

CARRICK CENTRE MAYBOLE, 1st MAY, 2018.

At the Carrick Centre Maybole, on the First Day of May, Two Thousand and Eighteen Years, the Presbytery of Ayr met, and was constituted in prayer.

899. SEDERUNT. Rev David Gemmell, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in retentis.

Ministers, 30; Elders, 41; Corresponding Members, 4. **Total 75.** Apologies were received from 4 Ministers, 6 Elders, and 1 Youth Representative.

900. MINUTES

The Minutes of the 6th March, 2018 and 26th April, 2018 being in the hands of members were taken as read and approved.

901. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Order of Business presented by the Rev Dave Prentice-Hyers was approved.

902. INTIMATIONS

1. Presbytery Yearbook
2. Heart & Soul - Sunday 20th May 2018
3. Keswick Ayrshire 2018 to be held from Friday 25th - Sunday 27th May at the Park Hotel Kilmarnock.
www.keswickayrshire.com
4. Leaflets available on 'Equip For Sports'.
5. Presbytery Golf Charity Event in aid of 'Broken Chains' – Sunday 13th May.

6. Moderator's Cup – the annual Golf Competition will take place on Monday 25th June at Seafield Golf Course.
More details to follow.

903. GUEST SPEAKER

Councillor Douglas Campbell, Convener of South Ayrshire Council, spoke of the common duties and challenges that the Church and the Council have in the sphere of public service. Reference was made to changing the allocation of resources to accommodate current social issues. Poverty and deprivation require to be tackled to offer young people in particular opportunities for the future. Naturally an ageing population presents additional challenges.

Councillor Campbell also highlighted some of the aspirations the Council have to enhance the communities within the South Ayrshire.

A variety of questions were raised regarding poverty, Ayr town centre and young people.

The Moderator thanked Councillor Campbell for his presentation.

904. 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.

905. ORDER OF THE DAY - 7.30pm.**1. VACANCY BUSINESS**

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

a. Troon: Portland Parish Church

- i) Congregation Representatives welcomed.
Compared Mr John Reid, Session Clerk at Troon: Portland, paid fitting tribute to the ministry of the Rev Jamie Milliken.
The Rev Jamie Milliken made a suitable reply.
- ii) The Presbytery appoint Mr Bill Duncan, Ruling Elder, as Interim Moderator, and the Rev Jack Brown, Minister emeritus Applegarth, Sibbaldie and Johnstone linked with Lochmaben, Locum, effective from the 7th May 2018.
- iii) The Presbytery suspend the Presbytery Plan as it pertains to Troon Portland.
- iv) The Presbytery approve the appointment of Dr James Anderson, Rev Richard Moffat, Rev Alistair Morrison, Mrs Isabel Montgomerie along with the Rev Neil McNaught and one other member of the Vacancy Procedure Committee to meet with the office-bearers of Troon Portland to review the present vacancy situation .
- v) The Presbytery instruct this committee to meet collectively with representatives of Troon Old, Troon Portland, Troon St Meddans and Dundonald concerning existing and future Mission cooperation and strategy in the area.

- vi) The Presbytery further instruct the committee to report back to the Mission Committee and Presbytery timeously.

A Counter-motion to **iii)**, **iv)**, **v)** and **vi)** was proposed.

- iii) The Presbytery grant Troon: Portland Parish Church permission to call a Minister.
- iv) The Presbytery welcome the continued informal discussions between Troon: Old, Troon: Portland and Troon: St Meddans with a view to sharing resources and exploring existing and future Mission cooperation and strategy in the area.
- v) The Presbytery instruct the Mission Committee to review progress made in the informal discussions within one calendar year.
- vi) The Presbytery give notice that if the vacancy has not filled by the two year time limit, Section 28 (1) of the Vacancy Procedure Act (Act VIII 2003) will be invoked.

The Counter-motion fell and the original Deliverance was adopted.

b. Extension to Ayr: St Quivox

In terms of Act VIII, 2003, the Presbytery grant an extension of Leave to Call to Ayr: St Quivox for a further period of one year.

c. Annbank linked with Tarbolton

- i) The Presbytery agree that Annbank linked with Tarbolton may be listed for Ministers from Non-EEA Countries excluding Switzerland.

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- ii) The Presbytery affirm that the procedures contained in Appendix 7, Sections 1.2 to 1.4, of the Ministries Council “Update for Presbyteries and Congregations on the Sponsorship of Personnel coming to Scotland from outside the European Economic Area & Switzerland” dated 15th February 2013, have been completed.
- iii) The Presbytery are satisfied that there are no outstanding issues of superintendence or other factors that would make such listing inappropriate.

