

## **PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY**

*February 11<sup>th</sup> 2014*

**At Bishopton and within the Cornerstone there, the eleventh day of February 2014, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.**

### **SEDERUNT**

Rev Ken Gray, Moderator, with 36 ministers, 46 elders and 6 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from 12 ministers, 9 elders, 1 deacon and 3 corresponding member, as recorded separately.

### **WELCOME**

The Moderator welcomed the Rev'd Karen Harbison to her first meeting of Greenock & Paisley Presbytery and looked forward to working with her. He also welcomed Rev'd Charles Cameron to his first meeting of Presbytery.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of ordinary meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup>, Introduction of Duncan Ross to Paisley: St Ninian's Ferguslie NCD on January 9<sup>th</sup> and Induction of Rev Karen Harbison to Greenock: Westburn on February 6<sup>th</sup> 2014 being in print and in the hands of members were taken as read and approved.

### **APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING**

The next meeting was approved as March 11<sup>th</sup> 2014 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The order of business was approved as printed with an additional item from the Business Committee.

### **NOTICES**

The Clerk highlighted the notices.

### **VACANCY PROCEDURE**

Rev Alan Sorensen, Convener, presented the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. agrees to release the Rev. Ian Johnson from his charge of Greenock: Lyle Kirk in order to take up the call to Dumbarton Riverside in deferred linkage with Dumbarton West Kirk in the Presbytery of Dumbarton;
3. declares that Mr Johnson will remain Minister of Lyle Kirk until the date of his translation on Feb. 27 2014;
4. appoints the Rev. Morris Coull as Interim Moderator of Greenock: Lyle Kirk as from that date and notes that he will also act as locum;
5. grants permission to call on the basis of unrestricted tenure to Renfrew: Trinity in terms of Act VII 2003;
6. grants Barrhead: Bourock an extension of permission to call for a further 6 months from this date in terms of Act VIII 2003, para 26;

grants:/...

7. grants Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw an extension of permission to call for a further 6 months from this date in terms of Act VIII 2003, para 26;
8. grants the minister elect at Glenburn, Rev. Ian Reid, permission to work from the manse of Glasgow: Williamwood until the end of May with the concurrence of the Kirk Session of Glenburn, noting that this will allow the congregation to complete all required work in the Glenburn manse;
9. notes the recent developments in the statistics relating to each congregation collated from the national census, commends the training being organised nationally to assist congregations to use these data sets and also encourages nominating committees to utilise such information when compiling parish profiles.

#### **LEAVE TAKING OF IAN JOHNSON**

Mr Ross Finnie spoke on behalf of the congregation and Mr Johnson replied in suitable terms. The Moderator thanked Mr Johnson for the service he had given to Presbytery over the years and wished him well in his new charge of Dumbarton Riverside in deferred linking with Dumbarton West Kirk.

#### **LEAVE TAKING OF DAVID McCARTHY**

Mrs Joan Taylor spoke on behalf of the congregation and Mr McCarthy replied in suitable terms. The Moderator thanked Mr McCarthy for the service he had given to Presbytery over the years and wished him well in his new job with Faith Expressions.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO REV GEORGE PRENTICE**

The Moderator extended warm congratulations to Mr Prentice who was celebrating 50 years in the ordained ministry.

#### **BUSINESS**

Rev Ritchie Gillon, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. Appoints an Order of the Day at 7.45pm at the March meeting for the election of Commissioners to the forthcoming General Assembly;  
*The Clerk moved section 3 of the deliverance and Presbytery approved.*
3. Nominates Rev Ritchie Gillon as the next Moderator for the Presbytery of Greenock & Paisley from September 2014;
4. Appoints Rev Alan Birss as Convener of World Mission and Ecumenical Relations from 16<sup>th</sup> February 2014 following the demission of Rev David McCarthy;
5. Notes the transfer of Rev John Campbell to the Presbytery of Glasgow;
6. Appoints Rev Alistair Cook as Interim Moderator at Greenock East End New Charge Development from 16<sup>th</sup> February 2014 during the vacancy there;
7. Notes that the number of representatives on Renfrewshire Educational Trust will reduce from 3 to 1 when due for renewal later this year;
8. Approves the application from Port Glasgow: St Martin's to change to the Unitary Constitution;
9. Appoints Mr Tom MacDougall to replace Jack McHugh as an Assessor Elder at Paisley Abbey along with Carolyn Lockhart and William Mathieson;

notes:/...

