

ALLOWAY, 10th May, 2011.

At Alloway Church on Tuesday the First Day of March, Two Thousand and Eleven Years, the Presbytery of Ayr met and was constituted.

65. SEDERUNT. The Rev R Mayes, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in rententis. Ministers, 28; Elders, 45; Deacon, 1; Corresponding Members, 1; Total 75. Apologies were received from 9 Ministers and 8 Elders.

66. MINUTES. The Minutes of the Meeting held 1st March, 24th March and 26th April 2011, being in the hands of Members, were taken as read and approved.

67. ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The Order of Business was approved.

68. INTIMATIONS.

1. Bob's Barbeque and Car Treasure Hunt.
2. Who Cares - Pastoral Ministries Day.
3. On behalf of the Scottish War Memorial Society, Alistair Morrison is endeavouring to establish the Churches within the Presbytery that have a WW1 and/or WW2 memorial(s) either within the Church premises or within the Church grounds. If your Church has such a memorial, please could you let him know.
4. Refurbishment of Masonhill Crematorium.
5. The Presbytery Yearbook 2011 – 2012.
6. Kirkintilloch Male Voice Choir in Concert in aid of Bandawe, Malawi – Presbytery of Ayr's Malawian Partnership. Alloway Parish Church 29th May at 3pm.

7. Ayr: St. Leonard’s 125th Anniversary Service conducted by the Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland The Right Rev John C. Christie. Wednesday 11th May at 7pm

69. GUEST SPEAKER.

Mrs Moureen Jones, Convener of the Ayr Presbyterial Council

Introduced by Mrs I Montgomerie, Mrs Jones spoke about the active and supportive work of the Guild. The Moderator thanked Mrs Jones.

70. COMMISSIONING OF COMMISSIONERS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Moderator addressed the Commissioners and put to them the prescribed Question which was answered satisfactorily. The Moderator, with prayer, commissioned the Commissioners to serve at the forthcoming General Assembly.

71. OVERTURE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Dr David Lewis gave an update on the Overture which the Presbytery of Ayr would be taking to the 2011 General Assembly.

72. ORDER OF THE DAY - 8.00pm.

1. VACANCY BUSINESS.

Mauchline linked with Sorn.

Congregational Representatives welcomed, Mr John Faulds spoke on behalf of the Congregations.

Mr G Kitcheman reported on behalf of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

The Presbytery note that a sole nominee, the Rev David Albon, successfully preached on the 8th May, 2011.

The Presbytery note the following arrangements for the Induction:

The Presbytery will meet in hunc affectum for Induction at 6.45pm on Wednesday 22nd June at Mauchline Parish Church.

The Rev Brian Hendrie to conduct Worship and Preach, the Moderator to give the charges.

ANNBANK PARISH, 14th June, 2011. At Annbank Parish Church on Tuesday the Fourteenth Day of June, Two Thousand and Eleven Years, the Presbytery of Ayr met and was constituted.

79. SEDERUNT. The Rev R Mayes, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in rententis. Ministers, 17; Elders, 20; Corresponding Members 1; Total 38. Apologies were received from 3 Ministers and 7 Elders. 1 other was associated with the Presbytery.

80. GRADUATE CANDIDATE RECOGNITION SERVICE.

All relevant matters being in order, and the Clerk having laid upon the Table the relevant Presbytery Minute of 10th May 2011, appointing this time and place for the Graduate Candidate Recognition Service, the Presbytery resolved to proceed.

Public Worship was conducted by the Rev Liz Crumlish, who preached a Sermon appropriate to the occasion.

Mrs Margaret Shuttleworth gave a testimony.

The Moderator presented Mrs Shuttleworth with a Bible, spoke words of encouragement and support, and led in prayer. With the Presbyters, the Moderator gave Mrs Shuttleworth the Right Hand of Fellowship.

Public Worship being concluded, the Presbytery instructed the Clerk to inform all interested parties.

Those taking part were thanked and the Sederunt was closed with prayer.

MODERATOR

PRESBYTERY CLERK

Scottish Charity Number SC020676

2. PRAY ACROSS SCOTLAND.

The Presbytery note and commend the Presbytery's 'Pray Across Service' which will be held at Prestwick: Kingcase on the 15th May 2011 at 4pm.

3. NEW PRAYER DIARY.

The Presbytery note that a new Prayer Diary has now been printed and is available to all Congregations.

4. REPORT BY JIM SKINNER on behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee regarding 3%.

78. CORRESPONDENCE.

All Correspondence had been forwarded to the relevant Committees.

ADJOURNMENT. The Presbytery rose at 9.30pm.