**3. ADOPTION OF UNITARY CONSTITUTION
DALRYMPLE PARISH CHURCH AND NEW
CUMNOCK PARISH CHURCH**

- a. In terms of Act XIX, 1964, as amended, the Presbytery note that the Congregations of Dalrymple Parish Church and New Cumnock Parish Church have resolved to adopt the Unitary Constitution.
- b. The Presbytery instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute, together with an Extract Minute of the above Congregational Meetings to the Solicitor of the Church of Scotland.

906. BUSINESS & NOMINATION COMMITTEE, given in by the Rev Dave Prentice-Hyers, Vice Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:

1. LOCATION OF PRESBYTERY MEETING OCTOBER 2018

The Presbytery agree to provisionally hold the Ordinary October Meeting of Presbytery within Drongan Parish Church.

2. THE PRESBYTERY PROTOCOL – ANNUAL REPORT.

- a. The Presbytery note that the Presbytery Protocol was not used 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, OLMs and Deacons.

3. INTERIM MODERATOR TRAINING

The Presbytery note that Dr James Anderson, Mr Bill Duncan, the Rev Morag Crossan, the Rev Ian McLachlan, the Rev Gary Noonan and the Rev Scott Rae recently completed their Interim Moderator training session.

4. SUPERVISOR FOR CANDIDATES IN TRAINING FOR MINISTRY

The Presbytery nominate the Rev Morag Garrett to train as a Supervisor for candidates in training for ministry of word and sacrament.

5. CUMNOR HALL CONVENER OF FRIEND'S GROUP

- a. The Presbytery appoint the Rev Rona Young, Minister emeritus Ayr: St Quivox, as Convener of the Friend's Group at Cumnor Hall.
- b. The Presbytery record their thanks to the Rev Michael Dickie who has now indicated his retirement as Convener of the Friend's Group.

6. DALMELLINGTON PARISH CHURCH

The Presbytery appoint a sub-committee of Mr Frank Potter (Convener), Miss Moira Wilson and the Rev Stewart Birse to establish dialogue with the Council of Assembly with regard to the finances of Dalmellington Parish Church.

907. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE, given in by the Rev Gerald Jones, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:**1. ATTESTATION OF LOG BOOKS**

The Presbytery note all Parish Ministers using log books are asked to send them for attestation to the Rev. Gerald Jones as soon as possible, please, and no later than Tuesday, 8th May 2018.

2. 2018 RURAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

The 2018 Rural Church Conference will take place at Ayr Market on Saturday, 5th May 2018, from 10.30 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. The speakers in the morning are Canon Keith Ineson BEM, formerly Agricultural Chaplain for Cheshire, and the Rev. Chris Blackshaw, who will each give a presentation on 'Mental Health Issues in Rural Ministry'.

In the afternoon, there will be further discussion on this subject, followed by a talk on 'The Rural Church: The Missing Pieces', by the Rev. Ian McLachlan. Attendance is free of charge, but contributions for refreshments and lunch would be greatly appreciated. Those interested should contact the Rev. Ian McLachlan as soon as possible, please.

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3. APPLICATIONS FOR STUDY LEAVE

- a. The Presbytery note an application for study leave by the Rev. David Clarkson, Minister at Monkton and Prestwick North, from 23rd July until 6th August 2018.

The purpose of this study leave is to examine the Path of Renewal process from an Australian perspective, specifically by making contact with the Anglican Diocese of Sydney and the Presbytery of Sydney, through a member of his Congregation presently attending Hillsong College, Sydney.

The Australian Church is seen to be ahead of the Church of Scotland in the process, and some thought would be given as to how aspects of the Australian model might be integrated into congregational life in Prestwick. All arrangements for pulpit supply and pastoral cover are in order.

- b. The Presbytery note the application for study leave by the Rev Neil McNaught, Minister at Alloway Parish Church from 4th July until 13th August 2018.

The purpose of this study leave is to visit Malawi from 3rd July until 23rd July followed by a further two weeks spent on personal reading, reflection and writing up the report.

4. ATTESTATION OF CONGREGATIONAL RECORDS

The Presbytery note that the attestation of congregational records has now been undertaken throughout Presbytery, and warmly thank all those involved in the attestation process.

908. MISSION COMMITTEE, given in by the Rev Richard Moffat, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:

1. PRAYING ACROSS SCOTLAND

The Presbytery note that service for ‘Praying across Scotland’ will be held in Ayr: St. Andrew’s Parish Church, on Sunday 6th May at 2.00pm. This is an opportunity for us to Pray for the forthcoming General Assembly and for our Commissioners from the Presbytery of Ayr.

