

## **PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY**

*June 18<sup>th</sup> 2019*

**At Bishopton and within the Cornerstone there, the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.**

### **SEDERUNT**

Rev Dr Peter McEnhill, Moderator, with 34 ministers, 47 elders, 3 deacons and 7 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from 7 ministers, 6 elders and 2 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> being in print and in the hands of members were approved

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

The next meeting was approved as September 10<sup>th</sup> 2019 in Kilmacolm Old Kirk.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The order of business was approved as printed

### **NOTICES**

The Moderator highlighted the notices.

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

Mrs Margaret Sinclair from Inverclyde Family Contact Centre gave an interesting talk about the work of the Centre and thanked Presbytery for recent donations made. The Moderator wished her well in their continuing work.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Clerk reported diligence on behalf of all commissioners at the recent General Assembly and went on to highlight the salient points for information.

Mr Shahrukh Gill presented his report from the General Assembly which he attended as the Youth Representative from Greenock & Paisley Presbytery.

### **RETIRING MEMBERS**

Thanks were extended to Conveners retiring from committees Jim Cowan, Alan Sorensen and Ken Gray, the Moderator thanking each one for their dedicated service.

Thanks were also given to Mr Jim Holmes who was retiring as the representative elder for Kilmacolm St Columba.

### **MEMBERS OUTWITH BOUNDS**

Greetings were extended to ministers outwith bounds, Rev David Stewart and Rev Morris Coull and the Clerk was instructed to write to them both.

### **LEADING WORSHIP CERTIFICATES**

Having completed the necessary training, Leading Worship certificates were presented to the following people:

Angela Darroch, Jim Dick, Morag Cowe, Chris Barlas, Greg Miller, Eric Beattie, Hazel Munro, Sheena MacFarlane, Lynsey Graham, Aaron Marshall and Dick Hughes.

### **LEAVE TAKING OF REV JIM COWAN**

Mr Cowan took leave of Presbytery ahead of his retirement from Barrhead St Andrew's Church on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019. The Moderator wishes him well for a long and happy retirement.

### **BUSINESS**

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. approves the Roll of Presbytery as contained in **appendix 1**;
3. notes the Presbytery committee membership for the coming year as contained in **appendix 2**;
4. notes the updated register of ministers as contained in **appendix 3**;
5. notes the impending resignation of Rev Dr Peter McEnhill as Presbytery Clerk as he has been called to preach as sole nominee at St Andrew's Church, Rome;
6. provisionally appoints Rev Ken Gray, Rev Alistair Shaw and Mrs Alison Mackenzie as an appointments committee to oversee the recruitment of a new Presbytery Clerk should the impending call to Dr McEnhill proceed to a successful conclusion;
7. appoints Rev Ann McCool as Interim Moderator at Barrhead St Andrew's church from 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019 on the retirement of Rev Jim Cowan;
8. approves the request from the Bridge of Weir churches to hold joint services on 7th and 14th July in Freeland Church, with no service in St Machar's and on 21st and 28th July in St Machar's with only a 9.30am service in Freeland at that time;
9. homologates the approval of the request from Lochwinnoch to hold a joint service in Calder UF Church on Sunday 16th June 2019;
10. approves the request from Kilmacolm Old to hold joint services with Kilmacolm St Columba during the months of July and August. Services in July to take place in St Columba Church and services in August in Kilmacolm Old Kirk.
11. approves the request from Barrhead St Andrew's to hold joint services with Barrhead Bourrock in July;
12. approves the formation of an *ad hoc* Strategic Review Group tasked with considering the implications for Presbytery of the Radical Action Plan as it unfolds;
13. appoints the Rev David Burt as Convenor of the SRG along with Rev Gary Noonan, Rev Hanneke Marshall, Ms Mary Jane Bird and AN Other.
14. instructs that the purpose and continuing function of the SRG will be reviewed annually by Presbytery at its June meeting;

### **TREASURER**

Mr Peter Bennett presented a report as Treasurer and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. agrees to transfer £1,700 from the Bequest Fund to the Miss Lang Bequest Fund, and £800 from the Bequest Fund to the Eventide Homes Fund to enable the annual grants to be made to Christian social projects and Adam's House to be made by 30 June 2019

### **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 Anne Craig has resigned as a safeguarding trainer for this Presbytery and encourages Presbyters to try and identify a suitable replacement for her;
3. notes the new Safeguarding Training for volunteers dates as follows:  
**Sunday 8th September** 2019 in Paisley St Marks from 2pm until 4.30 pm,  
**Sunday 6th October** 2019 in Johnstone St Pauls from 2pm until 4.30pm.
4. notes that the next deadline for receipt of grant applications is 12 noon on Friday 16 August 2019;
5. invites Kirk Sessions to encourage one of their young members (17- 25 years) to apply to become a representative at the National Youth Assembly 2019 August 16th - 19<sup>th</sup> at Gartmore House, Stirlingshire;
6. notes with thanks that Callum MacMillan from Johnstone High Parish Church has applied to be a representative to the NYA as above;
7. thanks Revs Karen Harbison, Owen Derrick, Teri Peterson and David Burt for their Prayer Stations at this Presbytery's Prayer Across Scotland for the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland at Greenock Lyle Kirk;
8. notes that Douglas Scott is standing down as Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator and thanks him for his work over the years;
9. appoints Mr Ian Cowe as the new Prayer Co-ordinator;
10. thanks Sharukh Gill for his attendance at the General Assembly May 2019 and his report

### **COMMUNITY INTERESTS**

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. approves the allocation of the following grants:

Adams House	£800
Paisley Street\Rail Pastors:	£250
Inverclyde Family Contact Centre:	£800
Inverclyde Starter Packs:	£400
Glenburn Church School Chaplaincy Team:	£250

