

**CARRICK CENTRE MAYBOLE, 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.**

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

**933. SEDERUNT.** Rev Brian Hendrie, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in retentis.

Ministers, 35; Elders, 43; Corresponding Members, 5; **Total 83.** Apologies were received from 6 Ministers, 3 Elders, 1 Youth Representative, 1 Deacon and 1 Corresponding Member.

**934. TRIBUTE.**

The Rev Ian Stirling, Minister at Fisherton linked with Kirkoswald paid fitting tribute to the Rev Robert Lynn.

Robert began studying Divinity at Aberdeen in 1978. In November 1984 Robert took up his first charge in the parish of Fordyce in the Presbytery of Buchan. In 1989 Robert was called to Ayr: St Leonard's, to what would become a 22 year ministry. Robert cared deeply about the members of his congregation and visiting members was always a priority in his ministry. Robert was greatly involved in charity work during his ministry including 'Children in Distress' and 'The Ark'.

Robert was married to Gillian for 33 years and together they became the proud parents of Hilary and David. In recent times Robert and Gillian were blessed with 3 beautiful grandchildren, Emily, Rory and Anna.

Robert retired in March 2011 and moved to Maybole for a few years before eventually settling in Ardwell, in what had been their 'holiday home' for the previous 14 years.

To Robert his family, his faith and his church was simply his life.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

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**935.    ROLL OF PRESBYTERY**

Ministers 66, Elders 59, Deacon 1, Corresponding Members 13, Youth Representatives 4. **Total 143.**

**936.    WELCOME**    The Moderator welcomed new Members. This welcome included the Mr Brian Waller, Assistant Secretary to the General Trustees.

**937.    ADMISSION TO SEAT OF PRESBYTERY**

Rev Edgar Ogston Minister emeritus North West Lochaber.  
Mrs Jean Ogston, Reader.

Having applied for a Seat in the Presbytery, the Moderator called on the Rev Edgar Ogston and Mrs Jean Ogston to affirm the vows taken on their Ordination and Setting Apart respectively. The Rev Edgar Ogston and Mrs Jean Ogston made affirmation and signed the Formula. The Moderator admitted the Rev Edgar Ogston and Mrs Jean Ogston to a Seat in the Presbytery and gave them the right hand of Fellowship.

**938.    MINUTES**

The Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2018, being in the hands of members were taken as read and approved.

**939.    ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Order of Business presented by the Rev Alastair Symington was approved.

**940.    INTIMATIONS**

1. The Presbytery Office.
2. The Presbytery Yearbook.

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3. SASRA is a missionary organisation that is involved in Christian Outreach to the Armed Forces, in co-ordination with Chaplains. Currently running 100 Days of Prayer. This event is in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 100 Days Offensive, which led up to the end of WW1, and runs until Armistice Day on 11th November. If interested in signing up for prayer date then email [100days@sasra.org.uk](mailto:100days@sasra.org.uk)
4. Invitation to World Mission Council Conference entitled 'Living Together in a World of Religions'. This will be held in St Matthew's Church Perth on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September from 10am – 3pm. To register email [wmoutreach@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:wmoutreach@churchofscotland.org.uk)
5. Mission and Discipleship Council promoting 'Year of Young People' Conferences on 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> October [www.churchofscotland.org.uk/yoyop](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/yoyop)
6. Recruitment of National Assessors for the Church of Scotland Discernment Process Information Day in 121 George Street Edinburgh on 9<sup>th</sup> October from 10.30am – 12.30pm.
7. Acts Conference/Training Event for Further Education/College Chaplains on 30<sup>th</sup> October in City of Glasgow College.
8. Please note current Presbytery Vacancies – Ministries and Mission Convener and Stewardship Convener. More information from Clerk or the Administration Convener.

#### **941. ORDER OF THE DAY - 7.30pm**

##### **1. VACANCY BUSINESS**

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

##### **a. CROSSHILL LINKED WITH MAYBOLE**

Congregation Representatives welcomed. Mr Allan Hutchison, Session Clerk at Maybole, speaking on behalf of the Congregations.

