

PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY

March 14th 2017

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

SEDERUNT

Rev Ann McCool, Moderator, with 26 ministers, 47 elders, 2 deacons and 6 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 14 ministers, 9 elders, 2 deacons and 6 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

MINUTES

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on February 14th 2017 being in print and in the hands of members were approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed an addition from the Vacancy Procedure Committee and the tribute to the late Stan Palmer being held over to May due to the absence of Stephen Smith following a family emergency.

NOTICES

The Clerk highlighted the notices.

VACANCY PROCEDURE

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. grants permission to Paisley: Lylesland to call a minister in accordance with Act 7 2003, under powers granted by Act 8 2003 and in line with the Presbytery Plan;
3. notes the decision of the VPC to sustain the call to Mrs Hanneke Marshall to Bridge of Weir St Machar's Ranfurly using the powers delegated to it in the Act re procedure in a vacancy and following the provisions therein set the date for her induction there as Thursday March 16th 2017 at 7.00pm.

ORDER OF THE DAY AT 7.45PM

APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017

The Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley, being convened in order to elect its representatives to the ensuing General Assembly as resolved on 14th February 2017, nominates and appoints

Rev Dr Peter McEnhill Presbytery Clerk; **Rev Robin Allison** at Elderslie; **Rev Alan Birss** at Paisley Abbey; **Rev Mhairi Breingan**, Ordained Local Minister; **Rev Jim Cowan** at Barrhead St Andrew's; **Rev Dr Charles Cameron** at Johnstone St Andrew's Trinity; **Rev Owen Derrick** at Greenock Lyle Kirk; **Rev Pamela Gordon** at Barrhead Bourrock; **Rev Ann Knox** at Inchinnan; **Rev Maureen Leitch**, retired minister; **Rev Yvonne Smith** at Bishopton; **Rev Alan Sorensen** at Greenock Wellpark Mid Kirk; **Rev Stuart Steell** at Renfrew Trinity and **Very Rev Dr Lorna Hood**, former Moderator (Ministers 14)

Ms Mary Barr at Lochwinnoch; **Miss Jennifer Boag** at Greenock Westburn; **Mrs Rita Carmichael** at Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay; **Mrs Jessie Cross** at Paisley Oakshaw Trinity; **Mrs Elma Farr** at Barrhead St Andrew's; **Mr John Hawthorn** at Old Gourrock & Ashton; **Miss Sheena McFarlane** OBE at Port Glasgow St Andrew's; **Ms Ann McGregor** at Kilmacolm Old; **Mrs Elizabeth McNeil** at Inchinnan; **Mrs Susan Nicol** at Greenock East End; **Mr Stuart Renton** at Erskine; **Dr Graeme Simpson** at Paisley Sherwood Greenlaw; **Miss Kay Slater** at Greenock Wellpark Mid Kirk and **Mrs Mary Taylor** at Bridge of Weir St Machar's Ranfurly (Elders 14)

its Commissioners to the next General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, appointed to meet at Edinburgh the 20th day of May 2017, and the said Presbytery testifies and declares that all the ministers, elders and deacons above-named have signed the Formula.

Presbytery appoints **Miss Emma Vaughan** at Kilbarchan as its Youth Representative to the forthcoming General Assembly.

BUSINESS

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. subsequent on the notice of motion, suspends 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;
There voted in favour of suspending standing order 28 – 76 with no votes against therefore the motion carried
3. notes that the Business committee re-examined the issue an employment contract for the next Presbytery Clerk and adhered to Presbytery's decision of 14th February 2017;
4. notes that Erskine congregation worshipped in Park Mains High School on Sunday 26th February due to water ingress in their sanctuary;

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as May 9th 2017 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

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 as follows;
Sunday 19th March, 2-4pm at Erskine: Kirk Session
Thursday 23rd March at 7.30pm at Erskine: Panel members
Saturday 25th March, 10am to 12 noon: at Barrhead St Andrew's: Volunteers
Sunday 2nd April at Elderslie: Kirk Session
Sunday 23rd April at Glenburn: Volunteers
Sunday 7th May at Lylesland: Volunteers
Saturday 13th May at Port Glasgow St Andrew's : Volunteers
3. grants £500 from the Oakshaw East Mission Fund to Barrhead St Andrew's for costs involved in running Barrhead Memory Lane;

