

At Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church on 3rd March 2020, which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Mr R Allan Richardson.

Sederunt

Mr R Allan Richardson (Moderator) Mrs Jean C Q Hunter (Clerk)

Ministers: Rev David Albon, Rev Hilary Beresford, Rev Jonathan Fleming, Rev Alan Ford, Rev James McNay, Rev Dr Graham McWilliams, Rev Ross Mitchell, Rev Alex Noble, Rev Fiona Ross, Rev David Sutherland, Rev Andrew Taylor, Rev Martin Thomson, Rev Alan Ward, Rev Elizabeth Watson, Rev David Watson.

Diaconate: Isobel Beck.

Elders: Mrs Mary Aitken, Miss Christine Black, Mr Ian Brown, Ms Margaret Brown, Mr Andrew Campbell, Mrs Margaret Cassidy, Mrs Elizabeth R Clark, Mr Ewan Cochran, Mr Archie Currie, Mrs Margaret Green, Mr Ian Hackney, Mr Finlay Kerr, Mrs Lynne Kerr, Mrs Annie Martin, Mrs Beverley Millar, Mrs K McIlreavy, Mr Stewart McLellan, Mrs Linda McLelland, Mr Stuart McMahan, Mr J Fulton Murdoch, Mr Brian Murray, Mrs Deirdre Murray, Mr David Noble, Mrs Peigi Robb, Mr Magnus Ross, Miss Helen Scott, Mrs Christine Thomas, Mrs Kathleen Tudor, Mrs Ann Turner, Mr Ken Welch.

Corresponding Members: Mrs Elizabeth Barclay, Mrs Aileen Brookens, Mrs Elizabeth Clarke, Mrs Mary Ford, Mrs Helen Kerr, Mr Robert McCool, Mrs Sharon Macleod, Mr William Robertson, Mr Andrew Bruce.

Apologies for Absence

Ministers: Rev Angus Adamson, Rev Andrew Black, Rev Scott Cameron, Rev Norman Cruickshank, Rev Marion Howie, Rev Roderick Macdonald, Rev Lily McKinnon, Rev Sarah Nicol, Rev Betsi Thane.

Diaconate: Fiona Blair.

Elders: Mr William Mackay, Mr William Parker.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th February 2020 (Pages 3-7) were approved.//

//approved.

Correspondence

An E mail had been received from Rev George Whyte, Principal Clerk to say that Hazel Hastie, Depute Clerk of Edinburgh Presbytery for the next twelve months will be employed part time as the Presbytery Resource Officer to allow the Principal Clerk the appropriate time to give to Presbytery Reform. She would be happy to answer questions and offer support to Clerks and others on matters such as Vacancy process, Presbytery Plans, Local Church Review, discipline and complaints procedures as well as general enquiries about good practice in the administration of Presbytery life.

Contact details: E mail - HHastie@churchofscotland.org.uk

Direct dial number - 0131 240 2240

General switchboard - 0131 225 5722.

An E mail had been received from David Hart relating to the 'Try Praying Campaign' to make congregations aware of the campaign running in the 4 weeks up to and including Easter called 'Spring 2020'. At last year's General Assembly the 'Try Praying' booklet was adopted as an official resource alongside the 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative and recommended as a valid tool for parish churches to use.

(Letter had been circulated)

Intimations – The Church of Scotland had provided guidelines for churches on the Coronavirus. This had been circulated to ministers and Interim Moderators and was available on the Church of Scotland website.

Rev Betsi Thane's induction will be held on Sunday 19th April in St Andrews Church, Malta.

Order of Business

Was as in print with the addition of the Finance & Stewardship report and deliverance (circulated separately from the Presbytery Papers) and a No. 4 added to that. There was a change to the property deliverance it should have read 'Note' rather than 'Approve'.

Roll of Presbytery

Mrs Margaret Cassidy was added to the roll as representative Elder for Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church. Mrs Cassidy had been an additional Elder for many years.

Mr Andrew Bruce was removed from the roll as representative Elder of Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church but as a Reader he remains a Corresponding Member.

Reception of Students and Readers

Rev James McNay, Ministries and Superintendence Vice-Convener, welcomed the Readers and Mr Douglas Creighton, Probationer for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, to Presbytery and then he introduced each in turn.

The moderator invited Mr Creighton to address Presbytery. Mr Creighton thanked Presbytery on behalf of those present for the lovely meal they had enjoyed. He reported that it was good to have fellowship with one another and for the support they were given by Presbytery and as they were used in their various roles. He thanked his various supervisors in his training for their support and help and as he//

//he had to transfer Presbyteries he thanked Presbytery for their welcome and Prayer support. He was also appreciative of the book allowance he had received.

The Moderator thanked them all for their contributions in their various roles and how much they were valued and that they would continue to be supported and thereafter offered prayer for them all.

Order of the Day 7.50pm

Nan Stevenston Trust

Mrs Christine Thomas, Treasurer presented the accounts of the Nan Stevenston Trust and spoke briefly about the work of the Trust and explained of who qualified for a loan from the monies in the account.

There were no grants available. A booklet to explain the Trust was to be prepared and would be available after it was drawn up.

