

The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Kirkcaldy

25 June 2013

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

Roll of Presbytery

On behalf of Presbytery the Moderator acknowledged and offered thanks in prayer for the faithful service following twenty-five years in the Ordained Ministry to :-

Rev. Elisabeth Cranfield, Methilhill and Denbeath

Rev. Rosemary Frew, Kirkcaldy: Abbotshall

Rev. Robin McAlpine, Kirkcaldy: Bennoch

Rev. Alistair McLeod, Retired

Additionally on the anniversary of fifty years from his date of Ordination to :-

Rev. Peter Elston

On behalf of Presbytery the Moderator expressed congratulations to the Rev. Allistair Roy and his wife on the announcement of the birth of their daughter, Rebecca.

Sederunt

28 Ministers, 1 Deacon, 28 Elders and 8 Corresponding Members as per the attendance sheets.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from 2 Ministers and 6 other Presbyters as recorded.

Minutes of Meetings

The Minute of the meeting held on 7 May 2013 (pages 2513 - 2518 was adjusted and approved.

Agenda

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

The Ministry of the Diaconate in the Church of Scotland

On the anniversary of one hundred and twenty years of service by the Diaconate, the Moderator invited Mrs. Jacqueline Thomson, Deacon, to address Presbytery and to introduce the DVD, entitled 'Saying Yes to God', outlining the work and service of the Diaconate in Scotland.

Following the screening of a professional, well produced and informative film, which can be made available to both churches and the community, the Moderator thanked Mrs. Thomson and emphasised the effectiveness and value of the Diaconate within the Church and in the community generally and wished her and her fellow Deacons well in the future.

Retiral of the Rev. John McLean

The demission of the Rev. John McLean on 7th July 2013 having been agreed by Presbytery, the Moderator welcomed representatives from the congregation of Glenrothes: St. Margaret's who had been cited to appear for their interest.

The Moderator invited Mrs. Mary Cook, Session Clerk, who represented the congregation, to address Presbytery. Mrs. Cook paid tribute to their minister and expressed grateful appreciation on behalf of the congregation, parish and local community for devoted service during his nineteen years as minister.

The Rev. John McLean responded appropriately.

The Moderator, on behalf of Presbytery, added his thanks for the work willingly carried out by Mr. McLean during his time in Presbytery, wished him well in his retirement and presented him with his Practising Certificate.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Glenrothes: St Margaret's

(a) Presbytery appoints the Reverend Christine Houghton to be Interim Moderator at Glenrothes: St. Margaret's.

(b) Presbytery appoints the following people to serve on an Advisory Committee at Glenrothes: St. Margaret's - Rev Ben Pieterse, Mr Finlay Ferguson and Mrs Ena Hudson.

The Moderator thanked the representatives from Glenrothes: St. Margaret's for their attendance and interest, and wished them well in the future.'

Report from the General Assembly 2013

On behalf of Commissioners to the General Assembly, Rev Alex Forsyth, Markinch, reported diligence.

The Moderator, on behalf of Presbytery, thanked Mr Forsyth for a comprehensive and informative report.

Report of the 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. Committee Conveners

Presbytery appoints Mr. Brian Lumsden to serve as Convener of the Fabric and Finance Committee for the three-year period 2013 – 2016.

2. Practising Certificates

Presbytery approves the issue of Practising Certificates to the following ministers: Rev. Christine Houghton, Rev. Dr. Douglas Galbraith, Rev. Jack Gisbey, Rev. James Templeton, Rev Maureen Paterson and Rev. Tilly Wilson.

3. Graduate Candidate Service

Presbytery agrees to hold a Graduate Candidate Service for Mrs. Eileen Miller in Kinghorn Parish Church on Sunday 25th August 2013 at 7.00pm.

4. Presbytery Retreat

Presbytery agrees to hold a Retreat, organised by the Ministries Committee for those invited by them to attend, on Thursday 3rd October 2013.

