

At Saltcoats and within Saltcoats: New Trinity Church on Tuesday 8th February 2011, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted by the Moderator, the Reverend Gillean P Maclean BD.

Sederunt:

Revd G P Maclean (Moderator) Mr A K Saunderson (Clerk)

Revds:

N Cruickshank, D Granger, D J H Heberton, D J Harbison, M L K Howie, A M McCance, A F McGurk, M H Mackay, J J McNay, D R Mitchell, A B Noble, I M Roy, S J Smith, J Teasdale, A S Taylor, E R L Watson, V G C Watson, J Whitecross, J Whyte. **(Ministers)**

Elders:

J Aitken, S Brown, A Buick, J Cameron, A Campbell, A Cochrane, J Forsyth, E Haliwell, A C D Hamilton, J C Q Hunter, R Jarvie, J Laurie, R Lavalette, S Lavalette, A Lees, V Macdonald, W Mackay, G K McConnell, S McLellan, S McMahan, J M McSwan, S Marr, C Massie, K Milne, A Pringle, R A Richardson, G Ross, E Sillars, A Turner, A C Watt, C Welch, K S Welch, R F Welch, J Welsh. **(Elders)**

Corresponding Members:

E Barclay, M A Broster, A Currie, H Knight, B H Mackay, R McCool, A Montgomerie, M Nimmo, M M B Ross, N Smith, I Beck (Diaconal Candidate) **(Corresponding Members)**

Apologies

Ministers

A Adamson, M S Cameron, J M M Lafferty, A D McCallum, F C Ross, M Thomson.

Elders

L Borwick, A T Butcher, G Cunningham, I Hackney, M G Kellock, R Kelso, J T McGill, N Martin, T Muston, J Porter, E Taylor.

Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 3rd December 2010 (Pages 23-29) and Wednesday 12th January 2011 (Pages 1-2) having been circulated were approved.

Order of Business

The Order of Business was approved as circulated.

Roll of Presbytery

The Moderator introduced the Revd Jeanette Whitecross who was attending her first meeting of Ardrossan Presbytery, following her Induction to Kilwinning Old Parish Church on 12th January 2011.

Reception of Divinity Students and Readers

Divinity Students and Readers were introduced by the Convener of the Ministries Committee and welcomed by the Moderator, who highlighted the very important part played by our Students and Readers in the ever changing Church. Mr Archie Currie responded on behalf of the Students and Readers and thereafter the Moderator offered prayer.

Correspondence had been received from:

- (a) Mrs Sheena Marr, Safeguarding Trainer – Information regarding proposed Kirk Session Training.
- (b) Presbytery of Dumbarton – Extract Minute Vacancy Procedure Committee. Letter intimating the release of the Revd Jeanette Whitecross from the Charge of Old Kilpatrick Linked with Bowling.
- (c) Revd James Whyte – letter from Mr Whyte seeking permission to continue as Minister of Fairlie: Parish Church until June 30th 2011 and to be granted permission to retire on 30th June 2011.
- (d) Lochranza & Pirnmill Parish Church – regarding Payments by Standing Order.
- (e) Solicitor of the Church – Information regarding the default of retirement age for employees. This has been sent to all Session Clerks within the Bounds.
- (f) Calculation of Commissioners to General Assembly 2011 – Ardrossan Presbytery have to nominate 7 Ministers and 7 Elders.

In addition the Clerk pro tem intimated that the following Correspondence had been received since the papers had been circulated:

- (g) Solicitor of the Church – that by delegation of the Assembly the Unitary Constitution has now been issued to the Congregation of Barony: St John's
- (h) Information Commissioners Office – Notification of name of Contact details in relation to Data Protection being changed to Mr Alan Sanderson.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Committee

i Ardrossan Park: Call to Miss Tanya Webster

The Congregation had been cited for its interest and were represented by: Mr John Ferrol (Session Clerk) Mrs Moira Crocker, Mrs Margaret Massie, Mr Sam Morrison, Mrs Janette Morrison, Mr David Wood, Mrs Susan Wood.

Parties were called

Mr John Ferrol Session Clerk spoke on behalf of the Congregation and advised that the Call to Miss Webster had been signed by 200 members. Mr Ferrol asked that the Call be sustained and thanked the Revd V G C Watson, Interim Moderator and Mr R McCool, Locum for all the help and support that had been received during the period of vacancy.

Parties were removed

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

Approve the decision of the Committee acting as the Vacancy Procedure Committee to sustain a call received from the Congregation of Ardrossan: Park to Miss Tanya Webster, Graduate Candidate and appoint Wednesday 23rd March 2011 for her Ordination & Induction. The Moderator to preside, the Revd Jeanette Whitecross to conduct and the Revd Roddie Macdonald to preach and give the charges to the Minister and Congregation. Presbytery to meet at 7.15 p.m. and the Service of Ordination and Induction to commence at 7.30p.m.

Parties were recalled and Presbytery's decision intimated.

ii Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's Call from the Congregation of Tayport to the Revd Brian Oxburgh.

The Congregation had been cited for its interest and were represented by: Mrs Evelyn Slater (Session Clerk) Mrs Ann Turner, Mr John Aitken, Mr Hunter Grove, Mrs Maureen Crilley, Mrs Angela Beattie.

Parties were called

Mrs Evelyn Slater (Session Clerk) spoke on behalf of the Congregation and paid warm tribute to Mr Oxburgh's 22 years of Ministry at St Cuthbert's, a ministry that had not only been appreciated by the Congregation and Parish but also by many in the local community.

The Revd Brian Oxburgh then suitably replied to Mrs Slater's comments.