The Presbytery will provisionally meet in hunc affectum for a Graduate Candidate Recognition Service on **Tuesday 14th June, 2011**, at 6.45pm within Annbank Parish Church.

The Presbytery will meet in hunc affectum for Induction on **Wednesday 22nd June, 2011**, at 6.45pm within Mauchline Parish Church.

The Committees will meet in Ayr: the Auld Kirk Halls on **Thursday 16th June, 2011**, at 7pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Presbytery of Ayr will be held within Ballantrae Parish Church on Tuesday 28th June, 2011, at 7pm.

MODERATOR

PRESBYTERY CLERK

Scottish Charity Number SC020676

2. GRADUATE CANDIDATE RECOGNITION SERVICE.

The Presbytery provisionally agree to hold a Graduate Candidate Recognition Service at Annbank Parish Church on Tuesday 14th June for Mrs Margaret Shuttleworth. The Presbytery will meet in hunc affectum at 6.45pm

3. ADOPTION OF UNITARY CONSTITUTION.

a. Monkton & Prestwick North Parish Church.

In terms of Act XIX, 1964, as amended, the Presbytery note that the Kirk Session and Congregation have resolved to adopt the Unitary Constitution.

The Presbytery instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute, together with an Extract Minute of the above Kirk Session and Congregational Meeting to the Solicitor of the Church of Scotland.

b. Ayr: St. Columba.

In terms of Act XIX, 1964, as amended, the Presbytery note that the Kirk Session and Congregation have resolved to adopt the Unitary Constitution.

The Presbytery instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute, together with an Extract Minute of the above Kirk Session and Congregational Meeting to the Solicitor of the Church of Scotland.

4. PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS, given in by Mr GH Kitcheman, Presbytery Treasurer:

a. The Presbytery, acting as Trustees of the relevant Charity, approve the Accounts for the year to 31st December 2010, a copy to be held in retentis, and thank the Treasurer, Mr George H Kitcheman for the presentation of the Accounts and Mr J Beaton, Independent Examiner, for his work. The Presbytery instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute and a copy of the Accounts to the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

b. The Presbytery approve the appointment of Mr John Beaton as Independent Examiner for 2011.

73. BUSINESS & NOMINATION COMMITTEE, given in by Mrs I Montgomerie, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

1. PATIENT LISTS UPDATE.

The Presbytery encourage Kirk Sessions and members of Congregations to write to Professor Craig White, expressing concern at the lack of progress regarding the issue of patient lists.

2. MEETING BETWEEN FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND MINISTERS.

3. THE PRESBYTERY PROTOCOL - ANNUAL REPORT.

a. The Presbytery note that the Presbytery Protocol was used on one occasion during the past year.

b. The Presbytery recognise that the Protocol is to be used when complaints and matters of concern involving Ministers are received, including occasions when other persons are also involved in the complaint or matter of concern.

c. The Presbytery note that, for the purpose of the Protocol, all references or use of the word 'Minister' shall also refer to Readers, Auxiliary Ministers and Deacons.

d. *The Presbytery agree that in cases where a person makes further complaints against a Minister or Ministers and where the Clerk has concern about the advisability of using the protocol, as being prejudicial to the best interests of the complainer and resolving any issues raised, the matter may, following consultation and advice from the Convener and/or*

76. EDUCATION COMMITTEE, given in by the Rev Alec Shuttleworth, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

1. PASTORAL CARE CHAPLAINS.

a. The Presbytery note the advertisement for the East Area chaplain in the mailing. Informal conversations about the post may be had with Rev David Harper, one of the existing chaplains.

b. The Presbytery agree to give Rev Betty Smith leave of absence for up to six months from her duties as Pastoral Care Chaplain for the North area. The Presbytery appoint Rev Alec Shuttleworth to act as Pastoral Care Chaplain in the North area until Rev Smith is in a position to resume her duties.

77. MISSION COMMITTEE, given in by Rev Neil McNaught, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

1. QUINQUENNIAL REPORT.

a. The Presbytery commend the Congregation and Minister, the Rev Rona Young, of Ayr: St. Quivox for their faithful life and witness.

b. The Presbytery note, reflecting local circumstances, that the Congregation is in a satisfactory state.

c. The Presbytery thank the team who carried out the visit and the Minister and Congregation for their welcome and openness.

8. PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE/ THEATRES ACTS 1968 AND CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND)ACT 1982 DOCUMENT. (In Mailing)

The Presbytery note that from 1st April 2011, a change has been made to the legislation regarding Public Entertainment Licences. Previously, such a licence was only required where the public were admitted to the “event” on payment of money or money’s worth. That exclusion has been removed and so “free” events now may also need a licence.