5. Presbytery Meetings 2013/14

Presbytery resolves to suspend Standing Order Section IX and for the forthcoming year to hold meetings of the Presbytery of Kirkcaldy on the first Tuesday of September, November, December of 2013, the first Tuesday of February and April of 2014, and the last Tuesday of June 2014. Other meetings may be called where and when appropriate.

6. Notice of Motion

Notice is given that the Convener of the Business Committee will bring the name of Mrs. Myra Deas to the next meeting of Presbytery to serve as Moderator for the ensuing year.

Intimations

Relevant intimations were made to Presbytery.

Report of the 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.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Local Community Involvement

Presbytery encourages congregations to reflect on their community involvement, using the Discussion Starter paper; and to provide examples of good community involvement to the Convener.

2. Truth and Lies about Poverty

Presbytery commends this report, and urges congregations to discuss and develop its findings and recommendations.

Report of the 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. Buckhaven and Wemyss - East Wemyss Church and Hall Buildings

Presbytery concurs with the decision of the Congregation of Buckhaven and Wemyss to offer for sale the redundant East Wemyss Church Building and refers this matter to the General Trustees for approval or otherwise.

2. Fabric Matters

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

(a) Buckhaven and Wemyss

Fabric and Finance Committee approves the release of £7,953-40 from the monies held by the General Trustees in the capital account of the Consolidated Fabric Fund to meet the cost of various maintenance works to the Theatre, Buckhaven Church and Hall, and Manse.

(b) Kirkcaldy: Torbain

Fabric and Finance Committee supports a grant application of £13,410 (including VAT) to the General Trustees to meet the cost of a building survey together with a thermal image survey to the church and hall building.

3. Stewardship Conference

Presbytery appoints Mrs Jean Levack, a member of the Fabric and Finance Committee, to attend the Stewardship Conference at 121 George Street on 25th September 2013.

4. Small Donations Scheme

Presbytery draws the attention of congregational treasurers to the recently announced Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme under which congregations may be able to recover Tax under Gift Aid on small cash donations (up to £20). The maximum amount on which Tax may be reclaimed under this scheme is £5,000 in any tax year and at the present rate of Tax a reclaim of up to £1,250 may be possible. Further guidance will be issued in the next few weeks, but meantime Presbytery urges congregational treasurers to familiarise themselves with the guidelines issued by HMRC on the new Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Ministries Committee which was given by the Convener, Rev Andrew Donald. There was no deliverance.

Students training for Full-time or Ordained Local Ministry

The Convener presented to Presbytery -

Mr. Michael Allardice

Mr. James Bissett

Miss Susan Cord – at present undertaking a locum post in Sutherland

Mrs. Eileen Miller

The Convener invited the Moderator to address the students with words of commendation. The Moderator presented to each of the students a donation from Presbytery and encouraged them in their current and future service to the Church and wished them well in their future endeavours.

Report of the Mission and Discipleship Committee

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

At the request of the Convener, the Moderator invited the Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator, Mr George Luke, to present his annual report which will subsequently be circulated to all Presbyters.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Luke for his report and his continuing work in this vital aspect of our faith.

It was moved, seconded and agreed;

1. Worship and Mission

Presbytery notes that plans are progressing for *Celebrate and Discover 2014* which will be held in Kirkcaldy High School on March 22nd 2014. All congregations are asked to send a minimum of two people to the meeting at Abbotshall Church Hall on Wednesday 21st August at 7.30pm where a full explanation of the event will be outlined.

The ensuing section was taken in private.

2. Superintendence

(a) Local Church Review, Kirkcaldy: St Bryce

- a) Presbytery receives the Local Church Review Report for Kirkcaldy: St Bryce
- b) Presbytery thanks the Minister, Kirk Session, Office-bearers and Congregation for their acceptance of the visit.
- c) Presbytery thanks the Dedicated Team members May Russell, Alec Redpath, Christine Whitelaw and Sheena Caskie.
- d) Presbytery notes the agreed 3 year Plan

- e) Presbytery notes that May Russell will support and encourage the congregation for the next three years
- f) Presbytery finds Kirkcaldy: St Bryce in a satisfactory state

