

**At Largs and within Largs St Columba's Church on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2008, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted**

SEDERUNT : Revds R J Grahame (Moderator) Revd Dr J R McKay (Clerk) D J H Harbison, W R Johnston, A M McCance, M H Mackay, J J McNay, A D McCallum, E McKinnon, A F McGurk, A B Noble, B H Oxburgh, F C Ross, M Thomson, A Taylor, E R L Watson, V G C Watson, J Whyte, Ministers; J Aitken, A Buick, A Campbell, J Cameron, G Cunningham, J Forsyth, I Hackney, E Halliwell, R Jarvie, M G Kellock, J Laurie, R Lavalette, A Lees, V Macdonald, G K McConnell, P Mackay, S McLellan, D McMurray, J McSwan, N Martin, C Massie, K Milne, T Muston, R A Richardson, G Ross, A K Saunderson, J S Scott, E Sillars, N Smith, W Thomson, A Tomlinson, A C Watt, C Welch, K S Welch, R F Welch, H Young, Elders; M A Broster, M Buchanan, Revd A Montgomerie, M Nimmo, MMB Ross, P Spencer, Corresponding Members.

APOLOGIES were received from evds A Adamson, I W Benzie, M S Cameron, N Cruickshank, A Davidge, M L K Howie, J M M Lafferty, R I T McDonald, J Slefridge, Ministers; L Borwick, S Brown, M Duff, A C D Hamilton, R Kelso, S Marr, J Porter, W F Turner, Elders; J C Q Hunter, B H Mackay, Corresponding Member.

MINUTE The minute of the meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> June, having been circulated, was approved

ORDER OF BUSINESS The Order of Business was approved as circulated with additional items: the impending retiral of the Revd Marjory Mackay, the result of the grievance brought by Ms Penny Spencer before the Ministries Council against Revd Alison Davidge, and a report on the recent visit by the Moderator to Cumbrae, Fairlie and West Kilbride and an additional item under the Business Committee report on a service to mark Gordon Stevenson as a graduate candidate.

DEMISSION The Moderator drew Presbytery's attention to the demission of Revd Marjory Mackay from Cumbrae on June 15th. Mr Ian McGill addressed Presbytery and paid tribute to Mrs Mackay's ministry over the past ten years. Mrs Mackay made suitable reply. The Moderator thanked her for her considerable service to the Presbytery. It was moved, seconded and agreed that Mrs Mackay retain her seat in Presbytery.

CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported correspondence had been received from : from the Ministries Council, noting receipt of extract minutes (1) of the draft basis and plan of union between the congregations of Fergushill and Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity, and (2) from the Ministries Council noting Presbytery's agreement to the request of Revd Marjory Mackay to demit the charge of Cumbrae as from 15 June; from the Law Department intimating that the Unitary Constitution has been issued to Dalry: St Margaret's; from the Kirk Session of Largs: Clark Memorial regarding information from the Clerk regarding the letter from the Solicitor of the Church anent constitutions, providing what purports to be a constitution and requesting a copy of the Solicitor's letter to the Clerk; from the General Trustees, making available a grant of £15K and a loan for £5K for work approved at the manse of Lamlash; from the Kirk Session of Largs: St Columba's reporting a grant of £45.8K from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the first stage of a major refurbishment approved in principle by Presbytery; from the Session Clerk of Stevenston High Kirk reporting the demolition of the wall which was the subject of instruction from Presbytery.

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY The Clerk reported that the Moderator, Mr George Ross and himself had called on Revd D Stuart Forsyth who answered that he adhered to the vows he took at his ordination and his name had been added to the Roll of Presbytery

ADDRESS BY HELEN SCOTT, MISSIONARY PARTNER. The Moderator welcomed Miss Helen Scott of Ekwendeni, Malawi who addressed Presbytery on the life of the Church there, the situation in the country and hopeful signs in connection with HIV/Aids. The Moderator thanked her warmly for what she said and led the Presbytery in prayer.

