

Lanark, on Tuesday, 1st February 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 19 Ministers and 36 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. John Brown and Rev. Catherine Collins, Ministers, and from Mrs. Flora Cheeseman, Mr. Alex. Elliot, and Mrs. Grace Graham, Elders.

Tribute to the late Rev. Laurence McLauchlan

The Moderator called on the members of Presbytery to stand while the following tribute was paid to the late Rev. Laurence McLauchlan by Rev. William Izett.

Rev. Laurence McLauchlan died suddenly on 15th December 1999, aged 86, after celebrating 59 years of ordination to the ministry of our church.

Born in Lauder, schooled at Berwick High, he thereafter gained his degrees at Edinburgh University and New College. He was ordained to the Holy Ministry in 1940 in Armadale, and was later inducted to his first charge at St. Aiden's Edinburgh, followed by Tomatin in 1963, and Haywood, Wilsontown and Braehead in 1969.

Although retiring to Glasgow in 1974 he maintained a very loyal support, and active encouragement to the church and congregation at Househillwood St. Christopher's since 1989. Rev. Alan Sorenson expresses great appreciation of Laurence's commitment and regular help in the conduct of worship. The Sunday before he died Laurence was involved in the communion service.

Mr. McLauchlan's strong attributes were: being an avid reader, and a keen sportsman, a befriender of the young, a sincere pastor to his own pastor, and a regular and devoted worshipper, and having an excellent memory, to the point that he regularly told visiting preachers when they had last preached on a certain text, and, to their horror, exactly how much they had deviated from their previous discourse.

A constant source of strength during his ministry was Eleanor, his dear wife of 47 years, who died in 1987. His personal sorrows were compounded by the death of a son in 1996 and the present sufferings of a daughter due to M. S.

Perhaps we are the better to associate with the tribute of his minister, Rev. Alan Sorenson, who wrote: "*As in his ministry, so in his membership of the church, he was exemplary in his support of all that went on in the church, wise in his counsel, and generous in his encouragement.*"

We remember in our prayers his daughter Yvonne, son Wilfred, and his many friends in the congregation and community of Househillwood St. Christopher.'

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7th December 1999, and of the *in hunc effectum* meeting held on 9th December 1999, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

—**From Carluke: St. John's**, 14 December 1999, suggesting that the Visit of the Moderator to Presbytery should include a visit to Street Level.

—**From The Principal Clerk**, 7 January 2000, confirming the visit of the Moderator to the Presbytery during the period Saturday 3 March to Monday 12 March 2001.

—**From The Committee to Revise the Hymnary**, 12 January 2000, thanking Presbytery for its response to the remit from the 1999 General Assembly and assuring that the committee will take careful note of all the comments made.

—**From Board of Ministry**, 13 January 2000, intimating that in the case of Douglas: St. Bride's linked with Douglas Water & Rigside the Committee on Ministry Support authorised the setting aside of a grant of 320 shares in the Consolidated Stipend Endowment Fund, effective as from 1 January 2000 since Local Capital had been received.

—**From General Trustees**, 20 January 2000, advising Presbytery of a change of dates for the meetings of the General Trustees' Committees. The Fabric and Chairman's Committees will now meet on 9 May, instead of 16 May, and the Glebes Committee will meet on 10 May instead of 17 May.

Extract Minutes & Letters: (contd./)

—**From Department of Education**, 26 January 2000, enclosing a document entitled “A Christian Vision for Scottish Education” and commending it for study throughout the Church. (*It was agreed to remit the document to Church & Community for consideration.*)

—**From The Lyall Bequest**, 27 January 2000, drawing the attention of Ministers to the existence of this Charitable Trust which provides financial assistance to Ministers of the Church of Scotland with holidays in St. Andrews.

COMMISSION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2000

The Clerk gave notice that the following Charges would be likely to be required to send Commissioners to the forthcoming General Assembly: *Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton & Quothquan, Forth: St. Paul’s, Kirkmuirhill, Carluke: St. Andrew’s, Douglas St. Bride’s linked with Douglas Water & Rigside.* The Presbytery resolved to meet on Tuesday 7th March 2000 between the hours of 11 o’clock in the forenoon and 8 o’clock in the evening to appoint Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2000.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Approve that the following members be appointed to an ad hoc committee to make arrangements for the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly in March 2001: The Clerk (as Convener), the Moderator (for the year 2000/2001), the Press and Publicity Officer, the Rev. Sheila Mitchell, the Rev. Stephen Pacitti, Mrs. Irene Williams, Mrs. Grace Graham and Mr. Tom Donnelly.*
3. *Approve the setting up of an ad hoc committee to conduct a review of the Presbytery, and appoint as members the Rev. Catherine Collins, the Rev. Jim Bain, Mrs. Nan Mackie and Mr. David Adams, Convener.*
4. *Invite Miss Ailsa Henderson, Christian Aid Area Co-ordinator, to address Presbytery at the November meeting of Presbytery, and approve an order of the day for 7.30pm.*
5. *Agree to deal with the demission of the Rev. Dr. Andrew Munro at the May meeting of Presbytery.*
6. *Agree to deal with the demission of the Rev. Bill Izett at the June meeting of Presbytery.*
7. *Agree to continue with the recently approved rota for Commissions to the General Assembly, with a spare place every fourth year in lieu of Culter l.w. Libberton & Quothquan, and remit to the Business Committee to bring forward a nomination to fill that place at the appropriate time.*
8. *Note that under "Presbytery Representatives to Boards and Committees," P.47 of the Year Book, Miss Joyce Munro is Presbytery's representative on the Board of Social Responsibility.*
9. *Approve an order of the day at 7.30pm for the Social Responsibility Area Manager to address Presbytery at the March meeting.*
10. *Approve the appointment of Mrs. Irene Williams as Vice—Convener of the Parish Reappraisal Committee.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RADIO CLYDE:

Mr. David Adams reported on the meeting of the Radio Clyde Religious Advisory Committee on 13th December 1999, which he had chaired in the absence of the Convener. He reported that Rev. Jill Gibson was likely to replace Rev. Alan Sorenson as a presenter on Clyde 1 and that Rev. Marjory Macaskill had recently presented Clyde 2’s morning “Thought for the Day”.

There had been a successful Remembrance Sunday Broadcast from Erskine Hospital and at the time of the meeting there had been plans for a special Christmas broadcast on the theme of homelessness. There was also the possibility that Radio Clyde might soon broadcast digitally as “Clyde 3” and, although there were no plans as yet for religious broadcasting on the new station, there was the likelihood of a country/gospel music programme on the schedule.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH REAPPRAISAL COMMITTEE: The Vice—Convener, Mr. George Forbes, submitted the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee which had considered the question of readjustment in the impending vacancy at Glencaple and Lowther which would ensue after the retirement of the minister, Rev. Dr. Andrew Munro. The Vice—Convener had chaired the meeting of the Committee which unanimously recommended that the linked congregations be allowed to call a minister without restriction. Such a call would be within the Presbytery Plan.

The Vice—Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Resolve that, in line with the Presbytery Plan, the question of readjustment be not pursued in the impending vacancy at Glencaple and Lowther.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE: The Convener, Mrs. Margaret Filshie, submitted the following report of the Worship Committee:

“The Worship Committee has studied the section, *Worship 2000*, and found many points of interest, and many others which simulated discussion and disagreement.

There have been great changes over the years in our life styles, our work, art, music, literature and technology, and also in our political and economic conditions. But overall there remains a pattern which can be recognised and identified as Church of Scotland worship, and within that pattern there is a great variety of services. Not all have moved to take some account of the changes and the new possibilities. Perhaps the talents, attitude or personality of the minister, as well as the willingness or unwillingness of congregations, are the dominating factors in determining whether the worship is vibrant and meaningful, or dull and far too rigid.

Worship is not only a noun—it is also a verb, and the Committee felt that congregations should probably be encouraged, even taught, to make worship a positive act. And not just for Sundays. It ought to be helpful for the congregation to spend a few moments of quiet preparing for the service, and thinking why they are there—to worship.

Other points were the basic ones, such as: Can the whole congregation hear everything? Are our sound systems effective? Is part of the congregational budget set aside for worship resources — books, music, equipment? Not easy, if you are struggling to balance the budget, in times of financial stringency.

Should the Worship Committee in Presbytery play a more active role in the development of worship in the congregations within the bounds, be encouraged to do more in the way of co-ordinating and sharing the best practices in worship, even considering whether more discussion and assessment of the congregational worship should be a part of the Quinquennial review? Change can only be introduced carefully, perhaps with something a little different in the morning worship, or different acts of worship at the evening service — whether meditative, silent, exuberant, charismatic or more participative.

One of the recommendations is that each congregation should conduct an assessment of worship and review ways in which it might be developed to become more fully the expression of all the people. The Music Committee of the Panel on Worship could produce a video recording to demonstrate new music and practices in worship.

Our Committee was not very happy with the style of charismatic worship, with clapping or with arm waving, but acknowledged that such practices attract many people, particularly among the young. It is often difficult to give our emotions their proper place in worship, or to work out how we might use multimedia worship, not just at a superficial level, but to retain the theological depth.

In Biggar, one of the most thoughtful, moving and significant acts of worship was an ecumenical service held on New Year's Eve to mark the coming of the new Millennium. I know that the minister and the priest devoted much time and thought to the form of the service—it was a quite different format — there were hymns, well chosen, candles, silence, instrumental music, prayer, readings, responses as well as an address to inspire us. The people in the Kirk responded, and there was a tremendous feeling of appreciation for the service — not just looking back over 2000 years to the birth of Christ, but looking forward to the Church we should be building in the years ahead. And, there was a positive atmosphere of Worship.

(Worship Committee Report contd./)

It was a special time, but it does show what is possible, even what might have a spiritual impact on the imagination.

The Committee commends this report, "*Worship 2000*", to ministers and elders for study and thought in our Kirk Sessions.

The Worship Committee was also given a copy of the new "*Pray Now*". New thoughts and new ways to help with prayer have been included, but there was not time for all the committee to consider the book. So we just offer the information that the new edition of *Pray Now* was published in the Advent season, instead of in the spring as previously, at a price of £2.99."

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Commend the Worship 2000 extract from the Panel on Worship Report (Remits page 18) to Kirk Sessions and Congregations for study and action.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE: The Convener, Mrs. Ena Wilson, submitted the report of the World Mission Committee which dealt with three matters:

(a) Missionary Partner: Christine Stone

The Convener had learned at short notice that our Missionary Partner, Christine Stone, would be within the bounds of Presbytery between 14th and 23rd February and a programme of visits had been arranged as follows:

Monday 14th — Carstairs Primary School (*afternoon*); Biggar (*evening*)

Wednesday 16th — Lanark: St. Nicholas (*morning*) Lunch with Convener; Lanark Primary (*afternoon*); Carluke St. John's/Kirkton (*evening*) in St. John's

Sunday 20th — Carstairs Village and Junction (*morning services*); Larbert (*evening*)

Monday 21st — Forth: St. Paul's (*evening*)

Wednesday 23rd — Kirkmuirhill (*evening*)

(b) Barnabas Trust Petition

A letter had been received from The Barnabas Trust concerning reported developments in Nigeria which had been causing some concern to Christians in the country. It was agreed to distribute the petition and background papers to Kirk Sessions for discussion.

(c) Faithshare Programme

The Board of World Mission had invited Lanark Presbytery to consider having a Faithshare Partner and the Presbytery's World Mission Committee had carefully considered the matter and were unanimous and enthusiastic in recommending approval. The Faithshare Partner who would be assigned to the Presbytery should the scheme be approved and a suitable placement arranged, would be Miss Jee-Eon Choi from Seoul, Korea who is 27 years old and affiliated to the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea. She is a graduate in Christian Education and Christian Social Education with interests in music and youth work, and speaks good English. The placement would be from October 2000 to March 2001. The Board of World Mission would meet the costs of salary, telephone rental and work-related calls. The Faithshare Partner would be responsible for fuel costs, personal telephone calls, personal travel. Presbytery would be responsible for finding and paying the cost of suitable accommodation and Council Tax. The Partner would be encouraged to use public transport and a small Support Group would be set up to regularly with her and report monthly.

The World Mission Committee invited Kirk Sessions interested in participating to submit outline details of proposed placements to the Committee at its next meeting.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note the arrangements for the visit of Christine Stone*
3. *Recommend support of the Barnabas Trust Petition and encourage congregations to return completed petition forms to the March Presbytery meeting.*
4. *Commend the Faithshare partner to Kirk Sessions, and invite Kirk Sessions interested in participating in the Faithshare programme to make proposals and requests known to the World Mission Convener by 29th February (i.e. next committee meeting).*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Mr. Archie Clark, submitted the report of the Property Committee in which he informed Presbytery of problems of dry rot in the Manse at *Kirkmuirhill* which had been discovered during recent repair work. The total cost of repairs was now estimated at no more than £24,000. The congregation had around £20,000 in reserves but may require to apply for assistance from central funds to make up the shortfall and sought Presbytery approval to do so.

The Convenor also reported on a meeting between the special ad hoc group appointed by Presbytery, representatives of the congregation of *Kirkfieldbank*, and representatives of the General Trustees, to consider the major property problems associated with the Church building at *Kirkfieldbank*. The outcome of the meeting had been an agreement to seek proper professional advice from an architect before proceeding to any decision.

The Convenor then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve that the necessary emergency repairs to roof and walls be carried out on the Manse at Kirkmuirhill at a cost of no more than £24,000 and approve any necessary application to the Central Fabric Fund for financial assistance for this work.*
3. *Note that a meeting was held on January 18th with representatives from the General Trustees and from the congregation of Kirkfieldbank, that it was agreed that an architect be appointed to investigate the most economical use of the properties, and that a further meeting is to be arranged.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Rev. Jim Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee in which he outlined proposals for the Examination of Records. Records would be received on 29th February 2000 in St. Nicholas' Church Hall between 7pm and 8pm. And would be returned at the March meeting of Presbytery. The following records require to be produced: **Session Minute Book** (*showing Attestation of Roll 1999, Appointment of Presbytery Elder and, where appropriate the Appointment of a Child Protection Co-ordinator*); **Minutes of Financial Court**; **Communion Roll** (and Supplementary Roll); An audited copy of the **Financial Statement**; **Property Register** (for examination by the Property Committee); and **Baptismal Register**. The Convenor then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note the arrangements for the Annual Inspection of Records*
3. *Note that in 2000 the following congregations will receive Quinquennial Visitations:— Coalburn and. Lesmahagow: Old; Carluke: St. Andrew's; Carluke: St. John's.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 29th February 2000.

**WORLD MISSION
PROPERTY**

PARISH MISSION

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
PARISH EDUCATION
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 7th March 2000 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 7th March 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 20 Ministers and 26 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. David Young, Minister, and from Mrs. Anna Aitken, Mr. George Buckley, Mrs. Flora Cheeseman, Mr. Gavin Douglas, Mr. Adam Foster, Mrs. Grace Graham, Mr. Johan Hamelink, Mr. James Hardie, Mrs Ramsay Jackson and Mrs. Irene Williams, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 1st February 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

—**From The Board of Ministry**, 2nd February 2000, intimating that in terms of Act III, 1995, Presbytery was being advised that the following persons had intimated their intention to petition the General Assembly 2000 for admission or readmission as Ministers of the Church of Scotland (Frank Alexander Gosling, Bob Henderson, Kenneth Albert Lawson Mayne, Valerie Easter Smart). Presbytery resolved that in the case of Mr. Frank Gosling the objections which had been raised in previous years should again be communicated to the Sub-Committee on Admission and Readmission of Ministers, namely that it is the opinion of Presbytery that there is no evidence of sufficient change in conduct and attitude of Mr Gosling for us to support this petition and that there is still considerable concern as to his suitability for the ministry.

—**From The General Trustees**, 14th February 2000, intimating that in the case of Kirkfieldbank the Trustees' Fabric Committee had agreed to make available grant monies from the Central Fabric Fund to cover the cost of a Professional Report on the Kirkfieldbank Church buildings, to be carried out by Mr. Robin Marwick of Messrs. James Davidson & Sons, Chartered Architects, Coatbridge.

—**From The Department of National Mission, Parish Reappraisal Committee**, 15th February 2000, intimating that in the case of the impending vacancy at Glencaple linked with Lowther the Committee had resolved to defer consideration until the receipt of a Congregational Survey Form.

—**From The Board of World Mission**, 16th February 2000, advising Presbytery not to proceed further with the petition concerning Nigeria, circulated by The Barnabas Fund, until a response from partner churches in Nigeria is received.

—**From The Committee on Artistic Matters**, 29th February 2000, enclosing a series of information pamphlets to assist congregations with the process of making changes in their buildings.

—**From The Kirk Session of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church**, 4th March 2000, supporting the application of their minister Rev. John M.A. Thomson to accept a three month tour of duty in Bosnia as Army Chaplain to the Royal Logistics Group from mid September to mid December 2000.

Commission to the General Assembly of 2000.

Presbytery appointed the following Commissioners to the ensuing General Assembly:

MINISTERS:

Rev. James Bain, 22 Lea-Rig, Forth, Lanark,
(Forth: St. Paul's)

Rev. Helen Jamieson, St. Andrew's Manse, 120
Clyde Street, Carluke

(Carluke: St. Andrew's)
Rev. Lawrie Lennox, The Manse, Douglas,
Lanark

(Douglas St. Bride's with Douglas Water & Rigside)
Rev. Stephen Pacitti, Cardon Drive, Biggar

(Black Mount with Culter with Libberton & Quoithquan)

Rev. David A. Young, 2 Lanark Road,
Kirkmuirhill

(Kirkmuirhill)

ELDERS:

Mr. Andrew Brown, 8 Cherrytree Drive,
Kirkmuirhill (Kirkmuirhill)

Mr. Ian Conn, Staneyhill, Cleugh Mill, Forth
(Forth: St. Paul's)

Mr. Jock Davidson, 12 Ivanhoe Court, Carluke
(Carluke: St. Andrew's)

Mrs. Mary McCabe, 16 Welsh Street, Douglas
Water (Douglas Water &
Rigside)

Mr. Hamish Paterson, Glenbreck, Culter,
Biggar (Culter)

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that Presbytery has the opportunity to appoint a Youth Delegate to this year's General Assembly, and remit to the Convener of the Business Committee with powers, to receive nominations from member congregations and to forward a name to the Board of Parish Education by 31st. March.*
3. *Subject to the concurrence of the Chaplains' Committee, agree to the mobilisation of the Rev. John M.A. Thomson (Lanark: St. Nicholas) as H.M. Forces Chaplain in Bosnia for the period 18th. September, 2000, to 14th. December, 2000.*
4. *Approve the appointment of the Rev. James Bain as Interim Moderator for Lanark: St. Nicholas during the period of Mr. Thomson's absence.*
5. *Recognising the need for a full time locum, approve the appointment of the Rev. Susan Cowell as full time locum to Lanark: St. Nicholas during the period of Mr. Thomson's absence.*
6. *Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to forward the relevant Extract Minute to the Chaplains' Committee.*
7. *Approve the appointment of the Rev. Gavin Elliott as Interim Moderator in the impending vacancy at Glencaple linked with Lowther.*
8. *Note that the Presbytery Minutes have been examined by the Convener of the Business Committee and the Convener of the Superintendence Committee and have been found to be in order.*
9. *Note that the requirements of Act II, 1984, in respect of Quinquennial Visitations for 1999, have been fulfilled.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

ORDER OF THE DAY—Mr. Dave Clark, Board of Social Responsibility

In line with a deliverance passed at the meeting of Presbytery on 2nd November 1999, the Moderator invited Mr. Dave Clark, Depute Area Manager of The Board of Social Responsibility for the West of Scotland area, to address Presbytery on the work of the Board.

Mr. Clark gave an interesting and informative account of the new structures of the Board and of the wide range of social services which the Church of Scotland offers through its Board, making it the third largest social work agency in Scotland, handling a budget of £33 million.

Perhaps the biggest change to take place in recent years has been the shift in philosophy from large-scale institutional care to "care in the community". This has had major implications for the work of the Board.

Mr. Clark also praised the work of the Guild project, *A Dignified Future*, which was helping to provide en suite facilities in residential homes for the elderly, making a positive impact on the quality of care for those who could no longer stay in their own homes.

A number of questions were asked by members of Presbytery and the Moderator thanked Mr. Clark for his presentation and commended the work of the Board.

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Mike Frew, presented the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Note with pleasure that each contributing congregation within the bounds has met its Mission and Aid allocation in full, and that Forth: St. Paul's has repaid £1000 of its shortfall.*
2. *Note the new leaflet about the Mission and Aid Fund, Making Change Happen, available from the Department of Stewardship and Finance.*

The report, together with the deliverance was approved.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

The Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young, then presented the annual Financial Statement and answered questions on the various funds held by Presbytery. The accounts showed a surplus of £807 for the year on the General Fund and a total of funds held at the year end of £29,835.

The Convener of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, Rev. Mike Frew, then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve the accounts on the basis that no changes will emerge from the audit process, the Convener of Stewardship & Finance to report thereon at the April meeting of Presbytery.*
3. *Instruct the Treasurer to investigate the consolidation and investment of funds.*
4. *Remit to the Stewardship & Finance Committee to consider the question of the level of financial reserves which it is necessary for Presbytery to hold.*
5. *Thank the Treasurer for his diligent work.*

The report, together with the Deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH MISSION COMMITTEE: The Convener, Rev. Steven Reid submitted a brief report on behalf of the Parish Mission Committee. Following upon a deliverance of the Business Committee on 2nd November 1999, concerning the allocation of a £1500 "Millennium Grant" towards local Millennium projects, the Convener intimated that he had received applications from 6 such projects which he had forwarded to the Board of National Mission, and it had been agreed that each project receive a grant of £250.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. John Brown, submitted the report of the Church & Community Committee which dealt mainly with the meeting of the Committee with Karen Gillon MSP on 29th February. Mrs. Gillon had indicated that her own Christian commitment was a major guiding factor in her involvement in politics and she looked forward to continuing dialogue with the Presbytery on areas of common concern. The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve the appointment of Mr John Strachan as Vice Convener of the committee.*
3. *Note that a two-way consultation has been initiated with Karen Gillon MSP.*
4. *Note the preliminary arrangements for the Scottish Churches Housing Agency Gathering to take place in Hamilton on Thursday 11th May, 2000 at 7.30pm and note that leaflets giving further information will be available shortly.*

The report, together with the Deliverance, was approved.

SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE: Presbytery meeting in private, the Convener, Rev. Jim Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee. He explained why it had not been possible to bring forward a Quinquennial Report on Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen and expressed the Committee's regret and apology to the congregation and to the Presbytery for the extended delay.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Annual Inspection of Records took place on Wednesday 1st March 2000 and, with minor exceptions which have been duly intimated to the relevant congregations, records were found to be in order.*

The report, together with the Deliverance, was approved.

WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE: The Convener, Mrs. Ena Wilson, submitted the report of the World Mission Committee concerning the recent visit of our Missionary Partner, Christine Stone, the proposals to participate in a Faithshare Partnership Scheme as outlined in the previous month's report and a leaflet from the Board of World Mission concerning the development of World Church Teams in congregations. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

- 1. Receive the report*
- 2. Thank all those involved in the visit of our Missionary Partner, Christine Stone*
- 3. Note the letter received from our Missionary Partner, Elaine McKinnon.*
- 4. Approve the Faithshare Partnership Scheme and the placement of a Faithshare Partner to the Carluke Churches.*
- 5. Note the content of the World Church Team leaflet.*

The report, together with the Deliverance, was approved.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Mr. Archie Clark, submitted the report of the Property and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

- 1. Receive the report*
- 2. Approve the proposals from Lowther Parish Church to replace 6 windows in the hall, replace electrical controls and investigate and repair an area of dampness on the organ wall at a total estimated cost of £5,500 + VAT and approve an application to the Central Fabric Fund for a maximum grant or loan of £3,500.*
- 3. Approve the proposed sale of Coalburn Church Hall and grounds to raise funds for repairs and alterations to the Church to make it a multi-purpose building.*
- 4. Approve the proposals from Law Parish Church to carry out a programme of repairs to the corridor between the Church and main Hall to eradicate fungal rot at a total cost of £13,229, including VAT, and approve any necessary application to the Central Fabric Fund for assistance to supplement funds available locally.*
- 5. Note that a meeting has taken place on 7th February between the Presbytery ad hoc committee and officebearers at Kirkfieldbank and that further meetings are to be arranged. Note that a meeting was held on January 18th with representatives from the General Trustees and from the congregation of Kirkfieldbank, that it was agreed that an architect be appointed to investigate the most economical use of the properties, and that a further meeting is to be arranged.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 28th March 2000.

**WORLD MISSION
PROPERTY**

PARISH MISSION

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
PARISH EDUCATION
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

The **ACCOUNTS INSPECTION COMMITTEE** would also be called to meet at a time to be agreed.

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 4th April 2000 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 4th April 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 19 Ministers and 30 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Sheila Mitchell, Minister, and from Mr. Lance Armstrong, Mr. Alexander Elliot, Mr. Andrew Ferguson, Mr. Johan Hamelink, Mr. James Hardie and Mrs. Ellen Young, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7th March 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

- From The Presbytery of Hamilton**, 7th March 2000, thanking the Church & Community Committee of Lanark Presbytery for their assistance in organising a conference on homelessness to take place in Hamilton on 11th May at 7.30pm at a venue still to be confirmed.
- From The General Trustees**, 9th March 2000, confirming that plans for proposed alterations at Carluke: St. Andrew's have now received all necessary ecclesiastical consents.
- From The Board of Ministry**, 9th March 2000, intimating new rates for Locum Salaries, to take effect from 1st April 2000: £510 per month in respect of working two days per week plus normal Sunday work.
- From The Board of Ministry**, 9th March 2000, intimating that New Capital (480 shares) had been credited to the Consolidated Stipend Fund by the congregation of Douglas Water & Rigside.
- From The Board of Ministry**, 9th March 2000, intimating that New Capital (265 shares) had been credited to the Consolidated Stipend Fund by the congregation of Law.
- From The Parish Reappraisal Committee**, intimating that in the case of Glencaple linked with Lowther, the Committee resolved to seek conversations with the Presbytery of Lanark.
- From The Board of Ministry**, 30th March 2000, intimating closing dates for submission of Study Leave applications, namely 12 June, 9 October, 4 December and intimating that a Rural Ministry Conference is to take place in St. Ninian's, Crieff 12 – 15 June 2000.
- From The General Trustees**, 31st March 2000, advising that the proposed sale of the Church Hall at Coalburn had been approved.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that further regulations anent employment law have been received from the Law Department, and that copies are available for each Kirk Session within the bounds of Presbytery.*
3. *Approve the let of Biggar Glebe to Mr. T. Moffat for a term of five years, the first two years for cropping, the succeeding three years for grazing.*
4. *Grant permission to the congregation of Black Mount to sell the manse at Dunsyre.*
5. *In connection with the prospective vacancy at Glencaple l.w. Lowther, appoint the Rev. Dr. Andrew Munro (Convener), Rev. Iain Cunningham (Clerk), Rev. Lawrie Lennox (Moderator), Mr. George Forbes and one other member of the Parish Reappraisal Committee to represent Presbytery in talks with representatives of the Committee on Parish Reappraisal of the Board of National Mission.*
6. *Appoint the Rev. Sheila Mitchell (Convener), Mrs. Anna Aitken and Mr. George Buckley to act as the Presbytery Advisory Committee to the vacancy committee of the congregations of Glencaple and Lowther.*
7. *In the prospective vacancy at Glencaple l.w. Lowther, approve that the vacancy committee shall comprise ten members from Glencaple and three from Lowther.* *[contd.]*

8. Approve the salary for the Presbytery Clerk at £3,098 p.a. with effect from 1st. January, 2000, and note that the cost to the Presbytery, inclusive of Employer's National Insurance Contribution, will be £3,485.
9. Approve the figure of £310 p.a. as the honorarium for the Depute Clerk, effective from 1st. January, 2000.
10. Agree that for the year 2000, the Depute Clerk's honorarium shall be apportioned 75% to the Rev. John M.A. Thomson, and 25% for the Depute Clerk pro tempore for the period of Mr. Thomson's secondment to HM Forces' Chaplaincy in Bosnia, from September to December, 2000.
11. Approve the nomination of the Rev. Michael Frew as Depute Clerk pro tempore for the period of the Depute Clerk's secondment.
12. Note with approval, the appointment of Mr. Kevin Lambie (Kirkmuirhill), of 16 Common Green, Hamilton, as Presbytery Youth Delegate to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, May 20th to 26th, 2000, and invite Mr. Lambie to address the June meeting of Presbytery.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Mr. Archie Clark, submitted the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Professional Property Surveys are to be carried out this year at Glencaple and Lowther Churches and Manse, Douglas: St. Bride's and Douglas Water & Rigside Churches and Manses, St. Bride's Centre and Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church and Manse.
3. Approve the essential repairs to Kirkmuirhill Manse due to the discovery of extensive dry rot infestation, at the cost of £37,000, and approve any necessary application to the Central Fabric Fund for assistance to supplement locally held funds.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO KIRKFIELD BANK: The Property Convenor, Mr. Archie Clark, submitted the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Kirkfieldbank and moved the following deliverance: Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the findings of the Architect's Report and the estimated costs to make safe and fully repair the church building
3. Instruct the Parish Reappraisal Committee to appoint a representative to the Ad Hoc Committee.
4. Instruct the Ad Hoc Committee to convene meetings with the office-bearers of Kirkfieldbank congregation, fully explore all options, and report.

On a vote being taken, section 3 of the deliverance was deleted.

The report, together with the amended deliverance, was approved

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE: The Convener, Rev. Catherine Collins, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that Mr. Robert Allan, having completed his training, be set apart as a Reader at a service to be held in Forth: St. Paul's at 7.30pm on Thursday 15 June 2000, Presbytery to meet at 7.15pm.
3. Remit to the Business Committee to make the necessary arrangements
4. Agree that copies of Presbytery minutes be sent regularly to the Readers

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE: Presbytery meeting in private, the Convenor, Rev. Jim Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee.

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. (i) Commend the Ministers, Office Bearers and Congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars for their work and witness as they continue to share their spiritual journey and fulfil their calling to proclaim the Good News. This Charge is fulfilling its function.
- (ii) Commend the congregation on their stewardship and fund raising efforts, and encourage them to review their Christian Liberty.

- (iii) *Instruct the Congregational Board to make adequate provision for Pulpit Supply in the Budget and to note the appropriate arrangements for sickness cover.*
3. *Instruct the Committee to carry out a review of the Quinquennial process, consulting widely, and report not later than June 2001.*

4. *Appoint the following Quinquennial Teams to:*

Lesmahagow:Abbeygreen

Rev Gavin Elliot, Rev Helen Jamieson

Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr Robert Bow

Carluke: St Johns

Rev John Brown, Rev Steven Reid

and 2 elders

Carluke. St Andrews

Rev Jim Bain, Rev Sheila Mitchell

and 2 elders

Coalburn l.w. Lesmahagow: Old

Rev Stephen Pacitti, Rev Lawrie Lennox

and 2 elders

The first named minister in each case to convene the team.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Mrs. Ena Wilson, submitted the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Approve the appointment of Miss Sheena Thomson as Vice-Convenor.*
3. *Note with concern that Her Majesty's Government has not yet fulfilled its stated intentions with regard to the alleviation of Third World Debt and express continued support for the Jubilee 2000 Campaign and instruct the Clerk to communicate Presbytery's concern to our current MP, Mr. Jimmy Hood..*
4. *Recognising the need for overseas personnel, encourage church members to consider short-term voluntary service abroad on behalf of the Church.*
5. *Note the information concerning the "Feed the Minds" charity which redistributes Bibles and second-hand theological books to theological colleges around the world, and note the contact person, Rev. Alan Ross, 0131 226 5254.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 25th April 2000.

CHURCH & COMMUNITY

PARISH REAPPRAISAL

PARISH EDUCATION

PROPERTY

MINISTRY

PARISH MISSION

SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 2nd May 2000 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 2nd May 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Rev. David Collins, Rev. Helen Jamieson, Sheila Mitchell, and Rev. Stephen Pacitti, Ministers, and from Mr. Robert Bow, Mr. George Buckley, Mrs. Grace Graham and Mrs. Betty Smith, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 2nd April 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

—**From The Parish Reappraisal Committee**, 18th April 2000, concurring with the decision of the Presbytery that the question of readjustment be not pursued in the impending vacancy at Glencaple and Lowther.

—**From The Scottish Churches Committee**, 19th April 2000, concerning the phasing out of relief to churches for Water and Sewerage Rates and seeking to co-opt on to the Committee someone (perhaps a former senior official with one of the Water Authorities) who could provide technical advice, the names of any such person to be forwarded in the first instance to the Presbytery Clerk.

—**From The Board of World Mission**, 25th April 2000, concerning the recent Barnabas Trust Petition in relation to Shari'ah Law in Nigeria and intimating that after consultations with partner churches and UK ecumenical partners a letter had been sent in the name of "The Churches Commission on Mission" to Robin Cook, Foreign Secretary, asking him to use the influence of the British Government towards furthering peace with justice and reconciliation within Nigeria. The Board further advised congregations and Presbyteries to use their own judgement in deciding whether or not to pursue the petition.

—**From The General Trustees**, 27th April 2000, concerning Black Mount Congregation and authorising the sale of the Black Mount Manse at such price and on such other terms and conditions as may be decided by them in consultation with the Board and determining that the free proceeds of sale should be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.

—**From The General Trustees**, 27th April 2000, concerning Coalburn Congregation and authorising the sale of the Coalburn Church Hall at such price and on such other terms and conditions as may be decided by them in consultation with the Board and determining that the free proceeds of sale should be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.

DEMISSION OF REV. Dr. ANDREW MUNRO

The Clerk laid on the table a citation of the congregations of Glencaple and Lowther and the Moderator welcomed representatives of the congregation to the meeting.

Mr. Johan Hamelink spoke on behalf of the congregation of Glencaple and paid tribute to Dr. Munro's brief, but highly effective, ministry to the people of Glencaple congregation and parish. He paid particular tribute to Dr. Munro's gifts in preaching and teaching and his down-to-earth approach with people. He concluded by wishing Dr. Munro a long and happy retirement, with God's blessing.

Mrs. Moira White spoke on behalf of the congregation of Lowther, giving thanks for Dr. Munro's Ministry with them and of his skill at leading worship, his pastoral care, and his enthusiasm and energy. She wished Dr. Munro and his wife, Sheila, many happy years of retirement.

On behalf of the Presbytery, Rev. John Thomson spoke warmly of Dr. Munro's effective ministry, both in the field of Religious Education and in the Parish, highlighting his sense of humour and incisive mind which he had often brought to bear on Presbytery business and also of his support as a friend. In moving that Presbytery accept Dr. Munro's demission, Mr. Thomson assured him of the prayers and good wishes of all members of Lanark Presbytery.

Mr. David Adams seconded.

Presbytery accepted the demission.

Presbytery accepted the demission /

In reply, Dr. Munro spoke about the many changes that had taken place since he had first studied for the Ministry some 40 years ago and in particular stressed that the Church now had to rely more and

more on its members rather than its ministers, becoming more people-centred than minister-centred, which could only be for the good and he encouraged Presbytery to embrace the changes that were necessary to enable the Church to move forward.

The Moderator presented Dr. Munro with a Presbyterian Certificate and assured him of the prayers and good wishes of all.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Resolve to meet in hunc effectum at Forth: St. Paul's Church on Thursday, 15th. June at 7.15pm for a service at 7.30pm to set apart as Reader, Mr. Robert Allan, the Moderator to conduct the service, the Rev. James Bain to preach.*
3. *Note that the June meeting of Presbytery will be held at Rigside Church, the meeting being preceded by a service of Holy Communion conducted by the Moderator.*
4. *Approve the following nominations to Assembly Committees and Boards for the year 2000/2001: Ministry— Rev. Catherine Collins; National Mission— Mr. George Forbes; Social Responsibility— Miss Joyce Munro; Stewardship & Finance— Rev. Michael Frew.*
5. *Note that the following elders will be nominated by the Business Committee at the June meeting to serve as Additional Elders for the year 2000/2001, and advise Kirk Sessions to inform the Clerk or the Convener of the Business Committee, before the June meeting, if any of these elders is likely to be nominated by them as their representative elder:— Mr David Adams (Lanark: St. Nicholas); Mr. Malcolm Barclay (Carluke: St. Andrew's); Mr. Archie Clark (Douglas: St. Bride's); Mrs. Nan Mackie (Symington); Miss Joyce Munro (Carluke: Kirkton); Mrs. Margaret Filshie (Biggar); Mr. George Forbes (Kirkmuirhill); Mrs. Betty Smith (Carluke: St. John's); Miss Sheena Thomson (Lanark: Greyfriars); Mrs. Irene Williams (Carstairs Junction) and Mrs. Ena Wilson (Lanark: St. Nicholas).*
6. *Request that the names of all representative elders who will be leaving Presbytery at the June meeting, be in the hands of the Convener of the Business Committee by the committee night (June 6th.).*
7. *Instruct all Kirk Sessions that elder commissions to Presbytery are required to be made as soon as possible after the General Assembly, and that such commissions be transmitted to the Clerk by June 30th. at latest.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE GUILD

Miss Sheena Thomson, Convener of the Presbyterian Council of the Guild, began her report by describing three Rallies which had taken place throughout the year, all of which had been very successful—a Summer Rally in Carluke: St. John's, at which there had been a very full turnout; an Ecumenical Rally in Lanark: Greyfriars, which had brought together many Christian women from all denominations; and a National Mission Rally, held in Lesmahagow.

The next Rally planned would take place in Forth: St. Paul's in February, focusing on Educational Projects. A Summer Rally would take place in Douglas.

Miss Thomson reported that in spite of slightly decreasing membership, giving had increased throughout the year and that nationally there had been £500,000 contributed to the 6 Guild projects over the three years.

The Convener was also happy to report that the Presbyterian Council Committee was at full strength and included two younger women. The new Theme is to be "Strength for Living" and the Theme for the coming session "Strength for Living—through God's Promises".

The Convener concluded her report by stressing the need for groups to be flexible in their ways of working and assuring the Presbytery that the Guild is changing to meet the challenges of the times.

The Moderator thanked Miss Thomson for her interesting and informative report.

REPORT OF THE ADVISER IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Mr. Harry Jamieson, Adviser in Children's Ministry, submitted the following report of his work throughout the year:

"1. Adviser's Conferences:

This session I attended an Advisers' conference at Tulliallan Police College on 27th – 28th August 1999. Advisers' Conferences are an essential way of passing on information to and between advisers as well as providing an opportunity to impart training to advisers. I was not able to attend the February conference, as I was indisposed.

2. The Annual Presbytery Teachers' Conference:

A successful conference was held at St Nicholas' Church on 15th September 1999. In attendance were 45 teachers from 15 congregations. The workshop was on Lesson Planning and was conducted by the Scripture Union.

3. Visits to Sunday Schools:

I have now visited every active Sunday school in the Presbytery at least once. This session I visited Tarbrax, Kirkton, Carstairs Junction and Kirkmuirhill.

4. Training:

The National Certificate:- The structure of the new National Certificate Training Course is such that it is not feasible for small numbers such as the six from Lanark Presbytery who desired training.

Lanark Presbytery was therefore teamed with Hamilton Presbytery so that our teachers could join a larger group from Hamilton. There was also available a course at Carberry.

The six teachers from the Presbytery were given the option of attending the Hamilton Presbytery Course, held over a number of weekends in January and February, or the Course at Carberry on 5th – 7th November over the 1 weekend. All of the participants chose the single, residential weekend. The participants were from Kirkmuirhill, Carstairs Junction and Symington. As well as the weekend, the participants must complete supervised work within their own church before certificates are awarded.

A Course for new/inexperienced teachers:- A training course for inexperienced teachers was held here in St Nicholas' Church over 4 evenings in September and October. There were 3 participants in the course, 2 from Carstairs Junction and 1 from Symington.

5. Events for Children:

The lack of my involvement in a National Training course allowed me time to organise activities for children.

*Christmas Card Competition—*The first event was a Christmas Card design competition. I was extremely pleased by the entry of nearly 100 Christmas cards designed by Sunday school children. The cards were judged by an independent person who decided that the overall best card was from a member of Cairngryffe Sunday school. The winners of the five individual sections were from Lesmahagow Old, Cairngryffe, Carstairs Junction and Lesmahagow Old.

*Bible Quiz—*This year our Quiz 2000 was bigger and better than last year. It was decided that the quiz should be less competitive and more of a fun and social event. Each round was made less competitive by not being a knockout event. The quiz answers were not given at the event and no child knew at the time whether a given answer was right or wrong. Writing was kept to a minimum with answers mainly chosen from a list. The participants travelled throughout the Presbytery giving the children who took part the chance to see other Sunday school children and premises and perhaps areas of Lanarkshire that they might not otherwise visit. Each session had a break when juice and eatables were consumed and children could socialise. There were a variety of questions with many being entertaining rather than serious Bible Knowledge. The results after each round were in the form of a league table. I do not yet have the final result but I hope that marking will be completed by May 20th.

*Annual Concert—*What happens on May 20th? This is the second of what I hope will become annual concerts for the Children in Presbytery Sunday Schools. This year Kirkmuirhill is the base for the concert. The entertainment will be provided by Medrington's Puppets and the talented Chris Watt and Band. There will be four short puppet shows each based on a Bible Parable portrayed by Ivan the Slug. In between the puppet shows Music and sing-along songs will be led by Chris and Band. We will close our afternoon with a presentation of prizes to the winners of the Card Competition and the Quiz. This is being advertised as a FUN AFTERNOON for the children and I hope ministers and elders will encourage and assist Sunday Schools to attend the concert. I hope that if future concerts are held then other Presbytery churches that have suitable accommodation will be used in rotation.

(Report of Adviser in Children's Ministry)

6. Child Protection:

This session a course for volunteers and co-ordinators were held in Greyfriars Church Hall on Saturday February 12th. Some 60 volunteers and 10 co-ordinators attended the training.

7. Support Group and Committee:

I would like to thank the committee for the support they have given this session and in particular carrying out the duties of organisers at the Bible Quiz heats. Holding the quiz would be impossible without members of the committee agreeing to be present as organisers at each venue. The hard work of the committee and the Sunday school teachers who willingly participated in its organisation and acted as hosts to the visiting Sunday schools meant that the quiz this year passed with few hitches. The Parish Education Committee is truly a working committee rather than a talking shop. The detailed organising of all the events we held this session were in the hands of a sub-committee called the Support Group, in that they support the work of the Adviser. I would like to pay tribute to my support group of Irene Williams of Carstairs Junction and David Collins of Greyfriars for being a support group not only in name but also in practice. They both gave time, effort and equally important ideas and it was largely due to them that this session's activities have been so successful."

The Moderator thanked Mr. Jamieson for his very full and informative report.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

The Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young, reported to Presbytery that the Accounts which had been presented in draft form at the March meeting had now been audited and approved by the auditors as originally presented. He also intimated his intention to report to Presbytery in September on the question of the consolidation and investment of funds. The Convener of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, Rev. Mike Frew, then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve the audited Financial Statement as presented and instruct the Clerk to forward letters of thanks to Mr. Jack Campbell and Mrs. Isabel Laurie for their work as auditors.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Mr. Archie Clark, submitted the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Approve the proposals from Carlisle: St. John's Church to extend the library in the church Hall at a cost of £1,350 (inc. VAT and fees) subject to the concurrence of the General Trustees Artistic Matters Committee. Funds are held by the congregation.*
3. *Approve the proposed repairs to leaded windows at Greyfriars Parish Church at a cost of £11,421 (incl. VAT) and approve an application for the release of funds held by the General Trustees on behalf of the congregation.*

The Rev. John Thomson, on behalf of the Congregational Board of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church, sought approval of Presbytery for a scheme to install protective grilles to heating elements in the Church, for safety reasons, and to have permission to apply to central funds for grant and/or loan assistance. In the absence of full costing details it was agreed the matter should be remitted to the Property Committee for further consideration.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH REAPPRAISAL COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Dr. Andrew Munro, submitted the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee concerning the impending vacancy at Law Parish which would ensue after the retirement of the minister, Rev. William Izett. Meetings had taken place with the Kirk Session and Congregation, chaired by the Convenor, to discuss the way forward.

The Kirk Session of Law Parish met on 11th January 2000 and agreed unanimously, and the congregation met on 10th April 2000, and voted 103 for and 0 against, with 2 abstentions, in favour of having a continuing vacancy and seeking an interim minister.
having a continuing vacancy and seeking an interim minister /

Rev. Steven Reid questioned whether it was competent for the Presbytery to come to a decision on the matter since the congregation had not been cited to appear in their interests. The Convener indicated that he had been following the advice of the Board of Ministry in the procedure towards the setting up of an Interim Ministry but it was conceded that no final decision could be made until the congregation had been cited to appear at Presbytery.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Resolve to cite the congregation of Law Parish Church to attend the June meeting of Presbytery in their interests to consider a proposal that the Charge be declared a continuing vacancy, pending an approach to the Board of Ministry seeking the appointment of an Interim Minister; and notify the Board of Ministry and the Parish Reappraisal Committee accordingly.*
3. *Remit to the Business Committee to nominate the required members of the monitoring committee.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: The Convenor, Rev. John Brown, submitted the following report of the Church & Community Committee, dealing with two main issues:

1. A Response to the ACTS document - "A Christian Vision for Scottish Education"

This statement from ACTS is a response to the Scottish Executive Education Department (SEED), welcoming the SEED's "central objective of fostering 'a culture of continuous improvement in all Scotland's schools' and in particular its commitment that children 'are confident, well motivated and fully rounded.'"

The ACTS response states that the SEED is unclear about what it believes is "a fully rounded person", and that, while recent SEED documents such as *Targeting Excellence* and *Improving our Schools* make no attempt to describe any philosophy or vision of education underpinning the Scottish Executive's plans, they present an apparent emphasis on "meeting the 'highest expectations of each child' rather than the greatest needs of each child."

ACTS promotes a Christian view of "person" declaring that we derive the nature of personhood from God in whose image we are made, thus we are both rational and loving, and feel with and for creation. Hence says ACTS, "education must be concerned for the whole person - aesthetic, political, moral, spiritual, physical and social," and should mean that children will develop qualities such as fairness, respect for others and a sense of responsibility, which will help them to be well-adjusted and to make sense of an increasingly complex world.

ACTS claims that education is not just about collecting qualifications as a means to a future end, but should develop individual talents, and give a foundation for moral and ethical decision-making based on personal dignity, respect for others and the knowledge that we live in mutual inter-dependence. In this, ACTS is at one with the Scottish Consultative Council on the Curriculum, whose *The Heart of the Matter* (1995) stated that the imperative in education is to provide just such a foundation.

ACTS indicates a contradiction in current educational thinking, arising from the notion that the educational system should be value-free. The idea that the Christian faith may have anything substantial to say about the curriculum is resisted, says ACTS, yet other knowledge is included in the curriculum on the basis that "it is a mirror image of reality for which no one need take responsibility." If the Christian vision is to be resisted, then who are the allegedly value-free arbiters who decide which vision is to be promoted?

While it is true that Christian values may permeate the curriculum without being explicitly stated, this will only be the case as long as Christian voices are heard in the debates. ACTS asserts that Christians alongside those of other world faiths, who share our ideals, have a duty to ask that the values and educational policies of schools are made explicit.

ACTS encourages both ourselves and the Scottish Executive to realise that since every teaching experience carries with it impressions and value assumptions, the interface between teacher and learner is the focus of all education, therefore teachers themselves should be valued and their professionalism recognised. ACTS sees the role of teaching as "a ministry," in which "the teacher has a duty to read the signs of the times, and to be a participant in developing positive attitudes by encouraging young people to set themselves against the false values of individualism, selfishness, false values of individualism, selfishness, /

materialism,” and in Roman Catholic schools, to engage in “Christian formation, mission and evangelism.” This begs the question that outwith the Roman Catholic schools, where are teachers to gain such an understanding of their role, unless it be from the participation of Christian voices in the formulation of education policy and provision?

2. A Response to the Open Letter from Karen Gillon MSP concerning the proposed Repeal of Section 2(a) of Local Government Act 1986.

The Church & Community Committee welcomes the reassurances given by Karen Gillon, in her open letter of March 2000, regarding her personal stance on the repeal proposals, that as a Christian she could not support “allowing the promotion of homosexuality in our schools or anywhere else,” and that she would oppose any legislation that might “lead to a flood of pornographic homosexual literature entering our classrooms.”

Since the Scottish Executive has determined to proceed with repeal, we trust that neither of these would ever be an option, but we are not convinced that their proposed alternative to Section 2(a) (Clause 28) is acceptable as it stands.

The public debate on this issue has been ill-informed from the outset, largely because of the way that the proposed repeal was included as part of an Ethical Standards Bill, with no prior consultation, nor even notice of intention, and only belatedly was it proposed that guidelines should be introduced.