## **MINISTRY**

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. agrees to fund Afternoon Tea in the Cornerstone on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at an estimated cost of £400;
3. approves the Study Leave of Reverend David Burt for 1 week from 18-23 August 19;
4. approves the Study Leave of Reverend Karen Harbison for 4 weeks from 1/10/19 to 4/11/19;
5. notes that prospective Worship Leaders must fill in an Application Form and return to Rev Maureen Leitch [maureen.leitch@ntlworld.com](mailto:maureen.leitch@ntlworld.com);
6. notes the new resource available on the CofS website to hear the tune of every hymn in the CH4 Hymnary

## **PRESBYTERY PLAN REVIEW**

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

Presbytery:

1. receive the report;
2. affirms that the Presbytery plan for Paisley: St Mark's Oldhall is for a FTE Minister of Word and Sacrament on unrestricted tenure all in terms of the provisions of Act 7 2003 (Appraisal and Adjustment);
3. instructs the committee to produce bases of Guardianship for the congregations of Hamilton Bardrainney and Langbank;

4. instructs the committee to produce a basis of severance of the union of Martyrs Sandyford and to seek to establish two congregations from the current congregation;
5. instructs the committee to enter into discussions with the churches in Greenock regarding the Presbytery Plan.

### **VACANCY PROCEDURE**

Rev Jim Cowan presented the report from the Vacancy Procedure Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the decision of the Vacancy procedure Committee to sustain the call of Elderslie Kirk to Rev Gray Fletcher of Carmunnock Parish Church and to set the date for his induction there on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7 p.m.
3. notes that the Presbytery Plan for Paisley: St Mark's Oldhall is for a FTE Minister of Word and Sacrament on unrestricted tenure;
4. grants permission to St Mark's Oldhall to call a minister on unrestricted tenure all in terms of the provisions of Act 7 2003 (Appraisal and Adjustment)

### **STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE**

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report ;
2. agrees that the following sums be awarded from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to reduce the 2019 Ministries and Mission contributions of the congregations concerned:

Bridge of Weir Freeland	£5,000
Kilbarchan	2,000
Port Glasgow St Martin's	2,500

3. 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;
4. approves in principle an award of £5,000 from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to the congregation of Greenock St Margaret's towards the cost of repairs to their church roof, subject to it being confirmed that the required additional finance had been obtained and that the work was proceeding;
5. notes that the final date for applying for assistance from the 5% Discretionary Allowance in the 2019 financial year is 22 August 2019;

6. attests that the 2018 accounts of the congregations listed in **Appendix 4** fulfil the General Assembly's Regulations anent Congregational Finance and the requirements of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations;
7. instructs the Clerk to contact the Treasurers of these congregations, advising them of the attestation of their accounts and informing them that they may now send their accounts to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator;
8. instructs the Clerk to advise the General Treasurer's Department of (7) above in the designated manner by 30 June 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. accepts the tender of £14,630 plus VAT from Graham and Sibbald for the 2019 quinquennial inspections at: Barrhead: Bourock, Barrhead: St. Andrew's, Johnstone: High, Johnstone: St Andrew's Trinity, Johnstone: St Paul's, Kilmacolm: Old, Kilmacolm: St Columba, Linwood, Neilston, Paisley: Glenburn, Paisley: Sherwood Greenlaw, Port Glasgow: Hamilton Bardrainey, Port Glasgow: St Andrew's, and Port Glasgow: St Martin's;
3. approves an application by the Paisley: Lylesland congregation to dispose of their present Manse. It will be a requirement of Presbytery that such funds realised from the sale are held as restricted funds for the sole purpose of purchasing a replacement manse should that prove necessary, and it is recommended that the congregation liaise with the Church of Scotland Law Department;
4. approves, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, an application by the Port Glasgow: St Martin's congregation to dispose of their present Manse. The General Trustees may require the net proceeds of the sale to be held in the Consolidated Fabric Fund and it will be a requirement of Presbytery that such funds are held as restricted funds for the sole purpose of purchasing a replacement manse should that prove necessary, and that the congregation use the services of the Church of Scotland Law Department;
- 5(a). approves an application by the Paisley: St Mark's Oldhall congregation to carry out a full renovation to the manse at an estimated cost of £48957.01 inclusive of VAT and fees. Some funding is available and fund raising is underway for the remainder;
- 5(b). notes that the Property Committee has approved a grant of £4,895 from the Cargill Bequest Fund to assist with the cost of these works.
- 6(a). approves an application by the Greenock St Margaret's congregation to replace a flat roof at an estimated cost of £20,000 inclusive of VAT and fees etc and funding is available. This was part of the application approved in principle at the March meeting of Presbytery;
- 6(b). notes that the Property Committee has approved a grant of £2,000 from the Cargill Bequest Fund to assist with the cost of these works;

7. notes that the Elderslie Kirk manse was inspected on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May and found to be ready for occupation;

8. approves, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, an application by the Gourrock: St John's congregation for essential major repairs to the clock tower that was previously approved in principle at the March meeting of Presbytery at an estimated cost of £245,144. Presbytery notes that the financing of this project is by way of a successful grant application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund;

9. notes the availability of financial aid for property repairs by way of grants under the Historic Environment Scotland Repair Grant Scheme;

10. approves an application from Barrhead: St Andrew's to the General Trustees Fabric Committee for financial assistance from the Central Fabric Fund in connection with their already approved Community Hall Project;

11. empowers the Convener to authorise essential work over the summer months, subject to later reporting to Presbytery for homologated approval;

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment to meet on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7.00pm for the induction of Rev Gray Fletcher at Elderslie Kirk and then on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.00pm for ordinary business in Kilmacolm Old Kirk

*Moderator*

*Depute Clerk*