

At Saltcoats, and within Saltcoats New Trinity Church, on Tuesday the 5th of April 2005, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT: WF Turner, Moderator, Revds JR McKay (Clerk) Revds I W Benzie, J A S Boag, J Ewing, K Fisher, J Gisbey, R J Grahame, D J H Harbison, D J Heberton, M L K Howie, J M M Lafferty, R Leask, M H Mackay, A D McCallum, A M McCance, A F McGurk, D R Mitchell, B H Oxburgh, F C Ross, S J Smith, A Taylor, M Thomson, E R L Watson, Ministers; A Buick, J Cameron, G Cunningham, D S Douglas, H B Gibson, D Hamilton, P Hinde, R Jarvie, M G Kellocjk, D Kerr, R Lavalette, A MacDonald, V Macdonald, J F Martin, E H McArthur, G K McConnell, S McLellan, J McSwan, M Paton, G Ross, E Sillars, F J Smith, N Smith, E Stevenson, E Taylor, A C Watt, C Welchm K S Welch, R F Welch, I Whiteford, Elders; M A Broster, A Currie, A Henderson, J C Q Hunter, B H Mackay, R U McCool, Revd A Montgomerie, Corresponding Members.

APOLOGIES were received from M S Cameron, N Cruikshank, W R Johnston, Dr I MacLeod, Dr G A McCracken, A B Noble, D S Paterson, J Selfridge, Ministers; J Forsyth, E Hinde, J Jenkins, J Laurie, J T McGill, C J E Mills, R A Richardson, A K Saunderson, J S Scott, W Thomson, A Tomlinson, Elders; M M B Ross, D Young, Corresponding Members.

MINUTES The Minute of the meeting Of March 1st, 2005 pp 3-4, having been circulated, was approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS The Order of Business was approved with the deletion of deliverance ii from the Committee on World Mission, and an additional proposed deliverance, of which notice had been given, on the report of the Committee on Community Interests.

CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from the Mr Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for International Development, in reply to the comments made at the February meeting regarding Make Poverty History; and that he had written to Rt Revd John Cunningham, Roman Catholic Bishop of Galloway expressing the Presbytery's sympathy and condolences on the death of Pope John Paul II

PRESBYTERY STATISTICS The Clerk laid on the table the abstract of the statistics of the Presbytery as at 31 December 2004 which had been made available to members of Presbytery.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

For the Committee the Convener moved, and it was seconded that Presbytery

- i. Resolve to hold a service to mark the closure of Kilwinning: Erskine as a place of worship for the Church of Scotland on Thursday 21st April at 7.30pm, Presbytery to meet at 7.15pm: the Moderator of Presbytery to preside, assisted by Revd Andrew McCance and the Revd Dr Gordon McCracken, and the Moderator of the General Assembly to preach; and encourage members of presbytery to make every effort to be present at this service to express support and encouragement for the congregation.
- ii. Approve the report anent the appointment of a Depute Clerk and remit to the Business Committee to bring a nomination to a forthcoming meeting of Presbytery (Reports Page 15)
- iii. Note the Statistical Report prepared by the Clerk and made available to presbyters (Reports page 18)

COMMUNICATIONS AND DOCTRINE

For the Committee the Convener moved, and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery (Reports page 15,16)

- i. Warmly thank the Moderator, the local ministers and all those who helped make the visit such a success.
- ii. Resolve that the Moderator for 2005-6 be invited to visit another area of Presbytery and that the arrangements for this visit be left to the Committee, in consultation with the Moderator

WORLD MISSION

For the Committee the Convener moved, and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery Commend/

Commend Christian Aid Week, 15th to 21st May 2005 to all congregations within the bounds and encourage them to participate in it

PROPERTY

For the Committee the Convener moved, and it was seconded and agreed Presbytery

Approve in principle an application from Saltcoats: North to replace the heating system in the church at a total cost of £40,760, subject to funds being available, and approve an application to the General Trustees for a grant.

