

**At Saltcoats, and within Saltcoats New Trinity Church, on Tuesday the thirteenth of April 2004, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer.**

SEDERUNT Revd S W Smith, Moderator, Revd J R McKay, Clerk; N Cruikshank, J Ewing, K Fisher, R J Grahame, W R Johnston, J M M Lafferty, Dr I MacLeod, A D McCallum, A M McCance, G A McCracken, A F McGurk, D R Mitchell, F C Ross, I M Roy, A Taylor, R J Thorburn, E R L Watson, Ministers; A Buick, J Cameron, G Cunningham, D S Douglas, E Drury, J Forsyth, E S H Glen, D Hamilton, R Jarvie, M G Kellock, T Knox, J Laurie, A MacDonald, E H McArthur, S McLellan, J McSwan, C J E Mills, R Mumford, M Paton, R A Richardson, W Ross, G Ross, R Scott, J S Scott, E Sillars, F J Smith, E Stevenson, E Trevena, W F Turner, A C Watt, R F Welch, K S Welch, C Welch, Elders; M A Broster, S Darroch, A Hendeson, J C Q Hunter, M McGeoch, A Montgomerie, M M B Ross, R McCool, Corresponding Members.

APOLOGIES Revds I W Benzie, J A S Boag, M S Cameron, D J H Harbison, M L K Howie, M H Mackay, A B Noble, B H Oxburgh, J Selfridge, Ministers; J Cumming, H B Gibson, E Hinde, P Hinde, J Jenkins, R Lavalette, G K McConnell, T A Muston, E Taylor, Elders; N Bowman, D Young, Corresponding Members.

MINUTE pages 2004, 6-8, having been circulated, were approved

ORDER OF BUSINESS was approved

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery

- a. Receive with regret the resignation of Mrs Moira J Lafferty as an additional elder and instruct the Clerk to write, thanking Mrs Lafferty for the service she has given to the Presbytery
- b. Appoint Mr Alan K Saunderson, elder at Largs: Clark Memorial, to fill the vacancy.

LIFE AND WORK Muriel Armstrong, Assistant Editor and Production Manager of Life and Work addressed Presbytery in connection with a circulation campaign being conducted among charges in the Presbytery. Following questions, the Moderator expressed thanks to Armstrong and offered best wishes for the success of the circulation drive.

VALEDICTION: REVD R.J. THORBURN. The Clerk reported that Revd R.J. Thorburn, Minister at Fairlie, had received a call from the congregation of Fyvie linked with Rothienorman in the Presbytery of Buchan and that the date for his induction had been fixed for June 17<sup>th</sup> but because of various domestic arrangements this was the last meeting of Presbytery which Mr Thorburn would be free to attend. The Moderator invited Mr Douglas Hamilton to speak of Mr Thorburn's ministry in Fairlie, and he then addressed suitable words to Mr Thorburn who made appropriate reply.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ANENT THE BARRIER ACT For the Special Committee, the Revd Iain Roy moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

- a. believes that the Barrier Act should be retained and that it still remains a useful tool for consultation of the church
- b. believes the category of 'worship' should be removed from the Act, believing further that the category of 'doctrine' protects those elements of worship which need generally to be safeguarded.
- c. believes that where a majority of Presbyteries AND presbyters have voted FOR any piece of legislation transmitted under the Barrier Act, it should be incumbent on the General Assembly receiving the return to enact immediately the legislation.
- d. believes that there should be one Committee for both the Return on Bills and Overtures and the Classification of Returns to Overtures.
- e. believes that the legislation on the Acts Declaratory should not be changed.
- f. approves the answers to the questions put to it by the Board of Practice and Procedure (Reports 2004 pp 17,18) and instructs the Clerk to transmit both these answers and these Deliverancies to the Board of Practice and Procedure for its consideration.

It was moved and seconded that (b) should be deleted.

On a vote being taken for and against it was carried against.

