

PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY

February 12th 2019

At Bishopton and within the Cornerstone there, the 12th day of February 2019, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Dr Peter McEnhill, Moderator, with 28 ministers, 50 elders, 3 deacons and 9 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 15 ministers, 5 elders and 3 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

MINUTES

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on December 11th being in print and in the hands of members were approved

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as March 12th 2019 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed with a deletion in the Business Committee deliverance.

NOTICES

The Depute Clerk highlighted the notices.

GUEST SPEAKER

Rev Alan Birss gave a short presentation on his work with Police Scotland's Grey Space Initiative in his capacity as Presbytery representative.

GUEST SPEAKER

Ms Grace Penney spoke about her role with Interserve and left some helpful literature to give members further information about her organisation.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

Now that the necessary training had been completed, the Presbytery Safeguarding Training Officers, Ms Gail Abraham and Mrs Ann Craig, were presented with a certificate confirming that. They would be added to the roll of Presbytery as corresponding members.

BUSINESS

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the sick leave of Rev Liz Geddes & Rev Eileen Ross;
3. notes that Greenock East End congregation held a joint service with Greenock Mount Kirk on Sunday 30th December;

4. appoints an Order of the Day at 7.45pm at the March meeting for the election of Commissioners to the forthcoming General Assembly;
5. notes the resignation of Rev Liz Geddes as Interim Moderator at Langbank linked with Port Glasgow St Andrew's on health grounds;
6. appoints Mr Jack McHugh as Interim Moderator at Langbank linked with Port Glasgow St Andrew's from 31st March 2019;
7. homologates the appointment of Rev Pamela Gordon as Interim Moderator at Paisley St Luke's from 28th January 2019 following the resignation of Rev Bill McKaig;
8. approves the appointment of Rev Eric McLachlan as locum at Paisley St Luke's from 28th January;
9. appoints Rev Owen Derrick as Interim Moderator at Greenock St Margaret's from 31st March 2019;
10. approves the change of service times to 10.30am for Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainney linked with Port Glasgow St Martin's and notes this changes the terms of the Basis of Linking;
11. agrees that there will be no service of worship in Lochwinnoch on Sunday 10th March or Bridge of Weir St Machar's Ranfurly on Sunday 31st March as joint services have been arranged for these dates;
section 12 as in the print was withdrawn by the Convener and subsequent sections renumbered accordingly
12. nominates Mr Jack McHugh as the next Moderator for the Presbytery of Greenock & Paisley from September 2019;
13. homologates the appointment of Rev Yvonne Smith as Interim Moderator at Linwood from 6th February 2019 during the sick leave of Rev Eileen Ross;
14. notes that Bishopton congregation will worship in the Cornerstone on Sundays 3rd March, 5th May and 7th July 2019 in place of their usual Sunday service;

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the 2017 accounts of Linwood have been attested by the committee in the name of Presbytery and the congregation authorised to submit these to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator;
3. reminds congregations that one copy of their examined Financial Accounts for 2018 should be submitted to the Presbytery Office and one copy to the Church's Stewardship and Finance Department no later than 31 March 2019

PROPERTY

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. approves the sale under a compulsory purchase order issued by Renfrewshire Council of part of the access to the glebes at Inchinnan noting that the General Trustees are acting on behalf of the congregation;
3. approves, subject to the approval of CARTA, an application by the Paisley: Glenburn congregation to remove all of the pews from the Sanctuary and replace them with individual chairs in the open area concerned. The exact costs are being quantified and fund raising including grant applications is underway;

An addendum to insert the words "in principle" after "approves" was proposed and seconded and accepted by the Convener. Section 3 was reworded as follows:

3. approves, in principle, subject to the approval of CARTA, an application by the Paisley: Glenburn congregation to remove all of the pews from the Sanctuary and replace them with individual chairs in the open area concerned. The exact costs are being quantified and fund raising including grant applications is underway;

4. notes that the Port Glasgow: St Andrew's Manse was inspected on Wednesday 23rd January by representatives of the Property and Ministry Committees and was found to be ready for occupation;

5(a). approves an application from the Hamilton Bardrainey congregation to refurbish their manse. The estimated cost is £35,000 including all fees and VAT and funds are available;

5(b). approves an application by the Hamilton Bardrainey congregation to the General Trustees' Fabric Committee for the release of a maximum of the entire sum of £34,495.58 in their revenue holdings in the Consolidated Fabric Fund;

6. notes the updated situation with regard to notification to the General Trustees / CARTA of the installation and Upgrading of AV Equipment and/or Lighting to Church of Scotland Churches and Halls. Their investigations are now complete and notification should now be through the normal channels only as appropriate in the circumstances. To clarify, all new installations or major upgrades require prior approval from Presbytery in the first instance, like for like replacements only require such approval where the costs involved are beyond spending limits in standing orders;

7. notes that the annual Presbytery Diligence Return re. the Care of Ecclesiastical Properties was completed and returned to the General Trustees on the 17th January and duly acknowledged;

8. encourages presbyters to make the forthcoming Health and Safety presentation on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at 19:00 known to their congregations;

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 that completed application forms for each of the 2 funds which fall under the Mission and Discipleship Committee, namely the Smith-Lefevre, and Port Glasgow Newark Mission Fund should be submitted by 12 noon on Friday 22 February 2019;
3. invites applications for the General Assembly Youth Representative;
4. instructs Kirk Sessions to explore what opportunities exist for a fresh expression of church in their parish, as per the General Assembly 2018 remit from the Mission and Discipleship Council;
5. thanks those Kirk Sessions which completed the Mission and Discipleship Committee questionnaire outlining their existing provision of mission and discipleship;
6. requests that those Kirk Sessions which have not yet completed the questionnaire at **appendix 1** to do so as soon as possible;
7. invites presbyters to visit the website **Take Time initiative** – Reaching Beyond the Church. taketime.org.uk/find-out-more-about-ignatian-meditation

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

Rev Pamela Gordon, Convener, presented the report of the Community Interests Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the deadline for applications for funding is May 6th and encourages congregations to apply by the due date;

MINISTRY

Rev Ann McCool presented the report of the Ministry Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

- 1 receives the report;
- 2 notes that the Minister of every Worship Leader is responsible for their continuing Development;
- 3 encourages Ministers to let potential Worship Leaders gain some experience of participation in worship before applying to become a Worship Leader;

LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW

Rev Dr Alistair Shaw, Depute Clerk, presented the report of the Superintendence Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the Local Church Review report for Kilbarchan parish Church;
2. agrees the Action Plan for Kilbarchan parish and encourages and supports the office bearers in their implementation of the same;
3. instructs the Kirk Session to complete safeguarding training for all its members as soon as possible;
4. commends in particular that part of the plan relating to the development of adult Christian education for members of the congregation and urges the congregation to make use of the many resources available from the Church of Scotland for that purpose;
5. notes the intention of the congregation to conduct a stewardship campaign and reminds them of the requirements of the National Stewardship Campaign and urges the congregation to see the support and guidance of the National Stewardship Team;
6. commends the desire of the congregation to support the Minister via participation in the study leave scheme and offers Presbytery's support to that same end;
7. gives thanks to God for the life of service and mission of Kilbarchan Parish Church and prayerfully supports them in their plans going forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn to meet at 7.00pm on Tuesday 12th March 2019 for ordinary business in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

Moderator

Depute Clerk