



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Cairngryffe Parish Church (School Road, Carmichael, ML12 6PQ) on Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 7pm for the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and thereafter, the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Order of Business – 4 September 2018

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Decisions under Summer Powers
6. Decisions under Delegated Powers
7. Roll of Presbytery
8. Correspondence
9. Good News Stories
10. Report of the Presbytery Support Committee
11. Report of the Relationships and Context Committee
12. Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee
13. Intimations
14. Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 2 October 2017 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Intimations

2018 Ministry and Mission Allocations

Members of Presbytery should inform Clerks to Financial Courts and Treasurers to review the initial proposed figures for Ministry and Mission in 2019 recently emailed to the Clerks. Any appeals from financial courts should be in the hands of the Presbytery Clerk no later than Monday 15 October 2018.

Youth Praise Night

There will be a Youth Praise Night at St. John's Church, Carluke, which is suitable for SI and above on Saturday 15 September from 6pm until 9.30pm. For more details contact Rev Dr Elijah Obinna.

Decisions under summer powers

The Clerk has been informed that the following decisions have been made under Delegated Powers.

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Agreed in respect of Covington Glebe to grant authorisation for the sale of the Covington Glebe subject to a suitable price being agreed by the General Trustees to allow a sufficient return on stipend greater than the rental currently being achieved.
2. Agreed in respect of Douglas Glebe to grant authorisation for extend the rental of the part of the Douglas Glebe currently provide to South Lanarkshire Council for the provision of a play park for the community for a further period of 20 years subject to a suitable rent being negotiated by the General Trustees.
3. Agreed in respect of Lesmahagow: Old Church to approve the plans submitted by Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old to alter the interior of Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church by removing four pew ends to make accessible spaces, remove three short pews to create a prayer space and remove three short pews to create a storage area for temporary staging. Instruct the Clerk to send the completed permission form to the General Trustees and inform the General Trustees of the urgency of the situation in regard to having a worshipper who requires to make use of spaces designed for a mobility scooter.
4. Agreed in respect of Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank to email the Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards of informing them that due to a lack of response from correspondence seeking dates for visits to look at issue raised in the Property Survey Reports, including a lack of progress from the previous report, a date has been chosen for visits by Presbytery and instructing local parties to be in attendance.
5. Agreed in respect of Carstairs Parish Church to
 - a. Approve the application of the Congregational Board and Kirk Session of a Stage 2 application to Heritage Lottery Fund for works within Carstairs Parish Church.
 - b. Approve the plans presented to upgrade the internal staircase, install an accessible WC, install a pantry, and redesign the chancel area of Carstairs Parish Church.
 - c. Instruct the Kirk Session and Congregational Board to provide an extract minute on their willingness to fund the shortfall within the project along with their plan to raise the funds.
 - d. Instruct the Kirk Session and Congregational Board to bring forward a timescale for agreeing proposals for removing the pews and replacing flooring within Carstairs Parish Church in the knowledge that it may be easier to find shortfall funding for the project if the congregation was providing a multi-purpose space for community use.
 - e. Instruct the Kirk Session and Congregational Board to remember that no work should begin on site until Presbytery have issued final approval after all funding is in place.
 - f. Commend the Minister, Kirk Session and Congregational Board for their vision and work in regard to this major building project.
6. Agreed in respect of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old to grant permission to lease the manse of the charge of Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old for an initial period of six months on standard Church of Scotland leading terms where, should a minister be called or the manse is required for Church business a notice period of one month is in operation. It was further agreed to express

disappointment that the Kirk Session and letting company have negotiated terms prior to permission being granted by Presbytery and with no recourse to the General Trustees; and instruct the Kirk Session to ensure that any decisions taken about the buildings within the charge are discussed with the Presbytery at an early stage.

