

At Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church on 5th February 2019, which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev Tanya Webster BCom DipAcc BD.

Sederunt

Rev Tanya Watson (Moderator), Mrs Jean Hunter (Clerk)

Ministers: Rev Angus Adamson; Rev Hilary Beresford; Rev M Scott Cameron; Rev Alan D Falconer, Rev Jonathan Fleming; Rev Mandy Ralph; Rev Marion Howie; Rev Roderick Macdonald; Rev James McNay; Rev D Ross Mitchell; Rev Sarah Nicol; Rev Fiona Ross; Rev David Sutherland; Rev Martin Thomson; Rev Alan Ward; Rev Elizabeth R L Watson; Rev David Watson; Rev Jeanette Whitecross.

Diaconate: Mrs Isobel Beck; Miss Fiona Blair.

Elders: Miss Christine Black; Mrs Mary Blair; Mr Ian Brown; Mr A J Bruce; Mr Andrew Campbell; Mr Lindsay Campbell; Mrs Margaret Cassidy; Mrs Elizabeth R Clark; Mrs Liz Clarke; Mr Archie Currie; Mrs Margaret Green; Mr Ian Hackney; Mr Finlay Kerr; Mr Ronald Lavalette; Mrs J B (Sheena) Marr; Mr William Mackay; Mr Robert Marr; Mrs Lorna McDonald; Mrs Kathleen McIlreavy; Mrs Linda McLelland; Mr Stuart McMahan; Mr J Fulton Murdoch; Mr Brian Murray; Mrs Deirdre Murray; Mr David Noble; Mr William Parker; Mr Allan Richardson; Mrs Peigi Robb; Miss Helen Scott; Mrs Eleanor Taylor; Mrs Christine Thomas; Mrs Ann Turner; Mr Ken Welch.

Corresponding Members: Mrs Moira Buchanan; Mrs Mary Ford; Mr Robert McCool; Cannon Rev Sandy Montgomerie; Mr William Robertson.

Apologies for Absence

Ministers: Rev Norman Cruickshank; Rev Alan Ford; Rev David Heberton; Rev Lily McKinnon.

Elders: Mrs Fay Reid; Mr Magnus Ross.

Corresponding Members: Mrs Helen Kerr; Mrs Evelyn Slater.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4th December (Pages 49-51) were approved.

The Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting held on 11th December, 2019 Introduction Service (Pages 52-53) were approved.

Correspondence

E mail from David Bradwell, Programme Manager, Church and Society Council relating to Scottish Faiths Action for Refugees. Around the world many Churches mark Refugee Sunday which falls this year on Sunday 23rd June. Information from: dbradwell@churchofscotland.org.uk and sfar.org.uk

E mail from Rev Ian Currie in reply to the letter of thanks he received from Presbytery for all the work he undertook on behalf of Presbytery within the Committees and as Business Convener. He is settling in to his new home within Greenock and Paisley Presbytery.//

//Presbytery.

Roll of Presbytery

Change to contact details: Rev R A Adamson, Otterburn, Corriecravie, Isle of Arran KA27 8PD Tel no. 01770870228

STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTS & DELIVERANCES

Appraisal Committee

Rev David Sutherland, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverance:

Presbytery :

1. **received** the report
2. **granted** permission to the congregation of Kilwinning Old Parish Church to call a minister under the terms of unrestricted tenure as given in the current Presbytery Plan. The congregation of Kilwinning Old Parish Church had been cited for their interests for an item under Business Committee.
3. **noted** that the Presbytery Planning Task Group concurred with the Updated Presbytery Plan and had notified Presbytery that Presbytery had fulfilled the requirements of the 2018 General Assembly to obtain fresh concurrence with its current Presbytery Plan by 31st December 2018.
4. **noted** that the Presbytery Planning Task Group commented that all the buildings in the Plan Table had been designated Category A although some plan adjustments had still to be implemented and that the General Trustees are available for advising Presbyteries on buildings matters. The PPTG commends the Presbytery to consider contacting the General Trustees in due course.

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Rev Ross Mitchell, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. **received** the report
2. **noted** the resignation of Rev Jeanette Whitecross as Interim Moderator at Kilbirnie Auld Kirk at the end of 2018.
3. **noted** that the Vacancy Procedure Committee appointed Rev David Watson as Interim Moderator at Kilbirnie Auld Kirk from the 1st January 2019 and invited the Presbytery to approve and Presbytery approved.
4. **granted** permission to the congregation of Dalry St Margarets to consider applications from ministers out with EEA and Switzerland in terms of Section 27 of Act 8 2003 (Vacancy Procedure) and to list the congregation accordingly, advising the Nominating Committee to take cognisance of HM Government's Visa and Immigration requirements and restrictions.

Business Committee

Rev Martin Thomson, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. **received** the report://

//report:

2. **noted** that with the impending retirement of Rev Jeanette Whitecross from the Charge of Kilwinning Old Parish Church on the 3rd March 2019 the congregation of Kilwinning Old Parish Church had been cited for their interests.

