

At Saltcoats, and within Saltcoats New Trinity Church, on Tuesday the 5th of October 2004, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrrossan met and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT: WF Turner, Moderator, Revds JR McKay (Clerk) IW Benzie, JAS Boag, N Cruikshank, J Ewing, RJ Grahame, DJH Harbison, MLK Howie, JMM Lafferty, MH Mackay, AD McCallum, AM McCance, Dr GA McCracken, AF McGurk, DR Mitchell, BH Oxburgh, FC Ross, IM Roy, SJ Smith, A Taylor, ERL Watson, Ministers; A Buick, J Cameron, G Cunningham, DS Douglas, J Forsyth, HB Gibson, ESH Glen, D Hamilton, E Hinde, P Hinde, R Jarvie, MG Kellock, R Lavalette, A MacDonald, EH McArthur, GK McConnell, S McLellan, J McSwan, J Martin, CJE Mills, R Mumford, TA Muston, M Paton, J Porter, RA Richardson, G Ross, AK Saunderson, J Scott, JS Scott, E Sillars, FJ Smith, N Smith, E Taylor, A Tomlinson, AC Watt, RF Welch, KS Welch, C Welch, Elders; JCQ Hunter, R McCool, M McGeoch, M Massie, Corresponding Members

APOLOGIES were received from Revds MS Cameron, DJ Heberton, WR Johnston, Dr I MacLeod, AB Noble, DS Pateron, J Selfridge, Ministers; E Drury, J Jenkins, R Kelso, T Knox, J Laurie, VH Macdonald, W Thomson, M Duff, Elders; S Darroch, BH Mackay, Revd A Montgomerie, MMB Ross, Corresponding Members

MINUTES The Minutes of meetings on Tuesday 7th September and Thursday 11th September were approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS The Order of Business was approved with the amendment of an item under the Business Committee referring to the Revd Barrie Knight, the revision, under the Ministry Committee of stipend figures and the inclusion of the cost of £22,285 for the cost of works proposed to be approved at Dalry: St Margaret's, under the Property Committee.

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY The Moderator welcomed Revd Fiona C Ross, attending Presbytery for the first time as minister of Kilbirnie: St Columba's, and Mr Angus Adamson, probationary assistant at Brodick and Corrie, also attending the Presbytery for the first time.

TRIBUTE TO MR WILLIAM ROSS Revd Fiona C Ross paid tribute to Mr William Ross, representative elder from Kilbirnie: St Columba's, who had recently died. The Moderator led the Presbytery in a prayer of thanksgiving for his life and of intercession for his family.

SCOTTISH CHURCHES' COMMUNITY TRUST Ms Jennifer Stuart addressed Presbytery on the aims and work of the Trust and was thanked by the Moderator for her presentation.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

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

- i. Note that a request has been received from Revd David I M Grant to transfer his membership to the Presbytery of Glasgow, and instruct the Clerk to issue a presbyterial certificate to Mr Grant
- ii. Note with considerable regret that Mr Barry Knight has requested to demit his charge as from 31 October and await the decision of the Vacancy Procedure Committee.
- iii. Approve the Overture and Interim Act amending Act III 2001, and resolve to add the comment that in Section 6, pastoral supervision of the respondent should be provided from outwith the membership of the respondent's presbytery.
- iv. Approve the Guidelines for Review of Terminable Tenure or Renewable Tenure and instruct the Clerk, when transmitting such approval to indicate that it is the view of Presbytery that in Section 9 an explanation should be offered as to why such consultation is necessary
- v. Express its thanks to Mr Stuart MacMahon for the work he has undertaken in updating the Presbytery website.

For the Committee the Convener gave notice that at the next meeting of Presbytery he would move an amendment to Standing Order 11 to read "A member of Presbytery shall be appointed to conduct the opening devotions and a minister to give the charges, which shall include a homily"

WORLD MISSION

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

- i. Note that resources are available from Christian Aid for use in worship and study during Advent and Christmas, which can be found at www.christianaid.org.uk/christmas.
- ii. Note that material is available in connection with World HIV/Aids day on December 1st

- iii. Note that the Committee proposes to fulfil its remit from the General Assembly to report on how Presbytery and congregations have responded to the Assembly's invitation to learn, pray, give and act regarding HIV Aids and authorise the Convener to circulate to all Session Clerks a questionnaire and instructing that these be returned to him by November 30th

PROPERTY

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

- i. Approve an application from Ardrossan: Barony St John's to undertake remedial work on the higher reaches of the tower at a cost of £9758, funds being available.
- ii. Approve an application from Dalry: St Margaret's to install a ramp for the disabled and a disabled toilet at a cost of £22,258, funds being available, subject to the approval of the General Trustees.
- iii. Note that the Clerk will be abroad with the Moderator of the General Assembly for most of October, and instruct that property applications to be considered at the November Presbytery should be sent to the Convener of the Property Committee as well as to the Clerk.

PRESBYTERIAL SUPERINTENDENCE

For the Committee it was moved, seconded and it was agreed that in the light of visits to all congregations within the bounds in connection with the Presbytery Appraisal Plan, there should be no Quinquennial Visitations undertaken in 2004-5

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

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

- i. Receive and accept the Report on Religious Observance in Schools and note that the Committee will report further when the response of the Scottish Executive is known
- ii. Resolve not to respond to the invitation to send comments to Mr Denis Canavan on his proposal to have the Scottish Executive declare a public holiday in or around St Andrew's Day but encourage individuals within the Presbytery bounds so to do.
- iii. Discharge the committee from its remit regarding the discrepancy in the tariffs in the supply of power.
- iv. Express support for the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley in its view on the proposed closure of hospital facilities and instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to this effect to the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an addendum

- v. Express support for the people of Largs and surrounding communities in their opposition to the proposal to remove continuing care beds from Brooksby Hospital, and urges the NHS Ayrshire and Arran to come forward with proposals that are safe, sustainable, fair and just; that they should not be planned within artificial geographical boundaries; and that the siting of services must take account of the needs of the community, especially the needs of the most vulnerable.

The Clerk was instructed to send copies of deliverancies iv and v to the appropriate health authorities.

PARISH EDUCATION

For the Committee it was moved, seconded and it was agreed that Mrs Margaret Nimmo be accepted as a Reader in Training and instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute recording this to the Readership Secretary of the Board of Parish Education.

MINISTRY

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

- i. Note that a candidate has recently begun a period of enquiry as part of the Enquiry and Assessment Scheme
- ii. Note that the recommended levels of income where a charge can pay their minister an additional voluntary stipend are:

£75,000-£85,000	5%
£85,001-105,000	10%
£105,000 +	15%

- iii. Instruct congregations to indicate their intentions in the matter of additional voluntary stipend to the Committee by October 25th at the latest

For the Committee the Convener gave notice that at the next meeting of Presbytery he would move the approval of the increased rates of stipend

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

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

- i. Note the proposed allocations for the Mission and Renewal Fund for 2005 (Reports page 29) and ask members of presbytery to inform congregational treasurers of these figures immediately, any representations regarding the allocations to be made to the Convener no later than 26th October.

The Convener gave notice that at the November meeting of Presbytery he will submit allocations for approval

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

.....Moderator

.....Clerk