

ALLOWAY, 5th February, 2013.

At Alloway Parish Church on Tuesday the Fifth Day of February, Two Thousand and Thirteen Years, the Presbytery of Ayr met and was constituted.

275. SEDERUNT. The Rev Alastair Symington, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in rententis. Ministers, 38; Elders, 47; Deacon, 1; Corresponding Members, 2; Total 88. Apologies were received from 4 Ministers and 4 Elders.

276. WELCOME. The Moderator welcomed Mrs Margaret Carson, new Presbytery Elder Ayr: Auld Kirk and Dr Joel Gonzalez-Garcia, full-time Assistant Minister at Ayr: St Columba.

277. NEWSLINES. The Rev Bill Hannah presented the Presbytery with a bound Edition of Presbytery Newslines. The Moderator conveyed the thanks of the Presbytery.

It should also be noted that any interested party who has an aptitude for the position of Communications Officer should contact the Presbytery Clerk or Convener of the Administration Committee.

278. MINUTES. The Minutes of the 4th December 2012, being in the hands of members, were taken as read and approved.

279. ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The Order of Business was approved.

280. GUEST SPEAKER

Dr Murdo Macdonald, **Policy Officer. Society, Religion and Technology Project.**

In a very stimulating address, Dr Macdonald spoke of how Science helps put a perspective on our own lives. Citing Job 26: 4 Dr Macdonald acknowledged how God's presence in our world had always been recognised, but due to modern science we now have a greater understanding.

Dr Macdonald also addressed other issues including the ethical debates concerning Human Embryos and Stem Cells. As part of the remit of the SRT the topical issue of finance was also briefly mentioned, including APR rates and Credit Unions.

Finally, Dr Macdonald reminded the Presbytery that the SRT are available for events, talks and to share resources.

The Moderator thanked Dr Macdonald on behalf of the Presbytery.

281. INTIMATIONS.

1. Presbytery Healing Conference – 16th February 2013.
(Leaflets available)
2. Pathway to Prayer 2013 – Saturday 16th March 2013.
(Posters available)
3. Explore the riches of our Christian Spiritual Heritage.
(Leaflets available)
4. Manse Condition Schedule & Folder. *(To be uplifted)*
5. Church of Scotland Chaplaincy Provision in HMP Kilmarnock.
Further details available from the Presbytery Clerk.
6. Charges having RBS Deposit Accounts may be experiencing some difficulties. For assistance and advice, please contact the Presbytery Treasurer.
7. The Safeguarding Roadshow for Trainers, Presbytery Contacts and Congregational Coordinators – 16th March at St George's Church, Dumfries.
8. Seminar on The Liverpool Care Pathway for the Dying Patient. Crosshouse Hospital, Tuesday 5th March 1.30pm – 4pm.
9. Centrestage 'What's On' Booklets for distribution.

282. GOOD NEWS ITEM.**National Youth Assembly Delegates Report.**

Rachel Whiteman, Cara Moynihan, Siobhan Carter and Kate Davidson

In a very enthusiastic and well prepared Report Rachel, Cara, Siobhan and Kate informed the Presbytery of the three main topics covered at the National Youth Assembly, namely Tax Evasion, HIV and Domestic Abuse. It was also encouraging to note that of the 150 delegates who attended the National Youth Assembly, 9 were from the Presbytery of Ayr.

The Moderator congratulated the girls on an excellent and extremely informative report.

283. ORDER OF THE DAY - 8.00pm.**1. VACANCY BUSINESS.****a. Demission of the Rev Alec Shuttleworth.**

Demission of the Rev Alec Shuttleworth, Minister of Annbank and Tarbolton. Congregations welcomed. Compeared Mrs Maureen McNae, Session Clerk at Tarbolton, paid fitting tribute to the ministry of the Rev Alec Shuttleworth.

The Rev Alec Shuttleworth made a suitable reply.

b. Appointment of Interim Moderator and Locum, given in by the Rev Neil McNaught, Convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

The Presbytery homologate the decision to appoint Mr James Skinner, ruling Elder as Interim Moderator and Mr Iain Jamieson, Lay Reader, as Locum at Annbank linked with Tarbolton as from 3rd February 2013.

c. Demission of the Rev Arrick Wilkinson.

