

CLYDE PRESBYTERY

Tuesday 12th September 2023 at 7.00pm

On the 12th day of September 2023, Clyde Presbytery met in person in Rosneath St Modan's Parish Church, with some members joining via zoom, and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Christine Murdoch, Moderator, with 18 ministers in person and 18 on zoom; 22 elders in person with 37 joining on zoom and 4 corresponding members in person with 6 on zoom, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 9 ministers, 2 elders and 4 corresponding member, as recorded separately.

WELCOME

The Moderator welcomed new members of Clyde Presbytery; Ronnie Johnson, Hugh McColl, Stephen McDowall Laing, Catherine McGrath, Kenneth Naismith, Patricia Robertson, Christine Scholarios, Simone Smith, Douglas Thomson, Moira Thomson and Stewart Young and hoped they would soon feel at home.

THANKS TO RETIRING MODERATOR, REV CHRISTINE MURDOCH

The Business Convener, Rev Ken Gray, thanked the retiring Moderator, Rev Christine Murdoch, for her service to Presbytery over her year in office.

ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW MODERATOR,

Rev Christine Murdoch, having completed her period of office as Moderator proposed the Rev David Burt, nominated at the meeting of the Presbytery on 14th February last, as the next Moderator of the Presbytery.

The Presbytery approved and resolved accordingly.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

The minutes from the ordinary meeting on 20th June 2023 were approved with a minor amendment showing that section 6 of the Business Committee deliverance was put to a vote and then approved.

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next ordinary meeting was approved as 13th February 2024

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed

DECISIONS MADE UNDER POWERS (S/O 61) for noting

Appointed Rev Stuart Stevenson as Interim Moderator at Linwood from 1st August 2023 on the resignation of Rev Ann McCool.

Appointed Rev Philip Wallace as Interim Moderator at Johnstone St Paul's from 18th August 2023 on the retirement of Rev Dr Alistair Shaw

Appointed John Armit, Stuart Steell and Kenny Paton as the Vacancy Committee, per Act VIII 2003, to oversee proceedings at Paisley St George's and Baldernock linked with Milngavie St Pauls

Appointed Rev Ian Miller as the Presbytery representative on West Dunbartonshire Education Committee, filling the vacant post

Noted the appointment of Chris Barlas as locum at Bonhill from 24th August 2023

COMMITTEE DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER POWERS (S/O 60) for noting

Property

Granted permission for the Kirk Session of Baldernock to dispose of the church halls.

Approved the application from Lomond Parish Church to install emergency lighting in the church building and install new improved lighting in their car park all for a total cost of £58,795 or thereby and funds are available.

Approved the application from Lomond Parish Church to access the money held within their Central Fabric Fund to fund the project.

Approved the application from Port Glasgow: New Parish Church to carry out repairs to their bell tower at a cost of £15,570.

Approved the application from Port Glasgow: New Parish Church to access the money held within their Central Fabric Fund to fund the project.

Approved the application from Port Glasgow: New Parish Church to carry out alterations to the church halls and notes that the project will be funded from a legacy.

Approved the application from Dumbarton: Riverside Parish Church to carry out repairs to their hall roof at a cost of £305,000 or thereby.

Approved the application from Dumbarton: Riverside Parish Church to access the money held within their Central Fabric Fund and to seek grant aid to fund the project.

Approved the application from Bearsden: Cross Parish Church to carry out alterations to the sanctuary and if undertaken in the current year gives them permission to exceed the £20,000 financial limit.

Approved the request from Greenock: St Ninian's Parish church to put the buildings and site of Greenock: St Ninian's Church up for sale and to market the land, church and hall.

Approved the application from Greenock St Margaret's to carry out some refurbishment work and supports their application to withdraw funds from money held in their Central Fabric Fund in the amount of £17,000 or thereabouts.

VACANCY BUSINESS

In the absence of the Convener, Mr John Armit, the Clerk *pro tem* presented the report from the Vacancy Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the intention to demit from Rev Gary Noonan of Houston & Killellan Kirk from January 31st 2024, subject to visa progress, to take up the post of Head of Staff/Lead Pastor in First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood, PCUSA and grants permission for him to leave his charge at that time;
3. reminds Mr Noonan that he remains minister at Houston & Killellan until the date of his demission;
4. notes that the appointed Vacancy Committee grants permission for Baldernock linked with Milngavie: St Paul's to call a minister on unrestricted tenure all in terms of the provisions of Act VII 2003 and the Presbytery Mission Plan;
5. notes that the appointed Vacancy Committee grants permission for Paisley St George's to call a minister on unrestricted tenure all in terms of the provisions of Act VII 2003 and the Presbytery Mission Plan;

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Rev Ken Gray, Convener, presented the report from the Business Committee, apart from section 6 which was moved by the Clerk, and the following deliverance was approved with the Moderator declaring an interest in section 8:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the appointment of Rev Robbie Hamilton as Presbytery Clerk from Monday 23rd October 2023 and thanks and discharges the *ad hoc* committee appointed to oversee the recruitment;
3. appoints Rev Dr Alistair Shaw as Clerk *pro tem* from 1st September 2023 until Sunday 22nd October 2023 when the new Clerk takes up post;
4. appoints Rev Yvonne Smith as Interim Moderator at Old Kilpatrick Bowling from 31st October 2023 on the resignation of Rev Christine Goldie;
5. notes that the new Presbytery Handbook is now available on the website www.clydepresbytery.org under the "handbook" tab;

additional sections 6-9 were proposed as follows:

