

At Largs Clark Memorial Church on 12th June 2018, which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev David Watson BSc BD.

Sederunt

Rev David Watson (Moderator), Mrs Jean C Q Hunter (Clerk)

Ministers: Rev Angus Adamson; Rev M Scott Cameron; Rev Ian S Currie; Rev Jonathan Fleming; Rev Alan Ford; Rev Mandy Hickman; Rev Marion Howie; Rev Roderick MacDonald; Rev Alexander McCallum; Rev D Ross Mitchell; Rev Alexander Noble; Rev Fiona Ross; Rev David Sutherland; Rev Andrew Taylor; Rev Martin Thomson; Rev Alan Ward; Rev Elizabeth R L Watson; Rev David Watson; Rev Tanya Webster.

Diaconate: Mrs Isobel Beck, Miss Fiona Blair.

Elders: Miss Christine Black; Mrs Mary Blair; Mr A J Bruce; Mr Andrew Campbell; Mr Lindsay Campbell; Mrs Margaret Cassidy; Mr Ewan Cochran; Mrs Margaret Green; Ms Judith Howieson; Mr Finlay Kerr; Mr William (Roy) Kelso; Mr Ronald Lavalette; Mrs J B (Sheena) Marr; Mr William Mackay; Mrs Annie Martin; Mr Robert Marr; Mrs Kathleen McIlreavy; Mrs Linda McLelland; Mrs Dierdre Murray; Mr David Noble; Mr William Parker; Mrs Anne Pringle; Mr Allan Richardson; Mrs Peigi Robb; Mrs Christine Thomas; Ms Kathleen Tudor; Mrs Ann Turner.

Corresponding Members: Mrs Mary Ford; Mr Robert McCool; Mrs Evelyn Slater.

Apologies for Absence

Ministers: Rev Norman Cruickshank; Rev Alan Falconer; Rev Lily McKinnon; Rev James McNay; Rev Jeanette Whitecross.

Elders: Mr Ian Brown; Mr J Fulton Murdoch; Mr Magnus Ross.

Corresponding members: Mrs Aileen Brookens; Mrs Elizabeth Clarke; Canon Rev Sandy Montgomerie.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1st May (Pages 12-17) were approved.

Correspondence

An Email was received from Mr Ron Swanson, Fundraiser for the Ayrshire Hospice relating to his visit to Presbytery earlier in the year. He was asking if any of the churches would be interested in making a group booking for the Hospice's 'Light up a Life Service'.

An E mail from Donald T Maclaggan with a request for information from Congregations within Presbytery regarding Praise Bands.

An E mail from the Learn Team on a new Learn Online resource on Elders Conference 2018 which is now live.//

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An E mail from Jennifer Hamilton, Secretary and Clerk to the Church of Scotland Trust relating to the Tod Endowment Trust for Grants to Ministers, including retired Ministers, for holidays in Scotland.

An E mail from Andrew Tomlinson, Associate Secretary, Church and Society Council relating to a recently produced Booklet from the Scottish Government to help individuals plan and save for their funeral.

An E mail received from Ministries Council relating to opportunities for two MDS posts.

- 1) Ardrossan Park Church – Outreach and Family Worker, 0.6 FTE post.
- 2) Stevenston: Ardeer Church I/w Stevenston Livingstone Church – Community Mission Worker, 0.5 FTE post.

An E mail from Mr Ronald Swanson (senior) offering to share the story of his trip to Chitambo, Zambia and of the ‘Swanson Family Charity’ thereafter, to Church groups, Guilds etc.

Roll of Presbytery

Rev Dorothy Granger – with her demission from the charge of Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church on the 17th April 2018 due to ill health, Mrs Granger transferred from Category ‘O’ to ‘L’ (minister with a Legal Agreement.)

Order of the Day

The Moderator welcomed the representatives from Milala Presbytery: Moderator, Rev James Mphande; former Presbytery Clerk, Rev William Mumba; Guild delegate, Mrs Annie Mkandawire; and Young Christian Fellowship member, Miss Lincy Kamwela.

The Moderator then invited William to speak.

He brought the greetings of the new Presbytery Clerk and Milala Presbytery. They had all been warmly welcomed as they went round the churches in Ardrossan Presbytery.