7. Agreed in respect of the Presbytery Attestation of Congregational Accounts for 2017
 - a. The Clerk be instructed to issue attestation reports prepared by IA Stewart to congregational treasurers and session clerks
 - b. Where a set of accounts has 'minor' issues noted by IA Stewart these ought to be changed prior to the congregation submitting accounts to OSCR.
 - c. Where a set of accounts has one or more 'significant' issues noted by IA Stewart these must be actioned and changes made, with the updated annual report and accounts being presented to a properly called and constituted meeting of the congregational trustees in order to be reapproved with a updated date, and thereafter presented to the Independent Examiner for examination and resigning.
 - d. When updated accounts have been signed by two charity Trustees and the independent examiner a signed hard copy should be sent to the Presbytery Clerk (with the examiner signing on the same date, or date after the congregational trustees have signed).
 - e. Every Kirk Session (with either minor or significant points raised) should present the attestation report on their accounts prepared by IA Stewart to their Kirk Session and the independent examiner who carried out the examination. An extract minute of the Kirk Session which details this action should be sent to the Presbytery Clerk no later than 30 September 2018.
 - f. Should Congregational Trustees feel that they unable to undertake this process they should contact the Depute Presbytery Treasurer, Mr John Lumsden as soon as possible.
 - g. For the avoidance of doubt, any congregation with one or more 'significant' points raised by IA Stewart during the attestation must not submit their accounts to OSCR until the Presbytery has acknowledged receipt and satisfaction of changes made to the revised accounts.
8. Agreed in respect of Upper Clyde to appoint Mrs Anne Cochrane (Carnwath), Mrs Caroline Deerin (Biggar), Mr Tom McCallum (Lanark: St. Nicholas) and Mr Denham MacDougall (Cairngryffe) as Assessor Elders in Upper Clyde as of 1 August 2018 and instruct the Assessor Elders to provide a report on the situation to the Presbytery Support Committee no later than 30 April 2019. For the avoidance of doubt the Assessor Elders shall be given voting powers and shall be full charity trustees.
9. Agreed in respect of Committee Membership to approve membership of Presbytery Committees for the session 2018/2019 as follows:
 - a. Relationships and Context Committee: Rev Dr Elijah Obinna (Convener), Mr John Austin, Mr Sandy Boag, Rev David Carmichael, Mr Tom Chalmers, Mrs Anne Cochrane, Mr William Coulter, Mrs Sue Crofton, Rev Henry Findlay, Rev Michael Fucella, Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald, Rev Maudeen MacDougall, Mr Willie MacSween, Mr Alex McPhee, Mr Robert Mitchell, Mrs Christine O'Neill and Mr Hugh Stewart; *plus one member co-opted from Guild Presbyterial Council*
 - b. Worship & Discipleship Committee: Rev Elspeth MacLean (Convener), Mrs Elizabeth Bradley, Mr Robert Carson, Mrs Helen Chekansky, Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Mrs Lynn Cochrane, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev James Cutler, Mr George Forbes, Mr Alan Grant, Rev Paul Grant, Mr William Love, Rev Louise Mackay, Mrs Mabel Morris, Mrs Anne Reid, Rev Steven Reid, Mr Sandy Russell, Mr Jim Sinclair, Mr David Waters, Mr Kenneth Watson, Mr James Watt and Rev David Young; *plus one member co-opted from Guild Presbyterial Council*
 - c. Presbytery Support Committee: Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk), Mr Alan Grant (Moderator – member to 4/9/18), Mr Jim Watt (Moderator Designate – member from 4/9/18), Mrs Elizabeth Bradley (1 year), Rev Paul Grant (1 year), Rev Maudeen MacDougall (1 year), Mr Jim Sinclair (1 year), Mr David Waters (1 year) *with Advisors Caroline Deerin, Ewan Easton, John Lumsden and Mary McGillivray.*

- d. Complaints Committee: Rev Elizabeth Clelland (Convener), Mrs Anne Cochrane, Rev Harry Findlay, Mr William Love, Rev Maudeen MacDougall and Mrs Anne Reid

