

The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy

Kirkcaldy: St Bryce Kirk

2 September 2014

The Presbytery of Kirkcaldy met for the transaction of ordinary business and was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, Mrs Myra Deas.

Sederunt:-

25 Ministers, 1 Deacon, 31 Elders and 11 Corresponding Members as per the attendance sheets.

Apologies:-

Apologies for absence were received from 7 Ministers and 3 other Presbyters as recorded.

The Moderator welcomed to the meeting -

New Members of Presbytery, and looked forward to their contributions in the work of Presbytery and its Committees.

Representatives from the congregation of Glenrothes: Christ's Kirk who had been cited to appear for their interest.

Speaker - Dr. Murdo Macdonald, Policy Officer, Society, Religion & Technology Project.

New Mission Development Staff for the Glenrothes & Leslie congregations - Mr. John Hutchison, Ms. Ellie Morroco and Mr. Alastair Stark.

Visitor - Rev. Joshua Nyangulu, Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, Synod of Livingstonia, Malawi.

The Moderator invited Mr Nyangulu to address Presbytery. He outlined his mission and pastoral responsibilities in Livingstonia and conveyed the greetings of his church to Presbytery. The Moderator thanked Mr. Nyangulu for his greeting and asked him to convey the best wishes of Presbytery to his church in Malawi.

Minute of Meeting

The Minute of the meeting held on 24 June 2014 (pages 2556 - 2562) was approved and signed.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Appointment of Moderator

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Appointment of Moderator 2014/15

Presbytery appoints the Reverend Robin McAlpine Moderator for the year 2014/15

In accordance with the Business Committee deliverance, submitted and approved at the ordinary meeting of Presbytery on 24 June 2014, Presbytery, having elected unanimously Rev Robin J. McAlpine BDS, BD, MTh, confirmed his appointment as Moderator for the ensuing year.

Mr McAlpine was welcomed by the outgoing Moderator, who thanked Presbytery for all the support and encouragement she had received during her term in office.

Mr. McAlpine responded appropriately, thanked Presbytery for electing him to the post and expressed the thanks of Presbytery to Mrs. Deas for her devoted service and commitment during her period in office.

Glenrothes: Christ's Kirk – Demission of Rev Alexandra Rosener

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

The demission of the Rev. Alexandra Rosener on 30th September 2014 having been approved by Presbytery, it was moved, seconded and agreed:

2. Glenrothes: Christ's Kirk

a) Presbytery appoints Reverend Richard Baxter to serve as Interim Moderator at Christ's Kirk Glenrothes as from Tuesday 30 September 2014.

b) Presbytery appoints Reverend Andrew Donald, Mrs May Russell and Mr Hugh Mackenzie to serve as an advisory committee at Christ's Kirk, Glenrothes as from Tuesday 30 September 2014.

The Moderator invited Mr. Ron McDougall, Clerk to the Congregational Board, representing the Congregation, to address Presbytery. Mr. McDougall paid tribute to their minister and expressed grateful appreciation on behalf of the congregation, parish and local community for devoted service during her tenure at Christ's Kirk.

The Clerk reported to Presbytery that Mrs. Rosener and her family were currently in Germany in connection with their relocation and that arrangements would be made for the issue of the appropriate Practising Certificate.

The Moderator thanked Mrs. Rosener, in absentia, for the work willingly carried out for and on behalf of Presbytery and wished her and her family well in the future.

Society, Religion and Technology Project

The Moderator welcomed Dr. Murdo Macdonald, Policy Officer of the SRTP and invited him to address Presbytery.

Dr. Macdonald outlined, with a visual presentation, the work of the SRTP which forms part of the remit of the Church & Society Council. The aim of the Project is to assist the Church to engage with ethical issues in relation to science, and to bring Christian ethical reflection associated with the impact of technology on society in general.

Following a period of questions and answers, the Moderator thanked Dr. Macdonald for his comprehensive address in this highly sensitive area of science and technology, and on behalf of Presbytery wished the Project well in the future.

Business Committee

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

2. Officers of the Court

Presbytery confirms the appointment of Rev Rosemary Frew as Clerk; Mr. Douglas Hamill as Depute Clerk; and Miss Jane Webster as Treasurer – all in accordance with section seven sub-sections 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 of Presbytery Standing Orders.

