

CLYDE PRESBYTERY

March 9th 2021

On the 9th day of March 2021, Clyde Presbytery met via Zoom in line with current restrictions around the Covid-19 virus, and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Ian Johnson, Moderator, with 51 ministers, 72 elders, 2 deacons and 9 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from 8 ministers, 6 elders and 2 corresponding members, as recorded separately.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Minutes of ordinary meeting on 9th February 2021 having been previously circulated, were approved.

APPOINTMENT OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting was approved as 8th June 2021.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business was approved as printed.

CONFERENCE SESSION

Presbytery moved into conference session and invited Very Rev John Chalmers to address members. He spoke about Presbytery reform and financing, future ministerial numbers and the Faith Action plan of the Church.

Thereafter, Presbyters were divided into breakout rooms to discuss the following questions:

1. What do you perceive as the most serious challenges facing the life of local congregations?
2. What are the most significant obstacles to implementing a Presbytery Mission Plan and what resources/support will be required to realise a new shape of local church across the Presbytery?
3. What do you still require from the "centre" and what changes or devolved responsibility do you want to see being developed within the Presbytery?

Feedback was given from each group and Mr Chalmers took note of the comments and concerns raised.

Presbytery resumed for ordinary business, however given the lateness of the hour, the Clerk moved that standing orders be suspended to allow business to be concluded. This motion was seconded and thereafter unanimously approved having been put to a vote.

COMMITTEE DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER POWERS (S/O 60) for noting

Business Committee

Noted that the OSCR process for the union of Paisley Glenburn and Paisley Stow Brae would be complete by 6th April and remitted the arrangements for the service of union to the Clerk and Moderator

Planning Committee

The Planning Committee of Clyde Presbytery met on Thursday, 10th December and approved the following

Three Paisley congregations were cited to attend in their interests: Paisley: Martyrs Sandyford, St. Columba Foxbar and Wallneuk North. There did attend representatives from both the Martyrs and the Sandyford sections of their congregation, as well as members of Wallneuk North, but no one came from St. Columba Foxbar.

The Bases of Union for Martyrs with St. Columba Foxbar and for Sandyford with Wallneuk North were laid on the table and the results of the congregational votes were reported as follows:

201 members of Martyrs participated in the vote. Of these 197 voted in favour, with 4 against.

80 members of St. Columba Foxbar participated in the vote. Of these 62 voted in favour, with 18 against.

58 members of Sandyford participated in the vote. Of these 54 voted in favour of the Basis of Union and 4 voted against.

With regard to the vote for an immediate union with Peter Gill as minister, 51 voted in favour, with 1 voting to defer until a vacancy occurs at Wallneuk North and with 2 abstentions. The 4 who voted against the union did not respond to this question.

81 members of Wallneuk North participated in the vote. Of these 78 voted in favour of the Basis of Union and 3 voted against.

The acting Clerk was instructed to send the approved Bases of Union with notes of the voting to the PPRTG in Edinburgh and to advise the Law Department to begin the process of OSCR registration of the new congregations.

Property Committee

Approved the request from the Kilmacolm: St Columba congregation to let their manse on a short-term basis while it is currently vacant and instructs the said congregation to use the services of the Church of Scotland Law Department for all documentation in connection with such a let.

Approved the disposal by sale of the former Paisley St Luke's church and hall.

Approved an application by the Greenock St Margaret's congregation for the refurbishment and alteration of the church toilets to include the provision of an accessible toilet and hot running water. The tendered cost is £17,010 inclusive of VAT and funding is available. Permission was also given to the congregation to apply to the General Trustees' Fabric Committee for the release of the total cost from their holdings in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.

Approved an application by the Port Glasgow New congregation for the installation of a replacement heating boiler in the Manse at a cost of £2770 inclusive of VAT. Funds are available and permission was also given to the congregation to apply to the General Trustees' Fabric Committee for the release of the total cost from their capital holdings in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.