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Urge all ministers, Session Clerks, Safeguarding Co-ordinators and panels to familiarise themselves with the Safeguarding Act (Act 16, 2018) and ensure that Kirk Sessions are aware of their responsibilities under the act.
3. In respect of Ministry and Mission Variance
 - a. Grant an award of £1,000 to Lanark: Greyfriars towards the costs for a Christmas Activity Day in two local primary schools
 - b. In Year of Young Person, commend all congregations undertaking imaginative mission amongst children and young people and award £500 each to the congregations of Biggar, Crossford, Carstairs, Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. John's, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Forth: St. Paul's, Kirkmuirhill, Lanark: Greyfriars, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, Symington & Tinto Parishes (via Symington) to go towards said mission activities.
4. Note that IA Stewart have completed the attestation of congregational accounts for 2017, thank treasurers for their diligence in producing the accounts and remind congregations of the requirement to submit amended accounts to the Clerk for approval prior to submission to OSCR.
5. Note that any appeals to the proposed ministry and mission allocations for 2019 must be presented to the committee no later than Monday 15th October 2018 and that appeals can only be made on the incorrect calculation of an income base figure.
6. Grant permission to Carstairs to remove pews and install flexible seating as part of the ongoing property project and support and application to CARTA for the same.
7. Grant permission to Kirkmuirhill to make use of toughened glass in the 150th anniversary artistic installation.
8. Grant permission to Biggar to carry out repairs in the Gillespie Centre namely, urgent and essential roof repairs at a cost of £13,000, internal works identified in the inspection report at a cost of £19,990 and to improve the heating and lighting in the upper hall at a cost of £10,500 and support the applications to the General Trustees for these works.
9. In respect of Carluke St: Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St. John's and Carluke Parish Grouping:
 - a. Thank all who have contributed to the discussion with the committee in respect of the situation.
 - b. Acknowledge the pain that has been caused by the decisions made by the Presbytery, Kirk Sessions and congregations in this matter for ministers and individuals within the two congregations.
 - c. Instruct the committee to formally invite Place for Hope to begin a process of facilitated discussion with the Kirk Sessions of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's in order to enable both parties to reach a consensus on the situation and how they might begin to work closer together as congregations.
 - d. Instruct the committee to formally invite Place for Hope to begin a process of facilitated discussion between the minister of Carluke: St. Andrew's and the minister of Carluke: St. Andrew's in deferred union with Carluke: St. John's in order to help them further develop their working relationship within the Church of Scotland and within the town of Carluke, whilst acknowledging the difficulty of the situation in respect of the Deferred Union.
 - e. Express an earnest hope that all will be willing to allow this process to move forward and develop in a way that will to allow conversations to take place that may help to strengthen the relationships between the two congregations.

- f. Agree to delay the start of the facilitated discussion process within the Carluke Parish Grouping until the facilitated discussions between Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's have concluded, reminding the congregations that the work of the Parish Grouping should not stop in the interim.
10. Appoint, as Vacancy Procedure Committee
 - a. for Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old: Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk), Mr Willie Macsween and Mrs Mabel Morris;
 - b. for Douglas Valley, Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk), Mrs Anne Cochrane and Rev Paul Grant; and
 - c. for Kirkmuirhill, Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk), Mr Ewan Easton and Rev Helen Jamieson
 11. Appoint, as Vacancy Advisory Committee
 - a. to Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old, Mr Willie Macsween (Convener), Rev Iain Cunningham and Mrs Mabel Morris;
 - b. to Douglas Valley, Mrs Anne Cochrane (Convener), Rev Mike Fucella and Rev Paul Grant; and
 - c. to Kirkmuirhill, Rev Helen Jamieson (Convener), Mrs Sue Crofton and Mr Ewan Easton
 12. Approve the Presbytery Plan with 2018 revisions (Appendix 1) and note that during 2019 a process of review will require to begin in light of the advisory numbers for planning set by the General Assembly and the forthcoming 'radical' plan to be presented to General Assembly 2019.
 13. Agree to appoint Rev Louise MacKay (Convener) and Mr Robert Mitchell and Rev Mike Fucella (Convener) & Mr David Waters as team members, along with Catch the Light to the charges of the Tinto Parishes and Carnwath linked with Carstairs respectively to complete the Local Church Reviews.
 14. Approve the Data Protection Policy (Appendix 2), Data Retention Policy (Appendix 3) and Privacy Notice (Appendix 4).
 15. Note that the Clerk has signed a data processing agreement with Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on behalf of the Presbytery of Lanark to allow our data to be held on their internal servers and cloud services, and for the Presbytery to make use of the facilities within Greyfriars.

Report

Safeguarding

The committee draw Presbyters attention to Act 16, 2018 of the General Assembly. This is the new Safeguarding Act that encompasses all of the decisions made in safeguarding in the last 20 years. It is highly recommended that ministers, Session Clerks and Safeguarding Co-ordinators make themselves familiar with the act and the responsibilities it continues to place upon Kirk Sessions and congregations. The Presbytery Safeguarding Co-ordinator is currently arranging a series of trainings for volunteers and, with regular meetings and briefings for co-ordinators, will ensure that as many people as possible are aware of their responsibilities under the act.

Finance

Ministry and Mission Variance

The Committee recommend that Presbytery award a grant of £1,000 to Lanark: Greyfriars towards the £1,600 costs of running a Christmas Activity Day for 450 pupils in two local primary schools. The committee commended the congregation on its innovative mission within the parish.