6. approves the request from Bridge of Weir St Machar's Ranfurly congregation to hold a joint service within Bridge of Weir Freeland on Sunday 1st October;
7. approves the request from Greenock Lyle Kirk to hold a joint service in Greenock Westburn on Sunday 22nd October
8. notes that in the case of the application of the Kirk Session of Greenock: St Ninian's congregation, the General Trustees (1) authorise the sale of the church, hall and land at 11 Norfolk Road, Greenock, PA16 0JG, at such price and on

such other terms and conditions as may be decided by them in consultation with the Kirk Session and (2) determine that the free proceeds of sale shall, subject to the operation of the Levy under Regulation 8 2008, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund;

9. notes that in the case of the application of the Kirk Session of Kilmacolm Old congregation, the General Trustees (1) authorise the sale of the manse at Glencairn Road, Kilmacolm, PA13 4NJn, at such price and on such other terms and conditions as may be decided by them in consultation with the Kirk Session and (2) determine that the free proceeds of sale shall, in the first instance, be used to purchase a replacement manse and any balance remaining, subject to the operation of the Levy under Regulation 8 2008, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund used to purchase a replacement manse and any balance remaining, subject to the operation of the Levy under Regulation 8 2008, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.

TREASURER

Mr Ian Steven, Treasurer, presented his report and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;

LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW/SUPT

Rev Hanneke Marshall, Convener, presented the report from the Local Church Review/ Superintendence Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the committee aims to draw up a schedule for visits by October and start regular Local Church Reviews in early 2024;
3. encourages vacant congregations and their interim moderators to consider whether inviting a Local Church Review might be helpful to inform drawing up of congregational and ministerial profiles;
4. asks minsters interested in being part of Local Church Review Committee to speak to our convener;

an additional section 5 was proposed and approved as follows:

5. approves the appointment of Rev William Boyle to the Local Church Review Committee

MINISTRY

Rev Yvonne Smith, Convener, presented the report from the Ministry Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the commencement of the Worship Leaders Course starting on the 24th of September;
3. congratulates Alex McCallum and Steven Henderson on completion of their Ministries training and forth coming Ordinations;
4. welcomes three new candidates and encourages Presbytery to pray and support our five Ministries Students;
5. notes that Trish Archibald will be carrying out her Probationary Placement at Baljaffray Church and we welcome her to our Presbytery as a corresponding member.

MISSION

Rev Ann Knox, Convener, presented the report from the Mission Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. approves Local Area Mission Groups re-boot detailed at **appendix 2**, in line with the Cluster Groupings, known as Hubs, with preferably two representatives from each congregation within a Hub;
3. urges Rep Elders/Ministers to encourage participation and forward names and emails of those nominated to aknox@churchofscotland.org.uk;
4. notes that funding is available for work with under 40s, and through Presbytery Mission Funding;
5. notes that there is an on-line School chaplaincy event, and some resource suggestions.

PLANNING

Rev Tim Mineard, Convener, presented the report from the Planning Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. approves the updated membership of the PMP/VPC Committee as outlined in the Presbytery Planning Grid contained in **appendix 3**
3. notes the Presbytery planning grid (attached) and approves the appointment of cluster facilitators as specified;
4. strongly encourages Kirk Sessions to consider the relevant legislation for their own particular circumstances (Unions, linkages, etc) and commends the letter from the Convenor in **appendix 4** to the attention of Kirk Sessions;
5. encourages attendance at the monthly online prayer meeting via Zoom (no longer Microsoft Teams): <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89334699398>. This takes place on the last Friday of every month at 7am. Meeting ID: 893 3469 9398 (no passcode required);

PROPERTY

Mr Douglas Vallance, Convenor presented the report from the Property Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. declines approval for the financial board of Bonhill Parish Church to undertake repairs to the church roof as detailed in the RAG survey report due to the building categorised as 'B' in the Approved Presbytery Plan and the substantial financial costs involved;
3. withholds approval for Clydebank: Kilbowie St Andrew's to carry out Church Tower repairs until its financial board demonstrates how the project will be funded;
4. notes that the Manse Deliverance Outline by the GTs to ensure the welfare and appropriate living conditions of our ministers and privately renting tenants was forwarded to all session clerks for their attention and action;
5. reminds congregation financial boards of their responsibility to maintain vacant manses and their gardens in an acceptable condition;
6. reminds congregations of the 2022 General Assembly's instruction regarding EPC surveys and instructs them to forward the current position to the Property Committee convenor;
7. notes that the Kirk Session of Milngavie: St Paul's are in the process of selling their existing manse, the title of which is vested with the local trustees, and seeking a more modern equivalent paying due diligence to the 'Guidelines for Manses' as published by the General Trustees;

8. notes that the Kirk Session of Helensburgh, in seeking to purchase a new manse, have viewed a suitable property within the parish and have paid due diligence to the 'Guidelines for Manses' as published by the General Trustees in the process;
9. notes that at the request of the convener of the VPC John Armit, an inspection was carried out of Paisley: St George's manse by representatives of the Property and Ministry Committee and declared fit for purpose. There were a few items of maintenance to be undertaken but they would be attended to in good time.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the list of congregations at **appendix 5** whose accounts have been attested and marked with an x and instructs them to send a copy to OSCR before the deadline of 30th September 2023;
3. thanks congregational treasurers for their diligence in preparing these accounts and for their continuing work with congregational finances

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment to meet on **Tuesday 26th September** in Dalmuir Barclay for the ordination of Steven Henderson as OLM and then for ordinary business on **Tuesday 13th February 2024** in Dumbarton Riverside

Moderator

Clerk