The Deliverance was then approved.

#### BUSINESS COMMITTEE

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

- a. Note that the Vacancy Procedures Committee in the case of Fairlie had agreed to release Revd R J Thorburn from the charge of Fairlie on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June and appointed Revd Ross Mitchell Interim Moderator in the vacancy
- b. Note that Revd David Harbison, having indicated that he wished to be relieved of his appointment as Interim Moderator at Kilbirnie: St Columba, the Vacancy Procedures Committee appointed Revd Andrew McCance to be Interim Moderator in the vacancy.
- c. Thank Revd David Harbison for his service as Interim Moderator at Kilbirnie: St Columba
- d. Agree that the question of Appraisal should be continued in the case of Kilwinning: Erskine linked with Fergushill.

#### PROPERTY COMMITTEE.

For the Committee, the Convener gave notice that at the May meeting of Presbytery she proposed to move "that Standing Orders 55.2 be amended to replace the words "annually by Presbytery at its September meeting" with "annually by Presbytery at its May meeting".

For the Committee it was moved, seconded and agreed that the Presbytery

- a. Approve the application from West Kilbride: St Andrews to monoblock the manse drive at a cost of £5,200, funds being available
- b. Note that the insurance valuations of all properties within the Presbytery bounds have been received.

#### PRESBYTERIAL SUPERINTENDENCE

For the Committee, the Convener moved, seconded and it was agreed that Presbytery note with regret that the Revd Barry Knight has been unable to resume his duties and grant him leave of absence for two months from this date in the first instance.

#### COMMUNICATION AND DOCTRINE

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

- a. Agree that the Moderator of Presbytery for 2004-5 be invited to visit an area of Presbytery during his term of office, the arrangements for this visit to be made by the Communications and Doctrine Committee in consultation with the Moderator.
- b. Encourage the Committee's efforts in finding ways of communicating the Gospel through the local press.

MINISTRY

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

- a. Note that a satisfactory report on his study leave has been received from the Revd Gordon A McCracken, and congratulate him on being awarded the degree of Doctor of Ministry by Princeton Theological Seminary
- b. Note that an Extract Minute has been received from the Board of Ministry's Committee on Ministry Finance Implementation allocating endowments of £410 on a permanent basis to Kilbirnie: St Columba's
- c. Approve the following Interim Vacancy Schedules
  - i. Dalry: Trinity Average Income base £75,952; Ministry Requirement 2004 £33,386; Endowment Income £641; although allowed to do so no request to pay the 5% additional payment to stipend
  - ii. Kilbirnie St Columba's Average Income Base £50,096; Ministry requirement £26,697; Endowment base £410

WORLD MISSION

For the Committee, the Convener moved that the Presbytery note a number of events in connection with Christian Aid Week.

PARISH EDUCATION

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

- a. Approve the placement of Mrs Nicky Smith of Cumbrae as a Reader in Training with the Revd Norman Cruikshank in West Kilbride: Overton
- b. Note with approval that Mr Ian Hackney has successfully completed his initial training and appoint him as Elder trained in Presbytery along with Mr Ron Lavalette
- c. Note and ask presbyters to publicise as widely as possible the Annual Elders' Communion Service in Largs: Clark Memorial on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am so that as many elders as can will attend what has in the past been a very worthwhile and enjoyable act of fellowship.
- d. Note that the National Youth Assembly 2004 will be held on 10-13 September 2004 at the Apex City Quay Hotel in Dundee and ask members of Presbytery to encourage young people who would be interested to contact the Convener as soon as possible.

Mrs Margaret Broster, Children's Ministry Adviser, presented *News Share* (Issue 1) and gave notice of various children's events linked to the forthcoming General Assembly.

**Next Ordinary Meeting within Saltcoats: New Trinity Church on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm, the Business Committee to meet on Tuesday April 27<sup>th</sup> at 9.45am**

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

.....Moderator

.....Clerk