3. Service of Welcome

Presbytery agrees to hold a Service of Welcome for recently appointed Mission Development Staff in the Glenrothes and Leslie Parishes on Sunday 5th October 2014 at 3.00pm in Glenrothes: St. Columba's, the Rev. Tony Fowler to act as Moderator and Presbytery to meet at 2.45pm.

4. Congregational Per Capita Levy for 2014/15

Presbytery assesses congregations within the bounds at the rate of £2 per member on the roll as at 31 December 2013 as declared in the Returns of Persons and Agencies, and instructs that payment be made by cheque to the Treasurer on or before 1 November 2014.

5. Transfer to the Presbytery of St. Andrews

Presbytery grants the Rev. John McLean a Practising Certificate as he transfers to the Presbytery of St. Andrews and wishes him well.

6. Attestation of Accounts

- a) Presbytery notes that the attestation of congregational accounts has taken place.
- b) Presbytery thanks congregational treasurers and finance conveners for their diligent work and for the high standard of the accounts presented this year.
- c) Presbytery thanks the attestation team of Steve Pimentil, Sam Dryburgh and Richard Baxter, and notes the need to add additional team members for next year's attestation process.

The Rev. Richard Baxter spoke to and moved section six of the deliverance and recorded his thanks to Mr. Sam Dryburgh for his contribution and long service on the Committee for the Inspection & Attestation of Congregational Accounts.

It was further reported that additional suitably qualified persons will be required in 2015 to ensure the essential work of this committee continues.

Intimations

Relevant intimations were made to Presbytery.

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. Presbytery Retreat

Presbytery notes that a Day Retreat will be held on Thursday 25th September 2014, beginning at 10 a.m. at Dunnikier House Hotel.

2. Pulpit Interchange

Presbytery notes that the next Pulpit Interchange will be on Sunday 8th February 2015. Please place this date into your diaries.

3. Presbytery Assessor Training

Presbytery notes the invitation from the Rev. Jane Denniston, Ministries Support Officer, to attend a Presbytery Assessor Training Day on Tuesday 11th November 2014 at the Conforti Institute Coatbridge. There is one place available and responses need to be made by Friday 10 October 2014.

4. Priority Area Parishes

Presbytery notes that the charge of Methil: Wellesley is now designated as an Urban Priority Area Charge.

Mission and Discipleship Committee

The Moderator called for the report of the Mission and Discipleship Committee which was given by the Convener the Rev. Gillian Paterson.

Included in the report, the Convener invited the Moderator to present a Safeguarding Trainer's Certificate to Mrs. Joyce Leggate, Corresponding Member.

In presenting the Certificate the Moderator congratulated Mrs. Leggate on her successful completion of the appropriate training and referred to the vital work undertaken by the Safeguarding Service.

Following a request from the Convener, the Moderator invited Miss Iona Kimmitt, our 2014 General Assembly Youth Representative, to address Presbytery.

Miss Kimmitt gave a comprehensive report of a fulfilling time interacting with other Youth Representatives and her attendance at various events and functions. She emphasised the positive experience of attending and contributing at the General Assembly and commented on the style the Moderator adopted in the conduct of business instilling throughout the process the principle of 'respectful dialogue'.

Miss Kimmitt also stressed the significant impact of the 'Heart & Soul' event held during Assembly week.

The Moderator thanked Miss Kimmitt for her commitment as our Youth Representative and conveyed to her the best wishes of Presbytery.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Congregational Publicity Contact

Presbytery encourages all congregations to appoint a Publicity Contact person for the Mission and Discipleship Committee by 30 October 2014. Names should be submitted to the Convener, Gillian Paterson, by that date.

Vacancy Procedure Committee

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Auchterderran Kinglassie

- a) Presbytery appoints Mr Ian Biernat to serve as a member of the advisory committee at Auchterderran Kinglassie Parish Church.
- b) Presbytery notes the appointment of Reverend Tilly Wilson serving as Locum at Auchterderran Kinglassie Parish Church as from 1st September 2014.

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. 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 Brian Lumsden.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. Ministries and Mission Reductions

Presbytery approves the decision of the Fabric and Finance committee to release the Ministries and Mission reduction application forms for 2015. Any application for a reduction should be returned to the Fabric and Finance convener by Friday 10 October 2014.