Parties were removed

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

Approve the decision of the Committee acting as the Vacancy Procedure Committee that, subject to a Call being sustained by the Presbytery of St Andrew's, to grant release to the Revd Brian Oxburgh from the Charge of Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's in the light of his election to the vacant Charge of Tayport and advise him to await the instruction of the Presbytery of St Andrew's as to his Induction to that Charge.

Parties were recalled and Presbytery's decision intimated.

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

iii. Agree that in anticipation of Mr Oxburgh's release from the Charge of Saltcoats St Cuthbert's being approved, that the Revd Dr Johnston McKay be appointed as Interim Moderator and Locum in the Vacancy on the basis of Sunday plus one day. The appointment to become effective from the date of Mr Oxburgh's Induction to Tayport

iv. **Cumbræ Parish Church** – Agree that in anticipation of the release of the Revd Brian Oxburgh from the Charge of Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's – that thanks be expressed to Mr Oxburgh for the work undertaken by him as Interim Moderator at Cumbræ Parish Church, and appoint the Revd Martin Thomson as Interim Moderator. The appointment to become effective from the date of Mr Oxburgh's Induction to Tayport.

v. **Convener Presbytery Ministries Committee** – Agree that in anticipation of the release of Revd Brian Oxburgh from the Charge of Saltcoats: St Cuthbert's, that Mr Oxburgh be thanked for his service as Convener of the Committee and appoint Mr Ron Lavalette as Convener of the Presbytery Ministries Committee with effect of the date of Mr Oxburgh's Induction to Tayport.

vi. Note in relation to a Question regarding accountability of those Ministers to which Practicing Certificates have been granted, raised at December meeting. That the answer is, a Minister who has been granted a Certificate is responsible to the Presbytery that issues the Certificate and within whose bounds they reside. Should the minister move to another area they must lodge the Certificate with the appropriate Presbytery.

vii. **Notice of Motion:** That at the March meeting of Presbytery the Committee will propose the names of seven Ministers and seven Elders to attend the forthcoming General Assembly.

viii. **Appointment of Presbytery Clerk:**

- a. Appoint Mr Alan K Saunderson as Presbytery Clerk and in line with normal practice review this appointment after two years and thereafter every three years.

- b. Note that the salary will be £7,500. This represents the joint salaries currently paid to Clerk and Depute Clerk. The Committee, in conjunction with Mr Saunderson, will consider the appointment of a Depute Clerk following the summer recess and, if a Depute Clerk is appointed, any salary for that post will be taken from the joint salary noted.
- c. Note that Mr Saunderson will received back- dated payment as Presbytery Clerk from the time his appointment as Clerk Pro tem commenced on 10th September 2010.
- d. Authorise the Committee to enter into negotiations with the Office Bearers of Largs: Clark Memorial Church to explore the possibility of making permanent the temporary arrangements that are currently in place for a Presbytery office in the Church.

Property Committee

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

- i. Note that 4 copies of the handbook “ Letting it Happen” produced by the Church of Scotland Ministries Council, Church of Scotland General Trustees and Faith in the Community Scotland, will be sent to all congregations within the Bounds. And encourage Charity Trustees and Congregational Office Bearers to make use of this excellent publication.

Mission & Discipleship Committee

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

i Receive the Safeguarding Trainer’s Report on the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 1997 (Reports Pages 1-2)

ii Note that Kirk Session Training, which is separate from PVG training, is now mandatory. Presbytery will offer Kirk Session Training in cluster groups which are noted and encourage all Kirk sessions within the bounds to ensure that members of Kirk Sessions attend. And to further assist the Presbytery Trainer, ask Session Clerks to ensure that Registration forms - which will be issued in advance of the training sessions - are returned to the Trainer at least 14 days prior to the training date. (Reports Pages 3-4)

It was agreed that the Clerk should seek clarification regarding Safeguarding Training now being Mandatory for Kirk Sessions. It was also agreed that clarification should also be sought regarding whether or not any Elder Ordained prior to the training having been made mandatory will be subject to compliance.

Finance Committee

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

i Approve the Report of the process for making application for funding from the 3% Ministries and Mission Allocation, which will become effective from September 2011. Applications for grants for session 2010/2011 should be submitted to the Convener for consideration of the committee by 20th April 2011. (Reports Pages 5-6)

ii Approve a request from the congregation of Lochranza and Pirnmill to vary their Ministries & Mission contributions from the required equal monthly instalments, to a variable amount based upon the seasonal income pattern experienced by the congregation.

World Mission Committee

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

- i. Invite the Council for World Mission to progress the establishing of a Partnership between the Presbytery of Ardrossan with the Presbytery of Milala in the Synod of Livingstonia.
- ii. Note that representatives from a group that received £4900 from Presbytery last year to assist their visit to Malawi will address the April Presbytery Meeting.
- iii. Assist the World Mission Committee by asking Presbytery Elders, to pick up letters to Session Clerks, asking them to give the Convener up to date contact details in respect of their World Church Representatives and their Partner Plan Correspondents.

Ministries Committee

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

- i. Approve a request from the Minister and Kirk Session of Fairlie Parish Church that the Revd James Whyte be allowed to continue his ministry there until 30th June 2011.
- ii. Grant permission to the Revd James Whyte to retire from the Charge of Fairlie: Parish Church on 30th June 2011.

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 1st March 2011 at 7.30 p.m. within Saltcoats: New Trinity Church, for the conduct of ordinary business. The Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 16th February 2011 at 12.30 p.m.

Closing Devotions

The meeting was closed with prayer.

_____ **Moderator**

_____ **Clerk**