STANDING COMMITTEES

REPORTS & DELIVERANCES

Business Committee

Rev David Watson, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverances

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report
2. **Noted** that the Annual Congregational Statistical Returns had all been received by the Clerk.
3. **Approved** the Presbytery Accounts for 2019 presented by the Treasurer Mrs Christine Thomas, these had been previously circulated.
Congregational Accounts should be sent to Mrs Ann Turner for Attestation.
Approved the budget for the year 2020.
4. **Approved** the Presbytery dues for 2020 to be set at £3.40 per member and the survey fees at 60p. This means that the full rate would be £4.00 per member.
5. **Noted** that the 2019 Presbytery Minute Book had been attested and instructed the Clerk to send an Extract Minute to the Department of the General Assembly.
6. **Notice of Motion** was given that at the 5th May Presbytery meeting there would be an Order of the Day at 8.00pm to allow two teachers from Beith Primary School to address Presbytery on their trip to Bangalore. The teachers had received money from the Presbytery 5% Ministries and Mission Reserve.
7. **Noted** that on the 18th February a meeting took place in the Howard Centre, Kilmarnock with representatives from the Presbyteries of Ardrossan, Ayr, Irvine & Kilmarnock plus the addition of representatives from the Presbyteries of Annandale & Eskdale and Wigtown & Stranraer. There was an apology from the Presbytery of Dumfries & Kirkcubright that no representatives were able to attend.
8. **Noted** that at the meeting on the 18th February it was unanimously agreed by the representatives from the Presbyteries of Annandale & Eskdale, Ardrossan, Ayr, Irvine & Kilmarnock and Wigtown and Stranraer that further discussions should now ensue, examining the feasibility of potentially creating a Presbytery of the South West of Scotland in accordance with the General Assembly's approved Radical Action Plan.//

//Plan.

9. **Agreed** that representatives from the Presbyteries of Annandale & Eskdale, Ardrossan, Ayr Dumfries & Kirkcudbright, Irvine & Kilmarnock and Wigton & Stranraer should therefore pursue further discussions with a view to preparing an overall plan to submit to the Presbyteries concerned and subject to agreement present the plan to the General Assembly of 2021.
10. **Noted** the switch of the Appraisal and Finance & Stewardship Conveners. Rev Jonathan Fleming is now the Appraisal Convener and Rev Dave Sutherland is now the Finance & Stewardship Convener.
11. **Notion of Motion** was given that at the 5th May meeting, Presbytery would be asked to suspend in part Standing Order 55.2 to aid the Appraisal Committee in their work of Appraisal and Readjustment.

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Rev Ross Mitchell, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report;
2. **Approved** the appointment of Rev Martin Thomson as Interim Moderator in the impending vacancy at Saltcoats: North Parish Church from 31st May 2020 as agreed by the Vacancy Procedure Committee. This would be for one year.

Ministries and Superintendence

Mr Ian Brown, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report:
2. **Noted** that Minister's Logbooks had to be submitted for inspection to Mr Ian Brown by 5th May Presbytery meeting and returned at the June meeting.
3. **Noted** that the attestation of Rolls and Records was completed on the mainland as previously intimated during the week beginning 10th February. Unfortunately, due to the ferry being cancelled because of the weather the visiting team was unable to get to Arran on the 13th February. The visit was completed on Thursday 27th February. Thanks to all presbyters involved in all the inspections.
4. **Noted** that a conference was held for Session Clerks and Property Conveners last Autumn to give updates especially on property matters. Feedback from the conference was that it had been received positively.
5. **Noted** that letters of thanks had been sent to the congregations of
Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Church
Dalry: St Margaret's
Largs: St Columba's
Brodict Church
6. **Noted** that a new Safeguarding Coordinators meeting had been scheduled for 29th February in Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's Church. Another meeting may have to be arranged for the Garnock Valley.
7. **Noted** the Safeguarding training meeting was to be held on 3rd March, however to date only one person registered to attend. Unless there was a greater take up it would have to be cancelled.
8. **Appointed** Mr Fulton Murdoch to assist the Presbytery Safeguarding Trainer, Miss Fiona Blair with the administration in connection with the post.//

//post.

Property Committee

Mr Brian Murray, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report;
2. **Noted** the installation of a new memorial window at Corrie Parish Church.

Mission Committee

Rev Hilary Beresford, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report
2. **Noted** that the Committee had reverted back to the one committee given the lack of uptake for training from the Presbytery and incorrect appointment of World Church sub-committee convener. Clerk to the committee Mrs Lynne Kerr remained.
3. **Noted** the Malawi group would report to the Business Committee.
4. **Noted** that resources for mission are well published from CrossReach and Mission and Discipleship Committee and are accessible to congregations directly from source.
5. **Noted** that Rev David Watson had kindly agreed to produce the next Presbytery Prayer Cycle.
6. **Noted** that Christian Aid week would take place from 10th–16th May 2020 and encourage congregations to support this work.

Finance & Stewardship Committee

Rev Jonathan Fleming. Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

1. **Received** the report;
2. **Approved** a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions for 2020 of £240.00 made by the congregation of Lamlash Church (120669) to be funded from the 2019 5% Presbytery Ministries and Mission Reserve.
3. **Approved** a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions for 2020 of £4,954 made by the congregation of Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's Church (120677) to be funded from the 2019 5% Presbytery Ministries and Mission Reserve.
4. **Approved** a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions for 2020 of £1,000.00 made by the congregation of Largs: St Columba's Church (120671) to be funded from the 2019 5% Presbytery Ministries and Mission Reserve.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 5th May 2020 within Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 22nd April 2020 at 3.00pm within Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church.//

//Church.

Presbytery was then adjourned by the pronouncing of the benediction by Mr R Allan Richardson.

.....Moderator

.....Clerk

