

ALLOWAY, 4th December, 2012.

At Alloway Parish Church on Tuesday the Fourth Day of December, Two Thousand and Twelve Years, the Presbytery of Ayr met and was constituted.

263. SEDERUNT. The Rev Alastair Symington, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in retentis. Ministers, 41; Elders, 43; Corresponding Members, 1; Total 85. Apologies were received from 4 Ministers, 1 Deacon and 9 Elders.

264. WELCOME. The Moderator welcomed new Members.

265. MINUTES. The Minutes of the 6th November, being in the hands of Members, were taken as read and approved.

266. ORDER OF BUSINESS.
The Order of Business was approved.

267. INTIMATIONS.

1. Exodus Leaflets from Morag Hannah.
2. Applications for any Vacancies for the **2013 General Assembly** should be made in writing to the Clerk prior to the 31st December 2012.
3. Manse Inspection Schedules (In mailing).
4. Presbytery Healing Conference – 16th February 2013 (In mailing).
5. Masonhill Crematorium Christmas Service 16th December.
6. The Presbytery Office will be closed from Monday 14th January until Monday 21st January.
7. Congratulations to Margaret Shuttleworth who will be Ordained to the charge of Sauchie and Coalsnaughton on the 10th January. Congratulations to Alec Shuttleworth who will preach as Sole Nominee at Tulliallan and Kincardine on the 16th December.

268. GOOD NEWS ITEM -

Report by the Rev David Gemmell on the Conference on Religious Observance in Schools. This was an exceptionally well attended Conference and had encouraged and endorsed the work of School Chaplains.

The Clerk would forward a letter to Margo Williamson (*Head of Curriculum and Service Improvement*) to express the thanks of the Presbytery to South Ayrshire Council.

269. ORDER OF THE DAY - 8.00pm.

1. VACANCY BUSINESS.

- a. Extension of Leave to Call: Girvan North.
In terms of Act VIII, 2003, the Presbytery grant an Extension of Leave to Call to Girvan North for a further period of six months.
- b. Letter of Demission.
The Presbytery note that the Rev Arrick Wilkinson, on grounds of retirement, will demit his Charge of Fisherton linked with Kirkoswald on the 1st February 2013.
- c. Letter of Demission.
The Presbytery note that the Rev Stewart Birse, on grounds of retirement, will demit his Charge of Ayr: Newton Wallacetown on the 13th April 2013.
- d. Appointment of Interim Moderator and Locum, given in by the Rev Neil McNaught, Convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

The Presbytery appoint the Rev Betty Smith, Minister emeritus Fauldhouse: St Andrew's, as Interim Moderator and Locum at Ayr: Newton Wallacetown.

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2. PRESBYTERY NEWSLINES

The Presbytery express their grateful appreciation to the Rev Bill Hannah for his Editorship of Presbytery Newslines. Bill will retire as Editor on the 31st December 2012.

3. SERVICE CHANGES

The Presbytery note the following changes:

- a. On Sunday 30th December, a joint Service will be held in Troon: Portland Church at 10.30am. There will be no Service at Troon: St Meddan's and Troon: Old Church that day.
- b. On Sunday 30th December, there will be a united Service at Sorn Parish Church at 11am and on Sunday 6th January, there will be a United Service at Mauchline Parish Church at 11am.

4. UNITARY DEEDS ISSUED.

The Presbytery note that the Unitary Constitution has been issued to Lugar Parish Church.

270. BUSINESS AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE,
given in by the Rev Bob Mayes, Vice Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-**1. MISSION AND DISCIPLESHIP REMIT.**

- a. The Presbytery note that the Business and Nomination Committee have discussed Mission and Discipleship Council Remit 6.

Commend those elders who have engaged with the training of elders to act as Interim Moderators of Kirk Sessions and instruct Presbyteries to undertake a survey of all those trained to establish the pattern of their usage and send the results of the survey to the Council by 30 November 2012 and identify the issues which need to be addressed so that they might be used productively in future.

- b. The Presbytery note that the Clerk has responded to this remit and sent the relevant information to the Mission and Discipleship Council.

2. **MINISTRIES COUNCIL CONSULTATION**

The Presbytery nominate the Rev Rona Young, Mrs I Montgomerie and Mr G MacDonald to attend the Ministries Council Consultation on 30th and 31st January 2013.

3. **PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT AT PRESBYTERY MEETINGS.**

The Presbytery note that, to help clarify debates and to allow as full an answer as possible, Presbyters are encouraged to give Conveners as much prior notice of motions and questions as possible, but questions and relevant motions are always in order.

4. **ROYAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BLIND PEOPLE.**

The Presbytery accept the invitation to the launch of the Ayrshire Vision Appeal in the Mercure Hotel on Wednesday 5th December 2012 and appoint Mr Bill Mackie to attend.