The Church of Scotland’s position on repeal has been confused by conflicting messages from its various spokespersons to the media. Nor is it helpful to debate that any opinion stated in opposition to repeal is often branded as “homophobic”. While some counter-opinion might justly be described as based on prejudice, it is also true that members of faith communities including our own, do hold opinions derived from their honest understanding of Christ’s teaching on human relationships and on the will of God for his people.

Karen Gillon states that “a minority of our population” considers Section 2(a) “to be discriminatory towards them,” and that the intention of repeal is “an attempt at creating an environment that fosters a mature and tolerant society.”

Section 2(a) came into force in Scotland on 24 May 1988 as part of a response by the then government to stop the use of primary school reading materials with homosexual themes, which had already been introduced in a few inner-London boroughs.

In the Scottish Office Circular 9/1988 (Extract), paragraphs 26-30, 20 May 1988, paragraph 26 states that Section 28 prohibits local authorities from intentionally promoting homosexuality. Paragraph 27 states that this does not prevent local authorities from offering the full range of their services to homosexuals, on the same basis as to all inhabitants of their areas. Paragraph 28 states that any education authority will be prohibited from promoting homosexuality in the expression of its policy on sex education, but that Section 28 does not prevent the objective discussion of homosexuality in the classrooms or the counselling of pupils concerned about their sexuality. Paragraph 29 states that any activities in the counselling, health care and health education fields undertaken for the purpose of treating or preventing the spread of disease will be unaffected, including activities concerned exclusively with the needs of homosexuals.

Rather than being discriminatory, the legislation promotes fairness of treatment of both homosexuality and homosexuals. In fact it has not prevented substantial sums of money being allocated to their needs and organisations. Its sole purpose is to prevent the intentional promotion of homosexuality by local authorities, which is a check on the potential for abuse of the privilege of power held by local authorities.

The proposed principle that local authorities will have regard for “the value of stable family life in a child’s development” is at odds with the Church’s preferred position, that family life should be lived within the context of marriage. Scottish Executive ministers have refused to elaborate on what they mean by “family life”, although it has been suggested that there are many forms of family in today’s society, and that it would be discriminatory to promote any one as the ideal. This would seem to be based on political correctness, which has gained an assumed authority as the basis for morality in a secular society, while the relevance of Christian values is increasingly questioned.

The report *Homosexuality - The Medical, Social and Religious Implications* (1997, The Maranatha Community) states that “homosexual relationships are usually temporary. Long-term, ‘stable’, and single partner homosexual partnerships are exceptional. One of the characteristics of the emergence of the ‘gay culture’ has been the open promotion and encouragement of the high level of promiscuity which is a feature of male homosexuality.”

which is a feature of male homosexuality. /

In the late 1970s, only about 10% of homosexuals and 28% of lesbians claimed to be in relationships lasting longer than 10 years.

Since the Church discourages heterosexual promiscuity, it is difficult to see how it can be expected to approve homosexual promiscuity, or even bisexual promiscuity. Research carried out on behalf of the Department of Health in 1997 revealed that only 1% of men practise exclusively homosexual sex.

Last week, the Church of Scotland released a Press Statement that a supplementary report will be presented to the General Assembly, jointly by the Department of Education and the Board of Social Responsibility, which suggests that the new clause should read, "It is the duty of a council, in the performance of those of its functions which relate principally to children to have regard to the value of marriage, parental commitment and family relationships in a child's development." This is the least that the Church can ask for, considering its concern for justice and integrity in relationships, and the care of children, which is modelled on God's concern as we see it in the example of Christ's compassionate forgiving love and his unyielding demands to shape our lifestyle on God's will for us.

The Press Statement goes on to assert that prior to any repeal, there should be agreed guidelines, and teaching materials laying out a "detailed, comprehensive and progressive programme of sex education appropriate for each stage of child development, covering the whole range of sexual respect for others, self orientation sensitively within a programme aimed at developing in pupils, respect for others, self respect and understanding, and that to ensure the highest degree of public acceptability, these programmes should take into account the views of parents, teachers and the wider community, particularly the views of faith communities which have their own distinctive teachings on sexual relationships and marriage.

When the supplementary report is presented, the General Assembly will be asked to reaffirm the foundational nature of marriage, and also to urge the Scottish Executive to fund in-service training so that teachers are equipped to provide good sex education. We suggest that any teaching materials should (i) indicate that, despite some claims, there is as yet no conclusive evidence that homosexuality is a genetically-related or biological condition, (ii) highlight the serious health risks involved in both homosexual and heterosexual promiscuity, (iii) indicate that life expectancy for male homosexuals is reduced by 25-30 years, (iv) indicate that faith communities including our own have distinctive teachings on sexual relationships and marriage.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance.

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note ACTS' concern that in addition to encouraging the highest expectation of attainment, education should provide for the needs of the whole person.*
3. *Note ACTS' concern that no educational system can be value-free.*
4. *Encourage Church members to participate in educational consultations at national and local level.*
5. *Reaffirm the foundational nature of marriage in family relationships and in society.*
6. *Affirm that there is no moral equivalence between marriage and homosexual relationships.*
7. *Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to send a copy of the report to Karen Gillon MSP, the Church of Scotland Department of Education, and the Board of Social Responsibility.*

After questions and debate, Rev. John Thomson moved that section 7 be amended to read:

"Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to send a copy of the report, excluding the last two paragraphs, to Karen Gillon MSP, the Church of Scotland Department of Education, and the Board of Social Responsibility."

Rev. Mike Frew then moved that section 7 be amended to read: *"Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to send a copy of the report, excluding the words 'indicate that life expectancy for male homosexuals is reduced by 25-30 years, (iv)' in the final paragraph, to Karen Gillon MSP, the Church of Scotland Department of Education, and the Board of Social Responsibility."*

On a vote being taken the amendment in the name of Rev. John Thomson was approved.

Thereafter, Rev. William Craig moved a new section 8 in the following terms: *"Support the retention of Section 2a of the Local Government Act (1986)."*

The report, together with the deliverance as amended, was approved.

WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE: The Convener, Mrs. Ena Wilson, submitted the report of the World Mission Committee which dealt with the following matters:

1. Missionary Partner—Christine Stone. The Government of Nepal have invited Christine Stone to stay on as an Educational Consultant and the Board of World Mission have renewed her contract for a further two and a half years. However, they are anxious about her health, and would like to send her on a ‘rest and relax fortnight’, next time she is home.

2. Tabeetha School: £100,000 has been earmarked for the Tabeetha School in Galilee as discussed at last year's General Assembly.

3. Available Speakers:

(i) Rev. Maxwell Craig, who has been acting as locum minister in St. Andrews, Jerusalem, is due home mid-April. Both he and Mrs. Craig, who have gained valuable experience of the work of the Church in that area, are very experienced speakers and being retired are eager to be used in some way. They can be contacted at 9 Kilbride Crescent, Dunblane, FK15 9BA, Telephone 01786-823147.

(ii) Rev. Stewart Lamont, Executive Secretary for the Church and Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches in Brussels, will be available for deputation between 8th and 13th November.

(iii) Anthapurusha, Indian Link Facilitator, would very much like to make visits to Presbyteries of two to three weeks duration during June, September and October and can be contacted at the Church Offices.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note the availability of Rev. & Mrs. Craig and Rev. Stewart Lamont as speakers.*
3. *Resolve to invite Anthapurusha, Indian Link Facilitator, to speak at the September meeting of Presbytery, if available.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

Any Other Competent Business:

Rev. William Izett drew the attention of Presbytery to proposals intimated by the Board of National Mission to close the St. Ninian's Centre in Crieff and expressed concern about the news and also about the way in which the proposals had been presented without proper consultation.

Many members of Presbytery spoke about the outstanding contribution made by the St. Ninian's Centre to the life of the Church and shared the concern at the closure.

Mr. Izett moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery—

1. *Express deep concern at the proposed closure of the St. Ninian's Centre, Crieff, which has been such a valuable asset to the Church*
2. *Instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute to the Board of National Mission.*

The deliverance was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 6th June 2000.

PROPERTY

MINISTRY

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

PARISH MISSION

SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Douglas Water & Rigside Church on Tuesday 20th June 2000 at 7.00 p.m. for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and thereafter for ordinary business. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

At FORTH, within Forth Parish Church, on Thursday 15th June 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* to set apart Mr. Robert Allan and admit him to the Office of Reader. The meeting was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT: Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book, in all 8 Ministers and 14 Elders. Also associated with the Presbytery were Rev. Mary Henderson (St. Andrews), and Mrs. Kay Brown DCS.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig, Rev. Phil Jones, Rev. Sheila Mitchell and Rev. David Young, Ministers, and from Mr. Robert Bow, Mr. George Buckley, Mr. Andrew Ferguson, Miss Joyce Munro, Mr. Hamish Paterson, Mrs. Janette Robertson, Elders.

SETTING APART OF MR. ROBERT ALLAN:

The Rev. James Bain conducted the service and preached the sermon. The Moderator read the Preamble and put the prescribed questions to Mr. Allan, who answered satisfactorily and signed the Formula. Then the Moderator led in prayer and set apart Mr. Allan to the Office of Reader and welcomed him as a Reader of the Church. Mr. Allan's name was entered on the Roll of the Presbytery of Lanark.

The Clerk expressed the sincere appreciation of the Presbytery to the Moderator and to Rev. James Bain for their conduct of the service.

Moderator

Clerk

At Rigside, on Tuesday, 20th June 2000, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, conducted by the Moderator, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Douglas Water & Rigside Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 24 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William McCormick, Minister, and from Mr. Robert Bow, Mr. Malcolm Barclay, Mr. Alex. Elliott, Mr. Adam Foster, Mr. James Hardie, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 2nd May 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

—**From The Board of Ministry Committee on Ministry Support**, 8th June 2000, intimating that in the case of Glencaple and Lowther endowments be allocated as follows:

Glencaple —Glebe Rent £3,161; Congregation's Endowments £3,759 (Total £6,920)

Lowther — Congregation's Endowments £1,203 (Total £1,203)

—**From The General Trustees**, 1 June 2000, intimating the approval of the Trustees to the proposed alterations to the library area in Carluke: St. John's Church Hall.

—**From The General Trustees**, 15 June 2000, intimating that in the case of the application of Lowther Church for financial assistance from the Central Fabric Fund a grant of £2000 had been approved.

—**From The General Trustees**, 1 June 2000, intimating that in the case of the application of Kirkmuirhill Church for financial assistance from the Central Fabric Fund a grant of £5000 and a loan of up to £16,000 repayable over 6 years with interest at 4% had been approved.

DEMISSION OF REV. WILLIAM IZETT:

The Clerk laid on the table a citation of the congregation of Law and the Moderator welcomed representatives of the congregation to the meeting.

Mrs. Ellen Young spoke first on behalf of the congregation of Law and paid tribute to Mr. Izett's long and faithful ministry to the people of Law congregation and parish. She paid particular tribute to Mr. Izett's commitment as a Preacher, Parish Minister and School Chaplain and wished him and his wife, Margaret, a long and happy retirement, with God's blessing.

Mr. Alexander Kerr also spoke warmly and appreciatively of Mr. Izett's ministry and friendship.

Rev. David Young, on behalf of the Presbytery, also paid tribute to Mr. Izett's faithful ministry, both in the Parish and in the Presbytery as a Convener of various committees and, in particular as a Hospital Chaplain. In moving that Presbytery accept Mr. Izett's demission, Mr. Young assured him of the prayers and good wishes of all members of Lanark Presbytery.

The Clerk seconded.

Presbytery accepted the demission.

In reply, Mr. Izett spoke about the privilege which had been his of preaching the gospel and serving Jesus Christ and His Church. He spoke also of the many changes which had taken place in the Presbytery in the 32 years since he had begun his ministry, including the reduction from 33 charges to 19. He expressed his deep gratitude towards the people of Law, his one and only Charge, and gave special thanks for the support and assistance of his wife, Margaret. He wished the Presbytery of Lanark God's richest blessings in the proclamation of the gospel entrusted to it.

The Moderator informed Mr. Izett that a Presbyterian Certificate would be issued to him in due course and assured him of the prayers and good wishes of all.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Thank the Moderator, Kirk Session and office-bearers of Douglas Water & Rigside, and Mr. John Mitchell, organist, for the conduct of worship at the service of Holy Communion for the Presbytery.*
3. *Approve the nomination of the Rev. Catherine Collins as Moderator of Presbytery for the year 2000/01, Mrs. Collins to be installed at the September meeting of Presbytery.*
4. *Approve the appointment of the Rev. Lawrie Lennox, minister, and Mr. Ian Conn, elder, to serve on the Commission of Assembly for the year 2000/01.*
5. *Appoint the Rev. William Craig Interim Moderator to the charge at Law.*
6. *Note that a vacancy will exist for a Chaplain to Law Hospital on the retirement of the Rev. William Izett, and invite any interested candidates that in the first instance names should go to the Convener of the Parish Mission Committee, the Rev. Steven Reid.*
7. *Invite Mr. Kevin Lambie (Youth Delegate to the General Assembly, 2000) to address Presbytery at the September meeting.*
8. *Invite Mrs. Edith Scott, Stewardship Consultant on the Board of Stewardship and Finance to address Presbytery at the September meeting.*
9. *Instruct congregations to return completed statistical returns to the Information Technology Department at 121 George St., Edinburgh by June 30th.*
10. *Note that funds are still available for congregations engaged in Millennium celebrations, and that any claims for grants should be lodged through the Convener of the Parish Mission Committee, the Rev. Steven Reid.*
11. *Approve a grant of £200 to assist the Rev. Alan Gibson on his forthcoming visit to South Africa with Christian Aid and the Church of Scotland.*
12. *a) Urge congregations to complete the questionnaire from West of Scotland Water concerning relief of rates for non-domestic water and sewerage charges, and return them by July 14th. b) Urge congregations to consider making comments on the time allowed to respond and on the nature of the questions.*

nature of the questions/

13. *Remit to the Property Committee to consider hosting a meeting of Congregational Property Conveners with a view to formulating a Presbytery-wide response to proposals to phase out relief on domestic rates for ecclesiastical buildings.*
14. *Urge congregations to co-operate in the setting up of a complete data base of all Church owned properties in the U.K., in the first instance by sending a copy of the relevant information from the Congregational Property Register to the Presbytery Clerk.*
15. *Note the intention to upgrade the backup system for the Presbytery Computer and note that the enhanced facility will enable currently stored information, such as past Presbytery Minutes, Current Presbytery Yearbook, The Acts of the General Assembly etc. to be stored in the form of a CD-ROM, copies of which will be made available to members of Presbytery who have the appropriate computer equipment.*
16. *Grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St. Nicholas to hold joint services for 6 consecutive Sundays starting on 2nd July 2000.*
17. *Grant permission to the Carluke Churches to hold joint services during July 2000.*
18. *Thank the following Conveners of committees who are retiring at this time, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Munro, Parish Reappraisal, and Mr. Archie Clark, Property, for their diligence in office, and appoint the following as Conveners of Presbytery Committees for the four years from September, 2000: Mr. George Forbes to Parish Reappraisal and Rev. John Thomson to Property.*
19. *Appoint the Rev. Gavin Elliott to serve as Convener of the Ministry Committee for 1 year while current Convener, Rev. Catherine Collins, is Moderator.*
20. *Appoint the Rev. Gavin Elliott and Mrs. Betty Smith to the Business Committee to replace the Rev. Dr. Andrew Munro and Mrs. Ramsay Jackson.*
21. *Appoint the following as Additional Elders for the year 2000/01: Mr. David Adams (Lanark: St. Nicholas); Mr. Malcolm Barclay (Carluk: St. Andrew's); Mr. Archie Clark (Douglas: St. Bride's); Mrs. Nan Mackie (Symington); Miss Joyce Munro (Carluk: Kirkton); Mrs. Margaret Filshie (Biggar); Mr. George Forbes (Kirkmuirhill); Mrs. Betty Smith (Carluk: St. John's); Miss Sheena Thomson (Lanark: Greyfriars); Mrs. Ena Wilson (Lanark: St. Nicholas) and Mrs. Irene Williams (Carstairs Junction).*
22. *Appoint Mr. Joseph Cameron as a replacement for Mrs. Anna Aitken on the Presbytery Advisory Committee to Glencaple with Lowther.*
23. *Remind Kirk Sessions that elder commissions for the year 2000/01 should be with the Presbytery Clerk by June 30th.*
24. *Remit to the Business Committee to draw up the committee list for the September meeting, and urge Conveners of committees who wish to recommend any changes in the current committee list, and any elder who wishes to change from a present committee to another, to advise the Clerk or the Business Convener by August 1st., 2000 at the latest.*
25. *Thank those elders retiring at this time for their diligence, and note that a meeting for new members of Presbytery will be held on Monday, August 28th. at 7pm at Kirkton Manse, Carluk.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH REAPPRAISAL COMMITTEE: The Vice—Convener, Mr. George Forbes, submitted the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee concerning the impending vacancy at Law Parish Church which would ensue after the retirement of the minister, Rev. William Izett. The Congregation had been cited to appear in their interests and a number of members of the congregation were present. The proposal to declare Law Parish a continuing vacancy and seek the appointment of an Interim Minister was widely discussed.

The Vice—Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Resolve that in the case of Law Parish, this charge be declared a continuing vacancy, pending an approach to the Board of Ministry seeking the appointment of an Interim Minister.*
3. *Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to notify the Board of Ministry, the Board of National Mission and the Parish Reappraisal Committee accordingly.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

ADDITIONAL DELIVERANCE FROM THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

In the light of the decisions taken with respect to the demission of Rev. William Izett, the Convener of the Business Committee moved the following additional deliverance:

Presbytery appoint the Rev. William Craig (Convener), Mr Alexander McPhee and Miss Sheena Thomson to serve on the Interim Ministry Monitoring Committee on behalf of Presbytery for the duration of the Interim Ministry.

The deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF DILIGENCE BY COMMISSIONERS TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Moderator invited Rev. David Young and Mr. Ian Conn to report diligence on behalf of those who had been commissioned to attend the General Assembly. Both gave a personal summary of some of the matters raised which they had found to be of particular interest and of the overall experience of attending the General Assembly.

Rev. David Young remarked in particular on the apparent lack of vision in the Church and the impression the Church of Scotland so often gave of being constantly on the defensive, though not sure at times what was being defended. For Mr. Young the highlight of the week was the report of the Convener of the Board of Social Responsibility which had revealed once again that the Church was never better than in its caring for people in need.

Mr. Conn, who had attended the General Assembly for the first time, described the experience as and enjoyable one which was “at times uplifting, concerning and amusing” and made special mention of the sense of fellowship and commitment among Commissioners. His one concern was the way in which the Assembly seemed to side-step controversy and avoid “grasping the nettle” on more than one occasion. The highlights for Mr. Conn were the addresses by Jean Vanier and by the Retiring Moderator.

The reports were approved.

PRESENTATION OF READERS:

The Convener of the Ministry Committee, Rev. Catherine Collins, presented to the Presbytery the Readers, Readers in Training and Students. Those present were:

Mrs. Kay Brown, Mr. Alan Grant and Mrs. Sheilagh Kerr (*Readers*).

Apologies had been received from Mr. Robert Allan (*Reader*).

The Moderator welcomed those present and thanked all of them for the extremely valuable work which they do in leading worship within the bounds of Presbytery.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE INTER CHURCH COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Sheila Mitchell, submitted the report of the Inter Church Committee which concerned the ecumenical proposals put forward by the Scottish Churches Initiative for Union.

The General Assembly had agreed to instruct Presbyteries, Boards and Committees of the Church to study the Second Interim Report of SCIFU. Presbytery responses would be sought and reported to the General Assembly of 2002. Lanark Presbytery’s Inter Church Committee had studied the report and in the first instance affirmed that a united Church in Scotland was an aim worth working towards but before such an aim could be realised existing congregations must be united in a common vision. The Committee affirmed those congregations already working ecumenically, but also pointed out that serious questions remain over issues such as the shape of a united church and the nature of the so-called “maxi parish” in rural areas. The Committee intended to arrange a second conference to discuss the matters and further details of this would be made known in due course.

Copies of the Second Interim Report, together with related discussion papers, had been made available for congregations and the Committee commended them to Kirk Sessions for study and reflection.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RADIO CLYDE:

Mr. David Adams reported on the work of the Committee and in particular the excellent coverage which Radio Clyde had given to the Pentecost 2000 Rally, organised by Glasgow Presbytery.

organised by Glasgow Presbytery/

Mr. Adams then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Instruct the Clerk to write to Radio Clyde in these terms: “The Presbytery of Lanark thank the presenter, production staff and management of Radio Clyde for their commitment to the Pentecost 200 Rally at Hampden Park, Glasgow, on Sunday 11th June 2000.”*

The report, together with the Deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

The Convenor, Mr. Archie Clark, submitted the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that all Professional Quinquennial Property Inspection Reports for 1999 have now been received and transmitted to the relevant congregations.*
3. *Approve the proposals from Coalburn Parish Church to convert their Church to a dual purpose building at an estimated cost of £72,380 (inc. VAT and fees) and approve application to the Central Fabric Fund for grant and loan assistance.*
4. *Instruct Carnwath Parish Church to carry out urgently the recommended temporary propping of internal beams to make the building safe.*
5. *Approve the formation of an ad hoc committee to assist and support Carnwath Church in their present difficulties and grant powers to the Property Committee to appoint the members of the ad hoc committee.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON KIRKFIELD BANK:

The Rev. John M.A. Thomson submitted the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Kirkfieldbank and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note the enthusiasm of the Office Bearers and Congregation to strengthen and develop the witness of the Church in their community.*
3. *Note that, after extensive consultation and considerable work on the part of the Office Bearers, the unanimous view of all concerned is that the present Church building should be retained.*
4. *Approve in principle the restoration and adaptation of the Church Building in Kirkfieldbank.*
5. *Discharge the Ad Hoc Committee and instruct the Property Committee to resume responsibility.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Mike Frew, submitted the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee in which he made members of Presbytery aware of the new Gift Aid scheme introduced by the Government at the Budget in April. The new scheme is likely to prove very beneficial to congregations, provided that they undertake the necessary preparations to put the new system in place and maintain good book-keeping practices. Leaflets giving details of the scheme are available from the Department.

The Convener also reported on the Committee's review of Presbytery Funds and how they may be more efficiently managed. He then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the Report*
2. *Encourage Conveners whose Committees are considering projects involving major expenditure, to contact the Stewardship & Finance Convener.*
3. *Instruct the Ad Hoc Committee on the Moderatorial Visit to prepare a budget for the forthcoming visit of the Moderator and to advise the Treasurer accordingly.*
4. *Authorise the Treasurer to consolidate the existing Clydesdale Bank accounts and transfer funds to an account with Bank of Scotland (via Ernst & Young Financial Management Ltd), this account to be operated on the authority of any two of the Treasurer, Clerk and Depute Clerk.*

Clerk and Depute Clerk/

5. *Note that the Stewardship & Finance Committee will give further consideration to the nature and quantum of funds which it is appropriate for Presbytery to hold and make recommendations to Presbytery in conjunction with the Treasurer's budget for 2001.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE:

The Convener of the Ministry Committee, Rev. Catherine Collins, reported on the plans which the Committee had drawn up for the annual Minister's Retreat which would take place on Monday 18th September, from 10.00am till 4.00pm, in the Maranatha Centre, Biggar. It would be entitled "A Time for Everything" and would be led by Marie Gallagher from ACTS.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Jim Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Commend the minister, office bearers and congregation of Carnwath Parish Church for their work and witness for the Kingdom of God. This Congregation is fulfilling its function.*
3. *Urge the congregation to address the serious fabric problems they face, offering Presbytery's support, and encourage them to see these as a challenge and as a missionary opportunity.*
4. *Encourage Mr Gauld to ensure that he takes adequate time-off.*
5. *Encourage Mr Gauld to consider taking Study Leave, and recommend to him the work of the Board of Ministry in Ministry Development.*
6. *Commend the minister, office bearers and congregation of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen for their work and witness for the Kingdom of God. This Congregation is fulfilling its function.*
7. *Give thanks for the leadership of the minister and well able office bearers, and for the evident team spirit within their congregation.*
8. *Note the Questionnaire concerning the review of Quinquennial Visitations and instruct members to respond by 30 September 2000.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, presented the report of the Presbytery Review Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Committee has met and that a consultation process in the form of a questionnaire is being planned for the autumn.*
3. *Urge members of Presbytery and congregations to co-operate with the Committee through the questionnaire and interviews as appropriate.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 29th August 2000.

WORLD MISSION,	MINISTRY,	PROPERTY,
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS,	PARISH REAPPRAISAL	

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 5th September 2000 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 5th September 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Jim Bain, Rev. Helen Jamieson and Rev. Steven Reid, Ministers, and from Mr. Malcolm Barclay, Mr. Gavin Douglas, Mr. Adam Foster, and Mrs. Isobel Taylor, Elders.

Tribute to the late Rev. Agnes Reid:

The Moderator called on the members of Presbytery to stand while he paid the following tribute to the late Rev. Agnes Reid, formerly Associate Minister at Douglas Water & Rigside.

"During the sunny months of this summer, strength was ebbing away from a minister who had been one of our number in the 1980's. The Reverend Agnes Reid died in Ayrshire Hospice last month. I attended her funeral, along with a sizeable contingent from Douglas Water & Rigside congregation.

Agnes Reid grew up on a farm in Dalry in Ayrshire. She chose Nursing for a career. Her qualities seemed ideally suited for this vocation—her perceptive sympathy, her dedication, her forceful personality. She rose to the top of her profession. And then she sensed another calling, and left those achievements behind, to train for the ministry of Word and Sacrament. In October 1986 she was ordained and introduced as Associate at Douglas Water & Rigside. She led her people in meticulously prepared, meaningful worship, and she proved herself a dedicated pastor. No one knows how many people she helped, or how many nights she sat by a sick bed, for Nancy Reid followed faithfully our Lord's bidding, that we do our good deeds in secret. She sought no recognition. But she is surely rewarded now by the Father in Heaven who sees in secret.

All too soon, in April 1989, her Associateship had to come to an end. She moved to the Charge of Auchindoir and Kildrummy up north. She retired a few years ago, going back to her roots at Dalry. She will be gratefully remembered by many for her delightful, humorous company, and her ever-active compassion."

Membership of Presbytery: The Roll of Presbytery was laid on the Table and the Moderator welcomed new representative elders to the meeting.

Election & Installation of Moderator: The Moderator, Rev. Lawrie Lennox, thanked the Presbytery for allowing him the privilege of serving as their Moderator and also thanked Presbytery for their support and encouragement. He nominated Rev. Catherine Collins to serve as Moderator for 2000–2001. She was unanimously elected. Mr. Lennox handed over the Moderator's preaching scarf to Mrs. Collins and invited her to take the chair. Mrs. Collins thanked Mr. Lennox for the way in which he had served the Presbytery as Moderator.

Minutes: The Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting held on Thursday 15th June at Forth and of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 20th June 2000 at Rigside, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

—**From The Board of Stewardship & Finance**, 17th July 2000, acknowledging receipt of the 1999 Accounts for Presbytery, certifying that they complied fully with regulations and asking that thanks be conveyed to the Presbytery Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young for his service in this important area of Church finance.

—**From The Board of National Mission Parish Reappraisal Committee**, 20th June 2000, intimating that in the case of the vacancy at Overtown in which the Presbytery of Hamilton sought not to pursue the question of readjustment, the Committee agreed to seek conversations with the Presbytery of Hamilton and the Presbytery of Lanark.

—**From The Board of National Mission Parish Reappraisal Committee**, 29th August 2000, intimating that in the case of the vacancy at Law in which the Presbytery of Lanark had sought a continuing vacancy and the appointment of an Interim Minister, the Committee agreed to seek conversations with the Presbytery of Lanark.

ADDRESS by AREA STEWARDSHIP CONSULTANT

The Convener of the Stewardship & Finance Committee introduced the new Stewardship Consultant, Mrs. Edith Scott, and the Moderator invited her to address the Presbytery.

Mrs. Scott thanked Presbytery for inviting her to speak. She introduced herself as the successor to Mr Tom Kinvig, who had recently retired, and she informed Presbytery of some of the other changes in personnel and organisation that had recently been introduced into the Board of Stewardship & Finance. She then gave an interesting and informative talk on the broad scope of Stewardship, which she described as "the essence of how we live our Christian lives" and as something which is about much more than money. She emphasised the need for us to engender a "Stewardship Culture" in our congregations and reminded Presbytery that as Christians we are called to be stewards of Creation, of each other and of our communities, of the gospel, of our own gifts and talents, and of our time. She stressed how important it was for people to recognise the difference that following Christ makes to a person's whole life. Her job as Stewardship Consultant was to assist congregations in the process of taking stock of *all* their resources and how they may best be used and to enable them to carry out effective forward planning.

Mrs. Scott then outlined in more detail the workings and positive implications of the new Gift Aid scheme as it applied to churches. She indicated that the Board were continuing to produce new resources and materials to assist congregations in all aspects of stewardship including Gift Aid.

Mrs. Scott then helpfully answered a number of questions raised by members of Presbytery. The Moderator thanked Mrs. Scott for her clear and challenging presentation.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY YOUTH DELEGATE

Mr. Kevin Lambie, who had represented Lanark Presbytery as Youth Delegate to the General Assembly of 2000 but had been unable to report to the June meeting, was invited by the Moderator to address the Presbytery and share his impressions of the General Assembly.

Mr. Lambie, a member of Kirkmuirhill Church, thanked Presbytery not only for the opportunity to speak to them but also for the privilege of representing Presbytery at the Assembly. He had found it very enjoyable, interesting and challenging. What had impressed him most about the Assembly was the honesty of debate and the fact that Commissioners expressed their often differing opinions without any ill feeling or lack of courtesy. In particular he had been encouraged by the way in which the Church had handled the sensitive issue of "Clause 28".

He also enjoyed the Communion and appreciated the opportunity to meet other young Christians from around the Church. The use of modern technology, especially in the live link to Malawi, had also impressed him and among all that had been said and decided throughout the week the most memorable comment for him had been made by the Moderator, Rt. Rev. Andrew McLellan, who had reminded the Assembly that "the Church of Jesus Christ is for those who haven't quite got life right". The Moderator thanked Mr. Lambie for his account of what the General Assembly had meant to him and wished him well.

INDIAN LINK FACILITATOR

The Convener of the World Mission Committee introduced to the Presbytery the Rev. Anthaparusha, Indian Link Facilitator, and the Moderator invited him to speak.

Anthaparusha, a minister from the Church of North India, began by thanking Presbytery for giving him the opportunity to speak to Presbytery. His appointment as Indian Link Facilitator was an ecumenical one in that he represented both the Church of South India (which had come into existence in 1947 as a result of the union of 4 denominations) and the Church of North India (which had come into existence in 1970 as a result of the union of six denominations) and also because he would be working in both the Church of Scotland and the Scottish Episcopal Church. His task during his time in Scotland was to speak to Schools, Guilds and other church groups, in order to raise awareness and understanding of Indian Christian life and to establish partnership links where different traditions could learn from each other in the context of different multi-cultural societies.

He reminded Presbytery that Christianity had actually been introduced to India in 52AD through St. Thomas but that in more modern times Scottish Missionaries had played an important role in the establishing of Christian Churches. There were historic links between the Church of Scotland and both united churches in India but this was becoming a thing of the past because there were no longer long-term Scottish missionaries serving in these areas.

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He spoke of the importance of mutual sharing between the churches of India and the churches in Scotland and how, in particular, there needed to be a sharing of Spiritual Resources (which included a sharing of our experiences of God); a sharing of Theological Insights; and a sharing of Pastoral Concerns. The sharing of financial resources was not enough.

This involved coming to terms with the "Jesus who transcends Christianity" and whose uniqueness consisted of his total commitment to "God Unlimited". He argued that Christian discipleship, and the uniqueness of the Christian community, must be reflections of that commitment. Referring to Ghandi, he asserted that the best way to show the superiority of the Christian faith is to show that it produces better men, women and children, and a better society.

Anthaparusha claimed that it is now the turn of African and Asian Churches to make a special contribution to the understanding of the significance of the person and function of Jesus in the world and urged Presbytery to listen to the witness of the whole Church.

Mission should be understood not as a burden laid upon the church but as a gift given to the Church. Concern for the World Church is not an added extra but the acid test as to whether or not the Church believes the gospel.

God has given all of His people a variety of gifts. These gifts must be recognised and utilised for mutual enrichment, personal edification, and visible witness, participating in the faith struggles and challenges of proclaiming the gospel in the context of living our lives for the benefit of all humanity. It is by transcending the barriers we have erected for ourselves and by becoming partners in Christ in a relationship governed by mutual respect that there will be mutual enrichment.

Anthaparusha asked congregations to invite him to visit them and to challenge them with the insights from the Church in India. In concluding, he quoted William Carey: "Attempt great things for God: expect great things from God" and Sadhu Sundar Singh: "It is easy to die for Christ: it is very difficult to burn for Christ".

On behalf of Presbytery, the Moderator thanked Anthaparusha for his challenging and thought-provoking address which had raised many important issues that had to be explored by the Church in Scotland and expressed the hope that at some point in the future Presbytery might be able to invite him to return and explore the issues further.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Approve the committee lists as presented by the Clerk.*
3. *Note the appointment of the Rev. Gavin Elliott as vice-Convener of the Business Committee.*
4. *Note the appointment of Mr. Malcolm Barclay as vice-Convener of the Parish Reappraisal Committee.*
5. *In response to the extract minute from the Board of National Mission's Parish Reappraisal Committee, seeking conversations with the Presbytery, appoint the Clerk, the Moderator and the Convener of the Parish Reappraisal Committee to represent Presbytery at the meeting with the Board's representatives on September 13th, 2000.*
6. *Approve the appointment of Mr. George Forbes and Rev. Lawrie Lennox to represent Presbytery at a day conference on Parish Reappraisal in Glasgow on October 5th.*
7. *Request that information regarding all appointments from within the bounds to Boards and Committees of the Church be passed immediately to the Presbytery Clerk for inclusion in the Presbytery Year Book.*
8. *Approve the recommendations anent the General Assembly Remits to Presbyteries to the named committees, and remind members of Presbytery that other material contained in the booklet may be transmitted to Kirk Sessions and congregations as Presbytery members see fit.*
9. *Agree to meet 'in conference,' at a date to be decided, to discuss the extract of the report of the Assembly Council, "Change or Decay?" (Remits P.23 No 2: Appendix 1) and a) encourage members of Presbytery to prepare by reading the material; b) invite a member of the Assembly Council to participate in the meeting.*

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10. Invite a member of the Vocational Guidance Committee to attend the November meeting of Presbytery to participate in discussion of the report on the Enquiry and Assessment process. (Remits P.21 No 14)
11. Approve the appointment of Mrs. Nan Mackie to represent Presbytery at a seminar on the Pilot Enquiry Scheme at Renfield: St. Stephen's on Friday, 8th. September.
12. Note that a copy of the Fasti has been ordered by the Clerk on Presbytery's behalf, and will be available to members as required.
13. Instruct Kirk Sessions to return completed questionnaires anent Quinquennial Visitations, to the Convener of the Superintendence and Records Committee, on or by 30th. September, 2000.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE: The Convener, Mrs. Ena Wilson, submitted the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. Receive the report
2. Note the date of arrival of the Faithshare Partner as 17th September, 2000.
3. Thank the Committee in Carluke for their diligence in making necessary arrangements.
4. Approve the expenditure of up to £100 for the official welcoming event for our Faithshare Partner on 30th September at 7.30pm in Carluke St. John's Church Hall.
5. Note the World Mission Rally to be held in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on 8th November at 7.30pm.
6. Note the confirmation that Mrs. Ailsa Henderson, Area Organiser for Christian Aid, will address the November meeting of Presbytery.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Mike Frew, presented the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, through which he informed Presbytery that the total Mission & Aid Budget for 2001 was £11,225,000 of which a total of £10,856,000 needed to come from self-supporting congregations.

Reporting also on behalf of the Ministry Committee, the Convener then informed Presbytery of accumulated shortfalls in both the Mission & Aid Fund and the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund and appealed to congregations that had not yet made any contributions to central funds for the current year to do so. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. Receive the report
2. Commend to congregations the work of Edith Scott, Stewardship Consultant
3. Note the proposed Mission & Aid Allocations for 2001, and advise that any representations or appeals must be sent to the Convener by 20th October
4. Note the accumulated shortfalls (1993-98) to the Mission & Aid Fund as at 30th June 2000; in the case of Carnwath £9140, and in the case of Forth: St. Paul's £3990.
5. Note the accumulated shortfall to Ministry (1993-98) as at 30th June 2000 in the case of Carnwath of £7554
6. Encourage congregations with shortfalls in payments to central funds for the current year to do their best to bring such payments up to date.

The report, together with the deliverance was approved.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE: The Vice-Convener, Rev. Gavin Elliott, presented the report of the Ministry Committee in which he reminded Ministers of the Presbytery Ministers' Retreat to be held in the Maranatha Centre, Biggar on Monday 18th September. He also presented a list of proposed stipends for the charges within the bounds and then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Receive proposed stipend figures as tabled and note that any matters concerning the figures should be raised with the Convenor by 15 October.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RADIO CLYDE:

Mr. David Adams reported on the meeting of the Radio Clyde Religious Advisory Committee on 4th September 2000. He reported that the religious input on Clyde 1 had been reduced to 20 seconds each morning and consisted of an unannounced, untitled presentation which, in his view, had little chance of making any impact on the audience. He reported that the presenter of the breakfast programme had "declared war" on even this "intrusion".

On a more positive note, Clyde 2 were preparing ideas for a Christmas Day broadcast. In this connection, Rev. Alan Sorenson had asked if those working with young people in congregations would pass on news of the ways in which they would be presenting the Christmas Story this year in the hope that some of these ideas might be incorporated into a radio presentation. Clyde 2 was willing to give air time to such a programme as long as it involved children.

In the discussion that followed Rev. Alan Gibson suggested that Youth Fellowships and Bible Classes might want to write to Radio Clyde making known their dissatisfaction at the reduction in the religious input on Clyde 1. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Urge Sunday School and Bible Class Leaders within the bounds to forward proposals to the Press and Publicity Officer on ways to present the Christmas Story on Radio Clyde.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

Depute Clerk, Pro Tem. As the Depute Clerk, Rev. John M.A. Thomson, would be taking leave of absence to serve with H.M. Forces in Bosnia for three months, Rev. Michael Frew took the *oath de fidei* as Depute Presbytery Clerk Pro Tem.

A.O.C.B. Miss Joyce Munro, Presbytery representative on the Board of Social Responsibility, intimated to Presbytery that the month of September was Social Responsibility Season. She reminded Presbytery of the breadth of caring work undertaken on behalf of the Church by the Board and urged congregations to observe Social Responsibility season.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 26th September 2000.

**INTER CHURCH
PARISH REAPPRAISAL
WORLD MISSION
PROPERTY**

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
PARISH EDUCATION
MINISTRY
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE**

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 3rd October 2000 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 3rd October 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 32 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Robert McMahon, Rev. Sheila Mitchell and Rev. Stephen Pacitti, Ministers, and from Mrs. Grace Graham and Mrs. Ena Wilson, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 5th September 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

- From The Board of National Mission, Parish Reappraisal Committee, 19th September 2000**, noting that conversations had taken place with the Presbytery of Lanark concerning the vacancy at Law and that following a report from the Vice-Convener, the Committee agreed to concur with the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark and declare the charge of Law a Continued Vacancy.
- From The General Trustees, 28th September 2000**, noting that in the case of the application to the Central Fabric Fund by Coalburn Church, the Trustees had agreed to make available a grant of £5,000 and a loan of up to £15,000 repayable over 6 years with interest at 4% per annum.
- From The Board of National Mission, 7th August 2000**, intimating changes to the Team of Advisers in Mission and Evangelism and that Lanark Presbytery would come under the remit of the Missions Co-ordinator, Rev. Paul Beautyman, 59 Elmbank Street, Glasgow (0141 352 6946).

CALL TO Rev. T. John Brown from Tullibody: St. Serf's

The Clerk laid on the table an Extract Minute of the Presbytery of Stirling, a citation of the congregations of Cairngryffe and Symington, and a Call to Rev. Thomas John Brown from the congregation of Tullibody: St. Serf's, signed by 297 members and 12 adherents.

Mr. Euan Davidson spoke on behalf of the congregation of Cairngryffe, and Mr. Ross Russell spoke on behalf of the congregation of Symington. Both spoke warmly and appreciatively of Mr. Brown's ministry, paying tribute to his courage, enthusiasm, patience and tireless hard work in the difficult situation of the newly united charge of Cairngryffe and the new linking with Symington, which had now become a positive and fruitful new relationship between the congregations, largely due to Mr. Brown's ministry. Both wished Mr. Brown and his wife, Kay, every success in their new charge. On the question being put "translate or not translate", Rev. Lawrie Lennox moved Mr. Brown's translation to Tullibody: St. Serf's. The motion was seconded by Mr. David Adams.

The Presbytery agreed to the translation.

In reply, Mr. Brown thanked those who had spoken.

The Moderator presented the Call, which had been sent by the Presbytery of Stirling, to Mr. Brown and wished him every blessing in his new charge.

The Clerk was instructed to send an Extract Minute to the Presbytery of Stirling.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that the Clerk has produced the Presbytery Year Book, thank the Clerk for his efforts, and request that members check the information contained therein, and inform the Clerk of any errors or omissions.*
3. *Note that the Rev. Susan Cowell, currently serving as full time locum at Lanark: St. Nicholas, is in possession of a Practising Certificate issued by the Presbytery of Edinburgh, and agree to add Miss Cowell's name to the Roll of Lanark Presbytery as a corresponding member.*
4. *Note that a vacancy exists for a Church of Scotland Representative on South Lanarkshire Council Education Committee, and invite members who wish to be considered, to inform the Clerk by the November meeting of Presbytery, in order that nominations may be forwarded to the Department of Education.*

5. *Note that there are two places available to Lanark Presbytery for delegates to the Youth Assembly of 6th to 9th April, 2001 in Dundee. Invite congregations to forward nominations to the Convener of the Parish Education Committee by the December meeting of Presbytery, and agree to meet the cost of £115 per delegate.*
6. *Appoint the Rev. Steven Reid, Interim Moderator, in the impending vacancy at Cairngryffe l.w. Symington.*
7. *Appoint the Rev. Stephen Pacitti (Convener), Mrs. Moira White and Mr. Ian Ivison as the Presbytery Advisory Committee to the congregations of Cairngryffe and Symington in the forthcoming vacancy.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH REAPPRAISAL COMMITTEE: The Convener, Mr. George Forbes, submitted the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee concerning the impending vacancy at Cairngryffe and Symington. The Congregations had been cited to appear in their interests and a number of members of the congregation were present. The Convener reminded Presbytery that this area had already seen extensive readjustment take place in recent years and that the existing situation was within the Presbytery Plan. He reported that it was the unanimous view of the Committee that the question of readjustment should not be pursued in this instance. The Convener also reported on the conversations held on 13th September with representatives of the General Assembly's Parish Reappraisal Committee and of Hamilton Presbytery. The conversations had proved helpful and informative and, as subsequent events proved, Presbytery's view that a period of Interim Ministry was the best way forward for the Church at Law was endorsed. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Resolve that in the vacancy at Cairngryffe l.w. Symington the question of readjustment be not pursued and the congregations be allowed to call a minister without restriction, in accordance with the Presbytery Plan, subject to the concurrence of the General Assembly's Committee on Parish Reappraisal.*
3. *Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to notify the General Assembly's Committee on Parish Reappraisal accordingly.*
4. *Note that in response to the extract minute from the General Assembly's Parish Reappraisal Committee seeking conversations with the Presbytery in connection with the vacancy at Law, the Moderator, Clerk and Convener of the Presbytery's Parish Reappraisal Committee met on 13th September 2000 with representatives from the General Assembly's Committee and with representatives of Hamilton Presbytery and the discussions were informative and fruitful.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE:

In the absence of the Convener, the Vice Convener, Miss Sheena Thomson reported on behalf of the World Mission Committee. She first of all introduced to the Presbytery the Faithshare Partner, Miss Jee-Eun Choi, from South Korea. The Moderator invited Miss Choi to address the Presbytery. Miss Choi thanked Presbytery for their welcome. She expressed the hope that her presence as a representative of another branch of the Presbyterian church family might provide "a breath of fresh air" for Lanark Presbytery and that the partnership might be fruitful. She was especially looking forward to her work in schools and in Street Level and the Carluke congregations. Although most of Miss Choi's work would be based in Carluke, Miss Thomson stated that other congregations could invite her to speak to congregational groups, Guilds, Kirk Sessions etc. and all such invitations would be considered depending on other commitments. Miss Thomson, on behalf of the Convener, expressed thanks to those who had organised the official welcome, but also expressed some disappointment at the small number of members of Presbytery who had attended.

The remainder of the World Mission report concerned the meeting of the Local Involvement Committee which twice a year brings together all Presbytery representatives to hear of the work of the Board. A report was heard from Rev. Andrew Anderson on his visit to Pakistan, where the persecution of Christians, while less severe than before, was continuing. A report was also given by Rev. Donald Walker on a visit to Africa with the Moderator of the General Assembly. Their visit had

Their visit had/

brought home to them the extent of poverty and the need for debt relief, and the Moderator had written to the Chancellor asking for a meeting to discuss the issue. The same issue was also highlighted in the report from Jubilee 2000 which had expressed disappointment that the G8 countries had not yet followed up on their commitments in this regard.

Miss Thomson also reported that there were currently four Faithshare Partners in Scotland. In addition to Lanark Presbytery, the Presbyteries of Shetland and Perth had partners, as did the "The Well" in Glasgow. The Church of Scotland no longer has any mission partners in India but Lothian Presbytery had twinned with the Diocese of the Eastern Himalayas to maintain links.

Finally, Miss Thomson commended the Boys' Brigade annual World Mission Project, which this year was "Water For Malawi."

The Vice Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the World Mission Rally will take place on the evening of 8th November at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall at 7.30pm, and encourage congregations, especially young people, to attend.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

ASSEMBLY COUNCIL: The Moderator welcomed Rev. David Denniston, a member of the Assembly Council, and invited him to address Presbytery on the subject of The Future of the Church. In his presentation, Mr. Denniston described the primary role of the Assembly Council as listening to what Presbyteries, Kirk Sessions, Congregations and Boards & Committees of the Church were saying and then enabling, encouraging, co-ordinating and assessing priorities to enable the Church to find the right way forward. He described some of the changes in our society and their effects on the Church, and some of the strange perceptions which people may have of the Church, comparing them to some of the Biblical images of the Church (e.g. a body, the Vine, a household).

In all its consultations to date, the Assembly Council had concluded that "the time is ripe for profound change" and that there was a growing mood for change. This, however, was inhibited by a general fear of change and resistance to it. He reminded Presbytery that change in the Church is not new. Many of the aspects of Church life which are embedded in our tradition, as if they had always been, were in fact 19th century innovations, such as ministers' robes, church organs etc. It was vital for us to concern ourselves more with the fundamentals than with such peripheral issues.

The Assembly Council had also been hearing some of the "good news" stories from around the church and certain recurring themes were beginning to emerge that may be possibilities for the future. One of the aims of the Council was to enable the sharing of such good news around the Church.

After Mr. Denniston's presentation, the Presbytery met in conference session, in small groups, to discuss the need for change in the Church and signs of hope for the future.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Denniston for introducing such important issues to the Presbytery and enabling Presbytery to discuss them.

The Clerk moved that *Presbytery:—*

"Remit to the Business Committee to consider the possibility of including a regular item on the agenda for congregations to share good news stories."

The Deliverance was approved.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE: The Convener, Rev. John Brown, submitted the report of the Church and Community Committee which dealt with the Deliverances from the Committee on Church and Nation in the Remits from the General Assembly. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Encourage Church members to consider offering themselves for elected office.*
3. *Encourage Church members to support and participate, and, where appropriate, to take initiatives in the arts in Scotland, especially at local level.*
4. *Encourage Church members to make use of any opportunities afforded by legislation regarding the Freedom of Information.*
5. *Encourage awareness of the issues involved in the practice of military intervention for humanitarian purposes.*

6. *Encourage Church members to continue to support all suffering people in the former Yugoslavia by prayer, by being informed about the situation there, and by assisting those working to rebuild community.*
7. *Encourage Church members to support the Fair Trade movement.*
8. *Encourage Church members to continue to support the Jubilee 2000 Campaign.*
9. *Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, expressing the support of the Presbytery of Lanark for the aims of the Jubilee 2000 Campaign, commending the action already taken by the UK Government, encouraging him to give a high priority to further reductions, and reminding him of the peaceful march by Jubilee 2000 at Prague on 24th September, to mark the loss of lives of 19,000 children per day, estimated by the United Nations to be the consequence of G7 members forcing their governments to prioritise debt repayments over improvements in health, clean water and sanitation..*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE: In the absence of the Convener, Mr. Archie Clark, submitted the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:
Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note the Ad Hoc Committee to visit Carnwath Church have met with the Carnwath Congregational Board and that further meetings are to be arranged.*
3. *Approve the request by Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark, for the release of £10,500 from funds held by the General Trustees on behalf of the congregation, to meet expenditure on a variety of ongoing property repairs and replacements.*
4. *Approve the sale of Dunsyre Church by the Congregational Board of Black Mount, if a suitable purchaser is found, subject to the Church of Scotland's practice of accepting the highest bid.*
5. *Approve the replacement of windows at Douglas St. Bride's Centre with PVC double-glazed units of same design as existing by the Board of Management of St. Bride's Centre at a cost of £20,000 including VAT and contingencies and at no cost to the congregation.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE: The Vice-Convener, Rev. Gavin Elliott, submitted the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:
Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Commend the Church of Scotland Study leave Scheme to ministers and remind them of the information days planned in Glasgow on 26 October and Edinburgh 31 October.*
3. *Note with concern the poor attendance at the recent retreat organised for ministers but record our thanks to Rev. J Brown, Rev. M Frew and Rev. H. Jamieson for their organisation of this event which was much appreciated by those who attended.*
4. *Approve arrangements made with Kirkmuirhill for an additional training placement for Mr. Stephen Marr and agree that fuel costs incurred with regard to this placement will be reimbursed to Mr. Marr by the Presbytery.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE: The Convener, Rev. David Collins, submitted the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that Resource Centre videos will available for free loan at monthly Committee nights and Presbytery meetings.*
3. *Approve a budget of up to £300 for children's events run by Presbytery's Adviser in Children's Ministry, reviewable annually.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 31st October 2000.

