

The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Kirkcaldy: St Bryce Kirk

1 March 2016

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy met for the transaction of ordinary business and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. Rosemary Frew.

Sederunt

21 Ministers, 4 Others, 29 Elders and 4 Corresponding Members as per the attendance sheet.

Apologies

Apologies were received from 9 Ministers and 4 other members of Presbytery as recorded.

Minutes of Meetings

The Minutes of the meetings held on 1 December 2015 and 28 January 2016 were approved and signed.

Approval of the Agenda

The Business Committee Acting Convener, Rev Gilbert Nisbet, moved adoption of the Agenda as printed. This was agreed.

The Vine Trust

The Moderator welcomed and introduced Miss Liz Bowes of the Vine Trust and invited her to address Presbytery.

The Vine Trust, established in Bo'ness in 1985, is an international, interdenominational charity which encourages and enables volunteers to work with the poorest and most deprived children and communities in Peru and Tanzania. The charity offers medical services to communities who are not normally provided with any routine regular health care, working alongside local partners and agencies. Significant medical services are provided through the operation of the Vine Trust's specialised ships on the Amazon River and on Lake Victoria. Volunteers are encouraged to serve with marginalised communities in healthcare, education, home-building and other practical projects.

The Moderator thanked Miss Bowes for her address, wished her and her organisation well in the future and encouraged Presbyters to meet further with Miss Bowes during the break later in our meeting.

Roll of Presbytery :

1. Translation of the Rev. Richard Baxter to Fort William: Duncansburgh MacIntosh l.w. Kilmonivaig

Mr. Baxter having preached as Sole Nominee in the Charge of Fort William: Duncansburgh MacIntosh linked with Kilmonivaig and given that the Presbytery of Lochaber has sustained the Call, the Service of Induction will be held in Fort William: Duncansburgh MacIntosh on Friday 15 April 2016 at 7pm subject to the approval of this Presbytery.

It was moved seconded and agreed:

Having received an extract minute from the Presbytery of Lochaber indicating that the Call to the Rev. Richard Baxter, Minister of Kennoway, Windygates & Balgonie: St. Kenneth's has been sustained, Presbytery agrees to translate Mr. Baxter to the charge of Fort William: Duncansburgh MacIntosh linked with Kilmonivaig and authorises the Clerk to progress and conclude the necessary formalities.

Representatives from the Congregation of Kennoway, Windygates & Balgonie: St. Kenneth's, having been cited to attend for their interest, were welcomed by the Moderator. Mr. Norman Cooper, Session Clerk, paid a comprehensive and sincere tribute to Mr. Baxter for his exemplary work, during his eighteen year ministry, both in the parish, the wider community and the various external organisations in which he had served and contributed, and wished him and his family well in his new charge.

Mr. Baxter responded appropriately and wished the Congregation ongoing success in a new chapter of their mission and witness in their parish.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Baxter for his past services to Presbytery, wished him well in the future and thanked the members of Kennoway, Windygates & Balgonie: St. Kenneth's for their attendance.

The Moderator called for the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee in relation to section 1 of the deliverance which was given by the Convener, Mrs. Jacqueline Thomson.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Kennoway, Windygates & Balgonie: St Kenneth's

- a) Presbytery appoints Rev Elisabeth Cranfield to serve as Interim Moderator at St. Kenneth's from April 15 2016.
- b) Presbytery appoints Rev Catriona Morrison to serve as Convener of the Advisory Committee at St Kenneth's from April 15 2016, along with Mr Stewart Glasson and Mrs Grace Cord, elders.
- c) Presbytery notes the appointment of Rev Christine Houghton as Locum at St. Kenneth's.

Roll of Presbytery:

2. Translation of Rev Maudeen MacDougall to Carnwath l.w. Carstairs

Miss MacDougall having preached as Sole Nominee in the Charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs and given that the Presbytery of Lanark has sustained the Call, the Service of Induction will be held in Carstairs on Thursday 31 March 2016 at 7pm subject to the approval of this Presbytery.