Approved an application by the Greenock: Wellpark Mid Kirk congregation for the installation of replacement heating boilers at an estimated cost of £18,013 + vat. and funds are available

Intimates that the Property Committee (Greenock and Paisley) will seek tenders for the 2021 tranche of Quinquennial Inspections at the following congregations:

Erskine, Greenock: Lyle Kirk, St Ninian's, The Mount Kirk, Wellpark Mid Kirk and Westburn, Paisley: Abbey, Martyrs' Sandyford, St Columba Foxbar, South, Stow Brae and Wallneuk North. At present that is a total of twelve congregations however there are various unions underway and only buildings being retained will be inspected.

Stewardship & Finance Committee

Approved a reduction in M&M contributions for the following congregations:

Wellpark Mid Kirk £5000

Johnstone St Pauls £2500

and instructed the Clerk to advise the relevant department at '121' of this decision.

Presbytery noted the above decisions made by committees on their behalf.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Rev Ken Gray, Convener, presented the report from the Business Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. subsequent to the notice of motion on 9th February, amends standing order number 1, 'Roll of Presbytery' to include as corresponding members all candidates for the Ministry:

As required, this was put to a vote with 104 voting in favour with 0 votes against.

2. notes the following determination from the General Trustees in the case of the application of the application of Kirk Session of the Paisley: South Congregation, the General Trustees (1) authorise the sale of the former St Luke's Church and Halls, Neilston Road, Paisley at such price and on such other terms and conditions as may be decided by them in consultation with the Kirk Session (2) determine that the free proceeds of sale shall, subject to the operation of the Levy under Regulations 8 2008, be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, (3) discharge so far as the Church of Scotland is concerned the whole provisions, restrictions and trust purposes in the titles to the property including any provision whereby it should not be in the power of the trustees holding the same to sell the same or any part thereof or whereby the subjects should in all time coming be used in connection with the Church of Scotland or for the purposes or trusts specified in any Deed of Constitution;
3. notes the following determination from the General Trustees in the case of the application of the Kirk Session of the Paisley: St Columba, Foxbar Congregation, the General Trustees (1) authorise the sale of the former manse at 13 Corsebar Drive, Paisley at such price and on such other terms and conditions as may be decided by them in consultation with the Kirk Session and (2) determine that the free proceeds of sale shall, subject to the operation of the Levy under Regulations 8 2008, be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund;
4. notes the following determination in the case of the application of the Kirk Session of Paisley Abbey Congregation, the General Trustees (1) authorise the sale of the manse at 15 Main Street, Castlehead, Paisley at such price and on such other terms and conditions as may be decided by them in consultation with the Kirk Session and (2) determine that the free proceeds of sale shall in the first instance be applied towards the cost of providing a replacement manse for the

parish and any balance remaining thereafter shall, subject to the operation of the Levy under Regulations 8 2008, be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund;

5. instructs the Clerk to advise the aforementioned congregations of Paisley: Abbey, Paisley: St Columba Foxbar and Paisley: South (former St Luke's) having title or interest, whose financial board may within two months of the date of this meeting and subject to compliance with the Standing Orders of the General Assembly, lodge with the Clerks of Assembly a Petition to the General Assembly for review of any such other determination; provided always that in such circumstances a review will be competent only if the Petition therefore is lodged timeously with the Clerks of Assembly and written intimation thereof given at the same time to the General Trustees.

TREASURER

Mr Ian Steven, Treasurer, presented his report and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes that the Presbytery Secretary's contract has been transferred to Central Services from 1st February 2021;

MISSION

Rev Gary Noonan, Convener, presented the report from the Mission Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. notes the Lent/Easter resources and links for other Ministry resources have been uploaded onto the Presbytery website;
3. approves the outlined post of a Mission Worker in Presbytery and instructs the business committee to draw up a detailed job description in conjunction with the Church of Scotland HR department and appoint a suitable person;

MINISTRY

Rev Yvonne Smith, Convener, presented the report from the Ministry Committee and the following deliverance was approved:

Presbytery:

1. receives the report;
2. urges congregations to identify and encourage a young person from their church to apply to be the Youth Representative for Clyde Presbytery at this year's General Assembly;

SAFEGUARDING

Nothing to report

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment to meet on Thursday 15th April 2021 at 7.00pm for a service of union for Paisley Glenburn and Paisley Stow Brae Kirk, and then for ordinary business on Tuesday, 8th June 2021 at 7 pm

Moderator

Clerk