The committee further recommends that in the Year of Young Person it is fitting that Presbytery celebrate the work being undertaken by many congregations to reach out to children and young people. Following an audit of current mission activities (outwith normal Sunday School and Uniformed organisations) the committee heard exciting news of a number of holiday clubs, youth groups, discussion groups, innovative

chaplancy, drop in cafes, art projects, cinemas, story-telling sessions and more. The committee recommend that an award of £500 from the variance go to each congregation undertaking such mission work to aid its development. The congregations awarded the sum are Biggar, Crossford, Carstairs, Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. John's, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Forth: St. Paul's, Kirkmuirhill, Lanark: Greyfriars, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, Symington & Tinto Parishes (via Symington).

Congregational Attestation of Accounts

The committee has received the first round report from IA Stewart and have issued each financial court with the comments made. Where there are significant alterations to be made financial courts are reminded of the requirement to represent the accounts to the trustees and independent examiner for approval. Thereafter all congregations that have been instructed to make changes to the accounts should submit them to the Clerk for a final check. When the final check has been completed the Clerk will inform the congregation of permission to submit the accounts to OSCR. The committee thank all treasurers for their support in ensuring the accounts of our congregations are as accurate as they can be.

Ministry and Mission 2019 Calculations

The committee has received the calculations for Ministry and Mission payments for 2019 and will be sending them directly to clerks of financial courts. Any appeals which financial courts feel necessary to make should be in the hands of the committee no later than Monday 15th October 2018. Congregations are reminded that appeals can only be made on the grounds of an incorrect calculation of the Income Base as laid out in Regulation 1, 2012 (as amended).

Property

Carstairs – Permission is sought by the Congregational Board to remove the pews within the sanctuary and replace them with flexible seating as part of the larger project currently being undertaken. The committee commend the congregation for their vision and determination and support the proposal and application to CARTA.

Kirkmuirhill – Permission has been granted for the installation of a large artistic structure in the grounds of the church. This will consist of windows hanging from chains anchored on a steel structure. After discussion with the congregation the committee recommend permission be granted for the use of toughened glass within the installation.

Biggar – The Kirk Session of Biggar seek permission to undertake some necessary work in the Gillespie Centre following both the property inspection by Mike Nisbet and the handback of the building from the Gillespie Centre Association. The committee invite Presbytery to grant permission for urgent and essential roof repairs at a cost of £13,000, internal works identified in the inspection report at a cost of £19,990 and to improve the heating and lighting in the upper hall at a cost of £10,500 and support the applications to the General Trustees for these works. Funds are in place for these works.

Planning and Deployment

Carluke St: Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St. John's and Carluke Parish Grouping

In recent months, the Presbytery has received a letter from the Kirk Session of Carluke: St. John's in regard to the Deferred Union between Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's. The Kirk Session of St. John's Church expressed their misgivings concerning the viability of the Deferred Union and expressed the view that the Deferred Union is not working and do not foresee a prospect of improvement.

The committee was mindful that, in order to understand the situation fully they needed to listen to both Kirk Sessions and both ministers. The committee therefore sought discussion on the Deferred Union and how all parties viewed the way forward within the Deferred Union. The Presbytery Support Committee called meetings with the individual Kirk Sessions without the ministers being present, and then separately, the ministers, to discuss the adjustment in terms of Section 13 (1) of Act 7, 2003 as amended.

The committee wish to place on record their thanks and appreciation for all who shared views with them and acknowledge that for many, not least the two ministers, the discussions were challenging and uncomfortable. In the discussions some spoke of the need for the Deferred Union to be dissolved and a two charge solution to be reinstated. The committee heard expressed by many, an understanding that unification would provide the best way to achieve the mission of God in Carluke. The union between Carluke: St John's and Carluke: St. Andrew's was voted for overwhelmingly by the members of the two congregations. There was expressed a genuine sadness at the present reality where the two congregations do not appear to be in a position where they can talk to each other about the future and that relationships have broken down. The committee appreciate that many who voiced their thoughts at the meeting also spoke warmly of individual relationships between members of the two churches.

The committee has investigated all possibilities for the future of the Deferred Union. With a minister having been called to the charge, the minister is currently placed within Carluke: St. John's, it is impossible to dissolve the union without removing the minister. Even if Presbytery was of that mind and wished make this change, the Presbytery Planning Task Group (PPTG) of the Ministries Council would only hold discussion over the matter of the dissolution of the Deferred Union if there was a realistic solution for the mission of the church in Carluke. With the Church of Scotland agreeing that there needs to be a radical action plan to reduce the number of charges and buildings in the next few years, it is highly improbable that dissolving the Deferred Union and reinstating to a two charge situation would be realistic.