It was moved seconded and agreed:

Having received an extract minute from the Presbytery of Lanark indicating the Call to the Rev. Maudeen MacDouglall, Minister of Dysart St. Clair has been sustained, Presbytery agrees to translate Miss MacDougall to the charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs and authorises the Clerk to progress and conclude the necessary formalities.

Representatives from the Congregation of Dysart St. Clair, having been cited to attend for their interest, were welcomed by the Moderator.

The Rev. Maudeen MacDougall was unable to attend this meeting of Presbytery. Her time in Kirkcaldy Presbytery has been short and not without its challenges. The Moderator asked God's blessing on her as she moves to Lanark Presbytery and takes up her new charge; and also asked God's blessing and guidance on the congregation of Dysart St Clair at this time as they look to the future.

The Moderator called for the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee in relation to section 2 of the deliverance which was given by the Convener, Mrs. Jacqueline Thomson.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

2. Dysart St Clair

- a) Presbytery appoints Rev Rosemary Frew to serve as Interim Moderator at Dysart: St Clair from 31 March 2016 with support from Mrs Morag Michael and Mr William Sweenie, elders. The appointment will be reviewed after a period of six months.
- b) The right of Dysart St. Clair to call a minister has been sisted. Presbytery recommends an Interim Ministry. The Kirk Session is instructed to pursue this with the Ministries Council.

Having called for questions or comments, the Moderator, the Vacancy Procedure Committee Convener and the Ministries Committee Convener responded to questions in relation to sub-section (b) of the deliverance, explaining the reason for sisting the right to call and the purpose of Interim Ministry.

Roll of Presbytery:

3. Call to Rev Carolann Erskine to Markinch and Thornton

The Clerk confirmed receipt the Call to the Rev. Carolann Erskine along with all other relevant papers relating to her nomination. The Moderator welcomed members of the Congregation, who had been cited to appear for their interest. Mr. John Wood, Session Clerk, spoke on their behalf.

Presbytery sustained the Call and the Moderator thanked the members of the Congregation for their attendance and wished them and their new minister well at this important time in their Christian Witness.

The Moderator called for the report of the Business Committee in relation to section 1 of the deliverance which was given by the Acting Convener, the Rev. Gilbert Nisbet.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Service of Induction to Markinch and Thornton

Presbytery agrees to hold a Service of Induction of Rev Carolann Erskine to the charge of Markinch and Thornton on Tuesday 12 April 2016 at 7.00pm. The Moderator will conduct worship, and the preacher is still to be confirmed. Presbytery will meet at 6.45pm.

The Moderator called for the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee in relation to section 3 of the deliverance which was given by the Convener, Mrs. Jacqueline Thomson.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

3. Markinch and Thornton

- a) Presbytery thanks Mrs May Russell, Interim Moderator at Markinch and Thornton, for her diligence during their period of vacancy.

b) Presbytery thanks for their diligence the members of the Advisory Committee at Markinch and Thornton, viz. Convener Rev Alan Sharp, Mr William Sweenie and Mrs Beth Baxter, elders.

Business Committee

The Moderator called for the remainder of the report of the Business Committee which was given by the Acting Convener, Rev Gilbert Nisbet.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

2. Commissioners to the General Assembly

Presbytery appoints Revs Gillian Paterson, Eileen Miller, Jim Reid, Marc Prowe, Scott McCrum and Gilbert Nisbet along with Mrs. Linda Gartshore [Wellesley], Gordon Mitchell [Auchterderran Kinglassie], Ken Cameron [Burntisland], Mrs. Ruth Anderson [Glenrothes: Christ's Kirk], an elder [Leven], and an elder [St. Kenneth's] as its Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2016.

3. Youth Representative

Presbytery appoints Miss Anne Wylie of Glenrothes: St. Margaret's as its Youth Representative to the General Assembly of 2016.

4. Appointment of a Presbytery Administrator

Presbytery agrees to seek to appoint a Presbytery Administrator and to that end will initially circulate an advertisement for this new post to congregations within the bounds seeking expressions of interest to be submitted to the Clerk by the end of April.

5. Post of Depute Clerk

Presbytery resolves, with effect from the commencement of the 2016/2017 session, to combine the role of Depute Clerk with that of the Convener of the Business Committee.

