

**The Church of Scotland****The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy****Kirkcaldy: St Bryce Kirk****4 December 2012**

**The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy met and was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, the Rev Tony Fowler, for the transaction of ordinary business.**

**Sederunt**

20 Ministers, 26 Elders, and 6 Corresponding Members as per the attendance sheet.

**Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from 5 Ministers, and 11 other Presbyters as recorded and intimated.

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the meetings held on 2 and 4 October 2012 (pages 2486 - 2492), and on 6 and 20 November (pages 2493 - 2496) were approved and signed.

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**Address by Rev. Andrew J. Philip, Dunfermline: St. Leonard's – Religious Representative on Fife Council Education Committee**

The Moderator welcomed Mr. Philip, who conveyed greetings from Dunfermline Presbytery, before addressing this Presbytery.

Mr Philip proceeded to outline the historic and highly regarded role undertaken by Churches in Scottish Education and the continuing influence exercised in the modern education system. The decisions Religious Representatives are currently involved with are becoming increasingly complex. Determinations require to be taken on matters such as building projects, teaching and aspects of the curriculum. Religious Representatives contribute at Council meetings along with the Elected Representatives on Education matters and consequently they influence policy decisions concerning education locally.

At the conclusion of Mr. Philip's address the Moderator called for question. There were a significant number of relevant questions put to Mr. Philip who responded with comprehensive and informative answers.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Philip for his address and the way he engaged with this Presbytery which was apparent given the number and relevancy of the questions.

**Business Committee**

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

**1. Payment of Pulpit Supply**

Presbytery instructs Leslie Trinity to pay an honorarium of £500 to Mr. Michael Allardice in respect of pulpit supply for the years 2011 and 2012.

It has subsequently been reported that the payment to Mr. Allardice has been made.

## **2. United Services**

Presbytery grants permission for the town centre congregations in Kirkcaldy to hold a joint service of worship on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2012 within Kirkcaldy: Linktown.

## **3. Inspection and Attestation of Presbytery Minutes**

Presbytery appoints Miss Jean Webster to inspect and attest the Presbytery Minute Book.

## **4. Congregational Statistics**

Presbytery remits the Congregational Statistics forms to Session Clerks, requesting completion and return to the Presbytery Office by Friday 18 January 2013.

## **5. Presbytery Directory**

Presbytery agrees that the information detailed in the current Directory will be posted on the website. Any Presbyter not wishing their address, telephone number or e-mail address included on the website should contact either of the Clerks before the end of this year.

## **Intimations**

Relevant intimations were made to Presbytery.

## **Church and Society Committee**

The Moderator called for the report of the Church and Society Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev Marc Prowe. There were no deliverances.

## **Fabric and Finance Committee**

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

### **1. Fabric Matters**

Presbytery notes that the Fabric and Finance Committee have approved under delegated authority the following items:-

#### **a) Kirkcaldy: Templehall**

Fabric and Finance Committee support a grant application to the General Trustees of up to £10,000 to meet the cost of employing an architect to identify the maintenance works required to the windows in the church building.

#### **b) Kirkcaldy: Bennoch**

The Fabric and Finance Convener and the Fabric Co-ordinator approve the release of £1,339-20 from the monies held by the General Trustees in the capital account of the Consolidated Fabric Fund to meet the cost of upgrading the Audio System in the church building.

### **2. Reduction in Ministry and Mission Allocations**

Presbytery approves the reductions in the Ministry and Mission Allocations for 2013 as detailed in column eight of the schedule. The adjustments have been made by the Fabric and Finance Committee having regard to the submissions received from congregations.

## **Ministries Committee**

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

### **1. General Assembly Remits**

#### **a) Ministerial Development**

Presbytery agrees to bring the following remit to its February meeting in order to frame a response to the Ministries Council. Remits Booklet, page 5, Ministries Council, sub-section 8, *“Affirm the value of continuing ministerial development, instruct the Council to consult with Presbyteries on options for the future of post-ordination training and support, and instruct Presbyteries to respond by 30 Nov 2012 (see Sections of Reports p 25).”*

**b) Strategic Plan for Church Buildings**

Presbytery notes the following information: Remits Booklet, page 6, Ministries Council, sub-section 18, *“Note the delay in bringing forward a proposed strategic plan for church buildings and instruct the Ministries Council, in the light of the outcome of the Presbytery planning process, to engage with the General Trustees and Presbyteries in the development of such a plan for presentation to the General Assembly of 2014.”*

**c) Partnership Development**

Presbytery notes the following information: Remits Booklet, page 6, Ministries Council, sub-section 26, *Partnership Development*, *“Remind Presbyteries of the instruction to continue the process of planning, applying the principles outlined in sections 1.3 and 1.4 of the Ministries Council report of 2011 and using the numbers of ministries determined by the General Assembly, completing the process of developing and approving revised Presbytery Plans by December 2012.”*

**d) Compulsory Retirement Age for Ministers**

Presbytery notes the following information: Remits Booklet, page 6, Ministries Council, sub-section 36, *“Approve the raising of the compulsory retirement age for Parish ministers to 75 (seventy-five) years and pass an Act amending the Consolidating Act II, 2000 anent Ministry (as amended) as set out in Appendix 4, “subject to the amendment in Appendix 4, section 32(3) of “Act VIII” to “Act VII””.*

**e) Vocations Sunday**

Presbytery notes and affirms the following information: Remits Booklet, page 14, Ministries Council, sub-section 3, *“In the light of the ongoing need for Parish ministers, instruct the Council to prepare materials to assist congregations in observing a Vocations Sunday, on a date to be determined locally, and ask Presbyteries to encourage congregations within their bounds to observe such a Sunday annually.”*

It was moved and seconded:

Presbytery agrees as a matter of policy that Vocations Sunday will be observed annually on the third Sunday following Easter Sunday.