(b) Local Church Review, Buckhaven and Wemyss

- a) Presbytery receives the Local Church Review Report for Buckhaven and Wemyss
- b) Presbytery thanks the Minister, Deacon, Kirk Session, Office-bearers and Congregation for their acceptance of the visit.
- c) Presbytery thanks the Dedicated Team members Rev Alistair McLeod, Dorothy Murray, Carol Gibson, Jean Wilson and Margaret Cunningham
- d) Presbytery notes the agreed 3 year Plan
- e) Presbytery notes that Carol Gibson will support and encourage the congregation for the next three years.
- f) Presbytery finds Buckhaven and Wemyss in a satisfactory state.

(c) Local Church Review, Kirkcaldy: Torbain

- a) Presbytery receives the Local Church Review Report for Kirkcaldy: Torbain
- b) Presbytery thanks the Minister, Kirk Session, Office-bearers and Congregation for their acceptance of the visit.
- c) Presbytery thanks the Dedicated Team members Jean Webster, Linda Young, Finlay Ferguson, Rev Elizabeth Cranfield and Graham Harrower.
- d) Presbytery notes the agreed 3 year Plan.
- e) Presbytery notes that Finlay Ferguson will support and encourage the congregation for the next three years.
- f) Presbytery finds Kirkcaldy: Torbain in a satisfactory state

Presbytery continued in open court.

Correspondence

Forwarded

- 9 May Info from Scott Brown re opportunities for chaplaincy in the Royal Navy
- 15 May Hope for Kids resources and training
- 16 May Info from Suzi Farrant re Young Adults and the Eldership Conference
- 31 May Info re Rothes Trinity Parish Grouping musical
- 31 May Mission and Discipleship E-news
- 3 Jun Go For It News
- 3 Jun Church and Society Council E-news
- 12 Jun Reminder re National Youth Assembly
- 15 Jun Sea Sunday resources
- 18 Jun Info re Gideon Fellowship Open Evening

Clerk / Business Committee

- 10 May Request from Rev Jim Dick to transfer to Presbytery of Europe
- 28 May Church Law section of C of S website updated following General Assembly
- 31 May Info re work of Delegation of Assembly (re church constitutions)
- 3 Jun E-mail from Jennifer Hamilton re OSCRs consent to formation of Cardenden Kinglassie Parish Church
- 4 Jun and 10 Jun E-mails from Selena MacArthur, Stewardship and Finance, re congregational accounts
- 6 Jun E-mail from Peter Chirnside, Scottish Bible Society, offering to run a conference on improving Biblical literacy

- 7 Jun E-mail from Stephen Blakey offering an army chaplain to address Presbytery on the work of chaplaincy
- 11 Jun E-mail from Church and Society inviting Presbytery to consider holding an Imagining Scotland's Future' event.
- 18 Jun Heart and Soul invoice (for flag base)

Church and Society

- 11 Jun Factsheet on holding an Imagining Scotland's Future event

Fabric and Finance

- 20 May and 24 May E-mails re sale of East Wemyss Church
- 22 May Copy of letter from General Trustees to St Bryce Kirk
- 22 May Copy of letter from General Trustees to Buckhaven and Wemyss
- 28 May Letter from General Trustees re Leslie Manse
- 31 May Letter from CARTA re meeting dates
- 5 Jun Request for rep to attend annual Stewardship and Finance Conference
- 14 Jun Letter from General Trustees re Kirkcaldy Torbain

Ministries

- 4 June E-mail from Anne Law re Local Assessors and Presbytery Reps
- 12 Jun Info re Ministries Council Presbytery Conferences 2013-2014
- 14 Jun PPTG draft minute

Prior to intimating the adjournment, the Moderator thanked those who were retiring from Presbytery at the conclusion of the current session for their service and wished them well in the future.

The Moderator also thanked Miss Clare Atkin for her service in both Presbytery and at Glenrothes: St. Ninian's as she prepares to train for ministry in the Baptist Church.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 3 September in St Bryce Kirk Centre at 7 pm for the transaction of ordinary business

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

_____(Moderator)

_____(Clerk)