

PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY

February 14th 2017

At Bishopton and within The Cornerstone there, the fourteenth day of February 2017, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK PRO TEM

In the absence of the Clerk at the Presbytery Clerk's Forum, Rev Karen Harbison took the *Oath de Fidei* and was appointed as Clerk *pro tem*

SEDERUNT

Rev Ann McCool, Moderator, with 35 ministers, 52 elders, 2 deacons and 10 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 11 ministers, 5 elders, 2 deacons and 3 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

MINUTES

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on December 13th 2016, the ordination on January 10th and the ordination on February 9th being in print and in the hands of members were approved.

WELCOME

The Moderator welcomed Rev Yvonne Smith and Rev Ann Knox to Presbytery following their recent inductions.

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as March 14th 2017 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed with items 10 and 15 from the Business Committee deliverance being taken after the Presbytery Plan Review Committee's report.

NOTICES

The Clerk highlighted the notices.

BUSINESS

Rev Alistair Shaw, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee, and the following deliverance was approved: *(section 10 and 15 were approved following approval of the deliverance from the PPRC)*

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. approves the proposed contract for the next Presbytery Clerk appointment as contained at **appendix 1**
3. gives notice of motion to suspend standing order 28 '*Place and Time of Presbytery Meetings*' at the March meeting of Presbytery, in order to cancel the scheduled meeting of Presbytery in April 2017 as it falls within Holy Week;
4. appoints Mr Peter Bennett as the Presbytery Treasurer from 1st February 2017 to replace Rev Alistair Cook;
5. notes the appointment of Mr Reg T Clark as representative elder for Paisley: St Ninian's;
6. appoints an Order of the Day at 7.45pm at the March meeting for the election of Commissioners to the forthcoming General Assembly;

7. nominates Rev Jim Cowan as the next Moderator for the Presbytery of Greenock & Paisley from September 2017;
8. notes the intention of Rev Allan McIntyre to retire and thereby demit his charge on 30th June 2017, and agrees to this request;
9. notes the retirement of Mr Geoff Orry as an active Reader within the Presbytery, but notes he will remain a corresponding member;
10. approves the application to continue the period of interim ministry at St Martin's and Hamilton Bardrainney churches once they are linked;
11. homologates the appointment of Rev John Murning as Interim Moderator at Paisley: Lylesland from the 1st February 2017;
12. grants permission to Greenock Lyle Kirk to hold their Stated Annual Meeting on Sunday 23rd April 2017;
13. notes the continuing situation at Kilmacollm St Columba Church and offers its prayerful support to the congregation at this time;
14. invites expression of interest from those seeking to be trained and recognised as Worship Leaders in their own congregation;
15. appoints the Rev Dr Peter McEnhill as Interim Moderator *pro tem* of Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainney until the linkage takes place and a new Interim Moderator is appointed for the linked charge;
16. notes the results of the voting on the Overture re the Registration of Ministries

No of Presbyteries voting For – 32

No of Presbyteries voting Against - 13

Votes for approval – 1,400

Votes for disapproval – 630

PROPERTY

Mr Ian Russell, Convener, presented the report from the Property Committee and section 1 – 4 of the deliverance which was approved as follows:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the Howwood manse has been inspected and found to be ready for occupation;
3. notes that the Bridge of Weir: St. Machar's Ranfurly manse has been inspected and found to be ready for occupation;
4. approves the installation of a new audio visual system in the Greenock St.Margaret's church building. This has been approved by CARTA and funds are available;

The Convener declared an interest and therefore the Clerk proposed section 5 of the deliverance as follows:

5. approves an application in principle, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, by the Paisley: Stow Brae congregation for the purchase of a replacement manse at a notional cost of £325,000. The congregation is seeking financial assistance and a short term loan of a notional £50,000 and £225,000 respectively from Central Funds;

Presbytery approved.

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 the arrangements for Safeguarding Training;
3. commends to congregations the work of Prospects;
4. notes the forthcoming Mission & Discipleship training events;
5. notes the next date for submission of grant applications.

MINISTRY

Rev Jonathan Fleming presented the report from the Ministry committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the appointment of Ms Christine McDonald, Reader, as locum at Paisley Lylesland as from Sunday 12th February;
3. notes that study leave applications have been made by Rev. Eileen Ross, Linwood and Rev Ann McCool, Johnstone High;
4. notes the receipt of annual reports from Readers

WORLD MISSION & ECUMENICAL RELATIONS

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report on Gender Based Violence (GBV);
2. encourages greater awareness of GBV, affirms that GBV in any of its forms is unacceptable and emphasises the importance of ending GBV;
3. encourages congregations to engage with the issues surrounding GBV;
4. encourages congregations to consider the ways to help outlined in the report, to pray for those in this country and abroad who suffer from GBV and to pray for perpetrators of GBV so that all gender based violence in this country and overseas might be ended.

PRESBYTERY PLAN REVIEW

The congregations of Paisley St Ninian's, Howwood, Lochwinnoch, Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainey and Port Glasgow St Martin's had all been cited in their interest.

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. amends the Plan for Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainey and Port Glasgow St Martin's to read "linkage with one minister of word and sacrament", and sends this to the PPTG of the Ministries Council for their concurrence;
3. amends the Plan for Howwood and Lochwinnoch as an interim step, by severing the linkage between the two congregations and instructs the committee to draw up a basis of guardianship for each congregation and send this to the PPTG of the Ministries Council for their concurrence;
4. notes the concurrence by the Assembly Committee of our intention to place Paisley St Ninian's into Guardianship, affirms this is now the plan for Paisley St Ninian's and instructs the committee to make the necessary arrangements for a congregational vote on same;
5. notes the intention of the committee to amend the Presbytery Plan with regard to the allocation of OLMs in order to exercise greater flexibility in the deployment thereof as the needs of Presbytery change;

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report ;
2. agrees the revised guidelines for use of the Ministries and Mission Fund Discretionary Allowance as set out in Appendix 1;
3. agrees that the following sums be awarded from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to reduce the 2017 Ministries and Mission contributions of the congregations concerned :

Bridge of Weir Freeland	£ 5,000
Bridge of Weir St Machar's Ranfurly	3,750
Linwood	1,000

4. instructs the Clerk to send an extract minute of this decision to the Church's Stewardship & Finance Department and to inform the congregational Treasurers of this;
5. Agrees to the request from Kilmacolm St Columba to make monthly payments of £5,000 towards their 2017 Ministries and Mission allocation, this on an interim basis to be reviewed later in the year

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment to meet on **Tuesday 14th March 2017 at 7.00pm** for ordinary business in The Cornerstone, Bishopton

Moderator

Clerk