

BASIC INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

NAME OF COUNCIL OR COMMITTEE:

Church Art and Architecture

BRIEF SUMMARY OF AREA OF WORK:

‘We shape our buildings, thereafter, our buildings shape us.’ - Sir Winston Churchill

Under the Work at Buildings Regulations (as amended in 1998), the Committee is primarily the advisory body to the General Trustees on non-structural alterations to church buildings e.g. chancel areas, seating and liturgical furniture, lighting, audio-visual systems, colour schemes, stained glass windows, tapestries, memorials (including war memorials) and pipe organs. The Committee considers the impact that such alterations will have on the worship, mission and outreach of the congregation, as well as how the heritage of the building is affected and then advises the Trustees on a course of action.

The Committee also provides advice to congregations and Presbyteries via online guidance.

NAMES OF CONVENER AND SECRETARY:

Convener: Rev. William T. Hogg

Secretary: Graham Fender-Allison

NUMBER OF MEMBERS:

18 (including the Convener and Vice-Convener) plus up to four co-opted members. Several external bodies are represented on the Committee, including the Scottish Episcopal Church, Historic Environment Scotland, the Organ Advisory Committee and the National Association of Fine Arts Societies. The Committee is also advised by consultants with expertise in lighting, stained glass, audio visual, decoration and communion ware. As of the 2015 General Assembly, members shall be appointed for a term not exceeding eight years.

FREQUENCY, TIMING AND VENUE OF MEETINGS:

There are normally five meetings each year, which are held on the last Thursday of February, April, June, September and November. Three of these take place in 121 George Street, Edinburgh; one will likely take place in Renfield St Stephens, Glasgow and the fifth meeting usually incorporates a site visit to a church where a major alteration has taken place. Meetings commence at 10.45am and normally finish by 3.00pm. The Committee is presently revising the meeting schedule to more closely align with the meeting schedule of the General Trustees. This may result in a small increase in the number of meetings from the General Assembly of 2019.

DETAILS OF SUB-COMMITTEES, TASK GROUPS ETC:

There is a small group with a particular remit for the consideration of proposals for stained glass.

EXPECTATIONS OF MEMBERS:

Attend Committee meetings to consider matters relating to changes to church buildings and provide (through the minute of the meeting) recommendations for the General Trustees for consideration when making their decisions. Members participate in visits within their geographical area to gather information relevant to the application. Expenses for attendance at meetings and visits are reimbursed. The Committee uses an online information website, (for all papers relating to meetings) and members will be able to access this with support from CARTA staff.

GENERAL SKILLS/EXPERIENCE SOUGHT:

The Committee needs a range of knowledge, skills and experience for its work, including ministers and lay persons; architects, surveyors and building engineers; presbytery property conveners and members of church fabric committees, with experience of carrying out alterations for their own congregations. We welcome people with interests in areas such as mission, heritage, visual arts, worship, community development, disability access. New members will learn about the work of the Committee through an induction, attendance at meetings and site visits.

PARTICULAR SKILLS SOUGHT FROM 2019-2020:

The Committee seeks applications from ministers, architects and others with a relevant professional background and interest in the relationship between buildings, worship, outreach and heritage. Expertise in Audio Visual equipment, stained glass windows (or similar interest such as fine art) or interior lighting is also sought. Those with experience of undertaking ecclesiastical projects would be able to make a useful contribution. Geographic spread is important to

us and we would look for members from the Western Isles, Highlands, Glasgow and the surrounding Presbyteries and South East Scotland.