He spoke of the twinning and of some congregations who had already made partnerships with congregations in Milala Presbytery and how they had great hopes for the church in their area.

William said there were 5 points he wanted to make:

Property and Wealth: In Scotland folk throw away a lot of good things, clothes, furniture, cars etc. when they seemed to them to still be in good condition. In Milala Presbytery people are quite poor in comparison. He encouraged everyone to think of how things are disposed and if they could be reused, possibly in Malawi.

Water & Living: There is a lot of water here compared with Malawi. Most rural places do not have water taps in the houses and among others, even minister’s wives have been known to walk miles to fetch water for their families. Most people live on less than £1.00 per day.

Politics: Corruption and fraud are a huge problem across the country among government officials and the police.

Health: Hospitals do not have enough medicine to treat people in need. Milala Presbytery has one of the highest rates of HIV and Aids, with Mzimba the highest in Malawi.

Education: There are 50 church schools in Milala Presbytery. Mzimba and Kaputu have no church school, the other 12 congregations do. Most have over 500 pupils. In the schools there are very few, if any, books.

The Moderator thanked William for addressing Presbytery.//

//Presbytery.

Rev James Mphande then presented the Moderator with a beautiful piece of traditional 'chitenge' or patterned cloth made within their Presbytery. The Moderator thanked him, it would be decided how best to use the cloth at a later date.

Order of Business

General Assembly 2018 – Mrs Isobel Beck DCS, on behalf of the commissioners reported Diligence at the General Assembly, except for Mr Andy Campbell who hadn't been fit enough to attend. Mrs Beck spoke of some of the highlights for her at this year's Assembly.

STANDING COMMITTEES

REPORTS & DELIVERANCES

Business Committee

Revd Martin Thomson, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. received the report.
2. appointed the date of Friday 22nd June 2018 at 6.30pm for the service of Introduction of Mr Angus McKay, MDS as Parish assistant to Cumbrae I/w Largs: St Johns within Largs: St Johns Church.
 - a. Presbytery to meet at 6.15pm. The Moderator to preside, Rev Martin Thomson to conduct and Rev Jonathan Fleming to preach the Sermon.
3. agreed to sustain a Call received from the congregation of Saltcoats: St Cuthberts to the Rev Sarah Nicol. A request had been made for Rev Nicol's release from Aberdeen Presbytery and this has been granted.
 - a. Appointed Wednesday 1st August as the date of the Service of Induction within Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's Church at 7.00pm.
 - b. Presbytery to meet at 6.45pm. The Moderator to preside, Rev Jeanette Whitecross to conduct and Rev Hilary Beresford to preach the Sermon and Deliver the Charges to the Minister and Congregation.
4. noted that Rev Sheila Mitchell has been granted a change from Category E to Category O on Ardrossan Presbytery's part of the Register of Ministries. Miss Mitchell has accepted a Call to the charge of Echt and Midmar in Gordon Presbytery.
5. noted that information on GDPR was circulated to Ministers, Interim Moderators, Session Clerks, Congregational Board Clerks and Treasurers. Information has also been circulated to Presbytery with the Presbytery papers.
6. agreed to an increase of 8% (£113 per annum) to be paid from July 2018 to Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church for the use of their premises by Presbytery. Thereafter the cost will be reviewed annually in December. The cost for use of the premises has not been reviewed since 2015.
7. noted that a Presbytery of Ardrossan Plan Conference will be held for Presbytery, Kirk Sessions and any other members of congregations within the bounds. Date and venue and information for discussion at the Conference will be circulated during the summer. The previous proposed date and venue had to be changed.//

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8. Notice of Motion having been given at the May Presbytery meeting –
 - a. Approved an amendment to Standing Order 17 that “Additional Elders posts will be reviewed annually by the Nomination Committee and appointments made at the September meeting of Presbytery”.
9. agreed to recognise ‘Years of Service’ in all areas of ministry at 25 years, 40 years, 50 years, 60 years and 70 years annually at the June meeting.
 - a. Noted that ministries past years of service of 25 years and over was recognised retrospectively at the meeting by the Moderator who read out the names of the respective ministers and their Years of Service.