2. Kirkcaldy: Bennoch

Presbytery approves the decision of the Fabric and Finance committee to support the application by Kirkcaldy: Bennoch for the release of £106,000 inc VAT from funds held in the Consolidated Fabric Fund. The project will be in two phases:- viz. the provision of a consolidated storage facility at an estimated cost of £21,000 inc VAT and a replacement of the existing central heating system at an estimated cost of £85,000 inc VAT.

3. Dysart St Clair - former Viewforth Manse

The Convener accepted, and Presbytery approved, an amended section 3, proposed by the Rev Maudeen MacDougall seconded by the Rev. Andrew Donald, as follows :-

Presbytery notes that, in principle, the Fabric and Finance Committee supports the proposal by Dysart St. Clair to let the former Viewforth Parish manse for a two year period subject to the approval of the Dysart St. Clair Congregational Board and subsequently the General Trustees.

4. Auchterderran Kinglassie

Presbytery concurs with the approval given by the General Trustees for the application made by Auchterderran Kinglassie to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant in respect of essential roof repairs, stained glass restoration and redecoration.

Correspondence**Forwarded**

- 26 Jun Invitation to Drumhead Service, Edinburgh Castle, Sunday 10 August
- 2 Jul Mission and Discipleship Council E-news
- 10 Jul Electronic copy of remits booklet
- 23 Jul Info re Fife Science Festival
- 28 Jul E-mail from Law Dept re Real Time Information – Guidance for Treasurers
- 1 Aug Mission and Discipleship E-news
- 4 Aug Job vacancy at Levenmouth Foodbank Community Support Project
- 4 Aug E-mail from Law Dept re health and safety – working at height
- 8 Aug Further request for church rep for Fife Council
- 11 Aug Info re Ministries Council Deaf Development Worker
- 12 Aug Reminder re Mission Shaped Ministry course, Edinburgh, September
- 14 Aug Info re Moderator's Dove of Peace Campaign
- 18 Aug Info from Law Dept re properties on ultra long leases
- 18 Aug Invitation from Ministries Committee to Reflection Day
- 18 Aug Referendum Prayers from ACTS
- 19 Aug Info re Respectful Dialogue, 3 September
- 20 Aug Info re Christian Mindfulness evening in Leven
- 20 Aug Fife Elderly Forum Newsletter
- 21 Aug Letter and application form for Ministries and Mission allocation reduction in 2015
- 22 Aug Church and Society E-news

Clerk / Business Committee

- 4 Jul Request to meet with Martin Johnstone re implications of Priority Areas designation (Wellesley)
- 29 Jul Guidance re Returns to Overture: Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships
- 1 Aug Info re Vocations Champions – interviews
- 6 Aug Letter of concern re Thornton Church boundaries
- 11 Aug Request for transfer to St Andrews Presbytery from Rev John McLean
- 15 Aug Invitation from Ministries Council to attend info day re MDS staff and Presbytery
- 24 Aug Accounts Attestation Schedule from Richard Baxter and intimation that he will not continue as Convener and Sam Dryburgh will not continue on the committee next year

Church and Society

- 15 Aug WCC Weekly
- 20 Aug Ecumenical Relations Newsletter

Fabric and Finance

- 23 Jul Copy of letter from General Trustees to Glenrothes, St Margaret's
- 24 Jul Copy of letter from General Trustees to Bennoch
- 25 Jul Ministries and Mission Payments made by 31 May.
- 25 Jul Copy of letter from General Trustees to Bennoch
- 21 Aug Copy of Heritage Lottery application and Form E from Auchterderran Kinglassie

Ministries

- 27 Jun Info re Ministries Council Presbytery Conferences 2014-15
- 8 Jul PPTG draft minute – 10 June 2014

- 14 Jul E-mail from Sheilagh Kesting re Ecumenical Audit and Presbytery Plans
- 28 Jul Approval of Study Leave – Robin McAlpine and Rosie Frew

Vacancy Procedure

- 25 Jul Copy of revised guidelines for Interim Moderators and Nominating Committees

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet at 2.45p.m. on Sunday 5 October in St Columba's Church, Glenrothes for a Service of Welcome, and thereafter at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 4 November in Bennochry Church, Kirkcaldy for a Celebration of the Lord's Supper followed by a meeting to discuss and vote on the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnership Overture.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

_____ (Moderator)

_____ (Clerk)