**PARISH REAPPRAISAL
WORLD MISSION
PROPERTY
WORSHIP**

**MINISTRY
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE
PARISH MISSION
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 7th November 2000 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 7th November 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 13 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig and Rev. Sheila Mitchell, Ministers, and from Mr. Malcolm Barclay, Mr. Archie Clark, Mr. Gavin Douglas, Mrs. Grace Graham and Mrs. Nan Mackie, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 3rd October 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

—**From The Parish Reappraisal Committee, 17 October 2000**, intimating that in the vacancy at Cairngryffe with Symington the Committee had resolved to defer consideration of the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark until Congregational Survey Forms had been completed.

—**From The Board of National Mission, 19 October 2000**, intimating that during the absence of Rev. John M.A. Thomson on overseas leave as HM Army Chaplain, Rev. Susan Cowell had been appointed as temporary part-time Hospital Chaplain at William Smellie Unit, Law Hospital.

—**From The General Trustees, 25 October 2000**, intimating that in the case of Black Mount the Trustees approved in principle the sale of Dunsyre Church.

—**From The Clerk to the Lieutenancy of Lanarkshire, 26 October 2000**, intimating that the Queen has appointed Mr. Gilbert Cox Esq. MBE JP as Lord Lieutenant for the Area of Lanarkshire following the retirement of Mr. Hutchison Sneddon.

—**From HM Treasury, 1 November 2000**, replying to the letter sent by the Clerk concerning debt relief, intimating that the Treasury to date had received 10,784 letters, 299,000 postcards and 68,148 e-mails on the matter, and assuring Presbytery that the Government takes the matter very seriously and continues to press the issue at all available opportunities.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Grant permission to the congregation of Carluke: St. Andrew's to hold services in the church hall for the duration of programme of redecoration to the church.*
3. *Approve the appointment of an ad hoc committee comprising the Rev. David Collins, Convener, Rev. Laurie Lennox, Rev. David Young, Mr. John Strachan and Mrs. Ellen Young to consider proposals in the South Lanarkshire Council Lower Clydesdale Local Plan, and, noting that the response from Presbytery to the plan must be with the council by 11th. December, 2000, instruct the committee to report to the December meeting of Presbytery.*
4. *Appoint Miss Joyce Munro, Convener pro tem of the Church and Community Committee.*
5. *Appoint the Rev. Sheila Mitchell to replace the Rev. William Craig as Convener of the Presbytery's Interim Ministry Monitoring Committee.*
6. *Appoint Mr. George Forbes to represent Presbytery at a meeting with the Board of Ministry at Law Church on Thursday, 16th. November, 2000 at 6.30pm.*
7. *Note that the Clerk has received a report from the Rev. Alan Gibson giving details of his visit to South Africa, and invite Mr. Gibson to address the Presbytery at the December meeting.*
8. *Starting in February, 2001, and working in pairs of congregations in alphabetical order, agree to institute a "Good News" slot which will give congregations within the bounds an opportunity to share items of good news with the Presbytery.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

ADDRESS ON THE WORK OF CHRISTIAN AID

The Moderator invited Mrs. Ailsa Henderson, Area Organiser for Christian Aid, to address Presbytery on the work of Christian Aid.

Mrs. Henderson, after thanking Presbytery for the opportunity to speak, expressed the thanks of Christian Aid to all members of the church involved in its work. She then outlined six particular areas of the current work of Christian Aid, which is the official Aid agency of the Churches.

(i) *Christian Aid Week*. The new scheme introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to allow for the reclaiming of tax paid on donations given through envelopes had resulted in considerable extra work for volunteers but had brought in an extra £600,000. (The total raised in Christian Aid Week was almost £12 million.)

(ii) *Debt Campaign*. In spite of some progress in the bid to have the debts of the world's poorest countries written off, the church-led Jubilee 2000 campaign would not be wound down at the end of the year 2000 as there was still some way to go before it achieved its aims.

(iii) *Fairtrade Campaign*. The number of churches committed to using only fairly traded tea and coffee was growing and Mrs. Henderson offered to help churches that had not yet done so to adopt such a policy.

(iv) *Holy Land*. The situation in Israel/Palestine was difficult and sensitive. Christian Aid was in a position to provide background information from its partner organisations in the Holy Land which would help to deepen understanding of the issues. Resources included a video entitled "Not the Peace We Dream Of" was available from Christian Aid office in Glasgow free of charge.

(v) *Advent/Christmas Resources*. Advent and Christmas resources for use with children, for all-age worship and for personal prayer had been produced, focusing on a 12-year old boy with spina bifida who lives near Bethlehem, called Ahmed.

(vi) *Brazil*. Mrs. Henderson reported also that she would be in Brazil between 18 November and 5 December on a visit to some of Christian Aid's partners there.

Mrs. Henderson concluded her address by inviting all the congregations of Lanark Presbytery to continue to be involved in the work through prayer and practical action, making use of the resources Christian Aid has produced.

Members of Presbytery asked several questions of Mrs. Henderson and the Moderator thanked her for her interesting and informative address.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The Vice Convener, Rev. Gavin Elliott, introduced Rev. Christine Goldie, Convener of the Vocational Guidance Committee of the Board of Ministry, and asked the Moderator to invite her to introduce discussion on the paper "*Ministers of the Gospel*".

This discussion paper, on the proposed new Enquiry, Appraisal and Assessment Scheme for Ministry, had been produced by the Board of Ministry, and the General Assembly had instructed Presbyteries to respond to it with their comments by 30 November 2000.

Miss Goldie gave a very clear presentation of the current procedures for recruitment and selection to the Ministry and of the main changes proposed, including a wider view of ministry and a greater involvement of Presbyteries in the process of selection and assessment. There was a wide-ranging discussion of the proposals and then the Rev. Gavin Elliott moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Approve in principle the proposals outlined in the consultation paper "Ministers of the Gospel" and encourage the Board in the development of the proposals.*
2. *Remit to the Business Committee consideration of the appointment of Presbytery Representatives for this scheme.*

The deliverance was approved.

The Vice Convener, Rev. Gavin Elliott, then presented revised figures for Proposed Stipends for 2001 since some of the previously published figures had been inaccurate, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

3. *Receive the report*
4. *Approve proposed stipend figures and bands as tabled and forward this decision to the Department of Ministry*
5. *Note that the Overture anent Ministers and Deacons in Public Office will be presented for discussion at the December meeting of Presbytery*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH MISSION COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev. Steven Reid, submitted the report of the Parish Mission Committee which dealt first of all with the work of Part Time Hospital Chaplains. At Birkwood Hospital, the work of the chaplain and of the hospital staff are inevitably influenced by the reduction of service currently offered at the hospital. For the chaplaincy team at Law Hospital the most significant fact is the impending closure of Law Hospital and opening of Wishaw General. The proposals for the provision of a chaplaincy service at the new hospital are still uncertain.

The Convener also reported that Rev. James Seath continues to serve as part time chaplain to H.M. Prison, Shotts. He is no longer required to report to Hamilton Presbytery and will in future report to Lanark Presbytery. The Convener commended him for his work as Prison Chaplain and as the Co-ordinator of the Chaplaincy Team.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Thank the Hospital Chaplains and commend them for their work during the past year.*
3. *Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the report dealing with the work of the chaplains to the Department of National Mission, together with the chaplain's annual reports.*

The second item of the report was the Committee's response to the remit from the General Assembly to study the discussion paper: "The Impact of Baptism". The conclusion of the committee had been that the current act had made a positive contribution to the church's mission and therefore should be neither amended nor replaced. The committee also concluded that it is entirely consistent with the vows taken by parents in a baptismal service that they should be communicant members of the church.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

4. *Receive the report*
5. *Note the report entitled "The Impact of Baptism: A Study Guide" and the commendation of the Board of National Mission that it should be studied throughout the church.*
6. *Agree that the 1963 Act on the administration of Baptism to Infants should be neither amended nor replaced.*
7. *Instruct the Clerk to forward the relevant Extract Minute to the Board of National Mission.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH REAPPRAISAL COMMITTEE

The Convener of the Parish Reappraisal Committee, Mr. George Forbes, reported on a Day Conference on Parish Reappraisal, hosted by the Board of National Mission, which had taken place on 5th October, and which he had attended along with Rev. Lawrie Lennox.

Rev. Mike Frew was also present as a member of the Committee on New Charge Development.

The conference had dealt with a number of issues, including those surrounding "Terminable and Reviewable Tenure" and "Additional Appointments", the importance of Presbytery Planning and the question of "multiple linkages." The Presbytery representatives had found the conference useful and worthwhile and were grateful for having had the opportunity to attend.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev. Mike Frew, submitted the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee which dealt first with the Mission and Aid Allocations. The proposed Allocations had been presented at the September meeting. One appeal had been received, from Carstairs Junction Congregational Board. The Committee had examined the appeal and could find no grounds to uphold it as the allocation for Carstairs Junction was still below scale.

The Convener then asked the Moderator to invite the Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young, to present the Presbytery Budget for the year 2001.

Mr. Young, presented the draft Budget, as outlined below, and answered satisfactorily all questions raised by members of Presbytery on particular items of the budget. Taking into account a number of items of exceptional expenditure, there was still scope for a reducing the amount of funds held in

reserve and he would therefore propose a one-year reduction in the levy of congregations to 75p per member.

PRESBYTERY BUDGET 2001

Projected Ordinary Expenditure		£
Clerk's Salary		3,600
Clerk's expenses		800
Printing, postage, stationery		1,000
Honoraria		320
Sunday School Adviser		400
Pulpit Supply		150
Computer equipment		500
Travelling expenses		100
Survey fees (5x £650)		3,250
Bursaries		150
Hall rent		300
Sundry		500
Contingency		<u>500</u>
		11,570
Less Interest & other income		<u>1000</u>
Net Ordinary annual expenditure		<u>10,570</u>
Proposed Levy per member	75p	7,500
Projected deficit		3,070
Exceptional expenditure in 2001		
5 additional surveys	3,250	
Faithshare Partner	1,500	
Moderator's Visit	2,000	6,750
Reduction in reserves		9,820
Projected Financial Position at 31 Dec 2001		
Total bank balances per 1999 accounts		29,448
Add o/s levies		<u>1,024</u>
		30,472
Less net expenditure for 2000		9,500
Projected balance at 31 Dec 2000 pre levy for 2001		20,972
Less budgeted deficit, incl. exceptional expenditure for 2001		<u>9,820</u>
		<u>11,152</u>
Projected reserves at 31 Dec 2001, say		11,000

The Convener of the Stewardship & Finance Committee then moved the following Deliverance:
Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Reject the appeal from Carstairs Junction regarding its Mission and Aid allocation, for the reasons stated in the report*
3. *Approve the Mission and Aid allocations for 2001, as presented at the September meeting of Presbytery.*
4. *Approve the Presbytery budget for 2001.*
5. *Approve the levy of 75p per member.*

The report, together with the Deliverance, was approved

REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTS INSPECTION COMMITTEE

The Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young, as Convener of the Accounts Inspection Committee, reported on the committee's examination of Congregational Accounts which had been found to be satisfactory. In a few cases suggestions had been made to Treasurers concerning methods of presenting accounts.

The Convener of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, Rev. Mike Frew, then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that all Congregational Accounts for 1999 have been examined and attest that they comply in all material respects with the General Assembly's regulations anent congregational finance.*
3. *Instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the Assembly Committee.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE

Presbytery meeting *in private*, the Convener, Rev. Jim Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee, and then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Quinquennial Visit to Carluke: St John's will be led by Rev David Collins.*
3. *Note that the committee's Review of Quinquennial Visits is ongoing, and that any comments members of Presbytery may have will be gratefully received*
4. *Note that the Rev Helen Jamieson has agreed to continue to serve as Vice-convenor of the committee.*
5. *Note that a letter has been received from the Congregational Board of Carstairs Parish Church requesting a meeting with members of the committee to discuss some concerns, and that a meeting with three of the committee has been arranged.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 28th November 2000.

**PROPERTY
WORSHIP**

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

NEXT MEETING: The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 5th December 2000 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 5th December 2000, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig and Rev. Helen Jamieson, Ministers, and from Mr. George Buckley, Mrs. Flora Cheeseman, Mr. Archie Clark, Mr. James Ferguson, Mrs. Grace Graham, Mr. James Hardie, Mrs. Betty Smith, Mrs. Cath Steele, and Mrs. Isobel Taylor, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7th November 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters:

—**From The Board of National Mission, 21 November 2000**, intimating that in the vacancy at Cairngryffe and Symington the Committee concurred that the question of readjustment should not be pursued.

—**From Board of Ministry, 27 November 2000**, intimating the list of candidates for the Ministry now eligible to apply for Licence. (*No objections were raised by Presbytery to any of those named.*)

—**From The Presbytery of Stirling, 30 November 2000**, intimating that Rev. Thomas John Brown had been inducted to the pastoral charge of St. Serf's, Tullibody, on Thursday 26th October 2000 and that his name had been added to the roll of the Presbytery of Stirling.

—**From The Board of Stewardship & Finance, 1 December 2000**, acknowledging receipt of the Extract Minute from the Presbytery of Lanark concerning the attestation of Congregational Accounts and conveying the thanks of the Board to all those involved in the attestation process.

OVERTURE anent Ministers and Deacons in Public Office

The Vice Convener of the Committee, Rev. Gavin Elliott, introduced discussion on the *OVERTURE anent Ministers and Deacons in Public Office*. The Committee recommended that Presbytery approve the Overture.

There voted to APPROVE the Overture 38, and to DISAPPROVE 0.

OVERTURE anent Discipline of Ministers, Licentiates, Graduate Candidates and Deacons

The Convener of the Superintendence & Records Committee, Rev. Jim Bain, introduced discussion on the *OVERTURE anent Discipline of Ministers, Licentiates, Graduate Candidates and Deacons*. The Committee recommended that Presbytery approve the Overture.

There voted to APPROVE the Overture 39, and to DISAPPROVE 0.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee which, among other issues, dealt with the decision of the Presbytery Clerk to resign from office as at 30th June 2001. In that regard it was agreed that details of the proposed procedure for appointing a new clerk should be minuted as follows:

1. That anyone who wishes to be considered for the post of Presbytery Clerk should intimate that fact to the Convener of the Business Committee, not the Clerk, by February 15th. 2001. Candidates will find a 'job description' of the Clerk's responsibilities in *The Constitution and Laws of the Church* by the Very Rev. Dr. James L. Weatherhead, and also in the Presbytery Guidelines, which the Business Committee issues to new members.
2. That an Interviewing Panel be formed from among the Presbytery members, consisting of five members, ministers and elders, and that the Panel members be nominated by members of Presbytery rather than by the Business Committee, the deadline for such nominations to be the Committee Night of the 30th. of January, 2001. (For those putting names forward, it is suggested

- they approach the person first to determine if he or she is willing to serve. Obviously anyone considering applying for the Clerk's job could not be on the Interviewing Panel at the same time.)
3. That the Business Committee present the list of Panel nominees to the February meeting of Presbytery and that Presbytery elect the five members of the Panel from that list at that meeting.
 4. That interviews then be conducted during the remaining two weeks of February between panel and the applicants, and a nominee presented to the March meeting of Presbytery for approval. (At this point we will have a Presbytery Clerk Elect.)
 5. That, subject to there being no objections, or change of mind, the Presbytery formally appoint the Clerk Elect at the April meeting. (This time scale allows for the Clerk Elect to work with the Presbytery Clerk in tandem, as a learning process. At that time Presbytery will also be asked to include the Clerk Elect on the Business Committee, if he or she is not already on it, and to cover the Clerk-Elect's expenses by way of an honorarium. Although this means that Presbytery would, in effect, be paying for two Clerks for 2 or 3 months, it should result in a smooth transition, and in that respect would be money well spent.
 6. That at the June meeting the Clerk Elect would take the *oath de fidei* and would assume the office of Clerk on 1st. July 2001.
 7. That Standing Orders be amended to bring Presbytery into line with the General Assembly's views on who should be clerk. (Currently, our Standing Orders state that only *ministerial* members qualify for the office of Presbytery Clerk. Church Law states that anyone can fill this role, he or she does not even have to be member of the Presbytery.)

The Convener also informed Presbytery that the present Clerk is available to answer, confidentially, any questions that any interested in applying may have.

The Moderator then invited Mr. George Forbes, a member of the Business Committee, to report on a meeting held in Law Parish Church on 16th November concerning the proposed Interim Ministry at Law Parish, which he had attended on behalf of Presbytery.

Also present at the meeting had been Rev. John Chalmers (Board of Ministry), Rev. Bernard Lodge (Interim Minister), Rev. William Craig (Interim Moderator), Miss Sheena Thomson and Mr. Alexander McPhee (members of the Presbytery's Interim Ministry Monitoring Group).

The meeting had been sought by the Board of Ministry to confirm the appointment of the Interim Minister and to pursue further the objectives of the congregation during the continued vacancy.

The opportunity was taken for the office bearers and the Interim Minister to begin the process of getting to know each other and explore the strengths and weaknesses of the congregation.

The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that the Presbytery Clerk has intimated his intention to resign from the post on June 30th., 2001, and invite applications from interested candidates, to be lodged with the Convener of the Business Committee by February 15th., 2001.*
3. *Agree to appoint an Interviewing Panel of five persons to meet with applicants for the post of Presbytery Clerk, and invite members of Presbytery to make nominations of those who would serve on this panel, to the Business Committee by January 30th., 2001.*
4. *Remit to the Business Committee to bring the panel nominations to the Presbytery at the February meeting.*
5. *Agree to receive the nomination of the Presbytery Clerk Elect at the March meeting of Presbytery.*
6. *Agree to appoint the Presbytery Clerk Elect at the April meeting of Presbytery*
7. *Resolve that the Presbytery Clerk Elect will take the oath de fidei at the June meeting of Presbytery, and will fill the appointment of Presbytery Clerk as of 1st. July, 2001.*
8. *Receive Notice of Motion from the Convener of the Business Committee that at the March meeting of Presbytery he will move that Standing Order 20a be amended by deleting the words, from among the Ministerial members," the amended Standing Order to read, "a) The Presbytery shall appoint a Clerk and a Depute-Clerk, both of whom shall hold office during the pleasure of the Presbytery."*
9. *Receive Notice of Motion from the Convener of the Business Committee that at the March meeting of Presbytery he will move that Standing Order 5 be amended by deleting the word, Ministerial".*

10. *Receive Notice of Motion from the Convener of the Business Committee that at the March meeting of Presbytery he will move that Standing Order 17 be amended as follows: b) Group 1 Committees: Delete Ministry Training c) Group 2 Committees: Delete Maintenance of the Ministry Add Ministry.*
11. *Resolve to meet in hunc effectum at Law Parish Church at 7.15pm on Thursday, 1st. February, 2001, for a Service of Introduction of the Rev. Bernard Lodge as Interim Minister to the congregation of Law, the Moderator to conduct the service, the Rev. Sheila Mitchell to preach, the service to begin at 7.30pm.*
12. *Appoint the Rev. Bernard Lodge Interim Moderator to the charge at Law from 1st. February, 2001.*
13. *Resolve to admit the Rev. Bernard Lodge to membership of the Presbytery of Lanark following the Service of Introduction on 1st. February, 2001.*
14. *Grant powers to the Convener of the Ministry Committee, on behalf of Presbytery, to sign the Vacancy Schedule for the charge at Law during the period between the December and February meetings.*
15. *Invite Mr. David Gilchrist of the Wycliffe Bible Translators to address Presbytery at the February meeting.*
16. *Appoint the Rev. Catherine Collins, Presbytery Co-ordinator, the Rev. Gavin Elliott and Mrs. Nan Mackie, Presbytery Representatives for the Enquiry, Appraisal and Assessment Scheme.*
17. *Note that the Statistical Returns are available for each congregation and returns should be made to the Clerk no later than January 14th., 2001.*
18. *Note that there is information available to each congregation on the consultations for the relief of Water rates for ecclesiastical properties.*
19. *Note that there is material from the Law Department of the Church available for each congregation on the "Safer Scotland Initiative."*
20. *Grant permission to the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St. Nicholas to hold joint services on 31st. December, 2000 in St. Nicholas Church and 7th. January, 2001 in Greyfriars Church.*
21. *Thank the Rev. Michael Frew for deputising for the Rev. John Thomson as Depute Clerk during Mr. Thomson's absence, and discharge Mr. Frew from that duty as of 16th. December, 2000.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT ON SOUTH AFRICA

Rev. Alan Gibson gave the following report of his visit to South Africa under the auspices of Christian Aid:

Introduction:

South Africa is a country of unequivocal beauty - her cities have a wonderful combination of architectural splendour and beautiful gardens of peace and tranquillity; her, seemingly all year round, blue skies provide a magnificent backdrop to the panoramic splendour of sharp and rugged mountain ranges. Her people are warm, friendly and delighted to welcome foreigners.

South Africa in the 21st century

It did not take us long to discover that behind the beauty of this country there were many problems. South Africa has developed considerably over the past five years with electrification of homes, provision of safe water supply and the building of homes for those previously denied these services. Schools and clinics have been built and new rights are enshrined in a constitution which is one of the most progressive in the world, but as the scenario moves from one of policy formulation to implementation, the

government is faced with real difficulties in transforming those rights into reality. Lack of resources, a public service not geared towards delivering services to the majority, as well as a chronic shortage of skills have all hampered progress.

Quite simply, redressing centuries of systematic deprivation will take a very long time, and many deep-seated inequalities remain. The lives of millions of South Africans is one of extreme poverty and vulnerability, without work, land or a decent home.

Unemployment is extremely high with over 40% of black South Africans jobless. The macro economic policy, GEAR (Growth, Employment And Redistribution) which prioritises overall economic stability, cannot deliver real change for the poorest without progress in growth and redistribution.

Crime and violence is another major issue in South Africa, with the many victims being women (i.e. from violence and abuse). Reforming a police culture from a force for repression into a force for protection is a central challenge.

HIV/AIDS is the greatest problem for the new South Africa, and one that threatens to undermine any progress made in the fight against poverty. An unprecedented social tragedy is beginning to translate into an economic disaster. It is an immediate pressure and concern that cannot be ignored.

Who Did We Meet?

Diakonia Council of Churches:

The DCC empowers and motivates church leaders to be actively involved as partners in social transformation. Primarily, the DCC aim to address economic challenges faced in the Durban region. After four days in Johannesburg office blocks, listening to people talking about projects, ideas, and challenges, our trip to the DCC was to provide us with the opportunity of actually seeing what was happening in South Africa.

Durban is surrounded by many "squatter towns", one of which is Kwa Mashu. The town has approximately 10,000 houses, all of which are built with four sheets of corrugated iron and a piece of material draped over the top. My immediate feelings on entering the town were of fear and trepidation—was it really safe for eight whites, bedecked with cameras and note pads, to enter a black squatter town? I didn't have to ask our guide as we were met with cheers, waves and handshakes. One young man told me that he was delighted we had come (with our cameras and notepads) because it meant we could see how so many had to live. He pointed out that no white politician had ever been into a squatter town: "they don't give a damn how we live" he said.

Here, a number of children used to wander the streets aimlessly—they had either lost their parents to HIV/AIDS, or they have been thrown out of the homes because their parents could not afford to feed them. We were introduced to a lady called Miriam. She is 70 years old, and has started to provide a home, food and love for the children. In addition, she has started a network of friends (all the same age as herself) who do the same thing. Today Miriam has over 300 friends who are providing shelter and support for children who are orphans of the squatter town.

Miriam took us into the heart of the town, to a wooden shed. Inside she introduced us to the local school (a DCC project). The children were learning with great eagerness how to read and write; how to count; and some were even learning how to play - the joys of childhood had been denied by social injustice.

The opportunity of playing with the children was a wonderful moment, and one that I shall cherish for many years to come.

Wola Nani

Wola Nani is an AIDS/HIV organisation. Its aim is to empower and support people with HIV/AIDS by initiating micro-enterprise job creation projects, supplying paediatric AIDS care and pastoral counselling services.

We were introduced to a number of Chief Medical Health Officers from South Africa who spoke statistics to us for some time—the statistics told us about an astounding and incredible nightmare that is only just beginning. One in four people are HEY positive in South Africa; by 2005 there will be one and a half million AIDS orphans; every day 1700 people are diagnosed as being HIV+ (compare that to the figure of 200 infections in Scotland in the whole of last year).

The statistics really hammered home the message to us! The economic implications are virtually incomprehensible too with burial costs; time off work; education; and health care all soaking up Government funds.

The "statistics show" was followed by a meeting with five women, all of whom were HEY+. All told a similar story of having boyfriends who were HIV+. The boyfriends knew of their infection but had not told their girlfriends—they had also insisted on unprotected sex. One girl I spoke to told me how she hated her boyfriend for what he had done; indeed, she hated all men. With much racial tension still teetering at the surface, I can honestly say that at no point in South Africa did I ever feel guilty about being white; at Wola Nani, I suddenly felt very guilty for being male!

The New World Foundation

Perhaps the most exciting project we visited was the New World Foundation. Its goal is the transformation of society in a suburb of Cape Town. The main activities of NM/F are to focus on the development of entrepreneurial skills to combat unemployment; to develop income generation projects; to provide technical skills; and to educate and prepare people for the world outside their

squatter town. The diversity of the project was truly amazing. We visited a nursing home for the elderly which was run by a team of women. The home was a tremendous model of how to implement modern nursing and caring methods.

We also visited a primary school which had recently been set up. In the same building there was even a computer lab. for those who could read and write. The lab provided people with the opportunity of typing CVs and job application letters. One girl I spoke to told me that not only had the NWF taught her how to type a CV, but it had also taught her social skills so that when she found a job, she could hold down that job.

Conclusion:

Over two weeks we met many more Christian Aid partners than those discussed above. Hopefully, those whom I have mentioned will provide the reader with a flavour of the issues that are relevant in the South African context.

South Africa was exciting, fascinating, saddening and deeply emotional at times, but above all it was challenging, from the point of view that I have returned to Scotland with new ideas about how my own ministry must develop.

In South Africa I was able to observe a Church that is centred around a collaborative ministry incorporating the work of ministers, bishops, politicians and lay persons. That Church is a central part of people's lives, partly due to the fact that these people see a Church which is following the example of its leader Jesus Christ, in adopting a sacrificial response to the needs of humanity. The ministry is very much one in which people are enabled and empowered to take their rightful place in society and in the new South Africa, free from oppression, violence and poverty.

Mr. Gibson concluded his report by thanking Lanark Presbytery for their support with what had been a wonderful and worthwhile visit.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Gibson for his very interesting and informative report.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

Rev. David Collins, the Convener of the Ad Hoc Committee to assist and support Carnwath Church, reported on meetings that had been held on 22nd September and 9th November between members of the sub-committee and office bearers at Carnwath Church to discuss the serious property problems facing the congregation. It had been reported that the Congregational Board had intended to canvas the opinion of the wider community on the future of the Church building. Representatives from the Presbytery had pointed that even if sufficient funds for the repair of the buildings became available, the permission of the Presbytery would still have to be sought before any work could be carried out, and they had recommended that no approach to the community should be made at this stage.

At the meeting in November the Congregational Board seemed to have reached the conclusion that the conversion of the halls to a multi-purpose building might represent a more realistic way forward.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the cost of work required on Carnwath Church is likely to approach £200,000 and that the Congregational Board believe the conversion of their hall to a multi-purpose building to be a more realistic option.*
3. *Note that the Ad Hoc Committee has requested a joint meeting between the Board, the Ad Hoc Committee and representatives from the General Trustees, to seek further advice and arrange for a professional Feasibility Study.*
4. *Thank Mr. Archie Clark for acting as Convener of the Property Committee during the absence of Rev. John M. A. Thomson.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mrs. Margaret Filshie, submitted the following report of the Worship Committee concerning two remits sent from the General Assembly to Presbyteries.

1. CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON ARTISTIC MATTERS

The report from Artistic Matters is entitled '*The Re-Ordering of Church Interiors*'. An increasing number of congregations are considering proposals for the re-ordering the interior of their buildings. The reasons are varied—space for greater participation in worship, level of comfort more in line with contemporary expectations, room for people to meet, better access for disabled worshippers, etc. It is questioned whether this movement comes from a new understanding of what the Church is about in our time, and the style and content of worship appropriate to this, or whether it is just a response to the comfortable material environments which we have come to expect today. The driving force for change is at present coming from local congregations, but the Artistic Matters Committee feels that there should be a wider recognition of the issues involved, so that there might be a common approach to these questions as they arise.

It is not necessarily the case that to change an older interior will somehow make our churches more effective, although it is true that some congregations asking serious questions about their life and witness today feel that their buildings do not support them in the initiatives they wish to take, and, in fact, the buildings may seem unwelcoming and inflexible to others.

When changes are proposed the Committee believes that it is important to try to consider some of the principles - theological, artistic, and historic - which will help to give interiors which themselves contribute to the Church's understanding of itself and its purpose.

Our buildings should help to constitute us as a *Church* out of a random gathering of people, leading us to feel not just together, but to the truth that we are made 'members of Christ'. The buildings should be laid out and furnished so that the space itself will help the people of God to guide themselves into relationship with God and with the world. Buildings must also help us to worship, moving from the life of the world into the particular kind of searching and giving which makes up true worship.

In making alterations today, creativity and skill should be paramount, and we should be prepared to find that what we want to do will cost more, not necessarily in money, but in effort, imagination, and patience.

The list of principles would not be complete without reference to practice. Will what is proposed achieve what is desired, or will it result in losing something currently valued? Will the greater flexibility promised by the chairs be realised, or once in place will they tend to stay there?

Will the greater proportion of carpet on the floors result in people losing the tremendous uplift of making a joyful noise, as the sound is absorbed into the furnishings?

Where it is desired or desirable to retain pews, there are other options to be recommended - pews may be spaced more widely or positioned differently, the angle of their backs can sometimes be changed, a more comfortable set may be obtained from a redundant church, or perhaps they may be reduced in number.

In addition to its information pamphlets on *Windows, Organs and Memorials*, the Artistic Matters Committee has prepared further publications on *Working with an Architect*, *Valuing our Heritage*, *Disabled Access*, *Textile and Tapestry*, and most recently, one based on this current report, *Re-ordering Church Interiors*. All are available free of charge to those interested.

Presbytery is also asked to note that there is an Organ Advisory Committee which may be consulted free of charge, and which will give advice to congregations concerned about future decisions related to the organ.

The Worship Committee understands that this report is seeking ideal, even visionary, solutions, which may seem impossible to realise as we struggle to cope with the prime need to keep our buildings wind and watertight, structurally safe and warm, but we would encourage congregations considering changes to the interior of their churches to consult as widely as possible, both with other congregations and with the Committee on Artistic Matters.

2. COMMITTEE TO REVISE THE HYMNARY

During the year 1999–2000, the Committee has scrutinised materials for possible inclusion in the new Hymnary. This has largely involved a search for hymns and songs in all the available hymn books in the English language, and there has also been a considerable quantity of texts and tunes submitted in manuscript form from writers throughout Great Britain and beyond.

Inevitably, only a small proportion of the submitted material, as of the already published material, has been selected.

The Committee used a number of criteria when considering new submissions for inclusion:

Consistency with Biblical Faith

It is recognised that many modern worship songs are individualistic in both tone and content. While personal faith and devotion must have their place in any *Hymnary*, any such book must also witness to the collective experience of God's people.

Relevance to Contemporary Experience

Humanity's understanding of God and of the purposes of God develops, and people today are confronted with personal and global issues unknown to previous generations. The Committee has been keen to recognise texts which offer fresh insights in life and faith, which reflect twenty-first century concerns and which can supplement the list of traditional hymns. There is a need for hymns which affirm our inter-relatedness with Christian people throughout the world, and today's hymn books should provide material from overseas and from the world church. Also, the potentials and complexities of post-industrial society demand texts with a world view, when we wish to offer these in intercession.

Directness of Expression

Hymns to be selected should use contemporary vocabulary and language structure. Archaisms, forced rhymes (as in the Psalter from 1650), and exclusive terminology (the use of man for both genders), are understandable in texts from the past, but seem out of place in hymns which claim to be contemporary. The Worship Committee considered that sometimes there is a too rigorous removal of all gender based terminology - for instance, we felt that mankind is an acceptable expression for all humanity, whereas *Rise up, O men of God* is aggressively masculine.

Comprehensibility

The new Hymnary will be produced in an era when its younger users and potential users may not have the familiarity with Biblical language and Christian tradition of previous generations. It is essential that any hymn, whether contemporary or otherwise, should not be so facile as to belittle the faith it is intended to affirm. Where traditional hymns resonate with Biblical language, theological insight, and poetic imagery, they set the standard for contemporary hymnody which must find ways to introduce these characteristics; that are immediate and relevant.

Music and Singing

A hymn must be able to be sung, and to be sung by a congregation. In considering new tunes the Committee has looked at the range of a melody, its strength, its ease of learning, and its ability to carry the words.

Variety of Style

Taizé and Antiphonal forms of singing have become popular and useful, and this has encouraged the Committee to include them in its selection.

THE PSALTER

The Committee does not intend to publish a separate Psalter or to make a complete provision of all the 150 psalms in the hymn book. Instead, a large selection of psalms, approximately one hundred, will comprise the first section of the new book, and some of these psalms will be represented in more than one way—metric verse, unrhymed verse, responsorial, or paraphrases.

The Committee to Revise the Hymnary is anxious to share as much of its work as is possible with the wider church and to be informed by whatever responses it meets. Members of the Committee will be happy to attend Presbytery gatherings, particularly if they include members of congregations and musicians as well as ministers and elders.

The Worship Committee would like to propose that Presbytery should accept this offer, and invite members of the Committee to come and tell us about the rationale of their work, their procedures, the rigorous selection process, whether for inclusion or exclusion, and perhaps to give illustrations of new material. Should this be agreed, the Worship Committee wishes to be assured that there will be a good response from all the congregations, from ordinary members, elders and especially from members of choirs and organists.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Encourage Kirk Sessions and congregations to consult as widely as possible, with the Committee on Artistic Matters and with other churches, when considering changes to the interiors of their churches.*
3. *Instruct the Convener of the Worship Committee to write to the Secretary of the Committee to Revise the Hymnary to arrange a Presbytery gathering with a member or members of the Committee.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO ARRANGE THE MODERATOR'S VISIT:

The Clerk reported on behalf of the Committee appointed to make arrangements for the visit of the Moderator. A draft timetable of the proposed visit had been circulated at the meeting and comments were invited. Not all the proposed venues had been confirmed and the Committee would have further meetings to work out the detailed itinerary. Accommodation had been booked at the New Lanark Mill Hotel, and the Cartland Bridge Hotel had been booked for a Ceilidh on the evening of Friday 9th March.

The Business Convener had agreed to handle the sale of tickets for the Ceilidh to members of the Presbytery.

It was noted with considerable satisfaction that Mr. Henry Dorricott had offered the services of a car and driver to transport the Moderator around the Presbytery, at no cost to the Presbytery.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF AD HOC COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS IN THE SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN:

Rev David Collins, the Convener of the Ad Hoc Committee appointed to consider proposals in the South Lanarkshire Council Local Plan, submitted the following report.

Rev. David Collins, Rev David Young, Rev Lawrie Lennox and Mrs Ellen Young met to discuss the Plan on Thursday 30th November. Overall reaction to the details of the plan was positive. However, the Committee proposed making the following brief comments on behalf of Presbytery:

1. We understand and generally agree with **Policy STRAT 2 on Small Settlements**, restricting development to within the defined settlement boundary, and with **Policy RES 12 on New Residential Development**, seeking to direct new residential development to 'Brownfield' rather than to 'Greenfield' locations. However, in villages like Douglas where few 'Brownfield' sites exist within the current boundary and where new housing might increase the viability of shops and other community facilities, we feel that a case might be made for a controlled extension of the village boundary.
2. We note the proposed new housing sites in Law and the potential for further housing on the Law Hospital site, and hope that planning for education, leisure and other facilities will keep pace with the growing population.
3. We consider that **Policy ENV 7 on Areas of Great Landscape Value** is ambiguous as it stands. It isn't clear whether the requirements of the Greenbelt policy will automatically apply to all Areas of Great Landscape Value or only to those which overlap with Greenbelt. Carluke and Law are surrounded by Greenbelt, but to the south-west this Greenbelt overlaps with an Area of Great Landscape Value. Lanark, on the other hand, has no Greenbelt around it, but to the north, south and west there is an Area of Great Landscape Value. Does this mean that around most of Lanark Greenbelt controls are augmented by AGLV controls, or is there greater protection around Carluke and Law?

The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. *Receive the Report.*
2. *Agree that the comments in the report be submitted to South Lanarkshire Council's Planning Control & Building Services Department in time for the deadline of Monday 11th December.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 30th January 2001.

**INTER CHURCH
PROPERTY
PARISH REAPPRAISAL
WORSHIP
WORLD MISSION**

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
PARISH EDUCATION
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

NEXT MEETING:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 6th February 2001 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Law, on Thursday, 1st February 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* in Law Parish Church Hall, for the Introduction of the Rev. Bernard Lodge to be Interim Minister of the Congregation and Parish of Law, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 8 Ministers and 12 Elders.

Associating with the Presbytery were Rev. John Chalmers (*Board of Ministry*) Rev. Douglas Main (*Interim Minister*), Rev. Joan Ross (*Falkirk Presbytery*), Mr. Charles Godon (*Edinburgh Presbytery*).

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. David Collins, Rev. Phil Jones, Rev. Lawrie Lennox, Rev. David Young, Ministers, and from Mrs. Cath Steele, Mrs. Isabel Taylor, Mrs. Moira White, Mrs. Ena Wilson, Elders.

Service of Introduction:

The appropriate papers being laid before the Court, Presbytery resolved to proceed to Law Church for the Service of Introduction.

Worship was conducted by the Rev. Sheila Mitchell, and the Moderator presided.

The Rev. Bernard Lodge, after answering the appropriate question and signing the Formula, was introduced to the Congregation by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and congregation.

At the close of the service, the Convener of the Business Committee, Mr. David Adams, thanked the Moderator and Miss Mitchell for their conduct of the service.

Presbytery resolved to add Mr. Lodge's name to the Roll of the Presbytery.

Rev. William Craig, was sincerely thanked for his work as Interim Moderator, and was discharged.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 6th February 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 17 Ministers and 28 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig, Rev. Philip Jones and Rev. David Young, Ministers, and from Mr. Lance Armstrong, Mrs. Flora Cheeseman, Mrs. Janette Robertson, and Miss. Sheena Thomson, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 5th December 2000, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

"GOOD NEWS STORIES"

In accordance with the deliverance passed by Presbytery on 7th November 2000, Mrs. Margaret Filshie, on behalf of Biggar Kirk, reported on three recent initiatives that had proved very worthwhile in the life of the congregation (a) Four performance of "The Mysteries", an exuberant re-working of the traditional Creation and Nativity Mystery Plays, in which the whole community was involved, and which helped to bring various Bible stories to life. (b) The introduction of "Family Services", which it is planned will take place four times a year and (c) a Burns Supper. All of these initiatives helped to strengthen links between the Church and the rest of the community.

Extract Minutes & Letters

—**From Board of Ministry, 11 January 2001**, intimating that the Committee on Ministry Support had unanimously approved the stipends for 2001.

—**From Board of Ministry, 11 January 2001**, intimating that the Committee on Ministry Support had approved the Vacancy Schedule for Law Parish Church, showing total Ministry requirements of £19,598 and Aid Drawn at £3,481. The Committee had indicated that they felt the income of the Charge was substantial and that aid should remain at £3,481.

—**From Board of Ministry, 11 January 2001**, intimating that the Committee on Ministry Support had recommended the allocation of endowments as follows: Cairngryffe—Glebe Rent £910, Congregation's Endowments £3,237 (total £4,147) and Symington.— Congregation's Endowments £350.

—**From The Department of Education, 19 January 2001**, intimating that the Education Committee had agreed to nominate Mrs. M. Dickie to the Education Committee of South Lanarkshire Council.

—**From The Presbytery of Hamilton, 25 January 2001**, intimating that on 25th January 2001, the Presbytery of Hamilton had ordained Rev. Alan W. Gibson to the Holy Ministry and admitted him to be Minister of the Church and Parish of Strathaven: Avendale Old and Drumclog.

COMMISSION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2001

The Clerk gave notice that the following Charges would be likely to be required to send Commissioners to the forthcoming General Assembly: *Cairngryffe & Symington; Carluke: Kirkton; Carnwath; Lanark: Greyfriars; Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen*. The Presbytery resolved to meet on Tuesday 6th March 2001 between the hours of 11 o'clock in the forenoon and 8 o'clock in the evening to appoint Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2001.

The Clerk requested that the names and addresses of all Commissioners be forwarded to him as soon as possible, indicating especially where any are first-time Commissioners.

ORDER OF THE DAY — Mr. David Gilchrist, Wycliffe Bible Translators

The Moderator invited Mr. David Gilchrist, Area Representative for Wycliffe Bible Translators to address Presbytery.

Mr. Gilchrist gave a very interesting and informative presentation in which he briefly outlined the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators and their vision for the future. He reminded Presbytery of how much we depend upon the Bible for our spiritual growth but how easily we take for granted its easy availability in our own language.

A great deal of vital translation work has been undertaken already. However, within the world population of 6 billion people, there are at least 6,809 languages. Of these, 371 language groups have the whole Bible, 960 have the New Testament, 902 others have some portion of Scripture. There are more than 2000 language groups needing a translation of the Bible and more than 2,500 language groups that have yet to be surveyed.

Mr Gilchrist pointed out that at the current rate of Bible translation it would take at least 150 years to make the Bible available to all language groups. However, Wycliffe Bible Translators have set a much more ambitious target, set out in their vision statement: *"By 2025, together with partners worldwide, we aim to see a Bible translation programme begun in all the remaining languages that need one."*

Mr. Gilchrist challenged congregations to link up with "Bible-less people groups" and to become informed of the vital work of Bible translation throughout the world and he made information leaflets available to members of Presbytery.

A number of members of Presbytery asked Mr. Gilchrist questions which he answered helpfully. The Moderator thanked him for his enlightening and helpful presentation.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Remind members that the closing date for applications to fill the post of Presbytery Clerk should be lodged with the Convener of the Business Committee by February 15th., 2001.*
3. *Approve the nominations of the Rev. Catherine Collins, the Rev. David Carmichael, the Rev. John Thomson, ministers, Mr. John Shaw and Mr. David Adams, elders as the Interviewing Panel for the Presbytery Clerk Elect, Mr. Adams to convene the panel.*
4. *In the light of intimation received concerning the election of Rev. Margaret Muir by the congregations of Glencaple and Lowther, instruct the Clerk to cite the congregations of Glencaple and Lowther to appear in their interests at the March Presbytery.*
5. *Remit to the Business Committee, upon receipt of the list of proposed Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2001, to nominate one minister and one elder from the list to the Commission of Assembly for approval at the March meeting.*
6. *Note that the Presbytery is asked to appoint a youth delegate to the General Assembly of 2001, and remit to the Convener of the Business Committee to receive nominations from member congregations by Friday, 16th. February, 2001, for approval at the March meeting.*
7. *Grant permission to the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St. Nicholas to hold a joint service on Sunday, March 11th. on the occasion of the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly.*
8. *Retrospectively discharge the Rev. James Bain from his duties as Interim Moderator to Lanark: St. Nicholas during the deployment of the Rev. John Thomson to Bosnia, and thank Mr. Bain for his diligence.*
9. *Thank the Rev. Susan Cowell for her diligence as locum tenens to the congregation of St. Nicholas during Mr. Thomson's deployment to Bosnia.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO ARRANGE THE MODERATOR'S VISIT:

The Clerk reported on behalf of the Committee appointed to make arrangements for the visit of the Moderator. A revised draft timetable of the proposed visit had been circulated at the meeting and the amendments to the previous draft noted.

The Clerk also intimated that he would be meeting with the Moderator the following day to confirm all the arrangements. The Business Convener then intimated changes to the procedures for the sale and distribution of tickets for the Presbytery Ceilidh.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Mike Frew, presented the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, in which he reported on contributions to the Mission & Aid Fund. Although there was a slight shortfall of £1274 in total contributions from the congregations within the bounds, this represented only 0.95% of the total allocation. Four congregations had not met their allocations in full, although in two cases the amounts were minimal and may only have been late payments.

The Committee was particularly gratified to note that 10 congregations in all had made voluntary contributions to the fund, including two that were "Aid-receiving".

The Convener also publicised a new Mission & Aid leaflet (*Mission & Aid 2001*) available from the Department of Stewardship & Finance. The leaflet, at 6p a copy, is designed to promote a positive attitude to the Fund among congregational members and office-bearers.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. John Thomson, presented the report of the Property Committee in which he informed Presbytery that the Committee had appointed Mr. Archie Clark as Vice-Convener. He also intimated that Congregational Property Registers would be inspected on 28th February and returned to local Conveners as soon as possible after that date. The Committee intends to hold a meeting of Congregational Property Conveners, possibly on 8th May, to provide an opportunity for exchanging concerns and expertise. The date would be confirmed at a future meeting.

The Convener then asked the Moderator to invite Mr. David Collins to present a report from the Ad Hoc Committee to assist Carnwath Church. Mr. Collins presented the following report:

"On Thursday 25th January in Carnwath Manse, Rev David Collins, Rev Jim Bain and Rev Sheila Mitchell met with Rev Beverly Gauld and four representatives from the General Trustees (Rev James Simpson, Rev James Jack, Mr Stewart Todd and Prof. John Hume) to explore all available options with regard to the extensive remedial work required on the fabric of Carnwath Church.

In November 2000 the Congregational Board had come to the conclusion that conversion of their hall was likely to be a more realistic and cost-effective option than restoration of the church, and a deliverance to that effect was passed.

However, the Trustees began by effectively ruling out any plan to abandon the church in favour of the hall, arguing for its retention as an architecturally significant building. They pointed out that, as a grade B listed building attached to a grade A listed building, demolition would not be an option, and that because of the proximity of the graveyard, it would be difficult to sell. So, even if the church was abandoned as a place of worship, the congregation might continue to have to maintain it for many years to come. They went on to advise us that a Historic Scotland Heritage Grant should be available for 45% of the restoration cost and that up to 80% could be grant-aided, provided that the Kirk Session and Congregational Board are prepared to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

During the ensuing discussion the Trustees conceded that there would be little point in spending a large sum of money to restore the building solely as a place of worship with its current seating capacity of 1100. They therefore proposed that the congregation should consider the feasibility of converting the building for use as sanctuary, hall and meeting rooms suitable for both church and community use. Such a conversion could cost several hundred thousand pounds more than a straightforward restoration. However, this additional work could not be grant-aided by either Historic Scotland or the Heritage Lottery Fund, although it might be possible to attract funding from the National Lottery Charities Board via a community led charitable trust. A small part of the cost might be raised by the sale of the Church Hall and the General Trustees could provide a loan based on its current valuation, repayable on its eventual sale.

The Trustees would be willing to cover the cost of a professional feasibility study by a suitably experienced architect of their choice. This would require an application from the congregation, which would initially need the approval of Presbytery.

Following our meeting in the Manse, we inspected the outside and inside of the church. Mr Gauld had intimated our meeting both from the pulpit and in the press, inviting members of the congregation and community to meet with us in the church. As a result, we were joined by thirteen individuals from the congregation and community who reacted positively to the General Trustees' proposals. Regardless of the amount of grant aid which might eventually be available, the Ad Hoc Committee were left in no doubt that a considerable five or six figure sum would still have to be raised by the congregation and community. In this connection, Mr Gauld presented a more optimistic view of the state of the congregation than the committee feels was supported by their earlier discussions with the Congregational Board."