NATIONAL MISSION

For the Committee the Convener moved, and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

- i. Note a Report on the recent conference on NHS Ayrshire and Arran's Review of Services Project.
- ii. In connection with Presbytery initiatives on Church without Walls
 - (a) Encourage congregations individually or together, where appropriate, to link a "Church without Walls" celebration to a local event or events
 - (b) Invite all congregations within the bounds to open their sanctuaries on December 20 to 22 as a place of calm retreat from the 'commercial Christmas' and as a Presbytery means of celebrating the Church without Walls.
- iii. Note with appreciation the success of the 'Prayer Contacts' day workshop in Largs: Clark Memorial on Sunday February 27th and thank all involved in the organisation of it.

COMMUNITY INTERESTS

The Convener moved, and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

- i. Resolve that no action need be taken at present with regard to religious observance in schools (Reports page 16,17)

It was moved by the Convener and seconded

- ii. Instruct the Clerk to write to North Ayrshire Council, enquiring as to its guidelines to schools following receipt of the circular from the Scottish Executive.

It was moved and seconded as an addendum

Add to the deliverance "and asking that the Council consider inviting either representatives of presbyteries or church representatives to join any groups I forms to provide guidelines."

With permission of Presbytery, the Convener accepted the addendum and the Presbytery resolved accordingly

It was moved and seconded as an additional deliverance

Encourage Kirk Sessions within the bounds, in co-operation with congregations of other churches, to arrange local meetings during the forthcoming General Election campaign, in which all candidates in a constituency may be questioned by electors, thus enabling the Church to facilitate the genuine exploration of issues arising during the forthcoming campaign.

With permission of Presbytery, the Convener accepted the addendum and the Presbytery resolved accordingly.

NEXT ORDINARY MEETING Presbytery adjourned to meet in this place on Tuesday May 3rd 2005 at 7.30pm for the conduct of ordinary business, the Business Committee to meet at 0945 on Tuesday 26th April

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

Moderator

Clerk

At Kilwinning, and within Kilwinning Erskine Parish Church, on Thursday the 21st of April 2005, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT: W F Turner (Moderator) Revds J R McKay (Clerk) I W Benzie, J A S Boag, K Fisher, D J H Harbison, M L K Howie, W R Johnston, R Leask, A M McCance, Dr G A McCracken A F McGurk, D R Mitchell, B H Oxburgh, S J Smith, Ministers; A Buick, J Cameron, G Cunningham, E S H Glen, E Hinde, P Hinde, R Jarvie, V H Macdonald, J McSwan, R A Richardson, G Ross, A K Saunderson, W Thomson, A Tomlinson, C Welch, K S Welch, R F Welch, Elders; M A Broster, S Darroch, Corresponding Members

APOLOGIES were received from Revds N Cruikshank, R J Grahame, M H Mackay, F C Ross, M Thomson, E R L Watson, Ministers; H B Gibson, M G Kellock, J Laurie, E Taylor, A C Watt, I Whiteford, Elders; A Henderson, J C Q Hunter, R McCool, M M B Ross, Corresponding Members

AUTHORITY TO MEET The Clerk laid on the table the minute of April 5th in which is recorded the decision of Presbytery to meet at this time and place to mark the final service held by the Church of Scotland in the church of Kilwinning: Erskine.

WELCOME The Moderator welcomed Dr Alison Elliot, Moderator of the General Assembly, who had graciously agreed to preach at this service.

PUBLIC WORSHIP The Presbytery then proceeded to the Church where public worship was conducted by the Moderator, assisted by Revd J A S Boag, Revd A McCance and Revd Dr G A McCracken. The sermon was preached by Dr Alison Elliot, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

During the course of the service, a long-service certificate was presented by the Moderator of the General Assembly to Mr Archd Russell. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Mr Charles Gillespie, and it was noted that one had been awarded to Mr William McIlroy, who was unable to be present.

Following worship, the Presbytery repaired to the hall where thanks were expressed to all who had taken part in what had been a most impressive and appropriate act of worship.

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

Moderator

Clerk