

PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY

September 11th 2018

At Barrhead and within the St Andrew's Church there, the 11th day of September 2018, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Jim Cowan, Moderator, with 29 ministers, 44 elders, 1 deacon and 3 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 10 ministers, 7 elders, 1 deacon and 7 corresponding member, as recorded separately.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTE CLERK

Rev Dr Alistair Shaw was appointed as Depute Clerk during Dr McEnhill's term as Moderator and took the *oath de fideli*.

MINUTES

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on June 18th and the ordination on July 26th 2018 being in print and in the hands of members were approved.

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as November 13th 2018 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed with an addition from VPC and WM&ER.

THANKS TO RETIRING MODERATOR, REV JIM COWAN

The Business Vice-Convener, Rev Ken Gray, thanked the retiring Moderator, Rev Jim Cowan, for his service to Presbytery over his year in office and presented him with a gift from the court. Mr Cowan replied in suitable terms.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW MODERATOR,

Rev Jim Cowan, having completed his period of office as Moderator proposed the Rev Dr Peter McEnhill, nominated at the meeting of the Presbytery on 13th February last, as the next Moderator of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery approved and resolved accordingly.

Mr Cowan offered Dr McEnhill congratulations and good wishes and led the Presbytery in prayer. Dr McEnhill took the chair and expressed his thanks to the Presbytery for the privilege entrusted to him.

NOTICES

The Depute Clerk highlighted the notices.

WELCOME TO REV GARY NOONAN

The Moderator welcomed Mr Noonan to his new charge at Houston & Killellan and said he looked forward to working with him.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS OF PRESBYTERY

The Moderator welcomed new members, Mr Ian Deans, Mr Robert Guthrie and Mrs Moira Hellyer and hoped they felt able to contribute to discussion and participate in the workings of the committee they had been assigned to.

LEAVE TAKING REV FIONA MAXWELL

Ms Maxwell took leave of Presbytery and thanked colleagues for their support during her time at Neilston. The Moderator thanked Ms Maxwell for her service to Presbytery in the short time she had been with us and wished her well in her new charge within the Presbytery of Irvine & Kilmarnock.

LEAVE TAKING REV MORRIS COULL

Mr Coull highlighted his time in his most recent charge at Greenock St Margaret's. The Moderator alluded to the fact that Mr Coull had in fact retired previously but was glad that he had come out of retirement and given a few more years' service. He wished him well for this retirement and hoped he enjoyed a more relaxing time.

PRESENTATION OF LEADING WORSHIP CERTIFICATES

The following people were congratulated on completing the Leading Worship training earlier this year and were presented with a completion certificate:

Alison Purse	Howwood
Ana Fernandez	Erskine
Campbell McDiarmid	Greenock St Margarets
Elizabeth Johnston	Elderslie
Elizabeth McNeil	Inchinnan
Helen Hambleton	Erskine
Jane Duncan	Erskine
Jim Boyd	Paisley Martyrs Sandyford
John Copeland	Renfrew Trinity
Leonie Henderson	Howwood
Margaret Brook	Linwood
Margaret Reid	Erskine
Moira Hellyer	Greenock St Margarets
Sandra Service	Greenock Wellpark Mid Kirk
Steven Henderson	Bishopton
William McCulloch	Neilston

The Moderator thanked them for their willingness to help their congregation in this way.

REPORT FROM NATIONAL YOUTH ASEMBLY

Ms, Emma Vaughan and Mr Callum MacMillan gave a report from National Youth Assembly and both expressed their thanks to Presbytery for funding them to attend. They concluded by taking a "selfie" with all present at the meeting for social media purposes.

VACANCY PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes receipt of a call to the Rev Fiona Maxwell, Minister of Neilston Parish Church, from the congregation of Kilmarnock Kay Park Parish Church in the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock, and agrees to the release of Ms Maxwell from her charge at Neilston as from the 1st November 2018;
3. reminds Ms Maxwell that she remains Minister of Neilston Parish Church until the date of her induction and appoints the Rev Maureen Leitch as Interim Moderator there from the 1st November 2018;
4. approves the retirement of Rev Morris Coull from Greenock St Margaret's from 12th October 2018 and appoints Mr Jack McHugh as Interim Moderator and locum from 1st October 2018 during the vacancy;
5. homologates the appointment of the Rev Ian Bell as Interim Moderator at Paisley: St Mark's Oldhall as from the 20th August 2108 and notes his appointment there as locum also;
6. homologates the appointment of the Rev May Bell as Interim Moderator at Howwood Parish Church as from the 1st September 2018;
7. homologates the appointment of the Rev Hanneke Marshall as Interim Moderator of Lochwinnoch Parish Church as from the 1st September 2018;
8. homologates the appointment of the Rev Maureen Leitch as Interim Moderator at Glenburn Parish Church as from the 1st September 2018, and notes the appointment of Mr John Spooner as locum;
9. homologates the appointment of the Rev Robert Craig as Interim Moderator at Martyr's Sandyford Parish Church as from the 26th. August 2018, and notes the appointment of Ms Eleanor Hood as locum.

The Convener proposed a further section 10 as follows:

10. Notes that Rev Mahiri Breingan completed her OLM placement at Paisley Martyrs' Sandyford on Sunday 19th August 2018 and thanks her for her service there.

Presbytery approved.

