

At Beith, and within Beith Trinity Church on Tuesday September 1st 2009, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT R Lavalette (Moderator) Revds Dr J R McKay (Clerk), A Adamson, I Bristow, M S Cameron, J C Christie, N Cruickshank, R J Grahame, D J H Harbison, M L K Howie, J M M Lafferty, R Leask, A D McCallum, A M McCance, R I T Macdonald, A F McGurk, M H Mackay, E McKinnon, G P Maclean, S McLellan, J J McNay, K Milne, D R Mitchell, A B Noble, B H Oxburgh, A Robertson, F C Ross, I M Roy, S J Smith, J Teasdale, M Thomson, A Taylor, D S Walker, E R L Watson, V G C Watson, J Whyte, **Ministers**; J Aitken, L Borwick, S Brown, A Buick, A T Butcher, A Cochrane, I Hackney, E Halliwell, A C D Hamilton, R Jarvie, M G Kellock, R Kelso, J Laurie, R Lavalette, S Lavalette, S McMahon, J McSwan, S Marr, N Martin, C Massie, J Porter, A Pringle, R A Richardson, G Ross, A K Saunderson, E Sillars, N Smith, E Taylor, A C Watt, C Welch, K S Welch, R F Welch, J Welsh, **Elders**; M A Broster, M Buchanan, J C Q Hunter, H Knight, R McCool, M M B Ross, **Corresponding Members**

APOLOGIES were received from Revd D Granger, **Minister**; G Cunningham, J Forsyth, A Lees, G K McConnell, J S Scott, W F Turner, **Elders**; Revd A Montgomerie, **Corresponding Member**

MINUTES The Minutes of meetings on 10th May and 9th June, having been circulated were approved.

MODERATOR Having expressed his appreciation to the Presbytery for electing him its Moderator, Mr Ron Lavalette relinquished office, and in prayer installed the Revd R I T Macdonald, minister at Beith: High linked with Beith: Trinity Moderator for 2009-10. Mr Macdonald expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to Mr Lavalette for his conduct of business and the exemplary way in which he had carried out his duties.

CONGRATULATIONS The Moderator congratulated Revd David Walker on the 70th anniversary of his ordination which he is due to celebrate in November and the Presbytery warmly endorsed this. Mr Walker made suitable reply.

ROLL OF PRESBYTERY The Clerk laid on the table the Roll of Presbytery as contained in the Presbytery Year Book. The Moderator expressed a warm welcome to those members who were returning to membership of Presbytery or elected for the first time.

CORRESPONDENCE Presbytery noted correspondence from the Solicitor of the Church, intimating the issuing of the Unitary Constitution to the congregations of Beith: Trinity and Kilmory; from the Director of Stewardship outlining the results of the pilot scheme in which most congregations in the Presbytery participated; from the Ministries' Council's Presbytery Planning Task Group, indicating no difficulty with the proposed expenditure on heating at Largs: St Columba's, noting the Basis of Union for West Kilbride and the date of the union at Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity; and from the Session Clerk and also 22 elders of Ardrossan: Park regarding recent events.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business

Presbytery took up consideration of the union between West Kilbride: Overton and West Kilbride: St Andrews, agreed by the two congregations at meetings held on Sunday 28th June.

Parties were called

Mr Graeme Cruickshank appeared for the congregation of West Kilbride: St Andrews and Mr Stephen Brown for the congregation of West Kilbride: Overton

Parties were heard.

Parties were removed

For the Committee the Convener moved, it was seconded and agreed *nem. con.* that Presbytery:

Approve the Basis and Plan of Union between West Kilbride: Overton and West Kilbride: St Andrews, and remit to the Business Committee to arrange a date and time for the service of union to take place.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated.

IN PRIVATE

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

- i. Approve the Presbytery Committees for 2009/10 with amendments noted
- ii. Instruct Kirk Sessions to note and where appropriate take action on the report from the Solicitor of the Church anent 'Church and Alcohol'.
- iii. In the light of the report from the Ministries Council anent Swine Flu instruct Kirk Sessions to appoint a nominated contact person to make arrangements in the event of there being a likelihood that public worship cannot be held, and submit names to the Clerk in time for the October presbytery
- iv. Remit the Overture anent Discipline to the Business Committee
- v. Receive the papers prepared with regard to the Third Article Declaratory and resolve to hold a conference sessions following the ordinary business of the October meeting of Presbytery.

Mission and Discipleship

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

- i. Note with thanks the report from the Safeguarding Contact/Trainer
- ii. Encourage all elders, whether newly ordained or not, to attend training sessions for elders.

Stewardship and Finance

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

- i. Note that all congregational accounts for 2008 have been inspected and although all have been or should be adjudged sufficiently compliant by 30th September, on submission, only a small minority was totally compliant, a majority was advised of areas for future correction or improvement and three were required to amend and re-submit their accounts.
- ii. Express thanks to all involved in the annual accounting process but remind congregational trustees of the need to comply with the relevant accounting regulations to ensure that fully compliant accounts are lodged with Presbytery no later than 14th April each year for inspection.
- iii. Authorise the Committee to report the outcome of inspection to the Council of Assembly's Finance Group.

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

Note with appreciation that the average increase in income of those congregations which undertook to take part in the Stewardship pilot scheme was 18.5% and, in terms of the Presbytery's decision of 2 December 2008 instruct the Committee to bring forward to the October Presbytery proposals regarding those congregations which did not take part in the scheme and whose income has not shown a rise of 18.5%.

It was moved as an amendment:

To delete the words following "in the scheme"

The Convener agreed to accept the amendment and the presbytery resolved accordingly.

Ministries

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

- i. Approve the application from Mrs Jean Hunter for study leave from 26th to 30th October
- ii. Approve Vacancy Schedules for Cumbrae, Kilbirnie Auld and Kilwinning Old and transmit these to the Ministries Council

Property

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

- i. Grant permission to Largs: St Columba's to replace plant and equipment in the boilerhouse at a cost of £67293 including a contingency of £5000, and asbestos removal and consultant's fees of 10.5%
- ii. Note that Quinquennial Property inspections are to take place this year at Beith: High, Dalry: St Margaret's; Kilwinning: Old, Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity, Largs: Clark Memorial, Stevenston: Livingstone and Whiting Bay

Presbyterial Superintendence

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

Note and approve the following Quinquennial Visitation Committees (the first named to be Convener)

Dalry: Trinity: Revd R J Grahame, K S Welch, S Marr, M Kellock
Largs: St John's: Revds V G C Watson, and M S Cameron, R Kelso, W F Turner
Kilmory and Lamlash: A K Saunderson, R A Richardson, R Jarvie, Revd J J McNay
Stevenston Ardeer/w Stevenston Livingstone: Revds G P Maclean, M H Mackay, and A Butcher, V Macdonald

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday October 6th 2009 at 7.30pm within Saltcoats New Trinity for the conduct of ordinary business and the Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 23rd September at 4.00pm

Benediction

Moderator

Clerk