

CLYDE PRESBYTERY

June 8th 2021

On the 8th day of June 2021, Clyde Presbytery met via Zoom in line with current restrictions around the Covid-19 virus, and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Ian Johnson, Moderator, with 46 ministers, 68 elders and 11 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 10 ministers, 7 elders and 3 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Minutes of ordinary meeting on 9th March 2021, service of union on 15th April 2021, ordination service on 11th May 2021 and service of union on 18th May 2021 having been previously circulated, were all approved.

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as 14th September 2021.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed with additions from the Business Committee, Property and Stewardship & Finance.

FEEDBACK FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Presbytery noted that Rev Dr Peter McEnhill had been appointed as an Assembly Trustee and congratulated him on his appointment. Dr McEnhill then gave a brief summary of the key decisions taken by the General Assembly.

The following motion was proposed and seconded:

Instructs the Clerk to write, on behalf of the Presbytery, to the Convenor of the Assembly Business Committee, the Principal Clerk to the General Assembly and to the Convenor of the Assembly Trustees (a) congratulating all involved in enabling the work of General Assembly 2021; (b) commending GA 21 as effective, efficient, inclusive and as giving value for money to the whole Church; and (c) urging that GA22 be held in the same way with commissioners gathering through Zoom or similar.

Presbytery approved.

THANKS TO ELDERS RETIRING FROM PRESBYTERY

The Moderator thanked Agnes Brown, William Dougan, Fulton Dunn, Iain Galbraith, John Godfrey, Donald McDonald, Tom MacDougall, Ishbel Paterson, Sheila Rennie, David Sinclair and Carolyn Thom for their loyal service to Presbytery and wished them God's blessing as they continued to work within their own congregations.

Thanks were also extend to Rev Dr Alan Hamilton who was stepping down as Vice Convener of the Business Committee.

LEAVE TAKING REV ARCHIE SPEIRS

It was unfortunate that Mr Speirs could not attend the meeting but the Moderator wished him well for a long and happy retirement in his absence.

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

Business Committee

Noted the appointment of Christine MacDonald as locum at Greenock: St Margaret's from 15th March 2021;

Appointed Rev Dr Peter McEnhill, Rev Christine Goldie, Mrs Linda Dye and Mr Robert Kinloch to the Commission of Assembly to represent Clyde Presbytery

Approved the transfer of Rev Eddie Marshall from the Presbytery of Irvine & Kilmarnock, the transfer of Rev Paul Read from Annandale & Eskdale and the transfer of Ms Marion Stewart, retired Deacon and instructed the Clerk to include them in the Register of Ministries for Clyde Presbytery.

Instructed the Clerk to add the names of Eddie Marshall and Paul Read to the roll of Clyde Presbytery as retired ministers.

Appointed Rev Margaret Nutter as Interim Moderator at Old Kilpatrick Bowling from 26th May 2021 during the sick leave of Rev Scott McCrum

Appointed Rev Alan Sorensen as Interim Moderator at Inverkip linked with Skelmorlie and Wemyss Bay from 1st June 2021 ahead of the retirement of Rev Archie Speirs

Property Committee (south)

Approved an application by the Bishopton congregation for a programme of masonry repairs to the church building at an estimated cost of £48,578 excluding VAT and funding is available.

Approved an amendment to the previous decision of the Presbytery of Greenock & Paisley to require those congregations that were subject to 2019 Quinquennial Inspections to complete the items identified in the reports as urgent within the prescribed period of 1 year, and to report on progress to the December 2020 meeting of Presbytery, later changed to the first ordinary business meeting of Presbytery in 2021. Such progress should now be reported by way of the annual Inspection of Records, which is next scheduled to take place in 2022.

With regard to those congregations that were subject to 2020 Quinquennial Inspection Reports the congregations concerned are instructed by Presbytery to complete the items identified in the reports as urgent within the prescribed period of 1 year, and to report on progress by way of the annual Inspection of Records which is next scheduled to take place in 2022.

Noted that the Property Committee (Greenock and Paisley) will seek tenders for the 2021 tranche of Quinquennial Inspections at the following congregations: Erskine, Greenock: Lyle Kirk, St Ninian's, The Mount Kirk, Wellpark Mid Kirk and Westburn, Paisley: Abbey, Martyrs' Sandyford, St Columba Foxbar, South, Stow Brae and Wallneuk North. At present that is a total of twelve congregations however there are various unions underway and only buildings being retained will be inspected.

Approved, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, an application by the Skelmorlie & Wemyss Bay Parish congregation for the short term let of their manse during the forthcoming vacancy. It will be a requirement of Presbytery that the congregation use the services of the Church of Scotland Law Department.

Property Committee (north)

Noted that Baldernock are progressing with tenders for window refurbishment and have commissioned a professional survey at a cost of £4,000.

Stewardship & Finance Committee

Approved an application to use the discretionary allowance to make the necessary reduction in M & M in 2021 for Neilston parish Church in the amount of £3000

Ministry Committee

Approved the nomination of Mr William McCulloch of Neilston and Mr Chris Barlas of Inverkip to train as a candidate for Full Time Ministry

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Sustained the call of Mr Jonathan Fleming to Greenock Lyle Kirk and set the date for his service of induction as the 11th May 2021 in Lyle Kirk at 7pm

Instructed the Clerk to send intimation of this decision to the Presbytery of Ardrossan requesting the release of Mr Fleming from his current charge of Largs St John's linked with Cumbrae in order to take up the call to Greenock Lyle Kirk

Instructed the Clerk and the Moderator to make all necessary arrangements for the service of induction,

Instructed the Clerk to send a Schedule A notice of this decision to be intimated to the congregation of Greenock Lyle Kirk at a public diet of worship.