The Moderator called for questions and comments.

There being no questions or comments the Moderator called Presbytery to proceed to a vote.

By a clear majority, Presbytery agreed to amend section 1 sub-section (e) as follows –

Presbytery notes and affirms the following information: Remits Booklet, page 14, Ministries Council, sub-section 3, and agrees as a matter of policy that Vocations Sunday will be observed annually on the third Sunday following Easter Sunday.

**f) PVG Scheme**

Presbytery notes and affirms the following instruction: Remits Booklet, page 15, Ministries Council, sub-section 19, *“Instruct Presbyteries to ensure that ministers within their bounds co-operate fully with the Safeguarding Service and Ministries Council in facilitating compliance with the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme as introduced by the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.”*

**2. Presbytery Pulpit Interchange**

Presbytery notes that the Pulpit Interchange list for 2013 has been distributed to Presbyters. The Interchange will take place on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2013. Presbytery encourages all ministers and churches to make necessary provision for this in good time.

**Mission and Discipleship Committee**

The Moderator called for the report of the Mission and Discipleship Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev Robin McAlpine.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

**1. Youth Reps to General Assembly**

Presbytery notes the new regulations for the nomination of Presbytery youth reps to General Assembly from 2013

**2. Elder Moderators**

Presbytery notes the results of the questionnaire to Elder Moderators to establish their pattern of usage within the Presbytery.

**Vacancy Procedure Committee**

There was no report, nor any deliverance, from this Committee

**Correspondence****Forwarded**

- 4 Oct Information for Readers, OLMs and Auxiliaries re Conferences
- 4 Oct Mission and Discipleship Council E-news
- 8 Oct Request from Ministries Committee to respond to Remits p25-33
- 8 Oct Request from Ministries Committee to circulate info re Prisoners' Week
- 11 Oct Info from Mission and Discipleship Council re Interfaith Mission Secretary appointment
- 12 Oct Info from Mission and Discipleship Council re Session Clerk Conference
- 12 Oct Mission and Discipleship Council Year Book
- 17 Oct Info from Law Department re Bank of Scotland Accounts
- 23 Oct E-mail from Maureen Jack re Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Israel and Palestine
- 25 Oct Church and Society Council e-news
- 30 Oct E-mail from Principal Clerk re nomination of Moderator (Rev Lorna Hood)
- 5 Nov Publicity for Come all you faithful – an Advent journey with the Palestinian people
- 5 Nov Mission and Discipleship Council e-news
- 6 Nov Worship resources for World AIDS Day
- 6 Nov Copy of The Rite Lines (for Presbytery Chaplains)
- 8 Nov E-mail from Anne Law re Enquiry and Assessment Review Group
- 9 Nov Info from the Go For It Fund
- 10 Nov Job Advert – Council Secretary, Mission and Discipleship Council
- 12 Nov Info re Scottish Church Heritage Research Conference
- 15 Nov Info re Moderator's Medal and Stevenson Prize
- 17 Nov Info re SSAFA Forces Help Advent Carol Service
- 20 Nov E-mails from Alan Gibson re Stewardship and Gift Aid
- 20 Nov E-mail from Janette Wilson re VAT
- 21 Info re post of Transition Minister, St George's Tron
- 29 Nov Questionnaire re paperless church from Review and Reform

**Clerk / Business Committee**

- 4 Oct Letters handed over from Gillian Paterson re repayment of loan and outstanding travelling expenses from Innerleven East.
- 8 Oct E-mail from Jennifer Hamilton re outstanding accounts
- 22 Oct Letter from Law Department – Model Deed of Constitution issued to Dysart St Clair
- 22 Oct Letter from Session Clerk, Thornton re decisions of Presbytery
- 25 Oct Letter from Principal Clerk re Presbytery Flags
- 11 Nov E-mail re Census 2011 and parish boundaries
- 12 Nov Info re Heart and Soul 2013
- 15 Nov E-mail from Linda Jamieson re calculation of Commissioners
- 24 Nov Congregational Statistics forms for completion by 31 December 2012
- 24 Nov Letter from Alistair McLeod re Honorarium for Michael Allardice

**Church and Society**

- 31 Oct SCPO Monthly Parliamentary news

13 Nov SCPO newsletter

**Fabric and Finance**

- 10 Oct Copy of letter from General Trustees to Auchtertool re pathway
- 29 Oct Letter from General Trustees requesting Dilligence reports
- 21 Nov E-mail from Janette Wilson re wooden heating pellets

**Ministries**

- 5 Oct E-mail from Paul Beautyman re PPW Consultation
- 11 Oct Extract minute from Partnership Development Committee approving second day locum at St Columba's for a further 6 months
- 12 Oct List of new candidates accepted into training this year from Ministries Council
- 16 Oct E-mail from Session Clerk at Christ's Kirk requesting parish assistant.
- 16 Oct List of Candidates in training in Kirkcaldy Presbytery from Ministries Council
- 29 Oct E-mail from Martin Scott re PPW terms and conditions
- 29 Oct E-mail from Martin Scott re Pension Provision for Ministers and PPWs
- 16 Nov PPTG Draft Minute 6.11.12

**Mission and Discipleship**

- 22 Nov Info re General Assembly Youth Reps

**Vacancy Procedures**

- 14 Nov E-mail from Marc Prowe, Advisory Committee for St Columba's

**Adjournment**

Presbytery adjourned to meet at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 5 February 2013 in Linktown Church for the transaction of ordinary business.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_Moderator

\_\_\_\_\_Clerk