

At Saltcoats and within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirgate Parish Church on Tuesday 4th March 2014, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted by the Moderator, the Reverend Alex B Noble MA BD ThM.

Sederunt:

Revd A B Noble (Moderator) Mr A K Saunderson (Clerk)

Ministers:

R A Adamson, N Cruickshank, I S Currie, A Ford, D J H Harbieson, M Hickman, M L K Howie, R I T Macdonald, A M McCance, J J McNay, D R Mitchell, F C Ross, A Sherratt, M Thomson, E R L Watson, T Webster, A Ward.

Elders:

K Anderson, J Aitken, M Brown, C Black, A Cochrane, G Cunningham, M Green, A C D Hamilton, J C Q Hunter, R Head, R Kelso, R Lavalette, S Marr, A Martin, C Massie, H Mitchell, D Murray, J Niven, G K McConnell, S McLellan, S McMahan, J M McSwan, D A Oakes, F Page, A Pringle, A Turner, A Todd, K Tudor, K S Welch.

Corresponding Members:

E Barclay, A Currie, E Clarke, R McCool, N Smith, A Montgomerie.

Apologies:

Ministers:

M S Cameron, A Falconer, D J Heberton, D Granger, M H Mackay, A D McCallum, I M Roy, A S Taylor, J Teasdale, J Whitecross.

Elders:

S Brown, J Cameron, A Campbell, M Duff, I Hackney, R Jarvie, W Mackay, R McLean, R A Richardson.

Corresponding Members:

B H McKay, S Macleod, M M B Ross.

- The Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2014 (Pages 3-8) having been circulated, were approved.
- Correspondence
 - (a) **Fairlie Parish Church** – Extract Minute regarding upgrade of Manse.
 - (b) **Kirkgate Parish Church** – Extract Minute re Property Convener.
 - (c) **Solicitor of the Church** – Extract Minute and response regarding the consultation on Water and Sewerage Exemption Scheme.
 - (d) **Mission & Discipleship Council** – Invitation to attend a Mission Conveners Conference on 12th March 2014. (*Miss J M McSwan will be representing Presbytery*)

Presbytery/

- (e) **Church & Society Council, Pre General Assembly Briefing –**
Invitation to attend the Consultation on 29th April 2014. (*Mr Gordon McConnell will be representing Presbytery*)

Order of Business – The Order of Business was approved as circulated.

Roll of Presbytery

Revd D S Fortsyth – The Revd D Ross Mitchell gave a Tribute to the life, Ministry and Christian Witness of Mr Forsyth who had recently died.

Revd R Leask – The Moderator then intimated that Mrs Leask had died and thereafter made tribute to Mrs Leask's life and Christian Witness.

At the conclusion of both Tributes the Moderator offered prayer.

Reception of Readers and Candidates for the Ministry – Mr Ron Lavalette, Ministries Committee Convener, then introduced the Following Readers and Students, who had attended the annual dinner: Mrs Jean Hunter, Mr Archie Currie, Mr Bert McCool, Mrs Nicky Smith, Mr Andrew Bruce.

Mrs Elizabeth Clarke then spoke on behalf of the Readers and Students and thereafter, the Moderator offered prayer.

Guest Speaker Mrs Margaret Cassidy – Mr Ron Lavalette, Presbytery Representative to South Beach House then introduced Mrs Cassidy who spoke about the ongoing work within the unit, which had recently been visited by the Care Commissioner for Scotland and received an excellent report. Mrs Cassidy thanked all within Presbytery and the local Congregations for the ongoing support of South Beach House.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Committee

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

- i. **General Assembly 2014** – Appoint the following as Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2013
Ministers: Revd's R I T Macdonald, A Sherratt, D Granger, M S Cameron, J J McNay, J R Teasdale.
Elders: Mr A K Saunderson (Presbytery Clerk), Mrs D Murray (West Kilbride Parish Church) Mrs A Tyler (Fairlie Parish Church), Mrs J C Q Hunter (Shiskine St Mollo's) , Miss J M McSwan (Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church), Mr K S Welch (Largs: St Columba's Parish Church)

Church/

- ii. **Presbytery Accounts 2013** – Approve the Presbytery Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2013 (Reports Pages 7-13)
- iii. **Presbytery Dues 2014/15**– Set **Presbytery Dues at £2.50** and **Survey Dues at 80 pence** for 2014/15.
- iv. **Nan Stevenson Trust for Retired Ministers** – Note that the Trustees have approved the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2013.
- v. **Annual Statistical Report** – Note the Annual Statistics (Reports Page 14)
- vi. **Youth Representative to the General Assembly of 2014** – Nominate Mr Peter McEleny (Largs: St Columba's) as Youth Representative to the forthcoming General Assembly.
- vii. **Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church** – Note the receipt of an Extract Minute from the Kirk Session, seeking assistance in the appointment of a Property Convener for the Congregation. Remit request to the Presbytery Property Committee with a view to appointing an Assessor Elder to assist the Kirk Session.

Property Committee

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

- i. **Water and Sewerage Charges Exemption Scheme** - Note the thanks of the Solicitor of the Church to all those Congregations that responded to the Law Department Questionnaire.
- ii. **Water and Sewerage Charges Exemption Scheme** – Note the response made by the Scottish Churches Committee to the Consultation and instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the response to all Congregations within the bounds.
- iii. **Water and Sewerage Charges Exemption Scheme** – Encourage all Congregations within the bounds to make contact with their MSP, in relation to the proposed new scheme and the impact that will be felt by Congregations.
- iv. **Fairlie Parish Church** – Grant permission to upgrade the Manse by replacing the electric heating system with new heaters, upgrade of Kitchen, Utility Room and Bathroom at a cost of £25,889.02 including vat. It was also recommended that the Congregation should also consider the installation of Solar Heating to the Manse, as had been estimated.
- v. **Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church** – Grant permission to the Congregation to sell the former Ardrossan: Barony St John's Church and Halls and transmit Presbytery's decision to the General Trustees.

Trustees/

- vi. **Property Registers** – Note that the New Property Register that was introduced on a trial basis last year, has now been approved and in future should be used by all Congregations for annual reports. Copies of the Register can be downloaded from the General Trustees section of the Church of Scotland website.
- vii. **Energy Performance Certificates** – Note that from March 2015 Energy Performance Certificates would be required for manses.
- viii. **Presbytery Property Conveners Conference** – Receive a verbal report from the Convener on the recent Conference he had attended.

Superintendence Committee

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

- i. **Annual Inspection and Attestation of Congregational Records**
Note that all Rolls and records within the Presbytery have been attested and extend thanks to all those involved.

Presbytery Revision Conference Session

Reports Pages 4-6 and also Draft Committee Remits (Circulated for the February Presbytery Meeting)

Presbytery then met in Conference Session to allow discussion on the Presbytery Revision Report to take place. Five groups were set up with a Facilitator and Clerk appointed to each. At the Conclusion there was a brief plenary session.

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

Presbytery Re-structure Deliverances

- i. Instruct the Review Committee to bring to the April Presbytery Meeting a Final Report of the Review Process and any Committee Re-structure to be considered by Presbytery.
- ii. Instruct the Clerk to review the standing Orders of Presbytery, with a view to giving Notice of Motion at the April/May Meeting that Standing Orders will be amended to allow any new structure and Committee Format to be in place for the start of the new session in September 2014.

2014/

Presbytery to meet on Tuesday 1st April 2014 at 7.30 p.m. within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Church, for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet in Wednesday 19th March 2014 at 3.00 p.m. within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Church.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

_____ **Moderator**

_____ **Clerk**