

At Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate on Tuesday 1st December 2015, which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted by the Moderator, Rev James McNay.

Sederunt

Rev James J. McNay (Moderator) Rev Alan A Ford (Clerk)

Ministers:

RA Adamson, MS Cameron, N Cruikshank, I Currie, A Falconer, A Ford, D Granger, M Hickman, MLK Howie, RIT MacDonald, AD McCallum, AM McCance, JJ McNay, DR Mitchell, M Thomson, C Vermeulen, TD Watson, T Webster, A Ward, J. Whitecross, D Whiteman

Diaconate

Fiona Blair

Elders:

K Anderson, M Blair, C Black, A Campbell, L Campbell, M Cassidy, G Cunningham, M Green, JCQ Hunter, L Hunter, J Houston, F. Kerr, R Lavalette, S Marr, W McKay, A Martin, H Mitchell, JF Murdoch, D Murray, D Noble, MMB Ross, GK McConnell, S McMahan, JM McSwan, F Page, A Pringle, RA Richardson, A Turner, A Todd, K Tudor, KS Welch

Corresponding Members:

R McCool,

Guild Presbyterial Council Committee Representatives:

Apologies

Ministers

MH Mackay, FC Ross, A Sherratt, ERL Watson,

Elders:

J Aitken, S Brown, I Hackney, D Hamilton, R Kelso, L McClelland, W McNish

Corresponding Members:

A Montgomerie

Guild Presbyterial Council Committee Members:

M Broster

- **Overture under the Barrier Act: Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships 2015**

The clerk detailed the procedure to be followed and following discussion Presbyters were asked to cast their votes by Ballot using the papers supplied. On a count of the Ballot Papers being taken the clerk announced the result of the Ballot as:

For the Overture 34 Against the Overture 18

Two Presbyters William Mackay and Deirdre Murray asked for their Dissent to be recorded.

Rev Martin Thomson proposed and it was seconded that in the opportunity given for Comments that the word "Civil" should be inserted throughout the Overture wherever the phrase "Same Sex Marriage" occurred – thus "Same Sex Civil Marriage" On a vote being taken this was approved.

- Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 3rd November 2015 having been circulated were approved (Pages 42-45)

- **Correspondence**

- i. Note that intimation has been received that the Rev Fiona Ross and Rev Arthur Sherratt are currently on sick leave.
- ii. Extract Minute from Ardrossan Saltcoats Kirkgate seeking to vary Ministries & Mission Payments
- iii. Completed Form related to above
- iv. Extract Minute from Ardrossan Saltcoats Kirkgate regarding the proposed sale of the Church Cottage
- v. Extract Minute from Ardrossan Saltcoats seeking permission to proceed with Renovation Project
- vi. Extract Minute from Largs St Columba's confirming two signatories will be used on banking transaction

Order of Business

- **Standing Committee Reports**

It was proposed, seconded and agreed:

Business Committee

- i. **Safeguarding Trainer – Vacancy** Note that Requests are being received from congregations for the services of a Safeguarding Trainer and that this is a position that is required to be filled expeditiously. Presbytery appoints a subcommittee with the Revd David Watson (Convener), with Mr Ron Lavalette and Mima McSwan and to seek an appointment or other solutions and report back to the next Presbytery Meeting.
- ii. Note that a sub-committee of the Business Committee has been formed consisting of Rev Martin Thomson, Rev Alan Ward and Jean Hunter to meet with the Kirk Sessions of Largs St. Columba's and Fairlie concerning Rev

- Chris Vermeulen's request for permission to take up a post as a non-executive director with Ayrshire and Arran Health Board
- iii. **Fairlie & Largs St Columba's** Approve the request of the Congregations of Fairlie and Largs St. Columba's to hold a united service on Sunday 24th January 2016 at 10. 30 am and recommend that in future any occasional united service only requires to be notified in advance to the Presbytery Clerk.
- iv. **Safeguarding Roadshow.** –Note with approval that this will be held in Kirkgate Parish Church from 9.45am for 10.00am until 3.00pm, on Saturday, 25 June 2016. Mrs Marr has indicated her willingness to assist if the Presbytery do not have a new Safeguarding Trainer in position. Planning for approx. 60 members (30 co-ordinators and one panel member from each congregation). Coffee and sandwich style lunch to be provided at Presbytery's expense.
- v. **Congregational Accounts:** Note that changes to the SORP COMPLIANT accounts are required. and affects about one third of the congregations in Presbytery. Congregations with less than £250000 income can revert to receipts and payments accounts but may require help to do this or continue with the SORP accounts and incorporate necessary changes. Two Saturday mornings - one for each - 9th and 16th January 10 to 12 in St Cuthbert's Church Hall have been set aside for this but treasurers should contact the Presbytery Treasurer, Ann Turner, directly (annturner62@btinternet.com) Congregations affected are: Beith, Dalry St Margaret's, Dalry Trinity, Kilwinning Old, Largs Clark Memorial, Largs St Columba's, Largs St Johns, Stevenston High, West Kilbride. Any other congregation that may be affected because of a large sharp change in income should seek advice also. We thank Ann Turner for arranging these training and information sessions
- vi. Note that the Presbytery "Office" will be closed from Saturday January 2nd to Friday January 15th inclusive while the Clerk is on holiday. In an emergency in the absence of the Clerk please contact the Business Convener

Church & Society

Made a brief report

Ministries & Superintendence

- i. **Saltcoats St Cuthbert's** Note that the planned Local Church Review at Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's has been postponed in consideration of the minister's current indisposition.
- ii. **Attestation of Records**
Note that the attestation of Rolls and Records will be carried out at the time and places detailed

Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church

Tuesday 16th February 2016 at 7.00pm

Largs: St Columba's Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 2.30pm

Dalry: St Margaret's Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 7.00pm

Brodick Parish Church Thursday 18th February 2016 at 11.00am

- iii. The Committee recommends the Nomination of Hazel Allan, an Elder at Ardrossan Park Parish Church for consideration as a National Assessor

Stewardship & Finance and Property Committee

1. Stewardship & Finance

No report

2. Property

- i. **Largs Clark Memorial:** The Kirk Session wish to convert the Session Room into office space at a cost of around £21,000. Funds are available, extract minute received and CARTA have no objections. The committee recommends approval subject to the agreement of the General Trustees.
- ii. **Kilwinning Old:** The Kirk Session wishes to remove a disused external stairway leading to the Eglinton Room. There has been a lot of investigation and it appears that the stairway is the cause of a major dampness problem within the Sanctuary. The committee agrees in principle subject to receipt of firm costings and recommends that this now be submitted to the General Trustees for further consideration.
- iii. **Ardrossan Saltcoats Kirkgate:** The Kirk Session seeks approval for the sale of the cottage which was formerly for the use of the Church Officer. The cottage requires a good deal of repair and upgrading and the Session feels that from a financial point of view it would be better to offer the cottage for sale. The committee feels that it would be best for the congregation to have control of this cottage due to its close proximity to the church but is willing to support the view of the Kirk Session and agree to its disposal.

Mission

Note that the Prayer Diary for 2016 has been distributed with the Presbytery Mailing. Please encourage its distribution.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 2nd February 2016, at 7.30 p.m within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church for the conduct of Ordinary Business. The Business Committee to meet in Wednesday 20th January 2016 at 3.00 p.m. within Ardrossan & Saltcoats

The meeting was closed with the singing of the hymn “Joy to the World” and with prayer.

_____Moderator

_____Clerk

