

At Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church on 1st May 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 Hilary Beresford; Rev Scott Cameron; Rev Ian Currie; Rev Jonathan Fleming; Rev Alan Ford; Rev David Heberton; Rev Mandy Hickman; Rev Marion Howie; Rev Roderick Macdonald; Rev Alexander McCallum; Rev James McNay; Rev Ross Mitchell; Rev Alexander Noble; Rev David Sutherland; Rev Martin Thomson; Rev Alan Ward; Rev Elizabeth Watson; Rev David Watson; Rev Tanya Webster; Rev Jeanette Whitecross.

Elders: Mrs Christine Black; Mrs Mary Blair; Mr Ian Brown; Mr Andrew Bruce; Mr Andrew Campbell; Mr Lindsay Campbell; Mrs Margaret Cassidy; Mr Ewan Cochran; Mr Archie Currie; Mrs Margaret Green; Mr Ian Hackney; Ms Judith Howieson; Mr Finlay Kerr; Mr William (Roy) Kelso; Mr Ronald Lavalette; Mrs J B (Sheena) Marr; Mr Robert Marr; Mr William Mackay; Mr Gordon McConnell; Mrs Lorna McDonald; Mrs Linda McLelland; Mr J Fulton Murdoch; Mrs Dierdre Murray; Mr David Noble; Mr William Parker; Mrs Anne Pringle; Mr Allan Richardson; Mrs Peigi Robb; Mr Magnus Ross; Mrs Ann Turner; Mr Ken Welch.

Corresponding Members: Mrs Moira Buchanan; Mrs Mary Ford; Mrs Evelyn Slater.

Apologies for Absence

Ministers: Rev Angus Adamson; Rev Norman Cruickshank; Rev Alan Falconer; Rev Marjory Mackay; Rev Lily McKinnon; Rev Fiona Ross.

Diaconate: Miss Fiona Blair; Mrs Isobel Beck.

Elders: Stephen Brown; Mrs Eleanor Taylor; Mrs Christine Thomas.

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

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th March (Pages 8-11) were approved.

Correspondence//

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An E mail had been received from Mary McLeod, Solicitor of the Church relating to the Unitary Deed of Constitution to Cumbrae Parish Church by the Delegation of Assembly.

An E mail had been received from the General Trustees relating to the application by Beith Church for assistance towards the cost of substantial conservation repairs to the church.

An E mail had been received from Nicola Bird, Human Resources adviser relating to the appointment of a Parish Assistant at Cumbrae l/w Largs St Johns.

A letter had been received from Mr Archie Currie indicating his intention to resign from his role as Outreach and Family Worker at Ardrossan Park Church with effect from 30th June 2018.

A letter had been received from Mr Ron Lavalette intimating a trip to Oberammergau 2020. (Posters were available at the meeting with information).

Roll of Presbytery

No change

Order of Business

As was in print with an additional item under Property Committee at No.3 pertaining to Brodick Manse and an additional item under Church and Society Committee at No. 3 relating to Heart and Soul during this year's General Assembly.

Reception and Annual Report of the Guild Presbyterial Council

Rev David Watson, Moderator welcomed the Guild Presbyterial Council and introduced the members attending. They were Mrs Moira Buchanan, Mrs Mary Ford, Mrs Evelyn Slater and Mrs Helen Kerr. The Moderator invited Mrs Moira Buchanan to give a Report. In her report Mrs Buchanan spoke of the Guild theme for 2017/2018 "Go in Love" and also of the six Guild projects. The total money raised for the six projects exceeded £600,000. (Report appended in Presbytery Minute Book).

The Moderator thanked Mrs Buchanan for the report and the work that the Guild had done and is doing and he thanked Rev Alan Ford as the Presbytery delegate to the Guild for 2017/2018. The Moderator offered prayer for the Presbyterial Council and the Guild local and national.

Order of the Day – 8.00pm

The Moderator invited Rev Elizabeth Watson and Rev Tanya Webster to address Presbytery on the 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Rev Watson spoke first on her Call to the ministry when she was seventeen and how different it was for women then and the opposition she faced. Even after she was accepted and ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament opposition was still in evidence and especially opposition from other women. However, after two years working as an Assistant minister in Ayr and thirty-five years as a Parish Minister with Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church on the Isle of Arran she still felt it a privilege to be serving as a Parish minister. Rev Watson was the first woman minister in a few instances including the first one in Ardrossan Presbytery.

Rev Tanya Webster then spoke and reported that having been ordained for only seven years she had not known any opposition as a woman minister of Word and Sacrament. Nothing had prevented//

prevented her from being true to her calling and being fully recognised by the church as all the barriers to women had been removed. She had never worked in a church which had not already had a woman Parish minister or at least associate minister.

Rev Elizabeth Watson then concluded the report.

The Moderator thanked Rev Watson and Rev Webster for addressing Presbytery.

STANDING COMMITTEES

REPORTS & DELIVERANCES

Appraisal Committee

Revd Jeanette Whitecross, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. Received the report;
2. Granted a 5 Year Reviewable Tenure to Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church.
3. Noted a report on the Presbytery Planning Conference held in Perth on 8th March 2018 to which the Convener and Presbytery Clerk were appointed to attend.