The Moderator invited Rev Jeanette Whitecross to address Presbytery.

Mrs Whitecross thanked her congregation for being a warm hearted people with a strong faith over the eight years she had in the privilege of serving them. In Christian love and care they had looked after her and her husband Frank over the years. Mrs Whitecross had the support of her Session Clerk, Mr Gordon McConnell until he moved away from the area. She thanked Rev Marion Howie, Auxiliary minister for her share in the work until her retirement and then Mrs Isobel Beck, Deacon in whose capable hands she leaves the congregation and also the present joint Session Clerks, Mrs Fiona Silver and Mrs Helen Shields.

Mrs Whitecross thanked members of Presbytery for their support of her and especially of the hard work done by the Appraisal Committee in the preparation of the Current Presbytery Plan that eventually was approved. Mrs Whitecross had enjoyed having students with her during their placements in her time at Kilwinning Old.

The Moderator thanked Mrs Whitecross for all her work in Presbytery and with the part she played within the Appraisal Committee and as it's Convener with the preparation of the current Presbytery Plan. Presbytery responded accordingly.

Mr Tom Muir was then invited to speak on behalf of Kilwinning Old Parish Church congregation.

Mr Muir conveyed his gratitude and that of all the members for their ministers dedicated service to them over the past eight years. Mrs Whitecross was always enthusiastic and challenged them with her sermons that were always prepared with care and inspiring. Her care of the sick and bereaved was much appreciated. They had been an evolving congregation always open to new ideas. All these years later because of Mrs Whitecross, they were still an outgoing and friendly congregation. Mr Muir said that everyone had a right to retire although they will miss Mrs Whitecross and her husband Frank who had been very much a support to his wife in her Ministry. He hoped they would be blessed in their retirement and was sure they would keep in contact.

The Moderator thanked Mr Muir on behalf of Presbytery for his thoughtful words.

The representatives of the congregation were informed that they were welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting or they could leave if that is what they wanted to do.

3. **noted** the report on the discussions with the Presbyteries of Ayr and Irvine & Kilmarnock.
4. **noted** that Dr Gordon Isbister began his MDS appointment with Ardrossan Park Church on 4th February 2019 as a Family and Outreach Worker.
5. **appointed** the date of Wednesday 27th February 2019 at 7.00pm for a Service of Introduction to Dr Gordon Isbister MDS as a Family and Outreach Worker to Ardrossan Park Church within Ardrossan Park Church.
Presbytery to meet at 6.45pm. The Moderator to preside, Mr Brian Murray to conduct worship and Rev Roderick MacDonald to preach the Sermon.
6. **nominated** Miss Deborah Nicol, Saltcoats St Cuthberts Church for the election of Youth Representative to represent the Presbytery of Ardrossan at the General Assembly 2019 and instructed the Clerk to send the nomination to Mission and Discipleship Council for their consideration.//

//consideration.

7. **noted** that the Clerk will attend **the Presbytery Clerk's Forum from 18th to 20th February 2019 in Crieff.**
8. **noted** the arrangements for the Presbytery Conference on Saturday 9th February 2019 within West Kilbride Parish Church. Conference would begin with tea/coffee from 9.45am and then Welcome and Worship at 10.15am. It is hoped to finish by 2.15pm to allow the Arran representatives to catch the 3.20pm boat home.
9. **homologated** the action of the Clerk and Business Convener in appointing Rev R Angus Adamson as Interim Moderator for Kilmory and Mrs Jean Hunter as Interim Moderator for Lamlash for the period of sick leave of Rev Lily McKinnon
10. **noted** the appointment of Mr Brian Murray as Locum to the congregation and parish of Ardrossan and Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church from 1st January 2019.

Finance & Stewardship Committee

Rev Jonathan Fleming, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. **received** the report:
2. **agreed** that any catering costs for the upcoming Presbytery Conference would be met by the 5% Discretionary Allowance.

Property Committee

Mr Ken Welch, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following Deliverance.

Presbytery:

1. **received** the report:
2. **homologated** the decision of the Clerk and Property Convener to allow the congregation of Cumbrae Parish Church to start using the new church for public worship. The new church was inspected by members of the Property Committee and the completion certificates had been issued by the Architect and Local Authority.
The Committee felt sure that Presbytery would wish to congratulate the Office Bearers at Cumbrae on achieving this milestone after many years of faith, hard work and dedication. It could be a blue print for others in the presbytery and a visit would be worthwhile. Rev Jonathan Fleming or Session Clerk of Cumbrae Parish Church could be contacted for dates when the church would be open for visitors.

Adjournment

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 5th March 2019 within Ardrossan & Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Presbytery to meet *in hunc effectum* on Wednesday 27th February 2019 at 6.45pm within Ardrossan Park Church for the Introduction Service to Dr Gordon Isbister MDS.

Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 24th October 2018 at 3.00 p.m. within Ardrossan & Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church.//

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Benediction

Presbytery was then adjourned by the pronouncing of the benediction by the Rev Tanya Webster
BCom DipAcc BD

.....Moderator

.....Clerk