6. Unitary Constitution

Presbytery approves the adoption of the Unitary Constitution by the congregation of Kennoway, Windygates & Balgonie: St. Kenneth's.

7. Annual Inspection of Records

Presbytery agrees to advise congregations that the annual inspection of records will take place in St. Bryce Kirk Centre, Kirkcaldy on Monday 18 April from 9.30am onwards.

8. Congregational Statistics

Presbytery thanks congregations for their timeous submission of Congregational Statistics. Presbytery notes the same, and thanks George Luke for their collation.

9. Inspection of Congregational Accounts

- (a) Presbytery appoints a committee for the inspection and attestation of the Accounts of all congregations within the bounds for 2015, the membership of which is still to be confirmed.
- (b) Presbytery further instructs the committee to examine all congregational accounts, ensure that any errors are corrected, and to report to Presbytery at its meeting in September.

10. Inspection of Presbytery Minute Book

Presbytery appoints Miss Jean Webster to conduct the annual inspection of the Minute Book of Presbytery.

11. Representative Elders and Additional Elders

Presbytery notes that congregations are asked to submit names of representative elders and additional elders to serve on Presbytery for the year 2016/17 to the Clerk by Friday 17 June. Congregations are reminded that those elders proposed should be willing to serve on the committees of Presbytery and play a full part in the work of this court of the Church.

12. Fellowship Meal

Presbytery supports the proposal to hold a fellowship meal prior to its meeting on 28 June 2016 and that arrangements for this will be in the hands of the Convener of the Business Committee.

13. Notice of Motion

Notice is given that the Convener of the Business Committee will bring the name of the Rev. Andrew Donald to the next meeting of Presbytery to serve as Moderator for the ensuing year.

Intimations

Relevant intimations were made to Presbytery.

Mission and Discipleship Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Mission and Discipleship Committee which was given by the Vice-convener, Mr Ian Biernat.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Inspection of Safeguarding Records

Presbytery instructs all Safeguarding Co-ordinators to submit the Safeguarding Form 11 Audit check list along with their Congregational records on the agreed date of Inspection, Monday 19 April 2016, as this is an instruction from '121'.

Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee which was given by the Convener, Mrs Jacqueline Thomson.

The Convener expressed her serious concerns in enlisting Ministers and suitably qualified Elders to serve as Interim Moderators. The position had proved to be particularly difficult recently and consequently, members of the Vacancy Procedure Committee feel compelled to review the process of appointment to ensure this vital aspect of Ministry is comprehensively and satisfactorily dealt with and will submit their proposals to Presbytery in due course.

In the meantime the Convener earnestly appealed to all concerned to readily assist in this vital aspect of ministry in our Presbytery and urged Elders to consider undertaking the necessary training.

There were no further deliverances.

Church and Society Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Church and Society Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev Alan Kimmitt.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Refugee Befriending

Congregations are encouraged to support the Refugee Befriending Project being run by Fife Migrants Forum.

Fabric and Finance Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Fabric and Finance Committee which was given by the Convener, Mr Brian Lumsden.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Fabric Matters

a) Buckhaven and Wemyss:

Presbytery notes the approval given under delegated authority to draw down from the Consolidated Fabric Fund £7500, to allow (1) essential repair work on Buckhaven Church viz. roof repairs costing £1,670, resealing windows £1,480, guttering £ 870 = Total £4,020; (2) essential repair work to St. Andrews Hall re-roof and seal building containing water tanks = Total £1,000; and (3) further work to Church to seal and repaint two windows £280, repoint brickwork £1750, hire of equipment £800 = Total £2830.

b) Kirkcaldy: St Bryce

(1) Presbytery notes the amended approval re the solar panel installation, approved at our November Presbytery meeting. At the time of submitting the application last year we were advised that funding would be taken from the Climate Challenge Fund. This is not the case and the funding of £14,640 will now, with approval, be drawn down from the Consolidated Fabric Fund.

(2) Presbytery notes further the essential roof repairs needed for areas of the Church roof other than the steeple. The full cost of this work is £86,825 exclusive of VAT and professional fees. There is in place a grant from Fife Environment Trust for £58,000 and approval is given to draw down £31,000 from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to meet the balance. VAT will recovered under the Listed Places of Worship Scheme, and the professional fees are being met from congregational funds.