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

1. ARCHITECTURAL QUINQUENNIAL VISITATIONS

The Presbytery note the Architectural Quinquennial visitations to the following charges in 2013:

Ayr: St Leonard's	Ochiltree / Stair	Monkton & Prestwick North
Fisherton	Ayr: St Quivox	Troon: Portland
Mauchline	Kirkmichael / Straiton	

2. DILIGENCE REPORT

The Presbytery note that the Diligence Report and Architectural Quinquennial Inspection Reports for 2012 have been sent to the General Trustees.

3. STRAITON PARISH CHURCH

The Presbytery approve the application by Straiton Parish Church to the General Trustees for a grant of £5,000. The grant is for architects fees for a survey of work required on the harling and the windows.

4. STUDY LEAVE

The Presbytery approve the application from the Rev David Whiteman, Minister at Coylton linked with Drongan; The Shaw Kirk, for a period of study leave from 1st October to 31st October 2013 to study and reflect on church growth in Romania.

5. PENSION PROVISION FOR MINISTERS AND PPWs

The Presbytery encourage all Ministers and PPWs, within 10 years of retirement, to acquaint themselves with the provision of Pensions, Additional Voluntary Contributions, and Housing & Loan regulations.

6. PROPERTY LEVY

The Presbytery approve the Property Levy for 2013 at £406 per Charge (£203 for each Congregation in the case of a Linked Charge and £135 each for Congregation in a Triple Link).

272. COMMUNITY AND WORLD CONCERNS, given in by the Rev D Watson, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

SOUPER SUNDAY 2013

The Presbytery note that Souper Sunday 2013 will take place on the 6th January 2013, supporting the work of the Church of Scotland HIV Programme and commend the event to Congregations. More information can be found at www.soupersunday/info

273. MISSION COMMITTEE, given in by the Rev Liz Crumlish, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

1. PRESBYTERY PLAN

The Presbytery note the concurrence of the Ministries Council of the Presbytery Plan and express congratulations and thanks to David Lewis for all his effort in pursuing this concurrence.

The Presbytery is fortunate to have the expertise of David Lewis in drawing up and formatting the Presbytery Plan and presenting it in a manner acceptable to the Ministries Council. We are grateful to him for all his work in ensuring that the Plan has now received concurrence from the Ministries Council.

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2. CONGREGATIONAL REVIEWS

- a. The Presbytery note that Reports on Congregational Reviews will be received on Tuesday 12th February 2013 in Castlehill Church as follows:

10am	Annbank/Tarbolton	1:30	Muirkirk/ Old Cumnock:Trinity
10:30	Auchinleck/Catrine	2pm	New Cumnock
11:00	Coylton/Drongan	2:30	Ochiltree/Stair
12:00	Lugar/ Old Cumnock:Old		

- b. The Presbytery encourage each Congregation reviewed to ensure representation in these discussions.

Each congregation is invited to send representatives to discuss the reports on Congregational Reviews undertaken and to offer feedback on the process of interim arrangements for Congregational Review which will help to inform future Reviews.

3. THE GUILD

The Presbytery congratulate the Guild on organising a fitting celebration of its 125th anniversary in Ayr and remind Congregations that the Presbyterial Council is available to assist groups.

The Guild celebrated their 125th Anniversary with a gathering at Ayr: Newton Wallacetown at which the General Secretary spoke. Members were encouraged by this celebration. Groups are reminded that one of the roles of the Presbyterial Council is to assist and support local Guilds.

4. PRESBYTERY PRAYER DIARY

The Presbytery note that the latest copy of the Presbytery Prayer Diary is now available and thank, once again, Mrs Joyce Pringle for producing another edition.

5. PRESBYTERY FLAG

The Presbytery encourage Congregations to submit designs for a Presbytery Flag to the Presbytery Office by the 9th January.

Presbyteries are being encouraged to have a Presbytery flag carried at the Sunday Celebration of the General Assembly in Princes Street Gardens. Congregations interested in designing a flag for the Presbytery of Ayr should download the design template from <http://www.heartandsoul2013.org.uk/presbytery> and submit their design to the Presbytery Office by 9th January. One of these designs will be chosen and submitted for printing.

274. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from Mr Thomas McCaig expressing his thanks to the Presbytery for their kind words and thoughts on the recent death of his wife.

ADJOURNMENT The Presbytery rose at 8.05pm

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Presbytery of Ayr will be held within Alloway Parish Church Hall on Tuesday 5th February 2013, at 7pm.

The Committees will meet in Ayr: the Auld Kirk Halls on Thursday 24th January, 2013, at 7pm.

MODERATOR

PRESBYTERY CLERK

Scottish Charity Number SC020676
