

What's Happening at Kirk Session - May

Here are the key points from the Kirk Session meeting of Linlithgow and Avon Valley Church, held on Tuesday 13th May.

Congregational Meeting: This annual meeting will be held on Tuesday 24 June at 7pm in the Kirk Hall, Cross House, Linlithgow. This is open to all members and adherents across the parish and it is an opportunity to hear more about the work of the Kirk Session. It will include short presentations about the parish finances, the ongoing programme of work looking after the range of properties within the parish as well as highlighting the work of a number of the other Session Teams. We will also identify those parish activities which would benefit from more volunteers becoming involved. Importantly, it will also be an opportunity to enjoy some fellowship with others from across the parish.

Finances: Session considered the Income and Expenditure summary for Q1 2025 as part of the regular monitoring of finances. The audit of our 2024 financial statements is nearing completion and draft accounts will be circulated to Kirk Session for approval at the June meeting of the Kirk Session.

Property: Approval was given to commence some work on the external fabric of the Torphichen Kirk manse in preparation for the imminent start of the process to look for a second full-time Minister for the parish. The Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian has also granted its permission for the sale of the St Ninian's Craigmailen manse.

Fundraising: The fundraising team are in the process of applying to the Church of Scotland General Trustees to help fund phase 1 of 'Project 600' covering works to address damp and woodworm issues in the church. At the same time, a proposal is being prepared for some initial funds from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support major works on Cross House.

Worship: To ensure that the Communion services are as inclusive as possible, Session agreed that the bread used should be gluten-free and that a non-alcoholic alternative to wine should always be available.