Ministries & Superintendence Committee

Mr Allan Richardson, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. received the report;
2. received the Reports arising from the Local Church Review visits to Dalry: Trinity, Stevenston: High Kirk, Lochranza & Pirnmill and Shiskine: St Molios and they were commended to the respective Kirk Sessions for their ongoing encouragement and future planning. As this was in private, copies of the reports had only been circulated to members of Presbytery.
3. noted that it is hoped to visit the following congregations in the coming year 2018/19: Cumbrae l/w Largs: St Johns, Stevenston: Ardeer l/w Stevenston: Livingstone, Saltcoats: North Parish Church, Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity Church.
4. noted that the Convener had inspected all Ministers Log Books and that a Report had been submitted to Ministries Council. The Convener informed Presbytery that changes would take place relating to Log Books and the letter with this information would be circulated to ministers in charge.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Rev Tanya Webster, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. received the report (circulated);
2. approved a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions of £10,000 to be made by the congregation of Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church (120645) for upgrading the church’s audio visual capabilities.
3. approved a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions of £5,397 to be made by the congregation of Saltcoats: St Cuthbert’s Church (120677) for the set up of a community café (and relating advertising) and notice boards.//

//boards.

4. approved a repayment of Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions of £17,445 to be made **to** the congregation of Cumbrae Parish Church (120656) for costs incurred in fittings for the new church building.
5. approved a repayment of Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions of £10,000 to be made **to** the congregation of Brodick: St Brides Church (120654) for costs of demolition of the manse.
6. approved a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions of £650 to be made by the congregation of Largs: St John's Church (120672) for the subscription to Right Now media.
7. agreed that the application for replacement windows in the Dunn Memorial Hall at Largs: St John's Church did not meet the criteria agreed by the Presbytery for the allocation of the Presbytery Discretionary Allowance and that therefore no allocation of this allowance would be made in this instance. This item would be discussed with the Property Committee at a later date.

Church and Society Committee

Rev Roddy MacDonald, Convener gave the report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. received the report;
2. noted and welcomed Mr Richard Campbell-Doughty, our Presbytery's Forces Champion. Mr MacDonald explained about the instruction from the General Assembly of a few years ago that each Presbytery should appoint a Forces Champion. Presbytery had some time ago agreed to appoint Mr Richard Campbell-Doughty and this was the first opportunity to welcome him.

Property Committee

Mr Roy Kelso, Convener gave the report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. received the report;
2. approved Dalry: Trinity church proceeding with alterations to their Biggart Hall, namely removal of stage to be replaced with a new kitchen area and more storage space to an area adjacent to the hall. Paul Clark of Clark Design Architects has drawn up plans for design of new kitchen area and extra storage space. Four quotes were received:

Jeff Howitson, Joiner	£31,640	INC VAT
Alan Wildman, Twin Solutions	£68,311.77	EX VAT
Clark Contacts	£46,739.84	EX VAT
Cairns Builders (Quote for build work only)	£35,000	INC VAT//

//VAT

The Congregational Board have decided to appoint Jeff Howitson to proceed with work. An Extract Minute had been received, monies were available. Presbytery Property Committee had seen the drawings and approved the work to proceed.

- 3. approved Dalry: St Margaret’s Church proceeding with repairs to the West Elevation of their hall due to water ingress. Three quotes had been obtained which are:

Drew Gemmell	£13,495 + Vat = £16,194
Tom Smith	£11,270 + Vat = £13,524
CK Contractors	£11,353 + Vat = £13,623

The Kirk Session of Dalry: St Margaret’s had decided to appoint Tom Smith to carry out repairs. An Extract Minute had been received and the Property Committee had no objection. Funds were available for these repairs.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 4th September 2018 within Ardrossan: Park Church for the Installation of the Moderator elect and for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Presbytery to meet *in hunc effectum* on Friday 22nd June 2018 at 6.15pm within Largs: St John’s Church for the Introduction service for Mr Angus McKay MDS.

Presbytery to meet *in hunc effectum* on Wednesday 1st August 2018 at 6.45pm within Saltcoats: St Cuthbert’s Church for the Induction of Rev Sarah Nicol BSc BD MTh.

Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 22nd August 2018 at 3.00pm within Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church.

Presbytery was then adjourned by the pronouncing of the benediction by the Rev David Watson BSc BD.

.....Moderator

.....Clerk