Having listened to the voices of many individuals within the two congregations the committee recognises the pain that has been caused by the decisions made by the Presbytery, Kirk Sessions and congregations in this matter. However, the committee also feel that there is a need to facilitate a process whereby the two congregations, initially through the Kirk Sessions, begin to speak with one another. The committee also feels that a process of mediation to allow the two ministers to develop their working relationship within the town, outwith the deferred union is crucial to God's mission in Carluke.

To that end the committee has held a discussion with Place for Hope in an effort to devise a process that allows all concerned to achieve a consensus on the situation rather than decisions to be reached. The Kirk Sessions, congregations and Presbytery have all voted for a Deferred Union. The decision to unite the two congregations has already been made and, by calling a minister to the unified charge, the Deferred Union has already been put in place. The committee seek a process whereby all can come to a mind on how to make that adjustment move forward.

The committee is aware that the only outstanding decision to be taken in the matter of the Deferred Union is the question of the use of buildings. The committee, and PPTG agree that before any further discussions can be held in respect of the future of the buildings, the Kirk Sessions first have to come together to talk, and begin to repair some of the relationships between the congregations.

Presbytery is invited to instruct the committee to formally invite Place for Hope to begin a process of facilitated discussion with the Kirk Sessions of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's in order to enable both parties to reach a consensus on the situation and how they might begin to work closer together as congregations. The committee further invite Presbytery to formally invite Place for Hope to begin a process of facilitated discussion between the ministers of Carluke: St. Andrew's and the minister of Carluke: St. Andrew's in deferred union with Carluke: St. John's to help them further develop their working relationship within the Church of Scotland and within the town of Carluke, whilst acknowledging the difficulty of the situation in respect of the Deferred Union.

Within the process of facilitated discussion with Place for Hope, it is likely that the facilitators will wish to gather different groups of people together at different times, and it may be that they wish to meet with the Kirk Session both with and without the minister being present. The committee expresses an earnest hope that all will be willing to allow this process to move forward and develop in a way that allows conversations to take place in order to help strengthen the relationships between the two congregations.

The committee still see much value in the Carluke Parish Grouping. The Presbytery has previously sought to involve Place for Hope in a facilitated discussion between the three Carluke congregations to restore certain relationships within the grouping, and for a number of reasons it has proven difficult to find dates that suit all parties in order to begin this process. The committee feels that whilst there is a need for such facilitated discussion, the matter of the Deferred Union requires more urgent attention. The committee therefore invite Presbytery to delay the start of the facilitated discussion process within the Parish Grouping but remind the congregations that the work of the Parish Grouping should not stop in the interim.

“May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 15:5-6

Vacancy Advisory Committees

In accordance with Act 3, 2008 (as amended) the committee invite Presbytery to appoint the following as Vacancy Procedure Committees:

- Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old: Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk), Mr Willie Macsween and Mrs Mabel Morris;
- Douglas Valley: Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk), Mrs Anne Cochrane and Rev Paul Grant;
- Kirkmuirhill: Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk), Mr Ewan Easton and Rev Helen Jamieson

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Presbytery Plan

The General Assembly of 2018 instructed all Presbyteries to seek fresh concurrence of their Presbytery Plan no later than 31 December 2018. The committee have looked at, and revised the narrative within the plan. There are no changes to the plan in this year, however the Presbytery will need to grapple with issues around the advisory numbers for planning set by the General Assembly this year, and the 2019 ‘radical’ plan likely to be placed before Assembly. The committee invite Presbytery to approve the current plan as contained in Appendix I.

Superintendence

Local Church Review Teams

The committee invite Presbytery to appoint Rev Louise MacKay (Convener) & Mr Robert Mitchell and Rev Mike Fucella (Convener) & Mr David Waters as team members, along with Catch the Light to the charges of the Tinto Parishes and Carnwath linked with Carstairs respectively to complete the Local Church Reviews.

Future Planning

The committee is currently considering the responses made during the table discussions at the Presbytery meeting in June 2018. Alongside those the remits from General Assembly have been received and distributed to committees to study. The committee will bring forward proposals for future plans to forthcoming meetings.

GDPR Policies

With the advent of GDPR Presbytery is required to approve policies in respect of how data is handled. A Data Protection Policy (Appendix 2), Data Retention Policy (Appendix 3) and Privacy Notice (Appendix 4) is presented for approval.