BUSINESS

Rev Ken Gray, Vice Convener, presented the report from the Business Committee, and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. appoints Mrs Susan Nicol as representative elder for Greenock East End;
3. notes the appointment of Russell Banks as locum at Erskine from July 2018;
4. homologates the decision to allow Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainey and Port Glasgow St Martin's to hold joint services at alternative sites for the

months of July, August and September and thanks them for their willingness so to do;

5. notes receipt of the remits from the General Assembly 2018 and instructs the relevant Presbytery committees to respond to the relevant instructions outlined in **Appendix 1**
6. instructs Kirk Sessions as per the General Assembly deliverance to meet in conference, to reflect on the state of decline of the national Church and in particular how that affects the Church locally, and to determine what their vision and mission is for the next three years in collaboration with Presbytery Planning teams;

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. Attests that the 2017 accounts of the following congregations fulfil the General Assembly's Regulations anent Congregational Finance and the requirements of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations :
 - Greenock East End (150826) – R & P
 - Inchinnan (140748) – R & P
 - Johnstone St Paul's (140751) - SORP
3. Instructs the Clerk to contact the treasurers of the congregations advising them of the attestation of their accounts and informing them that these may now be sent to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator ;
4. Instructs the Clerk to advise the General Treasurer's Department of (3) above in the designated manner by 30 September 2018 ;
5. Notes that final accounts have still to be received from the congregation of Linwood and grants powers to the committee to attest these accounts in the name of Presbytery once they have been examined and found to be in order ;
6. Agrees that the following sums be awarded from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to reduce the 2018 Ministries and Mission contributions of the congregations concerned
 - Johnstone High £ 5,968
 - Kilmacolm Old 7,500
 - Paisley Abbey 5,000
 - Paisley Lylesland 1,426
 - Renfrew North 10,000
7. Agrees that the balance of the 5% Discretionary Allowance be used to reduce the Ministries and Mission contributions of congregations as detailed in **Appendix 2** ;

8. Instructs the Clerk to send an extract minute of this decision to the Church's Stewardship & Finance Department by 30 September 2018 and to inform the congregational treasurers of this by the same date ;
9. Notes that a copy of the proposed Ministries and Mission contributions for 2019 will shortly be sent to congregational Treasurers and that any appeals against these proposed contributions should be made to the Convener by 25 October 2018;

The Convener proposed an amendment to section 9 in the print as follows:

9. Notes that a copy of the proposed Ministries and Mission contributions for 2019 **has been sent** to congregational Treasurers and that any appeals against these proposed contributions should be made to the Convener by 25 October 2018;

Presbytery approved.

PROPERTY

Mr Ian Russell, Convener, presented the report from the Property Committee and the following deliverance was approved;

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. homologates the approval granted in August under powers by the Convenor to the Kilmacolm: Old congregation to carry out repairs to the stone work window surrounds and to treat a further outbreak of dry rot, which will necessitate the replacement of two beams. The estimated final cost including ancillary expenditure is £30,000 plus VAT and funds are available;
3. homologates the approval granted in August under powers by the Convenor to the Bishopton congregation to carry out further stonework repairs to the area presently being worked on. As a result, the total cost of the first phase, approved by Presbytery in May, will rise from an estimated £30,000 to £51,000, both plus VAT and funds are available;
4. notes that the General Trustees have approved the removal of asbestos in the boiler house at Greenock: St Ninian's and are organizing and financing the project with a grant of £8,531 from the Central Fabric Fund;
5. notes the attendance by Charles Davey (Greenock: Lyle Kirk) and William McCulloch (Neilston) at the Health & Safety Administrators and Coordinators Development Day organised by the General Trustees and held in Glasgow on Saturday 1 September;

MISSION & DISCIPLESHIP

Mrs Mary Jane Bird, Convener, presented the report from the Mission & Discipleship Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the two new Presbytery safeguarding trainers and advisors: Anne Craig and Gail Abraham are now in place;
3. notes the Safeguarding Training dates and venues as follows:
 - Sun, 30 Sept, 2018, at Paisley Stow Brae Church. 14.00-16.30hrs.
 - Sun, 07 October, 2018, at Johnstone St. Paul's. 14.00-16.30hrs.
 - Sun, 04 November, 2018, at Paisley Stow Brae, 14.00-16.30hrs.
4. notes that there are no funds remaining in the Oakshaw East Fund so no further applications should be made;
5. notes that completed forms for the other 2 funds administered by this committee must be submitted by 12 noon on Friday 15th September 2018;
6. agrees that Presbytery will pay full fees of £85 and travel costs to Stirling for Callum McMillan, Johnstone High for attendance at NYA in addition to funding the place for Ms Emma Vaughan;
7. encourages churches to invite the NYA delegates within their own congregation to speak about their experience;
8. commends congregations involvement in the ongoing year of Young People (Bliadhna na h- Òigridh) 2018. 2018 has been declared to be a Year of Young People by the Scottish Government.

MINISTRY

Rev Ann McCool, Convener, presented the report from the Ministry Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report';
2. notes that a waiting list has started for those wishing to attend a Worship Leaders Course in 2019;
3. encourages those Ministers, Locums, and Interim Moderators who haven't already done so to fill in and return the Worship Leaders Survey, even if it's a negative return;
4. agrees to the appointment of Rev Hanneke Marshall to be our Vocations Champion;
5. agrees to Rev Hanneke Marshall and Rev Yvonne Smith attending training to become a Mentor or Presbytery Assessor for applicants in the Discernment Process.

WORLD MISSION & ECUMENICAL RELATIONS

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. prays that the Prime Minister in Pakistan will honour his commitment to implementing the National Action Plan, promising security for Pakistan's minorities;
3. prays that he will be able to deal with the pressing issues of the economy, militancy and more besides;
4. prays that he is successful in stopping the ongoing misuse of the blasphemy law in the country;

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to meet at 7.00pm on Tuesday 13th November 2018 for ordinary business in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

Moderator

Depute Clerk