

**At Saltcoats, and within Saltcoats New Trinity, on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2005, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer.**

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SEDERUNT Revds MH Mackay (Moderator) J R McKay (Clerk) IW Benzie, JAS Boag, N Cruickshank, J Ewing, K Fisher, RJ Grahame, DJH Harbison, WR Johnston, JMM Lafferty, R Leask, AM McCance, RIT Macdonald, AF McGurk, DR Mitchell, AB Noble, BH Oxburgh, FC Ross, IM Roy, SJ Smith, A Taylor, ERL Watson, Ministers; J Aitken, L Borwick, A Buick, J Cameron, G Cunningham, J Forsyth, ACD Hamilton, E Hinde, PJ Hinde, R Jarvie, J Jenkins, MG Kellock, R Kelso, J Laurie, R Lavalette, A MacDonald, V Macdonald, GK McConnell, JT McGill S McLellan, J McSwan, T Muston, J Porter, RA Richardson, G Ross, AK Saunderson, JS Scott, E Sillars, FJ Smith, E Stevenson, E Taylor, A Tomlinson WF Turner, AC Watt, C Welch, KS Welch, RF Welch, I Whiteford, Elders; MA Broster, A Henderson, JCQ Hunter, M McGeoch, R McCool, M Nimmo, MMB Ross Corresponding Members.

APOLOGIES were received from Revds MS Cameron, MLK Howie, AD McCallum, J Selfridge, Ministers; LA Campbell, HB Gibson, Elders; B Mackay, M Massie, Revd A Montgomerie, N Smith, Corresponding Members

MINUTES The Minutes of the meetings of November 1<sup>st</sup>, having been circulated, were approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS The Clerk reported that there would be an additional item of business under the Stewardship and Finance Committee in connection with Mission and Mission Allocations; and that under the Business Committee Report item v., the Business convener would move an addendum to the deliverance in the print proposing an extended meeting of the February Presbytery in conference session to discuss the presbytery plan in presbytery; and that he had received notice of comments which Revd R J Grahame proposed in the events that the Presbytery resolved to disapprove of the Overture anent Appraisal and Adjustment.

CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported that a letter had been received Mr John Travers, , Corporate Director (Educational Services) North Ayrshire Council acknowledging receipt of the Presbytery's comments on the draft policy statement on religious observance in schools.

DEMISSION OF REVD DR IAN MACLEOD The Clerk referred to the minute of 2<sup>nd</sup> October when it was reported that a Vacancy Procedure Committee in the case of Brodick linked with Corrie had resolved to accept the demission of Dr MacLeod as from 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2006.

Parties were called.

Mrs E Sillars appeared for Brodick and Mrs E Stevenson for Corrie.

Mrs Sillars spoke on behalf of the two congregations, paying tribute to Dr MacLeod's long and faithful ministry, and the affection in which he and his wife Nancy were held. Dr MacLeod made suitable reply.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to Dr and Mrs MacLeod and wished them well.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### BUSINESS

- i. Presbytery took up consideration of Overtures under the Barrier Act.

Overture anent Membership of Presbytery (Remits booklet page 3) For the committee, the Convener moved that Presbytery approve. Their voted to approve 58, to disapprove 0

Overture anent Appraisal and Adjustment (Remits booklet page 5) For the committee, the Convener moved that Presbytery disapprove. Their voted to approve 56 to disapprove 2 with no abstentions

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery append the following comments to the intimation of its decision

- i. Presbytery expresses concern that the overture is phrased in such a way that there is no possibility of appeal permitted by congregations regarding decisions made by the General Trustees concerning ecclesiastical buildings.
- ii. Presbytery recognises that an impetus for mission and community outreach should underlie any expenditure or development work on ecclesiastical buildings, and urges the General Trustees to make this a major criterion in possible future proposals

Overture anent Licentiates (Remits Booklet page 6) For the committee, the Convener moved that Presbytery approve. Their voted to approve 56, to disapprove 0 with 2 abstentions

ii. Appraisal Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity

The Convener reported that the congregation of Kilwinning:Mansefield Trinity wished to proceed to full status and that the view of the Committee was that Presbytery should concur.

Parties were called. There appeared for the congregation of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity Mrs M Burns, A Campbell, J Mitchell, J Porter, Mrs J Porter.

Parties were called. Mr J Porter spoke for the congregation.

Parties were removed.

The Convener moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

- i. Supports the application of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity to proceed to full status
- ii. Resolves to grant permission to the congregation of Kilwinning: Mansefield: Trinity to call a minister without restriction, the Nominating Committee to consist of the Interim Moderator and four representatives from the congregation along with four representatives from the Committee on New Charge Development, and invites the General Assembly's Committee on Appraisal to concur.#

Parties were recalled and Presbytery's judgment intimated.

iii Appraisal Arran

The Convener reported that at meetings on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2005. the congregations of Lamlash, Shiskine and Lochranza & Pirnmill had voted *nem con* to sever the linkage among them and that the congregations of Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza & Pirnmill and Shiskine had similarly voted for a basis and plan of linkage (Reports page 36)

Parties were called.

