

At Saltcoats and within Saltcoats: New Trinity Parish Church on Tuesday 4th March 2008, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted

SEDERUNT : Revds R J Grahame (Moderator) Dr JR McKay (Clerk) A Adamson, MS Cameron, A Davidge, D J H Harbison, M L K Howie, W R Johnston, R Leask, R I T McDonald, M H Mackay, A D McCallum, E McKinnon, A F McGurk, J J McNay, D R Mitchell, A B Noble, B H Oxburgh, F C Ross, I M Roy, A Taylor, E R L Watson, V G C Watson, J Whyte, Ministers; A Buick, A Campbell, J Cameron, J Forsyth, E Halliwell, A C D Hamilton, R Jarvie, M G Kellock, R Kelso, J Laurie, R Lavalette, A Lees, V Macdonald, P McKay, S McMahon, D McMurray, J McSwan, S Marr, N Martin, C Massie, K Milne, T Muston, R A Richardson, G Ross, A K Saunderson, N Smith, E Stevenson, W Thomson, W F Turner, A C Watt, C Welch, K S Welch, R F Welch, R Young, Elders; M Buchanan, J C Q Hunter, B H Mackay, R McCool, A Montgomerie, M M B Ross Corresponding Members.

APOLOGIES were received from Revds I Bristow, J M M Lafferty, J Selfridge, Mgt Thomson, Ministers; J Aitken, G Cunningham, I Hackney, G K McConnell, S McLellan, J Porter, A Tomlinson, Elders; M A Broster, Corresponding Member

MINUTE The minutes of the meeting of 5th February 2008, having been circulated, were approved

ORDER OF BUSINESS The Order of Business was approved.

1. CORRESPONDENCE The clerk reported receipt of correspondence from North Ayrshire Woman's Aid accepting an invitation from the Business Committee for Ms Helen Aitken to address to April meeting of Presbytery; from the Ministries Council regarding a grievance procedure initiated by Ms Penny Spencer; from West Sound regarding a grant from Presbytery; from the Legal Questions Committee of the General Assembly homologating the action of the Convener, and Secretary in approving the appointment of Revd John Harvey as Interim Moderator at West Kilbride: St Andrews; and from the Solicitor of the Church, indicating that congregations which do not operate the Unitary Constitution or the Model Deed are required to outline plans to adopt either in order to ensure OSCR compliance.
2. ADDRESS Mr Ron Lavalette introduced Mr Christ McNaught of Geilsland School to the Moderator who invited Mr McNaught to address the Presbytery. The Moderator thanked Mr McNaught for his thoughtful address and wished him and the school well.
3. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business

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

- i. Elect the following commissioners to the forthcoming General Assembly: Revds I Benzie, M S Cameron, R Grahame, JMM Lafferty, E McKinnon, A B Noble, B Oxburgh, E R L Watson, Ministers; Mr T Elder, Mr J Forsyth, Mr R Lavalette, Mr C Massie, Mrs N Smith, , C Welch, RG Welch, H Young, Elders

Presbytery took up consideration of a proposal to amend the Presbytery Plan with regard to the congregations of Fergushill and Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity. The Clerk intimated that the congregations had been cited to appear, and that Mr William Thomson appeared for the congregation of Fergushill and Mr Andrew Campbell and Mrs and Mrs William Aitken for the congregation of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity.I

Parties were called.

Mr W Thomson spoke for the congregation of Fergushill

The Convener outlined the circumstances which led the Business Committee, acting as the Presbytery's Appraisal Committee to propose this amendment, namely the absence as yet of the parish assistance anticipated in the plan for Kilwinning: Old and the minister;s workload

Parties were removed

The Convener moved that Presbytery resolve to amend the Presbytery Plan in respect of Fergushill to read at the interim stage "Union with Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity or Dissolution" and in respect of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity to read "Union with Fergushill and Parish grouping with Kilwinning Old". In the absence of any other motions, the presbytery resolved accordingly.

The Presbytery resumed consideration of the Business Committee report.

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

- ii. Welcome the decision of the Kirk Session of West Kilbride: St Andrews to seek the appointment of an Interim Minister, concur therein and express the hope that discussions with the Ministries Council will reach the conclusion that such an appointment is possible.
- iii. Note that acting as the Vacancy Procedure Committee, the Committee has received a request from the Revd Marjory Mackay to demit the charge of Cumbrae on 15 June 2008 and has agreed.
- iv. Advise ministers and locums that they should contact Crosshouse Hospital Security Desk with a view to obtaining ID badges.
- v. Note Congregational Statistics for 2007 (Reports page 20)

Mr W Findlay Turner, Treasurer, presented the account for the year to 31 December 2007, and introduced the budget for the current year.

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

- vi. Approve the Accounts for the year to 31 December 2007 and express the Presbytery's thanks to W Findlay Turner for preparing them. (Reports Pages 9-16)

In response to a suggestion that the island of Cumbrae should be included as part of the western geographical extremity of Presbytery, the Treasurer indicated that the *Objects and Activities* section of the Annual Report would be amended appropriately.

- vii. Instruct the Clerk to write to Mr Angus Dodds CA, thanking him for undertaking the work of Independent Examiner
- viii. Resolve that the Presbytery dues shall be £2.00 per member and that the survey dues be increased to 70p per member in order to take account of a 100% increase in survey fees and the requirement to fund an anticipated instruction from the General Assembly to undertake a revaluation of all church buildings within the bounds.

Property

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

- i. Shiskine: Approve various works required in the provision access for the disabled at a cost of £6191 + VAT
- ii. Remind congregations that applications to the Property Committee must be sent in the first instance to the Clerk, and must be accompanied by an extract minute from the appropriate court, detailing the work to be done and the total cost
- iii. Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that Certificates of Employers' Liability Insurance are retained in safe keeping for forty years.

World Mission

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

Commend Kate Aspinwall for volunteering to join EAPPI in Palestine and Israel, assure her of the Presbytery's prayers and good wishes, and encourage congregational groups to invite her to speak to them on her return. (Reports page 19)

Presbyterial Superintendence

The Presbytery resolved to meet in private

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

- i. Receive and approve the Quinquennial Visitation reports for Kilbirnie: Auld Kirk; Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity and Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's and in the case of Saltcoats: St Cuthberts note that there is no connection between the abandoning of the T-mobile mast and the loan from the General Trustees, and invite the Kirk Sessions to make full use of the reports in their work. (Reports pages 17-19)
- ii. In the case of Kilbirnie: Auld Kirk, note the report with concern and transmits it to the Business Committee for further consideration of and action on the issues raised. (Reports page 17)
- iii. In light of the report on Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity, invite the Business Committee to consider ways of offering ongoing support and advice to those congregations experiencing long periods of vacancy.
- iv. Note the various commendations and recommendations which appear in the Quinquennial Visitation Reports.
- v. Note that Rolls and Records within the bounds have been satisfactorily attested and that a note will be sent to Session Clerks of any matters which require attention.

Mission and Discipleship

The Presbytery no longer being alone, for the Committee the Clerk moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

- i. Note that the Moderator of Presbytery will visit the parishes of Cumbrae, Fairlie and West Kilbride on June 3 2008
- ii. Commend to Presbytery the forthcoming Bible Society Bibleworld visit to Largs
- iii. Appoint Morag Robertson of Clark Memorial Church as the Presbytery's delegate to the National Youth Assembly

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 1st April at 7.30pm within Saltcoats: New Trinity for the conduct of ordinary business, the Business Committee to meet on Wednesday March 19th at 4.30pm

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

Moderator

Clerk