Report on behalf of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

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**e. LETTER OF DEMISSION**

The Presbytery note that the Rev Fraser Aitken, on grounds of retirement, will demit his Charge of Ayr: St Columba Parish Church on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019.

**2. UNITARY DEED OF CONSTITUTION ISSUED BY DELEGATION OF ASSEMBLY**

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

**3. ADOPTION OF UNITARY CONSTITUTION  
AYR: ST. QUIVOX PARISH CHURCH**

**a.** In terms of Act XIX, 1964, as amended, the Presbytery note that the Congregation of Ayr: St Quivox Parish Church has 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.

**4. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. REPORT OF DILIGENCE.**

Rev Ian Stirling reported Diligence and was thanked.

**5. ASSEMBLY PAPERS - ALLOCATION OF REMITS**

The Assembly Papers were distributed to all members of Presbytery. The Instructions contained in the Assembly Papers had already been highlighted to Committee Conveners and Vice Conveners.

**34      PRESBYTERY OF AYR      4<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

Mr Keith McKellar, Acting Treasurer, presented Deliverance 6, 7 and 8 which was adopted:

**6.      PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

- a.      The Presbytery appoint Cook & Co to be the Independent Examiner of the Presbytery Accounts.
- b.      The Presbytery express their thanks to Mrs Pamela Hay for all her work as the Independent Examiner for the 2016 Accounts.

**7.      PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS 2016**

- a.      The Presbytery, acting as Trustees of the relevant Charity, approve the Accounts for year to 31<sup>st</sup> 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.

**8.      PRESBYTERY ACCOUNTS 2017**

- a.      The Presbytery, acting as Trustees of the relevant Charity, approve the Accounts for year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, a copy to be held in retentis, and thank all those involved in the presentation of the Accounts, and Cook & Co, Independent Examiner, for their work.
- b.      The Presbytery instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the Accounts to the General Treasurer of the Church of Scotland.

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**942. BUSINESS & NOMINATION COMMITTEE**, given in by the Rev Alastair Symington, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted.

**1. STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE REPRESENTATIVE CONFERENCE**

The Presbytery nominate Miss Moira Wilson to be their representative at this year's conference, which will be held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at St Andrews and St Georges West Church in Edinburgh from 10.30am - 4pm.

**2. PRESBYTERIAL PANEL**

The Presbytery appoint the Rev Alastair Symington, Minister emeritus of Troon: Old Parish Church, to serve on the Presbyterial Panel for 2018 / 2019.

**3. NOMINATION OF ADDITIONAL ELDER**

The Presbytery nominate Mr Ian Lamberton, Ruling Elder at Ayr: St Andrew's, to serve as an additional Elder.

**4. LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW**

**a.** The Presbytery agree that a Local Church Review of Dalmellington linked with Patna will take place.

**b.** The Presbytery agree that this Local Church Review will take place under Act VI, 2002, and that the visiting team will be members of the Presbytery of Irvine and Kilmarnock.

943.    **TROON SUB-COMMITTEE**, given in by the Rev Gerald Jones, Administration Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted.

The Presbytery appoint a Sub-committee of the Moderator, Clerk, Conveners and Vice Conveners along with Dr David Lewis, to review the General Trustees report and make the appropriate determination. (Extracted from Minute 928. 5. c.)

1.      **MEETING 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY** with Ian Townsend and David Mitchell from the General Trustees.

The Presbytery homologate the decision of the Sub-Committee taken on the 12<sup>th</sup> July to seek a more comprehensive report from the General Trustees, regarding Troon, before making an appropriate determination.

2.      **MEETING 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST** with Ian Townsend and David Mitchell from the General Trustees.

- a.      The Presbytery note that the Sub-Committee and members of the General Trustees had met on the 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 and 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2018.

- b.      The Presbytery agree, that in light of these talks, that all Troon Churches put on hold their expenditure on repairs with the exception of Health and Safety issues until a plan for the future of Troon is put together.