There appeared for the congregation of Brodick Mrs Evelyn Sillars; of Corrie Mrs Elma Stevenson, of Lamlash Mrs JCQ Hunter, of Shiskine Revd Kenneth Fisher, Interim Moderator,. Of Lochranza & Pirnmill Mr Sinclair MacLeod.

Parties were removed.

The Convener moved and it was seconded and agreed that

- i. The congregations of Lamlash, Lochranza & Pirnmill and Shiskine, having voted to sever the linkage among them, and the congregations of Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza & Pirnmill and Shiskine having voted to agree to link under the terms and conditions of the Basis of Severage and Linkage (Reports page 35), and on a date to be decided by the Presbytery, Presbytery resolves to approve the Basis of Severage and Linkage and invites the General Assembly's Committee on Appraisal to concur.
- ii. Presbytery resolves to grant to the congregations of Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza & Pirnmill and Shiskine permission to call a minister without restriction and invites the General Assembly's Committee on Appraisal to concur.
- iii. Presbytery resolves to declare Lamlash to be a continued vacancy pending further appraisal.
- iv. Presbytery continues Revd Kenneth Fisher as Interim Moderator in Lamlash, Lochranza and Pirnmill until such time as the linkage of Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza & Pirnmill and Shiskine takes place and appraisal involving Lamlash is completed.

#### Iv Presbytery Plan

The Convener moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

Note that a draft Presbytery Appraisal Plan was circulated to Session Clerks in early December, and that visits to Kirk Sessions will take place in January with comments to be in the Clerk's hands by Friday January 27<sup>th</sup>; that Presbytery meet in conference on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February prior to the conduct of ordinary business to discuss a further draft of the plan prior to a final version of the Presbytery Plan being issued for approval at the March meeting of Presbytery.

#### PROPERTY

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

- i. Ardrossan: Park
  - i. Approve in principle an application from Ardrossan: Park to undertake necessary major works at a cost of £140,000 plus VAT, subject to the approval of the General Trustees and funds being available.
  - ii. Approve an application for a grant or loan from the General Trustees.
- ii In the interests of health and safety encourage all congregations to fit carbon monoxide detectors on all church premises

#### MINISTRIES

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

- i. Note that the terms of Mrs Jean Hunter's contract as Attached Reader at Lamlash linked with Shiskine linked with Lochranza & Pirnmill require annually to be reviewed and that a satisfactory review has been conducted
- ii. Note that Margaret Nimmo and Patricia Noble, Readers in training, are undertaking placements at Dalry: St Margaret's and Saltcoats: North (with Rev Alex Downie supervising) respectively
- iii. Note that Vacancy Schedules have been completed in the cases of Fairlie, Kilwinning Old and Saltcoats: New Trinity

MISSION AND DISCIPLESHIP

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

- i. Thank Fiona McDowell and Hazel Rammage for their reports, as Children's Ambassadors to last year's General Assembly, instruct the Clerk to convey Presbytery's appreciation, and note the content of their report
- ii. Invite Kirk Sessions to consider any members of their congregations aged between 18-25 who might be Youth Representatives to the General Assembly of 2006, names of persons recommended to be in the hands of the convener by 31 January 2006
- iii. Note the proposal to have a strategic approach to the Church's work with young people and invite comments from congregations on how presbytery might support such a strategy, comments to be sent to the Convener by 9 January 2006.
- iv. Note that a copy of the Council's Report on Rural Church is available from the Convener.

FINANCE

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

- i. The General Assembly this year having legislated that each congregation shall transmit contributions towards its Ministries and Mission allocation in ten or twelve equal monthly payments by standing order unless permission is granted by Presbytery to allow payments to be made under some other arrangement", congregations which wish to be exempted from this obligation should contact the Clerk by December 15<sup>th</sup>, outlining their proposals for transmitting the 2006 allocation, powers are granted to the Clerk and the Convener of Finance to grant permission, such individual arrangements to be reported to the February meeting of Presbytery
- ii. Appoint Miss J McSwan and Mr D Douglas auditors of the Presbytery accounts
- iii. For the Committee Mr W Findlay Turner moved and it was seconded and agreed

In the event that as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006, the Council of Ministries is not prepared to meet the costs of approved parish staffing arrangements from the Parish Staffing Fund, Presbytery advises congregations affected to reduce their payments in respect of Ministry and Mission Allocations by the amount of any such staffing costs which they are required to meet locally until this advice is amended or withdrawn, instructs the Clerk to inform other presbyteries of the church of this deliverance, and to send an extract minute of the deliverance to the Secretaries of the Council of Assembly, the Ministries Council and the Stewardship and Finance Committee

WORLD MISSION

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

Endorses the use of Christian Aid Advent and Christmas material and encourages congregations to make use of them.

PRESBYTERIAL SUPERINTENDENCE

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

Approve the following arrangements for the annual inspection of Rolls and Records

Tuesday	14 February	7.00pm	Saltcoats New Trinity
Wednesday	15 February	2.00pm	Largs: St Columba's
Wednesday	15 February	7.00pm	Dalry: St Margaret's
Thursday	16 February	11.00am(approx)	Brodick

**NEXT MEETING** Presbytery adjourned to meet within Saltcoats New Trinity in conference on Tuesday 7th February 2006 at 7.00, and thereafter for the conduct of ordinary business, the Business Committee to meet on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January at 9.45am

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

Moderator

Clerk