



Moray Eco-Congregation Network
8th September 2014, 7.30 – 9.00pm
St Andrew's Church, Llanbryd
Note of Meeting

Present: Duncan Alexander St Giles and St Columba's, Elgin
Aileen Buchanan Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman
Avril C Clark Bellie Parish Church, Fochabers
Margaret Warnock Eco-Congregation Scotland

Apologies: Rebecca Kail Jasciah House Church, Elgin
Jenny Adams Duffus, Spynie and Hopeman

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer

Margaret read a prayer from the current Creation Time materials – see <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/materials/creation-time/>.

2. Networking:

St Giles and St Columba South, Elgin Carola Smith co-ordinates creation care work in the congregation and regularly writes articles for the church magazine on the issues. Much work has been carried out on the buildings. They have solar thermal panels on the roof of their new church hall, providing water heating in the building. However, the rainwater harvester they installed (at some cost) has not been working well and has now been deemed beyond repair.

Bellie Parish Church, Fochabers Eco-Congregation work comes under their Mission and Outreach group. They have recently submitted a draft award application and are working on getting data for their carbon footprint to complete the application. They have decided to concentrate on selling Fair Trade craft products, rather than food, as FT food are now widely available in supermarkets.

Another Eco Coffee morning is planned for October and they are considering giving the congregation the 90kg rice challenge (see <http://www.justtradingscotland.co.uk/pages/90kg-challenge/>).

Duffus Spynie and Hopeman recently held a congregational walk from Duffus to Hopeman and their minister, Rev Jenny Adams, led reflective walks as part of the Hopeman Gala Week. They also use Fair Trade products and have recently applied for an Eco-Congregation award (see <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/award/>), which will be assessed on 5th October.

3. Swap Shop

Hard copies of some resources to help and encourage caring for creation projects were displayed for the group to browse through including:

- Eco-Congregation Scotland Ideas for Action – <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/materials/ideas-for-action/>

- Eco-Congregation Scotland Creation Time materials - <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/materials/creation-time/>
- A Rocha materials - <http://www.arocha.org/int-en/resources/church-resources.html>
- Christian Ecology Link materials - <http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk/resource.htm>
- Earth Hour 2014 report – see <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Earth-Hour-Report-2014.pdf>

4. Planning for 2015

A number of topics for meetings such as understanding the local recycling schemes (what is collected and where it goes) and energy efficiency were discussed and Aileen is to supply some contacts they have worked with. It was also agreed that continuing the exchange of news and information between congregations is an important part of network meetings

Dates and venues were proposed for three meetings in 2015 as follows:

Dates in 2015	Venue	Suggested Topic	Notes
Tuesday 10 th March	Bellie Parish Church, Fochabers	tbc	Duncan to check if this date clashes with Presbytery
Monday 8 th June	Findhorn Foundation	Visit / tour	Does anyone have any contacts to book a group visit?
Monday 7 th September	?Holy Trinity, Elgin OR Duffus, Spynie, Hopeman	tbc	

Once we have the list of contacts from Aileen, Margaret will contact suggested speakers to check availability. However, in the meantime, all suggestions are welcome!

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