10. notes the resignation, with immediate effect, of Dr James Kelly as Presbytery Elder from Gourrock: St John's and awaits details of his replacement;
11. Notes that Kilbarchan East and Kilbarchan West will commence joint services from 16<sup>th</sup> February 2013;  
*An additional section 12 was proposed and seconded as follows;*
12. Notes the appointment of Eleanor Hood as locum at Renfrew Trinity from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2014

### **MISSION & DISCIPLESHIP**

Rev Eileen Ross, Convener, presented the report of the Mission & Discipleship Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Notes the Committee's Spring Conference, for Sunday School teachers and the whole church, was held on Sunday 9 February 2014, at Oakshaw Trinity Church Paisley
2. Notes that two excellent applications were received for nomination as Presbytery Youth Delegate to General Assembly 2014 and nominates Miss Kay Slater of Greenock Wellpark Mid Kirk to represent the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley.
3. Reminds Kirk Sessions and Safeguarding Co-ordinators of the instruction from the General Assembly of 2009 that "each congregation shall appoint a Safeguarding Panel "and that Panel members must attend training.

### **COMMUNITY INTERESTS**

Mrs Alison McKenzie, Convener, presented the report of the Community Interests Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. Encourages congregations to make donations to Inverclyde Starter Packs to allow them to continue the good work they do;

### **WORLD MISSION & ECUMENICAL RELATIONS**

Rev Dave McCarthy, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission & Ecumenical Relations Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. Continues to encourage churches in Presbytery to pray for and support in other ways Christians who face persecution;
3. Encourages churches in Presbytery to use the "Christian Witness in a Multi-Religious World" Study Guide

### **PRESBYTERY PLAN REVIEW**

Rev Dr Ken Forrest, Convener, presented the report of the Presbytery Plan Review Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:/...

Presbytery:

1. Receives the Report
2. Notes that the PPRC has revisited Greenock: East End and that the Committee's requirements from a previous visit have been fully addressed and the Transitional Leadership Team is now in a position to carry out the full spiritual and practical responsibilities of a Kirk Session.
3. Recommends to the Ministries Council that Greenock: East End NCD be granted full status.
4. Instructs the Clerk to forward an extract minute of the Deliverance and Report to the Joint Emerging Church Group of the Ministries Council

### **STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE**

Mr Peter Bennett, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. Notes that the financial review at Paisley Abbey commenced in December 2013 has been received and the findings and recommendations arising therefrom have been reported by Mr Mowat to the Kirk Session of Paisley Abbey;
3. Instructs the Kirk Session of Paisley Abbey to consider the recommendations within the report presented by Mr Mowat and report back to the S&F Committee with an implementation plan with timelines and targets;
4. Instructs the Presbytery Clerk to forward a copy of the Financial Review completed by Mr Mowat to the Governance Committee of the Council of Assembly;
5. Notes that the Finance Seminar held in January by the Stewardship and Finance Committee had been attended by representatives from 21 congregations;
6. Notes that all congregations should by now have submitted to 121 their Schedule of Financial Statistics and the Bankers Standing Order in respect of monthly payment of their Ministry and Mission Allocation

### **PROPERTY**

In the absence of Mr William Mathieson, Convener, Mr Ian Russell presented the report of the Property Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw manse has been inspected and found to be ready for occupation;

notes:/...

3. notes that the annual Presbytery Diligence Report re the Care of Ecclesiastical Properties has been completed and returned to the General Trustees;
4. a) approves in principle the removal of a section of pews in Paisley: Glenburn's church building to provide a meeting area for fellowship, subject to the approval of CARTA and the General Trustees Fabric Committee;  
  
b) approves in principle the re-siting of the war memorial in the Paisley: Glenburn church building, subject to the approval of the General Trustees Fabric Committee;
5. approves the request from the congregation of Port Glasgow: St. Martin's to let their manse during the vacancy, and encourages them to use the services of the Church of Scotland Law Department;
6. approves in principle the provision of a toilet with disabled access at Paisley: Martyr's Sandyford's Montgomery Road building at a cost of around £10,000, subject to the approval of the General Trustees Fabric Committee. Funds are available;
7. approves an alteration to the central pews at Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay to accommodate wheelchairs, and notes that the details have already been approved by CARTA;
8. a) notes that the proposed 2-storey hall extension to the Houston & Killellan church has advanced to the tender stage and approves the likely revised total cost for the entire project of around £620,000;  
  
b) notes that the Property Committee has approved a grant of £5,000 from the Cargill Bequest Fund to the Houston & Killellan congregation to assist with the hall project cost.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment to meet on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm for the Induction of Rev Iain Reid to **Paisley Glenburn** and then on Tuesday March 11<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 7.00pm for ordinary business in **The Cornerstone, Bishopton**

*Moderator*

*Clerk*