2. AYR: ST ANDREW’S PARISH CHURCH

Following consultation with office-bearers of Ayr: St. Andrew’s and other relevant parties:

- a. The Presbytery grant Ayr: St. Andrew’s Parish Church permission to call a minister.
- b. The Presbytery welcome the proposed informal discussion between Ayr: St. Andrew’s and Ayr: Auld Kirk with a view to sharing resources and exploring new ways of ministry, and look afresh at parish boundaries.
- c. The Presbytery instruct the Mission Committee to review progress made in the informal discussions within one calendar year.
- d. The Presbytery instruct Ayr: St. Andrew’s Parish Church to advise any applicant for their vacant post of the above sections of deliverance.

- e. The Presbytery give notice that if the vacancy is not filled by the two year time limit, Section 28(1) of the Vacancy Procedures Act (Act VIII 2003) will be invoked with a view to implementing a review of the discussions between Ayr: St. Andrew's and Ayr: Auld Kirk.

3. DALMELLINGTON PARISH CHURCH

The Presbytery note that the Mission Committee having received a copy of the application for relief from the 5% Discretionary Allowance from Dalmellington Parish Church. The Mission Committee agreed that it met the criteria required for such projects and will offer their support to the application.

909. COMMUNITY AND WORLD CONCERNS COMMITTEE, given in by the Rev Ian Stirling, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted:

1. LEARNING DISABILITIES

The Presbytery encourage congregations to engage with the Learn discussion document, 'Creating Communities of Belonging' by Prof John Swinton. Friendship, belonging, noticing, guesting and hosting: these are not complicated gifts to offer one another. But in their simplicity we will encounter Jesus, and as we encounter Jesus, we can truly become a church within which there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, male nor female, able-bodied nor disabled, only people who belong together in Jesus.

2. A CONNECTED SCOTLAND

The Presbytery encourage congregations to become aware of the Scottish Government consultation paper A Connected Scotland, whose aim is tackling social isolation and loneliness by building stronger social connections.

3. WMC

The Presbytery welcome the news that three new Mission Partners have been appointed:

Fiona Kendall, based with the Waldensian church to support legal and advocacy work of Mediterranean Hope, supporting the relocation of refugees along the humanitarian corridor.

David Sinclair, working with the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren in Prague, focusing on developing twinning.

John McCulloch at St Andrew's Church Jerusalem.

910. REVIEW & REFORM COMMITTEE REPORT,
given in by the Rev Neil McNaught, Convener.

911. CORRESPONDENCE

All Correspondence had been forwarded to the relevant Committees.

ADJOURNMENT The Presbytery rose at **8.55pm**

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Presbytery of Ayr will be held within Ayr: St Leonard's, on **Tuesday 19th June**, 2018, at 7pm.

The Committees will meet in Ayr: the Auld Kirk Halls on **Thursday 7th June**, 2018, at 7pm.

MODERATOR

PRESBYTERY CLERK

AYR: THE AULD KIRK CHURCH HALL, 7th JUNE 2018.

At Ayr: The Auld Kirk on the Seventh Day of June, Two Thousand and Eighteen Years, the Presbytery of Ayr met and was constituted.

912. SEDERUNT. Rev David Gemmell, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in retentis. Ministers, 16; Elders, 16; **Total 32.**

913. PRO RE NATA MEETING

In accordance with Presbytery Minute 871.3 and Standing Order 3 b) the Moderator outlined the reason for this meeting and the Presbytery resolved to proceed according.

914. PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS, given by Mr Keith McKellar, Treasurer, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted.

- a. The Presbytery, acting as Trustees of the relevant Charity, approve the Accounts for year to 31st December 2016, a copy to be held in retentis, and thank all those involved in the presentation of the Accounts, and Mrs Pamela Hay, Independent Examiner, for her work.
- b. The Presbytery instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the Accounts to the General Treasurer of the Church of Scotland.

Mr Frank Potter asked his dissent be recorded.

The Moderator, on behalf of the Presbytery, expressed his thanks to Mr Keith McKellar and Mr Ian Gemmell for all their work in ensuring the presentation of the Accounts. The Clerk was requested to send a letter of appreciation to Mr Gemmell.

The Moderator thanked all who attended this meeting and closed with the Benediction.

MODERATOR

PRESBYTERY CLERK

Scottish Charity Number SC020676