In line with GDPR the Presbytery has signed a data processing agreement with Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark to allow our data to be held on their internal servers and cloud, and for the Presbytery to make use of the facilities within Greyfriars.

Report of the Relationships and Context Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note and encourage all congregations to send representatives and participate in the Presbytery Mission conference proposed for Saturday, 2 February 2019 to be held in Greyfriars Church from 10:30-4:00pm.
3. Encourage the Presbytery and congregations to continue with its financial support for the work of St. Andrews Hospice.
4. Commend a wider circulation of the Mission Partner Newsletters from Rev Dr John McCulloch to all congregations to enable the congregations to engage better with John and family's life and work.
5. Encourage the Presbytery and all congregations to show more commitment in its engagements with local and international Health and Social Care Partnerships.
6. Invite the Presbytery Support committee to set a date in the near future for Rev Iain Cunningham to address the Presbytery on his time as Convenor of the World Mission Council.

Report

Presbytery Mission Conference

The committee revisited the proposal to hold a Mission Conference. It had originally been planned to hold this in October but due to a lack of available dates, it has been decided that it will be held on Saturday, 2 February 2019. It was agreed that Greyfriars Church would be a suitable venue and availability has been confirmed. The conference should run from about 10.30am until about 4.00 pm with lunch and coffee breaks. There would perhaps be two main speakers in the morning and choices of smaller workshops in the afternoon and other projects could be displayed within the conference space. It was agreed that we could make the conference Ecumenical and invite representatives from all Churches in the area. It was decided that it will not be possible to determine the exact topics until we have the opportunity to study the feedback from the Congregational Consultation held in June and decide what issues congregations have indicated that they want to have addressed.

Support for St Andrews Hospice

Although the capital project is complete and they have moved back into their modernised building, it was confirmed that the Hospice continues to need financial support to continue with its work and projects.

Partner Newsletter

George asked if we were all receiving copies of John McCulloch's newsletters. A few are but most are not. There was a query about needing to ask for them first. However, it was suggested it could be passed on to all Ministers and Session Clerks with correspondence.

Ongoing issues in communities

The committee noted that the Community Justice co-ordinator from the South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership is organising a conference in early September. It was agreed that this notification should be passed to the Clerk for the next meeting of Presbytery. This also prompted some discussion about the roles of Churches within the Health and Social Care Partnership.

World Mission Convenor

It was suggested that the Presbytery Support committee be requested to invite Iain Cunningham to give a short presentation to Presbytery on his time as World Mission Council's Convenor.

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the Scheme for the Selection, Training and Authorisation of Funeral Celebrants (Church of Scotland) (Appendix 5) and approve the course 'When someone dies: Bereavement Care and conducting a funeral' (2017) as the standard to which Funeral Celebrants (Church of Scotland) shall be trained.
3. Invite ministers and Kirk Sessions to prayerfully consider those who may be suitable to be trained and authorised as Funeral celebrants (Church of Scotland), and advertise the course within their congregation.
4. Note that names for those nominated by Kirk Sessions to undertake the training for Funeral Celebrants (Church of Scotland) in November must be in the hands of the committee no later than Friday 19 October 2017, but interest should be registered with the convener as soon as possible.
5. Reaffirm the invitation to all congregations to participate in the National Prayer Day on Saturday 3rd November 2018 between 9am and 9pm.
6. Instruct all members of Presbytery to note the date of the Presbytery Retreat Day on 2nd March 2019, and prayerfully consider attending.

Report

Funeral Training

The committee invites Presbytery to approve the Scheme for Selection, Training and Authorisation of Funeral Celebrants (Church of Scotland) (Appendix 5). This scheme is the result of further collaboration with Hamilton Presbytery. The scheme has been prepared to allow the running of a joint training course for lay people to lead funerals. It is proposed that once trained, individuals will be authorised and given the title "Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland)" and will be encouraged to introduce themselves as being from their particular church or parish. The course will consist of an initial evening on pastoral care followed by a day course to provide the necessary skills and confidence to be able to carry out a Christian funeral service

The course will cover the following areas:

1. Pastoral Care
 - a. What is Pastoral Care?
 - b. Reflection on a Bible passage to help inform pastoral practice
 - c. Consider and develop skills as an empathic listener
2. Bereavement Care
 - a. Reflect on a Bible passage dealing with loss and grief
 - b. Explore the stages of grief

- c. Increase confidence in working through issues of loss
3. Funeral Preparation
- a. Practical aspects of death and funerals
 - b. Liturgies and resources
 - c. What happens after the funeral?

