ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES-ALL SAINTS’ SAINT ANDREWS 14/9/2024

SCOTTISH GUILD OF SERVERS

1a-Attendance- 28 members attended the AGM

1b- Apologies

Very Rev Graham Taylor, Fr Martin Robson, David Pollard Guardian, Mary Dormer Guardian, Roger Robinson Guardian, Andy Seenan Guardian, Neil Thomson and the Priory of St John’s Wick , Gillian Holmes, Maureen Langford, Ann Glenesk, Georgie Dobson, Margaret Briggs, Irene Rose ,Hilda Moran, Fiona Crawford, Stephen Watts.

2-The Minutes of the 2023 AGM , having been posted on the SGS website and shared at the meeting were taken as read. The Minutes were approved as a true record and were proposed Br Edward Dickens and seconded by Sr Trudy Hill.

3- Matters Arising- None

4-Presentation of Accounts- Br Paul Carberry Almoner

The opening balance for the period 1/9/2023-31/8/2024-£7381

The closing balance for the period 1/9/23-31/8/2024- £6616

The assets are split into two funds- -the General Fund -£4325 at the start of the period and the Education Fund- £3061 at the start of the period.

The main sources of income were from subs/donations from churches and members [£1232] with the remainder coming from collections and the sale of lapel badges and manuals.

The Almoner reported that only 14 charges had made contributions.

Expenditure items were- as is usual related to costs relating to the Festival , admin and travel . There was one major item [£900] for the repair of the Monstrance and Candelabras donated by the estate of the late Fr Strachan. It was stated that in many cases the travel costs had been modified by the claimants.

In responding to the financial report the point was made that it should be a principle that legitimate costs incurred should be repaid in full.

Suggestions were made that the Education Fund could be used for training costs. There was a general discussion on this matter.

It was agreed that the wording of the Constitution would need to be examined to establish what this fund could be used for and that a change to the Constitution might be necessary to accommodate any change.

This would go back to the Council for further deliberations.

The accounts were approved proposed by Sr Alison Gifford seconded by Canon Rev Dr Alisdair Coles.

5 Secretary General’s Remarks

Br Elliott stated

*It is a pleasure to see everyone today at All Saints St Andrews and I would like to thank everyone who has been a part of the organisation for this event.*

*A special thanks to those on the Council who have helped and advised me during my first year as Secretary General- especially Sr Vicki and Sheena & Br Barry.*

*The past year has built on the activities of previous years. Although face to face meetings and events are preferable it has to be recognised that with a fellowship such as ours- spread over the entire country including the Isles this is not always feasible and we have made full use of modern communication afforded by Zoom.*

*\*The Council has met twice in November at St Margarets Newlands Glasgow and on Zoom in April.Work on the Action Plan continued.*

*\* We have had a Rosary on Zoom in December*

*\*And a retreat in March at Perth Cathedral.*

*The Guardians have regular meetings mostly on Zoom.*

*A training event was held in Ayr in the early part of the year which was well attended- and , Sr Sheena travelled to Stornoway to deliver a training session to the servers there.*

*During the year 15 new members were admitted- broadly in line with the range of numbers in previous years.*

*The new servers were from St Brides and St Margarets Glasgow, St Oswalds Maybole and St Ninians Troon , All Saints St Andrews, St Johns Perth*

*In Edinburgh St Michael and All Saints and in Falkirk Christ Church and in Linlithgow St Peters.*

*I would like to thank Br Barry Nisbet our membership Secretary who keeps the records current and ensures that new members receive their medals and membership cards.*

*Thanks are also due to Br Paul Carberry for all his work on the accounts and banking*

*The Council is always looking at ways of supporting priories-particularly through training and are considering the best ways to deliver this in the future.*

*I am much heartened by the passion and commitment of the Council members in going the extra mile for the members and the Guild and more so by the servers who follow their calling on good days and bad in joy and sadness-and always with quiet dignity and reverence and efficiency.*

*Thanks to you all*

6-Action Plan 2024

Sr Sheena Liddell gave a short presentation on the Action Plan which had been distributed before the AGM. The key headings were

\*Communication

\*Council Roles

\*Worship

\*Spiritual development and Fellowship

During the discussion that followed the Almoner asked that we needed to improve the content of the website- it was stated that this was important as this resource was the best and most accessible way of holding Guild resources and materials .

7- Guardians’ Update

Sr Sheena Liddell reported that there were 8 Guardians –being Argyll and Bute [David Pollard] Ayrshire[Roger Robinson] Brechin [Harold Jack]Edinburgh [Sheena Liddell] Fife [Andy Seenan]Glasgow [Elliott Glenesk] Inverness [Mary Dormer] Perth [Barry Nisbet]

Borders was vacant and there had been no communication from there for some time.This was under review by the Council

The Guardians had met 4 times on Zoom to discuss, training, and responsibilities of the Guardians role.

Copies of the full report had been circulated prior to the AGM.

8-Warden’s Remarks

The Warden thanked the people of All Saints for their welcome and hospitality on many levels for hosting the Festival- on the .Feast Day of the Holy Cross-and for the work in arranging the event.

The Warden thanked all servers for their commitment on a week to week basis, for their diligence and service to the Glory of God.

The Warden also thanked the Council for their work over the year- in particular Rev Canon Sarah Shaw for her support and service as Chaplain General, for Br Elliott the Secretary General, Br Paul Carberry for the accounts,, Br Barry Nisbet Membership Secretary and Sr Sheena for her role as Guild MC.

The Warden concluded that the Guild was in a good place

9- Election of Office Bearers and Council Members

WardenRev Canon Gordon Fyfe-Proposed Br Barry Nisbet Seconded Sr Trudy Hill

Chaplain- General- Rev Canon Dr Alisdair Coles-Proposed Br Barry Nisbet Seconded Sr Sheena Liddell

Council Member Sr Alison Gifford- Proposed Sr Vicki Paterson Seconded Sr Jan Whiteside

10-AOCB

\*Sr Dianne Pallett had stated that she had not been contacted by the SGS –it was agreed that this would be forwarded to the Council as a communication issue.

\*It was stated that we should take a collection at next year’s AGM

\*Date of next AGM and Festival 6th September2025. Venue TBC

11- Vote of Thanks

Br Barry Nisbet offered thanks to the Warden for his work and agreeing to remain in office for the next 3 years. He thanked Sr Sheena for all her work and Rev Canon Sarah Shaw for her spiritual guidance.

The Warden again thanked the Guild for all that they do