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note the appointment of Mr. Archie Clark as Vice-Convener*
3. *Note with concern the outcome of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee with the General Trustees and representatives of Carnwath Parish Church*
4. *Discharge the Ad Hoc Committee, thanking them for their diligence and commitment*
5. *Instruct the Presbytery Property Committee to hold discussions with the General Trustees and all interested parties, and report.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. David Collins, presented the following report of the Parish Education Committee:

"It was with great sadness that the committee learned of the death in January of Mrs. Pat Jamieson the wife of Harry Jamieson, our Adviser in Children's Ministry. We are sure that the Presbytery would want to join with us in offering Harry our condolences.

Adviser in Children's Ministry

During August last year, Harry met with Rev David Collins and Mrs. Irene Williams of his support group, and with Ms. Ionwen Roberts representing the Board of Parish Education, for a belated three year assessment of the work of the Advisorate in Children's Ministry in Lanark Presbytery. Due to Ms Roberts' subsequent resignation from her post, we have only recently received a copy of her report. This report was generally positive with Ms Roberts noting Harry's diligence in attending Advisers' Conferences, thanking him for his work as Adviser and recommending his appointment as Adviser for a further three years.

Under "Points for Action", it was suggested that an annual budget should be allocated to Harry for events and workshops. This suggestion was implemented by Presbytery at its October meeting when a £300 budget was approved. It was further suggested that now might be an appropriate time to reconsider the amount of the Adviser's honorarium which currently stands at £350. The committee are happy to recommend an increase.

In spite of his recent bereavement, Harry is continuing with the planned Sunday School Quiz, annual Children's Concert and Easter Art Competition.

- The first round of the quiz will be a month later than planned, on Saturday 3rd March, with rounds two and three on March 31st and April 28th.
- The concert with Stephen Fischbacher will be on Saturday 19th May in Kirkton Church, Carluke.
- Entries for the Art Competition of drawings, paintings, poems or stories on the Biblical Easter theme should be received by 31st March.

Details of all these events have been sent to Sunday School correspondents.

National Youth Assembly

Following the decision of the October Presbytery to fund two Presbytery delegates to attend the National Youth Assembly in Dundee from 6th to 9th April, we have received applications from Miss Pamela Yule of St. Nicholas Parish Church in Lanark, and from Miss Alison Shaw of Law Parish Church. Their details have been passed to the Conference organizers. We recommend that in due course they should be invited to report to a future meeting of Presbytery."

The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note the report of the meeting with Ms Ionwen Roberts to assess the work of the Advisorate in Children's Ministry in Lanark Presbytery, and remit to the Parish Education Committee to recommend an appropriate increase in the Adviser's honorarium.*
3. *Continue the appointment of Mr. Harry Jamieson as Adviser in Children's Ministry for a further three years from August 2000.*
4. *Note the arrangements for the Sunday School Quiz, Concert and Art Competition.*
5. *Note that Miss Pamela Yule of St Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark and Miss Alison Shaw of Law Parish Church will be our Presbytery delegates to the National Youth Assembly in April, and invite them to report to a future meeting of Presbytery.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Jim Bain, presented the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee, and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note the arrangements for the Examination of Records on Tuesday 27th February*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Miss Joyce Munro, presented the report of the Church & Community Committee which was a response to a report of Board of Social Responsibility's Member/Staff Group on Social Inclusion. The Convener outlined the many aspects of social exclusion existing in our society, currently being addressed through legislation by the Westminster Government and by the Scottish Executive, such as poverty, homelessness, learning difficulties and mental illness, chronic illness, offenders in prison, lone parents, children in care, immigrants, sex offenders, drug and alcohol abusers, homosexuals. She also drew attention to the work of the Scottish Inclusion Network set up by Rev. Graham Blount, the Churches Parliamentary Officer, on which the Board of Social Responsibility and the Church and Nation Committee have representation.

These instances of social exclusion were then compared to the inclusiveness of the teaching and actions of Jesus and the Convener commented that the challenge to the Church today "is to implement the philosophy of social inclusion personally and in the attitude and provision of our churches. Do we always welcome strangers or people who might appear slightly 'different' as we should, following in Jesus' footsteps?"

Even the physical environment of our buildings must be taken into account in this regard, for example, removing anything that preventing access to people with disabilities. Church buildings used for community activities should provide a welcoming atmosphere.

The report was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 27th February 2001.

**PROPERTY
MINISTRY
PARISH EDUCATION**

**STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

NEXT MEETING:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 6th March 2001 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 6th March 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 16 Ministers and 32 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig and Rev. Bernard Lodge, Ministers, and from Mr. Alexander McPhee, Mrs. Janette Robertson, and Mrs. Ena Wilson, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Presbytery, held on Thursday 1st February 2001 in Law Parish Church Hall, and of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 6th February 2001, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

"GOOD NEWS STORIES"

CARLUKE: KIRKTON

Mr. John Shaw, on behalf of Carluke Kirkton, reported on what he considered were some of the most significant recent initiatives in the life of the congregation. He focused in particular on the introduction of *Alpha* courses, the first of which had begun in October 1999, and on other small groups in the congregation, known as JIGSAW Groups (Journey Into Growth, Sharing And Worship). Mr. Shaw spoke about the tremendous positive value and encouragement in faith that is generated by involvement in small groups and described them as "part of the Church of tomorrow". In particular such groups helped to build the confidence of church members enabling them to share their faith more openly with others and also to develop their own gifts for service.

CAIRNGRYFFE

Mrs. Elizabeth Hiddleston reported on behalf of Cairngryffe Church. Although the congregation is in the process of dealing with a vacancy, Mrs. Hiddleston pointed out that members remained positive and that progress was being made in the search for a new minister. In the meantime, the congregation had been heartened and uplifted by the preaching of those who had been chosen to lead worship during the vacancy. One more specific item of good news concerned the addition of a new stained glass window, donated by two members of the congregation to Cairngryffe Church. The congregation already regarded their church as one of the most beautiful in Lanarkshire and this gift had further enhanced the place of worship, enabling it to be even more in keeping with the beautiful countryside which surrounds it.

Extract Minutes & Letters

—**From The Law Hospital Chaplaincy Team, 15 January 2001**, thanking Presbytery for their support of the work of the Law Hospital Chaplaincy Team over the years.

—**From The Presbytery of Stirling, 8 February 2001**, intimating that the name of Mrs. Kay Brown, a qualified Reader formerly in the Presbytery of Lanark, had now been added to the List of Readers in Stirling Presbytery and had been made a Corresponding Member of the Presbytery.

—**From The Department of Ministry, 28 February 2001**, intimating the names of those who would be petitioning the General Assembly of 2001 for admission or readmission as Ministers of the Church of Scotland.

—**From The Department of National Mission, 5 March 2001**, concerning Ministry Among Deaf People. The Department wished to be advised of Ministers and Readers within the bounds of the Presbytery of Lanark who have skills in communicating with the deaf through sign language. It was agreed that such Ministers and Readers within the Presbytery should inform the Clerk and indicate the level to which they are qualified so that the relevant information may be passed on to the Department.

Commission to the General Assembly of 2001.

Presbytery appointed the following Commissioners to the ensuing General Assembly:

MINISTERS:

Rev. David Carmichael, Abbeygreen Manse, Lesmahagow

(Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen)

Rev. Catherine Collins, Greyfriars Manse, Friarsdene, Lanark

(Lanark: Greyfriars)

Rev. Iain Cunningham, Kirkton Manse, Station Road, Carluke

(Carluke: Kirkton)

Rev. Beverly Gauld, The Manse, Carnwath

(Carnwath)

Rev. Steven Reid, The Manse, Crossford

(Crossford & Kirkfieldbank)

ELDERS:

Mr. Andrew Allardice, 26 Braemar Crescent, Carluke
 Mrs. Anne Moffat, 39 Woodside Crescent, Kaimend, Carnwath
 Mr. Allan MacPherson, 95a Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow
 Mr. Ross Russell, 59 Main Street, Symington

(Carluke: Kirkton)

(Carnwath)

(Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen)

(Cairngryffe & Symington)

(Lanark: Greyfriars)

Miss Sheena Thomson, 5 Manse Road, Lanark

THE MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As part of his official Moderatorial Visit within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery, the Moderator of the General Assembly, Rt. Rev. Dr. Andrew R. C. McLellan, and his wife, Mrs. Irene McLellan, were present at the meeting of the Presbytery.

The Moderator invited Dr. McLellan to address the Presbytery.

Dr McLellan gave a short address in which he described some of the places and situations within the bounds that he and Mrs. McLellan had already invited. He did so by posing the question, 'What is Presbytery for?' In answer, Dr McLellan said it represented **L** for Lanark, the town, the county, the Presbytery; **O** for Owen (Robert) and his vision for a better society; **V** for Vanier (Jean) who founded L'Arche, a community for people with learning difficulties—a reference to his proposed visit to Stanmore House School, and, in general, the Church's mission among the disadvantaged in society; and **E** for encouragement, from the General Assembly, for the work of Presbyteries.

"This is what Presbytery is for—LOVE," said Dr McLellan, *"love for the people who are in need in this place, the poor, the marginalised, those without a voice."*

With more than half of his time in the Presbytery to go, Dr McLellan said he was hoping to meet as many members of Presbytery and the churches as possible before the end of his visit.

He also asked the Moderator if she would invite Mrs. McLellan also to say a few words.

Mrs McLellan thanked the Presbytery for the wonderful accommodation that had been arranged for them in one of the Water Houses at New Lanark Hotel. She also said she was looking forward to the Ceilidh on Friday evening at the Cartland Bridge Hotel and thanked Presbytery for the warmth and sincerity of their welcome.

CALL TO GLENCAPLE & LOWTHER of REV. MARGARET MUIR

The congregations of Glencaple and Lowther having been cited to appear in their interests, the Clerk laid on the Table the relevant papers, including a call signed by 134 members, with 4 concurrences, relative to the election of Miss Margaret Muir.

Parties were called and the Interim-Moderator, Rev. Gavin Elliot, outlined the proceedings in the vacancy, stressing the diligence and enthusiasm of the vacancy committee.

Mr. Johan Hamlink, on behalf of both congregations, explained why the vacancy committee had invited Miss Muir, currently Minister at Inveraven and Glenlivet in the Presbytery of Abernethy, to preach as sole nominee in the vacancy and how their view that she would be a most suitable minister for the charge had been endorsed by the congregation in the subsequent election.

Parties were removed and Rev. John M.A. Thomson moved that the election of Miss Muir be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgement given.

A Vacancy Schedule for Glencaple and Lowther was presented, showing 351 members and 3 adherents, proposing a stipend of £17,323 and recommending the apportioning of Ministry Costs as 85% to Glencaple and 15% to Lowther.

The Clerk moved the following Deliverance: *Presbytery approve the Vacancy Schedule as presented.*

The Vacancy Schedule was approved.

INDUCTION AT GLENCAPLE & LOWTHER

The Convener of the Business Committee, Mr. David Adams, moved the following Deliverance: *Presbytery:—*

- 1. Subject to the agreement of the Presbytery of Abernethy to the translation, resolve to meet in hunc effectum at Lowther Church, Leadhills, for the purpose of inducting the Rev. Margaret Muir to the*

charge of Glencaple lw Lowther on Thursday, 3rd May 2001, at a service of induction, the service to commence at 7.30p.m., the Presbytery to meet at 7.15p.m.

2. *Remit to the Business Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the service.*

The Deliverance was approved.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Having received notice of motion from the Convener of the Business Committee at the November 2000 meeting, agree to amend Standing Orders as follows:*
 - No 5 by deleting the word "ministerial"*
 - No 17b by deleting "Ministry Training Committee"*
 - No 17c by deleting "Maintenance of the"*
 - No 20a by deleting the words "from among the Ministerial members."*
3. *Appoint the Rev. Catherine Collins (Lanark: Greyfriars), Minister and Mr. Andrew Allardice (Carluke: Kirkton), Elder, Presbytery representatives on the Commission of Assembly for 2001/02.*
4. *Note that there is an applicant for the post of Presbytery Clerk, but no interview has taken place, and remit to the Interview Panel to report to the April meeting of Presbytery.*
5. *Grant permission to the Rev. Michael Frew to accept the appointment of Chaplain to 449 Squadron of the Air Training Corps (Lanark).*
6. *No nominations having been received from congregations for a youth delegate to the General Assembly of 2001, remit to the Convener of the Business Committee to act, with powers, on Presbytery's behalf in the matter.*
7. *Invite Miss Pamela Yule (Lanark: St. Nicholas) and Miss Alison Shaw (Law), Presbytery delegates to the National Youth Assembly in April, 2001, to address Presbytery at the May meeting.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

Rev. John M. A. Thomson requested that his dissent to section 2 of the deliverance be recorded.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. John M. A. Thomson, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report;*
2. *Note that the Property Registers will be inspected in the very near future and returned to congregations timeously,*
3. *Approve that, in the case of Property Quinquennials, the cost of specialist reports will be met by Presbytery.*
4. *Approve the refurbishment of the Great and Swell divisions of the pipe organ in Carluke: St John's, by Rushworth and Dreaper at a cost of £9337, exclusive of VAT.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE:

The Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young, presented the Annual Financial Statement and answered questions on the various funds held by Presbytery.

The Treasurer also asked if the question of the future operation of the Resource Centre could be discussed by the relevant committee, i.e. the Parish Education Committee, and the Convener of that Committee agreed to take the matter forward. The Convener of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, Rev. Mike Frew, then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2000 and instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the Accounts to the Board of Stewardship and Finance*
3. *Thank Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isobel Lawrie for their work as auditors.*
4. *Thank the Treasurer for his work during the year.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RADIO CLYDE:

Mr. David Adams reported on the meeting of the Radio Clyde Religious Advisory Committee on 5th March 2001.

Rev. Alan Sorenson, who normally joins with the committee and who advises it on matters at the station, was unable to be present. Also missing was Mr. John McCalman, the producer of religious broadcasting at Clyde who had long made it plain that he could easily live without his daily "God Slot", whether it be 20 seconds on Clyde 1 or 45 seconds on Clyde 2.

Their absence gave the committee the opportunity to consider their relationship with the station, and, more importantly, what could be done about it. As a result, it was decided they should write to Mr.

McCalman with a number of recommendations, one among them being that in the immediate short term he give consideration to covering the National Youth Assembly and inviting some of the young delegates from the Radio Clyde area to give their views on air at a time when their own age groups are likely to be listening.

The Committee also intend to request the use of younger presenters on the thought-for-the-day slots, and see as a source of such talent, in addition to the Youth Assembly, Presbytery Youth Advisers. The committee next meets on June 18th.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Jim Bain, on behalf of the Superintendence & Records Committee, apologised for the cancellation of the planned Examination of Records, due to the adverse weather, and thanked all those who had brought relevant records to the Presbytery meeting as requested. He explained the revised procedures for examining the records and the arrangements that had been made for their return.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 27th March 2001.

**INTER CHURCH
PROPERTY**

**PARISH EDUCATION
MINISTRY
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

NEXT MEETING:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 3rd April 2001 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 3rd April 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 30 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Helen Jamieson, Rev. Stephen Pacitti and Rev. Steven Reid, Ministers, and from Mr. Lance Armstrong and Mr. Archie Clark, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 6th March 2001, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

"GOOD NEWS STORIES"

CARLUKE: ST. ANDREW'S

Mr. Malcolm Barclay, on behalf of Carluke: St. Andrew's Church, gave two examples of "good news" in the life of the congregation. The first was a major project of refurbishment, entitled Project 2000, which had created a more welcoming vestibule, new halls, kitchen, and toilets (including disabled toilet and baby-changing facilities). A service of rededication of the Church had taken place on 25th March when the Rev. Sandy McDonald, a former Moderator of the General Assembly, had shared in the worship.

The second project, entitled "Garden of Hope" and begun in April 2000, aimed to "create a small beautiful, tranquil garden, providing a peaceful and reflective area which can bring hope and comfort to the bereaved" and made available to the whole of Carluke as part of the congregation's commitment to reach out and help the local community. Already many fund-raising events had taken place and work to complete the project was continuing.

CARLUKE: ST. JOHN'S

Mrs. Betty Smith, on behalf of Carluke: St. John's Church, shared news of the Holiday Club which St. John's had run successfully for the past 10 years. These had taken place in the Church Hall, and more recently in a local Primary School, using Scripture Union Holiday Club materials. Parents and friends of the children attending were invited at the end of the week to come along, and also to attend the All Age Worship service on the Sunday Morning. Over the years there have been follow-up visits, letters, and a reunion for those who had taken part. The Holiday Club requires a lot of organisation and involves about 40 volunteers. The average number of children registering is around 100 each year, with between 85 and 90 attending daily, a third of whom would have no connections with a Church.

Extract Minutes & Letters

—**From Rev. John Chalmers, Chaplain to the Moderator, 1st April 2001**, thanking Presbytery for inviting him and Mrs. Chalmers to the Presbytery Ceilidh.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Appoint the Rev. Gavin Elliott, Presbytery Clerk Elect, Mr. Elliott to take office in June on the retiral, as Clerk, of the Rev. Iain Cunningham*
3. *Agree to purchase new computer equipment for the incoming Presbytery Clerk, the Rev. Gavin Elliott, for his and future Clerk's use on behalf of Presbytery.*
4. *Agree to hand over, free of charge, the computer equipment, currently at Kirkton Manse, to the outgoing Presbytery Clerk, the Rev. Iain Cunningham.*

5. *Note the arrangements for the Service of Induction of the Rev. Margaret Muir to the charge of Glencaple by Lowther: i) Presbytery to meet in hunc effectum at Leadhills Church on Thursday, 3rd May, 2001 at 7.15p.m., the service to commence at 7.30p.m. ii) The Moderator, the Rev. Catherine Collins to conduct the service, the Rev. John M.A. Thomson to preach.*
6. *Note that the Presbytery Review Committee will not report until after business relating to Presbyteries has been dealt with by the General Assembly.*
7. *Discharge the current Presbytery Review Committee and agree to return to the matter at a future date.*
8. *Approve the nominations of the Mr. Ian Ivison and the Presbytery Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young to serve on the Accounts Inspection Committee.*
9. *From Tuesday, 3rd April, 2001, grant the Rev. Helen Jamieson three months leave of absence on medical grounds.*
10. *Appoint the Rev. James Bain Interim Moderator to the charge of Carluke: St. Andrew's for the duration of Mrs. Jamieson's absence.*
11. *Remit to the Business Committee to examine the issue of pastoral cover at Carluke: St. Andrew's during the leave of absence of the Minister, and report.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE INTER CHURCH COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. Sheila Mitchell, submitted the report of the Inter Church Committee concerning the ongoing discussions on the SCIFU (*Scottish Churches' Initiative for Union*) proposals. The Presbytery's Inter Church Committee strongly supported the primary aim of SCIFU, that there should be a coming together of the Churches within Scotland, embracing the so-called "Lund Principle" (that we should not do apart that which can be done together) as a statement of common Christian witness and intent. However, the Committee expressed reservations about the ways in which the central concept of "maxi parishes" might be able to operate in rural areas and also expressed the view that the timing of the presentation of the SCIFU report to the General Assembly may mean that its significance may be eclipsed by other major reports.

The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Encourage Kirk Sessions to read and discuss the Scottish Churches' Initiative for Union Second Interim Report*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mrs. Ena Wilson, submitted the report of the World Mission Committee in which she gave news of the work of Presbytery's two Mission Partners, Christine Stone in Nepal and Elaine McKinnon in Kenya.

Christine Stone is regarded with great affection by people and government in Nepal and her work in providing educational materials is widely appreciated. Although there are still many difficulties for Christians in Nepal there are now about 400,000 Christians in that country, all reached by one-to-one contact. Christine herself expressed gratitude for all those who support her and her work in prayer. The situation in Kenya is also very difficult through the drought and its effect on the economy. Elaine McKinnon would be due home on furlough soon but no details of dates were yet available.

The Convener also reported that a review of the Faithshare Partnership which had just been concluded between the churches in Carluke and Miss Jee Eun Choi was being evaluated and a full report would be given to the next meeting of Presbytery.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE:

Presbytery meeting *in private*, the Convener, Rev. James Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee. The report concerned firstly the Annual Inspection of Records and although there had been no serious errors or omissions in congregational records, the Convener reminded Presbytery of certain particular requirements, namely that: Minutes must be signed by Moderator/Chair and Clerk; loose leaf minutes must be numbered consecutively; the Attestation of the Roll must be recorded; the name of the Child Protection Co-ordinator must be recorded (even if only to confirm someone remaining in post); and the appointment of the Presbytery Elder must be minuted.

The remainder of the report dealt with the Quinquennial Visitation to Carluke: St. John's.

The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Annual Inspection of Records on Wednesday, 14th March 2001 found Congregational Records generally to be in good order.*
3. *Commend the Rev Mike Frew, the Kirk Session, Office-bearers and congregation of Carluke: St John's for their work and witness. This Charge is fulfilling its function.*
4. *Recommend a reduction in Kirk Session representation on the Congregational Board of Carluke: St John's and encourage more congregational representation.*
5. *Encourage the Congregational Board to review their level of voluntary contribution to the Insured Pension Scheme.*
6. *Encourage the Congregational Board to give urgent consideration to the level of accommodation provided in the manse, giving particular attention to the possibility of extension to provide more family space.*
7. *Note that the Presbytery Minutes have been examined by the Convener of the Business Committee and the Convener of the Superintendence & Records Committee and have been found to be in order.*
8. *Note that the requirements of Act II, 1984, in respect of Quinquennial Visitations for 2000, have been fulfilled.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

Presbytery meeting again in open court, the Convener, Rev. John Thomson, submitted the report of the Property Committee, which dealt first with the following three items:

1. Inspection of Property Registers.

Although the inspected registers were found to be generally in good order, the Committee requested that Property Conveners, in maintaining the registers ensure (a) that the most recent sheets are kept at the beginning of each appropriate section (b) that even when there are no changes, such as in the inventory of furnishings and fittings, that the date when the inventory has been carried out be noted each year, and if changes are made a new sheet be made up (c) that the schedule of insurances be updated each year.

The Convener also drew the attention of congregational office-bearers to the need to review buildings insurance, preferably on an annual basis.

2. Meeting with General Trustees.

The Convener, together with the Convener of the Superintendence & Records Committee, had met with the General Trustees on the morning of 3rd April to express their concerns at the way in which the deputation from the General Trustees had proceeded with their visit to Carnwath. As a result of the meeting the Trustees had indicated their willingness to extend the proposed feasibility study to include the hall. The Convener noted, however, that nothing could be done until Carnwath Church had submitted its application to the Trustees.

3. Carnwath Church.

The Convener reported that a previous instruction to the congregation to fit a safety support beam to the unsafe area of the church had not so far been complied with. This situation had to be dealt with as a matter of urgency.

The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Property Registers have been inspected and found to be generally in good order, and should be uplifted at the close of the meeting.*
3. *Note that the Convener will be writing to all Congregational Property Conveners giving a précis of the inspection and in certain cases highlighting areas which need specific attention.*
4. *Note the developments from the meeting with the General Trustees.*
5. *Instruct the Congregational Board of Carnwath Parish Church to submit to the Presbytery's Property Committee, without further delay, an application form for grant assistance towards the cost of a feasibility study covering both Church and Hall.*
6. *Instruct the Congregational Board of Carnwath Parish Church to comply, within the next fourteen days, with the instruction to fit a support beam to the unsafe area of the Church.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE:

The Vice Convener, Rev. Gavin Elliott, submitted the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Resolve that Mr Steve Marr be set apart as a Reader and remit to the Business Committee to make the necessary arrangements*
3. *Note that there will be a Ministers' Retreat on Monday 3 September*
4. *Encourage ministers to make use of their Study Leave Entitlement*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Rev. David Collins, submitted the report of the Parish Education Committee. It had been remitted to the committee to recommend an appropriate increase in the honorarium paid to the Advisor in Children's Ministry to reflect the extent of the work which he now undertakes. The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Agree to increase the honorarium paid to the Advisor in Children's Ministry from £300 to £600 per annum, with effect from 1 January 2001.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

COMMITTEE TO ORGANISE THE VISIT OF THE MODERATOR:

The Business Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted a report on behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee which had organised the visit to the Presbytery of the Moderator of the General Assembly.

The committee had met to review the visit and were pleased that all the reports received had been very positive. The general consensus had been that the Moderator and his wife had been "wonderful ambassadors for the Church" and they themselves had been genuinely overwhelmed by the "warmth and generosity of everyone in the Presbytery".

The Presbytery had been congratulated by the Moderator for the varied and interesting programme of visits that had been arranged.

The Presbytery owed a great debt of gratitude to a number of people for the success of the visit, but Mr. Adams particularly mentioned Mr. Henry Dorricott who had provided, at no cost to the Presbytery, a car and driver, and Mr. Trevor Sandilands who had made a photographic record of the visit. These provisions, together with the accommodation at New Lanark Mill Hotel, had been especially appreciated by Dr. and Mrs. McLellan.

Mr. Adams, as Press Officer, also expressed satisfaction at the press coverage of the visit by the local press.

Mr. Adams then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. *Note that the Clerk has written, thanking all those who contributed to the success of the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly from 3rd to 12th March, 2001.*
2. *Remit to the Presbytery Treasurer to present a financial account of the Moderator's visit to the May meeting of Presbytery.*
3. *Thank the Organising Committee for its diligence in carrying out its duties in respect of the Moderator's visit.*
4. *Discharge the Committee.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 24th April 2001.

PROPERTY

CHURCH & COMMUNITY

PARISH EDUCATION

MINISTRY

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS

NEXT MEETING:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 1st May 2001 at 7.00 p.m.. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 1st May 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig, Rev. Helen Jamieson, Rev. Bernard Lodge, Rev. Stephen Pacitti and Rev. Steven Reid, Ministers, and from Mr. Gavin Douglas, Mr. James Ferguson, Mr. Cameron Morton and Mr. Hamish Paterson, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 3rd April 2001, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

"GOOD NEWS STORIES"

CARNWATH

The Minister of Carnwath Church, Rev. Beverly Gauld, reported on an item of good news from the Parish of Carnwath. With the move from the Church to the Hall for worship, necessitated by the need for emergency repairs, there was a need for a suitable musical keyboard to lead the singing. As a result of an appeal, within a very short space of time, a sum of £1400 was raised which enabled a suitable electronic keyboard to be purchased. This has been greatly appreciated by the worshipping congregation and represents a valuable and worthwhile investment in worship.

Extract Minutes & Letters

—From The Presbytery of Abernethy, 3 April 2001, intimating that the call from the linked congregations of Glencaple and Lowther to the Rev. Margaret A. Muir had been sustained by the Presbytery of Abernethy.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Resolve to meet in hunc effectum at Douglas: St. Bride's Church on Thursday, 31st. May at 7.15p.m. for a service at 7.30p.m. to set apart as Reader, Mr. Steven Marr, the Moderator to conduct the service, the Rev. Lawrie Lennox to preach.*
3. *Note that the June meeting of Presbytery will take place in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark, the meeting to be preceded by a service of Holy Communion conducted by the Moderator.*
4. *Appoint the Rev. Lawrie Lennox to replace the Rev. Steven Reid as Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe lw Symington.*
5. *Approve the nomination of Mr. Alexander McPhee to serve on the Accounts Inspection Committee.*
6. *Resolve to add the name of the Rev. Susan Cowell to the Roll of Presbytery.*
7. *Receive notice that the following elders will be nominated by the Business Committee to serve as Additional Elders for the year 2001/2002, and advise Kirk Sessions to inform the Clerk or the Convener of the Business Committee, before the June meeting, if any of these elders is likely to be nominated as the representative elder for that Kirk Session: Mr. Malcolm Barclay, Mr. Archie Clark, Mrs. Margaret Filshie, Mr. George Forbes, Mrs. Nan Mackie, Miss Joyce Munro, Mrs. Betty Smith, Miss Sheena Thomson, Mrs. Moira White, Mrs. Irene Williams and Mrs. Ena Wilson.*
8. *Request of Kirk Sessions that the names of elders leaving Presbytery at the end of June be in the hands of the Convener of the Business Committee by next committee night (June 5th.).*
9. *Instruct all Kirk Sessions that elder commissions to Presbytery are required to be made as soon as possible after the General Assembly, and that such commissions be transmitted to the Presbytery Clerk by June 30th. at latest, and request that, where possible, such information may be with the Clerk by the next meeting of the Business Committee on June 15th.*
10. *Invite the Readers to the September meeting for presentation to the Presbytery.*

11. Approve the nomination of the Rev. Michael Frew to be the Convener of the Business Committee from 1st July 2001.
12. Approve the following nominations to the Committees and Boards of the Church for 2001/2002
- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Ministry | Rev. Catherine Collins |
| National Mission | Mr. George Forbes |
| Stewardship & Finance | Rev. Sheila Mitchell |
| Social Responsibility | Miss Joyce Munro |
13. Appoint the Rev. Sheila Mitchell as Commissioner to the General Assembly of 2001 in place of Rev. Steven Reid.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT FROM YOUTH ASSEMBLY DELEGATES

Miss Pamela Yule (Lanark) and Miss Alison Shaw (Law) reported on their attendance, on behalf of Lanark Presbytery, at the National Youth Assembly held in Dundee. The theme for the weekend had been "Odyssey" and had focused on faith as a journey. The programme was very full and varied, combining fun and fellowship with worship, seminars, discussions, debate, and presentations by keynote speakers, including John Bell and John Miller (Moderator-Designate). Delegates attended a total of six seminars on a wide range of subjects including "What me a Minister?", "DIY Theology" and "The World Arms Trade". A series of seminars presented Christian Aid, sponsors of this year's Youth Assembly were particularly challenging. There was also a "Late Night Focus" which dealt with diverse subjects such as biblical themes in contemporary cinema and the "stations of the cross". Both Miss Yule and Miss Shaw thanked the Presbytery for allowing them the privilege of attending the Youth Assembly, which they had found challenging, exciting and refreshing.

The Moderator thanked both delegates for their very interesting report.

REPORT FROM THE ADVISER IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Mr. Harry Jamieson, Adviser in Children's Ministry, submitted the following report of his work throughout the year:

"The Children's and Youth Services Unit of Parish Education, which is now based in Glasgow, ask me from time to time to publicise various events. I normally do this by writing to each Sunday School. However I am taking this opportunity while I am giving my annual report, to mention some important forthcoming events. As I hope you all know, the Church of Scotland has designated next year as The Year of the Child. This therefore is an exciting time for our young people in the Church. CHOK or Children of the Kirk is published quarterly and is sent to all churches to keep them up to date with what is happening in Children's Ministry as the Year of the Child approaches. I hope that this is being read and passed on to the workers involved in children's ministry.

We are often accused in the church of not listening a, children, many preferring to see them in church but not listen to what they think of the church. With that in mind, every church was invited to set up a children's forum, which is a group of children who will meet and discuss what they think about the church and their faith, and what changes would make the church more attractive to young people. The agenda for each meeting would be sent out from the Children's and Youth services.

The first of the five agendas was to be completed by 5th March. As at the end of March, 131 Forums had been set up, of these only 3 are from this Presbytery. Perhaps we do not think the views of children are worth listening to. If you are interested in setting up a children's forum, it is not too late to register, as the future agendas are not scheduled for completion until 17th December.

To assist churches in their preparation for the Year of the Child, a national resource day called APPROACHES is being held in the International Christian College in Glasgow on Saturday 8th September. Please publicise The Year of the Child, Children's Forums and Approaches in your church.

This is now my 5th Annual Report to Presbytery, as Adviser in Children's Ministry.

Together with the Parish Education Committee, I have worked over the last three years to establish a pattern of events for each session. These events are as follows.

I organise an Annual Teachers Conference, an Annual Children's Concert, a Bible Quiz, a Competition for Children and such Training as there is demand for. I also visit Sunday schools.

I am also required to attend Advisers' Conferences to meet Advisers from throughout Scotland and to find out about future events.

I will report on each of these:

1. Adviser's Conferences.

This session I attended the Advisers' Conference at Dundee University on 1st–2nd September 2000 and at Heriot Watt University on 16th—17th March 2001. Advisers' Conferences are an essential way of passing on information to and between Advisers as well as providing an opportunity to impart training to Advisers. Regular changes seem to be taking place in the National Directorate.

Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry have been combined under one team leader based in Glasgow, although in Presbyteries the jobs are to remain separate. The team has been renamed Children's and Youth Services.

2. The Annual Presbytery Teachers' Conference.

A successful conference was held at St Nicholas' Church on Wednesday 13th September 2000.

Although the petrol shortage seems a distant memory, it coincided with our conference so that numbers attending were down, particularly with teachers from the more far-flung areas of the Presbytery. In attendance were 30 teachers from 12 congregations.

The guest speaker was Jennifer Stevenson who spoke about her task of illustrating a children's bible and then introduced workshops on various arts and crafts. At the end of the evening the various groups brought together some outstanding efforts including slide presentations drawn free hand and stained glass windows using coloured celluloid.

All the teachers attending found the evening enjoyable and instructive.

3. Visits to Sunday Schools.

As I have now visited every active Sunday school in the Presbytery at least once, I have not been so active with visitations this session. I had a meeting with Coalburn Staff but had to cancel intended follow-up sessions in their Sunday School.

4. Training

There was no interest from Teachers in the Presbytery in attending a national training course this session. A Presbytery course for new or inexperienced teachers did go ahead here in St. Nicholas' Church over 4 evenings in September and October. There were 2 participants in the course, 1 from Carstairs Village and 1 from St Andrews. Both completed the course and certificates were duly sent out to the churches for presentation.

5. Events for Children

Easter Art Competition: This session we had an Easter Art competition. We discouraged the production of Rabbits, Eggs and Bunnies by stipulating that the theme of the work should be the Biblical Easter Story. There were three sections—Under 6, 6 to 8, and 9 upwards. We were pleased to get 90 entries, roughly one third from each section. The winners will be announced at the Concert in May.

Bible Quiz: This year our Quiz 2001 was slightly different in that 4 Bible passages were given for study in each session. As last year the quiz was run as a knockout competition with the winner being the team that had scored the most points after all three sessions. 13 Sunday Schools entered for the quiz. To accommodate smaller Sunday schools this session, teams of three took part in each round, the three members being selected from the 4 members, which the Sunday School entered. Teams that could only field 3 members were not disadvantaged. The quiz answers were not given at the event and no child knew at the time whether a given answer was right or wrong. Writing was kept to a minimum with answers being chosen from a list. The participants travelled throughout the Presbytery giving the children who took part the chance to see other Sunday School children and premises and perhaps areas of Lanarkshire that they might not otherwise visit. Each session had a break when juice and food was consumed and children could socialise. There were a variety of questions with fun being the theme as well as Bible Knowledge questions. There will be prizes for the top 3. The prizes and the results will be announced at the Concert on 19th May.

Since the results of last year's quiz were not known when I gave my report to Presbytery, I would like it recorded that the winners were Kirkfieldbank Sunday School with close 2nd and 3rd places going to St. John's and Biggar.

Annual Concert

The annual children's concert takes place on May 19th. This is our third annual concert for the Children in Presbytery Sunday Schools. This year Kirkton Church is the venue for the concert. The entertainment will be provided by Stephen Fischbacher who is well known as a children's entertainer and a religious songwriter. I am sure that all the children who attend will enjoy themselves thoroughly. The concert starts at 2.30 and we will close our afternoon at 4.00 after the presentation of prizes to the winners of the Art Competition and the Quiz.

This is being advertised as a FUN AFTERNOON for the children and I hope ministers and elders will encourage and assist Sunday Schools to attend the concert. There is no entry charge to the concert as the committee realised that outlying Sunday Schools will have the expense of hiring transport and we did not wish to discourage children from attending.

6. Support Group and Committee

I would like to thank the committee for the support, encouragement and ideas they have given this session, which at times was particularly difficult for me. Holding the quiz and concert would be impossible without members of the committee agreeing to be present as organisers and helpers at each venue. The hard work of the committee and the Sunday school teachers who willingly participated in its organisation and acted as hosts to the visiting Sunday Schools meant that the quiz this year passed with few hitches. The Parish Education Committee is truly a working committee rather than a talking shop. The detailed organising of all the events we held this session were in the hands of a sub-committee called the Support Group, in that they support the work of the Adviser. I would like to pay tribute to the support group, that is Irene Williams of Carstairs Junction and David Collins of Greyfriars, for being a support group not only in name but also in practice. They both gave time, effort and equally important ideas and as well as ideas, Irene contributed delicious home baking. It was largely due to them that this session's activities have been so successful.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Jamieson for his very full and informative report.

REPORT FROM THE GUILD PRESBYTERIAL COUNCIL

Miss Sheena Thomson reported on behalf of the Guild Presbyterial Council. She began by reminding Presbytery of this year's Guild Theme: *Strength Through God's Promises*, and of the outstandingly successful Guild Projects and Banner Exhibition which had toured the country and had proved inspirational to many people. It remained true, however, that the image of the Guild still needed to be brought up to date.

Locally the year had been marked by sadness with the deaths of two Council members, Irene and Connie, both of whom had been very hard-working and committed members of the council.

However, the Guild was looking forward with hope and optimism to the future.

The theme for next year was announced as *"Strength Through God's Presence"*.

The Moderator thanked Miss Thomson for her interesting and informative report.

REPORT OF THE PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev. David Collins, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee which concerned the future of the Resource Centre Account, currently with a credit balance of £766.50. The Committee were of the view that now that the Resource Centre is no longer buying and selling books the money should be retained for future expenditure on equipment, including the purchase of a new projection screen for Presbytery's use. The Committee were happy to leave it to the Presbytery Treasurer to decide on the most appropriate way of handling the account.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the Report*
2. *Note that the £766.50 in the Resource Centre Account will be retained for future expenditure on equipment etc., the Presbytery Treasurer to decide on the most appropriate way of dealing with the account.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev. Mike Frew, presented the report of the Stewardship & Finance Committee. A request had been received from the General Trustees in connection with funds held on behalf of Black Mount Church that Presbytery give a view on any possible transfer of capital from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to the Consolidated Stipend Fund. The Committee, having learned that local office-bearers were in the process of exploring the possibility of new manse for the newly-linked charge would recommend that no such transfer take place at present.

Mr. Frew also presented a financial statement on behalf of the Presbytery Treasurer regarding the net cost to the Presbytery of the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

3. *Receive the report*
4. *Agree in the case of Black Mount that no transfer of capital from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to the Consolidated Stipend Fund should be made at present; the matter to be reviewed when a new manse for the linked charge has been purchased*
5. *Grant permission to the Committee to host a Stewardship evening for congregations within the bounds in the autumn of 2001, on a date to be arranged*
6. *Note that the total net cost to Presbytery of the Moderator's recent visit amounted to £813.44*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE

The Convener, Mrs. Ena Wilson, presented the report of the World Mission Committee which dealt principally with the Faithshare Partnership between the Presbytery and Miss Jee Eun Choi. Reports had been received from each of the Carluke ministers and a review meeting had taken place between the planning group and Miss Celeste Geddes of the Board of World Mission.

The Convener paid tribute to the enthusiasm and effectiveness of the support group in making all the necessary advance arrangements and providing support throughout the project. She also indicated how fortunate Presbytery had been in the choice of Faithshare Partner as Miss Choi was a "a delightful ambassador for her country and her faith" particularly gifted in music and in working with children.

Much of her time in Carluke had spent working with the Street Level Project and in schools. There had been "Korean Evenings" held in each of the churches and full Korean Weeks in most of the primary schools.

The review meeting had noted that more advance information about Miss Choi's particular areas of expertise might have helped the Carluke Churches to plan better the initial programme of activities. However, there was no doubt that the whole experience had been very worthwhile, helping the Carluke Churches in particular to have a broader perception of their place in the World Church and to learn something from Jee Eun about the importance of prayer and commitment.

The Convener also reported that she had been informed that Elaine McKinnon would be home on furlough from the end of July until December.

Finally, the Convener intimated the forthcoming visit of the AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR to Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church on Sunday 27th May at 7.00pm.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Missionary Partner, Elaine McKinnon, is due home on furlough from the end of July to the end of December 2001.*
3. *Note with gratitude and appreciation the success of the Faithshare Partnership between the Presbytery of Lanark and Miss Jee Eun Choi of the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev. John Thomson, presented the report of the Property Committee which dealt with the following matters.

1. Quinquennial Property Inspections

The Quinquennial Inspection report had been received for the properties at Lesmahagow: Old and the Kirk Session were in the process of preparing a comprehensive project to deal with all the recommendations of the report.

The Quinquennial Inspection report for the Church and Church Hall at Dolphinton had also been received, indicating that a number of items had to be addressed, including urgent work at the Church at an estimated cost of £1800 and essential work estimated at £1300. The Church Hall requires more attention, urgent repairs being estimated at £4,800, essential at £1100 and desirable at £1680.

Reports on Douglas: St. Bride's and Douglas Water & Rigside are presently being considered by the Committee.

2. Carnwath

The Convener reported on the situation at Carnwath Church regarding the Quinquennial Property Survey that had been completed in 2000. He reminded Presbytery of an instruction given by Presbytery to Carnwath Church in June 2000, concerning the advisability of installing temporary propping of internal beams to make the building safe. The instruction had not been complied with and a further instruction had been issued by the Presbytery at its meeting in April 2001. The Convener reported that this instruction had also not been fulfilled within the specified time-frame. However an inspection by the Convener earlier that day had revealed that temporary propping is now in place. It was also the view of the Committee that, until a new Chairman has been appointed by the Congregational Board, the Minister should *ex officio* assume the role of Chairman, to enable these urgent matters (including the submission of an Application for Grant Aid from central funds towards the feasibility study) to proceed. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the report;*
2. *Note that the Quinquennial Property Report on Lesmahagow: Old has been received and transmitted to the Kirk Session.*
3. *Note that the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old is preparing a comprehensive scheme to submit to the Presbytery Property Committee.*
4. *Instruct the Congregational Board at Black Mount to proceed with the repairs and maintenance at Dolphinton Church and Dolphinton Church Hall, as specified in the Quinquennial Report.*
5. *Instruct the Congregational Board at Carnwath Parish Church to complete the application form for grant assistance from the General Trustees immediately and transmit same to the Presbytery Clerk by Wednesday 16 May.*
6. *Note with grave concern the failure of the Congregational Board at Carnwath Parish Church to comply, within the specified time-frame, with the instruction of Presbytery to make safe the specified area of the church.*
7. *Note that a verbal assurance of compliance from Mr Ian Cochrane, former Chairman of the Board at Carnwath Parish Church, has now been received by the Presbytery Property Convener.*
8. *Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write a letter of censure to the Minister, Kirk Session and Congregational Board of Carnwath Parish Church.*
9. *Instruct Rev Beverly Gauld to assume chairmanship ex officio of the Congregational Board of Carnwath Parish Church, with immediate effect until a new Chairperson is appointed.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 5th June 2001.

PROPERTY

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
MINISTRY**

SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS

NEXT MEETING:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: Greyfriars Church on Tuesday 19th June 2001 at 7.00 p.m. for Holy Communion, and thereafter for ordinary business. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Leadhills, on 3 May 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* in Lowther Church, for the business of inducting Rev Margaret Muir to the charge of Glencaple linked with Lowther, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt, Rev Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book, in all 8 ministers and fourteen elders, and associated with them five visiting ministers, one visiting elder, and one visiting reader.

Apologies were intimated from Revs I. Cunningham, S Pacitti, D Young, P Jones and W Craig.

The relevant papers being in order and no objection to the life or doctrine of Rev Margaret Muir having been made or substantiated, Presbytery resolved to proceed to the induction. Rev Margaret Muir answered the Questions, signed the Formula, and was inducted to the charge of Glencaple linked with Lowther. At the close of worship the Depute Clerk was instructed to add Rev Margaret Muir's name to the Roll of Presbytery and to deal with the appropriate extract minutes.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Depute Clerk

Douglas, on 31 May 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum*, in St Bride's Church, for the business of setting apart as a reader Mr Steven Marr, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt, Rev Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book, in all eight ministers and seventeen elders.

Apologies were intimated from Revs M Frew, I Cunningham, M Coogan, B Gauld, S Pacitti, W Craig and P Jones, and Mesdames E Wilson, S McAllister, M Filshie, E Hiddleston , F Cheeseman, and Mr J Shaw.

Mr Marr answered the Questions, signed the Formula and was set apart as a Reader. At the close of worship the Depute Clerk was instructed to add Mr Steven Marr's name to the Roll of Readers and to deal with the appropriate extract minutes.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Depute Clerk

Douglas, on 31 May 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met *pro re nata*, in St Bride's Church, for business concerning the vacancy at Cairngryffe linked with Symington, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt, Rev Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book, in all eight ministers and seventeen elders.

Apologies were intimated from Revs M Frew, I Cunningham, M Coogan, B Gauld, S Pacitti, W Craig and P Jones, and Mesdames E Wilson, S McAllister, M Filshie, E Hiddleston, F Cheeseman, and Mr J Shaw.

Presbytery approved the action of the Moderator in calling the meeting.

The Depute Clerk explained the circumstances which led the Moderator into calling the meeting, and reported that after consulting with the Clerk Elect, he advised Presbytery to depart from the matter. He assured the court that the vacancy business at Cairngryffe linked with Symington would be expedited timeously by means of Presbytery meeting *in hunc effectum*. The Depute Clerk then moved, seconded by Mr David Adams, that Presbytery depart from the matter. Presbytery so resolved.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Depute Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 19th June 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Lanark: Greyfriars Church, conducted by the Moderator, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: Greyfriars Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 13 Ministers and 30 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Susan Cowell, Rev. William Craig, Rev. Helen Jamieson, Rev. Philip Jones, Rev. Steven Reid, and Rev. David Young, Ministers, and from Mrs. Margaret Filshie, Mrs. Grace Graham, Mr. Johan Hamelink, and Mr. Alexander McPhee, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 1st May 2001, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

"GOOD NEWS STORIES"

CARSTAIRS JUNCTION

Mrs. Flora Cheeseman, on behalf of Carstairs Junction Church, reported on successful and ongoing fund-raising efforts in the congregation which were necessary to repay the loans from central funds that had been given for essential building repairs. A whole variety of events and activities were being undertaken by members of the church and community and good progress was being made towards repayment of the outstanding loans.

COALBURN

Mr. Joe Cameron, on behalf of Coalburn Church, informed Presbytery that the Coalburn congregation were glad to be back in their church again after the major renovation works. Although the project had been a major upheaval in the life of the congregation they now had an excellent multi-purpose building.

Extract Minutes & Letters

—From The Church of Scotland PENSION TRUSTEES, 11 May 2001, drawing the attention of Ministers and Overseas Missionaries to the detrimental effect on pension provision of a break in service and indicating that anyone requiring further information in this regard should contact Mrs. Dennison, Pensions Manager, 121 George Street, Edinburgh.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mr. David Adams, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Thank the Moderator, Rev. Catherine Collins, the Kirk Session and Office Bearers of Lanark: Greyfriars and Mr. Eric Geddes, organist, for the conduct of worship at the service of Holy Communion for the Presbytery.*
3. *Approve the Nomination of the Rev. David Collins to be Moderator of Presbytery for the Year 2001/02, Mr. Collins to be installed at the September meeting of Presbytery.*
4. *Thank the following Conveners of committees who are retiring at this time, the Rev. Sheila Mitchell, Inter Church; the Rev. Mike Frew, Stewardship & Finance; Rev. David Collins, Parish Education; and Miss Joyce Munro, Church and Community, for their diligence in office, and appoint the following Conveners of committees in their stead:*
 Church & Community — Mr. John Strachan; Inter Church — Mrs. Betty Smith, Parish Education — Mrs. Moira White; Stewardship & Finance — Rev. Sheila Mitchell.
5. *Appoint the following Additional Elders for the year 2001/02: Mr. Malcolm Barclay, Mr. Archie Clark, Mrs. Margaret Filshie, Mr. George Forbes, Mrs. Nan Mackie, Miss Joyce Munro, Mrs. Betty Smith, Miss Sheena Thomson, Mrs. Irene Williams and Mrs. Ena Wilson.*
6. *Thank those Elders leaving Presbytery at this time and note that a meeting will be arranged by the Clerk and Convener of the Business Committee prior to the September meeting of Presbytery, to which all new members and Conveners of committees will be invited.*
7. *Appoint Mrs. Ellen Young and Mrs. Moira White to serve on the Business Committee for the next four years to replace Mr. David Adams and Mr. George Forbes.*
8. *Remit to the Business Committee to draw up a list of committees for approval at the September meeting of Presbytery, and advise Conveners who wish to recommend any changes to the current committee list, and any member of Presbytery who wishes to change from a present committee to another, to advise the Clerk or the Convener of the Business Committee by August 1st., 2001 at the latest.*
9. *Instruct Kirk Sessions to notify the Clerk of Elder commissions to Presbytery, for the year 2001/02, by June 30th., 2001.*
10. *Grant permission to Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's to hold joint services during the month of July, 2001.*
11. *Grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St. Nicholas to hold joint services for six consecutive Sundays commencing July 1st., 2001.*
12. *Following the appointment of the Rev. Gavin Elliott as Presbytery Clerk, agree to amend the rôta of Commissions to the General Assembly by transposing the turn of the Presbytery Clerk with that of Cairngryffe l.w. Symington in Group 5 of the rôta .*
13. *Instruct congregations within the bounds to return completed statistical return forms to the Information Technology Department at 121 George St., Edinburgh by June 30th., 2001.*
14. *Agree that a waiver on the title condition for the former church hall premises of Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church, Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow, be granted in total to the purchasers, and instruct the Clerk to advise the General Trustees.*
15. *Nominate Mr. William Tennant (Elder - Lanark: Greyfriars) to serve as Lanark Presbytery Representative, when called, on panels dealing with disciplinary cases of ministers.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

This being Mr. Adams' last report as Business Convener, and his last meeting as a member of the Presbytery, the Moderator expressed the sincere and heartfelt thanks of Presbytery to Mr. Adams for all that the work he had done especially as Business Convener. His dedication, commitment, efficiency and good humour would all be missed very much by the Presbytery.