4. notes the next date for submission of grant applications is Friday 19th May 2017 at 12.30pm;
5. notes that the National Youth Assembly will take place from 21- 24 July 2017 at Gartmore House;
6. encourages presbyters to make the NYA 2017 known to eligible young adults;
7. encourages congregations to give every assistance to young adults who are keen to attend NYA 2017;
8. notes that the presbytery's annual, pre-Assembly event, Pray Across Scotland, will take place on Tuesday 16th May 2017 at Wellpark Mid Kirk;
9. encourages presbyters to circulate among office bearers and volunteer, the resources available from the Mission & Discipleship Council;
10. thanks representatives of Barrhead:Bourock and Greenock:Lyle Kirk for their informative joint presentation on *Guardians of Ancora* (Scripture Union holiday club);
11. agrees the nomination of Miss Emma Vaughan for the Presbytery's Youth Representative commission to the General Assembly 2017.

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

Mrs Alison McKenzie, Convener, presented the report of the Community Interests Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report.
2. invites applications from community based projects for funding from the Presbytery's bequest fund. Application forms (**see appendix 2**) should be returned to Alison McKenzie, Convener by 25th April 2017.

MINISTRY

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. receives the report on 'Supporting New Ministries' (**appendix 3**)

PRESBYTERY PLAN REVIEW

The congregations of Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainey and Port Glasgow St Martin's had 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. notes the result of the vote made by Port Glasgow: Hamilton Bardrainey and Port Glasgow: St Martin's congregations on the 26th February 2017 approving the Basis of Linking (**appendix 4**);
3. approves the Basis of Linking, amends the plan in those terms and transmits this to the Presbytery Planning Task Group for their concurrence;
4. remits to the Moderator and Clerk the arrangements for a service of linking to be arranged as soon as the PPTG indicates their concurrence with this proposal;
5. indicates that on the date of that service of linking Presbytery will recommence Vacancy Procedures for Port Glasgow Hamilton Bardrainey in terms of Acts 8 2003, thereby ending their period of Guardianship.

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 that the following sums be awarded from the 5% Discretionary Allowance to reduce the 2017 Ministries and Mission contributions of the congregations concerned :

Kilbarchan	£2,000
Paisley St Mark's Oldhall	5,000

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. Notes that applications for support from the 5% Discretionary Allowance should be made on the prescribed form which can be downloaded from the Presbytery website

PROPERTY

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the annual Presbytery Diligence Return re the Care of Ecclesiastical Properties has been completed and returned to the General Trustees;
3. instructs the Property Committee to obtain tenders for the 2017 quinquennial inspections at, Bridge Of Weir: Freeland and St Machars, Elderslie, Howwood, Lochwinnoch, and Paisley: St Ninians and to report the result of the tendering process in due course;
4. notes that since a recent extensive and intrusive survey report has been produced for the Kilbarchan congregation, the Property Committee has determined it appropriate to exclude Kilbarchan from the list of congregations to be inspected as part of this year's tranche of quinquennial surveys;
5. notes that at the recent Annual Inspection of Records almost all the property records were satisfactorily attested and only a small number of minor items remain outstanding;

6. approves a programme of stonework repairs to the halls at 6 School Wynd, Paisley, proposed by the Paisley: Oakshaw Trinity congregation, at an estimated maximum cost of £19,000, funds are available:

SUPERINTENDENCE

In the absence of Rev Stephen Smith, Convener, the Clerk presented the report of the Superintendence/Local Church Review Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the annual Inspection of Records has taken place and that the committee is satisfied as to the generally high level of record keeping;
3. notes there are a few congregations with safeguarding paperwork issues in the process of being resolved;
4. thanks all those who assisted in the Inspection of Records and the congregations who made premises available for that purpose;
5. notes that the Superintendence committee acting as Local Church Review committee intends to visit 3 congregations after Easter to conduct local church reviews with a view to rolling out a structured series of visits after the summer.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment to meet on Thursday 16th March at 7.00pm for the ordination and induction of Mrs Hanneke Marshall to Bridge of Weir: St Machar's Ranfurly Church and then on **Tuesday 9th May 2017 at 7.00pm** or ordinary business in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

Moderator

Clerk