

**At Saltcoats and within Saltcoats New Trinity Church on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted**

SEDERUNT : Mr Ronald Lavalette (Moderator) Revds Dr Johnston McKay (Clerk) I Bristow, J C Christie, N Cruickshank, D J Hebenton, R Leask, A D McCallum, A M McCance, A F McGurk, E McKinnon, J J McNay, D R Mitchell, A B Noble, A Robertson, M Thomson, E R L Watson, V G C Watson, Ministers; J Bowie, S Brown, A Buick, A Campbell, J Cameron, A Cochrane, M Durham, J Forsyth, E Halliwell, A C D Hamilton, R Jarvie, G K McConnell, S McMahon, D McMurray, J McSwan, S Marr, C Massie, K Milne, T Muston, R A Richardson, G Ross, A K Saunderson, E Sillars, N Smith, W F Turner, A C Watt, C Welch, K Welch, R F Welch, H Young, Elders; M Buchanan, R McCool, Corresponding Members

APOLOGIES were received from A Adamson, M S Cameron, R J Grahame, D J H Harbison, M L K Howie, W R Johnston, R I T McDonalod, M H Mackay, B H Oxburgh, F C Ross, J Selfridge, A Taylor, J Whyte, Ministers; A T Butcher, G Cunningham, I Hackney, M G Kellock, J Laurie, A Lees, V Macdonald, N Martin, J Porter, A Pringle, J S Scott, Elders; M A Broster, A Currie, J C Q Hunter, B H Mackay, Revd A Montgomerie, M M B Ross, Corresponding Members

MINUTES The minutes of the meetings of 4<sup>th</sup> November 2008, having been circulated, were approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS The Order of Business was approved with the addition of an application from West Kilbride: St Andrews to adopt the Unitary Constitution.

CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported receipt of correspondence from the Congregational Board of Cumbrae seeking permission in principle to build a new church if funds are available; from the Congregational Board of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity regarding the sale of the previous Manse; from the Interim Moderator at Kilbirnie Auld Kirk alleging that a funeral had been taken by someone under jurisdiction of Presbytery intruding into the Kilbirnie Auld parish without permission; from the Kirk Sessions of Fergushill, Saltcoats New Trinity, Stevenston Ardeer and West Kilbride Overton, intimating appeals against the determination of buildings contained in the Presbytery Plan

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY The Moderator drew attention to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year of Revd D Stuart Forsyth's ordination, and the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of Revd David Harbison and Revd David Hebenton. Mr Forsyth was unable to be present in person, but the Moderator congratulated all three and thanked them for their long service to the Church, and presented them with gifts he had brought back from a recent visit to Israel/Palestine. Revd David Hebenton made suitable reply.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Business

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

- i. Having heard that the Committee had received a report from the Revd John Christie, Interim Minister, that the situation at West Kilbride St Andrews had improved considerably, agree to the request to recall the decision to sist proceedings, and appoint Revd John Christie Interim Moderator in the vacancy.
- ii. Approve the decision of the congregation of West Kilbride: St Andrews to adopt the Unitary Constitution, and invite the Solicitor of the Church to issue it.
- iii. Approve the Overture amending Act IX 2002 anent admission and readmission of Ministers

Their voted For Approval 57 Against Nil

Presbytery took up consideration of the Basis and Plan of Union between Fergushill and Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity.

*Parties were called*

Revd A Robertson and Mr William Thomson spoke for the congregations of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity and Fergushill respectively.

*Parties were removed.*

The Convener moved that Presbytery

- iv. Approve the Basis and Plan of Union between Fergushill and Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity, noting that at Fergushill there voted For Nil and Against 18, and at Kilwinning Mansefield Trinity there voted For 98, Against 1 with 6 abstentions. (Reports Page 52)

It was moved and seconded as a counter motion that Presbytery

Approve the Basis and Plan of Union with the exception of Clause 3 and resolve that the Fergushill building remain a place of worship within the Church of Scotland.

On a vote being taken the motion was carried overwhelmingly and the Presbytery resolved accordingly.

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

- v. With the concurrence of the Kirk Session of Fergushill, approve the transfer of the following area from the Presbytery of Ardrossan to the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock:

Beginning at the intersection of the A78 and the Main Railway Line And following the Railway Line South until it reaches the River Garnock. From this point follow the River Garnock southwards until the confluence with the River Irvine. The whole section of land encompassing Bogside Golf Course and the B779 to be included. From the same intersection point of the Railway and the A78 following the A78 to the Eglinton interchange and then following the B7080 until the Hill Roundabout. From there in a north easterly direction on the A736 (Cairnmount Road), until the Sourlie Roundabout meeting Lochlibo Road.

- vi. Sustain a call from the congregation of Ardrossan: Barony St John's to Mrs Dorothy Granger, Graduate Candidate, and resolve to hold her ordination and induction on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2009 at 7.30pm, the Presbytery to meet at 7.15pm; the Moderator to preside, Revd Andrew Robertson to conduct the devotions and Revd Marion Howie to preach and give the charges.
- vii. Approve the Report on the Use of Offerings (Reports Pages 53-54) and instruct congregations to make use of the form of words, or ones similar contained in the Report when retiring offerings are taken at church funerals.
- viii. Note that in the case of Dalry: St Margaret's, should a Vacancy Procedure Committee be required before the February meeting of Presbytery, it will consist of A K Saunderson (Convener) Revds M H Mackay, M Thomson

- ix. For the avoidance of doubt, (i) make it clear that elders commissioned by Kirk Sessions are representatives and not delegates and that they cannot be instructed to initiate action in the Presbytery; (ii) advise members of Presbytery that they are commissioned to exercise their judgment in all matters before the Presbytery.

#### Church and Society

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

Approve the holding of a Conference on Saturday 7th March 2009 in Kilwinning Old Church Hall.

#### Presbyterial Superintendence

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

- i. Approve the following arrangements for the annual inspection of Rolls and Records in February 2009:
  - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm: Saltcoats New Trinity
  - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm: Largs St Columba's
  - Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm: Dalry: St Margaret's
  - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> at 11.00am (approx) Brodick
- ii. Remind ministers to submit their 2008 Log Books for inspection by Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2009

#### Property

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

- i. Barony St John's: Approve in principle alteration and extension to the Manse to make it comply with the standard regulations at a cost of approximately £40,000 and grant powers to the Property Convener, Vice Convener and the Clerk to approve detailed plans if submitted before the submission date for the next meeting of the Property Committee and if an extract minute is received indicating that funds are available.
- ii. Approve in principle the intention of Cumbrae Parish Church to build a new community church and advise office-bearers to seek presbytery permission before proceeding on each stage of the project
- iii. Advise congregations to decline any proposal by Scottish Water to install water meters on church premises, given that exemption from water rates has been granted until 2014

#### Stewardship and Finance

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

- i. Welcome the preliminary results of the pilot stewardship campaign conducted in conjunction with the Stewardship Committee which show that all

congregations record a significant improvement in givings and some a considerable improvement

- ii. In the light of the preliminary results, encourage those congregations who did not participate now invite the Stewardship Committee to conduct campaigns, taking advantage of the free consultancy now on offer.
- iii. Instruct the committee to bring forward proposals regarding those congregations which continue to refuse to participate and whose accounts for 2008 do not show an increase in givings commensurate with those achieved by participating congregations

World Mission

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

Note the Convener's Report on the World Mission Development Conference (Reports Pages 55-6)

**Presbytery to meet on Tuesday February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009 at 7.30pm within Saltcoats New Trinity for the conduct of ordinary business, the Business Committee to meet on Wednesday January 21st at 4.00pm.**

Moderator

Clerk