REPORT OF DILIGENCE BY COMMISSIONERS TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Moderator invited Mr. Andrew Allardice, Elder from Carluke: Kirkton, and Rev. Sheila Mitchell to report diligence on behalf of those who had been commissioned to attend the General Assembly. Both gave an interesting summary of some of the matters raised which they had found to be of particular interest and of the overall experience of attending the General Assembly.

Mr. Allardice, who had attended the General Assembly for the first time, made special mention of the address by the retiring Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Andrew MacLellan, and of the Report of the Special Commission anent Review and Reform. The Commission report had presented a wide-ranging review of the Church and had been very well presented by the Convener, Rev. Peter Neilson, and positively received by the Assembly. It remained to be seen whether the Church as a whole would embrace the proposed reforms.

Mr. Allardice also expressed admiration for the Moderator, Rev. John Miller, who had shown himself to be both gracious and firm in his handling of the daily business. He commented on the inspirational nature of the daily worship which the Moderator had led, combining traditional and modern praise and including a daily reflection by the Moderator on one of the Beatitudes, illustrated from his own experience of ministry. The worship had set the tone for each day's proceedings.

Mr. Allardice was also impressed by the efficiency and expertise of the Clerks and other officials. All in all it had been a very positive experience, though Mr. Allardice expressed the view that the Assembly tried to deal with too much business in the time available and suggested it would be more effective if major Boards and Committees were to report every second year, instead of annually.

Mr. Allardice was also particularly impressed by the contribution to debates of the Youth Delegates. Rev. Sheila Mitchell also described the 2001 General Assembly as positive and forward looking. She commented in particular on the debate that took place on a proposal to allow non-ministerial moderators of Presbytery to preside at the prayer of ordination of ministers. The debate had been very interesting and the vote exciting, the motion eventually being defeated by only three votes.

The reports were approved.

INTERIM MINISTRY MONITORING COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev. Sheila Mitchell, presented a report on behalf of the Monitoring Committee on the Interim Ministry at Law Parish Church.

The Committee had attended a meeting on 13th June along with Rev. John Chalmers from the Board of Ministry where members of the Kirk Session and Congregational Board of Law Parish Church reported an air of optimism at Law. The number of people attending worship on a regular basis was increasing and church organisations were becoming stronger. This, together with recently introduced services and study groups, was serving to encourage and widen the experience of the congregation. The importance of strong leadership was recognised and to that end the Kirk Session had resolved to add to its number as well as developing the skills and gifts of the membership.

Concern was expressed to Mr. Chalmers that with the current shortage of ministers the possibility of calling a minister to Law might prove difficult. Mr. Chalmers encouraged those present to think positively while at the same time exploring alternative patterns of ministry, such as part-time ministry.

The report was approved.

REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev. John Thomson, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old has produced a comprehensive 5 year financial plan.*
3. *Grant permission, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, to Lesmahagow: Old to proceed with consideration of the sale of the present manse and the purchase of a new one, and to consult with Presbytery's Property Committee concerning the regulations anent manses.*
4. *Approve the overall expenditure by Lesmahagow: Old on property and organ repairs, of £165,000, over five years, subject to the approval of the General Trustees.*

5. *Recommend that the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old review the priorities of the building works, so that repairs to the pipe organ are scheduled for the conclusion of the project.*
6. *Approve, subject to the concurrence of the General Trustees, the repair and renovation work to Kirkmuirhill Church and Halls at an estimated cost of £41,300 inclusive of VAT*
7. *Instruct the Congregational Board at Douglas: St Bride's to commission a disruptive structural investigation at the church, obtain a full report with recommendations and consult with Presbytery's Property Committee.*
8. *Recommend that the Congregational Board at Douglas: St Bride's apply for a grant from the General Trustees towards the cost of the structural investigation.*
9. *Approve the transmission of the grant application from Carnwath Congregational Board for the feasibility study dealing with both church and halls.*
10. *Instruct Carnwath Congregational Board to obtain estimates for hire and purchase of scaffolding and transmit these to Presbytery's Property Committee.*
11. *Instruct Carnwath Congregational Board to ensure that no volunteer workers are allowed in or under the gallery area that is propped up, and that the areas concerned are cordoned off.*
12. *Approve in principle of the sale of the manse of Black Mount, linked with Coulter, linked with Libberton and Quothquan, and the purchase of a new manse, subject to the approval of the General Trustees and Presbytery.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS COMMITTEE:

Presbytery meeting *in private*, the Convener, Rev. James Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence & Records Committee. After reporting on Quinquennial Visitations to Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old, and intimating the congregations that would be visited this year, Mr. Bain invited members of Presbytery to continue to give thought to ways in which the Quinquennial Visitation process might be improved and to transmit these ideas to the committee. The Convener then moved the following deliverance.

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Commend the Minister, Office-Bearers and Congregation of Coalburn Church for their work, witness and enthusiasm in seeking to extend the Kingdom of God in their Parish. This Congregation is fulfilling its function.*
3. *Commend the Minister, Office-Bearers and Congregation of Lesmahagow: Old Church for their work, witness and enthusiasm in seeking to extend the Kingdom of God in their Parish. This Congregation is fulfilling its function.*
4. *Note that the following congregations will receive Quinquennial Visits this year: Lanark: St Nicholas; Douglas: St Bride's l.w. Douglas Water and Rigside; Forth: St Paul's; Law*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE:

Presbytery meeting again in open court, the Convener, Miss Joyce Munro, presented the following report on behalf of the Church & Community Committee.

"In response to a letter from a concerned resident near Broken Cross Muir in the Douglas Valley, the proposed site of a new open-cast mine, requesting the church's position regarding such activity, the committee has been considering this over the past two meetings.

The sanctioning authority for any opencast mining operation is the Local Authority, but it is clearly stipulated that the views of the local community should always be sought and carefully considered. In 1998 at the General Assembly, the Church and Nation Committee reported and offered some helpful suggestions:-

1. Application for opencast working should always be accompanied by an environmental assessment.
2. The impact of multiple and sequential proposals close to the same community becomes a material consideration—this is the case in the Douglas area.
3. Guidance should be given on the minimum distance to be left between opencast workings and nearby homes and workplaces—this was a particular feature at Coalburn.

4. The principal planning conditions and the requirement to put a financial bond in place to cover fully the cost of a high standard of site restoration and subsequent maintenance should be included.

The main concerns of the local community are for the health of the local people, which is affected by the dust generated by the blasting and extraction procedure, the noise from the blasting and from the traffic movements, which are continuous and cause vibration in buildings, particularly the school in Douglas. Further concern is for the effect on the ground water and streams and the general environmental impact on an area of great beauty with some unique species of flora, which are irreplaceable.

At an open meeting, which I attended, the discussion became quite heated. On the one hand there were a small number, who emphasised the employment opportunity in an area of high unemployment, though the numbers are not high in this type of operations.

The counterbalance to this is the possibility of considerable employment in the tourist industry in this area of much historical interest and local folklore, which is potentially there for development. Much of the meeting concerned the health aspects with emphasis on the detrimental effects of the various dust particles, which are generated causing irreversible damage to the airways in the lungs and others affecting the cardiovascular system. The effects on mental health from the continuous noise and the vibrations from traffic were emphasised.

A further consideration is the requirement for the Coal Board to supply coal to the two remaining coal fired power stations at Longannet and Cockszie. If this was not supplied from local sources it would have to be imported, again affecting the employment situation. It is estimated that these two power stations have a limited life of a further ten to twenty years.

In conclusion, the Committee expressed concern for the situation of the local residents and would urge the local authority to enforce the planning conditions to protect both the environment and the health and amenity of the local population."

The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Express concern for the situation of local residents near the Broken Cross Muir opencast site and urge the Local Authority to strictly enforce the planning conditions to protect both the environment and the health and amenity of the local population.*
3. *Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the report and deliverance to South Lanarkshire Council and to the concerned resident who raised the matter with the Presbytery.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE:

The Vice Convener, Rev. Gavin Elliott, submitted the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve the Vacancy Schedule for Cairngryffe l.w. Symington*
3. *Agree to meet in hunc effectum, on Tuesday 10th July, 2001 in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, for the purpose of dealing with the vacancy at Cairngryffe and Symington and instruct the Clerk to cite the congregations of Cairngryffe and Symington to appear at that meeting in their interests.*
4. *Instruct the Clerk to forward the relevant Extract Minute to the Board of Parish Education with regard to the Setting Apart as a Reader of Mr Stephen Marr*
5. *Note arrangements made for the Ministers' Annual Retreat on Monday 3 September 2001*
6. *Note the intention of the Ministry Committee to organise a local event to inform the congregations within the bounds of the proposals made to the General Assembly with regard to Presbytery Boundaries.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO RADIO CLYDE:

Mr. David Adams reported on the meeting of the Radio Clyde Religious Advisory Committee on 4th June 2001. The suggestion that Youth Assembly delegates might be auditioned as presenters for Radio Clyde morning thoughts had been judged to be impractical and instead it was stated that Presbyteries could bring nominations of potential candidates, backed up by demonstration tapes. Radio Clyde had received another award for its coverage of Pentecost 2000 at Hampden Park. A new three-hour Sunday evening programme hosted by Father John Irons from Glasgow and entitled "Music with a Message" had been launched.

As Mr. Adams would be retiring from Presbytery it would be necessary for the Business Committee to bring forward a nomination for a replacement representative for the advisory committee.

Mr. Adams then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Remit to the Business Committee to nominate a representative to the Radio Clyde Religious Advisory Committee.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

REPORT FROM THE SCOTTISH BIBLE SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVE

Revd. Mike Frew, reported to Presbytery on the work of the Scottish Bible Society, formerly the National Bible Society of Scotland. The change of name was intended to reflect a strengthening national self-consciousness as well as to bring the Scottish Society into closer alignment with sister Bible societies in other countries, which tend to be identified in this more direct way.

Mr. Frew also reported that the Society had a new Executive Director in Rev. Doug Campbell who was already bringing great enthusiasm and freshness of approach to the task.

Mr. Frew also commented on the June issue of "Word at Work" which had a special focus on Malawi and informed Presbytery that money raised in Scotland had been able to purchase three vehicles for Bible distribution in that country.

Finally, Mr. Frew reported on a change from the traditional Bible Sunday (second Sunday in Advent) to a Bible Week in October (this year 22nd to 28th October). The project for 2001, entitled "Bring the Bible Home", will promote knowledge of the Bible in Scotland and there are plans to replace the original Bibleworld exhibition with Bibleworld III. The Society suggests that local churches make members and communities more aware of the work of the Scottish Bible Society, in appropriate and imaginative ways, during the week leading up to Bible Sunday, 28th October. This would be an appropriate week for annual collections and guest speakers to be invited to midweek meetings and Sunday services.

The report was received.

REPORT OF THE WORLD MISSION COMMITTEE:

The Convener, Mrs. Ena Wilson, submitted the report of the World Mission Committee in which she intimated when the Mission Partner Elaine McKinnon would be home from Kenya and available for speaking engagements. The Convener then moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:—

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that Presbytery's Mission Partner, Miss Elaine McKinnon, will be within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery between 21st September and 1st October 2001.*

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved.

ADMINISTRATION OF "OATH DE FIDELI"

The Rev. Gavin Elliott, having been previously nominated by the Presbytery to succeed the Rev. Iain Cunningham as Presbytery Clerk upon his retirement, took the *oath de fidei*.

PRESENTATION TO RETIRING CLERK

The Depute Clerk, Rev. John M.A. Thomson, on behalf of the Presbytery, thanked the retiring Clerk, Rev. Iain Cunningham, for his service to the Presbytery, and presented him with a gift from the members of the Presbytery. In reply, Mr. Cunningham thanked the Presbytery not only for their generous gift but also for the great honour and privilege that had been given him of serving as Clerk to Lanark Presbytery.

NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEES MEETING:

It was noted that the following Presbytery Committees would meet on 28th August 2001.

**INTER CHURCH
WORLD MISSION
PROPERTY**

**CHURCH & COMMUNITY
PARISH EDUCATION
MINISTRY
STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE
SUPERINTENDENCE & RECORDS**

NEXT MEETING:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 4th September 2001 at 7.00 p.m. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark on Tuesday 10 July 2001 the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. John M A Thomson, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 6 Ministers and 13 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. David Carmichael, Rev. Bernard Lodge, Rev. Sheila Mitchell, Ministers, and from Mr Adam Foster, Mrs Janette Robertson and Mrs Ena Wilson, Elders.

The Moderator welcomed representatives from the congregations of Cairngryffe lw Symington and also extended a warm welcome to Mr Xola Mluma a divinity student from the Presbyterian Church of South Africa currently visiting Scotland for a short period of study sponsored by the Board of World Mission.

Vacancy at Cairngryffe linked with Symington

There were laid on the table an appointment to the church and parish of Cairngryffe linked with Symington in favour of Dr Graham Houston, the Call, his letter of acceptance thereof, and all necessary papers. Parties were called and heard. The interim Moderator the Revd Lawrie Lennox outlined the events that lead the vacancy committee to its choice of sole nominee and expressed appreciation for the work of Rev. Stephen Reid who had begun the process as interim moderator. Mr Ross Russell paid tribute to both ministers who had served as interim moderators and commended them for their guidance and diligence with regard to the vacancy. Mr Ewan Davidson spoke of the congregations' vision of the ministry of Dr Houston with tradition and change working hand in hand to build a caring fellowship where members can find a fulfilling sphere of service.

Parties were removed and Mrs Nan Mackie moved that the election of Dr Houston be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgement given.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance

Presbytery resolve to meet *in hunc effectum* at Cairngryffe Church for the purpose of inducing the Rev Dr Graham Houston to the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Symington on Thursday 9th August 2001 at a service of induction, the service to commence at 7.30pm, the Presbytery to meet at 7.15pm. the Rev Catherine Collins, Moderator to conduct the service and give the charges and the Rev. Margaret Muir to preach the sermon.

The deliverance was approved.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

At Carmichael at Cairngryffe Church on Thursday 9th August 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* to induct the Revd. Dr. Graham Houston to the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Symington. The meeting was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers and 15 Elders.

Associated with the Presbytery were Rev. Graham Leitch (Edinburgh Barclay) Rev. James Dewar (Edinburgh: Juniper Green) Irene Glass, Margaret Hagart and Chas Godon Elders (Edinburgh: Barclay)

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Melvyn Coogan, Rev. William Craig, Rev Beverly Gauld, Rev. Bernard Lodge, Rev. Robert McMahon, Rev. John Thomson, Rev. David Young, Ministers and Malcolm Barclay, George Buckley, Adam Foster, Margaret Filshie, Cath Steele and Ena Wilson, Elders.

Induction of the Revd. Graham Houston: The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life and doctrine of the Revd. Dr Graham Houston, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Worship was conducted by the Rev Margaret Muir. The Rev. Dr. Graham Houston after answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula was inducted to the charges of Cairngryffe and Symington by the Moderator who delivered charges to both minister and congregation. Dr Houston's name was added to the roll. Mr Frew expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator and to Miss Muir for their conduct of the service of induction.

Next Meeting. The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 4 September 2001 at 7.00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 4th September 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Catherine Collins, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 17 Ministers and 28 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig, Rev. Philip Jones, Rev David Young, Ministers, and from Mr. James Ferguson, Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston, and Mr. Robert Tweedie, Elders.

Tribute: Rev. David Kennedy:

The Moderator presented the following tribute to Rev David Kennedy

David and his twin brother, John, were born and brought up in Barrhead, near Glasgow. They both did well at school and went on to University, John becoming a doctor and David an Electrical Engineer. He soon found work designing physiotherapy equipment, but decided that he couldn't do the job properly without experience and so he did the Chartered Physiotherapy course and qualified as a physiotherapist. At the same time, David had a keen interest in the theatre and the arts. David was a pacifist, as were many of his friends at that time, and during the war they narrowly avoided being sent to prison, largely because of David's eloquence in arguing their case.

In the 1940's he met and married his first wife, Anne McKelvie. She was an invalid throughout their marriage, and David cared for her with great devotion. It was at this time that he felt a call to the ministry and in 1959 he was ordained and inducted to the High Kirk of Rothesay. David and Anne remained in Rothesay until 1967 when David was inducted to Langside Old Parish Church. .

Sadly, Anne died while they were at Langside, but they had made a pact that whoever died first would try to contact the other. David's experience in the months and years which followed lead to the publication of his book "A venture in Immortality". Although controversial, it generated a great deal of interest, and over the years it has proved a comfort to many bereaved people. Shortly after this book was published he met Shirley and they were married in January 1972 at Langside Old, moving to Lanark and Cairns Church a few months later.

David is still widely remembered for his preaching. Without a note in front of him, he held everyone spellbound. In his children's talks David liked to involve the children, and as a member of the Magic Circle, he often had them fascinated by his tricks. Sadly he suffered a serious stroke in June 1982 and retired early from Cairns a few months later. David seemed determined to keep going and to retain his strength of personality and character. There was often a twinkle in this eye as he talked about his life and his years in the ministry. His death has saddened everyone who knew him and he will be greatly missed in the town of Lanark.

It was moved and agreed to incorporate this tribute in the Minutes of Presbytery and to send a copy to Mrs Kennedy.

Welcome to new members: The Moderator warmly welcomed to the Presbytery Rev. Margaret Muir (Glencaple lw Lowther), Rev. Graham Houston (Cairngryffe lw Symington), Mrs Beatrice McClelland (Carstairs Junction) and Mr Tom McLaren (Forth)

Election and Installation of Moderator: The Moderator, Revd. Catherine Collins thanked the Presbytery for their support and encouragement during her time in office. Revd David Collins had been nominated to serve as Moderator for 2001-2002 and was unanimously elected. Mr Collins in taking the chair thanked Mrs Collins for the way in which she had served the Presbytery as Moderator.

Minutes: The Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Presbytery held on Thursday 3rd May 2001, the Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Presbytery held on 31st May 2001, the minutes of the *pro re nata* meeting of the Presbytery held on 31st May 2001, the Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 19th June 2001, the Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 10th July 2001 and the Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Presbytery held on Thursday 9th August 2001, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Presentation of Readers: The Convenor of the Ministry Committee, Rev. Catherine Collins presented Mr Alan Grant and offered apologies on behalf of Robert Allan, Sheilagh Kerr and Steven Marr. The Moderator spoke of the need to recognise the good work done by the Readers and of the value of having within the Presbytery well-trained readers who exercise such an important ministry within the church.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From The Board of Ministry Committee on Ministry Support 10 August 2001, approving stipend arrangements for Cairngryffe linked with Symington

From the General Trustees 26 July 2001, confirming agreement to make available a grant of up to £6000 to cover the cost of undertaking a Feasibility Study at the Church and Hall of Carnwath Congregation.

From the Board of Ministry 28 June 2001 stating that Trainee Ministers are not eligible to adopt the title “Rev” or to wear “dog-collars” until after ordination.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank: Rev. Steven Reid expressed his gratitude to the Presbytery for their recent support and prayers following the illness of his wife, Heather. The setting up of a praise group that is already involved in leading worship has given much encouragement to members. The Convenor of the Business Committee, Rev. Michael Frew, emphasised that the Good News need not be dramatic but could be news of progress or encouragement in some aspect of the life of a congregation.

The Report of the Business Committee:

The Convenor Rev. Michael Frew submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Appoint Miss Sheena Thomson as Convenor of World Mission for one year.*
3. *Appoint Rev. Catherine Collins to the membership of the Pastoral Advisory Group.*
4. *Thank the members of the Committee to Review the Presbytery for their work and discharge them.*
5. *Agree the membership of the committees subject to minor alterations which may be made after representations to the Clerk.*
6. *Thank Rev Jim Bain for his services as interim moderator of Carluke: St Andrew’s and discharge him.*
7. *Appoint Rev. Sheila Mitchell as Presbytery Representative on the Religious Broadcasting Advisory Committee to Radio Clyde.*
8. *Appoint Mrs. Margaret Filshie as Publicity Officer.*
9. *Request that members of General Assembly Committees inform the Clerk accordingly.*
10. *Note that the expense of sending a delegate to the Insurance Conference convened by the General Trustees will be met by the Presbytery.*
11. *Agree to purchase a copy of Ordinal 2001 for study by the worship committee.*
12. *Note that the Clerk’s email address is Lanark.Presbytery@dial.pipex.com*
13. *Approve the recommendations anent the General Assembly Remits to Presbyteries to the named committees, and remind members of Presbytery that other material contained in the booklet may be transmitted to Kirk Sessions and congregations as Presbytery members see fit.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

The Convenor Rev. John Thomson submitted the report of the Property Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Approve the application by Douglas: St Bride's to the General Trustees for grant assistance towards the cost of an intrusive survey of the church building.*
3. *Approve the purchase by the linked charges of Blackmount, linked with Culter, linked with Libberton and Quothquan, of the property at 1 Mid Road Biggar, to be the manse of the linked charges, at a cost of approximately £197,500; and instruct the officebearers to make provision for gardening services.*
4. *Reserve the right to consider which firm of architects it would advise the congregation of Carnwath to appoint to undertake the feasibility study of church and hall, and instruct the Presbytery Property Committee to consult with the General Trustees in this regard.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the World Mission Committee:

The Convenor Miss Sheena Thomson submitted the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that Rev Elaine McKinnon will be on deputation between 21st September and 1st October.*
3. *Note that Miss Christine Stone will be on deputation between 30th October and 5th November.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Church and Community Committee:

The Convenor, Mr John Strachan, submitted the report. Mr Strachan had attended a meeting of the Clydesdale Open Cast Action Group in June in Glespin Community Hall. This Group continues to campaign against the proposed developments at Broken Cross and Glentaggart. Their main objections are on health grounds, noise, dust pollution and the general environmental destruction of the area over the next decade. It is now confirmed that South Lanarkshire Council has given approval to Scottish Coal to proceed this year with the proposed developments. The best course of action was now to ensure that the development has a minimum effect on the community. South Lanarkshire Council, along with Scottish Coal, plans to set up local liaison groups. It is intended that these meetings be held every eight weeks and provide an opportunity to raise any matters of concern. The liaison group is to be made up of people living within a three kilometre radius of each of the developments together with other declared interested parties. It was also indicated that, as with the case of the Dalquandy Mine, a levy per ton of coal mined would be paid into a community fund.

The Clerk moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Instruct the Church and Community Committee to continue to monitor the situation with regard to the development of open cast mining in the area and to report.*

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

The Convenor, Rev Catherine Collins, submitted the Report of the Ministry Committee. The Presbytery Retreat held on 3rd September had been a most enjoyable event for those who attended. It was regrettable that so few took this opportunity for fellowship. A report had been submitted by Rev Gavin Elliott on a recent period of study leave. Ministers were reminded of the great opportunities that the Study Leave Scheme provides for them. The Convenor moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note stipend figures for 2002 laid on the table for approval at the October meeting of Presbytery.*
3. *Approve arrangements for a special open meeting to discuss the consultation paper "Tomorrow's Presbyteries" on Tuesday, 23rd October, in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Lanark, at 7.30pm.*

4. *Urge Kirk Sessions to publicise the consultation paper and send at least three congregational representatives to the special meeting.*

The Convener, together with those who were responsible for organising the Retreat, were thanked for their work in ensuring such an enjoyable and worthwhile day.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee:

The Convener, Mrs Moira White, submitted the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that the Board of Parish Education is appointing three regional Development Workers to resource opportunities for education within their individual area of Inverness, Tayside and Southern Scotland (includes Lanark Presbytery), and that our Convener of Parish Education was invited to join the interview panel of southern Scotland.*
3. *Note that there will be a Presbytery Child Protection Training Evening for voluntary workers in Forth St Paul's Church Hall on Thursday, 27 September, at 7.30pm.*
4. *Note that the annual Sunday School Teachers' Conference will be held in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Lanark, on Wednesday, 10 October, from 7.00pm to 9.30pm when the guest speaker will introduce the topic "Making and using Puppets with Children".*

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee:

The Convener, Rev Sheila Mitchell, submitted the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Receive the congregational allocations for 2001-2002 noting that appeals should be lodged with the Stewardship and Finance Convener by Monday, 22nd October 2001.*
3. *Note the forthcoming Stewardship and Finance Conference to be held in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Lanark, on Thursday, 8th November, at 7.30pm.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees' Meeting:

It was noted that the following Committees would meet:

**Inter Church
Property
World Mission**

**Church and Community
Ministry
Parish Education
Parish Mission
Superintendence and Records**

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday, 2 October 2001 at 7.00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 2nd October 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 18 Ministers and 32 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Helen Jamieson, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Steven Reid, Rev David Young and from Mr George Buckley, Mrs Cath Steele and Mr John Strachan, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 4th September 2001, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Mr Tom McLaren brought good news from the congregation of Forth St Paul's . The church hall has recently been refurbished, the work being done by members of the Board giving freely of their time and talents amounting to a saving of thousands of pounds. The Guild in the last five years has raised £25,000. Proceeds from a recent Harvest Service were given to Kirkhaven House. The congregation continues to seek ways to encourage more to join and feels the Church is an important part of life in the village.

Mr Johan Hamelink, speaking on behalf of Glencaple Church, brought news of progress made in obtaining land adjacent to the Church for the purpose of building hall premises. These facilities are intended for the use of the Sunday School, the Kirk Session and other groups. It is hoped that the project might be completed by October of next year. A recent request for Sunday School teachers was met by three new volunteers. The congregation is very appreciative of the work of their new minister, Rev Margaret Muir.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the Board of Ministry (Committee on Ministry Support) 23 August 2001 intimating that £1,000 had been added by the congregation of Cairngryffe to the consolidated Stipend Fund.

From the Board of Ministry (Committee on Vocational Guidance) 14 September 2001 presenting the applicants for Full-time, Auxiliary and Diaconal Ministry.

From the General Trustees 26 September 2001 authorising the sale of the Manse of the congregations of Culter and Libberton and Quothquan.

From the General Trustees 26 September 2001 authorising the sale of Dunsyre Church, the proceeds to be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the consolidated Fabric Fund.

From the General Trustees 27 September 2001 requesting confirmation that the Presbytery is agreeable in principle to the sale and replacement of the present Manse of Lesmahagow Old with Coalburn.

Call to Rev. L Lennox from the congregation of Cromar

The Clerk laid on the table an Extract Minute of the Presbytery of Kincardine and Deeside, a citation of the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside and a Call to Rev. Lawrie Lennox from the congregation of Cromar signed by 78 members and 11 adherents.

Dr. Sinclair Scott spoke on behalf of the congregation of Douglas: St Bride's and Mrs Janette Robertson spoke on behalf of the congregations of Douglas Water and Rigside. Both spoke warmly and appreciatively of Mr Lennox's ministry. Mr Lennox had been particularly attentive to working with schools and in the local community hospital and had been a very regular visitor to the homes of members. Tribute was paid to his involvement in the community and, in particular, in the development of the community hall at Douglas. Both wished Mr Lennox and his wife, Margaret, every success in their new charge.

On the question being put "translate or not translate", Rev. John Thomson moved Mr. Lennox's translation to Cromar. The motion was seconded by the Clerk, Rev. Gavin Elliott.

The Presbytery agreed to the translation.

In reply, Mr. Lennox thanked those who had spoken. He had learned much from the people to whom he had ministered and hoped to bring that rich experience to his new parish.

The Moderator presented the Call, which had been sent by the Presbytery of Kincardine and Deeside, to Mr. Lennox and wished him every blessing in his new charge.

The Clerk was instructed to send an Extract Minute to the Presbytery of Kincardine and Deeside.

Call to Rev. J Thomson from the congregation of Hamilton Old

The Clerk laid on the table an Extract Minute of the Presbytery of Hamilton confirming that the Presbytery had received a Call to Mr Thomson signed by 320 members and 2 adherents and that the Presbytery had agreed to sustain the Call. Mr David Adams spoke on behalf of the congregation of St Nicholas'. Tribute was paid to the quality of his preaching and conduct of public worship, his rapport with children and his involvement in the town. During his ministry at St Nicholas' links had also been forged with Romania and Russia and aid efforts supported. Rev Iain Cunningham moved Mr Thomson's translation to Hamilton Old and also paid tribute to the considerable contribution made by Mr Thomson to the work of the Presbytery as Depute Clerk and as Convener of a number of committees during his thirteen years as a member of the Presbytery. The motion was seconded by the Clerk, Rev Gavin Elliott.

The Presbytery agreed to the translation.

In reply Mr Thomson thanked those who had spoken and said how much he had enjoyed being a member of the Presbytery and spoke warmly of the support which he had received from ministers and elders alike.

The Clerk was instructed to send an Extract Minute to the Presbytery of Hamilton.

The Report of the Business Committee

The Convener, Rev Michael Frew, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the Report.*
2. *Appoint Rev Sheila Mitchell as Interim-Moderator in the vacancy at Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside.*
3. *Appoint Rev Stephen Pacitti as Interim-Moderator in the vacancy at Lanark: St Nicholas'.*
4. *Remit the matter of the vacancies at Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside and at Lanark: St Nicholas' to the Parish Reappraisal Committee.*
5. *Note the need for a new Property Committee Convener and invite suggestions from members of the Presbytery.*
6. *Note the appointment of Mrs Betty Smith as Vice-Convener of the Business Committee.*
7. *Note the publication of the Presbytery Year Book 2001-2002.*
8. *Resolve that the August committee meetings each year should be attended by prospective committee members.*
9. *Note that Rev Jim Bain and Mrs Betty Smith will attend a meeting between office-bearers at Kirkfieldbank and the General Trustees on 29th October.*
10. *Support the application by Miss Joanna Frew to the Board of National Mission Special Mission Trusts for grant assistance for her voluntary work with the Speak network in London.*
11. *Appoint Rev Michael Frew as Depute Clerk and remit to the Business Committee the matter of recommending an additional member of this committee to Presbytery.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Administration of "Oath de Fideli"

The Rev. Michael Frew, having been appointed by the Presbytery to succeed the Rev. John Thomson as Depute Clerk, took the *oath de fideli*.

The Report of Ministry Committee

The Convener, Rev Catherine Collins, submitted the Report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Approve stipend figures and bands as tabled and forward this decision to the Board of Ministry.*
3. *Approve Study Leave Proposals for Rev Iain D Cunningham, leave to be taken from 8th April to 17th June 2002.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

The Convener, Mrs Moira White, submitted the Report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance: -

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that Mr Harry Jamieson, Advisor in Children's Ministry, has indicated his intention to resign at the end of June 2002.*
3. *Instruct the Parish Education Committee to begin the process of appointing a successor to Mr Jamieson.*
4. *Note that the Parish Education Committee plan to develop proposals to appoint a Presbytery Youth Adviser and/or a Presbytery Adviser in Adult Learning.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of Property Committee

The Convener, Rev John Thomson, presented the Report and moved the following deliverance:-

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that a plan for the proposed hall at Glencaple Church has been received and that discussions are continuing with the General Trustees.*
3. *Note that Glencaple Church has received two estimates for the installation of a sound re-inforcing system with induction loop and that the Property Committee recommends acceptance of the quotation of £1,812 exclusive of VAT from Clyde Communications.*
4. *Note that the Kirk Session and Congregational Board of Law Parish Church have written to the General Trustees concerning the possible replacement of the Manse at Law and instruct the Kirk Session and Congregational Board of Law Parish Church to consult in the first instance with the Presbytery should they wish to proceed with consideration of this matter.*
5. *Note that the proposed purchase of 1 Mid Road, Biggar, as a manse for the linked charges of Blackmount, lw Culter, lw Libberton and Quothquan has fallen through; the vendors having accepted an offer substantially above the offer made by the church officebearers.*
6. *Approve the purchase of 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar, as a manse for the linked charges of Blackmount, lw Culter, lw Libberton and Quothquan, at a proposed price of £137,000, and inform the General Trustees and the Law Department of the Church of Scotland that Presbytery approves of offers of up to £145,000 being made.*
Items 5 and 6 were taken in private.
7. *Approve of the appointment of Stewart Tod and Partners to conduct the feasibility study on the Church and Halls at Carnwath Parish Church and commend Mrs Linda Fisher and the Congregational Board for their sense of commitment and their approach to the feasibility study.*
8. *Approve in principle the sale of the manse of Lesmahagow Old lw Coalburn and the purchase of a new manse.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Convener, Rev James Bain, presented the Report and moved the following deliverance:-

Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note that the Quinquennial Visits scheduled for this Presbytery Year will be Cairngryffe lw Symington, Glencaple lw Lowther and Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank and that these will take place by arrangement between January and June 2002.*

3. *Note the deliverance of the Board of Practice and Procedure: “resolve that meetings of Kirk Sessions shall normally be held in public, with pastoral or disciplinary items taken in private by resolution of the Kirk Session, which shall consider the rights of privacy and freedom of information to which any individual is entitled” which was agreed by the General Assembly in May 2001 and inform all Kirk Sessions accordingly.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Report of the World Mission Committee

The Convener, Mrs Sheena Thomson, presented the Report and moved the following deliverance:-
Presbytery:-

1. *Receive the report.*
2. *Note the World Mission Rally is on Wednesday, 14th November, in St Nicholas’ Church Hall at 7.30pm.*
3. *Encourage members to report to congregations our concerns for Christian workers in Afghanistan.*
4. *Encourage members to report to congregations the importance of supporting the work in HIV/Aids pandemic.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Current crisis in response to terrorism

Rev Beverly Gauld moved the following deliverance:-

Presbytery commends to the prayers of the people in our Churches all who are involved in any way in the current crisis centred on Afghanistan.

The deliverance was seconded by Rev John Thomson.

The deliverance was approved..

Notification of Committees’ Meeting:

It was noted that the following Committees would meet:

**Inter Church
Parish Re-appraisal
Property
World Mission
Worship**

**Ministry
Parish Education
Parish Mission
Stewardship & Finance
Superintendence & Records**

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas’ Church Hall on Tuesday, 6th November 2001, at 7.00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 6th November 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. David Carmichael, Rev Michael Frew, Rev Philip Jones, Rev William McCormick, Rev Robert McMahon, ministers, Mr Archie Clerk, Mr James Ferguson, and Mrs Nan Mackie, elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 2nd October 2001, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Mr Robert Tweedie brought good news from the congregation of Douglas: St Bride's. The Ways and Means Committee ran a most enjoyable 'Mr and Mrs' evening which raised £200 and other fund raising events are planned. A number of members travelled to Cromar for the induction of Rev. Lawrie Lennox and received a warm welcome by the congregation there. Tribute was paid to Tom Smith, an elder, at St Bride's who had an accident at work and spent many weeks in hospital. Tom led worship recently at St Bride's and spoke of what faith and prayer had meant to him during this time.

Mrs Janette Robertson, on behalf of Douglas Water and Rigside, also spoke of the welcome they had received at Cromar. A new treasurer has been appointed. Mrs Robertson was delighted to report that congregational giving had risen by 13% all under deed of covenant.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the Board of National Mission 24th October 2001 intimating that support and training of Mission Support Persons is to be withdrawn from 31st December 2001 to allow for the development of a new model.

From the Presbytery of Hamilton 26th October 2001 intimating that the induction of Rev John Thomson to the charge of Hamilton Old took place on 25th October 2001.

The Report of the Business Committee

The Convener, Rev Michael Frew, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the Report.*
2. *Appoint Rev David Collins as Convener of the Property Committee*
3. *Appoint Rev Catherine Collins to the membership of the Business Committee.*
4. *Agree that Rev Gavin Elliott and Rev Michael Frew replace Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev John Thomson as signatories for all relevant Presbytery financial accounts.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Ministry Committee

The Convener, Rev Catherine Collins, submitted the report of the Ministry Committee. The Consultation on Presbytery Boundaries held on 23rd October had been well attended and following a presentation of the proposals there had been lively discussion and debate. The Convener moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Recognise the need for change but does not believe that the proposals outlined in the report 'Tomorrow's Presbyteries' will enhance the mission and growth of the Church.*
3. *Thank Mr Michael Chad for his assistance in acting as facilitator*

4. *Instruct the Clerk to forward the Deliverance and the Report of the Presbytery's Consultation meeting on 23rd October to the Board of Practice and Procedure*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee

The Convener, Mr Forbes, submitted the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Resolve that, with the translation of Rev Lawrie Lennox, the question of readjustment should not be pursued and the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water and Rigside be allowed to call a minister without restriction. This to be subject to the concurrence of the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee.*
3. *Resolve that, with the translation of Rev John Thomson, the question of readjustment should not be pursued and the congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas' be allowed to call a minister without restriction. This to be subject to the concurrence of the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee.*
4. *Instruct the Clerk to notify the Board of Ministry and the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee accordingly.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Convener, Rev Sheila Mitchell, submitted the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note the forthcoming Stewardship Conference and encourage members to attend*
3. *Approve the Mission and Aid Allocations for 2002*
4. *Note the assistance offered by Mr Young to congregational treasurers*
5. *Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2002*
6. *Approve the levy of one pound per member for 2002*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Accounts Inspection Committee

The Convener, Mr Colin Young, submitted the report of the Accounts Inspection Committee and the Clerk moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that all congregational accounts for 2000 have been examined and attest that they comply in all material respects with the General Assembly's Regulations anent Congregational Finance except for four congregations which do not fully comply and where assistance has been offered to ensure compliance.*
3. *Instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the Board of Stewardship and Finance.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

The Convener, Rev Steven Reid, submitted the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Thank the Hospital Chaplains, commending them for their work in the past year*
3. *Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the report dealing with the Chaplains along with the Chaplains' annual reports to the Department of National Mission.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Property Committee

The report of the Property Committee was submitted by Rev James Bain who also moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve the application of the congregation of Kirkmuirhill to the General Trustees for Grant and Loan Assistance for the repair and renovation of their church; instruct the clerk to sign the necessary papers and send an extract of this Deliverance to the General Trustees*
3. *Approve the work to be carried out to the roof of Douglas: St Bride's church at an estimated cost of £9223.75, and that the congregation apply to the General Trustees for Grant and Loan Assistance for the repairs to the roof of the church; instruct the Clerk to sign the necessary papers and send an extract minute of this deliverance to the General Trustees*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Convener, Rev James Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Superintendence and Records Committee will send a special Committee to visit the congregations of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the World Mission Committee

The Convener, Miss Sheena Thompson submitted the report of the World Mission Committee. The tragedy of 11th September made it unsafe for our Mission Partners to remain in Pakistan, where in the Peshawar district on the Afghan border the situation deteriorated very quickly. Christians have been attacked and killed in this district. Our missionaries are faced with questions raised by the apparent double standards which seem to prevail in international relations – the aggression of some nations is condemned and punished while others are permitted to carry out violent campaigns with impunity. Miss Thomson moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Remember in our prayers the Christian minority in Pakistan*
3. *Remember in our prayers victims of violence throughout the world*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

The Convener, Mrs Moira White, submitted the report and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Resolve to nominate two delegates to the National Youth Assembly to be held in Glasgow from 30th August to 2nd September 2002 and invite congregations to submit the names of potential delegates to the Convener by 27th November 2001*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Worship Committee

The report of the Worship Committee was submitted by Rev Catherine Collins who also moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that any response to the New Hymn Book project should be sent to the Convener by 25th November 2001*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Guild Report

Miss Sheena Thomson reported that the Guild has established an Initiative Fund to help fund projects supported by the Guild at a local level. To obtain a grant the Guild Secretary should contact the Guild Office with an outline of the project and what the grant would be used for. The next meeting of the Committee dealing with the Fund is to be held at the end of January 2002.

Lesmahagow Old and Coalburn: Joint Service

Presbytery agreed that the congregations of Lesmahagow Old and Coalburn be permitted to hold a joint service on Sunday 9th of December 2001 at Lesmahagow. This service is to be televised by STV.

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

**Church and Community
Ministry
Property
Worship**

**Inter Church
Parish Education
Superintendence and Records**

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 4th December 2001 at 7.00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 4th December 2001, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev Catherine Collins, Rev Beverley Gauld, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Margaret Muir, Rev David young, ministers, and from Mr Archie Clark, Mr Adam Foster, Mr Johan Hamelink, Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston and Mr Thomas McLaren, elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 6th November 2001, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Kirkfieldbank

Mr John Ferguson brought good news of Kirkfieldbank. An organ had recently been donated which is a welcome replacement for the previous instrument that could not be repaired. Each Friday evening more than fifty young people come to the J Club. Part of the evening is allocated to hearing the word of God. This is also having a positive effect on Sunday School attendance. The congregation has been pursuing ways to enable them to pay for extensive repairs to the church building and at the present time the fundraising appears positive.

Kirkmuirhill

News of Kirkmuirhill was presented by George Buckley who highlighted three areas of outreach, the work of the Second Chance Shop, Puppet Ministries and the Early Morning Prayer Meeting. The work of the Second Chance Shop goes from strength to strength and as a result substantial donations had been made possible to Chernobyl Children's Life Line, Tear Fund Indian Appeal, Leprosy Mission and the Angel Tree Project Prison Fellowship. A Puppet Ministries Team has been developed which at present has seven members and it has been decided to merge this group with the music group to form 'Vision and Reach' with a view to continuing and expanding their programme. In response to a challenge from two missionaries, one from Finland and the other from Korea an Early Morning Prayer group was begun. It starts at six am! The congregation is blessed by the continuing ministry of Rev David Young and feels that an appropriate motto for them would be 'Standing firm but not standing still.'

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the Board of Ministry (Committee on Ministry Finance Implementation) 10th November 2001 intimating that the returns on stipend were on scale or moving towards scale.

From the Board of Ministry 15th November 2001 requesting that consideration be given to students in training with regard to pulpit supply.

From the Board of Ministry 19 November 2001 regarding candidates for the Auxiliary Ministry

From the General Trustees 22 November 2001 authorizing the sale of Lesmahagow Old Manse

From Parish Reappraisal 23 November 2001 concurring that the question of readjustment should not be pursued at Lanark: St Nicholas, and concurring that the question of readjustment should not be pursued at Douglas: St Bride's lw Douglas Water and Rigside.

Middle East Reflection

Rev Michael Frew offered some reflections on the Middle East situation, in the light of his recent participation in the Biblical Bike Ride for the Nazareth Hospital. He informed members of the difficulties faced by the indigenous Christian community. He also spoke of the healing and reconciling work of the Hospital, and of the witness of the Nazareth Village Project.

The Report of the Business Committee

The Convener, Rev Michael Frew, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Appoint an advisory committee consisting of Rev Iain Cunningham (Convener), Mr Malcolm Barclay and Mrs Betty Smith to visit Lanark: St Nicholas*
3. *Appoint an advisory Committee consisting of Rev Dr Graham Houston (Convener), Mrs Margaret Filshie and Mrs Nan Mackie to visit Douglas: St Brides lw Douglas Water and Rigside*
4. *Congratulate Rev Catherine Collins on attaining the advanced diploma in counselling*
5. *Congratulate Rev Michael Frew on Completing his third Nazareth Bike Ride*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Worship Committee

The Convener, Mrs Margaret Filshie submitted the report of the Worship Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Approve the Overture anent Act V 1984 25 (3)*

There voted for the Overture 41 and against none

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Convener, Rev Sheila Mitchell, submitted the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that in the future travelling expenses for ministers will be paid at 40 pence per mile for the first 10,000 miles*
3. *Note the ongoing work of the Board of Stewardship and Finance in relation to the proposed changes to the method of Mission and Aid Allocation.*
4. *Approve the transfer of £50,000 from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to the Consolidated Stipend Fund of Cairngryffe Parish Church, and instruct the Clerk to send to the General Trustees an extract minute of the same.*
5. *Thank the committee for organising the recent stewardship meeting which was very helpful to all present*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Ministry Committee

On behalf of the Convener, Rev Catherine Collins, the Clerk submitted the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Encourage ministers to forward statistics regarding funerals conducted during 2001 to the Convener by 31st January*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Property Committee

The Vice Convener, Mr Robert Tweedie, submitted the report and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the feasibility study on Carnwath Church and Halls is currently being undertaken by Mr Roger Taylor of Stewart Todd and Partners, Architects*
3. *Note that a new church floor has recently been completed at Auchengray at a cost of around £8,500 and that £7,638 of this has been covered by a grant from South Lanarkshire Rural Community Trust, with the remainder coming from Auchengray Fabric and Flower Funds*
4. *Note that the Artistic Matters Committee has commissioned and received a report on Auchengray Church which, among other things, recommends the demolition and replacement of the current kitchen and toilets, and the replacement of pews with stacking chairs, and the pulpit with a lectern*
5. *Grant permission to Biggar Kirk to proceed with the provision of cupboards in the North Transept at a cost of £8750 excluding VAT subject to final approval by the Committee on Artistic Matters*
6. *Note that the committee is planning a Property Conference on Thursday 21st March 2002*
7. *Note that the Committee has appointed Mr Robert Tweedie as Vice Convener*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

The Convener, Mrs Moira White submitted the report and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Note that the Year of the Child was adopted by the General Assembly in May 2001 and will run from Advent 2001 to Christmas 2002*
3. *Urge congregations to use the Year of the Child Vision Statement workbook and video to revisit their children's ministry and consider whether it could be improved or built upon*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Parish Mission

Rev Steven Reid brought to the attention of the Presbytery the proposed changes to vacancy procedures which had been presented for discussion by National Mission to the Assembly in May. These proposals suggest a system of fast tracking vacancies in line with an Agreed Five Year Plan and also recommend a review of the current processes in Presbyteries in order to prevent undue delay in decision making. It is also suggested that the term 'Vacancy Committee' might be replaced by the term 'Search Committee which might more accurately reflect the task of the committee. The detail of these proposals is contained in the Remits (p16/17) Members of Presbytery are invited to make comments or suggestions in response to these proposals and asked to send them to Rev Steven Reid or Mr George Buckley before the end of December.

Law Parish Church: Presbytery Monitoring Committee

The Convener Rev Sheila Mitchell presented the report and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. *Receive the report*
2. *Instruct the Committee on Parish Reappraisal to address the question of the future status of Law Parish Church*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Overture anent admission and readmission of Ministers

The Depute Clerk, Rev Michael Frew, introduced this matter.

There voted for the overture 40 and against none

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 5th February 2002 at 7.00pm.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 5th February 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 16 Ministers and 22 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig, minister, Lance Armstrong, Betty Smith, Cath Steele and Isobel Taylor, elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 4th December 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Ian Ivison reported on the 'Good News' from Lanark: Greyfriars. There has been an increase of interest in the church by young teenagers. There are plans to re-establish the Young Woman's Group. With regard to building improvements, new toilets had been completed including a facility for disabled people.

John Strachan reported on the 'Good News' from Lanark: St Nicholas'. He highlighted the Church magazine which was produced at no cost to the congregation and was a most useful tool in promoting the work of the congregation. The 'Saturday Morning Teas' continued to provide much needed funds and also was an important social activity for many members. The congregation has given much material support to a number of situations overseas and has provided grant aid for a medical student in Nepal.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the General Trustees 21 December 2001 intimating with regard to the congregation of Cairngryffe that the sum of £50,000 would be transferred from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to the Consolidated Stipend Fund.

The Report of the Business Committee

The Convener, Rev Michael Frew, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that most Annual Statistics and Financial Schedules have been received by the Clerk, and urge those congregations which have yet to do so to return these forms as soon as possible
3. Note the new Presbytery e-mail address: lanarkpresbytery@uk.uumail.com
4. Note the new address of the manse of Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton and Quothquan, which is: 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar, ML12 6DG (phone number unchanged)
5. Welcome the Rev. Jack Stewart into the membership of Lanark Presbytery
6. Receive with regret the letter of resignation from Mr Archie Clerk, and thank him for his service to the Presbytery
7. Resolve to issue a Ministerial Certificate to Rev. Donald Scott
8. Note the letter from Rev. Sheila Mitchell regarding her appointment as full-time hospital chaplain and chaplaincy co-ordinator at Ailsa Hospital, Ayr, and her demission from her charge
9. Remit the matter of the impending vacancy at Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old to the Reappraisal Committee
10. Appoint Rev. Catherine Collins and Rev. Mike Frew to confer with Rev. Mitchell and report to Presbytery
11. Appoint Rev. Graham as Convener of the Stewardship and Finance Committee
12. Appoint Rev. Margaret Muir as interim-moderator at Douglas: St Bride's lw Douglas Water and Rigside with immediate effect
13. Invite any member of Presbytery who may be interested in the post of Radio Clyde Representative to inform the Clerk or Business Committee Convener

14. Appoint Rev Iain Cunningham as Lanark Presbytery's link person regarding the Stakeholders' Conference in 2005 to monitor the progress of the *Church without Walls* initiative
15. Agree the revised rota system of commissions to the General Assembly
16. Remit to the Business Committee, upon receipt of proposed Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2002, to nominate one minister and one elder from each relevant charge for approval at the March meeting of Presbytery

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Vice-Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson, submitted the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Note the arrangement for the inspection of records as follows:
 - (a) Records brought on Committee Night – Tuesday, 26th February
 - (b) Inspection on Thursday, 28th February from 9.30am in St Nicholas' Church Halls
 - (c) Returned at Presbytery Meeting on Tuesday, 5th March

Records to be produced: Kirk Session Minutes (indicating appointment of Presbytery Elder, attestation of the roll, appointment of Child Protection Co-ordinator), minutes of the Financial Court, Baptismal Register, Congregational Roll, Property Register, set of Audited Accounts.

