

At Saltcoats, and within Saltcoats New Trinity Church, on Tuesday the 3rd of May 2005, which place and date the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT: WF Turner, Moderator, Revds JR McKay (Clerk) I W Benzie, J A S Boag, M S Cameron, N Cruikshank, J Ewing, K Fisher, J Gisbey, R J Grahame, D J H Harbison, M L K Howie, W R Johnston, J M M Lafferty, R Leask, M H Mackay, A M McCance, Dr G A McCracken, A F McGurk, D S Paterson, F C Ross, I M Roy, M Thomson, E R L Watson, Ministers; A Buick, J Cameron, H B Gibson, E S H Glen, D Hamilton, R Jarvie, J Jenkins, M G Kellock, J Laurie, ER Lavelette, A MacDonald, V Macdonald, G K McConnell, J F Martin, S McLellan, J M McSwan, R Mumford, R A Richardson, G Ross, A K Saunderson, J Scott, J S Scott, F J Smith, N Smith, E Stevenson, E Taylor, A Tomlinson, A C Watt, C Welch, K S Welch, R F Welch, I Whiteford, Elders; M A Broster, S Darroch, B H Mackay, M Massie, R U McCool, M McGeoch, Revd A Montgomerie, M Nimmo, Corresponding Members.

APOLOGIES were received from Revds J M M Lafferty, Dr I MacLeod, A B Noble, S J Smith, D R Mitchell, A Taylor, Ministers; M Duff, J Forsyth, E H McArthur, J T McGill, J Porter, E Sillars, W Thomson, Elders; A Henderson, J C Q Hunter, M M B Ross, Corresponding Members

MINUTES The Minutes of the meetings of April 5th (pages 5,6) and April 21st (page 7), 2005, having been circulated, were approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS The Order of Business was approved, with the addition of an item noting the decisions of the Vacancy Procedure Committee in the impending vacancy at Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity.

CORRESPONDENCE The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from North Ayrshire Council on its plans for religious observance in schools; from Rt Revd John Cunningham, thanking the Presbytery for its message of sympathy and condolence following the death of Pope John Paul II; from H M Treasury, responding to the Presbytery's view on the forthcoming G8 summit and the Make Poverty history campaign

APPLICATION ANENT ADMISSION AND READMISSION The Clerk laid on the table an application from a minister seeking admission under Act IX 2002

ELECTORAL ROLL The Clerk reported that he had attested the roll of Saltcoats: New Trinity, containing the names of 379 members

RESIGNATION The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Mr David Douglas, an additional elder, intimating his resignation from the Presbytery with immediate effect. The Moderator paid tribute to Mr Douglas' distinguished service to the Presbytery, and the Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Douglas, thanking him for all that he had done during his time as a member of Presbytery.

MODERATOR 2005/6 It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Moderator of Presbytery for the ensuing year be the Revd Marjory Mackay, minister at Cumbrae.

ARDROSSAN PRESBYTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE GUILD In the absence of Revd S J Smith, immediate past Moderator of Presbytery, the Revd Marion Howie introduced the office bearers of the Council who were welcomed by the Moderator: Mrs Moira McGeoch Convener, Mrs Christine Welch, Secretary, Mrs Susan Darroch, Representative at National Level, Mrs Margaret Massie, Education Representative, Mrs Margaret Nimmo, Ecumenical Relations Representative. The Moderator invited Mrs Moira McGeoch to address Presbytery. The Moderator thanked her and expressed the good wishes of the Presbytery to the Presbyterial Council

VACANCY PROCEDURE COMMITTEES It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery

Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee in the impending vacancy at Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity, in the event that a call is transmitted from the Presbytery of Edinburgh to Mr Paterson from Edinburgh: St Colms, has agreed to the translation of Revd Douglas Paterson to Edinburgh: St Colms; appointed Revd Roderick Grahame, minister at Largs: St Columba's to be Interim Moderator in the vacancy; and sisted proceedings in the vacancy in terms of Act VIII 2003, and invites the Presbytery to raise the question of readjustment in terms of Act IV 1984.

Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee in the impending vacancy at Kilwinning: Abbey has agreed to accept the demission of the Revd Dr Gordon McCracken as from June 8th 2005; appointed the Revd William R Johnston, minister at Ardrossan: Park to be Interim Moderator in the vacancy; and sisted proceedings in the vacancy in terms of Act VIII 2003, and invites the Presbytery to raise the question of readjustment in terms of Act IV 1984./

Act IV 1984

VALEDICTION: REVD DR GORDON A McCracken Following the report of the decision of the Vacancy Procedure Committee in the impending vacancy at Kilwinning: Abbey, Mr Gordon McConnell paid tribute to Dr McCracken's ministry in Kilwinning. The Moderator thanked Dr McCracken for his contribution to the life of the Presbytery, and Dr McCracken made suitable reply.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Dr McCracken retain his seat in Presbytery pending his first placement as an Interim Minister.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

- i. Appraisal: Kilwinning: Erskine linked with Fergushill The congregations had been cited and parties were called. Mr A K Saunderson appeared for the congregation of Kilwinning; Erskine and Mr J Bowie for the congregation of Fergushill. The Clerk reported that the Business Committee, acting as the Presbytery's Committee on Parish Reappraisal had considered the linkage between Kilwinning: Erskine and Fergushill, and resolved that the linkage should be severed. Parties were removed. The Clerk moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery
 - a. Resolve to sever the linkage between Kilwinning Erskine and Fergushill
 - b. Resolve to declare that the congregation of Fergushill be a continued vacancy, to be reviewed not later than May 2006, and invite the General Assembly's Committee on Parish Appraisal to concur
- ii. Appraisal: Kilwinning Abbey and Kilwinning: Erskine The congregations had been cited, and parties were called. Messrs G McConnell, J Muir and R F Welch appeared for Kilwinning: Abbey. Mr A K Saunderson appeared for Kilwinning: Erskine. The Clerk reported that the Business Committee, acting as the Presbytery's Committee on Parish Reappraisal had considered the question of readjustment at Kilwinning: Abbey in the light of Revd Dr Gordon McCracken's intention to demit his charge, and had resolved to unite the congregations of Kilwinning: Abbey and Kilwinning: Erskine. At congregational meetings held on Sunday May 1st both congregations had unanimously agreed to accept the proposed Basis and Plan of Union (Reports page 21). Parties were removed. The Clerk moved and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery
 - a. Approve the Basis and Plan of Union between Kilwinning: Abbey and Kilwinning Erskine, and invite the General Assembly's Committee on Appraisal to concur.
 - b. The question of readjustment having been raised following the Vacancy Procedure Committee's acceptance of the demission of Revd Dr Gordon McCracken from Kilwinning: Abbey, and notwithstanding the anticipated vacancy at Kilwinning: Mansefield Trinity, and following consultation with the General Assembly's Committee on Parish Appraisal, resolve to grant the newly united charge of Kilwinning Old Parish permission to call a minister without restriction, and invite the Assembly's Committee on Appraisal to concur.
 - c. Subject to the approval of the General Assembly's Committee on Parish Appraisal, remit to the Business Committee to arrange a service to mark the union of the two congregation

WORLD MISSION

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

- i. Regret that due to a lack of information provided by the Board of World Mission specifically with regard to plans for involvement of presbyteries and congregations, and the cost-sharing implications, Presbytery cannot comment on the Partnerships proposed by the Board of World Mission; and invites the Board to reconsider the timing of its decision to permit fuller information to be available.
- ii. Express grave concern for those whose service with the Board will cease, and regret the manner in which they have been dealt with/

dealt with

PROPERTY

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

Approve an application from Dalry: St Margaret's to replace all windows at the manse with double glazing units in PVC with wood grain effect finish, at a cost of £14,909

NOTICE OF MOTION

Revd E R L Watson, having given notice of motion timeously to the Business Committee moved, and it was seconded and agreed that Presbytery

“Instruct the Clerk to write to North Ayrshire Council, expressing the Presbytery's disappointment that a contemplation/spiritual area has not been included in the plans for the new Arran High School, and asking that the inclusion of such areas be considered in any future new or refurbishment projects for non denominational schools”.

NEXT ORDINARY MEETING Presbytery adjourned to meet within Saltcoats New Trinity Church on Tuesday June 14th at 7.30pm for the conduct of ordinary business, the Business Committee to meet at 9.45am on Tuesday June 7th

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

Moderator

Clerk