Business Committee

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

Presbytery:

1. Received the report;
2. Noted that the Unitary Deed of Constitution had been issued to Cumbrae Parish Church.
3. Noted that Mr Angus McKay had begun his appointment as a Parish Assistant with Cumbrae l/w Largs: St Johns on 18th April 2018. A Presbytery Service of Introduction would be held for Mr McKay on a date to be appointed.
4. Noted that Mr Brian Murray had completed the Interim Moderator Training.
5. Noted that Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church became vacant on 18th April with the demission of Rev Dorothy Granger due to ill health. As there had been no meeting of Presbytery in April, the Clerk circulated an E mail to Presbytery to ask for the charge of Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate to be declared vacant and received 56 responses in agreement to that. Rev James McNay was thanked as Interim Moderator during Rev Granger's absence and he indicated his willingness to continue as Interim Moderator.
6. Appointed Rev James McNay as Interim Moderator in the vacant charge of Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church.
7. Received a message from Rev Dorothy Granger which was read out by Rev James McNay. Mrs Granger expressed her sadness that she had to make the decision to demit her position as minister of Kirkgate Church. She thanked Presbytery for prayerful support and the kindness shown to her over the past year and during a difficult time for her and her//

her family. Mrs Granger said it had been a real privilege to be Minister of Barony St John's and Kirkgate Church and how well the former congregations of Barony St John's and New Trinity had come together and worked together since the union in 2013. It had also been a privilege for her to be involved in the life and work of Presbytery.

Mrs Granger paid particular thanks to Rev James McNay as Interim Moderator during her illness and how well he had served the congregation. Thanks were also paid to those who had provided pulpit cover at Kirkgate and to Rev Mandy Hickman who had been Locum for the past 9 months.

8. Received a reply to Rev Dorothy Granger's statement from Mrs Vivienne Bruce, joint Session Clerk of Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate on behalf of the congregation. Mrs Bruce reported that Dorothy had worked hard to bring the congregation of Barony St John's and Saltcoats New Trinity together after the union in 2013, and holding several open afternoons at the Manse to enable people to get to know one another. She had a clear vision and sense of purpose and was easy to approach. The congregation had benefitted greatly from her ministry and they were sorry that her poor health had forced her to demit her charge.
9. Notice of Motion that at the June 12th Presbytery meeting the Business Committee Convener would ask Presbytery to approve an amendment to Standing Orders that "Additional Elders posts will be reviewed annually by the Nominations Committee and appointments made at the September meeting of Presbytery".
10. Noted a report on Health and Safety given by Mr Ken Welch after being invited to do so by the convener.

Mr Welch reminded Presbytery that the Health and Safety Toolkit had been issued last year to every congregation. Ensuring Health & Safety of members and employees was a growing commitment in today's world and it should be noted that this was not just the responsibility of the person appointed as the Health & Safety Administrator but the responsibility of the Trustees which in most cases meant the entire Kirk Session.

It was not a subject to ignore because there could be serious consequences if anything was to go wrong. As far as he knew three congregations had not yet appointed a Health & Safety Administrator.

The Toolkit included templates of the forms that had to be completed on an Annual basis and Presbytery were asked to agree that these forms should be included in the Annual Inspection of Records at the beginning of each year.

This was agreed.

Property Committee

Mr Roy Kelso, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. Received the report;
2. Homologated the decision by the committee to bring forward the quinquennial property inspection on Brodick Manse (the inspection was scheduled to be carried out in the 20019/2020 period) This inspection had been carried out by Allied Surveyors Scotland and incurred a fee of £425 + Vat. The report on the manse was in the hands of the Brodick Office Bearers and General Trustees. The Presbytery Treasurer confirmed that monies//

monies were available. Presbytery Property members also visited the manse to see if the various problems could be sorted out.

3. Agreed to Brodick Parish Church I/w Corrie I/w Lochranza & Pirnmill I/w Shiskine replacing Brodick Manse on its current site and the Presbytery Property Committee agreed that this was subject to the approval of the General Trustees.

Mission Committee

Rev Elizabeth Watson, Convenor gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. Received the report;
2. Noted that Christian Aid Week would take place from 13th – 19th May 2018 and congregations were encouraged to support this work.
3. Noted the arrangements that had been made so far in the forthcoming visit of representatives of Milala Presbytery, Malawi.

Church and Society Committee

Rev Roderick MacDonald, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. Received the report;
2. Noted that Mrs Mary Ford was undertaking an abseil in aid of Crossreach. Mrs Ford was looking for sponsors for this.
3. Noted that the Heart and Soul event would be taking place on Sunday 20th May from 12.30pm - 6.00pm in Princess Street Gardens in Edinburgh. For the first time, as part of the Year of Young People a free youth event would be held in the Gardens on Saturday 19th May from 7-9pm. this year.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Rev Tanya Webster, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. Received the report. (Previously circulated)
2. Agreed that the Presbytery dispensation allowance should be allocated to support congregations who are engaging in missional activities which are new initiatives, growing existing initiatives and improving facilities for mission and outreach.
3. Approved funding of up to £2,000 for expenses which may be incurred in connection with the visit of 4 members of Milala Presbytery.
4. Approved a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions of £750 to be made by the congregation of Lamlash Church (120669) for Path of Renewal.//

Renewal.

5. Approved a reduction in Actual Ministries and Mission Contributions of £8,994 to be made by the congregation of Cumbrae Parish Church (120656) for the additional equipment costs incurred because of the delay to the building of the church caused by the Water Board.

Adjournment

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 12th June 2018 within Largs: Clark Memorial Church for the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper and thereafter the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 30th May 2018 at 3.00pm within Ardrossan and Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church.

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

.....Moderator

.....Clerk

