



**Notes of Meeting of Eco-Congregation Scotland Angus and Dundee  
Network  
At St Andrew's Church, Dundee  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Apologies:**

**Present:**

**Margaret Warnock welcomed people to the meeting and led an opening prayer:** by Linda Jones of CAFOD – see <https://breathenetwork.wordpress.com/2009/07/10/walk-lightly-prayer/>

**1. Updates from Churches**

**St Andrew's, Dundee** have been looking at the use of plastic water bottles, involving their Family Project (see <http://www.standrewsparishchurch.co.uk/Project/Index.htm>) in food waste and exploring if it would be possible to introduce a composting system. They also have a programme of monthly outdoor activity walks and run a regular Traidcraft stall.

**St Bride's, Monifeith (St Ann's Carnoustie and St Thomas', Arbroath)** have been active in collecting for Mary's Meals Backpack project, which aims to provide children who don't have them with the basic tools for learning (see <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/the-backpack-project/>). Their recent Harvest Festival also provided food for those in need in Dundee.

**Arbroath Old and Abbey Church** are trying to ensure food waste from the church is being correctly separated and recycled. They have just persuaded Angus Council to provide the church with food waste bins and the Eco Group is trying to ensure they are used properly. They also took part in the local Beach Clean in August.

**Auchterhouse (linked with Monikie & Newbigging and Murroes & Tealing)** struggle to get real interest in caring for creation issues but they are setting up a twinning arrangement with another church, which it is hoped will bring more involvement through global outreach. They have changed to china cups instead of disposable ones, now they have new facilities in the church to allow washing up. Their manse and glebe land was sold and there appeared to be an opportunity to build a new eco manse but the Church of Scotland didn't seem able to go for it!

**2. News from Eco-Congregation Scotland**

**Local Networks Seminar** this year's seminar took place in Dunblane on 26<sup>th</sup> September with representatives of 14 ECS networks from across the country. The presentation from John Ferguson is available to download at <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/lomond/presentation-from-john-ferguson-of-ecoideam-ltd-now-available-to-download/>. A full report of the day will also be available online soon.

**Climate Justice Baton** has been a great success and the Baton has travelled the length and breadth of the country, visiting many churches and their communities. The story of the Baton has even reached the World Council of Churches – see <http://blog.oikoumene.org/posts/taking-the-baton-to-paris>

### 3. Planning for Future Meetings

**Date of next meeting:** Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016

**Venue:** tbc – any offers?

**Topic:** A number of different topics were suggested including:

- **Church property** Scott Wham: a young architect who specialises in church buildings and has written was suggested. He has written an Eco-Congregation resource about Greening Church Buildings (see
- **Refugees** – what can we do to help? Adrian had a contact in the Church of Scotland, who might be able to speak on this topic
- **Food** – growing our own. Contact through Nourish Scotland and Shiona Baird.
- **St Francis** – is this something our Environmental Chaplain, Rev Trevor Jamison might be able to help us with?

Margaret will follow up on these suggestions and report back

**4. Should the Church Invest in Fossil Fuel Companies?** Adrian Shaw – Church of Scotland Climate Change Officer led a talk and discussion on this topic. A Church of Scotland briefing paper on the Divestment issue is attached with these notes for information.

MW 20/10/15