

At West Kilbride Parish Church on Tuesday 14th June 2016, on which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, Rev James McNay.

Opening Devotions

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1 verses 18-31

Hymn – We come as guest invited

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Hymn – Amazing Grace

Sederunt & Apologies

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

Ministers:

M. Scott Cameron, Ian Currie., Alan Ford, Dorothy Granger, Marion LK Howie, James McNay, D. Ross Mitchell, Alex Noble, Fiona Ross, Andrew S Taylor, Jim Teasdale, Martin Thomson, Alan Ward, Elizabeth R L Watson, T David Watson, Jeanette Whitecross,

Diaconate

Fiona Blair

Elders:

Mary Blair, Stephen Brown, Andrew Campbell, Lindsay Campbell, Margaret Cassidy, Margaret Green, A C Douglas Hamilton, Jean Hunter, Rosemary Jarvie, William (Roy) Kelso, Finlay. S, Kerr, Ron Lavalette, William Mackay, Jane B (Sheena) Marr, Annie Martin, Linda McClelland, Stuart McMahan, J (Mima) McSwan, J Fulton Murdoch, Deirdre Murray, David Noble, Fiona Page, William Parker, Anne Pringle, Rae Reid, Kathleen Tudor, Ann Turner, Ken Welch

Corresponding Members:

Moira Buchanan, Andrew Bruce, R (Bert) McCool,

/McCool

Apologies

Ministers

N. Cruickshank, Alan Falconer, David Harbison, Marjory Mackay, Arthur Sherratt, Chris Vermeulen, Tanya Webster, David Whiteman

Elders:

Archie Currie, Ian Hackney, John Houston, Lynn Hunter, William McNish, Magnus MB Ross, Alastair Todd,

Corresponding Members:

A (Sandy) Montgomerie

Minutes of meeting held on 3rd May 2016 (Pages 16-21) were approved

Order of Business

Roll of Presbytery – No change

Correspondence

1. Extract from Beith Parish Church regarding Heritage Lottery Funding
2. Extract Minute from Stevenston High Church on a resolution to approve moving from Quoad Omnia to the Unitary Constitution
3. Letter from Rev Arthur Sherratt intimating his desire to retire as at 31st. July 2016
4. Letter from the Clerk intimating his resignation from 30th September 2016

Standing Committee Reports

General Assembly – report on diligence – Rev Alan A Ford gave a report

/report

Rev Ian Currie, Convener proposed the following Deliverances on behalf of Business Committee

1. Receive the notice of intent to retire from Rev Arthur Sherratt of Saltcoats St Cuthbert's on July 31st and wish him and Susan well for the future while recording the Presbyteries gratitude and that of the whole church for the many years of service they have given to the church. Approved.
2. Continue the appointment of the Rev T David Watson as Interim Moderator at Saltcoats St Cuthbert's and sist procedure in the Vacancy pending a report from the Appraisal Committee. Approved
3. Grant Powers to the Vacancy Procedure Committee to act on behalf of Presbytery in Vacancy Matters arising during the Summer Recess. Approved
4. i. Appoint a Committee to find a new Presbytery Clerk and to take all steps necessary to bring the name of a candidate to the September meeting of Presbytery – the Committee members to be Ian Currie, Alan Ward, Margaret Cassidy, Jean Hunter, Ken Welch and James McNay. Approved
ii. To make any necessary interim arrangements that may be necessary. Approved.