- c.      The Presbytery agree any such expenditure can only proceed with the prior approval of the General Trustees.

**New d. in the name of the Rev Derek Peat accepted:**

- d.      The Presbytery however agree to make an exception for Troon: St Meddan's to proceed in accordance with the figures submitted at the June meeting, and ask the General Trustees to grant permission where required, including a loan to a maximum value of £50,000 should it be deemed necessary.

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- e. The Presbytery agree to carrying out a review that will seek to provide a plan that will lead to an optimum number of sustainable, better-equipped and affordable places for future mission.
- f. The Presbytery note the review Sub-Committee will consist of three representatives from the Administration Committee, three representatives from the Mission Committee, along with Ian Townsend and David Mitchell from the General Trustees. This Sub-Committee will be convened by the Rev Gerald Jones.
- g. The Presbytery note that it is anticipated, with the support and cooperation of the General Trustees, this review will be completed within 6 months.

**Amendments and Addendums in the name of Brian Duncan fell:**

- b. *The Presbytery agree, in light of these talks, that all Troon Churches can only proceed with expenditure on repairs with the prior approval of the General Trustees until a plan for the future of Troon is put together. Approval will not be withheld for expenditure on Health and Safety issues.*
- c. *The Presbytery recognise that any delay to previously - authorised maintenance projects at Troon: Old and Troon: St Meddan's is likely to result in the loss of £0.45 million of Heritage Lottery and Historic Environment Scotland funding, plus other contingent external funding, and that funding for ongoing urgent and essential maintenance will consequently have to be found from internal church finances.*
- e. The Presbytery note the review Sub-Committee will consist of three representatives from the Administration Committee, three representatives from the Mission Committee, along with Ian Townsend and David Mitchell from the General Trustees. *The Sub-committee will seek representation from the Ministries Council.* This Sub-Committee will be convened by the Rev Gerald Jones.
- f. The Presbytery note that it is anticipated, with the support and co-operation of the General Trustees *and the Ministries Council*, this review will be completed within 6 months.

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

**1.      PLANNING CO-ORDINATION GROUP**

The Presbytery agree to add "Convener or Vice Convener of the Community and World Concerns Committee and the Convener or Vice Convener of the Education Committee" to the Planning Co-ordinating Group described in the Presbytery Plan of June 2018.

**2.      LOCAL CHURCH REVIEWS**

The Presbytery note the Mission Committee have discussed draft proposals for carrying out Local Church Reviews over the next five years and will bring the detailed proposal to the Presbytery meeting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**945.      COMMUNITY & WORLD CONCERNS**, given in by the Rev Ian Stirling, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted.

**1.      AFRICA REPORT**

The Presbytery encourage Members and Congregations to engage with the Africa report and consider how each may respond. For example, reflect on how Congregations engage in Bible study, prayer, testimony, discipleship and evangelism. Encourage and equip members in the leadership of worship and in different forms of worship.

**2. RELEVANT LEARNING**

The Presbytery note that the World Mission Council, in conjunction with the Ministries Council, the Mission and Discipleship Council, the Church and Society Council and the Ecumenical Relations Committee is exploring how the church in Scotland might apply relevant learning from the world church context.

**3. CONGREGATIONAL TWINNING**

The Presbytery encourage Congregations to twin with a Congregation of one of the churches with which the World Mission Council works.

**946. EDUCATION COMMITTEE**, given in by the Rev Barbara Suchanek-Seitz, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted.

**1. GIRVAN BURSARY**

The Presbytery agree to award to Andy Muir and Gillean Richmond, candidates in training £500 each from the Girvan Bursary, (subject to the agreement of the Trustees of said bursary).

**2. CANDIDATES IN TRAINING**

The Presbytery agree that candidates in training must meet with members of the Education Committee prior to nomination by Presbytery. It is envisaged that this meeting will be informal (but compulsory) and it is hoped that this will enable the committee to get to know candidates and to support them better.