2. Quinquennial Property Surveys

a) Presbytery notes that the firm of DM Hall has been invited to conduct the Property Surveys for Kirkcaldy: Bennoch, Glenrothes: St Ninian's, Leven, and Markinch and Thornton.

b) Presbytery approves the additional roof inspections be included.

3. Congregational Finances

Presbytery encourages congregations to assist this Committee by returning the survey questionnaires to the Convener by 20 April at the latest.

4. Ministries and Mission 2016

Presbytery notes that the Committee, under delegated authority, has approved the request of Buckhaven and Wemyss congregation to make reduced monthly payments to complete their required total in full by November.

Ministries Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Ministries Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev Jim Reid.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Leslie: Trinity – Basis of Guardianship

Presbytery instructs the Committee in consultation with interested parties to agree a Basis of Guardianship with Leslie:Trinity in the Rothes:Trinity Parish Grouping and submit the same to Presbytery.

2. Retiring Chaplain

Presbytery thanks Rev Tilly Wilson for her service as Chaplain to retired Ministers and Mission Development Staff.

Correspondence

Forwarded

3 Dec Mission and Discipleship Council e-news

- 14 Dec Information from Bridge Pastoral Foundation
- 17 Dec Info re CMS Summer School
- 11 Jan Mission and Discipleship Council e-news
- 12 Jan E-mail re Osiligi Maasai Warriors Tour
- 13 Jan Info re visit from Jenny Featherstone, Missionary Partner
- 14 Jan Info re Office Bearers and Elders Conference, 29/30 April
- 14 Jan Info re Barth for Pastors Conference
- 14 Jan Church and Society Council e-news
- 15 Jan Info re Training Conference with John Lennox (Grasping the Nettle)
- 19 Jan Info re Introduction Day, Work Place Chaplaincy
- 21 Jan Info re Fife Festival of Music
- 22 Jan Request for carer representation on Fife Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board
- 22 Jan Scottish Churches Parliamentary Office January Newsletter
- 25 Jan Info re SU LaunchPad training events
- 27 Jan Crossreach information sheet – February 2016
- 28 Jan Invitation to ministers from Home For Good
- 28 Jan Info from Law Dept re National Living Wage and Re-valuation
- 2 Feb Data Protection information sent to MDS
- 2 Feb Invitation to Equalities Participation Network
- 3 Feb Report on Funeral Poverty from Citizens Advice
- 4 Feb Info re CMS Summer School
- 8 Feb Info re Words for Worship course
- 10 Feb Intimation re The Easter Story
- 10 Feb Resource for SCPO Scottish Elections 2016
- 16 Feb Info re Refugees Befrienders Meeting (Fife Migrants Forum)
- 18 Feb Introduction to Workplace Chaplaincy
- 22 Feb Course information – Comparative Religions

Clerk / Business Committee

- 14 Dec Extract minute from Presbytery of Ross approving appointment of James Bissett as OLM
- 18 Dec Response from Ministries Council to concerns raised about Admissions Process
- 30 Dec Intimation that Auchterderran Church will be closed for repair for 6 months from 29 February, and worship will be in Church Halls.
- 13 Jan Info re annual inspection of Ministers' Log Books
- 13 Jan Info re Kirkcaldy Presbytery Commissions to General Assembly
- 19 Jan Request from St Kenneth's to move to Unitary Constitution
- 22 Jan Request for nominations to attend Royal Garden Party
- 27 Jan Request for replacement for Rev Richard Baxter on Fife Education Trust Scheme
- 10 Feb Receipt of payment for annual Data Protection registration
- 11 Feb Determination from General Trustees re Buckhaven and Wemyss (allocation to Consolidated Stipend Fund)
- 15 Feb Paper on data protection from Law Department

