

At Saltcoats and within Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church on Tuesday 2nd December 2014 , which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted by the Moderator, Mrs Jean C Q Hunter BD.

Sederunt:

Mrs J C Q Hunter (Moderator) Mr A K Saunderson (Clerk)

Ministers:

M S Cameron, N Cruickshank, I S Currie, A Falconer, A Ford, D Granger, M Hickman, M L K Howie, M H Mackay, A D McCallum, A M McCance, J J McNay, D R Mitchell, A B Noble, F C Ross, M Thane, J Teasdale, M Thomson, E R L Watson, T Webster, A Ward, J Whitecross.

Elders:

K Anderson, J Aitken, A Campbell, L Campbell, G Cunningham, M Cassidy, M Green, A C D Hamilton, R Head, R Jarvie, R Kelso, R Lavalette, W Mackay, S Marr, A Martin, C Massie, J F Murdoch, G K McConnell, R McLean, S McMahan, J M McSwan, F Page, A Pringle, R A Richardson, A Turner, K Tudor, I Watt, K S Welch.

Corresponding Members:

E Barclay, A Bruce, R McCool, M M B Ross.

Apologies:

Ministers:

R A Adamson, D J H Harbison, R I T Macdonald, I M Roy, A Sherratt, A S Taylor, T D Watson.

Elders:

S Brown, C Black, J Cameron, A Cochrane, I Hackney, M Henderson, H Mitchell, D Murray, J Niven, S McLellan, W McNish, A Todd.

Guild Presbyterian Committee Representatives:

B Guthrie. H Hawthorn, M Broster.

- The Minutes of meetings held on, Tuesday 29th October 2014 (Pages 40- 41) and Tuesday 4th November 2014 (Pages 42-45) having been circulated, were approved.
- Correspondence
- Order of Business – The Order of Business was approved with the addition of:
 - (a) Vacancy Procedure Committee – Report in relation to Kilbirnie: Auld Kirk.
 - (b) Ministries & Superintendence Committee – Attestation of Congregational Rolls and Records.

/Records

(c) Stewardship, Property & Finance Committee – Beith Parish Church Memorial Windows.

Overture Under the Barrier Act

Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnership Overture (2014 General Assembly Remits Booklet Pages 3- 11)

Presbytery then took up consideration of the Overture Under the Barrier Act. After an opportunity for members of the Court to speak, the debate was closed and the Ballot was opened.

Following an adjournment in which the Ballot Papers were counted the meeting was re-convened.

The Clerk intimated that 33 had voted to Approve and 19 to Disapprove.

After further discussion it was proposed seconded and agreed that the following comments should be made on the Presbytery Return to the Office of the General Assembly:

In approving the Overture the Presbytery of Ardrossan was of the opinion that there would be various challenges in the implementation of the Act in the areas of Appraisal, where Linkages, Unions and Parish Groupings were envisaged.

The Revd James J McNay entered his Dissent.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Committee

i. Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity Church

The Clerk intimated that the Congregation of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity had been cited for their interest.

Parties were called.

There appeared for the Congregation: Mr Lindsay Campbell, Revd D Ross Mitchell and Mrs Margaret McKenzie

The Convener presented the Report of the Committee and there was then an opportunity for questions and thereafter comments.

Parties were then removed.

/Removed

For the Committee the Convener moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity Church – Grant permission to the Congregation to call a Minister on the basis of unrestricted tenure (as contained in the approved Presbytery Plan), appoint the Revd Alan Ward as Interim Moderator, and remit to Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group, seeking concurrence.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery communicated.

- ii. **Data Protection Seminars for Congregational Office Bearers** – Note that the committee has organised Seminars at Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity Church on Saturday 31st January 2015 and at Brodick St Bride's (Arran) on Saturday 28th February 2015.
- iii. **Interim Moderator Largs: St Columba's Church** - Thank and discharge the Revd M Scott Cameron and appoint the Revd William R Armstrong (Greenock & Paisley Presbytery) as Interim Moderator; noting the use of Act 10: 2012 Co-operation among Presbyteries.

Appraisal Committee

For the Committee the Vice Convener proposed and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

- i. **Stevenston Ardeer I/w Stevenston Ardeer** - Note that the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning task Group has concurred in the decision of Presbytery to Introduce an Interim Step in the current Presbytery Plan in respect of both Congregations, granting permission to remain in the existing linkage and to call Minister on the basis of 7 year Reviewable Charge, with a view to progressing to the final stage of the Plan as agreed with PPTG. **Grant permission to call and remit to the Vacancy Procedure Committee the appointment of an Advisory Committee to visit both Kirk Sessions and the Nominating Committee.**

Mission Committee

For the Committee the Vice Convener proposed and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

/Presbytery

- i. **Education Committee** - Grant to the education sub-committee permission to contact all churches within Presbytery bounds requesting information on their existing groups and organisations, along with groups that they see as being desirable. This will assist the committee in identifying specific learning opportunities and gaps needing addressed.
- ii. **'Equip - for the arts'**. – Note the verbal report of the Convener.
- iii. **Community of Faith Conference** – Note the arrangements For Youth and Children’s Workers organised by the Mission & Discipleship Council.

Ministries & Superintendence Committee

For the Committee the Vice Convener proposed and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

- i. **Pastoral Care** - Agree to appoint four pastors and one co-ordinator to create a pastoral support team to provide pastoral support to members of Presbytery, as outlined in the report. (Reports Page 54)
- ii. Remit to the Nomination Committee the task of appointing people to the pastoral support team.

For the Committee the vice Convener proposed and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

- iii. **Note the Attestation the arrangements for the Attestation of Congregational Rolls & Records for the year ending 31st December 2014.**

Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate Church

Tuesday 17th February 2015 at 7.00pm

Largs: St Columba's

Wednesday 18th February 2015 at 2.00pm

Dalry: St Margatet's

Wednesday 18th February 2015 at 7.00pm

Arran: Brodick Church Hall

Thursday 19th February 2015 at 11.00am

Stewardship, Finance & Property Committee

For the Committee the Vice Convener proposed and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

/Presbytery

- i. **Beith Parish Church** – The Kirk Session requests permission to remove the World War 1 Memorial window and the Williamson Memorial window from the former Trinity Church. The windows to be stored safely until funds are available to have them installed in Beith Parish Church. The cost of removal and storage would be approx. £4k. CARTA has agreed, we have an extract minute and funds are available. There is a matter of urgency as the former Trinity building is now on the market. The committee recommends approval.

Vacancy Procedure Committee

For the Committee the Vice Convener proposed and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

- i. **Kilbirnie: Auld Kirk** – Note that on Sunday 30th November 2014, the Congregation elected the Revd David Whiteman (Coylton I/w Drogan Prtesbytery of Ayr) to be their Minister by 99 votes for and 1 against . Remit to the Vacancy Procedure Committee to consider the Call when received, and if sustained, remit to the Business Committee to make arrangements for the Service of Induction.

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 3rd February 2015 , at 7.30 p.m within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church, the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet in Wednesday 21st January 2015 at 3.00 p.m. within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church

The meeting was closed with prayer.

_____ **Moderator**

_____ **Clerk**