It would be a great help if Records were brought in a box clearly marked with the name of the Congregation(s)

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Ministry Committee

The Convener, Rev Catherine Collins submitted the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the application for Study Leave by Rev Gavin Elliott
3. Urge members of Presbytery to read 'Tomorrow's Presbyteries: A second consultation Paper' and to send any comments to the Principal Clerk as soon as possible
4. Reaffirm its previous conclusions regarding the report 'Tomorrow's Presbyteries' and regret the short timescale offered for discussion of the second consultative paper

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Interchurch Committee

Mrs Janette Robertson submitted the report of the Interchurch Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage congregations which have existing links to inform Presbytery of their ventures with a view to encouraging other congregations to attend
3. Encourage Presbytery Elders to visit other churches where possible

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Property Committee

Mr Robert Tweedie submitted the report of the Property Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note with great regret that the report of the provisional findings of the feasibility study on Carnwath Church and Halls is highly unsatisfactory and instruct the Convener to write to the General Trustees expressing our concern
3. Grant permission to the Congregational Board of Carnwath Parish Church to proceed with the next stage in the refurbishment of Auchengray Church and Vestry and note than an application to the South Lanarkshire Rural Communities Trust to cover the cost of £8405

(inclusive of VAT) has been approved in principle, with further work to the value of c. £3350 to be carried out free of charge by volunteers

4. Grant approval in principle for the proposed sale by the congregation of Glencaple of part of Wiston Glebe for housing
5. Note that the officebearers of Law Parish Church wish to sell their current manse and replace it with a more modern one, but defer any decision until the future of Law Parish Church has been agreed by the Presbytery and the General Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee
6. Note the proposed Schedule of Property Inspections for 2002/2003:

2002	2003
Glencaple and Lowther	Law
Cairngryffe and Symington	Carluke: St John's
Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen	Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
Kirkmuirhill	
7. Note that the Presbytery Property Conveners' Conference will take place in Kirkton Church, Carluke, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on Thursday 21st March 2002

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee

The Convener, Mr George Forbes, submitted the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that representatives of the Parish Reappraisal Committee intend to arrange an early meeting with officebearers at Law to discuss the future of Law Parish Church and that a full report will be presented to the March meeting of Presbytery

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

The Convener, Mrs Moira White submitted the report and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that there will be a Child Protection Training Course for voluntary workers in St Nicholas' Church Hall at 7pm on Monday, 25th February 2002
3. Note that Presbytery has an obligation to monitor and maintain good practice in Child Protection matters within congregations
4. Presbytery agree to appoint a Youth Representative to the General Assembly 2002 and invite names to be submitted to the Convener
5. Note with regret that Parish Education Children's and Youth Services Committee propose to disband the Adviserate in its present form
6. Recognising the need to continue and develop the work of Children's Ministry, approve in principle the establishment of a new voluntary post of Children's Ministry Co-ordinator
7. Instruct the Committee to prepare a budget for the post of Children's Ministry Co-ordinator

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

The Convener, Mr John Strachan, submitted the report of the Church and Community Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that a working party set up by the Church and Nation Committee will report to the 2002 General Assembly on the implications to the rural community of Foot and Mouth Disease
3. Note the Maranatha Community Report on the dangers of Cannabis use and instruct the Committee to bring a full report to the Presbytery on the issues involved
4. Note that the Broken Cross Rigside Open Cast Mining Liaison Group meetings are still being attended on behalf of Presbytery and encourage the reporting of poor road

conditions, lorry speeding, and concerns about convoys to South Lanarkshire Council, Scottish Coal or to the police

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

**Church and Community
Ministry
Property
Parish Reappraisal**

**Parish Mission
Parish Education
Superintendence and Records
Stewardship and Finance**

AOCB

Parish Mission

It was agreed to purchase copies of the report 'Church without Walls' for members of the Parish Mission Committee to facilitate further study of the issues involved.

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Tuesday, 5th March 2002 at 7.00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 5th March 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. David Carmichael, Rev. Melvyn Coogan, Rev. William Craig, Rev. Iain Cunningham, Rev. Philip Jones, Rev. Bernard Lodge, and Rev. Robert McMahon, ministers, and Mr Hamish Paterson, elder.

Welcome: The Moderator, Rev David Collins, welcomed members of the congregations of Law, Lesmahagow: Old and Coalburn who had been cited for their interest to attend the meeting. A warm welcome was also extended to Rev. Abraham Kovacs, a minister of the Hungarian Reformed Church, at present studying for a PhD in Edinburgh. Rev. Kovacs also conveyed the greetings of the Hungarian Reformed Church to the members of the Presbytery.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday, 5th February 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Mr Adam Foster presented 'Good News' from Libberton & Quothquan. Although small in number there is a faithful regular attendance of up to thirty members each week. A Newsletter is delivered to every home in the parish four times a year. Joint services with Blackmount and Culter that take place once a quarter are well received. The question of the manse has now been settled following the purchase of a suitable property in Biggar. The congregation very much appreciates the leadership and preaching of their minister. Plans are underway to replace the harmonium with a new electronic organ.

Mr Alexander McPhee presented 'Good News' from Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen. The congregation was greatly encouraged by recent celebrations of the sacrament of Baptism at which couples who had come to faith in the church brought their children to be received into the family of God. Some fifty young people were due to go off for a weekend of teaching, fun and fellowship. At a time when young people so often hit the headlines for all the wrong reasons the congregation gives thanks that so many young people are prepared to come together to share and to learn.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the General Trustees, 19th February 2002, intimating approval of the sale of part of Wiston Glebe

From the Board of Ministry, 20th February 2002, extract minute intimating the following endowments:

Lanark: St Nicholas'	Congregation Endowment: £1,428
Douglas: St Bride's	Glebe Rent: £1,224, Congregation Endowment: £1,623
	Other Endowment: £374
Douglas Water and Rigside	Congregation Endowment: £719

From the Board of Ministry 8th February 2002, with regard to Petitions for Admission to the Ministry of the Church of Scotland: for comment

Demission: Rev Sheila Mitchell

Rev Sheila Mitchell having informed the Presbytery of her desire to demit her charge in order to take up the appointment of full time hospital chaplain and chaplaincy co-ordinator at Ailsa Hospital, Ayr, was visited on behalf of Presbytery by Rev Michael Frew and Rev Catherine Collins.

Mr. Joseph Cameron spoke on behalf of the congregation of Coalburn. Sheila became the minister of Coalburn on 1st July 1998 following a deferred linking with Lesmahagow: Old. She had worked with great dedication to bring the linked charges to work together in a spirit of harmony and friendship. In Sheila faith was a tangible thing. Coalburn will miss her greatly as she has brought joy and fun into the church but the members wish her well as she takes up her new position.

John Veitch spoke on behalf of the congregation of Lesmahagow Old. He paid tribute to a ministry that had been marked by challenge and change, liturgical and physical, for the members of the church. Under her guidance a new suite of halls had been created which were dedicated in March 1998. Sheila's interest in music had not only been reflected in the worship but in the number and variety of musical events held at Lesmahagow Old in the course of her ministry there. Six years was not long enough but Sheila has presented the congregation with a challenge for the future and the members of Lesmahagow Old wish her every blessing in her future ministry as a hospital chaplain.

On behalf of the Presbytery, Rev Catherine Collins expressed appreciation for her commitment and faithfulness to the work of the Presbytery. Sheila had served as Convener of Interchurch and Stewardship and had been supportive to her colleagues who have appreciated her contribution and will miss her. Mrs. Collins expressed the good wishes of the Presbytery and moved that Presbytery accept the demission of Rev Mitchell. This was seconded by the Clerk.

Presbytery accepted the demission

Rev. Mitchell thanked the members of the Presbytery for their support and spoke of her experience within the Presbytery of Lanark as an enjoyable and enriching time. She was leaving friends and taking with her many happy memories.

The Report of the Business Committee

The Convener, Rev Michael Frew, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Rev Sheila Mitchell's induction to her new post will take place at a service in Ailsa Hospital, Ayr, at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 19th March 2002, Presbytery to meet at 6.45pm
3. Appoint Rev Michael Frew as interim- moderator in the vacancy at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old
4. Homologate the decision of the Presbytery Clerk to appoint Rev David Young as interim-moderator at Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction, and appoint Rev Beverly Gauld to this post from 21st March, 2002, for the period of the minister's absence on sick leave
5. Appoint Ms Karen Muir, of the congregation of Lesmahagow: Old, to the post of Radio Clyde Representative, and further appoint her as a corresponding member of Presbytery
6. Approve the following as Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2002: Rev Melvyn Coogan and Mr James Hardie, (Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction), Rev Steven Reid and Mr James Ferguson, (Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank), Rev Michael Frew and Mr James McLaren, (Carluke: St John's), Rev Margaret Muir and Mrs Moira White, (Glencaple lw Lowther), Rev Catherine Collins and Mrs Nan Mackie, (spare places)

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

Mrs Joyce Munro reported on the most recent meeting of the Board of Social Responsibility. With regard to the question of funding for care homes it was emphasised that there are no plans for immediate closure of any of the church's homes. An information pack on HIV/AIDS has been sent to all ministers. This most helpful pack is commended for study by ministers and congregations.

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Convener, Rev James Bain, submitted the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Annual Inspection of Records took place on Thursday, 28th February 2002 and that all Records were found to be in good order.

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Ministry Committee

The Convener, Rev Catherine Collins submitted the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note Study Leave Agreement signed by all relevant parties with regard to the Study Leave planned by Rev Iain Cunningham
3. Approve Rev Susan Cowell as Locum for Carluke: Kirkton from 15th April to 24th June 2002
4. Instruct the Clerk to send the Copy of Agreement for Study Leave and the extract minute naming the Locum and the period covered to the Board of Ministry
5. Approve the vacancy schedule for Douglas: St Bride's lw Douglas Water and Rigside

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee

The Convener, Mr George Forbes, submitted the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Resolve that, at the end of the Interim Ministry at Law Parish Church, the congregation be allowed to call a full-time minister under Reviewable Tenure with the review to be carried out five years from the induction of the minister. This to be subject to the concurrence of the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee
3. Resolve that, with the demission of the Rev Sheila Mitchell from the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old, the question of readjustment be not pursued and that the congregations of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old be allowed to call a minister without restriction. This to be subject to the concurrence of the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee
4. Instruct the Clerk to notify the Board of Ministry and the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee accordingly

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

The Convener, Mrs Moira White submitted the report and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Board of Parish Education has not accepted the proposal to disband the Adviserate and the Committee is therefore advertising for an Adviser in Children's Ministry.

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry

Property

Stewardship and Finance

Parish Education

Superintendence and Records

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Tuesday, 2nd April 2002 at 7.00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 2nd April 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book, in all 7 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Catherine Collins, Rev. Melvyn Coogan, Rev Susan Cowell, Rev. William Craig, Rev Michael Frew, Rev Beverly Gauld, Rev. Graham Houston, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Bernard Lodge, Rev Stephen Pacitti, Rev Steven Reid, Rev Jack Stewart, ministers, and Mr George Buckley, Mr Ian Ivison, elders.

Welcome: The Moderator, Rev David Collins, welcomed members of the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside who had been cited for their interest to attend the meeting.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday, 5th March 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Mrs Ellen Young presented 'Good News' from Law. There have been a number of successful fundraising activities to provide for a loop system and disabled access for the church. The Advent Flower Festival exceeded all expectations and in March a Stewardship Meal was held. The youth fellowship caters for around thirty teenagers the majority of whom have never had any church connection but they listen attentively when the Christian message is given to them. The Guild has started a monthly coffee morning which has proved successful both in terms of finance for the church and in the fellowship which people are enjoying. Eleven new elders have been ordained and the sense of fellowship in the church is strong with more people becoming involved. The congregation is delighted to learn that permission has been given to call a minister on reviewable tenure.

Mrs Cath Steele presented 'Good News' from Lesmahagow: Old. Last year a decision was taken to launch a Stewardship Campaign. Edith Scott from the Stewardship Consultancy Committee provided invaluable assistance and the campaign was completed just before Advent. Positive results from this effort are now being seen in both financial and practical terms. Two services from Lesmahagow were broadcast during Lent this year although they had been recorded during Advent! The worship committee has been very active in arranging special services and Ecumenical Worship is an important part of the life of the congregation. The congregation were shocked to learn that Sheila would be leaving. The best tribute which would be paid to her work and commitment would be to ensure that the church and congregational life goes forward from strength to strength.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the Board of Communication, 7 March 2002 requesting notification of changes for the next edition of the Church of Scotland Yearbook

From the Board of Ministry, 11 March 2002, with regard to an additional Petition for Admission to the Ministry of the Church of Scotland: for comment

From the National Archives of Scotland, 15 March 2002 detailing the records held of the Presbytery of Lanark and the former Presbytery of Biggar by National Archives

From National Mission, Parish Reappraisal Committee, 20 March 2002, intimating the concurrence of the committee with the decision of the Presbytery with regard to the congregation of Law

From National Mission, Parish Reappraisal Committee, 20 March 2002, intimating that in the vacancy at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old it was resolved to defer consideration of the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark until a completed Reappraisal Congregational Survey form had been received from Lesmahagow: Old

From the Presbytery of Ayr, 20 March 2002, intimating that Rev Sheila Mitchell was introduced to the post of full-time Chaplain to the Ayrshire and Arran Primary Care NHS Trust on 19th March

Call to Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside of Rev Bryan Kerr

The congregations of Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside having been cited to appear in their interests, the Clerk laid on the Table the relevant papers, including a call signed by 163 members, with 9 concurrences, relative to the election of Mr Bryan Kerr. Parties were called and the Interim-Moderator, Rev. Margaret Muir, outlined the proceedings in the vacancy. Miss Muir expressed thanks to Rev Sheila Mitchell for her role as Interim-Moderator at the start of the vacancy and to the officebearers of the congregations for their diligence. Mr Robert Wilson speaking on behalf of the congregation of Douglas: St Bride's said that the congregation was eager to welcome their new minister. It had been many years since there had been a young minister at Douglas. It was their fervent hope that he will be able to work with them to extend the work in the Douglas valley and to rekindle the faith of many. Mrs Janette Robertson on behalf of the congregation of Douglas Water and Rigside said that those who had heard the Rev. Bryan Kerr preach had been impressed by his reverence, sincerity and forthright language. They were looking forward to the start of his ministry there and hoped that it would be long and fruitful and that God would sustain him in the spreading of the gospel in the parishes to which he has been called. Parties were removed and Rev. Margaret Muir moved that the election of Mr Bryan Kerr be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgement given.

The Report of the Business Committee

The Vice-Convener, Mrs Betty Smith, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Resolve to meet at Douglas: St Bride's Church to ordain and induct Rev Bryan Kerr to the charge of Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside on Thursday 25th April 2002, the service to commence at 7:30pm, the Presbytery to meet at 7:15pm; Rev David Collins, Moderator, to preside and to give the charges, Rev Dr Graham Houston to lead the first part of the service and to preach the sermon
3. Appoint Rev Bernard Lodge as interim-moderator in the vacancy at Law
4. Appoint Rev Helen Jamieson (Convener), Rev Jim Bain, Mr Malcolm Barclay and Mr James McLaren as the Advisory Committee in the vacancy at Law
5. Agree to the appointment of Rev Jack Stewart as locum at Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old from 1st May 2002, on the basis of two days per week plus Sunday services.
6. Note that the telephone number of Rev Jack Stewart is: 01899 220398
7. Agree to the installation of a dedicated Presbytery telephone line at the manse in Biggar
8. Invite ministerial members of the Presbytery to check their details in the current Church of Scotland Year book and inform the Clerk of any changes

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Mr Colin Young, presented the report and the Clerk moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2001 and instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the accounts to the Board of Stewardship and Finance
3. Thank Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isabel Lawrie for their work as auditors
4. Thank the treasurer for his work during the year

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community
Parish Education
Property
World Mission

Ministry
Parish Mission
Superintendence and Records

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet *in hunc effectum* at Douglas: St Bride's Church on Thursday 25th April 2002 at 7:15pm and for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 7th May 2002 at 7:00pm The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

At Douglas at Douglas: St Bride's Church on Thursday 25th April 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* to ordain the Rev. Bryan Kerr and to induct him to the charge of Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigsid. The meeting was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers and 17 Elders and associated with them nine ministers and four elders

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Melvyn Coogan, and Rev. Iain Cunningham, Ministers and Mr I Ivison, Mrs Betty Smith and Mrs Cath Steele, Elders.

Induction of the Rev. Bryan Kerr: The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life and doctrine of the Revd. Bryan Kerr, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Worship was conducted by the Rev Dr Graham Houston. The Rev. Bryan Kerr, after answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula, was ordained and inducted to the charges of Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigsid by the Moderator who delivered charges to both minister and congregation. Mr Kerr's name was added to the roll. Mr Frew expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator and to Dr Houston for their conduct of the service of ordination and induction.

Next Meeting. The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 7th May 2002 at 7.00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 7th May 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book, in all 16 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Melvyn Coogan, Rev William Craig, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Bernard Lodge, Rev David Young, ministers, and Mr Lance Armstrong, Mr Malcolm Barclay, Mr George Buckley, Mr Johan Hamelink, Mr Ian Ivison, Mr Alexander McPhee, Mr Cameron Morton, Mr Hamish Paterson, and Mrs Cath Steele, elders.

Welcome: The Moderator, Rev David Collins, welcomed Rev. Bryan Kerr who was ordained and inducted to the charges and parishes of Douglas: St Bride's lw with Douglas Water and Rigsid on 25th of April 2002. The Moderator also welcomed Mr Ian Smith who has recently been appointed as Presbytery Elder for Forth.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday, 2nd April 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

“GOOD NEWS STORIES”

Mrs Moira White presented ‘Good News’ from Lowther. Lowther congregation is a happy and worshipping congregation, still able to meet its financial commitments and to keep the church building and hall wind and watertight in spite of the winter weather in the hills! The Kirk Session looks forward to a joint training Conference with the Kirk Session of Glencaple. Almost one third of the pupils of Leadhills School are on the Sunday School roll and the congregation enjoy their participation in worship. There are only a few of the original lead mining families left in the two villages. People come to live there because they want to enjoy the peace or because they want to bring their children up in a safe environment. Like everywhere else in Scotland the Church is no longer at the centre of village life but “Church without Walls” is not only about our relationships within our congregation but also about helping others come to faith through our relationship with people in the community

Mrs Edna McAllister presented ‘Good News’ from Symington. The members of the congregation are enjoying working with Dr Graham Houston who was inducted to the charge a few months ago. A much appreciated aspect of worship is the contribution made by the choir. A new venture has been the introduction of coffee and tea served in the church before the morning service which allows a regular time of fellowship for members. The Trailblazers group has seen an increase in numbers and in the Bible Class the numbers remain steady. Against the trend this group mainly consists of boys.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the Board of Stewardship and Finance 12 April 2002 acknowledging receipt of the Presbytery’s audited accounts and confirming that these comply fully with the General Assembly’s Regulations anent Presbytery

From National Mission, Parish Reappraisal Committee, 18 April 2002, intimating the concurrence of the committee with the decision of the Presbytery with regard to the charge of Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old

From National Mission, Parish Reappraisal Committee, 18 April 2002, seeking the cooperation of Presbytery in ensuring that Reappraisal Congregational Survey forms are completed in full

From Rev Bryan Kerr, 29 April 2002, expressing thanks for the service of ordination and induction at Douglas: St Bride’s

From the Law Department, 2 May 2002, with regard to Water and Sewage rates: New Exemption Scheme

The Report of the Business Committee

The Convener, Rev Michael Frew, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the holding of joint summer services in Carluke and Lanark
3. In the light of the large number of vacancies, encourage ministers in charges to assist each other, where appropriate, with urgent pastoral duties
4. In the vacancy at Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old, approve the appointment of a vacancy committee of 19 in total, consisting of 5 members from Coalburn and 14 from Lesmahagow: Old
5. Further, in the vacancy at Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old, appoint an advisory committee consisting of Rev Catherine Collins (Convener), Mrs Ellen Young and Mr Ian Ivison
6. Note that sick leave for a further six weeks has been granted to Rev Melvyn Coogan
7. In the absence of Rev Melvyn Coogan commission Rev Beverly Gauld to attend the General Assembly

8. Note with gratitude the willingness of Mr William Adamson to undertake on behalf of Lanark Presbytery the "Statistics for Mission" research project for the Department of National Mission
9. Note the new Presbytery phone number: 01899 221249
10. Instruct the Clerk to obtain insurance cover for computer equipment belonging to the Presbytery
11. Agree to invite a representative of the Scottish Bible Society to address the September meeting of Presbytery on the Society's "HomeWord Bound" Project
The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Children's Ministry Report

Mr Harry Jamieson presented his final report as Presbytery Adviser in Children's Ministry. "I have enjoyed my six years but feel that it is now time to let someone with fresh ideas come in. In my six years I was privileged to have visited every church in the Presbytery to see the Sunday Schools and teachers, some more than once. I have introduced activities which I hope made the children and staff feel that they were not isolated but were part of a much larger Christian fellowship.

Teachers' Conference: The session started later than usual on October 10th with the annual Teacher's Conference, held in St Nicholas' Church hall. We invited Sylvia Troon, a puppeteer, to demonstrate how puppets might be used to make stories come alive. Her activities ranged from how to make different types of puppets, including one which can be made in ten minutes, to using them effectively with children. The evening was enjoyed by all who came although the numbers were down on previous years. Whether this was due to the later date, the subject offered or general malaise, I don't know. There were twenty five present.

Bible Quiz: Once again we held our Bible Quiz on a league table basis with each team taking part in three rounds with different opposing teams. The quiz was held in four different venues in each round. As well as the children studying the passages to be tested and thus gaining Bible knowledge they got a chance to see the accommodation and facilities enjoyed by other Sunday Schools and a chance to meet their fellow learners from other parts of the Presbytery. I must thank all the Sunday Schools that took part for making the quiz such a social occasion by offering tea, juice, cakes etc. The winners of this year's quiz will be announced at the concert.

Arts Competition: This session, the arts competition was loosely entitled 'The child in the church' as this year has been designated 'the year of the child' by the church. Children were invited to write, draw or paint any activity involving children and the church. The 54 entries are still being judged and the winners will be announced at the concert.

Children's Concert: The concert will be held on 11th May. Leading the concert will be Wendy Welch, a story teller from Fife, and Chris Watt the joint leader of Vision and Outreach from Kirkmuirhill Church. The venue has been moved around the areas where there are church premises large enough to accommodate the 100 plus children who have been attending. We have been to Lanark, Kirkmuirhill and Carluke and this year the venue is the Gillespie Centre in Biggar. I hope there will be children from every church in the Presbytery as I am sure that the afternoon will be as enjoyable to them as the previous three concerts have been.

Advisers' Conference: I am expected to attend the Advisers' Conferences when they are held. This year there was only one such conference held. It was enlarged to become a Parish Education Conference and was held in February at Tulliallan Police College. As well as Advisers there were members of the Board of Parish Education, Presbytery Parish Education Conveners and Child Protection Trainers. There was a move by the National Adviserate team to change the name, function and remit of Children's Ministry Advisers. They wish the name to be trainers and the job to be purely national certificate training. As any other work done by the trainers such as visiting Sunday schools or organising events would no longer be financed by the Board, the Presbytery would have to finance these if they wished them carried out. Fortunately this proposal was rejected and when a new Adviser is appointed for Lanark Presbytery, he or she will be able to claim travel and postal expenses from the Board and will have visiting Sunday schools and organising events in their job description.

Visiting: I have visited every active Sunday School in the Presbytery but I had not visited Blackmount as there has not been an active Sunday School there for some years. On 10th March I visited Blackmount with Irene Williams. We were warmly welcomed by Steven Pacitti. Two of the church members attended child protection training and one attended teacher

training and we are hopeful that next session there will be the start of new Sunday School work there.

Training: Two leaders were interested in attending national certificate training. Since this is not enough to hold a local course they were registered for the national course at Tulliallan. Unfortunately this was cancelled due to lack of interest. It is sad that there were not enough from the whole of Scotland who wished to take part in this course. I held a training course for new or inexperienced teachers on four weeks in March and April. The three congregations of Blackmount, Greyfriars and St Nicholas' were represented by nine leaders. Certificates have been sent to ministers concerned.

Support Group: Once again I have had a support group to share responsibilities of any inaccuracies in the Bible quiz and to bring bright ideas and the latest news to our meetings. This session the support group was Irene Williams and Moira White. I must thank them both for their input of ideas and hard work.

Parish Education Committee: The events I organise are done on behalf of the Parish Education Committee. Unfortunately this committee with only seven members is the smallest committee in Presbytery. It would have been impossible to run the quiz without additional assistance and I am indebted to David Adams from St Nicholas' and Ann Walker from St John's for their help as organisers at venues. I hope the Business Committee will increase the size of the Committee next session so that a new adviser will be able to organise all events from within the committee.

Thanks: Finally I would like to thank the present committee and convener for the input of ideas, support and encouragement I have received and also past committee members and particularly you, Moderator, for your encouragement."

Presbytery received the report

The Moderator thanked Mr Jamieson for his work as Adviser in Children's Ministry

Guild: Presbyterian Council Report

The Convener, Miss Sheena Thomson, presented the annual report "The Guild has been taking forward its current three year strategy under the title "Strength for Living". The theme for 2001-2 is "Strength through God's Presence". This was launched at the annual meeting held at the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow in September. Several representatives from this Presbytery were among some 2000 members who heard an inspiring talk from Dr Elaine Storkey, writer and broadcaster on Christian issues in contemporary society. Many Guilds have focussed on the discussion topic for this session which has been "Overcoming Violence" which was chosen as part of our response to the World Council of Churches' call for this to be a decade to overcome violence. Guilds have addressed the issue in a variety of ways, covering many different forms of conflict from playground bullying and domestic abuse to international war. The issue of violence is one which unites the church and is the focus of several initiatives. The Guild is joining with the Catholic Commission for Social Care and others in mounting a Conference on Domestic Violence in June this year. Guilds have also been active in supporting a range of projects under the theme: The Well Asian Advice Centre (National Mission); With Wings as Eagles Mission Aviation Fellowship in Papua New Guinea; Rainy Hospital South India (World Mission); Rebuilding Lives (Lodging House Mission); Forgotten Frontier (Scottish Bible Society work in Siberia); and A Way of Life (Board of Communication). So far Guilds have raised several thousand pounds of the National total of £255,000.

The Guild has also taken part in several government consultations through its membership of the Women's National Commission and has commented up pre-legislative papers on Sectarianism and witness protection in rape trials. Membership of such wider bodies within and beyond the church enriches the life of the Guild and offers many opportunities to contribute a distinctly Christian voice to the debate.

In this Presbyterian Council we have had a roller coaster year. Our Summer Rally in Biggar Kirk last June was most successful. The "Songs of Praise" lead by St Nicholas church choir was excellent. The AGM in February was poorly attended although other Councils are experiencing similar difficulties so perhaps this is something which should be considered at a National level."

Presbytery received the report

Civil Emergencies Committee report

The convener, Mrs Ena Wilson presented the report of the Committee.

“The Committee has collated a detailed list of all the church facilities in the area. Contact has been made with the emergency services and with South Lanarkshire Council. The various agencies are appreciative of the support of the Presbytery. Disasters happen and require an immediate response. The experience of people who have been involved in response to disasters proves that good relationships between agencies, prior to the event, make the response itself much more effective. The effects, however, are long term and our plans should consider both dimensions. We, as faith communities, are playing a purely supportive role but we do have much to offer.”

Presbytery received the report

Ministry Committee

The Convener, Rev Catherine Collins presented the following report for information.

Vacancies: In April 2001 there were 169 vacant charges, at present there are 204 and by 2006 the projected figure is 341.

Stipend: Over a number of years there has been an attempt to keep stipends at a level which is affordable for congregations and a reasonable living for ministers. Attempts have been made to set a fair level across the board so that there is less of a gap between the richest and the poorest congregations. The Stipend Supplement was introduced as a temporary measure to make sure that those on the lowest level, often in the poorest areas, did not stay at the level forever. All self supporting congregations paid into the fund and after five years ministers were paid a bit extra on a rising scale to take account of experience. This was always meant to be a temporary solution and last year's assembly approved the principles of an improved scheme. The result is being presented to the Assembly at the end of this month. The plan is to blend the stipend with the stipend supplement, do away with the wide range of possible stipends and have a ten point scale over ten years. Everyone entering the ministry will begin at the first level and go up a scale point every year. Congregations which can afford it will be allowed to pay more if they wish but only at set percentages above the scale. All congregations will make a contribution towards stipend related to congregational income, including those currently aid receiving, thus ending the concept of “Aid Receiving”. During a vacancy congregations will still contribute to the fund but allowances may be made for locum and supply. National Mission has been experiencing difficulties in paying Deacons and Parish Assistants and they have had to eat into capital. There are implications for Parish Reappraisal and we shall have to think creatively about the way forward.

Forward Planning: The Committee plans to report next month on its deliberations with regard lay readership, the leading of worship and the conducting of funerals.

Retreat: Ministers were asked to note that the retreat would take place on Monday 2nd September the details of which would be presented to the June meeting of Presbytery.

Presbytery received the report

Property Committee

The acting Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson, submitted the report of the Property Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that, following a meeting with representatives of the General Trustees, two architects have been approached to tender for a new feasibility study on Carnwath Church and Halls, and that the General Trustees have agreed to meet the cost of this and to look favourably on an application for a grant towards the cost of making the church wind & water tight and safe.
3. Note that, in order to meet current requirements for external funding, the Congregational Board of Carnwath Parish Church has agreed to set up a local committee at Auchengray, and that this committee will report to, and be under the authority of the Board and Session, but will include representatives from various community groups, including the School Board, the WRI and the Community Council.
4. Approve the proposal to erect a Nethan Valley Homes 'Tummel' detached, two storey, 4 bedroom villa with integral double garage at Garngour, Lesmahagow as a new manse for Coalburn lw Lesmahagow Old, subject to the approval of the General Trustees.

5. Note that Quinquennial Property Survey Reports have been received for Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St Nicholas.
6. Approve in principle the plan to increase the accommodation in Carluke: St John's manse.
7. Note with concern the decision of Lanark: St Nicholas congregation, by 52 votes to 47, to sell their current manse; and instruct the Property Committee to arrange a joint meeting with the St Nicholas Manse Sub-Committee, the Congregational Board and the Vacancy Committee to discuss a way forward which will not delay the filling of the current vacancy.

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Parish Education Committee

The Convener, Mrs Moira White, submitted the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery: -

5. Receive the report
6. Note that two young people from Carluke: Kirkton will represent Lanark Presbytery at this year's Youth Assembly
7. Agree to reimburse appropriate expenses with regard to representation at the Youth Assembly

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

World Mission Committee

The Convener, Miss Sheena Thomson submitted the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the World Mission Rally will take place on 13th November 2002
3. Urge members of Presbytery to remember our mission partners in their prayers
4. Give thanks for the support that churches in Presbytery give to our mission partners
5. Note that the Guild Summer Rally will be held at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church on 31st May focussing on the new campaign of Christian Aid "Trade for Life"

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Church and Community Committee

The Convener, Mr John Strachan presented the report of the Committee.

In November 2001 The Maranatha Community Trust published their report "Cannabis – A Warning" which was sent to the Prime Minister, the leaders of all political parties and to the churches. The Committee has spent time considering this report. The current position of the Church of Scotland is that the Church recommends consideration of the decriminalisation but is opposed to the legalisation of cannabis. (Assembly Reports 1997&1998) There are some within the political parties and within certain police forces who would prefer to move towards decriminalisation not least on account of the time and money currently used to enforce the ban on its use. The Maranatha report makes a strong case against the use of cannabis. It fails however to give significant consideration to the possible beneficial effects of cannabis to relieve sufferers of painful illnesses. The Committee's attention was brought to an article in The British Medical Journal (January 2002) where the case for and against is put by members of the medical profession. In considering all the documents put before them the committee felt unable to maintain a position of outright acceptance or outright rejection. The feeling was that if it could be proved that there were benefits to people suffering from distressing illnesses, the controlled use of the drug should be permitted.

Supplementary report: Service Changes within the Board of Social Responsibility

It was intimated that five residential homes and three day care centres are to close. The care offered by these services is not in question; the closures are related to finance. Suitable alternative care will be negotiated for those presently in care or attending day services. The process will not be rushed and full discussions will take place with residents, relatives, staff and appropriate statutory agencies.

Presbytery received the report

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet: 11th June

**Inter Church
Parish Education
Stewardship and Finance**

**Ministry
Property
Superintendence and Records**

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the celebration of the sacrament of Holy Communion and for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: Greyfriars Church on 18th June 2002 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 18th June 2002, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Lanark: Greyfriars Church, conducted by the Moderator, the Presbytery of Lanark met in the Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book, in all 14 Ministers and 24 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig, Rev. Philip Jones, Rev. Bernard Lodge and Rev. David Young, ministers, and Mr Malcolm Barclay, Mr. George Buckley, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr Johann Hamelink, Mr Cameron Morton, Mr John Strachan, Mrs Ena Wilson, and Mr Colin Young, elders.

Welcome: The Moderator, Rev David Collins, welcomed members of the congregation of Forth: St. Paul's, who had been cited in their interest to attend the meeting.

Minutes: The Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Presbytery held on Thursday 25th April, 2002 and of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday, 7th May 2002, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were approved.

Call to Rev James Bain from the Congregation of Edinburgh Corstorphine: Old

The Deputy Clerk laid on the table an Extract Minute from the Presbytery of Edinburgh, a citation of the congregation of Forth: St. Paul's and a Call to the Rev James Bain from the congregation of Corstorphine: Old signed by 218 members. Miss Jean Haston spoke on behalf of the congregation of Forth: St Paul's, stressing Mr Bain's laid-back and down-to-earth manner with its heavenly focus, particularly evident in his conduct of worship and preaching. Mr Bain had successfully encouraged the congregation to reduce its debt to Mission and Aid, and had been actively involved in community life through school chaplaincies, fund-raising events and the Forth Gala Day. Everyone was sorry to see him go, but wished him God's blessing.

Rev Helen Jamieson moved that Presbytery agree to Mr Bain's translation to Corstorphine: Old. She spoke warmly of Mr Bain's substantial contribution to Presbytery life, and of how much his musical talent, friendship, support and sense of humour would be missed. The motion was seconded by the Deputy Clerk.

The Presbytery agreed to the translation.

In reply Mr Bain thanked those who had spoken. He had not expected to be so busy as he had been with Presbytery business, and encouraged the Presbytery to concentrate on mutual support and building up the kingdom of God.

The Moderator presented the Call to Mr Bain, and wished him every blessing in his new charge.

The Deputy Clerk was instructed to send an Extract Minute to the Presbytery of Edinburgh.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the Church of Scotland Investors Trust, 15 May 2002 indicating that various amounts had been credited to the Presbytery of Lanark's Account: Carmichael Church and Manse Fabric Fund (£72), Kirkfieldbank Manse Fabric Fund (£14.40), Lanark St. Nicholas Manse Fabric Fund (£14.40), and Pettinain Church Fabric Fund (£43.20)

From the General Trustees, 22 May 2002 indicating that approval had been given for the construction of a new manse at Lesmahagow: Old

From Superintendent Marshall Pretswell, QC Sub-Division of Strathclyde Police, 28 May 2002 thanking the Civil Emergency Committee for sending him its index of local church halls and contacts, and expressing appreciation of the valuable work done in preparing this document.

The Report of the Business Committee

The Vice-Convener, Mrs Betty Smith, submitted the report of the Business Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Thank the Moderator, Rev. David Collins, the Kirk Session of Lanark: Greyfriars and Mr Eric Geddes, organist, for the conduct of the service of Holy Communion for the Presbytery
3. Approve the nomination of Rev Beverly Gauld to be Moderator of Presbytery for the session 2002/03
4. Appoint the following additional elders for the session 2002/03: Mr Malcolm Barclay, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr George Forbes, Mrs Nan Mackie, Miss Joyce Munro, Mrs Betty Smith, Miss Sheena Thomson and Mrs Irene Williams, and invite further suggestions to the Business Committee for more additional elders
5. Thank additional elder Mrs Ena Wilson for her service to the Presbytery during the past 6 years
6. Thank those commissioned elders leaving Presbytery at this time
7. Instruct Kirk Sessions to notify the Clerk of Elder commissions to Presbytery by 30th June
8. Note that Presbytery records for 2001 have been examined and found to be in order
9. Appoint Rev David Collins as interim-moderator in the vacancy at Forth: St. Paul's and refer the matter of the vacancy to the Presbytery Parish Reappraisal Committee
10. In anticipation of a successful call to the sole nominee at Lanark: St Nicholas, agree that Presbytery will meet *in hunc effectum* on Tuesday 23rd July in Lanark: St Nicholas Church Halls at 7pm
11. Note that Rev Mel Coogan hopes to resume work in July

Discussion on item 11 was taken in private.

After discussion it was agreed to add as an addendum to item 11: *and remit the matter to the Superintendence Committee*, and also to add a new item 12: *Grant powers to the Superintendence and Records Committee to co-opt members as necessary until the September meeting.*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Presbytery resumed in open court

Report of Diligence by Commissioners to General Assembly

The Moderator invited Mrs Nan Mackie and Rev Margaret Muir to report on behalf of those who had been commissioners from the Presbytery at the recent General Assembly.

Mrs Mackie spoke of how moving and memorable the times of worship at the Assembly had been, being particularly struck by the singing, the Communion Service and the innovative contribution of children. She had found the Board of Ministry's report encouraging, and as a first-time commissioner had been invited to attend the Beating of the Retreat at Holyrood House.

Miss Muir had found the Assembly somewhat lacklustre and uninspiring, commenting that the Assembly seemed "constipated, and in need of a procedural enema". She felt that the big committees could be more accountable, but – confessing her love-hate relationship with the Assembly – did enjoy a number of debates.

The Report of the Inter-Church Committee

Mrs Betty Smith, convener, presented the report of the Inter-Church Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to dissolve the Inter-Church Committee
3. Instruct the Business Committee to nominate a Presbytery Representative for Ecumenical Affairs

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Vacancy Schedule for Lanark: St. Nicholas
3. Approve arrangements for the Presbytery Retreat on Monday 2nd September
4. Note the Pastoral Care Scheme approved by the General Assembly of 2001 and encourage ministers to consider who they might appoint as Pastoral Colleagues

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

The Report of the Property Committee

Mr Robert Tweedie, Vice-Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following Deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Congregational Board of Lanark: St. Nicholas has agreed to carry out the urgent and essential repairs to the St Nicholas Manse identified during the recent Quinquennial property survey and that the convener has agreed to sign the vacancy schedule, on the understanding that the Congregational Board will liaise with the incoming minister over any further work which might reasonably be requested
3. Note the proposal for new hall, kitchen and toilet facilities attached to Glencaple Church and await the presentation of detailed costings
4. Approve, as both necessary and appropriate, the proposals from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church for a pitched roof replacement of the flat roof over the foyer, kitchen, toilets and committee room between the church and the hall, and for an alteration to the internal layout to incorporate a new disabled toilet, all at an estimated cost of £65,000 including profession fees, **and**
5. Approve the related applications to exceed the Financial Limit and to seek financial assistance from the Central Fabric Fund, endorsing the congregation's proposal to raise £25,000 of the cost themselves, **and**
6. Recommend a loan of up to £25,000 from the Central Fabric Fund and instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute to the General Trustees
7. Note that Cullen Lochhead and Brown have been instructed to carry out the Quinquennial property survey of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church, Hall and Manse
8. Grant permission to Forth: St. Paul's Parish Church to replace the fluorescent strip lighting in the church with pendant lights fitted with white glass globes at a cost of £3,900 + VAT, subject to the approval of the General Trustees and the Committee on Artistic Matters
9. Thank Rev Jim Bain for his work on the Property Committee

After discussion it was agreed to add as an addendum to item 2 of the Deliverance: *and instruct the Property Committee to continue its interest in this matter*

The report together with the deliverance was approved.

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry

Parish Mission

Property

Superintendence and Records

Parish Education

Parish Reappraisal

Stewardship and Finance

World Mission

Any Other Competent Business

Rev Helen Jamieson moved in the following terms, seconded by Rev Catherine Collins:
Instruct the Business Committee to review the remit and effectiveness of the current Presbytery Committees in order that we utilise our time and resources in the best possible way

The motion was approved

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet *in hunc effectum* at Lanark: St. Nicholas Church Halls, Lanark, on 23rd July 2002 at 7:00pm and for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 3rd September 2002 at 7:00pm The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark on Tuesday 23rd July 2002 the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers and 14 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. James Bain, Rev. Beverly Gauld, Rev. Phil Jones, Rev. Margaret Muir, and Rev. David Young, Ministers, and from Mr George Buckley, Mr George Forbes, and Mrs Irene Williams, Elders.

The Moderator welcomed representatives from the congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas

Vacancy at Lanark: St Nicholas

There were laid on the table an appointment to the church and parish of Lanark: St Nicholas in favour of Rev. Alison A. Meikle, the Call, her letter of acceptance thereof, and all necessary papers. Parties were called and heard. The interim Moderator, the Rev. Steven Pacitti, outlined the events that lead the vacancy committee to its choice of sole nominee and expressed appreciation for the work of Rev. Susan Cowell who served as locum and Rev. Sheila Mitchell for the services which she conducted during the vacancy. He also commended the vacancy committee for their work and especially Mr David Adams and Mrs Janet Love for the energetic and efficient way they carried out their duties. Mrs Janet Love on behalf of the congregation expressed thanks to the interim Moderator, Rev. Steven Pacitti and also to Rev. Susan Cowell as locum and Rev. Sheila Mitchell for her services. The Vacancy Committee had looked for a preacher, teacher, and pastor, an inspirer of new action and a colleague to work alongside the members. They were confident that they had found such a person in Alison Meikle and were looking forward to welcoming her and going forward together in faith. Parties were removed and the Clerk moved that the election of Mrs Meikle be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgement given.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance

Presbytery resolve to meet *in hunc effectum* at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church for the purpose of inducing the Rev. Alison Meikle to the charge of Lanark: St Nicholas' on Thursday 22nd August 2002 at a service of induction, the service to commence at 7.30pm, the Presbytery to meet at 7:15pm the Rev. David Collins, Moderator to conduct the service and give the charges and the Rev. Bryan Kerr to preach the sermon.

The deliverance was approved.

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the induction of the Rev. Alison Meikle at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Thursday 22nd August at 7:15pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

At Lanark at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Thursday 22nd August 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* to induct the Rev. Alison Meikle to the charge of Lanark: St Nicholas'. The meeting was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers and 14 Elders and associated with them nine ministers and four elders

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. William Craig, Rev. Iain Cunningham, Rev. Bernard Lodge and Rev. David Young, Ministers and Mr George Buckley, Mr Johan Hamelink, Mr Ian Ivison, Mrs Beatrice McClelland and Mrs Cath Steele, Elders.

Induction of the Rev. Alison Meikle: The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life and doctrine of the Rev. Alison Meikle, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Bryan Kerr conducted worship and preached the sermon. The Rev. Alison Meikle, after answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula, was inducted to the charge of Lanark: St Nicholas' by the Moderator who delivered charges to both minister and congregation. Mrs Meikle's name was added to the roll. Mrs Collins expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mr Kerr for their conduct of the induction service

Next Meeting. The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 3rd September 2002 at 7.00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 3rd September 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. David Collins, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 19 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Philip Jones and Rev David Young, Ministers, and from Mr George Buckley, Mr Adam Foster, Mr Cameron Morton, and Mrs Ellen Young, Elders.

Welcome to new members: The Moderator warmly welcomed to the Presbytery Rev. Alison Meikle (Lanark: St Nicholas), Mr William Sneddon (Carluke: St Andrews) and Mrs Lillias Nicol (Kirkfieldbank)

Election and Installation of Moderator: The Moderator, Rev David Collins, said that it had been a privilege to serve as Moderator and thanked the Presbytery for their support and encouragement during his time in office. Rev Beverly Gauld had been nominated to serve as Moderator for 2002-2003 and was unanimously elected. Mr Gauld in taking the chair thanked

Mr Collins for the way in which he had served the Presbytery as Moderator and asked for members' prayers and support for his own year of office.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 18th June 2002, and the Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 23rd July 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Interim Ministry: Law: The Interim Ministry at Law of Rev Bernard Lodge will end with the introduction of Mr Lodge as Interim Minister to the charge of Govanhill Parish Church in Glasgow on 12th September 2002. Mr Lodge said that the situation at Law had been very straightforward with no areas of conflict. Members had readily expressed their willingness to move forward and explore new ways of being the church. There had been much laughter and immense support and he was in no doubt that the congregation was going ahead with renewed confidence and faith. On behalf of the congregation Mr Harry Stewart, the Session Clerk, reported that much had been achieved under the leadership of Mr Lodge. He concluded that Interim Ministry was not to be feared. Their experience at Law had been positive and enjoyable. The Moderator on behalf of Presbytery wished Mr Lodge well in his new area of responsibility at Govanhill.

Presentation of Readers: Rev Catherine Collins, Ministry Convener, presented those Readers who were present to the Presbytery. The Moderator thanked them for their work and assured them that they were not being taken for granted but that their contribution to the life of the church was very much appreciated.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From National Mission 7 August 2002 outlining the development of the Task Force for Change

From The Assembly Council 7 August 2002 regarding the review of the eldership

From the Scottish Bible Society 10 August 2002 intimating that Wall Planners will no longer be produced

From the Clerk to Edinburgh Presbytery intimating the induction of Rev James Bain

From the Department of Ministry 27 August 2002 intimating changes in staffing

From the Department of Ministry 28 August 2002 intimating the end of the Interim Ministry of Rev Bernard Lodge at Law

From the Solicitor of the Church 28 August 2002 regarding the data protection act and warning of activities of registration companies.