After the course is completed each individual will work in a six month practical placement to gain the necessary skills for conducting a funeral and providing care to the bereaved. When an individual has successfully completed all parts of the training and authorisation process they will work with a parish minister. Only the parish minister can grant permission for the funeral celebrant to conduct a service on behalf of the Church. A funeral celebrant will not be entitled to accept an invitation to conduct a funeral without the permission of the minister of the congregation with whom they work.

The committee is aware that with the anticipated reduction in the number of ministers available within the Church of Scotland in the next decade new ways need to be found in order that our churches can still bring the ordinances of religion to all who request it. This scheme, alongside the scheme to authorise worship leaders is one way in which Lanark Presbytery can develop the gifts of all God's people and ensure that the Church of Scotland in our area continues to provide care and support for the communities we serve. The committee recommend the adoption of this scheme to Presbytery.

Should Presbytery approve the scheme the first course will take place in November 2018. All ministers and Kirk Sessions are encouraged to advertise this course with fliers which will be mailed to Session Clerks, and prayerfully consider every applicant according to the Scheme guidelines. There will be 16 places available, shared between Hamilton and Lanark Presbyteries.

National Day of Prayer

The committee recommend to Presbytery the National Day of Prayer which is to be held on Saturday 3rd November. Resources are now available for download at

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/connect/together_we_pray/downloadable_resources

As stated previously, the committee wish to encourage every church to participate, and the hope of the committee is to see Lanark Presbytery having continuous prayer from 9am to 9pm it is suggested that four geographical areas of Presbytery cover at least one section of the 12 hours as follows:

- Clydesdale East – Biggar I/w Black Mount, Carnwath I/w Carstairs, Tinto Parishes, Upper Clyde. 9.00 am -12 noon.
- Clydesdale West – Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St Andrews, Carluke St John's, Law. 12 noon -3.00pm.
- Clydesdale North – Crossford I/w Kirkfieldbank, Forth St Paul's, Lanark: Greyfriars, Lanark: St Nicholas. 3.00 -6.00 pm.
- Clydesdale South – Coalburn & Lesmahagow Old, Douglas Valley, Kirkmuirhill, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen. 6.00-9.00pm.

The committee recommend that the churches in each area might work together to plan prayer activities. The committee also recognise that some churches serve smaller, more remote communities and may wish to plan for a section of the day, or sections throughout the day in their own community. Each church is of course free to plan and decide what type of prayer and what times suit them best, and the committee would be delighted if some churches choose to cover the whole 12 hours.

Presbytery Retreat

The committee remind Presbytery of the planned retreat on Saturday 2nd March 2019, Braehead House, 10am – 4pm and invite all members of Presbytery to put the date in their diary. The morning session will have a speaker from the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, and the afternoon session will be led in house. The committee will be seeking to confirm numbers of those attending by the February Presbytery meeting.

Presbytery Plan 2018

(32 pages download at <https://www.lanarkpresbytery.org/assets/downloads/policies/Presbytery-Plan-AMENDED-September-2018.pdf>)

Data Protection Policy

(9 pages download at <https://www.lanarkpresbytery.org/assets/downloads/policies/Data-Protection-Policy.pdf>)

Data Retention Policy

(view at <https://www.lanarkpresbytery.org/work/policies/data-retention>)

Privacy Policy

(view at <https://www.lanarkpresbytery.org/work/policies/privacy>)

The Church of Scotland
PRESBYTERY OF LANARK

**Scheme for the Selection, Training and Authorisation
of Funeral Celebrants (Church of Scotland)**

The Presbytery of Lanark agree to the provision of a Scheme for the Selection, Training and Authorisation of Funeral Celebrants (Church of Scotland).

The Scheme is intended to make provision for the Authorisation of Funeral Celebrants (Church of Scotland) who shall provide general and bereavement pastoral support and conduct funerals within the context of the congregation, (or linked charge, parish grouping or 'hub'), of which they are a member (or in limited instances a nearby congregation) always under the supervision of a minister.