Church and Society

- 4 Dec SCPO newsletter

Fabric and Finance

- 3 Dec Copy of letter from General Trustees to St Bryce Kirk
- 8 Dec Copy of letter from General Trustees to Christ's Kirk
- 21 Dec Letter from General Trustees re Buckhaven and Wemyss (reallocation of endowments)
- 19 Jan Copy of letter from General Trustees to Kinghorn
- 20 Jan Request for Presbytery representation at meeting with General Trustees re Kinghorn
- 22 Jan Invite from St Andrews Presbytery to consider appointing Property Consultant

9 Feb Copy of letter from General Trustees to Kinghorn

Ministries

- 7 Dec Ministries Council request for Basis of Guardianship for Leslie Trinity
- 17 Dec Info from Ministries Council re new MDS appointments
- 17 Dec, 18 Jan Info from Ministries Council re Path of Renewal Pilot Congregations
- 22 Dec PPTG draft minute

Mission and Discipleship

- 3 Feb Safeguarding Audit Checklist

Vacancy Procedure

- 26 Jan Extract minute from Lanark Presbytery sustaining the Call to Rev Maureen MacDougall, subject to release from Kirkcaldy Presbytery
- 10 Feb Extract Minute from VPC of Perth Presbytery agreeing release of Carolann Erskine from her charge.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet at 6.45 pm on Tuesday 12 April 2016 in Markinch Church for the Induction of Rev Carolann Erskine, and then at 7.15 pm on Tuesday 28 June 2016 in the St Bryce Kirk Centre for the transaction of ordinary business. This will follow the Presbytery Meal at 6 pm.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

_____(Moderator)

_____(Clerk)

The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Markinch Church

12 April 2016

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy met for the Induction of Rev Carolann Erskine B.D. to the Charge of Markinch and Thornton and was duly constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev. Rosemary Frew.

Sederunt

11 Ministers, 4 Other Members and 12 Elders as per the attendance sheet.

Associated with Presbytery

Also present were Rev Joanne Foster from Edinburgh Presbytery, Rev Margaret Michie from Perth Presbytery, Rev Peter Neilson from St Andrews Presbytery and Rev Ewan Gilchrist from Aberdeen Presbytery.

Apologies

Apologies were received from 6 Ministers and 5 other members of Presbytery as recorded.

The Moderator welcomed all present and extended a special welcome to those Associated with Presbytery.

The Moderator confirmed that the Edicts for the Induction of Rev. Carolann Erskine were returned having been duly served and intimation was made that no person had appeared to make objection to the life or doctrine of the said Rev. Erskine.

Presbytery then proceeded to the Church where the Moderator conducted public worship and the Mrs. Jacqueline Thomson DCS preached the sermon.

The Narrative having been read by the Clerk and, following the Preamble, the Moderator put the prescribed questions to Rev. Erskine who gave satisfactory answers.

The Clerk read and Rev. Erskine signed the Formula.

The Moderator, having declared Rev. Erskine to be inducted to the charge of Markinch and Thornton on an unrestricted tenure, in accordance with the current Presbytery Plan, extended along with the members of Presbytery the right-hand of fellowship, following which the Call and a Paper of Concurrence were presented to the Minister by the Clerk.

The Moderator put the prescribed questions to the Congregation who responded positively, following which representatives of the Congregation along with their Minister acknowledged 'The Signs of Shared Ministry'.

Rev. Peter Neilson continued with a Charge of Counsel and encouragement to the Minister and to the Congregation.

Following worship Presbytery continued in session and confirmed that the name of Rev. Carolann Erskine be added to the Roll of Presbytery.

The Clerk thanked those Associated with Presbytery for their attendance.

The Clerk further thanked the Moderator for conducting the service, Mrs. Jacqueline Thomson DCS for preaching the sermon, Rev. Peter Neilson for the Charges, the Session Clerk for the scripture readings, the Interim Moderator Mrs. May Russell who is discharged, the Office Bearers and Members of the Congregation for the arrangements made for the Induction and all others who assisted during the vacancy.

Following the service, the Congregation welcomed their Minister.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on at 7.15 p.m. on Tuesday 28 June 2016 in Kirkcaldy: St. Bryce Kirk Centre for the transaction of Ordinary Business.

The Moderator closed the meeting and led Presbytery in saying The Grace.

_____(Moderator)

_____(Clerk)