

## **PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY**

*May 12<sup>th</sup> 2015*

**At Bishopton and within the Cornerstone there, the twelfth day of May 2015, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.**

### **SEDERUNT**

Rev Ritchie Gillon, Moderator, with 34 ministers, 46 elders, 1 deacon and 11 corresponding members, as recorded separately. Mr Kenneth Rankin, recently admitted to the office of Reader, was welcomed by the Moderator.

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from 8 ministers, 12 elders, 3 deacons and 1 corresponding member, as recorded separately.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup> and the service of setting apart on May 10<sup>th</sup> being in print and in the hands of members were amended and approved.

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

The next meeting was approved as June 16<sup>th</sup> 2015 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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

### **NOTICES**

The Clerk highlighted the notices.

**VISITING SPEAKERS** – Mrs Marion Dolan and Mrs Helen Eckford, from both the Paisley and Greenock Guild Presbyterial Council spoke about the projects their Guild had been involved in over the year and the various activities in which they had taken part. The Moderator thanked them for their dedication to the Guild and praised its important and varied work. He wished God's blessing on their future work together and asked them to take the formal greetings of Presbytery back to their respective members.

**VISITING SPEAKER** - Miss Fiona Marshall and Mr Andrew McPherson, representatives from the National Youth Assembly, spoke enthusiastically about the Assembly and their respective roles. Fiona indicated that she would be interested in exploring the possibility of setting up a youth forum within the Greenock & Paisley area and this would be remitted to the Business Committee to discuss with the relevant Presbytery Committee. The Moderator thanked both speakers for their ability to speak without notes on matters about which they are clearly passionate, and wished them well for their future within the church.

### **BUSINESS**

Rev Alistair Shaw, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. Instructs Presbyters to notify the Presbytery office if they require a hard copy of the new Presbytery Handbook for 2015-2016 by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2015;
3. Notes that the date for the service of induction of the Rev'd Stuart Steell to Renfrew Trinity Church has been set for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 7.p.m.;
4. Consequent on the notice of motion from 14<sup>th</sup> April 2015 agrees the following amendments to standing orders:

a. Agrees that no. 7 shall be amended to read, ' The Presbytery shall appoint a part-time Clerk under terms and conditions of employment to be drawn up by the Business Committee as and when required';

b. Agrees that No.10, (Local Church Review), shall be amended to read, 'Superintendence and Local Church Review (with responsibility for Inspection of Records and Presbytery visits);

c. Inserts a new No. 11, headed Discipline and Complaints and includes the following: 'Presbytery conforms to the provisions of Act III 2001 (Discipline of Ministry) and Act 1 2010 (Discipline of Elders, Readers and Office Bearers); and for the purposes of consideration for referral under these acts, a committee comprising the Clerk, the Convenor of the Superintendence Committee and one Elder drawn from the Superintendence Committee will initially consider whether a potential disciplinary offence may have been committed and refer appropriately under the relevant Act.'

d. Agrees a new no. 11 (b) 'The Superintendence Committee shall act as the Complaints Committee of Presbytery, drawing up an ad hoc committee from its number as seems appropriate for the purpose, with the proviso that it shall always include a minimum of three members incorporating either the Convenor or Vice Convenor of the Superintendence Committee and include at least a minimum of one ministerial member and one elder on the committee';

e. Agrees a new no. 11(c) 'For the purposes of an Appeal/ Procedural Review of the findings of a Complaints Committee; the matter shall be referred to the Business Committee which shall appoint an ad hoc committee of three from its membership to conduct the Appeal/Procedural Review;

f. Amends No 35(b) to read at the end of the current sentence; 'For the avoidance of doubt this provision does not apply to reports given under the Local Church Review process.'

g. Agrees these amendments and renumbers Standing Orders appropriately;

*On a call for a vote at each section of deliverance there voted in favour 81 with no votes against and so the amendments were carried by the necessary two thirds majority.*

*A new section 5 was proposed and seconded as follows:*

5. Notes the sick leave of Mr Duncan Ross, Deacon, and further notes that he will be unable to take up his Commission to the General Assembly in 2015;

Presbytery approved.

## **PROPERTY**

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

1. receives the report;
2. approves additional expenditure of approximately £1,000 to enable the installation of a disabled toilet in the church and halls complex at Inchinnan, as previously approved on 10<sup>th</sup> December

2013 at a cost of £5,800 inclusive of VAT;

3. approves the reroofing of a section of the roof and renewal of rainwater goods at Kilmacolm St. Columba church, following the congregation's successful application for funding and granting of £37,500 from the SPAB Grant Scheme for Listed Places of Worship, at a total cost of up to £52,000. The balance of £14,500 will be met from additional grant funding of £5,000 and £8,000 held in local funds;
4. notes that the Renfrew: Trinity manse has been inspected and found to be ready for occupation;
5. approves redecoration and upgrading of the Greenock: Lyle Kirk manse at 39 Fox Street, Greenock at an estimated cost of £18,500. Funds are available;
6. a) approves in principle refurbishment of the small hall at Paisley: Glenburn at a cost of around £6,700, subject to funding being obtained by means of grants from various sources and fundraising;
- b) approves in principle an application for grant funding of £12,645 inclusive of VAT from the Central Fabric Fund for the replacement of the windows on the west side of the Paisley: Glenburn church;
- c) approves in principle a further application for grant funding of approximately £15,000 for replacement of the remaining windows at the Paisley: Glenburn church;

### **MISSION & DISCIPLESHIP**

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes dates of safeguarding training as Thursday 14 May at 7pm and Wednesday 20 May at 7pm;
3. encourages congregations to pray for the General Assembly and in particular commends the Pray Across Scotland evening on Wed 13 May at the Lyle Kirk Union St building;
4. reminds Kirk Sessions to give every encouragement to eligible young people to attend the National Youth Assembly 2015

### **MINISTRY**

Rev Jonathan Fleming, Convener, presented the report from the Ministry Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

1. Receives the report;
2. notes that the Ministry Committee plans to begin a consultation with recently ordained and inducted ministers (those in their first five years), to seek relevant ways in which their Presbytery can support them (more) effectively. This will be done in conjunction with the Chaplains;
3. notes that Presbyteries are being invited to apply for one of five Pioneer Ministry posts, which are part of the remit given to Ministries Council by the General Assembly of 2014, and discussions between the Ministry Committee and the Presbytery Plan Review Committee will take place to discuss where such a post may be possible within the Presbytery bounds;
4. further to an e-mail recently circulated by the Presbytery Clerk concerning the 'Path of Renewal', encourages congregations to consult the corrected weblink

(<https://youtu.be/jY4c48Q1wAc>) which highlights the proposal for the pilots and the thinking behind them, and to consider whether or not their congregation may wish to apply to be involved in the process and are in a position to express an interest without delay in order that a nomination may be brought to the June Presbytery meeting.

### **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. Agrees that the sum of £1,000 be allocated from the 4% discretionary allowance available for the 2015 Ministries and Missions contributions to reduce the 2015 contribution of Johnstone High.
3. Notes that the attestation process for 2014 Annual Accounts is in process.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment to meet on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015** for the induction of Rev Stuart Steell to Renfrew: Trinity at 7.00pm and then on **Tuesday June 16<sup>th</sup> 2015** at 7.00pm for ordinary business in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

*Moderator*

*Clerk*