1. With respect to Selection, the Presbytery shall, in the first instance, intimate the Scheme to all Kirk Sessions within its bounds and invite them to put forward names from within their congregation such persons as they believe to be eligible for selection, training and authorisation as a Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland) within their own congregation.
2. Members of congregations within the bounds of Presbytery can apply to the Kirk Session to have their name considered as someone eligible for selection, training and authorisation as a Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland).
3. The Kirk Session shall present the names of those individuals they believe should progress to training and authorisation as Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland)s to the minister of the charge.
4. The minister of the charge shall meet with any individuals whose names have been put forward by the Kirk Session and recommend suitability for nomination to the Kirk Session.
5. Upon the recommendation of the minister in terms of 4., a Kirk Session shall decide as to whether to nominate any individuals and shall, in all cases, intimate such nomination, in terms of 1., to the Presbytery Clerk by way of Extract Minute. In addition, the Kirk Session shall submit a letter of support with respect to each person nominated setting out the reasons for their nomination, along with an assurance that the minister of the charge has met with the individual and provided a positive recommendation for nomination.
6. The Presbytery shall submit the names of all persons nominated, in terms of 1. to 5. above, to the Presbytery for approval for Selection and Training.
7. For the avoidance of doubt, approval for Selection and Training should not be taken to imply subsequent Authorisation, with Authorisation dependent upon the satisfactory completion of Training and approval of Authorisation by Presbytery.
8. The Presbytery shall appoint a team of Supervisors who shall be responsible for the delivery of Training, the supervision of practical placements, in terms of 10., and; making recommendation to the Presbytery as whether a person should receive Authorisation in terms of this Scheme. The Presbytery may cooperate with neighbouring presbyteries offering the same training scheme to appoint Supervisors from other Presbyteries.
9. Each person approved for Selection and Training shall be appointed a Supervisor who shall be responsible (with others) for the delivery of Training. Supervisor shall be responsible for making recommendation to Presbytery as whether a person should receive Authorisation in terms of this Scheme.
10. Persons selected for Training shall be required (i) to complete a training course authorised by Presbytery; (ii) to work in a supervised practical placement with the minister of the congregation in which they are a member (or another minister appointed following consultation between the Supervisor and the minister of the congregation of which the individual is a member) for a period of six months to allow the development of skills and experience in conducting funerals and providing pastoral care; and (iii) to attend a review with the Supervisor and minister of the congregation of which they are a member to discuss the training, placement and skills developed in leading funerals and providing pastoral care.

11. At the point of nomination by the Kirk Session, the congregational Safeguarding Co-ordinator will ensure the applicant has Church of Scotland PVG Scheme Membership to do regulated work with protected adults and as the role of Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland) will include providing pastoral care/support/counselling to those under the age of 18 years old PVG Scheme Membership to do regulated work with children will also be required. For the avoidance of doubt no person shall proceed to a practical placement until approval is obtained from the Safeguarding Service.
12. No person shall be recommended for Authorisation who has not attended all training sessions; has not satisfactorily completed a period of supervised placement for a period of at least six months; and attended a review of their training, placement and skills development in leading funerals and providing pastoral care.
13. Should the Supervisor and minister of the charge feel a further period of supervised placement is necessary prior to Authorisation following the review this will be reported to the appropriate committee of Presbytery at the first available opportunity and arrangements made for a further period of supervised placement.
14. The Presbytery shall receive the name(s) of persons recommended for approval of Authorisation on the recommendation of their appointed Supervisor and minister of the congregation of which they are a member and, if so approved, shall maintain a Register of persons having received Authorisation as Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland)s.
15. In the event of Authorisation having been refused by Presbytery, a person shall have the right of Appeal in terms of Act I (2014).
16. Authorisation shall normally be for a period of three years in the first instance. The renewal of Authorisation shall be dependent on the submission of a request by the Kirk Session to the Presbytery Clerk by way of Extract Minute setting out the basis on which renewal of Authorisation is sought and the subsequent approval of renewal of Authorisation by Presbytery. The Presbytery shall, at its discretion, require any person whose Authorisation is to be renewed to attend further Training.
17. All Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland)s will work under the authority of the minister of the congregation of which they are a member. The minister of the charge will authorise and give consent for a Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland)s to conduct a funeral within the congregation or charge in which they are a member, or in a nearby parish at the request of the minister of the other charge. A minister may grant authorisation and consent to a Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland) to lead funerals and provide pastoral care during a period of absence, but shall ensure that another minister be appointed as a support to the Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland) for that period.
18. No Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland) will have the authority to conduct a funeral without receiving the authorisation and consent of the minister of the charge.
19. For the avoidance of doubt, it is recommended that a Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland) accept a gift of thanks from the family only up to the equivalent of the pulpit supply fee with the balance going to the relevant congregation. Should the gift of thanks from the family be less than the equivalent of the pulpit supply fee, the Funeral Celebrant (Church of Scotland) may claim the difference from the congregation. Travelling expenses should be claimed directly from the congregation at the normal rates.