IN PRIVATE: GRIEVANCE

Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á  
Á

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### Business

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

- i. West Kilbride St Andrews: Note that the Ministries Council has agreed to the appointment of the Revd John Christie as Interim Minister, and resolve
  - (a) to hold a service of introduction within West Kilbride: St Andrews on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at 7.30pm, the Presbytery to meet at 7.15, the Moderator to preside and induct, the Revd Marjory Mackay to conduct the service and preach;
  - (b) to appoint the following to the Transition Group which will consist of one other Interim Minister, three members of the Ministries Council's Interim Ministries Task Group and three members of Presbytery the Revds S J Smith, V G C Watson and Mr G Ross
  - (c) to express the thanks and appreciation of the Presbytery to the Revd John Harvey for his wise, sensitive and committed work as Interim Moderator and Locum
- ii. Resolve to hold a service to mark the completion of the academic studies of Gordon Stevenson and his status as a graduate candidate within Dalry Trinity Church on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30pm, the Presbytery to meet at 6.15pm, the Moderator to preside, the Revd Brian Oxburgh to conduct the service and the Revd Martin Thomson to preach.
- iii. Note that the congregation of Fergushill has voted against a basis and plan of union between Fergushill and Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity by 18 votes to 0 and that the congregation of Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity has voted in favour by 78 votes to 7, and that a basis and plan of union will be brought to presbytery for approval at a later date.

##### Property

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

- i. Largs: St Columba's:
  - (a) Subject to the agreement of the General Trustees and with the approval of the Committee on Church Art and Architecture, grant permission to remove pews from a transept and erect an exhibition at a cost of £24,550

- (b) Defer a decision on an application to upgrade fire corridors etc at a cost of £24,831 until the committee has had the opportunity to discuss how this work impinges on major works already approved in principle.
- ii. Following the decision of the recent General Assembly that all congregations must have buildings revalued for insurance purposes and in the light of Presbytery's decision to include the cost of this valuation exercise in its most recent budget, instruct the Committee to have the necessary valuations carried out as soon as possible by Messrs G A B Robins
- lii Grant powers to the Convener and Clerk to deal with any urgent property matters which arise during the summer

#### Presbyterial Superintendence

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

- i. IN PRIVATE

The Presbytery no longer being alone the Convener moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

- ii. In light of the mission concerns raised by the office bearers of Saltcoats: New Trinity concerning the distribution of population in the town of Saltcoats, refer the matter of parish boundaries to the Business Committee for consideration.
- iii. Note that during future Quinquennial visits, visiting teams will enquire after progress towards any readjustment envisaged within the Presbytery Plan.
- iv. Note the provisional rota of Quinquennial visits for the years 2008-2013 as in the attached report.
- v. Note that the following congregations will be visited under Quinquennial visitation in 2008/09: Kilbirnie: St Columba's; West Kilbride: Overton; Saltcoats: North; Stevenston: High Church; Largs: St Columba's
- vi. Note that as part of proper governance and good practice in terms of Charity legislation, Presbytery must now inspect log books and that this will be undertaken at the annual inspection of rolls and records beginning 2009.

#### Mission and Discipleship

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

Note the report on the Moderator's recent visit to Garrison House Cumberae, Fairlie Community Garden and West Kilbride Primary School.

**There then followed a celebration of Holy Communion at which the Moderator presided, assisted by members of Presbytery which also concluded the Presbytery with prayer.**

**Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 24 June 2008 at 7.15pm within West Kilbride: St Andrews for the introduction of Revd John Christie, on Sunday August 17<sup>th</sup> at 6.15pm within Dalry: Trinity for the graduate candidate service for Mr Gordon Stevenson, and on Tuesday September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008 at 7.30pm within Ardrossan: Park for the installation of the Moderator and the conduct of ordinary business, the Business Committee to meet on Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup> at 4.30pm**

Moderator

Clerk