Stewardship, Finance and Property

Finance

Mr Stephen Brown, Convener Stewardship, Finance & Property Committee, having given Notice of Motion at the May meeting of Presbytery proposed the following deliverance:

Approve a reduction in Actual 2016 Ministries and Mission contributions to be funded from the 2016 5% Presbytery Ministries and Mission Reserve for each congregation to the amount as given below:

/below:

Cong. Number	Congregation	Total
	Ardrossan & Saltcoats	
120645	Kirkgate	1,146
120650	Ardrossan Park	1,586
120651	Beith Parish Church	2,926
120654	Brodick St Brides	611
120655	Corrie	202
120656	Cumbræ	996
120657	Dalry St Margaret's	2,270
120658	Dalry Trinity	873
120659	Fairlie	1,066
120662	Kilbirnie Auld	1,270
120663	Kilbirnie St Columba's	2,006
120664	Kilwinning Old	2,287
120665	Kilmory Isle Of Arran	161
120669	Lamlash	433
120670	Largs Clark Memorial	3,008
120671	Largs St Columba's	1,551
120672	Largs St John's	2,827
120673	Lochranza And Pirnmill Kilwinning	306
120674	Mansefield Trinity	875
120676	Saltcoats North	1,113
120677	Saltcoats St Cuthbert's	1,156
120678	Shiskine St Molios	347
120679	Stevenston Ardeer	1,004
120680	Stevenston High	1,081
120681	Stevenston Livingstone	1,101
120684	West Kilbride	1,934
	Whiting Bay And	
120686	Kildonan	442
		<u>34,577</u>

Approved

/Approved

Mr Ken Welch Vice-Convener Property proposed the following Deliverances:

1. West Kilbride Parish Church

A proposal to install Glass Panelled doors at the front entrance has been considered for some time. It is now proposed to fit two new hardwood storm doors opening outwards and hinged so that they can fold right back when the church is in use to reveal two glass panelled inner doors etched with designs "Stilling the Tempest" At the same time repairs will be carried out to the surrounding stonework. Only Fleming Buildings have been asked to quote as they previously carried out work on the building. Their quotation is £16,276.19 plus vat and this is being paid for by a donation of £20,000. CARTA have approved the changes and the committee recommend approval subject to the agreement of the General Trustees. The intention is to open the storm doors when the building is in use so that there is a welcoming appearance rather than storm doors being shut at most times. Approved.

2. Lamlash Parish church linked with Kilmory Parish Church

The two Kirk Sessions have agreed that a new heating system should be installed in the Lamlash Manse. Lack of suitable heating has been an ongoing problem for some time. Three estimates were invited but only one contractor has responded. McNicol Plumbing and Heating offer to install a wet central heating and hot water system using a Worcester Greenstar Condensing Boiler sited in the Bootroom and connected to 14 radiators and 2 towel rails. The cost is £10,308 including vat. Extract Minutes have been submitted from both Kirk Sessions and funds are available. It has been pointed out to both Sessions that as this is capital expenditure on a manse owned by Lamlash Parish Church, it should be at their expense as the Kilmory church might not have any call on the proceeds of a possible future sale of the manse. (Probably a most unlikely event) but both Sessions are happy to proceed on the joint basis. The committee recommended approval. Approved.

3. Largs St Johns Parish Church.

The Congregational Board seeks approval to completely refurbish the kitchen area with plans drawn up by McMillan & Cronin, architects. Three quotations were received being £46,680 by Anglo Construction Ltd, £39,967.20 by Robert

/Robert

Scarf Ltd and £36,288 by James Gough with all figures including vat. The figures seem very high but include the moving of a stud wall to extend the space by 9 square metres. The Board wishes to accept the lower quote from Mr Gough, funds are available in a designated refurbishment account and an extract minute has been provided. Recommend approval. Approved.

4. Beith Parish Church

The Kirk Session seeks approval to apply for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for essential work costing £258,612 including vat. The maximum grant would be £182,885 and if successful intend to raise the balance from other funders and the congregation. The committee recommends approval subject to the consent of the General Trustees. Approved

5. Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish church

The Kirk Session have retained the services of Allied Surveyors to carry out an inspection of the property with a view to carrying out substantial repairs as follows:-Stage 1 Remedial work to the steeple/bell tower

Stage 2 Remedial works to Stained and plain glass windows with associated stonework repairs

Stage 3 Remodelling the Sanctuary and redecoration of internal areas, replacing the heating system, replacing floor coverings and re-plastering.

The probable cost is in the region of £250,000 plus fees.