Demission of the Rev Arrick Wilkinson, Minister of Fisherton and Kirkoswald. Congregations welcomed. Compeared Mr Martin Duncan, Treasurer at Fisherton, and Mr Jim Henry, member at Kirkoswald, paid fitting tribute to the ministry of the Rev Arrick Wilkinson.

The Rev Arrick Wilkinson made a suitable reply.

d. Appointment of Interim Moderator and Locum, given in by the Rev Neil McNaught, Convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

The Presbytery homologate the decision to appoint Mr Bill Mackie, ruling Elder as Interim Moderator and the Rev Robert Lynn, Minister emeritus Ayr: St Leonard's linked with Dalrymple, as Locum at Fisherton linked with Kirkoswald as from 1st February 2013.

e. Ayr: St Andrews.

Congregation Representatives welcomed. Mr Elwood Vogt, Session Clerk of Ayr: St Andrews, spoke on behalf of the Congregations.

The Rev Neil McNaught reported on behalf of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

In terms of Act VIII, 2003, the Presbytery note that the Call to the Rev Morag Garrett, Minister at Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity, has been sustained.

The Call has been signed by 142 plus 4 Papers of Concurrence.

The Presbytery note the following arrangements for the Induction:

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The Presbytery will meet in hunc effectum for Induction at 6.45pm on Thursday 28th February, 2013, within Ayr: St Andrews. The Rev Fiona Wilson, Minister at Dalmellington linked with Patna Waterside, to conduct Worship and preach; the Moderator to Induct and give the Charges; the Interim Moderator to be responsible for serving the Edict.

2. TEMPORARY CLOSURE – AUCHINLECK.

The Presbytery note that on Sunday 27th January 2013, the Service at Auchinleck Parish Church was cancelled due to a malfunction with the heating system.

284. BUSINESS AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE, given in by Mrs Isabell Montgomerie, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

1. VACANCY PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

- a.** The Presbytery note the resignations from the Vacancy Procedure Committee of Mr Bill Mackie and Miss Aileen Fraser and extend their thanks.
- b.** The Presbytery appoint Mr Robert Macdonald and Mrs Carole Stewart to serve on the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

2. ADDITIONAL ELDERS

The Presbytery note that a few vacancies currently exist for Additional Elders to serve on the Presbytery. The Presbytery is especially keen to attract individuals with either experience in finance or property. Any individual interested should contact the Presbytery Clerk.

285. COMMUNITY AND WORLD CONCERNS, given in by the Rev Ian McLachlan, Vice Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:-

1. HEART AND SOUL 2013

The Presbytery note that 'Heart and Soul' will take place on the afternoon of Sunday 19th May 2013 in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh and commend the event to Congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery. More information can be found at www.heartandsoul2013.org.uk

MALAWI 2013

Report on Malawi by Julie Griffiths on the forthcoming Alloway Malawi Mission which will take place in June 2013.

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

1. MAYBOLE PARISH CHURCH

The Presbytery have no objection to the let of the former Manse at 3 Barn's Terrace, Maybole, on a short term basis, as per the Guidelines for the Let of Manses Booklet. It is noted that approval has been given by the General Trustees.

2. STRAITON: ST CUTHBERT'S.

The Presbytery note that the grant of £2000.00 has been made available from the Central Fabric Fund of the General Trustees to fund architect's fees and expenses.

3. CHANGES TO CHURCH OF SCOTLAND INSURANCE SCHEME.

The Presbytery note, with pleasure, that significant changes are anticipated in the above Insurance Scheme and await a satisfactory conclusion for those concerned. This will commence on Candlemas on the 28th February 2013.

4. REPAIRS AND GRANTS FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP IN SCOTLAND.

Members of the Presbytery are advised that the last date for the latest batch of financial applications to be considered is 14th February 2013. Any congregation which has contacted the Presbytery using Form E intimating their intention to apply (normally referred to as the Joint Scheme) should send these applications to the General Trustees and NOT direct to Historic Scotland or the Heritage Lottery Fund.

5. NEW HERITAGE LOTTERY FUNDING FOR STRUCTURAL REPAIRS.

The Presbytery are advised that new grants of up to £250,000.00 are possibly available for repairs to Listed Places of Worship. Details are available.

6. NATIONAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMME — YEAR ONE, 2012.

- a.** The Presbytery note that, to date, 15 National Stewardship Programme Initial Feedback Forms dating from 2012 have been returned to the Presbytery.

- b. The Presbytery note that this form provides essential information on the Stewardship activities of each Congregation and, as a result, the Presbytery would be very grateful if all outstanding forms could be returned to the Presbytery Administration Committee, with a copy also being sent to the Stewardship and Finance Department, Church of Scotland, 121 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4YN, by Thursday 21 February 2013.

7. GIRVAN NORTH PARISH CHURCH.

The Presbytery approve the decision by the Session of Girvan North Parish Church to put the Manse at 29, The Avenue, Girvan, on the market.

The Presbytery instruct the Clerk to send this Deliverance, together with an Extract Minute of the Session Minutes of the 19 December 2012, to the General Trustees in Edinburgh, for their attention.

8. CARE OF ECCLESIASTICAL PROPERTIES AMENDED PROPERTY REGISTER AND MANSE CONDITION SCHEDULE.

The Presbytery note that, following the seminar held at Castlehill Church on 9 October 2012, the purpose of which was to introduce the new amended Property Register and Manse Condition Schedule, all Congregations should now be using the amended Property Register (Churches and Halls) and Manse Condition Schedule (Manses) in terms of returns to the Presbytery annually for property attestation.

9. HEALTH AND SAFETY NOTICE: 'RISK OF CARBON MONOXIDE RELEASE DURING THE STORAGE OF WOOD PELLETS.'

The Presbytery note the enclosed safety notice.

10. PROPOSED NEGOTIATIONS WITH SCOTTISH GAS REF LEGISLATIVE TESTING.

The Presbytery note the results of the questionnaires issued with return date of 3rd December. Results as follows:

Congregations interested 8

Congregations not interested 2

Congregations not responded 39.

The returns suggest insufficient interest to be confident of achieving useful costs reductions for boiler servicing and maintenance and Periodic Inspections and Portable Appliance Testing on a bulk buying basis.

287. EDUCATION COMMITTEE, given in by the Rev Stephen Ogston, Convener.

1. YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE TO 2013 GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The Presbytery invite nominations for the Presbytery of Ayr Youth Representative to the 2013 General Assembly. Youth Representatives must be 18 and not over the age of 25 by the 18th of May 2013. All applications should, in the first instance, be sent to the Convener of the Presbytery Education Committee.

2. NATIONAL YOUTH ASSEMBLY.

The Presbytery note the following: ‘IDENTITY - Who do you say I am?’ is the title of this year’s National Youth Assembly, for those aged 17-25 who have a connection with the Church of Scotland. This will be held in West Park Conference Centre, Dundee from Friday 16th – Monday 19th August 2013. Cost is £105 and booking forms are available from Lesley Cameron lcameron@cofscotland.org.uk. The deadline is 30th June but places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment!

288. CORRESPONDENCE.

All Correspondence had been forwarded to the relevant Committees.

ADJOURNMENT. The Presbytery rose at **8.50pm**.

