

**CPG for Funerals and Bereavement**  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015  
Room TG20/21

**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**In attendance:**

Stuart McMillan MSP (Co-convener)	John Birrell
Nanette Milne MSP (Co-convener)	James Blackburn
Mike Owen	Andrew Brown
Paul Cuthell	David Beamer (Secretary)

**Item 1: Apologies**

Willie Coffey MSP	Nigel Lymn Rose
Bob Doris MSP	Simon Crawford
Ann McMurray	John Williamson
Mark Hazelwood	Stewart Wilson
Dom Maguire	Gerard Boyle

**Item 2: Approval of Minutes from the last meeting**

The minutes of our last meeting were approved.

**Item 3: Approval of Minutes from the last annual meeting**

The minutes of the last annual meeting were approved.

**Item 4: Election of Officers**

The following officers were re-elected:

Nanette Milne MSP (Co-convener)  
Stuart McMillan MSP (Co-convener)  
David Beamer (Secretary)

The Secretary agreed to complete the annual return for approval and submission by the Co-convener.

**Item 5: Update**

None.

**Item 6: Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Bill**

A short discussion was held on the Bill and its impact on the bereaved and the funeral industry.

On timing, Nanette Milne confirmed that she expected the Bill to complete its stages by dissolution. She highlighted the key issues that the Bill aimed to tackle and the role of the Health and Sport Committee. John Birrell highlighted the research being undertaken into funeral poverty. A discussion was also held on licensing and the wording used in the Bill.

**Item 7: AOB**

Stuart McMillan MSP stated that the Lobbying (Scotland) Bill was currently being examined by the Scottish Parliament. The Bill seeks to make provision about lobbying, including provision for establishing and maintaining a lobbying register and the publication of a code of conduct.

**JOINT MEETING**

The Group then joined a meeting of the Cross Party Group for Palliative Care in Committee Room 4. The meeting heard presentations on:

1. **The work of Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland including the recent PhD study of CBCS's evidence based model of support** - Stewart Wilson, Chief Executive, Cruse Bereavement Care Scotland (CBCS)  
  
**The NHS Education Scotland Bereavement Project** - Clare Tucker, Project Lead for Grief & Bereavement, NHS Education Scotland
2. **Children in Scotland requiring Palliative Care: identifying numbers and needs (ChiSP Study)** - Pat Carragher, CHAS