The exemption, however, for “Premises belonging to or being used by any religious body while being used wholly or mainly for purposes connected with that body” remains in full force.

75. COMMUNITY AND WORLD CONCERNS COMMITTEE, given by the Rev A Wilkinson, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

1. CHRISTIAN AID WEEK.

The Presbytery commend to Congregations, Christian Aid Week and urge them to support the many valuable projects they undertake both financially and in their prayers.

2. SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT

a. The Presbytery express its solidarity and support for the Church of Pakistan, and encourage Congregations to be aware of the increased vulnerability of Christian Congregations in Islamic countries at this time, by praying for their safety and security.

b. The Presbytery also encourage Congregations to remember that we are ‘forgiveness-driven’ and not ‘revenge-driven’, and to pray for the leaders of Al-Quaeda that they might come to understand how reprisals and acts of terror drive apart people throughout the world who wish righteousness and justice to be characteristics of religious life, whatever their faith may be.

Members of the investigating team who dealt with the complainer in the first instance, be reported by the Clerk to the Moderator's Advisory Committee who, if they are in agreement with the Clerk's recommendation, would take such steps as they thought best for the support of the complainer and the minister in a situation which is not likely to be resolved by further investigation.

An Amendment was moved and seconded. The Convener accepted the Amendment and the Presbytery resolved accordingly:

The Presbytery agree that in cases where a person makes further complaints against a Minister (or Ministers), and where the Clerk has concern about the advisability of using the protocol as being in the best interests of the complainer in resolving any issues raised, following consultation and advice from the Convener and/or members of the investigating team who dealt with the complainer in the first place, the matter may be reported by the Clerk to the Moderator’s Advisory Committee.

If the Moderator’s Advisory Committee is in agreement with the Clerk’s recommendation, they may take such steps as they deem appropriate for the support of the complainer and minister in a situation which is not likely to be resolved by further investigation. *(New Number 16 – Protocol.)*

e. The Presbytery agree that the Vice Convener of the Business and Nomination Committee should be appointed as a member of the Moderator’s Advisory Committee.

f. The Presbytery agree that the Elder appointed on the Moderator’s Advisory Committee should serve a maximum term of 3 years.

74. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, given in by Mr C Cameron, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

- 1. ATTESTATION OF MINUTES.**
The Presbytery note that the Minutes of the Court and Committees have been attested and found to be in accordance with the Instructions of the General Assembly. The Presbytery Clerk will send an Extract Minute to the Principal Clerk.
- 2. MINISTERS' TRAVEL EXPENSES.**
The Presbytery note that from April 2011, payment for the first 10,000 miles will be paid at 45p per mile. Thereafter 25p per mile.
- 3. GIRVAN NORTH PARISH CHURCH.**
The Presbytery agree that permission be given to Girvan North to proceed with repair works to the spire. The cost of the work is in the region of £8,000 and funds are available. The work is part of the larger project, reported at the 6th July 2010 Presbytery meeting.
- 4. ST COLMON PARISH CHURCH, COLMONELL.**
The Presbytery approve the expenditure of £25,609.60 to carry out essential work on the Church building and to address water ingress problems from the roof and associated damage to the organ and electrical installation. The Session has consulted with the Committee on Art and Architecture and the work has begun to prevent further damage to the fabric. Funds are available and form 'A' has been completed.

5. ST. LEONARD'S PARISH CHURCH AND DALRYMPLE PARISH CHURCH.

The Presbytery approve the unanimous decision of the Congregational Boards of St. Leonards Parish Church and Dalrymple Parish Church to put the Manse at 7 Shawfield Avenue, Ayr, on the market.

- 6. ALLOWAY PARISH CHURCH.**
The Presbytery agree to the expenditure of £60,000 for the purchase of a replacement Organ for Alloway Parish Church, subject to approval of the General Trustees. Funds are available and the relevant forms have been completed.

7. LISTED PLACES OF WORSHIP GRANT SCHEME.
(In Mailing)

The Presbytery note the main changes, apart from the inability to claim for VAT on professional fees, are:

- The scheme will operate with quarterly fixed budgets. If claims exceed the quarterly budget, you will lose out - which may make budgeting more complicated.
- The maximum grant payable in response to any application will be 20% of project costs.
- Application will be made in the same way as before, except that it will not be possible to accept claims where the supporting invoices are more than one year old.
- The new scheme will not be operational until the 2nd quarter of 11/12 with the first payments under the new scheme made in September 2011.

Full details are attached and can be viewed at <http://www.lpwscheme.org.uk/>