

At Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate on Tuesday 3rd November 2015, which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted by the Moderator, Rev James McNay.

A tribute to the Late Rev Markus Thane BTh MDiv MTh, Minister of Cumbrae linked with Largs St. John's who departed this life on 8th October 2015 – given by Rev Jeanette Whitecross BD

Sederunt

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

Ministers:

MS Cameron, I Currie. A Falconer, A Ford, D Granger, M Hickman, MLK Howie, RIT MacDonald, MH Mackay, AD McCallum, AM McCance, JJ McNay, AB Noble, A Sherratt, J Teasdale, M Thomson, C Vermeulen, TD Watson, T Webster, A Ward, J. Whitecross, D Whiteman

Diaconate

Fiona Blair

Elders:

K Anderson, M Blair, S Brown, L Campbell, C Black, , M Cassidy, JCQ Hunter, L Hunter, J Houston, R Kelso, F. Kerr, R Lavalette, S Marr, JF Murdoch, D Noble, MMB Ross, R Reid, GK McConnell, L. McClelland, S McMahan, JM McSwan, F Page, A Pringle, RA Richardson, A Turner, A Todd, K Tudor, KS Welch

Corresponding Members:

A. Bruce, R McCool,

Guild Presbyterial Council Committee Representatives:

Apologies

Ministers

RA Adamson ,N Cruickshank, DJH Harbison, DR Mitchell, FC Ross, AS Taylor,

Elders:

A Campbell, G Cunningham, I Hackney, ACD Hamilton, R Jarvie, E Taylor

Corresponding Members:

A Montgomerie

Guild Presbyterial Council Committee Members:

M Broster

- Sederunt & Apologies

- Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 2015 having been circulated were approved (Pages 38-41)

- **Correspondence**
 - (a) **Dalry: St Margaret's** – Letter and Extract Minute seeking variation in Mission and Ministry Payment times
 - (b) **Rev Chris Vermeulen (email)** regarding a Health Board post.
 - (c) **Open Alpha course** – forwarded to Parish Ministers
 - (d) **Mrs S. Marr** – Letter of appreciation

Roll of Presbytery

Removed by Death – Rev Markus Thane BTh MDiv MTh

- **Standing Committee Reports**

Business Committee

i. Overture under the Barrier Act, Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships 2015.

As this will be a secret ballot the Presbytery Clerk will prepare appropriate ballot papers. Members will be given the opportunity to speak for and against the overture and questions will be taken. The Principal Clerk at 121 has forwarded information to Presbytery Clerks pointing out the pros and cons of members voting No. While all members are free to arrive at their own decision it is essential that all available information is given to the Presbyters and the Clerk will inform members on the evening of the meeting – 1 December 2015

ii. Presbytery wishes to express its gratitude to Revd Jeanette Whitecross, Revd Mandy Hickman, the Moderator & Clerk and Office Bearers of the two congregations for their assistance to Mrs Betsi Thane and Sara on the occasion of Mr. Thane's death and the necessary arrangements thereafter.

iii **Presbytery Clerk – Interim Moderator at Largs: St John's I/w Cumbrae**
Homologate the action of the Presbytery Clerk in acting to resolve some urgent issues in both the above congregations after the sudden death of Revd Markus Thane by appointing himself as Interim Moderator for a 4 week period from the 8 October 2015. The Presbytery Clerk is more than willing to assist in any emergency situation that arises, but his role is as Presbytery Clerk and not as an Interim Moderator for any extended period in a charge, as this could result in a conflict of interest.

iv. **Interim Moderator – Largs: St John's I/w Cumbrae**
Appoint the Revd Ian Currie as Interim Moderator at Largs: St John's I/w Cumbrae with effect from Monday, 9 November 2015 and discharge the Rev Alan

A. Ford from that role. Note that the Congregations have appointed Rev Ian Currie as Locum for Largs St. John's and Rev Sandy McCallum as Locum for Cumbrae.

v **Treasurer** - Note with gratitude that Mrs Turner will continue to serve as Treasurer until June 2016. The remit of the committee, already approved, to nominate a new Treasurer to be broadened to consider the Stewardship, Finance and Property remit and present a report and recommendations to the May Presbytery.

Ministries & Superintendence

Note that in view of recent bereavement suffered by the congregations of Largs St. John's and Cumbrae that the Local Church Reviews planned will not proceed at this time.

Stewardship & Finance and Property Committee

i. Approve the Ministries and Missions Contributions for 2016 (circulated with October papers)

ii. Reduce the 2016 Presbytery 5% Reserve by the sum of £25,000 in order to repay a debt to the Ministries Council with regard to a locally funded Associate Minister in Stevenston Ardeer linked with Stevenston Livingstone between the dates of 2008 and 2015 (Reports November)

Property

Largs Clark Memorial Church

Request to remove the 3 front pews to allow better use of the space at the front of the church. An extract Minute has been received along with three competitive estimates. The best price is from Michael Burns, Joiner and is £672 including vat and this allows for sanding the floor area and 4 coats of varnish. Funds are available, CARTA have given their approval and the committee recommends approval with an extract minute to be sent to General Trustees.

West Kilbride Parish Church.

The Kirk Session is considering a proposal to alter the front doors to the church and to include glass inner doors to give more light into the vestibule and also to conserve heat. They have been in touch with CARTA who have proposed some amendments suggesting that the storm doors be moved forward and to open outward and to fit full glass doors on the inside. The funding appears to be from an anonymous donor and the committee thinks that it is a reasonable proposal and suggests approval in principle and ask the church to submit 3 estimates together with the plans and an extract minute.

Cumbrae Parish Church

We ask Presbytery to note that the sale of the Manse on Cumbrae is now concluded and that the proceeds of the sale will be held by the General Trustees on behalf of the congregation for fabric use and in this case will probably be for the new build fund.

Mission

Presbytery notes the current resources available from the World Mission Council and commends them to congregations within the bounds.

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 1st December 2015 , at 7.30 p.m within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet in Wednesday 18th November 2015 at 3.00 p.m. within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church.

The meeting was closed with the singing of the hymn “Now thank we all our God” and with prayer.

_____Moderator

_____Clerk

