
Office Insurance	510	423
Web Hosting	-	257
Rent	1800	450
Heat & Light	1134	487
Alarm	135	127
Office Costs/Equipment	-	151
Calendars	-	493
Line Running Costs	-	180
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>5789</b>	<b>5511</b>
<b>Surplus(Loss) for Period</b>	<b>-937</b>	<b>1324</b>

### Notes:

The income shown reflects the amounts paid into the charity's bank account for this financial year.

The expenditure is for items directly paid for by the charity, or refunded to trustees who have paid items on behalf of the charity.



## 6 Directors report – Rob

*(Following is Robs transcript of this report given on the evening)*

The past year has been more settled than previously. We have been at Victoria Gospel Hall for over a year and are happy here. It has provided us with a good base within the community of Torry and easy walking distance of local facilities, local churches and town. Thanks are due to the Gospel Hall for having us and for making us welcome.

The station has grown in listenership in the last year with listeners in 124 countries in the last quarter, April – June 2019. One possible reason for this is that we have been making the essence of the Gospel – John 3:16 increasingly available in different languages. We recognise the instruction Jesus gave in Matthew 28:19

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

We also recognise that Aberdeen is a multi-national city. In the last year, we set up ‘Your Gospel’ so that people can hear the essence of the Gospel in as many languages as possible and take ownership of the message of the Gospel for themselves. We have ‘Your Gospel’ in 20 languages including; Russian, Gaelic, Kituba, Dutch and Mandarin. Tomorrow, I believe we’ll be getting Lithuanian as well. These languages are broadcast by our automated system Myriad with one language going out each hour at the top of the hour. ‘Your Gospel’ languages are available as podcasts.

Jim has carried out a lot of work to ensure that podcasts and broadcasts can be brought together in one place on our website and has also ensured that I can produce posts easily which can be sent to both Facebook and Twitter Social Media platforms. This work is necessary and keeps the output from the station more visible and current. This might also have contributed to increased listener stats from other countries, and certainly from the UK.

New programmes such as ‘Heart of the Matter’ – produced in Penicuik for Black Diamond FM and other FM and online radio stations throughout Scotland give a more Scottish feel to the station.

We are currently halfway through a series called ‘Letters to Jennifer’ – written and presented by Ruth Aird. These letters are written as from a father in South Africa to his daughter in Scotland and give a more personal view of the Christian faith.

Rob is constantly working to ensure that the station and the vision is taken forward. Several services have been recorded for broadcast, here at Victoria Gospel Hall, Salvation Army Citadel, Hebron Church and Blacketyside Farm.

Rob has interviewed several persons of note including his boss (2 levels up at the City Council) - Environment Manager Steven Shaw about Cleanup Aberdeen and the Waste and Recycling Aberdeen staff about how recycling is carried out and changes to the service.

Rob spent a night last year with Aberdeen Street Pastors seeing the varied work they do for people on the streets on a weekend evening.

On Friday, he will be finding out about the great work carried out by Aberdeen Cyrenians.



Earlier in the year, Rob and Brian visited the Turriff Show and interviewed folk on different stands about their work including the local children's charity Charlie House, The Macular Society and Aberdeen and District Beekeepers' Association. The experience whetted the appetite for a visit next year as the Turriff Show is a rich networking ground to take the vision further.

In all these community ventures and interviews including 'Brian's Good News' articles, Rob has been seeking to make the station known more widely and putting in links to the different organisations on our website and telling the organisations about the broadcasts. This has resulted in several encouraging messages from grateful charities in return.

Some of the other work has included a few trips to the Allotment Market Stall to get fresh produce at low prices and use the produce to cook up savoury or sweet dishes in the kitchen here at the Gospel Hall as 'The Green and Orange Chef.' The cooking session is either recorded or broadcast live and the resulting recipe put up on the website and Facebook for people to try.

Last Friday's Community Elements programme spoken section was even simulcast on Facebook so folk could see what goes on behind the scenes and highlighted the incredible amount of detail which goes into a show.

### **Podcasts:**

We have 795 podcasts which have attracted 11,300 downloads with significant audiences in the US, UK, Greece, France and Canada. Our highest number of downloads for this year came in March with nearly 400 downloads. At present without extra help to cross reference the stats with the material being broadcast, it is difficult to get a handle on peaks and troughs in listeners. The same could be said for our broadcasts.

### **Volunteers:**

Brian continues to be very dependable and always of good disposition. It is great to meet him weekly, spend time and find out what good news stories he brings. Very often, these stories provide the necessary stimulus to follow one or more of these up on a weekly basis.

Rachel Summers – now Rachel MacKay has been away for some time but aims to be back to the station to assist where she can. It was great to have had the opportunity to celebrate her marriage to Reuben this summer. The occasion also afforded the opportunity to make new contacts and meet up with others again. We have a new volunteer Ruth Anna from Inverurie. She has a background in media but is just now back at university. She will be helping us out in the background to highlight the work of the station. We hope to see her at Christmas. She did appear briefly at a taster session with the station at the Christian Youth Camps Sundown Service which was recorded at Hebron Church. The service has since been broadcast.

