

Lanark, on Tuesday 13 March 2018 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Alan Grant, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – 8 Ministers, 18 Elders, 2 Corresponding members and 7 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael, H Findlay, P Grant, G Shand and D Young, Ministers; G Chapman, S Paget, A Reid, J Sinclair and J Watt Elders, and K Gardiner, Corresponding Members.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting, especially visitors from Carluke St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's who had been cited to appear.

Approval of the Order of Business

Due to the inclement weather in the weeks surrounding 6 March 2018 when Presbytery was scheduled to meet and the decision to delay the meeting by one week to 13 March 2018 it was agreed that The Presbytery homologate the decision of the Moderator, Presbytery Clerk and Presbytery Support Convener to postpone the Ordinary Meeting due to be held on 6 March 2018 and reschedule for 13 March 2018 at 7pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6 February 2018

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2018 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the following decisions had been taken under powers.

Presbytery Support Committee - Candidate in Training, Ministry of Word and Sacrament (1 December 2017)

- I. Presbytery, under delegated powers, note that Rev Bryan Kerr represented Presbytery at the initial course meeting of George Sneddon, candidate in training and that a course of study has been approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Moderator expressed a welcome to Mr George Sneddon, Candidate in Training for the Full time Ministry of Word and Sacrament and offered a prayer of blessing on him and his studies.

Correspondence

The Clerk informed members that all items of correspondence had been notified via email and that a number of pieces of correspondence had been received and remitted to appropriate Committee Conveners or passed on by e-mail to Ministers, Session Clerks and members of Presbytery.

The clerk referred to a number of items of note that had previously been circulated.

Good News Stories

There were no stories shared.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The section of the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee in relation to the Deferred Union of Carluke: St. Andrews and Carluke: St. John's was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that citations had been served to the congregations of Carluke: St. Andrews and Carluke: St. John's and had been returned duly signed.

The Convenor informed Presbytery and Parties that the section of report had been withdrawn due to further advice being sought from Presbytery Planning Task Group and General Trustees. Due to this section of the report being withdrawn after the citations had been issued the congregations were still required to attend to hear that the report would not be presented.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Members of Carluke: St. Andrew's expressed concern at the report not being presented to Presbytery at this meeting.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convenor assured Presbytery that the report would be presented to Presbytery in due course when further advice and clarification from both PPTG and General Trustees had been received.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance, which was seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
5. After discussion with the Presbytery Planning Task Group and Principal Clerk, note with disappointment that it has not been possible to present a report on the reclassification of buildings within Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's at this time and assure the congregations of the determination of Presbytery to continue to seek a resolution in this matter.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them.

The Clerk informed Parties that, should they wish to appeal the decision, they should do so, in writing within 14 days.

The remainder of the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. *Already agreed*
2. In respect of Presbytery Accounts
 - a. Approve the Annual Report and Accounts of the Presbytery of Lanark for the year ended 31 December 2017.
 - b. Thank Mrs Mary McGillivray for her work in preparing the accounts and for all the work she undertakes as treasurer.
3. In respect of Congregational Accounts
 - a. Remind all congregational treasurers of the instruction of the General Assembly to provide a hard copy of the approved, examined and signed accounts and annual report for year ended 31 December 2017 to the Presbytery Clerk no later than 31 March 2018
 - b. Appoint IA Stewart to conduct the attestation of congregational accounts year ended 31 December 2017
 - c. Instruct all Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards to not send their accounts to OSCR until they are informed by the Presbytery Clerk that either their accounts are approved to be submitted or changes are made and accounts resubmitted where errors are found during the attestation process.
4. In respect of the Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance

- a. Grant an award of £240 (4 Sundays out of possible 18) for Cairngryffe, £480 (8 Sundays out of possible 16) for Symington and £360 (6 Sundays out of possible 11) for Libberton & Quothquan to meet the costs of Pulpit Supply to cover the third Sunday Service.
 - b. Grant an award to both Coalburn & Lesmahagow: Old and Douglas Valley Church of £1,560 each to meet the costs of Pulpit Supply to cover the second services held in locations agreed in the Basis of Union of both charges.
 - c. Grant an award of £610 to Carluke: St. John's for the purchase of the computer, electrical and musical equipment for Grace Notes, and encourage the Kirk Session or the group to fund the purchase of the Hoodies through other specific fundraising efforts, such as a retiring offering.
 - d. Grant an award of £1,000 to Lanark: Greyfriars to help meet the costs of the Holiday Club in 2018.
 - e. Encourage congregations to apply to the committee for grants from the Variance Fund to help with costs of special mission projects and note that the deadline for accepting applications for 2018 is Monday 13 August 2018.
5. *Already agreed*
6. Approve the pilot of community consultation within the Local Church Review Process and agree to utilise £1,000 from the 2018 Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance to cover costs of the pilot.
7. Note that the annual attestation of records will take place on Tuesday 17 April and congregations are instructed to follow the procedure as laid out in the Year Book on pages 41-42.
8. In respect of the General Assembly 2018
- a. Agree that the ministers attending this year's Assembly from Lanark Presbytery will be Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Dr Nikki MacDonald, Rev Maudeen MacDougal and Rev Dr Elijah Obinna.
 - b. Agree that the elders attending this year's Assembly from Lanark Presbytery will be Lynn Cochrane (Upper Clyde), Ross Hyslop (Lanark Greyfriars), Betty McLeod (Carnwath) Glenn Walker (Carluke St Johns) and Pamela Watt (Carluke St Andrew's)
 - c. Note that, following a request from the Principal Clerk and the Assembly Arrangements Committee, the Presbytery Clerk will be holding a briefing meeting for all commissioners on Wednesday 25 April 2018 at 7:30pm in Greyfriars Church.
 - d. Invite all commissioners to attend the Presbytery meeting on 1 May 2018 at 7pm for an act of commissioning prior to the General Assembly.
 - e. Appoint Mr Glenn Walker and Rev Bryan Kerr to the Commission of Assembly in 2018-2019
9. Appoint Mr Jim Watt, Presbytery elder from Cairngryffe Parish Church, as Moderator of Presbytery for 2018-2019.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Relationships & Context Committee

The Report of the Relationships & Context Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Dr Elijah Obinna. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Rev Mike Fucella has been appointed Vice Convener and Helen Chekansky appointed Secretary of the Relationship and Context Committee.
3. Note that the use of a Facebook page to support communication is to be explored.
4. Encourage the Presbytery Support Committee to reconsider setting up a functional website for the Presbytery as a means of outreach and communication.
5. Encourage congregations and individuals to continue their support of international aid agencies but to also scrutinise agencies they support in the light of recent events as to whether they have introduced policies and procedures to safeguard the most vulnerable

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Worship & Discipleship Committee

The Report of the Worship & Discipleship Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Elspeth MacLean. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Rev Louise Mackay has been appointed Vice Convener and Mabel Morris & Anne Reid as joint minute secretaries of the Worship and Discipleship Committee.
3. Note that a meeting has been arranged to take forward the joint initiative of training elders in conducting funerals with the Presbytery of Hamilton
4. Note that a sub committee has been established to take forward work in relation to Year of Young Person in 2018.
5. Note that the committee are undertaking exploratory work on developing the prayer life and music and praise experiences within the Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

Intimations were called for

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 1 May 2018 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the benediction.

Moderator

Clerk