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Mrs Betty Smith as Inter-Church Representative
3. Appoint Mrs Mabel Doak of Carstairs as an additional elder for the session 2002-2003
4. Appoint Rev Iain Cunningham as interim-moderator at Law from 9th September
5. Appoint Rev Steven Reid (Minister) and Mrs Moira White (Elder) to serve on the Commission of Assembly
6. In the absence of an obvious nominee for the position, invite other Presbyteries in our region to choose someone to serve on the General Assembly's Task force for Change
The counter motion was moved and seconded: Nominate Rev Steven Reid as Presbytery representative to serve on the General Assembly Task Force for Change

The counter motion was agreed

7. Agree to deal with remits from the General Assembly 2002 as detailed in the table issued to members as amended
8. Approve the draft composition of Presbytery Committees for 2002-2003 as amended

9. Agree to a new series of "Slots" to inform Presbytery of matters of interest from a wide variety of local projects, Christian agencies and Church Departments
10. Thank Mr William Adamson for research work undertaken in connection with 'Statistics for Mission'
11. Agree that the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water and Rigside hold a joint act of worship on Sunday 27th October 2002

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct all congregations to ensure that manse central heating boilers receive an annual service and safety inspection by a suitably qualified person

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note stipend figures for 2003 laid on the table for approval at October Meeting
3. Approve financial arrangements and vacancy schedule for Law Parish Church
4. Note that the annual Presbytery retreat took place on 2nd September

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Rev Bryan Kerr moved that Presbytery thank Rev Collins for making the necessary arrangements

The deliverance was approved

The Report of the Pastoral Care Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Pastoral Care Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct Pastoral Care committee to arrange a Pastoral advisor for ministers in first three years of ministry
3. Urge ministers of more than three years' service to nominate a Pastoral Colleague in or beyond Lanark Presbytery, and inform the Committee when both parties have agreed such an arrangement.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the World Mission Committee

On behalf of the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham presented the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Note the arrangements for the World Mission Rally to be held in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on 13 November.
3. Note that CHRISTIAN AID has organised a Libraries and Literacy Exhibition..."The more I read, the more I grow!" in Leadhills Miners Library, Main St. Leadhills from Fri 13th – Mon 23rd September 2002 which will demonstrate how learning to read transforms people's lives in Peru, Haiti and India. (The library will open Wed. Sat. Sun. 2-4pm: for access at other times contact Moira White, Lowther Church.)
4. Note with concern the situation of Christians facing hostility and persecution in Pakistan and commend them to the prayers of all church members.
5. Note that the Convener has written to the Board of World Mission expressing concern that the contract with our Missionary Partner, Christine Stone, has not been renewed, and requesting clarification of the situation.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Christopher Watt to the voluntary post of Presbytery Adviser in Children's Ministry
3. Agree to the Adviser in Children's Ministry receiving an honorarium of £350 to be reviewed annually
4. Note that the Presbytery Stewardship and Finance Committee has agreed that the honorarium and expenses for the Adviser's work in Presbytery are within the present budget
5. Note that the annual Sunday School Teachers' Conference will be held in St Nicholas Church Halls on Wednesday 18th September 2002 at 7pm

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

On behalf of the Convener, Rev Michael Frew presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Receive the congregational Mission and Aid allocations for 2002/3 noting that appeals should be lodged with the Depute Clerk by Monday 28 October

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee

Mr George Forbes, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Resolve that with the translation of Rev James Bain from Forth: St Paul's to Edinburgh: Corstorphine Old, the question of readjustment be not pursued and that the congregation of Forth: St Paul's be allowed to call a minister without restriction. This to be subject to the concurrence of the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Note the charges which will receive a Quinquennial visitation this year and appoint the named ministers to prepare and present a report to the Superintendence and Records Committee by 31st December 2002
 - Cairngryffe lw Symington: Rev Steven Pacitti, Rev Margaret Muir
 - Glencaple lw Lowther: Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev David Carmichael
 - Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Rev Catherine Collins

Taken in private

3. Appoint Mrs Anna Aitken, Mr Ian Paterson and Mr David Adams as Assessor Elders to attend Congregational Board and Kirk Session meetings at Carstairs lw with Carstairs Junction with effect from September 2002 taking an active part in meetings, providing support and guidance but having no voting rights
4. Note that these appointments will be reviewed on a three monthly basis with Assessor Elders reporting to the sub-committee of Superintendence and Records
5. Appoint Rev David Young as Pastoral Advisor to Rev Melvyn

Coogan for a period of three months, commencing September 2002

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev Bryan Kerr as part time hospital chaplain at Lady Home Hospital, Douglas

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Parish Reappraisal	Property
Superintendence and Records	Worship

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 1st October 2002 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 1st October 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 16 Ministers and 30 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Dr Graham Houston, Rev John Stewart, Ministers, and from Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mrs Anne Moffat and Mrs Irene Williams, Elders.

Welcome to new members: The Moderator warmly welcomed to the Presbytery Mrs Mabel Doak (Carstairs) and Mr Chris Watt, Children's' Ministry Adviser

Minutes: The Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting held on Thursday 22nd August 2002, and the Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 3rd September 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Youth Assembly Report:

Linsay Cunningham and Jennifer Kehoe reported upon their experience of the Youth Assembly which was held in August in Glasgow. Linsay attended an Urban Retreat workshop and another on 'Being Human.' Jennifer attended workshops on Sexuality and Sectarianism and participated in a game devised by Christian Aid that highlighted the rich/ poor divide. During the Assembly there were four key debates. On 'Eldership in the Church' the Assembly concluded that while ordination should be for life this did not mean that elders would serve as members of Kirk Sessions continuously, Ministers should not automatically be moderators of the Session which could elect who should be Moderator. In a controversial debate on religious observance in schools it was agreed that religious observance should be representative of all traditions and of none. Schools should include a quiet space for prayer and reflection and groups such as Scripture Union should be allowed to operate within schools. The debate on Parish Education emphasised the importance of Christian Education for all Christians and not just for children. Discussing the local church, the members felt that we should encourage diversity. There are many ways to worship God. It is important to be inclusive and to encourage participation for all. Church should be 168 hours a week not a 'one hour a week' church. Linsay and Jennifer had thoroughly enjoyed their experience of the Youth Assembly and thanked the Presbytery for the opportunity which had been given to them to attend. The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to them for presenting their report which had been stimulating and gave the members much to think about.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From General Trustees 5 September 2002 with regard to a grant and loan of £10000 respectively towards the cost of alterations to the roof linking the Church and Hall and the provision of a toilet for the disabled at Kirkmuirhill

From Rev A Meikle 10 September 2002 thanking the Presbytery for the induction arrangements at Lanark: St Nicholas

From National Mission 20 September 2002 confirming the appointment of Rev Bryan Kerr as part-time chaplain to Lady Home Hospital from 1 October 2002

From Rev David Young 20 September 2002 intimating his intention to retire on 31st January 2003

From Parish Reappraisal 21 September 2002 with regard to the vacancy at Forth intimating that procedures should be sisted until the issue of the shortfalls have been resolved

From National Mission 27 September 2002 regarding Mission and Aid Fund allocations and allowances for approved ministry team members

Forth: St Paul's

Rev Michael Frew moved the following deliverance:

In the light of the efforts of Forth: St Paul's congregation to clear outstanding Mission and Aid arrears, Presbytery appoint Mr George Forbes, Mr Bryan Kerr and Mr Ian Ivison to meet with urgency representatives of Forth: St Paul's congregational Board to agree a schedule of payment to clear any arrears.

The deliverance was approved

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the intention of Rev David Young to demit his charge and appoint the Moderator and the Clerk to confer with him
3. Approve the appointment of Rev Susan Cowell as locum at Forth: St Paul's
4. Appoint Rev Steven Reid as Interim-Moderator during the absence on sick leave of Rev Dr Graham Houston
5. Appoint Mr Ian Ivison as Vice-Convener of the Stewardship and Finance Committee
6. Homologate the action of the Business Committee in appointing Mrs Margaret Filshie as Presbytery Representative to the Committee to appoint the Moderator
7. Appoint Mr Chris Watt, Children's Ministry Adviser, as a corresponding member of Presbytery
8. Noting the events surrounding the Airborne Initiative's intended move to Braidwood, instruct the Church and Community Committee to bring a report to the Presbytery by the December meeting

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Overture Anent Act V 1984

It was proposed and seconded that

Presbytery approve the Overture Anent Act V 1984 as amended

There for voted for the Overture 44 and against none with one abstention

The overture was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve stipend figures for 2003 as previously tabled with the exception of the figures of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen
3. Refer the stipend figures for Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen to the Ministry Committee for further consideration

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Thank the Hospital Chaplains and commend them for their work during the year

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to the purchase of two puppets and a selection of audio tapes to be used in developing Children's Ministry at a cost of £150
3. Note that the Presbytery Child Protection course for voluntary workers will be organised once names of participants have been given to the Convener

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

Mr John Strachan, Convener, presented the report of the Church and Community Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage comments from congregations on the circulated leaflet on 'Human Genetics' and on the HIV/Aids pack
3. Urge church members to
 - a) where possible buy locally produced food
 - b) buy fairly traded goods and urge local retailers to stock such items
 - c) give consideration to animal welfare and how far food has been transported

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Note the Quinquennial visitation to Cairngryffe lw Symington has been postponed
3. Note that Rev Steven Reid and Rev Margaret Muir will now conduct the Quinquennial Visitation to Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank
4. Note that a joint working group from Superintendence and Records, Parish Education and Ministry has organised an Elder's Forum to take place on 14th November at Carluke: St Andrew's from 7.30-9.30pm to discuss the matters raised in the Assembly Council Remit and encourage ministers and elders to take part

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Worship Committee:

In the absence of the Convener, Rev Stephen Pacitti presented the report and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Committee intends to have a meeting to introduce material from the new hymnbook

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Guild:

The Guild Representative, Miss Sheena Thomson, introduced the subject of Guild Topics. This year's discussion topic is the environment. One topic which had engendered much discussion was that of violence against women. Poverty both at home and abroad is another area in which the Guild continues to be involved. The Guild nationally seeks to publicise the Christian Aid 'Trade for Life' campaign. We are being asked not to raise money for this but to raise voices in protest against practices in trade, which penalise poor countries.

Presbytery received the report

Notification of Committees Meeting on 29 October

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community
Parish Education
Parish Reappraisal
Stewardship and Finance
World Mission

Ministry
Parish Mission
Property
Superintendence and Records

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 5th November 2002 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 5th November 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 27 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Stephen Pacitti, Ministers, and from Mr George Buckley, Miss Joyce Munro, Mrs Janette Robertson, Mrs Betty Smith, and Mr William Sneddon, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 1st October 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Study Leave Report:

Rev Iain Cunningham reported on his recent study leave which had included visits to Partner Churches in Korea and Kenya in the course of which he had been able to fit in an immensely varied programme. There had been many different worship experiences and an opportunity for dialogue with church workers and mission partners. These visits to two very different countries in which the Presbyterian Church is growing revealed an interesting number of common factors among which were: A belief in the importance of prayer; lively worship; centrality of the Bible and Biblical ways of thinking; use of small groups; local congregational autonomy; social relevance and effective lay training.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Ministry 10 October 2002 intimating approval of the Vacancy Schedule for Law congregation

From Ministry 10 October 2002 intimating the new mileage rate for Interim Moderators from 1 January 2003

From the General Treasurer 17 October 2002 intimating changes to the Financial Schedules for 2002

From National Mission (Parish Reappraisal) 28 October 2002 intimating the revision of the Reappraisal Congregational Survey Form

From National Mission (Parish Reappraisal) 1 November 2002 with regard to the vacancy at Forth intimating that the Committee has concurred that the question of readjustment should not be pursued

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Grant permission to the congregations of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to hold a joint service on the morning of Sunday 24 November 2002
3. Appoint Mr George Forbes (Reappraisal Convener), Rev Steven Reid (Parish Mission Convener), and Rev Gavin Elliott (Clerk) to attend the National Mission Roadshow in Galashiels on Wednesday 6 November 2002

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Overture: Anent Vacancy Procedure

Presbytery: -

1. Approve the overture
2. Agree the following comments
 - The regulations for the preparation of the Electoral Register (Sect.13) are antiquated, unnecessarily complex and should be simplified
 - The proposed sizes of the Nominating Committee (Sect. 13(4)) are too small, especially for larger congregations and linked charges
 - The legal language employed in the proposed Schedules is unnecessary and should be simplified

There voted for the overture: 37: there voted against the overture: 0 with 1 abstention

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Vacancy Schedule for Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old
3. Approve Stipend figure of £19,800 for Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Overture: anent Reappraisal and Adjustment

There voted for the overture: 42: there voted against: 0 with 1 abstention

3. Resolve that with regard to the demission of Rev David Young, the question of readjustment be not pursued and that the congregation of Kirkmuirhill be allowed to call a minister without restriction subject to the concurrence of the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the Report of the Board of National Mission entitled 'Sharing the Pain – Holding the Hope', and commend it for the widest possible study
3. Encourage the Board to create and implement a scheme to provide partnerships between churches in more affluent areas and those serving Christ in Urban Priority Areas
4. Encourage the Board to investigate the possibility that the responsibility for the maintenance and development of church buildings in Urban Priority Areas might be transferred to either the General Trustees or to a newly established body to deal with such issues
5. Approve the application by Kirkmuirhill Church for a grant from the Board of National Mission to assist them with the purchase of video projection equipment

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Mr Ian Ivison Vice-Convener presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Mission and Aid Allocations for 2003
3. Approve the Presbytery budget for 2003

4. Approve the levy of £1.25 per member for 2003
5. Thank Mr Colin Young for his work as Treasurer

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Proposal to purchase equipment for use within the Presbytery

It was moved and seconded that the matter of the purchase of a multi-media projector and lap top computer be remitted to the Parish Education Committee

Presbytery approved

The Report of the Accounts Inspection Committee

Mr Colin Young, Treasurer, presented the report of the Accounts Inspection Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that all congregation accounts for 2001 have been examined and attest that they comply in all material respects with the General Assembly's regulations anent congregational finance

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Convener has received a copy of the new Feasibility Study on Carnwath Parish Church and Halls prepared by John S Angus Associates, architects, and that the Property Committee intend to assist the congregation in their consideration of the report's recommendations and conclusions
3. Remind the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old that the permission of the General Trustees will be required for their proposed organ refurbishment and that the time scale quoted in their 2000 Quinquennial Property Inspection for urgent and essential work should be adhered to, and instruct the Kirk Session to inform the Presbytery Property Committee of the current status of the urgent and essential work
4. Grant permission to Forth: St Paul's Parish Church to renew their hall doors and windows at an estimated cost of £6500, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, on the understanding that the cost will be met from grant aid

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the World Mission Committee

Miss Sheena Thompson, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the World Mission Rally will take place on Wednesday 13th November at 7:30pm at St Nicholas Church Halls

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 26 November 2002
It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community
Parish Education
Superintendence and Records

Ministry
Property

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 3 December 2002 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 3rd December 2002, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 16 Ministers and 28 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Melvyn Coogan, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Margaret Muir, Ministers, and from Mr Lance Armstrong, Mrs Mabel Doak, Mr Adam Foster, Mrs Beatrice McClelland, Mrs Anne Moffat and Mrs Ellen Young, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 5th November 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Ministry 18 November 2002 intimating approval of the Vacancy Schedule for Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old

From Stewardship and Finance 20 November 2002 acknowledging receipt of information in relation to the inspection and attestation of Congregational Accounts and thanking all those involved in this area of work

From National Mission (Parish Reappraisal) 21 November 2002 with regard to the vacancy at Kirkmuirhill intimating that the Committee has concurred that the question of readjustment should not be pursued

From Ministry 28 November 2002 intimating that the stipends for Lanark Presbytery are on scale

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. receive the report
2. grant permission to Rev David Young, Kirkmuirhill, to demit on medical grounds
3. appoint Rev Steven Reid as interim-moderator in the impending vacancy at Kirkmuirhill
4. appoint Rev Bryan Kerr (Convener), Mr Jim Hardie and Mrs Betty Smith as the Advisory Committee to Kirkmuirhill
5. appoint Rev Alison Meikle (Convener), Mr Bill Sneddon and Mrs Ellen Young as the Advisory Committee to Forth: St Paul's
6. note the letter from Rev Steven Pacitti concerning his retirement and refer the matter of the impending vacancy at Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton and Quothquan to the Parish Reappraisal Committee
7. in view of the anticipated election of a new minister at Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old note that it may be necessary to call an *in hunc effectum* meeting of the Presbytery in January 2003
8. note with pleasure that Rev Dr Graham Houston has returned to work, and thank and discharge Rev Steven Reid from his duties as interim-moderator at Cairngryffe lw Symington
9. Confirm the appointment of Mrs Betty Smith as Presbytery's Civil Emergency Link Person
10. grant permission to the congregations of Carluke St Andrew's and Carluke: St John's to hold a joint morning service on Sunday 5th January 2003
11. grant permission to the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St Nicholas to hold united services on Sunday 28th December 2002 and Sunday 5th January 2003

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Project

Miss Eildon Dyer from Christian Aid who serves on the Project Committee outlined the Church of Scotland's planned response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic which has been described by Nelson Mandela as 'a tragedy of unprecedented proportions'. Apart from the suffering of individuals, HIV/AIDS has had massive economic consequences for many countries

especially in Africa, although there is also a rise in the numbers affected in Asia, India and Eastern Europe. The intention of the project is to plan a strategy which will engage every congregation in meaningful participation in the struggle to combat HIV/AIDS. We should also be aware of the growing numbers who are HIV positive in this country. There is a need to break the silence about HIV/AIDS, to provide a voice for the voiceless, to work alongside our partner churches and to campaign for behavioural change. This is the beginning of a five year project which will be launched officially in Lent 2003.

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. receive the report
2. note that the training material in 'Leading in Worship' is available to congregations through the Ministry Committee

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. receive the report
2. note that Mr Christopher Watt, Adviser in Children's Ministry has indicated his intention to resign as from 31st December 2002
3. instruct the Parish Education Committee to begin the process of appointing a successor to Mr Watt
4. note that a Sunday School Teachers' Conference will be held in St Nicholas Church Halls at 7pm on 29th January 2003
5. note with approval that a Children's Fun Day will be held at Douglas on Saturday 10th May 2003
6. agree to release £150 towards initial expenses for the Fun Day
7. note that the majority of congregation Child Protection Co-ordinators have been SCRO checked
8. note that Child Protection training course for voluntary workers will be held in St Nicholas Church Hall at 7pm on 15th and 23rd January 2003

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee (in private)

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. receive the report
2. appoint Assessor Elders, Mr Ian Paterson, Mrs Anna Aitken and Mr David Adams to the charge of Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction for a final period of three months
3. in the light of the forthcoming retiral of Rev David Young, release Mr Young from his appointment as Pastoral Advisor to Rev M Coogan with immediate effect
4. thank Rev David Young for his services as Pastoral Advisor to Rev M Coogan

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Elders' Forum

On behalf of the Joint Working Group (from Superintendence and Records, Ministry and Parish Education), Rev Helen Jamieson presented the report on the recent Elders' Forum and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. receive the report
2. instruct the Clerk to forward comments of the Elders' Forum to the Assembly Council/Board of Practice and Procedure
3. thank all elders who attended and the Joint Working Group who organised the evening

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Presbytery proceeded to discuss and resolve the following questions

Should elders moderate Kirk Sessions?

Presbytery agreed that elders may on occasion moderate the Kirk Session but not on a permanent basis. The minister of the charge or Presbytery Clerk should give permission in writing

Should there be a model constitution or a single body to oversee the work of the congregation?

Presbytery agreed that a new form of Constitution be made available but that this should be permissive not legislative

Should elders serve for a stated period?

Presbytery agreed that elders should be ordained for life but could serve for a particular period taking into account personal circumstances

Should direct election of elders be the sole method of appointment to a Kirk Session?

Presbytery did not agree that direct elections should be the sole method of appointment to a Kirk Session

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. receive the report
2. note that the Convener has met with representatives of the Board and Session at Carnwath Parish Church and of the General Trustees to discuss the recommendations and conclusions of the recent Feasibility Study on Carnwath Parish Church and Halls prepared by John S Angus Associates, architects
3. urge the Congregational Board of Carnwath to submit, via Presbytery, an application to the General Trustees for financial assistance to carry out designated urgent work on the church to stop the ingress of water and halt the decay
4. approve the application of Lesmahagow: Old to the General Trustees for permission to carry out urgent and essential fabric work and to refurbish their organ, all at a cost exceeding the £50,000 financial limit
5. grant permission to Lanark St Nicholas to:
 - a) apply to SLC for outline planning permission for the possible future development of a plot of land within the manse garden
 - b) sell the current manse and plot (if planning permission is granted)
 - c) purchase a new manse within the town of Lanark, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, and to the new manse being approved by the Presbytery Property Committee
6. note that Quinquennial Property Survey Reports have been received for Glencaple and Lowther, Cairngryffe and Symington, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen and Kirkmuirhill
7. remind these congregations that they should report on progress to Presbytery within six months and that all urgent work should be completed within 12 months

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

Mr John Strachan, Convener, presented the report of the Church and Community Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. receive the report
2. note the relocation of Airborne Initiative from Abington to Braidwood
3. express prayerful concern for the residents of Braidwood and trust that the work of Airborne Initiative will proceed in the new location as well as it has in the former location
4. commend and encourage Airborne Initiative in their work
5. thank the Convener and the Committee for their work in this regard

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 28 January 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

**Parish Education
Parish Reappraisal
Superintendence and Records**

**Parish Mission
Property
Worship**

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 4 February 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 4th February 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael and Rev Margaret Muir, Ministers, and from Mr Adam Foster, Mr Jim Hardie, Mr Ian Ivison, Mrs Lillias Nicol, Mr Ian Smith, Mrs Cath Steele, and Mrs Moira White, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 3rd December 2002, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From National Archives of Scotland 9 December 2002 detailing records of Lanark Presbytery held

From Ministry 17 December 2002 and 15 January 2003 regarding the applications in the names of Rev Jayne Scott and Rev Lee Messeder

From SCOC 17 December 2002 intimating the closure of the college at the end of December

From Parish Education 17 December 2002 intimating arrangements for students following the closure of SCOC

From the Assembly Council 8 January 2003 acknowledging receipt of the Presbytery's response to the consultation upon eldership and requesting information of any initiatives begun as a result of the consultation

From the acting Principal Clerk 28 January 2003 regarding changes to the statistical schedule

Demission: Rev David Young

The Presbytery having previously dealt formally with this matter, allowed time for representatives of Presbytery and the congregation of Kirkmuirhill to pay tribute to the ministry of Rev David Young. Rev Iain Cunningham spoke of David as a 'living reminder of Jesus Christ'. During his many years in Lanark Presbytery he had convened many different committees and had also served the Presbytery as Business Convener, Depute Clerk and Moderator. It has not been so much the list of the things he has done that has had an impact but the way in which he has done all of these things. His integrity, consistency, thoroughness, lack of personal ambition, his passion for the gospel and above all his desire to honour God have always shone through the tasks performed. Mr George Forbes and Mrs Catriona Higgins then spoke on behalf of the congregation of Kirkmuirhill. Mr Forbes spoke of how the congregation had been greatly blessed through the ministry of David Young. The Gospel had been preached faithfully and well and as a pastor David had given much to those in his care. His work in local schools revealed a concern and affection for young children and his faithfulness in the church and community had led to him being both respected and loved. Mrs Higgins paid personal tribute to David's ministry that had not only drawn her into the church but also encouraged her in prayer and Bible Study. He had engaged in a selfless, sacrificial work to help others encounter the saving grace of God. In conclusion the Moderator, Rev Gauld, expressed the good wishes of the Presbytery for Rev Young and Mrs Young for their retirement.

Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old: Call to Rev Aileen Robson

The congregations of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old having been cited to appear in their interest, the Clerk laid on the table the relevant papers, including a call signed by 366 members and 15 adherents relative to the election of Miss Aileen Robson. Parties were called and the Interim-Moderator, Rev Michael Frew, outlined the proceedings in the vacancy. Mr Frew expressed thanks to Rev Jack Stewart for his role as Locum and to the officebearers of the congregations for their diligence. Mr Frew also reported that the new manse was nearing completion. Mrs Ann McGuire, speaking on behalf of both congregations, also expressed

thanks to Rev Stewart and spoke of how much the congregation were looking forward to welcoming Miss Robson who was currently working as a part-time prison chaplain and had served as a Mission Partner in Malawi.

Parties were removed and the Clerk moved that the election of Miss Robson be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgement given.

Presbytery then resolved to meet at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church at 7:15pm on Thursday 6th March for the ordination and induction of Rev Aileen Robson to the charge of Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old, the service to begin at 7:30pm; the Moderator to preside and to give the charges, Rev Alison Meikle to conduct the first part of the service and to preach the sermon.

Law: Call to Rev Anne Mclvor

The congregation Law having been cited to appear in their interest, the Clerk laid on the table the relevant papers, including a call signed by 112 members and 15 adherents relative to the election of Miss Anne Mclvor. Parties were called and the Interim-Moderator, Rev Iain Cunningham, outlined the proceedings in the vacancy. Mr Cunningham paid particular tribute to Rev Bernard Lodge who served as Interim Minister and once a decision was reached regarding the future of the charge, as Interim Moderator until his move to new work in Glasgow. On behalf of the congregation Mrs Margaret Lightbody spoke of how glad members were to witness to what God has done in the congregation in the last two years. Mrs Lightbody also paid tribute to Rev Lodge and to the work of Rev Jan Roddick who had served as locum. The congregation were now looking forward to welcoming Miss Mclvor and together to look forward in faith.

Parties were removed and the Clerk moved that the election of Miss Mclvor be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgement given.

Presbytery then resolved to meet at Law Parish Church at 7:15pm on Thursday 3rd April for the induction of Rev Anne Mclvor to the charge of Law, the service to begin at 7:30pm: the Moderator to preside and give the charges, Rev Aileen Robson to conduct the first part of the service and preach the sermon.

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee in which he spoke of possible new arrangements for Carluke: St Andrew's

Provision of Ministry: Carluke: St Andrew's

It is proposed that Mrs Jamieson remain as minister of the charge but work on a part-time basis for the next two years on the following terms:

- work Sunday, Monday and Tuesday each week
- take one Sunday off every four weeks
- convene Kirk Session meetings (normally Monday nights)
- continue to be a full member of Presbytery
- continue her chaplaincy at Crawforddyke Primary, including membership of the School Board
- undertake pastoral work, funerals etc within the work programme and in consultation with the pastoral associate

The Congregational Board would be chaired by a member of the Board

A Pastoral Associate will need to be appointed on the following terms:

- flexible working to cover pastoral work on the basis of two days per week
- work programme arranged in consultation with Mrs Jamieson, who would act as line manager, and with whom the associate would need to meet regularly
- preach once every four weeks (If this is not possible, pulpit supply would have to be arranged)

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the new arrangements for the provision of ministry at Carluke: St Andrew's for the period March 2003 – February 2005, as detailed in the report

3. Instruct the Business Committee to consult the Department of Ministry and the Law Department in drawing up terms and conditions for the pastoral associate at Carluke: St Andrew's
4. Remit to the Business Committee upon receipt of proposed Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2003 to nominate one minister and one elder from each relevant charge for approval at the March meeting of Presbytery

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Rev Dr Graham Houston, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

During the Convener's absence on sick leave during September and October of last year, the Vice-Convener, Mr Ian Ivison, maintained the momentum of the committee's work, and considered a division of responsibilities between finance and stewardship. When the Convener returned to work, this proposal was carried through to its logical conclusion. At our most recent meeting, the Committee unanimously approved the proposal that our work should be tackled by two teams: **Stewardship Promotion** (Team Leader, Graham Houston), and **Financial Accountability** (Team Leader, Ian Ivison). Ministers and elders are encouraged to contact Ian and Graham directly, when they have questions or concerns in either of these areas. The Stewardship Team's first task will be to ensure that we have a workable stewardship network in the Presbytery area, and to establish appropriate contact with each congregation. Please notify Graham of the contact details of your stewardship promoter or other responsible person. The Financial Accountability Team will shortly be involved in processing the annual financial returns from each congregation, for transmission to the Department of Stewardship and Finance in 121, and assessment of allocations for the Mission and Aid Fund. Please ensure that your treasurer submits the required number of copies of your audited congregational accounts to the Presbytery, by Monday 25th February.

During the next year, the Committee will concentrate on two parallel objectives, one measurable and the other intuitive.

1. By the end of 2003, we hope to see signs of a considerable improvement in **Christian Giving** of money, throughout our 26 congregations. We believe that there is room for growth in every parish, and that the Committee is well-placed, in terms of members' financial and management expertise, as well as ongoing support from 121, to encourage this objective within the bounds, without speculating, at this stage, about specific financial targets.
2. We believe that the second objective will be the moral and spiritual foundation for the first. We urge that the Presbytery should renew our vision of what it means for us to be a **Presbytery** of the Kirk, as part of the world-wide church of Christ. Our study of the **Parable of the Talents** (*Matthew 25:14-30*) encouraged the Committee to recognise that **Stewardship**, of time, talents and money, is absolutely central to the teaching of Jesus. We affirm that the work of our financial boards and committees is *spiritual* work, because our use of human and material resources is always a direct reflection of the health or otherwise of our Christian faith and commitment. We are all called to be good managers of the gifts, which God has entrusted to us, to use wisely for his glory and the good of his people. **Discussion Questions**, based on this *Parable*, are available from the Convener, which we hope will encourage Sessions and Boards to focus on this crucial aspect of Christian teaching. Such discussion can be a positive catalyst not only to promote stewardship in our congregations, but also to further a constructive process of change in attitude toward our relationships within the life of the Presbytery and between congregations and charges. The Committee believes that better Christian stewardship in our Presbyterian tradition will mean increased co-operation between congregations and their leaders, and a steady growth in the sharing of resources, both human and material. By the end of 2003, we hope to be satisfied, as a Presbytery, that we are making progress together in this aspect of Christian fellowship and service, and want to take further steps. We believe that this can be achieved, due to the manageable size of our Presbytery, with 18 charges and 26 congregations. We *can* work at improving the meaningful sharing of resources, and there is, therefore, a moral

imperative that we *should*. The Committee welcomes your suggestions and ideas, and will be setting up a dedicated **Website** in the near future, to enable us to develop ways of closer co-operation.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note with approval the new team work approach adopted by the Committee
3. Urge Sessions and Boards within the bounds to ensure that both *Stewardship Promotion* and *Financial Accountability*, resourced by the Stewardship and Finance Teams, have a high priority in the coming year
4. Instruct that annual audited accounts be made available to the Convener along with contact details of persons responsible for Stewardship Promotion by 25th February 2003
5. Urge Sessions and Boards to facilitate discussion and make plans for encouraging a considerable improvement in Christian giving of money, and to seek help from the Committee where appropriate by April 30th 2003
6. Urge Sessions and Boards to consider areas of their life and work where benefit could be had from increased sharing of human and material resources with other congregations within the bounds, and to feed back suggestions and ideas to the Convener, by 25th March 2003.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee

Mr George Forbes, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Reappraisal Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Resolve that with regard to the demission of Rev Steven Pacitti, the question of readjustment be not pursued and that the congregations of Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton and Quothquan be allowed to call a minister without restriction subject to the concurrence of the Assembly Parish Reappraisal Committee

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Reaffirm that for the current mission of the church within the bounds Culter Kirk is a necessary building
3. Grant permission to Culter Kirk to re-slate the church roof, and install window screens and a wheelchair ramp at an estimated cost of £44,145 including VAT, and to apply for grant aid, subject to the approval of the General Trustees
4. Note that only three extracts from each Property Register will be required for the annual inspections of records
 1. The Schedule of Insurances or other evidence of adequate insurance cover
 2. The pink Annual Inspection forms attested by the Chairman of the financial court detailing all work carried out with costs and completion dates
 3. The blue Quinquennial Property Inspection Summary form or other summary detailing Urgent, Essential and Desirable work undertaken with budget and actual costs(These Extracts should be presented in a document wallet or folder clearly marked with the name of the charge and the buildings to which they refer)

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee (in private)

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Superintendence and Records

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the arrangements for the inspection of records
3. Commend the work and witness of the minister and congregation of Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank to the prayers of the Presbytery and note that this charge is fulfilling its function

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 25 February 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship and Finance
Superintendence and Records	

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 4 March 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 4th March 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 18 Ministers and 29 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Philip Jones, Minister, and from Mr William Sneddon and Mrs Cath Steele, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 4th February 2003, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From National Mission 20 February 2003 intimating the concurrence of the Parish Reappraisal Committee that the question of readjustment should not be pursued at Blackmount linked with Culter linked with Libberton and Quothquan

From Ministry 25 February 2003 regarding the allocation of endowments to Kirkmuirhill and Forth St Paul's

From Parish Education 26 February 2003 regarding concerns over future training for readers

From the Committee on Education intimating that the name of Mrs Marion Dickie has been submitted to serve as the Church of Scotland representative on South Lanarkshire Council after the elections in May

Parish Education: Stewart Cutler

Mr Cutler, who had been invited as a guest speaker, spoke of how the church is viewed by those who are outsiders. The church holds as much mystery for many people as the activities of a bookmaker! You know people go in but you cannot see what they do in there. How do you place a bet? What happens inside? This is exactly what many feel about the Church. People struggle with very basic questions: 'How do I pray?' 'How much do I give?' We need a new sense of belonging to a community which is based on much more than one hour a week spend looking at the back of other people's heads! The church often says things which people will pay attention to but not engage with. Stewart intimated that a new initiative 'Reclaim' is being undertaken by the Board of Parish Education through which it is hoped people can gain in confidence to participate more and to share ownership of the work and worship of the church.

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev Alison Meikle as Interim Moderator in the impending vacancy at Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan.
3. Appoint an Advisory Committee in this impending vacancy, consisting of Rev Dr Graham Houston (Convener), Mrs Nan Mackie and Mr John Strachan.
4. Note that the following charges should send commissioners (minister and one elder) to the General Assembly of 2003: Biggar, Lanark: St Nicholas', Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old, Law and Carluke: Kirkton; and instruct that names of elders be given to the Clerk by 31 March.
5. Agree that the following representatives should meet with the General Trustees regarding the buildings at Carnwath: two members from the Property Committee and one each from Parish Reappraisal and Stewardship and Finance.
6. Note that Revs David and Catherine Collins will attend the Department of Ministry Pastoral Support Information and Training Days
7. Remind Conveners and Committee Members that Presbytery Committee meetings in both groups should normally last no longer than one hour

8. Affirm that the officiating minister is responsible for the content of funeral services in church and that he or she has the final say in the arrangements

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Vacancy Schedule for Forth: St Paul's
3. Commend the office-bearers and members of Forth: St Paul's for their recent successful stewardship programme
4. Approve in principle the timing and planned arrangements for Study Leave proposed by Rev Michael Frew
5. Note the transfer of supervision of Reader Mr Steve Marr to the Presbytery of Paisley

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Recommend the appointment of Rev Iain Cunningham as chaplain to Airborne Initiative

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage Kirk Sessions to consider nominating a youth delegate to the forthcoming General Assembly, names to be forwarded to the Convener by Thursday 27 March 2003

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee (in private)

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Assessor Elders appointed by the Presbytery to Carstairs Iw Carstairs Junction for a final period of three months have reached the end of that period and will prepare a final report on their involvement which will be submitted to Superintendence and Records by the sub committee

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

Miss Joyce Munro reporting on a recent meeting of the Board of Social Responsibility outlined the present policy regarding residential services for older people. There will only be a future for each home where there is no deficit, no significant building alterations required and a sustainable level of income from the local authority. The model of care of the elderly is moving from residential care in large houses to a preference for care in individual homes.

Notification of Committees Meeting on 25 March 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship and Finance
Superintendence and Records	Word Mission

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the Ordination and Induction of Miss Aileen Robson at Lesmahagow: Old on Thursday 6 March at 7:15pm and for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 1 April 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Thursday 6th March 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* at Lesmahagow: Old Church to ordain and induct the Rev Aileen Robson to the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow Old, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 13 Elders and associated with them 4 ministers and 3 elders from other Presbyteries.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Melvyn Coogan, Minister, and from Mr James Hardie, Mrs Beatrice McClelland, Mrs Janette Robertson and Mr John Strachan, Elders.

Ordination and Induction of the Rev Aileen Robson

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life and doctrine of the Rev Aileen Robson, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Alison Meikle conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula the Rev Aileen Robson was ordained and inducted to the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old by the Moderator who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregations concerned. Miss Robson's name was added to the Roll of Presbytery. Mr Collins expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mrs Meikle for their conduct of the service of Ordination and Induction.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 1 April 2003 at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 1st April 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Alison Meikle Minister, and from Mr Ian Smith, Mr William Sneddon and Mrs Cath Steele, Elders.

Welcome: The Moderator welcomed Miss Aileen Robson to her first Presbytery meeting

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 4th March 2003 and the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Thursday 6th March, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From General Trustees 26 February 2003 authorising the sale of St Nicholas' manse

From the Presbytery of Argyll 7 March 2003 intimating agreement to the translation of Rev Anne McIvor to the charge of Law

From Social Responsibility 24 February 2003 regarding concerns over the future of residential homes for older people

Stewardship and Finance: Rev Gordon Jamieson

The Moderator welcomed Rev Gordon Jamieson the Director of Stewardship. Mr Jamieson spoke of the challenge and demand of stewardship focusing on three questions. How much has God given to you? How generous is your giving? Where does the giving of time talents and money fit in to your priorities? There were also key questions for the whole church. Is the money given to the church being spent in the best way? Are the time, talents and offerings being used productively? The various resources available were presented with an emphasis on keeping stewardship on the agenda of all congregations.

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the following as Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2003:
 - Rev. Gavin Elliott and Mr Michael Chad (Biggar)
 - Rev Alison Meikle and Mr David Adams (Lanark: St Nicholas')
 - Rev Aileen Robson and Mr Joseph Cameron (Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old)
 - Rev Anne McIvor and Mrs Margaret Lightbody (Law)
 - Rev Iain Cunningham and Mr Tom Smith (Carluke: Kirkton)
3. Note the following new contact details:
 - Rev Aileen Robson, 9 Elm Bank, Lesmahagow ML11 0EA
phone: 01555 895325, email: AMRob65@aol.com
 - Rev Philip Jones, 39 Bank House, Lesmahagow ML11
4. Grant permission to the congregation of Symington to hold a united service with Cairngryffe on Sunday 27 April, and note with pleasure that the occasion marks the unique contribution of brothers Jim (aged 87) and Bob (aged 93) Warnock to the life of the Kirk.
5. Note that Rev Jeanne Roddick has been appointed as locum in the vacancy at Forth: St Paul's with effect from 7th April 2003

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Book Review: Mr Jim Hardie

Mr Hardie presented an in depth review of the book 'Outside Verdict' by Harry Reid. The book is thought provoking, challenging and honest. The church at present appears to have lost confidence and is seen by many as irrelevant. There is talk of reversing trends but there is little evidence. We must face up to the issue of absorption in secular society. The church seems to lack core belief. The book was recommended to members of Presbytery for study.

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Resolve to nominate two delegates to the National Youth Assembly to be held in Dundee from 29 August to 1 September 2003 and invite congregations to submit the names of potential delegates to the Convener by 29 April 2003
3. Agree to the payment of £50 per delegate to cover the cost of the Assembly

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Following the annual inspection of records, note that those congregations whose Property Records were incomplete or inadequate in some respect will receive a letter highlighting the problems, along with guidance on property inspections and how to complete the Property Register
3. Urge all congregations to review their insurance cover regularly
4. Note that Quinquennial Property Inspections will be carried out on the property of Law, Carluke: St John's and Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction during 2003
5. Grant permission to Carluke: St John's for the proposed garage conversion at their manse, subject to the approval of the General Trustees
6. Grant permission to Carluke: St John's to apply to the General Trustees for a grant and/or a loan for this work

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee (in private)

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint a Committee of Enquiry in terms of Act 1 1988 (as amended) to the charge of Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction
3. Express sincere appreciation to the Assessor Elders for the considerable commitment of time and also for the support they have given to the charge of Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction and discharge them from their duties.
4. Record thanks to the sub committee of Superintendence and Records for their efforts.
5. Note that Rev Margaret Muir has settled well into her new charge, encourage her to continue to develop her own gifts and talents and to consider undertaking Study Leave
6. Encourage Minister and Office Bearers to use the recommendations of the Visiting Team as a basis for further discussion regarding their worship and discipleship.
7. Note that having been alerted to difficulties being experienced especially at Glencaple the Presbytery Property Committee is providing the necessary support to the congregation.
8. Commend the Minister, Office Bearers and congregations of the charge of Glencaple linked with Lowther to the prayers of Presbytery and note that this charge is fulfilling its function.
9. Note that the annual inspection of congregational records took place on Thursday 27th February 2003 and with a few minor exceptions the records were found to be in order

10. Note that the Superintendence and Records Committee will prepare a guidance sheet on congregational records which will be issued to each Session Clerk.

On behalf of the Business Committee, Mr Frew moved in the following terms: Appoint a Committee of Inquiry under the terms of Act 1 1988 (as amended) into the situation at Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction consisting of Rev William Hogg, (Convener) Rev Jack Stewart and Mr Ian Ivison and cist the Quinquennial proceedings due in the current year. It was moved as a counter-motion to Item 3 of the deliverance that Very Rev Hugh Wylie be appointed as convener of the Committee of Inquiry. On a vote being taken, the counter-motion was defeated

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Convener, Rev Graham Houston, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct the Stewardship and Finance Committee to implement its plans for an Autumn Presbytery Conference, 'Sharing in Christ's Mission Today', on Saturday 4 October 2003 from 10am-4pm in the Tinto Hotel, Symington, and to provide publicity for all congregations at the May meeting of Presbytery
3. Instruct the Treasurer to cover costs of the conference from Presbytery funds
4. Urge all congregations within the bounds to send at least 4 delegates to the conference, and to send names and contact addresses to the Convener by June 30 2003
5. Welcome the Committee's proactive review of all congregational accounts for 2002

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer Mr Colin Young presented the report and the Clerk moved the deliverance

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2002 and instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the accounts to the Board of Stewardship and Finance
3. Thank Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isabel Lawrie for their work as auditors

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The depute Clerk moved that Presbytery thank the treasurer, Mr Colin Young, for his work during the year.

This was agreed.

Airborne Initiative

Rev Iain Cunningham reported on the opening of the new facilities at Braidwood House and the first graduation ceremony. The Clerk and the Convener of the Church and Community Committee and Miss Joyce Munro had also attended the ceremony. The graduation of trainees was the highlight of the programme. They spoke of what they had achieved and paid tribute to the staff who had not only challenged but also encouraged them. The affirmation of the trainees was an eloquent witness to the potential of Airborne Initiative to change lives.

Notification of Committees Meeting on 29 April 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community

Parish Education

Property

Superintendence and Records

Ministry

Parish Mission

Stewardship and Finance

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the Induction of Miss Anne Mclvor at Law on Thursday 3 April at 7:15pm and for the next ordinary meeting at St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 6 May 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Law, on Thursday 3rd April 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* at Law to induct the Rev Anne Mclvor to the charge of Law, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 11 Ministers and 11 Elders and associated with them 3 ministers and 2 elders from other Presbyteries and other Churches.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Catherine Collins, Minister, and from Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr Ian Ivison, Mr Alexander McPhee, Mrs Anne Moffat, Mr John Shaw, Mrs Betty Smith, Mr William Sneddon and Mr Robert Tweedie , Elders.

Induction of the Rev Anne Mclvor

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life and doctrine of the Rev Anne Mclvor, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Aileen Robson conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula the Rev Anne Mclvor was inducted to the charge of Law on a basis of Reviewable Tenure by the Moderator who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregations concerned. Miss Mclvor's name was added to the Roll of Presbytery. Miss Margaret Muir expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Miss Robson for their conduct of the service of Induction.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 6 May 2003 at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 6 May 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 15 Ministers and 28 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev William Craig, Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Philip Jones and Rev Steven Reid, Ministers, and from Miss Joyce Munro, Mr Hamish Paterson, Mrs Betty Smith and Mr William Sneddon, Elders.

Welcome: The Moderator welcomed Rev Anne McIvor to her first meeting of Presbytery

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 1st April 2003 and the *in hunc effectum* meeting of Thursday 3rd April 2003, being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Ministry 4 April 2003 approving the Vacancy and Revision Schedule for Forth: St Paul's

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the need for new assessors of applicants for the Ministry and invite suggestions of suitable names to the Clerk by 10 June
3. Note that Presbytery records (2002) have been examined and found to be in order
4. Homologate the decisions of the Business Committee to resolve that the proportion of members on the Vacancy Committee at Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan should be Blackmount – 5, Culter – 4, Libberton & Quothquan - 4
5. Note the service at 7.00pm on 22 June in Symington Kirk to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the ordination of Rev Bill McCormick, instruct the Moderator and the Clerk to attend on behalf of Presbytery and encourage other members of the Presbytery to attend
6. Agree that Mr McCormick's anniversary should also be suitably marked at the meeting of Presbytery on 17 June
7. Agree to the holding of united services in Carluke and Lanark during July
8. Note the need for additional elders to serve on Presbytery and invite Kirk Sessions to make nominations by 10 June
9. Agree to appoint the following as Presbytery Representatives on General Assembly Boards and Committees:

Rev Catherine Collins	Ministry
Mrs Margaret Filshie	Committee to Nominate the Moderator
Rev Dr G Houston	Stewardship and Finance
Mr John Strachan	Social Responsibility
10. Thank Mrs Joyce Munro for her years of service as Presbytery Representative on Social Responsibility

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Guild Presbyterian Council: Miss Sheena Thomson

The theme for 2002-2003 is 'Strength through God's Empowerment'. Some thirty representatives from our Presbytery area were among the 2000 members who attended the launch meeting in Glasgow in August. Dr Daleep Makarji, UK Director of Christian Aid, gave an inspiring talk on the theme reminding us that we can make a difference to the poorest of the world not just through financial support but also by speaking out for justice. In his address the Moderator, Rt. Rev Dr Finlay McDonald spoke about his hope for a confident church in Scotland – a Church in which the Guild had an important part to play. Many Guilds have focussed on the discussion topic for the session which was 'Let's check out our values, share

God's world' which included an examination of the issues surrounding globalisation and the interdependence of culture and nations. The Summer Rally was held at Lesmahagow Old Church and the guest speaker Ailsa Henderson from Christian Aid spoke of the 'Trade for Life' campaign. About two hundred members were present and many filled in campaign postcards to the Chancellor, Gordon Brown. The issue of domestic violence continues to be on the Guild's agenda and the Guild welcomed the decision of the 2002 General Assembly to instruct the Church and Nation Committee to bring a report on this matter to this year's Assembly. Guilds have continued to support a wide range of projects under the 'Strength for Living' theme including: The Well an Asian advice centre, Mission Aviation Fellowship in Papua New Guinea, the upgrading of Rainy Hospital in South India, 'Rebuilding Lives' a project for the homeless of the Lodging House Mission, 'Forgotten Frontiers' Scottish Bible Society work in Siberia and 'Way of Life', the Board of Communication website for the church. The total amount collected for the current range of projects exceeds half a million pounds. The Guild continues to be a member organisation of the Women's National Commission, an advisory body to government on women's issues and of the network of Ecumenical Women in Scotland. The Presbyterial Council values the opportunities we have to enjoy fellowship together. We are looking forward to the next rally which will be held at Kirkton Church and to engaging with the new strategy 'Dare to Care' and the new projects which begin in September. There is at present a full committee under a joint convenership. The Moderator thanked Miss Thomson for her report and assured her of the continued interest in and support of the Presbytery for the work of the Guild.

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Commend the working group on Review of Candidature for its work and agree that the proposed scheme would enable a collaborative way of working to be established
3. Agree to forward attached comments along with the deliverance to the working group by 30 June
 - a) **We endorse a church-wide system that is consistent in practice and allows for collaboration between all parties. We commend closer contact between Presbytery and Candidates and the promotion of an 'affirmation culture' in training.**
 - b) **We wish the Working Group to take account of the difficulties of a small presbytery in working with the scheme, but in relation to question 6 we are not clear about what cross border collaboration might involve**
 - c) **We ask them to consider also what happens when a Candidate moves house either to university or for a final placement and may be working in a presbytery which is not the nominating one, nor even a neighbouring one**
 - d) **We would wish confirmation that the Candidate would be entitled to be present at the Annual Review Meeting**
 - e) **We would wish careful consideration to be given to the timing of the Annual Review Meeting taking into account the duress which Candidates may experience with regard to academic examinations at the end of a term**
 - f) **We are concerned with the wording of 4. The Proposals (para 2 (a)) which could be viewed by Candidates as somewhat threatening.**
 - g) **We wonder if the contractual nature of the scheme could have implications under current employment law and regulations**
 - h) **We would wish to know what happens in the case of any Candidate whose candidature is not sustained. Will it be possible for s/he to complete the degree course and what are the financial implications for the individual concerned?**

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, reported that arrangements were in hand for the Fun Day to be held at Douglas on 10th May. Two hundred children are expected to attend and the committee were grateful to the minister and members of Douglas: St Bride's and the Rural Activity Partnership for making it possible.

The Committee intends to hold a conference for Children's workers in September.

Only one young person has indicated an interest in attending the National Youth Assembly which will be held in Dundee from 29th August to 1st September. The Presbytery has agreed to finance two places. The closing date for applications is the end of May

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Convener, Rev Dr Graham Houston, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Urge Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards to appoint at least four delegates for the Stewardship Conference on Saturday 4 October at Tinto Hotel, Symington, expenses of which are to be met from Presbytery Funds and to return the booking forms to the Convener by 30 June 2003
3. Note that the leaflet 'Allocation Procedures from 2004' has been made available to members of Presbytery and that all congregational treasurers will be receiving information packs from 121 George Street in the near future
4. Remind all Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards within the bounds of the General Assembly's deliverance of 1975 to "*instruct all congregations to avoid recourse to lotteries, raffles or other such means of raising funds for Christian purposes*"

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 10 June 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community
Parish Education
Stewardship and Finance

Ministry
Property
World Mission

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the Celebration of Communion and the next ordinary meeting at Carnwath Parish Church on Tuesday 17 June 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Carnwath, on Tuesday, 17 June 2003, after the administration of the Sacrament of Communion in Carnwath Church, the Presbytery of Lanark met in the church hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 11 Ministers and 19 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Anne McIvor and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and Mr George Buckley, Mr Joseph Cameron, Mrs Mabel Doak, Mr Ian Ivison, Mr Cameron Morton, Mrs Jeanette Robertson, and Mrs Cath Steele, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 6 May 2003 being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the General Trustees 15 May 2003, approving a grant and loan to Carluke: St John's for the cost of converting the existing garage to provide a study and extra storage

From the General Trustees 20 May 2003 approving the replacement of windows and fire door in the hall of Forth: St Paul's

From Ministry 3 June 2003 regarding the application for admission under Act IX 2002 in the name of Rev Ricky Reid

From Social Responsibility 4 June 2003 concerning the Review of residential homes for older people

Kirkmuirhill: Call to the Rev Ian Watson

The congregation of Kirkmuirhill having been cited to appear in their interest, the Clerk laid on the table the relevant papers, including a call signed by 180 members and 1 adherent relative to the election of Mr. Ian Watson. Parties were called and the Interim-Moderator, Rev Steven Reid, outlined the proceedings in the vacancy. Alan Crooks said that although the members of the vacancy committee were representative of a broad cross section of the congregation they found themselves to be of one mind as they discussed matters together and were in no doubt about their recommendation of Rev Ian Watson as sole nominee. They had enjoyed working together and had valued the advice of Rev Steven Reid as Interim Moderator. They and indeed the whole congregation were looking forward to welcoming Ian and his family to Kirkmuirhill.