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**947.    ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**, given in by the Rev Gerald Jones, Convener, who moved the following Deliverance which was adopted.

**1.            STAIR PARISH CHURCH**

The Presbytery homologate the decision taken, through delegated powers vested in the Presbytery Clerk, the Convener of the Administration Committee and the Sub-Convenor (Benefice and Fabric), to approve the application to CARTA by the Kirk Session of Stair Parish Church for the installation of an enhanced sound system to the Sanctuary at Stair Parish Church. The cost of the work is in the order of £1600 and will be met in full from local funds.

**2.            OLD CUMNOCK: OLD PARISH CHURCH MANSE**

The Presbytery homologate the decision taken, through delegated powers vested in the Presbytery Clerk, the Convener of the Administration Committee and the Sub-Convenor (Benefice and Fabric), to approve the disposal of the Manse at Barrhill Road, Cumnock, subject to being afforded the opportunity to inspect the proposed replacement Manse, prior to purchase to ensure its compliance with current guidelines for manses.

**3.            AYR: CASTLEHILL PARISH CHURCH MANSE**

The Presbytery homologate the decision taken, through delegated powers vested in the Presbytery Clerk, the Convener of the Administration Committee and the Sub-Convenor (Benefice and Fabric), to approve the letting of the Manse at 3 Old Hillfoot Road, Ayr, during the period of the current vacancy.

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**4. AYR: ST COLUMBA PARISH CHURCH**

The Presbytery homologate the decision taken, through delegated powers vested in the Presbytery Clerk, the Convener of the Administration Committee and the Sub-Convenor (Benefice and Fabric), to approve the proposal to proceed to market the under noted properties with a view to disposal, both properties having been declared surplus to current requirements: -

Cathcart Street Hall, Cathcart Street, Ayr

82 Chalmers Road, Ayr (purchased to accommodate former Assistant Minister).

**948. REVIEW AND REFORM COMMITTEE REPORT,**  
given in by the Rev Neil McNaught, Convener. Included report from the Rev Alistair Morrison on Inter-Presbytery talks.

**949. CORRESPONDENCE .**

All Correspondence had been forwarded to the relevant Committees.

**ADJOURNMENT.** The Presbytery rose at **9.30pm**.

The next Ordinary Meeting of the Presbytery of Ayr will be held within Drongan: The Schaw Kirk on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**, 2018, at 7pm.

The Committees will meet in Ayr: the Auld Kirk Halls on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October**, 2018, at 7pm.

The Presbytery will meet in hunc effectum for Induction at 6.45pm on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September**, 2018, within the Carrick Centre Maybole.

**MODERATOR**

**PRESBYTERY CLERK**

Scottish Charity Number SC020676

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**CARRICK CENTRE MAYBOLE, 13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2018.**

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

**950. SEDERUNT.** Rev Brian Hendrie, Moderator, and others as per Sederunt Sheets in rententis. Ministers, 14; Elders, 15; Corresponding Member, 1 ; **Total 30.** Apologies were received from 3 Ministers and 1 Elder and were similarly recorded. 2 others were associated with the Presbytery.

**951. INDUCTION OF THE REV ROBERT PICKLES TO CROSSHILL LINKED WITH MAYBOLE.**

All relevant matters being in order and the Clerk having laid on the Table the prescribed Edict duly executed, no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of the said Rev Robert Pickles, the Presbytery resolved to proceed to the Induction of Rev Robert Pickles to the Pastoral Charge of Crosshill linked with Maybole.

Public Worship was conducted by the Rev Christopher Blackshaw, Pioneer Farming Minister, who preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion. The Narrative and Preamble having been delivered and the prescribed Questions asked and answered satisfactorily, the Rev Robert Pickles signed the Formula.

The Moderator, with prayer, did induct the Rev Robert Pickles and admit him to the Pastoral Charge of Crosshill linked with Maybole. With other Presbyters, the Moderator gave him the Right Hand of Fellowship. Thereafter, the Moderator put to the Congregations the required Questions which were answered satisfactorily, and gave the Charges. 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

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