Permission in principle is requested to enable the Kirk Session to move to getting competitive tenders for the work. Funds will be available from the recent sale of properties owned by Kirkgate and the committee recommends approval. Approved.

6. Revaluation of Churches and Church Halls

Treasurers should be aware of a revaluation for rateable purposes of Church Properties is in progress and it is likely that any appeal will have to be lodged by 30th September. If sufficient congregations require advice, it might be possible to appoint a suitable Surveyor with local knowledge to act for all who require assistance. Noted and Approved.

/Approved

7. Health and Safety Seminar

A Seminar is being held in Edinburgh on 7th July to promote the work of the Safe Buildings Consultant and to provide advice and support about a number of health and safety topics and priorities. If anyone has a particular interest in this subject and would like to represent the Presbytery, please let the Property Vice Convener know. Noted

8. Residential Leasing with regard to manses

The Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act passed on the 18th March 2016, has major implications for the letting of a manse when it is vacant. Under this new act, it would not be possible for a congregation purchasing a new manse to let the property during a vacancy as it would not be certain that you could end the lease when a minister is being appointed. As long as the manse has been occupied by a minister in the past and is required for another minister this would be in order but in the case of a new or replacement property, the manse will not have been occupied by a minister and as the law stands at present, the lease could not be terminated. This appears to be an oversight in the act and is being questioned but at present this is the reading of the Act. Noted.

- 9. Powers During Summer Recess** – Grant powers to the Property Vice Convener and Presbytery Clerk to deal with any urgent property matters that may arise during the recess period. Approved.

10. Largs St Columba's Parish Church

Mr Stephen Brown, Convener of **Stewardship, Finance and Property** proposed the following deliverance:

The Kirk Session seeks approval to carry out stonework repairs on the south elevation of the church to stop water ingress. Munro Architects have arranged the tenders and 3 quotes were received; Conservation Masonry £30,693.60, Stirling Stone £34,977.60 and Zenith Property Conservation £83,908.80 with all including vat.. The preferred quote is Conservation Masonry and an Extract Minute has been received. Funds are held by the General Trustees in the Consolidated Fabric Fund and the committee

/committee

recommends approval and support for the application to release the funds from General Trustees. Approved.

Mission

Rev T. David Watson Convener Mission Committee

Gave a brief Report regarding a proposed Twinning Agreement with Malawi with an intention of bringing a suitably worded Covenant Agreement to the September Presbytery

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Rev Alan Ward, Convener gave a brief report on changes to the Vacancy Procedure Act at the General Assembly and drew attention to the following: (1) Presbyters, especially in congregations vacant or about to be so, should take note of the changes in the Vacancy Procedure Act (Act VIII 2003) as set out in Appendix B of the report of the Legal Questions Committee. Interim Moderators should also take careful note and pass on the information to Nominating Committees. Noted

(2) After due application by the two charges currently vacant, the Appraisal Committee is minded to extend the right to call for a further six months. Accordingly, the Vacancy Procedure Committee, in exercising due diligence, has revisited for their encouragement the Nominating Committees of Stevenston: Livingstone linked with Ardeer and Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity. Noted and Approved.

Appraisal Committee

Rev Dorothy Granger, Convener gave the following Report from the Appraisal Committee and proposed the subsequent Deliverances:

Report: At its meeting on 3 May 2016, the Appraisal Committee finalised arrangements to meet with the Kirk Sessions of Largs St John's and Cumbrae.

These meetings, held on Thursday 5 May at Largs St John's and Saturday 7 May on Cumbrae, were arranged following a request from the Interim Moderator, Rev Ian Currie.

The purpose of the meetings was to give the Kirk Sessions the opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns and to ask any questions about the future of their linkage, following the death of their previous minister, Rev Markus Thane.

/Thane

Both congregations were open and honest in their thoughts and questions and, together with the Committee, explored the options available to them. Although both Kirk Session had concerns about the operation of the linkage (workload of minister and juggling services on a Sunday when one congregation is on an island, were the main issues raised) there was a real sense of commitment to the future of the linkage.