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

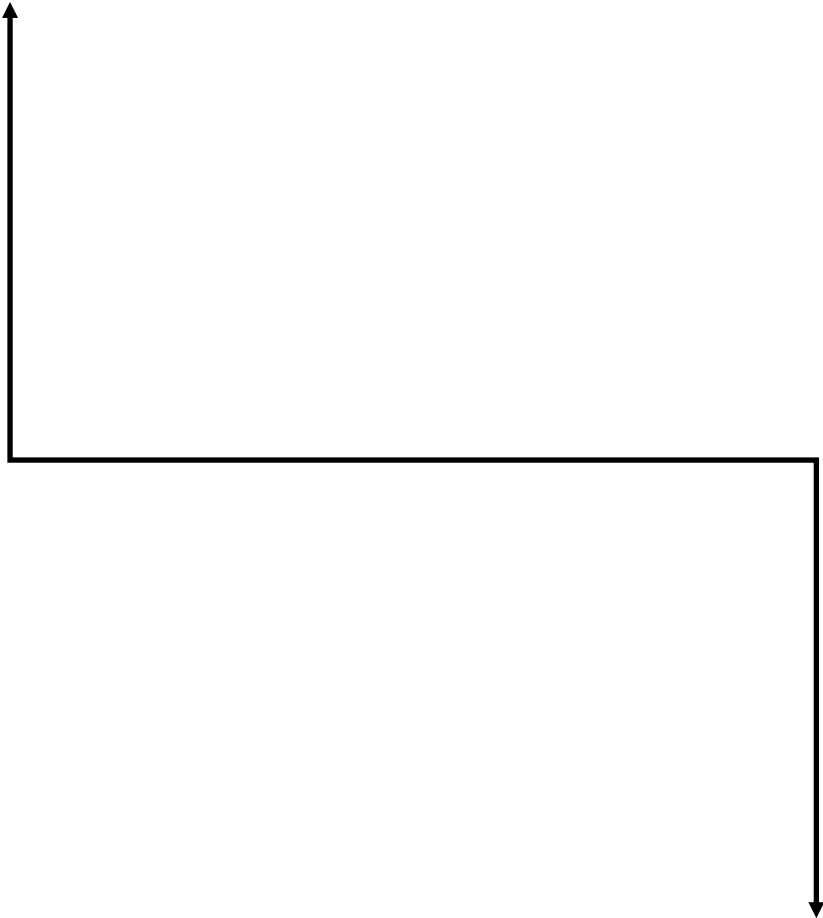
The Committees will meet in Ayr: the Auld Kirk Halls on Thursday 21st February, 2013, at 7pm.

The Presbytery will meet in hunc effectum for Induction on Thursday 28th February, 2013, at 6.45pm within Ayr: St Andrews.

MODERATOR

PRESBYTERY CLERK

Scottish Charity Number SC020676

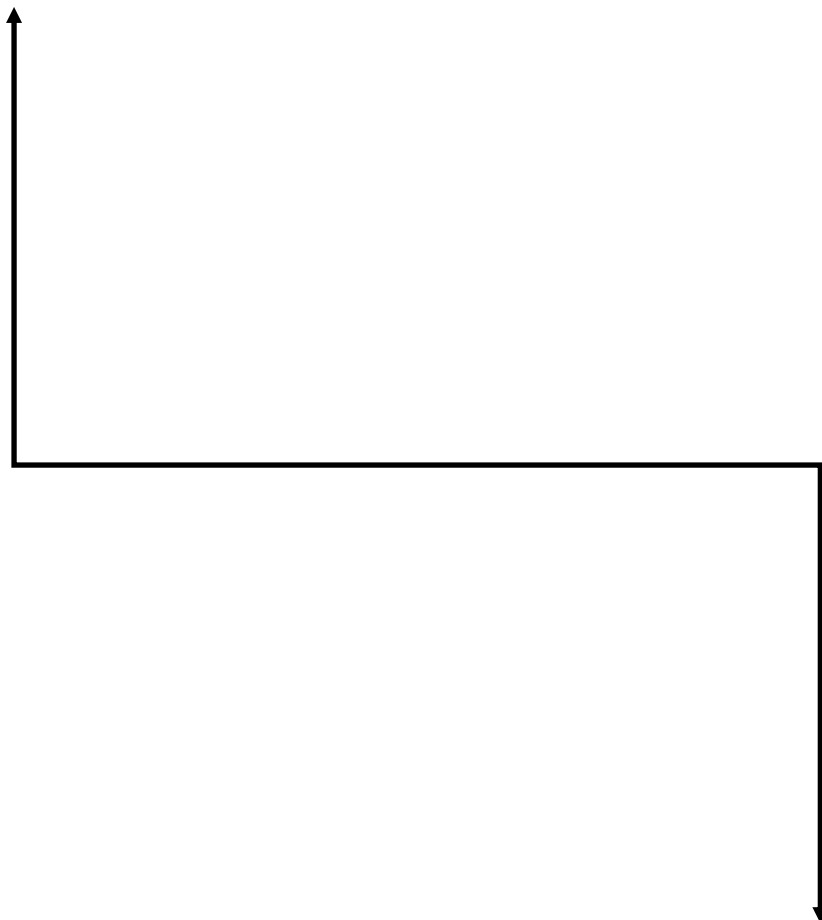


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