

PRESBYTERY OF GREENOCK AND PAISLEY

November 10th 2015

At Bishopton and within the Cornerstone there, the tenth day of November 2015, the Presbytery of Greenock and Paisley met as appointed and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Dr Ken Forrest, Moderator, with 33 ministers, 46 elders, 1 deacon and 12 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 10 ministers, 9 elders, 3 deacons and 4 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

MINUTES

Minutes of the ordinary meeting on October 13th being in print and in the hands of members were approved.

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as December 8th 2015 in The Cornerstone, Bishopton.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed but it was decided to close the meeting before reconvening in conference session.

NOTICES

The Clerk highlighted the notices.

PRESENTATION TO STUDENTS

The Moderator presented a gift from the Weddell Book Fund to ministry students Yvonne Smith, Annette Gordon, Ann Knox, Hannah Rankine and William Boyle and hoped the small token would assist with the purchase of books for their studies.

PRESENTATION OF READERS

The following Readers were presented to the Moderator, who thanked those present for the work they carried out both in preaching and pastoral care within the Presbytery;

Mary Jane Bird, Russell Banks, Tom Campbell, Charles Davey, Jack Glenny, Eleanor Hood, Christine MacDonald, Elizabeth McFarlan, Jack McHugh, Leon Marshall, Margaret Maxwell, Geoff Orry, Kenneth Rankine and Jennifer Boag

LEAVE TAKING REV DAVID YOUNG

The Moderator thanked Mr Young for his dedicated work within the Presbytery, most recently as Interim Moderator at Paisley St James's and wished him well as he moved to the Presbytery of Dumbarton.

BUSINESS

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

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report;
2. Suspends standing orders (with particular reference to 38 e and f) in order that Presbytery can go into conference session for the visit of the Rev Dr Alistair Bull, Secretary of the Mission and Discipleship Council.
3. Approves the request of Lochwinnoch to worship together in Calder Church on Sunday 20th December 2015;

4. agrees to the request from the Presbytery of Hamilton, that the Rev Sandra Black, (Interim Minister), be allowed to serve on their Vacancy Support Committee, and to serve as Interim Moderator of East Kilbride South; such agreement being authorised under Act 5 2001 re Presbytery Assessors and Act 10 2012 Co-operation between Presbyteries.
5. Appoints Tuesday 15th December 2015 as the date for the service of union for Kilbarchan East and Kilbarchan West Parish Churches; the service to take place in Kilbarchan West Parish Church at 7.p.m. with Presbytery convening at 6.45p.m., and instructs the Moderator and the Clerk to make all necessary arrangements for the service.
6. Notes the impending resignation of the Rev David Young as Interim Moderator of Paisley: St James's from the 30th November 2015, and thanks him for his period of service there.
7. Appoints Rev Lilly Easton as Interim Moderator of Paisley: St James's as from the 1st December 2015.

TREASURER

Rev Alistair Cook, Treasurer, presented the accounts and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the accounts;
2. Approves the accounts of the Presbytery, as contained in **appendix 1**, for the year ended 30 June 2015, subject to any amendments which may be required following the Independent Examination which will be carried out shortly.

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. Approves the application by Port Glasgow; St Andrew's for a grant from the Newark Mission Fund towards the costs of installing a multimedia system in the sanctuary, the amount of the grant not to exceed £10,000;
3. Notes that Safeguarding training for volunteers, and for Co-ordinators, will take place at Erskine Parish Church on Saturday November 14th 2015;
4. Reminds Kirk Sessions that training is mandatory for Safeguarding Panel Members;
5. Notes with concern, that a number of congregations have not yet taken up Safeguarding Panel Training, that no-one attended the two recent training events for Safeguarding Panel Members; and reminds Kirk Sessions of their responsibilities for Safeguarding Panel appointments and the training of Panel members, in accordance with instructions of the General Assembly since 2009;
6. Encourages congregations, Presbyters, Kirk Sessions and ministers to prayerfully encourage applications from eligible young people, for the Presbytery's commission of one Youth Representative to the General Assembly 2016; applications to be with the Presbytery Clerk by 1st February 2016.

PRESBYTERY PLAN REVIEW COMMITTEE

The congregations of Paisley St Ninian's and Paisley St James's had been cited to appear in their interest.

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. agrees to lift the suspension of the Presbytery Plan for Paisley North End;
3. requests of the Assembly Committee, (Ministries Council), that Paisley: St Ninian's Ferguslie NCD be raised to full status for the purpose of being united with Paisley:Wallneuk North;
4. amends the plan to say that there should a union between Paisley: Wallneuk North and Paisley: St Ninian's Ferguslie, and submits this to the Ministries Council for their concurrence;
5. on receiving concurrence with both these sections of deliverance, instructs the Presbytery Plan Review committee to draw up a draft basis of union in consultation with local parties.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

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

Presbytery:

1. Receives the Report
2. Approves the proposed 2016 Ministries and Mission contributions for all congregations as detailed in **Appendix 2**.
3. If the deliverance at (2) above is accepted instructs the Clerk to transmit the approved Ministries and Mission allocations schedule to the Stewardship and Finance Department of the Church in Edinburgh by the due date of 15th November

LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW

Rev Alan Sorensen, Convener, presented the report of the Local Church Review Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the committee intends to conduct the Local Church Review in the following congregations during this session: Port Glasgow: Hamilton Bardrainey, Port Glasgow: St Martin's, Paisley: Martyr's Sandyford, Johnstone: St Andrew's Trinity, Erskine, Linwood and Greenock: Westburn.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment to meet on **Tuesday 8th December 2015** at 7.00pm for ordinary business in The Cornerstone, Bishopton and then on **Tuesday 15th December 2015** for a service of union between Kilbarchan East and Kilbarchan West in Kilbarchan West Church at 7.00pm.

Moderator

Clerk