It was acknowledged at both meetings, that there are things that could be done now to help the congregations prepare for an incoming minister. One of these things is to discuss the role of their 0.5 MDS. Given the concerns expressed about the minister's workload and the difficulties involved with an island charge, the Committee suggested that the linkage needs an MDS who can provide ministerial assistance, particularly in respect of preaching on a Sunday morning (ideally, an Associate Minister, an Assistant Minister or a Deacon). The Committee encouraged the Kirk Sessions to get together to discuss the MDS post and the timing of the recruitment to this post; also to seek advice from the Church's Human Resources Department.

The Committee left both meetings heartened by the positive and hopeful attitude of the office bearers present. It is our recommendation that they are given permission to proceed with calling their next minister, under the guidance of the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

Also on 3 May, the Committee agreed to extend the right to call to the two charges currently under vacancy procedure: Stevenson Ardeer l/w Livingstone; and Kilwinning Mansfield Trinity

Rev Dorothy Granger, Convener, Appraisal Committee proposed the following Deliverances:

1. To receive the report. Approved.
2. To allow the congregations of Cumbrae l/w Largs St John's (under the guidance of the Vacancy Procedure Committee) to begin the search for their next minister, with the proviso that they also consider the timing of the recruitment of the 0.5 MDS. Approved.

/Approved.

3. To note that the Committee recommend that this MDS appointment should be an associate minister, an assistant minister or a deacon; available to conduct regular Public Worship.
4. To extend (until December 2016) the right to call to the two charges currently under vacancy procedure, namely: Stevenson Ardeer I/w Livingstone; and Kilwinning Mansfield Trinity

Ministries & Superintendence Committee

The Rev Martin Thomson, Convener Ministries and Superintendence Committee proposed the following Deliverances:

1. Receive the reports arising from visits to Largs Clark Memorial Church, Kilwinning Old and Lamlash I/w Kilmory and commend them to the respective Kirk Sessions for their ongoing encouragement and future planning. Approved.
2. Note that the following Congregations will be visited in the coming year: Kilbirnie: St Columba's, Kilbirnie: Auld Kirk, Fairlie Iw Largs: St Columba's, Brodick Iw Corrie. Noted and Approved.
3. Having received applications for renewal of Practising Certificates as required approve the issue of Practising Certificates to Rev Norman Cruickshank, Rev Ian Currie, Rev Alan Falconer, Rev Alan A Ford, Rev Marjory Mackay, Rev Ross Mitchell, Rev John Purves and Rev Alan Ward but also expressing the appreciation of Presbytery for the wide range of work undertaken both within and far beyond the bounds of the Presbytery. Approved
4. Ministers Log Books – Note that the Superintendence Vice Convener has inspected all Ministers Log Books and that a Report has been submitted to Ministries Council. Noted
5. Note that Mrs Aileen Brookens will undertake her first placement in training for the readership with Rev Angus Adamson. Noted
6. Thank and discharge Rev Scott Cameron as Regent to Mr Brian Murray. Approved.
7. Appoint Rev Fiona Ross as Regent to Mr Brian Murray. Approved.
8. Agree to Mr Brian Murray undertaking his first placement as a reader in training with Rev Scott Cameron. Approved.
9. A Practising Certificate has been received from the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock in respect of the Rev Robert Travers who retired from

/from

Irvine Old Parish Church on 30th November 2016 and who is now resident at Adjalon, 74 Caledonian Rd, Stevenston KA 20 3LF, within the bound of the Presbytery of Ardrossan. Since his current Practising Certificate expires shortly we recommend that the Clerk be invited to issue a Practising Certificate to Mr Travers. Mr Travers does not want to have a seat in Presbytery at this time. Noted and Approved.

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 6th September 2016 within Ardrossan Saltcoats Parish Church for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet in Wednesday 24th August 2016 at 3.00 p.m. within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church

Closing Worship

Benediction

.....Moderator

.....Clerk

