



MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING -

THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 2019
ST PATRICK'S RC CHURCH, COWGATE

Guest Speaker: Before the meeting commenced, guest speaker Iain Stewart of Edinburgh Interfaith Association gave a half hour talk on the work of EIFA. Iain was thanked by all present.

Opening and Welcome: The Convener (Msg Philip Kerr) opened the meeting with a prayer.

1. Minutes of last year's AGM on 22nd March 2018 formally approved.
2. No matters arising
3. Those present were given a few minutes to glance through the Annual Report and Imogen Gibson was thanked for putting it together.
4. **Treasurer's Report.** It was pointed out that the 2019 draft budget could not accurately represent the amount of money ECT should have as 2018's annual contributions were still to be received. It was noted that once they are received, ECT would have a bigger than usual balance in the account – possibly about £10,000 instead of around £6000. It was proposed and agreed that ECT should allow for a six-month reserve of funds and that the budget should be reviewed at the end of 2019 and, in the light of the bank balance at that point, ECT should review what it will ask for as annual contributions for 2020.

It was confirmed that ECT's financial year is the calendar year and this is not likely to change.

A question was asked about how the formula for annual contributions is applied and it was explained that this is done through the size of the denomination. It was agreed that this is still a fairly accurate representation of denominations and still equitable.

5. **Office bearers' length of service.** PK pointed out that this had never been officially decided and it was agreed that the length of service should be three years

6. **Priorities for the year ahead.** The priorities in the Annual Report were looked at and comments invited. Paddy Ferry suggested ECT should have an annual lecture so it has two yearly fixtures, the WOCU service being the other. This was enthusiastically agreed with suggestions for speakers; the organization Extinction Rebellion was one suggestion.

ACTION: Members to discuss in detail at a later date.

There was discussion over a comment that there is a gap in communication between churches. While this may be true, ECT's resources and the limited hours of the communications officer mean that it is not possible to contact all the churches in the city. It was agreed that often the best form

of communication is a 'ripple effect' with people cascading information down to friends and colleagues.

It was proposed that ECT should join Edinburgh Inter Faith Association as an organization. The proposal was accepted.

ACTION: Imogen to send EIFA's direct debit information to Treasurer

Marjory Macpherson, vice-convener, suggested that an additional priority should be to closely follow the current transformation of ACTS and how it may relate to ECT.

7. Date and Venue of next AGM. Thursday 12th March 2020. Venue TBC

The meeting was closed by PK with a prayer.