Presbytery noted the above decisions made by committees on their behalf.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

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 forthcoming retirement of Rev Tina Kemp, Auxiliary Minister, from Helensburgh linked with Rhu & Shandon from 8th August;
6. approves the request to hold joint summer services as follows: Clydebank Waterfront will host Dalmuir Barclay for joint worship at 10.30am for the month of June, then joint services will be held in Dalmuir Barclay for the month of July, reverting to Clydebank Waterfront again for the month of August;
7. approves the request from Bridge of Weir St Machar's Ranfurly to attend a joint service with Bridge of Weir Freeland on Sundays July 4th & 11th 2021;
8. notes the undernoted determination from the General Trustees in connection with the sale of property for Lochwinnoch (dissolved) and Paisley St Ninian's (dissolved)

TREASURER

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

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the deadline for the payment of Presbytery dues is 30th June and instructs congregations to make sure payment is made by that date;

MISSION

In the absence of Rev Gary Noonan, Convener, the vice convener, Rev Ann Knox presented the report from the Mission Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the resources available for congregational use and encourage congregations to participate in the SRT week of prayer 13-19 June and utilise the resources available.
3. urges congregations to engage with the COP26 conference in any way possible and utilise the resources available.
4. notes the job description for Mission Worker in Presbytery has been approved and will be advertised in due course;
5. instructs congregations, who have not already done so, to provide details of their representative to their respective Local Mission Group convener not later than 30 June 2021

PROPERTY

Rev Ian McEwan, Convener, presented the report from the Property Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. approves, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, an application by the Bearsden: New Kilpatrick congregation to seek to rationalise their building estate through the sale of the Old Halls. A congregational ballot recorded 608 in favour of the sale and 5 against;
3. approves, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, an application in principle by the Port Glasgow New Parish congregation for the following items:
 - (a) the erection of a hall extension on the link side of the church building at an estimated cost of £100,000 exclusive of VAT, funding is available however grant funding assistance is also being pursued;
 - (b) the acquisition from Inverclyde Council of the site of the above extension. The cost is unknown at present but is not thought excessive and funding is

available. It will be a requirement of Presbytery that the Church of Scotland Law Dept. carries out all the legal work associated with the purchase;

(c) an application for the release of a maximum of the entire estimated cost of items (a) and (b) above from the congregation's holdings in the Consolidated Fabric Fund;

4. notes that the Property Committee is co-ordinating discussions between the Presbytery and the General Trustees concerning the possibility of Presbytery employing its own building officer to assist with the management of our building estate. Should these discussions prove to be fruitful, a proposal for such a position will be brought to a future meeting of Presbytery;
5. appoints an *ad hoc* committee of Peter McEnhill, Ian McEwan, Ian Steven and Robert Kinloch to explore the possibility of such a post, examining affordability against possible benefits;
6. approves an application from Clydebank: Waterfront to draw down £3444 from their account in the Consolidated Fabric Fund to fund the replacement of a damaged main power board;
7. approves an application by the Gourock: St John's congregation for the installation of a replacement church organ. The estimated inclusive cost is £24,800 and funds are available;
8. approves an application by the Gourock: St John's congregation for the installation of replacement heating boilers at an estimated total cost of £22,020 plus VAT to give a total of £26,424 and funds are available;
9. accepts the tender of £14,700 plus VAT from Graham and Sibbald for the 2021 quinquennial inspections at: Erskine, Greenock: Lyle Kirk, The Mount Kirk, Wellpark Mid Kirk and Westburn, Paisley: Abbey, North (formerly Sandyford and Wallneuk North), St George's (formerly Stow Brae and Glenburn), South and West (formerly Martyrs' and St Columba Foxbar).

SAFEGUARDING

Nothing to report

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. thanks congregations for submitting their accounts for 2020 and commends them on the general good standard of preparation;
3. notes that all accounts received so far have been attested and instructs congregations to now submit a copy to OSCR;

4. notes that there are still four congregations who have been unable to finalise their accounts and instructs the convener to work with these congregations to ensure compliance

DISCIPLINE (In Private)

In the absence of the Convener, Rev Stephen Smith, the Clerk presented the report from the Discipline Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. notes that a Minister within the bounds may have committed a disciplinary offence and that the matter has been referred by the Discipline Committee (as per Presbytery Standing Order Number 11), for consideration under Act 1 2019, (Discipline), and confirms that no administrative suspension has been put in place;
2. homologates the decision of the Discipline Committee of the 15/04/2021 to appoint Mr David Stihler of the Church of Scotland Law Department as the Legal Assessor in this matter;
3. homologates the decision of the Discipline Committee of the 19/04/2021 to appoint the Rev Alan Reid, Minister of Kinross Parish Church and member of the Judicial Proceedings Panel, to act as an Adviser to the Legal Assessor;
4. notes that the provision of pastoral support was offered to the Minister concerned and that this was declined at this time;
5. notes that intimation was made to the Interim Head of the Faith Nurture Forum that a referral has been made under Act1 2019, as required by its provisions.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment to meet on Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 7.00pm for ordinary business at a venue to be determined by Covid restrictions nearer the time.

Moderator

Clerk