

At West Kilbride Parish Church on 7th December 2021, which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev David Sutherland BD.

Sederunt

Rev David Sutherland (Moderator), Mrs Jean Hunter (Clerk)

Ministers: Rev David Albon, Rev Hilary Beresford, Rev Nigel Chikanya, Rev Alan Ford, Rev Caryl Kyle, Rev Roderick Macdonald, Rev James McNay, Rev Dr Graham McWilliams, Rev D Ross Mitchell, Rev Martin Thomson, Rev Alan Ward.

Elders: Mr Ian Brown, Mrs Margaret Cassidy, Mr Kenneth Gibson, Mr Ian Hackney, Mrs Lynne Kerr, Mr William Mackay, Mr Stuart McMahon, Mr J Fulton Murdoch, Mr David Noble, Mr R. Allan Richardson, Mr Magnus Ross, Mrs Kathleen Tudor.

Deacons: Mrs Isobel Beck

Corresponding Members: Mrs Carol Boyd, Mr Brian Devlin, Mrs Mary Ford, Mr Angus McKay.

Apologies for Absence

Ministers: Rev Marion Howie, Rev Sarah Nicol, Rev Fiona Ross, Rev David Watson, Rev Elizabeth Watson.

Elders: Mrs Mary Aitken, Mrs Aileen Brookens, Mrs Elizabeth Clarke, Mrs Elizabeth R Clarke, Mrs Helen Kerr, Mrs Lorna McDonald, Mr Stewart McLellan, Mrs Sharon MacLeod, Mr William Parker, Mrs Peigi Robb, Mrs Christine Thomas.

Deacons: Miss Fiona Blair.

Corresponding Members: Mr Andrew Bruce.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th October 2021 (Pages 27- 30) were approved.

Correspondence

Some previously circulated

An E mail from Emily Smith on behalf of BBC Sunday Morning Live, a programme exploring themes of religion, faith and ethics on BBC One. She would like to hear stories from congregations and communities around the U.K. They are asking churches to send them their stories and festive photos – heart-warming stories and festive photos. Is there anything different, special or unusual your church is doing for the festive period? Is there anyone in your church who deserves some special recognition. If you want to be involved send photos and stories to www.wetransfer.com or Email Emily direct Emily.Smith02@bbc.co.uk

Roll of Presbytery

No change//

//change

Order of Business

Was as in the print.

OVERTURE UNDER THE BARRIER ACT

Overture Amending the Church Courts Act (ACT III 2000)

On behalf of Business Committee, Mrs Jean Hunter, Presbytery Clerk presented a report on the Overture and the changes to the document to make it more user friendly. The explanation of the Overture was contained within the General Assembly 2021 Remits booklet which had been previously circulated.

There were no questions or comments.

Presbytery then proceeded to vote on the Overture amending the Church Courts Act (ACT III 2000)

After an adjournment while the votes cast were counted by Mr Allan Richardson and Mrs Ailsa Morrison, Presbytery reconvened and the Clerk intimated the result.

APPROVE.....24 DISAPPROVE.....2

Decision of Presbytery: Approve the amending of the Church Courts Act (ACT III 2000)

There was no comment to be added to the Return Form.

STANDING COMMITTEES

REPORTS & DELIVERANCES

Business Committee

Rev Roddy MacDonald, Vice-Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report;
2. **Noted** the paper from the Theological Forum on the Westminster Confession of Faith that had been circulated. As this paper was circulated at too short notice to be discussed at Presbytery level, individual presbyters were asked to respond by 31st December 2021 if they wished to do so. The Clerk was asked to write to the Theological Forum informing them that it had been too short notice for this to be fully discussed at Presbytery and Kirk Sessions.//

//Sessions.

Appraisal Committee

Rev James McNay, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the Report.
2. **Thanked** Kirk Sessions for completing the Presbytery Mission Plan survey sent to them from the Appraisal Committee.
3. **Noted** that all Kirk Sessions are currently being visited about the Presbytery Mission Plan.
4. **Noted** that Building Audits will be completed separately to visits to Kirk Sessions.
5. **Noted** that Very Rev Martin Fair and Richard Lloyd have been appointed as Facilitators to assist with the formation of the Presbytery Mission Plan.

Mission Committee

Rev Nigel Chikanya, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report;
2. **Noted** that there were still some Gift Cards available for Milala Presbytery, our partner Presbytery in Malawi and encourage congregations within the bounds to promote the sale of the cards to raise funds and to continue to remember the congregations of Milala Presbytery in their prayers. Money from sale of cards to be sent to Mrs Christine Thomas, Presbytery Treasurer.

Ministries & Superintendence Committee

Mr Ian Brown, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery is asked to:

1. **Received** the report:
2. **Approved** the dates for the annual attestation and inspection of Rolls and Records are as follows:
 Tuesday 15th February 2022 at 7.00 pm in Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish church;
 Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 2.00 pm in Largs: St. Columba's Parish Church;
 Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 7.00 pm in Dalry: St. Margaret's Parish Church;
 Thursday 17th February 2022 at a time to be confirmed in Arran: Brodick Parish Church.
3. **Noted** that the check list for the Attestation of Rolls and Records will be circulated to all Session Clerks. There are number of changes to the document, the main one being that there will be appointment system to attend a church to present the books.
4. **Noted** Safeguarding at 121 has produced a document on the requirements for face-to-face training. Our Presbytery trainer has indicated at this time all training will continue online. This document will be circulated later if it becomes necessary. The training dates for the first part of 2022 will be circulated to co-ordinators soon.//

//soon.

5. **Noted** the result of the safeguarding survey which was not surprising, indicated most persons were self-supplying hardware and software and were self-taught. In Safeguarding, especially the lack of proper equipment and training is a severe hindrance to carrying out their work, as Safeguarding 121 are now requiring all forms to be electronically processed, scanned and transferred. We have taken advice on the minimum specification required for those such as Safeguarding co-ordinators to carry out their work. It is in the attached paper please share with your Ministers and Session Clerks for their attention. We are in discussion with a computer supplier to obtain a price for supplying suitable equipment and software, training is another requirement. It is understood building and commissioning equipment will be their donation to the project. We will report in the New Year once we have further information.
6. **Noted** Safeguarding Training during 2021 - there were 149 who undertook Volunteer training which included initial and refresher training, there were 13 from out-with. Kirk Session/Trustee training there were 65 with 2 from out-with. Panel training was 29 with 8 from out-with. A great deal of thanks is due to Fulton for organising and Fiona for delivering all the training.
7. **Approved** the cancellation of the Local church Review 2021/22, as its continuation: (1) could potentially be prejudicial to the Appraisal Committee's work which requires to be completed by May 2022; (2) The continued uncertainty of the pandemic and the strong Scottish Government recommendation not to engage in large groups meeting inside would cause an issue in planning a timetable.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Mr Fulton Murdoch, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Received the Report.**
2. **Approved** the Kirk Session of Dalry: St Margaret's (120657) a dispensation to pay their 2022 Ministry and Mission allocation in two instalments in July and November 2022 (the same arrangement as agreed for 2021).

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 1st February 2022 at 7.30pm within Ardrossan & Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 10.00am virtually on Zoom.

Benediction

The Moderator informed Presbytery that he would be moving to take up another charge and would be inducted to that charge on 20th January 2022.

Presbytery was then adjourned by the pronouncing of the benediction by Rev David Sutherland.//

//Sutherland.

.....Moderator

.....Clerk