Office 365 – Well done and thanks to Jim for setting this up and helping people to get the best out from it - I'm still learning.



The service is available to charities and has particular significance on the back of the privacy legislation which came into being.

Office 365 allows charities and workers to store pertinent files on a secure server and access such software as Microsoft Word in the Cloud where everything is automatically saved.

We can access emails and upload photos, videos and music, even from my phone - wow. It is a very good service - I like it. This report has been typed and saved and sent out using it.

The service also allows teams to be set up to collaborate and could be very useful in the future.

### **Equipment:**

We have still functioning equipment in the studio, although ageing. The software we use will need to be upgraded but this will require the purchase of, I believe, 2 new computers which can take Windows 10. Some of our computers I think can be upgraded directly to Windows 10. Windows 10 will support the upgrade of the Myriad playout and scheduling software we use and will make the computers and broadcast more stable.

The current setup occasionally makes for a few issues. One of these occurred during a live broadcast on Monday when the Myriad software stopped and froze. It had to be re-started. The result was dead air and the recording of the live programme stopped. It was as well that the problem could be rectified immediately.

Human error also happens, for example one Monday when I omitted to make the studio live, which resulted in dead air. The lesson has been learnt - apologies to those who were trying to listen.

As you will have heard, there are plans to upgrade the station equipment and software.

Outside broadcasts and interviews have been greatly helped through use of a great 4 channel switchable surround sound microphone recorder which has been used for recordings at Hebron, Blacketyside and Lewis. It was an early birthday present to Rob. Having used it, may I recommend it to the Trustees and AGM meeting as something to consider purchasing in the future for G4G – perhaps more than 1 so volunteers can use it and easily take to venues. The microphone can be used to record interviews, discussions, choirs and augment any audio provided by churches. Recordings are made to a memory card which can be put into a laptop and edited.

### **Fundraising:**

We acknowledge several kind donations in the last year and all those who kindly purchased a calendar. Your kindness has helped us to continue the work. We sold around 200 calendars and, if Trustees and members agree, we'll be producing another calendar this year with notable dates.

To get production and sale going sooner this year, would you help us by choosing photos you would like to see included? The photos with the most votes will get included. Brian has kindly agreed to look out scriptures for the calendar.





### **Prayer:**

We would not be here or able to continue without this most vital communication with God. We acknowledge with thanks all our intercessors from the UK and around the world. Thank you.

Because prayer is so important, we are running in association with believers from other churches and other countries a WhatsApp group called Prayer Worx – a trendy name yes, but one where people are encouraged to pray, praise and encourage each other. The group is quite active and draws intercessors together and makes sure that prayer is uplifted.

Thank you is once again the order of the day as we say thank you first to God for his faithfulness, mercy and love and for bringing us thus far, for all the things we have been able to celebrate today.

Thanks to our Trustees – Brian for taking the meeting, Jim for all his hard work as Secretary and previously as Chair as well, Jim also for his patience and help in getting things set up for us, including Office 365 and the website.

Thanks to our supporters for fundraising, their time, prayers, interest and generosity.

Thanks to our volunteers, especially to Brian, also Rachel and to Sandra Smith who have all been, even in the background, pillars of strength for the station.

Thanks to Mum and Dad, not only for making the journey up but always again for their love, support and patience and giving me always the chance and breaks in life and continued encouragement – “If you try, you can do it.”

Thanks to Helen, for putting up with me, being patient, her love, support, prayer, even coming on the radio occasionally and also for checking spelling and grammar, her music, photography and good cheer. It’s wonderful to have you as my wife. Thank you.

### **The Future:**

It seems to have been a lengthy time without the help needed to date, yet even now, there are always learning opportunities to do things better. I think that’s really going to be a theme for the future. As we develop and new volunteers emerge, we work with them to find their strengths to ensure that both they and the vision expand steadily.

The vision is to make sure that the Gospel is proclaimed and demonstrated clearly, not only here in North Scotland but in the wider context as Matthew 28:19 instructs us to go out into all the world and make disciples of all nations. To make sure that the station here and, any sister stations worldwide for different language groups provide a relevant context to allow those communities to hear, see and experience the Gospel to the full.

## **7 AOCB**

Jim raised the issue of the role of Chairman to the Board of Trustees. After his suggestion at the 2018 AGM this role has been shared – Alan Gorvett and now Brian Boyd have adopted





the role for a period of time. This has been successful and Jim suggested that we continue with this arrangement for the foreseeable future. All agreed.

## **8 Close in Prayer**

Brian asked that we end, as we started the meeting with a time of prayer asked Jim to lead.

## **9 Refreshments**

The members present enjoyed some refreshments – thank to those who helped prepare this and also to Mary Buchan for providing a “fine piece” for this part of the evening.