Parties were removed. It was moved by Rev Steven Reid and seconded by the Clerk the election of Mr Watson be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgement given.

Presbytery then resolved to meet *in hunc effectum* at Kirkmuirhill at 7:15pm on 14 August 2003 for the induction of Rev Ian Watson to the charge of Kirkmuirhill, the service to begin at 7:30pm; Rev Anne McIvor to conduct the first part of the service and preach the sermon, the Moderator, Rev Beverly Gauld, to induct the new minister and give the charges

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Thank the Moderator, the Organist Krys Turner, and the Kirk Session of Carnwath for the conduct of the Communion service
3. Approve the nomination of Rev Margaret Muir to serve as Moderator of Presbytery for the session 2003/04
5. Note with pleasure that suitable arrangements with a pastoral assistant are now in place at Carluke: St Andrew's
6. Note that the Rev George Fox retains a practising certificate
7. Note that the Business Committee is undertaking a review of the membership and structure of Presbytery Committees, and may propose amendments to

- Standing Orders 17 b) and 17 c) at the September meeting
8. Resolve to appoint the following as additional elders for the session 2003/04:
Mrs Anna Aitken, Mr Malcolm Barclay, Mrs Mabel Doak, Mrs Margaret Filshie,
Mr Robert Sharp, Mrs Betty Smith, Miss Sheena Thomson, Mrs Irene Williams
 9. Thank for their service those commissioned and additional elders who are not continuing as members of Presbytery
 10. Warmly congratulate Rev William McCormick on attaining the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament

The report together with the deliverance was approved

**Celebration of 60th Anniversary of Ordination: Rev Bill McCormick
Rev Iain Cunningham paid tribute to the ministry of Mr McCormick in the following terms:**

Tonight we are marking a very special occasion in the life of Bill McCormick and also of our Presbytery because in three day's time he will reach the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Bill McCormick was baptised in Coats Parish Church, Coatbridge. He became a student at Glasgow University in 1934 and completed his MA three years later in 1937 before going on to study divinity. He was President of the Dramatic Society. That much was obvious from the way in which Bill read the Scripture Reading and if any of us have ever heard Bill preaching you will know how important that training in drama has been to him. His sense of timing is always impeccable. He was also an enthusiastic and talented cricketer and he kept playing the game even after he had retired. I believe he delivered his first sermon in 1938! And now, at the age of 86 years he still hasn't given up preaching. I don't know how many sermons he has preached in that time because there were times when he would preach three different sermons on the same Sunday. As we have already heard tonight from the letter from the Moderator, Bill was always particularly concerned about ministry to young people. He was very much involved in the formation of a brand new idea many years ago of Youth Fellowships and Bill was there right at the very start of that as the Secretary of Youth Fellowships in Scotland. He also had a very interesting ministry before he entered the parish ministry called Christian Highway which was really a kind of ministry to hostellers and backpackers and people on a journey which was a very pioneering kind of evangelism. He said he really got the idea from the Communists and that the best thing to do is to have a kind of subversive Christianity where we take the best of whatever people are going and we use it for the sake of the Gospel. That explains why he wasn't actually ordained until a few years later on 20 June 1943 – ordained by this Presbytery. Bill got his BD in 1944 at Glasgow University. His first charge was at Ardrishaig where he went in 1945 and at that time he was also Chaplain to the Argyll and Bute Hospital. From there he moved in 1951 to Oakshaw West Church, Paisley, and was also at Dykebar Hospital. Then in 1960 he went to his third and final charge at Maryhill Old in Glasgow and was minister there until 1981 which marked the time for him to come back to his roots here in Lanark Presbytery and in Symington. These are just bare facts, just a few of them of course. The real impact of Bill McCormick's ministry over the last 65 years is just not quantifiable. Nobody in this life could ever know how many hearts were touched, how many lives were transformed, how many minds were opened, how much grief comforted or how many despairing people were given hope through Bill's ministry. What we do know is that in Bill McCormick the Church of Scotland has had a gifted preacher and a poet – he had a book of his poems published some years ago. The ability to communicate clearly and with imagination is vital in preaching and Bill was blessed with both of these, along with a lively wit and a good sense of humour which we have already experienced tonight. Bill has always kept his mind lively by doing crosswords and he and his wife each week faithfully complete five cryptic crosswords – not bad going. They have won several prizes in crossword competitions. In these and many other ways Bill's natural and spiritual gifts were put at the service not only of the various congregations but also of the Presbyteries in which he served, including this Presbytery of Lanark, even though he was supposed to be retired when he came here again. He served various committees and contributed always to the debates in the Presbytery with his usual sense of humour and it has to be said with very few cross words. (Terrible pun!) Some societies and the Christian Church in Scotland have changed dramatically in the last 60 years or so. It is highly unlikely that we will ever have a similar opportunity to mark a 60th anniversary of ordination. Tonight belongs to William Cadzow McCormick and I will ask the

Presbytery to join with me in congratulating him on reaching this milestone along the Christian highway and to wish him well in his so-called retirement.

Mr McCormick replied:

I can remember my ordination in Lanark in the old Kirk. I can remember the Moderator putting up a prayer extolling all my many virtues and talents ending the prayer and turning to the Presbytery Clerk in a whisper which echoed round the building to ask what my name was! I can remember sitting the Presbytery examination for licence. The Presbytery appointed a Committee consisting of my own minister in the old Parish Church, Symington, one of his elders and the minister of Biggar. My own minister came over to see me the night before and said "William, I believe we have got to ask you a few questions tomorrow. What questions would you like me to ask you?" So I went over to the Manse the next afternoon and the minister was there and the minister from Biggar and the elder and the minister opened the meeting with prayer and then said "We are here to examine Mr McCormick's knowledge of the Church Law." There was a sort of gap. He said to me the night before: "I suppose I could ask you what a quorum of a Kirk Session is." So he said at the meeting "I have got to ask you some questions, Bill". He turned round to the other minister and said "Would you like to begin?" and he said "No." He turned round to the elder ... and said, "Well, we've got to ask him something?" "Well Mr McCormick", he said, "what is the quorum for a Kirk Session?" I said "Three of whom one must be a minister". "Well, that's fine, let's have a cup of tea now." That's how I got in. However, I talk too muchif you excuse me now I will take my leave. To tell the truth I have got washing to do at home! But as I said the Presbytery of Lanark has always been very good to me. The supply preaching you have given over these past twenty years has given me that something else to live for. I am very grateful. God bless you all.

**Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan:
Retiral of the Rev Stephen Pacitti**

Tribute was paid to Mr Pacitti by Mr Don Barrie on behalf of Blackmount Congregation and by Mr Adam Foster on behalf of the congregations of Culter and Libberton and Quothquan. Mr Barrie spoke of the high esteem in which Stephen had been held and how privileged the members of Blackmount had felt to have Stephen as their minister. The linking of the congregations had gone smoothly through his guidance and gentle persuasion. Adam expressed the appreciation of the congregations for Stephen's conduct of worship and his ability to deliver a sermon that was meaningful to everyone. Throughout his time as minister Stephen had increased their knowledge and worked hard to strengthen their faith. The schools in the parishes too benefited greatly from his commitment to them. The members of each parish join in wishing Steven a long healthy and happy retirement.

On behalf of Presbytery and as a neighbour, the Clerk expressed appreciation of Stephen's involvement with the Presbytery and was glad to note that although Stephen would be leaving the Presbytery bounds he wished to retain his seat in the Presbytery and an interest in the activities of Presbytery.

Mr Pacitti was invited to address the Presbytery

You have been incredibly patient and I will be as brief as I possibly can. Moderator, friends, not long before I came to these parts I had the gratifying experience of meeting a minister, who was quite unknown to me, who quoted to me some words I had spoken five years before. They were words I had spoken at the final year dinner of Christ's College, Aberdeen, in 1962 and had been noted by the Professor of Systematic Theology, no less, John Graham and he had passed them on to this minister many years later. The words in fact weren't my own words. In those days if you wanted to present the semblance of intellectuality you adopted a very tense look and passed you hands through your hair a lot and quoted the writing of Frank Kafka and this I did at the final year dinner. But the words were taken from one of Kafka's shorter writings in which someone is asking the hero what his goal is. To which he replies "Out of here". If I repeat those words tonight it is with a difference, and a very important difference. Out of here is no longer my goal with the world my oyster. 'Out of here' is my lot and I feel more like a horse that has been led out to pastures. For it is with very considerable sadness that I will leave my people and my parishes. One thing is sure though and with this I comfort myself. No-one will be coming up to me in 35 years time and reminding me what I said tonight! What is there to say? We have been honouring Bill McCormick tonight and standing in his presence I'm compelled to utter the words of Jeremiah "Then said I, our Lord

God, behold I cannot speak for I am a child". Bill McCormick was ordained when I was five years old but even that speaks to me of the mysterious ways of God and invites me to quote Jeremiah further "But the Lord said unto me, say not I am a child for thou shalt go to all that I shall send." I have shared this with my own people in my three congregations but I am reminded of the mysterious ways of God by this little Gospel according to St Luke when I received when I was a little boy in primary school, at Causewayend School, Aberdeen, and it is inscribed with these words because of a painting competition in which I won a prize "To Stephen Pacitti for sketch on 'Sow thy seed', Causewayend School, Aberdeen, January 1945" and it is signed by Mackenzie Grieve, Chaplain to Causewayend Primary School. Now Mackenzie Grieve left Aberdeen shortly after that to come to the charge of Culter and who could have guessed at that time, not he, certainly not I, that the little boy who sat there drawing a picture of the parable of The Sower would 50 years later would follow him to that church in Culter. That makes me aware of the grace of God and the planning and the purpose of God and because I have found it in my own life I hold out that hope for my own people. It has given me such joy to know that despite a moment of doubt my three congregations can now look for someone to replace me and I trust that the grace of God and in the time of God they will find someone to do that. It is a very humbling thing when you come to the end of your ministry and ask yourself what you have done with it. Nice things have been said tonight and I do thank Don and Adam and Gavin for what they have said. I don't know if those of you who were at Ann McIvor's induction to Law Parish Church noticed a plaque on the wall which is in memory of the Rev William Wagner of Law, first minister of that parish. It says that he served with unfailing zeal and constant love. That is a rebuke to me as I think it is a rebuke to every minister who realises how high he would attain but how far short he falls of his ambition. I would like to say one or two words, headings really, by way of leave taking. I worked for 19 years as a missionary in Taiwan and many people would say to me when I was home on furlough "Oh, we do admire you for what you are doing". But one thing I said to ministers when I got home and preached in their church and I say this with absolute sincerity, there is nothing to compare the challenge and the sacrifice and the difficulty of the parish ministry. It is a job that takes every ounce of dedication, every ounce of effort. It is in my experience the most demanding job I have ever come across and I admire you all for undertaking that not just ministers but congregations. It is something that demands your love and your grace. As I have gone through life I have begun to see that it is not simply the power of the word that counts, but the power of the word made flesh. The word was made flesh and dwelt among us and it is through the word made flesh not simply preached that God is revealed and I have seen that in the ordinary folk in each of my congregations. I would say that proclaiming the love of God through our own humanity is a calling for God to each one of us and if that sounds like a weak and diluted Gospel pause to think of this that it is exactly what God himself did. God was in Christ Incarnate reconciling the world to himself, proclaiming the love of God through our own humanity. How do I sum up my ministry? I sum it up like this – too little achieved but much received. I have received far more from my people than I have been able to give them and I thank God for that as I thank them. I would end simply by saying 'thank you'. Thanks to my office-bearers, and congregations, folk too many to enumerate or name, thanks to the Clerks, and their deputies for guidance given so often with good humour. My thanks to you all for your kindness, your understanding and your forbearance. In the words of Jesus "I was a stranger and you took me in."

God bless you.

The moderator, on behalf of Presbytery, offered good wishes for his retirement

General Assembly Reports of Diligence

Reports were received from Mr Michael Chad and Rev Alison Meikle

Mr Chad reported:

It is impossible to summarise the content of nearly 40 detailed reports in a few short paragraphs, but a few examples may give a flavour of some of the subject matter: The Assembly rejected a proposal of the **Committee on Ecumenical Relations**, which would have led towards a change in the structure of the church, incorporating bishops. Though the church is committed to work towards union, this was felt to be a "step too far". The **Panel on Doctrine** proposed changes to the church's rules on infant baptism. This led to a lengthy theological debate.

The **Board of Stewardship & Finance** drew attention to the diminishing resources of the Church.

The **Board of Social Responsibility** reported at length, and with reluctance, that due to insufficient state funding, it would have to close a number of its care homes. (David Steel was subsequently reported by the press as declaring this a “national disgrace”).

There were many other debates, some of which became quite heated. There is a lot of passion within the Church!

For many, a highlight of the week was the **Wednesday Evening** session, which introduced the new Church Hymnary (“CH4”), soon to be published.

I was doubtful about the need for CH4 as we already have CH3, SGP, and Common Ground. I was pleasantly surprised to see a Praise Band arriving. The Moderator said a few words, then introduced John Bell. I had heard much of him, of course, but never seen him in action. I was completely bowled over. It turned out to be a wonderfully inspiring evening, with a wide mix of music. The wealth of worship material, both new and old, was clear to all. This was a joyful, and enriching experience, enhanced by the contributions of some of the young people who are the Church's future.

For me the Assembly was a new experience, it was interesting, at times it was quite stimulating. It was a friendly, positive and vibrant environment. I learned a lot, and yes, I enjoyed it.

Mrs Meikle reported:

I would plead not only diligence but also forbearance and patience! It was frustrating to sit through about 2 hours of discussion on SCIFU, which the Kirk Sessions, and Presbyteries had earlier rejected. The SCIFU proposals were not accepted. The church certainly does not want to halt ecumenical partnerships or working informally with other denominations, but does not accept the proposals for a union of the Church of Scotland with the other denominations. I was concerned about the media coverage of the Assembly and I think that, as a church, we need to do something about it.

We heard some eloquent and heart-wrenching speeches from overseas delegates. Mrs Shehadeh who lives in Hebron, is blind. To get to church or her work at a school in Jerusalem she has a mountain to climb, literally. Each day she has to take a taxi to a huge mound of gravel which she has to climb over, carrying many books in Braille; then she takes another taxi to the 1st checkpoint, and sometimes she gets through but that depends on the goodwill of the soldiers: so she may have gone all that way, to be turned back. Some ladies have even given birth at the checkpoint because they can't get to the hospital. But by the grace of God and the support of friends, she is able to press on. Children from Hebron go over the hills, which takes 3 to 4 hours each way. One child who is physically impaired and blind is carried by her father to school which takes most of the day. That's the kind of treatment they are confronted with.

In Zimbabwe, one minister said, ‘we fear our enemies; it's difficult to pray for them, but what is really hard for them is they find it difficult to live as Christians. But as a church here, the church of Christ needs our prayers’. Many who spoke said we would rather have your prayers than your money. In Malawi, the church doesn't think HIV/AIDS is a problem, so we're asked to pray for a change of mind in the church. As congregations we're also asked to link into HIV/AIDS projects in Scotland with our partner churches.

Archbishop Mario Conti spoke about how the Catholic church was experiencing the same problems with regard to care of the elderly, and so together the way forward was to speak to COSLA, as churches together in the voluntary sector- but this doesn't eliminate the substantial deficit the church is faced with at present.

Many decisions were taken at the assembly, but I feel, that the church didn't bite the bullet. The church will have to take radical decisions which may be unpopular, to survive. Whether we're being good stewards of our talents, time and money and God's creation is a point for discussion.

Baptism was discussed enthusiastically and provoked good debate. If parents feel unable to take the baptismal vows which are put to them, then the grandparents or guardians can bring a child for baptism instead.

It was repeatedly said that the church must change and worship must change so we've to be imaginative, innovative and creative, but more than anything else we've to be flexible, rid ourselves of the shackles of the past and move forward. We were told as commissioners, it's OK taking decisions, nodding our heads but if we don't take it back to the parishes, and put it into action, then what's the point?

On the Tuesday evening, Adrian Plass was speaking in the Assembly hall with regard to the Church without walls. It was a wonderful evening, with discussion, singing and sharing fellowship with this conclusion: the church has to move forward and take risks if we are going to see a revival rather than the fading of the church. We can only do that if we rely on God, for his will to be evident to us in our prayers and our worship, and rely on his strength to carry us through.

(A copy of these reports in full are available on request)

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Nominate Mr Allan Wilson, elder at Carluke: Kirkton, as a Candidate in Training for full-time ministry
3. Approve vacancy schedule for Kirkmuirhill
4. Approve arrangements for the Annual Retreat to be held on Monday, 1st September 2003 at Loch Lomond
5. Approve arrangements for pastoral cover and appoint Rev Susan Cowell as Locum and Interim Moderator at Carluke: St John's during the period of study leave for Rev Mike Frew from 8 September to 2 November 2003
6. Note the necessary review of pension arrangements contained in the Board of Ministry Supplementary Report to the General Assembly and that any new arrangements or revisions will be notified to members as soon as possible
7. Note that the Ministry Committee has responsibility for elder training and is making plans for the new session. Requests for particular topics, (e.g. new elder training, bereavement visiting, etc.) should be passed to the Convener

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the development of the Kirkmuirhill Shop Project

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that during 2003 an additional Quinquennial Property Inspection will be carried out on the property of Carluke: St Andrews
3. Approve the latest plan for a new hall integrated with Glencaple Church, subject to the approval of the General Trustees
4. Grant permission to Glencaple to apply to the General Trustees for the release of funds for this work and to apply for a grant and/or a loan towards the cost
5. Support the Glencaple congregation's claim to have the full cost of the hall (less any loan or grant aid) released from the funds held in the Consolidated Fabric Fund on their behalf by the General Trustees

6. Approve in principle Kirkmuirhill Church's proposal to purchase a new retail unit for their Second Chance Shop, subject to the approval of the General Trustees and the involvement of the Law Department
7. Grant permission to Kirkmuirhill to apply to the General Trustees for a grant and/or a loan for this work
8. Grant permission to Black Mount for a new hand rail to the church door, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, the Committee on Artistic Matters and the appropriate statutory authorities

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the following Quinquennial Visitations will take place:
Douglas: St Bride's linked with Douglas Water and Rigside:
Rev David Collins and Rev Anne McIvor
St Nicholas Lanark:
Rev Graham Houston and Rev Mike Frew
Law:
Rev David Carmichael and Rev Bryan Kerr
Cairngryffe linked with Symington:
Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev Helen Jamieson
Biggar:
Rev Steven Reid and Rev Aileen Robson
Reports to be in the hands of the Convener by 31 December 2003

Carluk Kirkton: Visit of Korean Theological Students

Rev Iain Cunningham reported on the recent visit of students from Korea:

Many stories could be told but I simply want to say that for our people in Kirkton Church this was a fascinating and rewarding experience particularly for those who acted as hosts. Most of them had not done anything like this in their lives before and opening their homes not only to strangers but also to strangers who did not speak their language was daunting at first. But the value for the congregation and the hosts is immense. We tend to become so isolated and think of what is done in our own place is the way the Church is wherever. I think the great value forming any partnerships either across parishes or as we have done in this particular case across countries or continents, is that we get an insight into the breadth and depth of the Church which transforms our own thinking. This exchange came out of a period of study leave within the Presbytery of East Seoul in Korea. It is my hope that at some point in the future that there may be some possibility of creating a more formal link between ourselves and the Presbytery of East Seoul and the opportunity of further exchanges. It is a tremendous experience to learn from another culture - and it is great fun trying to communicate with people using sign language and without an interpreter!

Notification of Committees Meeting on 26 August 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry	Parish Education
Parish Mission	Property
Stewardship and Finance	World Mission
Worship	

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet *in hunc effectum* for the induction of Rev Ian Watson at Kirkmuirhill at 7:15pm on Thursday 14 August 2003 and for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 2 September 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Kirkmuirhill, on Thursday 14 August 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* at Kirkmuirhill to induct the Rev Ian Watson to the charge of Kirkmuirhill, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 13 Ministers and 14 Elders and associated with them 14 ministers and elders from other Presbyteries.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and from Mr James Hardie and Mr Ian Ivison, Elders.

Induction of the Rev Ian Watson

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life and doctrine of the Rev Ian Watson, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Anne McIvor conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula the Rev Ian Watson was inducted to the charge of Kirkmuirhill by the Moderator who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. Mr Watson's name was added to the Roll of Presbytery. Rev Iain Cunningham expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Miss McIvor for their conduct of the service of Induction.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 2 September 2003 at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 2 September 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 19 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Helen Jamieson, and from Mr Michael Chad, Mrs Anne Moffat, Mrs Lillias Nicol and Mr Tom Smith, Elders.

Membership of Presbytery:

The Roll of Presbytery was laid on the table and the Moderator welcomed Rev Ian Watson and new members to the Presbytery

Election and Installation of the Moderator:

Rev Beverly Gauld welcomed Rev Margaret Muir and invited her to take the chair as Moderator. He expressed his thanks to the Presbytery and said that he was sure that Miss Muir would enjoy her year of office as he had. Rev Muir remarked on the conduct of induction services during the past year which had been carried out with warmth and humour and that the meetings had never been dull. The Presbytery thanked Mr Gauld for the work that he had done as Moderator.

Tribute: Rev John Steven Thomson

John Thomson was born in Kilmarnock in 1906 and died on 9 July at the age of 96. After leaving school he worked as an apprentice in the clothing trade in Glasgow but even then he felt a call to the ministry. He graduated MA in 1930 and completed his divinity studies in 1933. He moved to his first charge of Muckart near Dollar in 1934. Then in 1942 he moved to Lanark to the former United Free congregation of St Kentigerns. His ministry in due course took him to St Oswald's in Viewforth and St Paul's Church, Cambuslang, before he moved back to South Lanarkshire and the newly linked charge of Covington and Thankerton with Libberton and Quothquan. In 1972 approaching his sixty sixth birthday John retired but it was not long before he was invited to serve as an associate minister at St Nicholas' Church in Lanark where he served another six years. Finally he moved with Ena, his wife, to one of the kirk's eventide homes in Edinburgh. As a minister John made full use of the talents he had been given: a genial nature, a warm smile and ready laughter, friendliness and a genuine concern for people. He was a conscientious member of Presbytery and served as Moderator. In retirement he remained a member of the Presbytery of Lanark, and maintained an interest in the life and work of the Presbytery.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 17 June 2003 and the Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting held on 14 August 2003 being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From National Mission 24 June 2003, detailing new regulations with regard to preparation of a Presbytery Plan and emphasising that completed Appraisal Forms must be submitted with all decisions of Presbytery for an unrestricted call under Act IV 1984

From the General Trustees 18 July 2003 regarding revision of the administration of the Consolidated Fabric Fund

From Ministry 22 August 2003 regarding the application for admission under Act IX 2002 in the name of Rev Steven Fulcher

From Finance Department 25 August 2003 concerning the new arrangements for payment of locums

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the list of Committee Members, Pastoral Advisory Group Members, and Appointees to General Assembly Boards as amended
3. Agree to deal with remits from the General Assembly 2003 as detailed in the table issued to members
4. Note that the Business Committee intends to meet with Conveners of other Committees on Thursday 25th September at 7:30pm at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls
5. Note that the Business Committee is undertaking a review of the Committee structure and supportive links with congregations, and intends to report to Presbytery in the future
6. Invite members of Presbytery to make suggestions to the Business Committee on this subject
7. Appoint Rev Iain Cunningham as Depute Clerk during Rev Michael Frew's absence on study leave, 8 September – 3 November 2003
8. Remit to the World Mission Committee the matter of a possible link with the Presbytery of East Seoul (P.R.O.K.).
9. Note that all changes to the Yearbook should be intimated to the Clerk no later than 19 September

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Study Leave: Rev Michael Frew

The Moderator, on behalf of Presbytery, expressed the hope that Mr Frew's study leave in Nazareth would be an enjoyable and fruitful experience and that he would remain safe on his journey and stay. Mr Frew hopes to provide regular updates of his experiences which may be viewed at www.carluke-stjohns.org.uk

Presentation of Readers:

Rev Catherine Collins, Ministry Convener, presented those Readers who were in attendance to the Presbytery. The Moderator expressed the appreciation of the Presbytery for their work.

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree bursary award to Mr Allan Wilson, Candidate for Ministry, of £100
3. Note that the annual ministers' retreat has taken place and thank Rev Margaret Muir and Rev Bryan Kerr for making the arrangements
4. Note that stipend arrangements will be communicated to individual congregations via Presbytery as soon as the information is available
5. Approve the application of Mr William Love for training as a Reader

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report.
2. Homologate the decision to permit maintenance work on the steeple of Lanark: Greyfriars at a cost of £15,060.81 + VAT.
3. Support the request of Lanark: Greyfriars for the release of the cost of this work (£17,696.45 reducing to £15,813.85 after VAT recovery) from funds held on their behalf in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Worship Committee:

Mrs Margaret Filshie, Convener, presented the report of the Worship Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that, with the forthcoming New Revision of the Church Hymnary, the Worship Committee is planning a Workshop for Worship Leaders on Tuesday 21 October at 7:30pm in St Andrew's Church, Carluke. The Workshop will be lead by Rev John Bell

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the World Mission Committee:

Miss Sheena Thomson, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Remit to the Business Committee to find a suitable date to receive Mrs Ailsa Henderson, Christian Aid Area Co-ordinator
3. Note that the World Mission Rally will be held at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Wednesday 12 November at 7:30pm. The subject will be the present situation of Christians in China

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Mr John Gold from Douglas: St Bride's Church attended the Church of Scotland Youth Assembly
3. Note that a Conference for Children's Ministry Leaders will be held in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Wednesday 17 September, 2003 from 7:00pm to 9:30pm

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Rev Graham Houston, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that it is still possible to book for the forthcoming conference to be held on 4 October but returns must be made by 9 September

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 30 September 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry	Parish Education
Parish Mission	Property
Stewardship and Finance	World Mission

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 7 October 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 7 October 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 17 Ministers and 23 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev Melvyn Coogan, Rev Michael Frew, Rev Graham Houston, and Rev Anne McIvor, Ministers, and from Mr Malcom Barclay, Mr Joseph Cameron, Mr Michael Chad, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mrs Anne Moffat, Mr Hamish Paterson and Mr William Sneddon, Elders.

Administration of “Oath de fidei”

Rev Iain Cunningham, having previously been nominated as acting Depute Clerk in the absence of Rev Michael Frew, took the *oath de fidei*.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 2 September 2003 being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From National Mission 19 September 2003, detailing Priority Areas twinning events

From Ministry 7 October 2003, intimating acceptance of the vacancy schedule for Kirkmuirhill

The Report of the Business Committee:

Mrs Betty Smith, Vice-Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that a meeting was held with Conveners on 25 September and agree that this meeting be held on an annual basis
3. Thank the congregations who returned the Office Bearers' Form by the due date of 30 September and instruct those who have not yet returned the forms to do so without further delay
4. Urge members who are unable to attend Committee meetings to submit an apology to the appropriate Convener
5. Note the publication of the Presbytery Yearbook 2003-2004

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the Vacancy Schedule and stipend arrangements for Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton and Quothquan
3. Note the congregations eligible to pay above the basic stipend rate, and the need for Presbytery's agreement for those wishing to do so, details to be forwarded to the Department of Ministry by 15 November 2003
4. Note that congregation willing and able to pay above the scale must notify the Ministry Convener before 28 October

5. Note the change in the Pension arrangements required by the gap in the ministers' pension fund that expected improvements planned for January 2004 will not currently be implemented
6. Note that ministers will be required to pay 5% instead of 2.5% into the Main Pension Fund

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas has purchased a new modern manse at 2 Kairnhill Court, Lanark with an entry date of 24 October and that the current manse is being advertised for sale
3. Grant permission to Lesmahagow: Old to carry out urgent work to eradicate an outbreak of dry rot in the roof of the apse at an estimated cost of £10000 to £15000 subject to the approval of the General Trustees

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Commend the part time Hospital Chaplains for their work and their faithful service in the past year

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that a joint Presbytery training day for Child Protection co-ordinators will be held in the Gillespie Centre, Biggar from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 11 October 2003

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Mr Ian Ivison, Vice-Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the successful Conference held on Saturday 4 October and thank Rev Graham Houston and those who assisted him
3. Note the Mission and Renewal allocations for 2004
4. Note that any representations or appeals with regard to Mission and Renewal should be made to the vice-convener by Tuesday 21 October
5. Note the accumulated shortfalls to Mission and Aid (at 31 July): Carnwath £9140, Carluke: St Andrew's £1326
6. Note the accumulated shortfalls to Ministry(at 31 July): Carnwath £5554
7. Urge congregations with shortfalls in payments to central funds for the current year to bring these payments up to date
8. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2004
9. Approve the levy for 2004 of £1.10 per member

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 28 October 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community
Parish Education
Property
World Mission

Ministry
Parish Mission
Stewardship and Finance

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 4 November 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 4 November 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers and 26 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev William Craig, Rev Graham Houston, and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and from Mr John Lyon, Mrs Anne Moffat and Mrs Cath Steele, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7 October 2003 being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Ministry 30 September 2003, Consolidated Stipend Fund Dividend Declaration 2004

From General Trustees 17 October 2003, regarding the possibility of monitoring the administration of glebes

From Parish Education 29 October 2003, intimating training courses in taking funerals for non-ministers to take place in February and March 2004

Overture: Anent Kirk Session Meetings

The substance of the Overture was introduced by Rev Iain Cunningham.

On being put to the vote, there voted for the overture 33 and against the overture 4

Annual Review of Candidature

(For Candidates in Training for the Ministries of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate)

The Review was introduced by Rev Catherine Collins

Presbytery agreed to support the proposals for the Board of Ministry's Annual Review of Candidature and to send to the Board the comments of the Committee in this regard

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Welcome back Rev Michael Frew from study leave and note that he has resumed his duties as Depute Clerk
3. Thank Rev Iain Cunningham for his assistance as acting Depute Clerk during the period of study leave of Rev Michael Frew
4. Homologate the appointment of Rev Ian Watson as Interim Moderator at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction
5. Homologate the appointment of Rev Jack Stewart as Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe lw Symington and appoint Rev Bryan Kerr as Interim Moderator from 10 November 2003
6. Agree that the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St Nicholas' hold united services on Sunday 28 December 2003 and Sunday 4 January 2004 at Greyfriars and St Nicholas' respectively
7. Refer to the Business Committee to propose an ad hoc committee to undertake a feasibility study into the development of a website for the Presbytery
8. Note that the Presbytery Computer has been upgraded by the IT Department to Windows XP

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
3. Approve the appointment of Rev Anne McIvor as Regent to Mr Bill Love in his Readership Training
4. Approve stipend on the 5% scale above National Stipend Scale for the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St Nicholas'
5. Note that a general guide on the new stipend scheme is available on request

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Grant permission to Kirkfieldbank Parish to carry out work on the church building including reduction of the bell tower with the addition of a pitched roof, the incorporation of disabled access and a disabled toilet in the base of the tower, the removal of the sanctuary flooring to treat dry rot, and the installation of new flooring followed by refurbishment and redecoration with pews replaced by new flexible seating, all at a total estimated cost of £140,000 subject to the approval of the General Trustees and the Committee on Artistic Matters
3. Grant permission to Kirkfieldbank to apply to the General Trustees for a grant and/or a loan to the Central Fabric Fund towards the cost of this work
4. Commend the minister and the office bearers for their vision in developing these proposals
5. Note that there will be a Conference for Congregational Property Conveners at 7:30pm on Tuesday 10 February 2004 in a venue to be announced in due course

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Mr Ian Ivison, Vice-Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the Mission and Renewal Allocations for 2004
3. Instruct the Clerk to notify the Board of Stewardship and Finance of the approved allocations

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to the purchase of a portable multimedia system at an estimated cost of £3500

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the report to the Task Force for Change

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the World Mission Committee

Miss Sheena Thomson, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Committee is considering the possibility of having a Faith Share Partner in 2005

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Worship Committee

Mrs Margaret Filshie, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the new hymnbook is scheduled for publication in May 2004
3. Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the report to the Hymn Book Revision Committee

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 25 November 2003

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community
Parish Education
Property
World Mission

Ministry
Parish Mission
Superintendence and Records

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 2 December 2003 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 2 December 2003, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 12 Ministers and 24 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev William Craig, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Ann Mclvor and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and from Mr Jim McLaren, Mr Hamish Paterson and Mr William Sneddon, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 4 November 2003 being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Alan Wilson, thanking the Presbytery for a grant of £100

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant permission to the Carluke congregations of St Andrew's and St John's to hold a united service on Sunday 4 January 2004
3. Appoint Mr Mike Chad, Rev Bryan Kerr and Mrs Margaret Filshie to form an ad hoc Committee to investigate the future of the Presbytery website and make recommendations
4. Resolve that the April meeting be held on Tuesday 13 April 2004
5. Permit Rev Bryan Kerr to take two weeks paternity leave in March 2004
6. Agree Mr Johan Hamelink and Mr Tom Neilson undertake local inspection of glebes as and when required by the General Trustees
6. Grant permission to the congregations of Cairngryffe and Symington to hold a joint service on Sunday 28 December 2004

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee:

The Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the following amendments have been made to the Quinquennial Visitations
Lanark: St Nicholas – visiting team Rev Mike Frew and Rev Helen Jamieson – visit to be conducted in early 2004
Cairngryffe linked with Symington – Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev Margaret Muir - visit postponed until the Minister returns from sick leave
3. Note that the Inspection of Records will take place on Thursday 26 February 2004; records to be brought to St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 24 February and returned on Tuesday 2 March 2004
4. Note that Kirk Sessions are responsible for ensuring that the rolls and records of their congregation are correct and in order and a guidance sheet detailing records to be produced is available for each congregation

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Overture anent appeals

The substance of the Overture was introduced by Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Following consideration of the overture it was put to the vote.

There voted for the overture 34 and against 0

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve stipend for Kirkmuirhill on scale plus 5%
3. Approve stipend for Carluke: Kirkton on scale plus 10%
4. Note that a consultation paper on Non-Stipendiary Ministry will be sent to all members in the next mailing and encourage members to familiarise themselves with the issues and return responses to the Convener before 24 January 2004

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Study Leave Report: Rev Michael Frew:

The core of the study leave was to produce a report on the Christian life and witness of Nazareth Hospital at the invitation of its Board. During the course of his visit Michael gained valuable insight into the current political situation in the Middle East. He highlighted the fact that unemployment in Bethlehem 70%. It is often difficult for individuals to obtain work permits and so many of the current policies seem designed to humiliate the Palestinian people rather than for security reasons. Apart from the medical care provided by the Nazareth Hospital it is of considerable geopolitical significance being one of the few places in the country with staff from a wide diversity of religious and ethnic backgrounds. The visit also provided a wonderful opportunity to worship with and learn from Christians in a variety of churches including Greek Orthodox, Baptist and Messianic Jewish congregations. This experience proved more positive than anticipated and there appeared often a confidence in worship which was encouraging and uplifting. In conclusion Michael reported that study leave had widened and sharpened his vision and encouraged ministers to use their study leave entitlement.

The Report of the Accounts Inspection Committee

Mr Colin Young, Treasurer, presented the report of the Accounts Inspection Committee and the Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that two sets of accounts have not yet been finalised, for the reasons outlined, but that the Presbytery Treasurer expects to have sight of these before the end of this month
3. Note that a number of accounts were not in the standard format and failed to include all of the notes and analyses required by the regulations anent congregational finance
4. Instruct all congregations to prepare their accounts in the standard format as required by the regulations of the General Assembly
5. Remind treasurers that help is available from the team set up by Presbytery to assist congregations with financial matters generally
6. Recommend to those treasurers changing the format of their accounts, that they submit their draft accounts to the Presbytery Treasurer for comment before the audit is complete.
7. Instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the Church of Scotland Treasurer
8. Thank the Accounts Inspection Committee for its work

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Quinquennial Property Survey Reports have been received for Carluke: St Andrews, Law and Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction.
3. Remind congregations that all **urgent** work should be completed within 1 year and **essential** work within five years, and that a progress report or timetable of proposed work should be sent to Presbytery within 3 months.
4. Homologate the decision of the Property Committee to approve an application to the General Trustees by Lanark: St Nicholas for a grant of up to £5000 to cover the costs involved in an investigation of the exterior finish on the church.
5. Resolve not to consider the proposed conversion of Carnwath Parish Church to a multi-purpose building and the sale of Carnwath Church Hall, until a Development Plan has been produced giving details of how the congregation proposes to fund the project.
6. Note that the Conference for Congregational Property Conveners and others with an interest in property matters will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 10 February 2004 in Greyfriars Church.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Child Protection Training Courses for voluntary workers will be held in St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 20 and Thursday 29 January 2004 at 7:30pm

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

Mr John Strachan, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct Kirk Sessions within the Presbytery to study the report on Domestic Abuse (Assembly Remits p38-57) giving particular attention to the seven recommendations (10.3)
3. Invite comments from Kirk Sessions to be forwarded to the Convener by 23 March 2004
4. Instruct the Church and Community Committee to investigate the proposed trial of shipping human waste to Dalquhandy Open Cast Mine and to bring a report to Presbytery early in 2004

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 27 January 2004

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship and Finance
Superintendence and Records	Worship

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 3 February 2004 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 3 February 2004, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 16 Ministers and 27 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev William Craig, Rev Dr Graham Houston, Rev Philip Jones and Rev Ian Watson, Ministers, and from Mr Malcolm Barclay, and Mr Adam Foster, Elders.

Welcome: The Moderator, Rev Margaret Muir, welcomed members of Biggar Kirk who had been cited for their attendance and also Mr Allan Wilson Candidate in training for the ministry.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 2 December 2003 being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Ministry 10 December 2003, approval of Vacancy Schedule: Blackmount linked with Culter linked with Libberton and Quothquan

From Ministry 18 December 2003, regarding ministry requirements 2004

From the Muriel & Sophia Hill Memorial Fund 24 December 2003, enclosing a cheque for £100 for the promotion of work with Sunday Schools

From Ministry 4 January 2004, regarding the application for readmission by James Brownlee Watson

From Mrs Edith Scott, Stewardship Consultant, extending good wishes to all congregations and reminding the Presbytery of the resources available from the department

Demission: Rev Gavin J Elliott

Rev Michael Frew spoke on behalf of the Presbytery, paid tribute to the ministry of Rev Elliott who has been appointed to a position within the Department of Ministry and moved that Presbytery accept his Demission.

Presbytery agreed to the demission

Mr Michael Chad spoke on behalf of the congregation of Biggar Kirk expressing the thanks of the congregation for Gavin's ministry and their good wishes to Gavin and the family for the future.

In reply Gavin said that it had been a privilege to have been part of the life and witness of Biggar Kirk and also of the Presbytery of Lanark.

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Appoint Rev Iain Cunningham as Interim Moderator in the vacancy at Biggar
3. Appoint an Advisory Committee in this vacancy, consisting of Rev Anne Mclvor (Convener), Mr Tom Smith and Mrs Ellen Young
4. Refer the matter of the vacancy at Biggar to the Parish Mission Committee
5. Appoint an interview panel for the Post of Presbytery Clerk consisting of Rev Margaret Muir (Convener), Mrs Anna Aitken, Rev Michael Frew, Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston and Rev Bryan Kerr
6. Invite applications for the post of Presbytery Clerk to the Convener of the Interview Panel by Wednesday 18 February 2004
7. Note with approval that Rev Susan Cowell is acting as locum in the vacancy at Forth: St Paul's from 1 January to 29 February 2004

8. Note that owing to the illness of Mr John Lyon, Mr Adam Foster is acting as Presbytery Elder for the congregation of Libberton and Quothquan. (21 Cardon Drive, Biggar ML12 6EZ Tel: 01899 220589)
9. Remit to the Business Committee to review Standing Order 20a and report as soon as possible

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Radio Clyde Religious Advisory Committee

Mrs Karen Muir the representative on the committee presented her report.

The Clerk moved the deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Thank Mrs Muir for representing the Presbytery on the Committee
3. Instruct the Clerk to write to the management of Radio Clyde to express disappointment at the removal of the 'Godspots' from the schedule of Clyde 1 and ask that this be reconsidered

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee on Non Stipendiary Ministry and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Regret the absence of background papers for Presbyteries to make a well considered response to this consultation
3. Urge the working party to resource the development of flexible forms of local ministry acknowledging the variety of gifts of God's people
4. Reject the concept of a single form of local non stipendiary ministry
5. Affirm the work of those presently serving as readers and auxiliary ministers
6. Forward the comments of Presbytery to the Chairperson of the Working Party on Non Stipendiary ministry

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Quinquennial Property Survey Report has now been received for Carluke: St John's, with apologies from the architect for the delay, and that a copy has been passed to the congregation
3. Approve the request of Lanark: Greyfriars for the release of £3,860.41 capital held in the Consolidated Fabric Fund for fabric work on the church
4. Note that all ecclesiastical consents have now been obtained for a new hall attached to Glencaple Church in Abington and that the congregation is now awaiting the outcome of an application for planning permission
5. Note that under the Control of Asbestos at Work Regulations 2002, there is a deadline of 21st May 2004 for congregations to undertake a survey of their buildings in search of Asbestos Containing Materials and to prepare a Risk Management Plan
6. Confirm that the Conference for Congregational Property Conveners and others with an interest in property matters will take place at 7:30pm on Tuesday 10th February 2004 in Greyfriars Church

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Request the Committee to revise the Presbytery plan in the light of the comments made in the discussion of the report

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Worship Committee

Mrs Margaret Filshie, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that with the forthcoming publication of the Church Hymnary: Fourth Edition, the Worship Committee is planning 'An Introduction to the New Hymnary' to include singing, discussion and questions on Tuesday 23rd March 2004 at 7:30pm. The leader of this event will be Rev Iain Cunningham and it is hoped that there will be a good attendance from all the congregations

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 24 February 2004

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community

Parish Education

Property

Superintendence & Records

Ministry

Parish Mission

Stewardship and Finance

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 2 March 2004 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 2 March 2004, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 13 Ministers and 27 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev William Craig, Mr Michael Chad and Mr Ian Ivison

Welcome: The Moderator, Rev Margaret Muir, welcomed members of the congregations of Black Mount, Culter and Libberton, who had been cited for their attendance

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 3 February being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved.

Call: Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan:

The congregations having been cited to appear in their interest, the Clerk laid on the table the relevant papers, including the Call which had been signed by 151 members, relative to the election of Mr James Cutler. Parties were called. Speaking on behalf of the congregations Liliias Nicols reported on how the Vacancy Committee had used their talents well and had done everything prayerfully. The congregations were now delighted to find a pastor to take them forward in their life together. The Interim Moderator, Rev Alison Meikle, outlined the proceedings in the vacancy, and spoke warmly of working with the Vacancy Committee and congregations. Parties were removed. It was moved by Rev Alison Meikle and seconded by the Clerk that the election of Mr Cutler be sustained.

This was unanimously agreed. Parties were recalled and judgment given.

The Presbytery then resolved to meet *in hunc effectum* in Culter Village Hall at 7:15pm on Thursday 1 April 2004 for the induction of Rev James Cutler to the charge of Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan, the service to begin in Culter Church at 7:30pm, Rev Ian Watson to lead the first part of the service and preach the sermon, the Moderator Rev Margaret Muir to induct the new minister and give the charges.

Consultation on the Barrier Act:

On behalf of the Business Committee, Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented a report on this consultation document, which had come from the Board of Practice and Procedure. He outlined the content of the document, giving proposed answers to some of the major questions it contained. In general, the Business Committee believed that the Barrier Act should not undergo any major alteration. He then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Adopt the report as its view on this matter, and agree to send a copy to the Board of Practice and Procedure

This was unanimously agreed

The Report of the Business Committee:

Rev Michael Frew, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance, with the exception of Item 6:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the following charges should send commissioners (minister and one elder) to the General Assembly of 2004: Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan, Carluke: St Andrew's, Douglas: St Bride's lw Douglas Water and Rigside, Forth, and Kirkmuirhill, and instruct that names of elders be given to the Clerk by 31 March
3. Agree in view of the vacancy at Forth that Rev Catherine Collins should attend as a commissioner to the General Assembly

4. Note with concern that Rev Dr Graham Houston has had to take leave of absence due to ill health from 20 February 2004 and that Rev Mel Coogan has undergone a further period of treatment
5. Commend these ministers and their congregations to the prayers of Presbytery
6. Appoint Rev Catherine Collins as Acting Depute Clerk
7. Note the appointment of Rev Ron Blakey as locum for the vacant charge of Biggar
8. In view of the current shortage of ministerial resources in the Biggar area, request assistance from the Board of Ministry to allow locum cover at Biggar for two days per week and Sundays

The report together with the deliverance, excepting Item 6, was approved

The Business Committee also gave notice of motion that the Convener will move an amendment to Standing Order 20(a) so that it reads: *The Presbytery shall appoint a Clerk and Depute Clerk from among its members, both of whom shall hold office during the pleasure of the Presbytery*

The Report of the Interview Panel for the Post of Clerk:

Rev Bryan Kerr presented the report on behalf the Interview Panel and moved in the following terms:

1. Appoint Rev Michael Frew as Clerk
2. Remit to the Business Committee and the Treasurer to finalise details of payment for appropriate secretarial assistance
3. Agree the purchase of a laptop computer

The deliverance was approved, and Mr Frew took the oath *de fidele*

Rev Iain Cunningham and the Moderator then spoke warmly of the work of Rev Gavin Elliott as Clerk, and a presentation was made. Mr Elliott replied in suitable terms.

The retiring Business Convener then moved Item 6 of the Business Committee deliverance, appointing Rev Catherine Collins as Acting Depute Clerk

This was approved

Christian Aid: Ailsa Henderson:

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Ailsa Henderson, Christian Aid Area Co-ordinator, who began her speech by reminding Presbytery of the unique nature of Christian Aid as the aid agency of the British Churches, and asked members of Presbytery to thank the people of their churches for the way in which they work together. She referred to the "Losing Ground" conference on 13 March on the situation in Israel and the Occupied Territories; to Christian Aid Week, as the main public focus for Christian Aid's work, particularly the video about the Gemini Trust in Ethiopia; to Fairtrade Fortnight 1-13 March; and to sponsored events in the West of Scotland. She also spoke of how the job of Area Co-ordinator has changed, with fund-raising and education now joined by campaigning as the main thrusts of the work. She also stressed the importance of prayer and commended Christian Aid's Prayer Diary.

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee:

The Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson, presented the report and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Minister (Rev Anne Mclvor) and Office Bearers of Law Parish Church are appreciative of the Interim Ministry which they found helpful in building good foundations for Rev Anne Mclvor's ministry
3. Note that even after a relatively short time since the induction of Rev Anne Mclvor to the charge, there is much evidence of mutual loyalty, support and affection between Minister and people and a strong and a most heartening determination to work together to develop and expand the Lord's work in the Parish of Law
4. Warmly commend Rev Anne Mclvor, Office Bearers and members of Law Parish Church for their commitment and enthusiasm in working together to share the Good News, commend them to the prayers of Presbytery and note that this charge is fulfilling its function.

5. Note that the Inspection of Records took place on Thursday 26th February 2004 and that with a few minor exceptions have been found to be in order.
6. Thank Mrs Betty Smith and Mrs Ellen Young of the Business Committee who kindly assisted with the Inspection of Records and express gratitude to all 'record keepers' in our Presbytery for their diligence and service.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the planned study leave to be taken by Rev Ian M Watson, Kirkmuirhill, from 10-24 May 2004

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Property Committee has obtained a quotation from Wm. Gardner Specialist Building Services of Wishaw for the required Level 1 asbestos surveys of properties within the Presbytery at a cost of £295 + VAT per property, and that copies of this quotation are available to enable each congregation to deal directly with Wm. Gardner.
3. Note that congregational Property Registers will be available for collection on the next Committee night and at the next meeting of Presbytery.
4. Instruct the congregation of Kirkfieldbank Church to cease all work on the church until an architect has been appointed and a written contract agreed.
5. Note the issue of a Property Conveners' Handbook, and commend the Committee for producing it

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the Rev Ian Watson moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Grant to the charge of Biggar the right to call a minister without restriction, subject to the concurrence of the Committee on Parish Appraisal
3. Instruct the Clerk to send a minute of this decision along with the congregational survey form to the Committee on Parish Appraisal
4. Note the vacancy in the post of part time Chaplain at Kello Hospital

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Church and Community Committee:

The Convener, Mr John Strachan, presented the report of the Church and Community Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct the Clerk to write to South Lanarkshire Council expressing the concerns of the Presbytery regarding the situation at Dalquhandy Open-Cast Mine, with copies to Upper Ward Against Pollution, Mrs Karen Gillon, MSP and Mr Jimmy Hood, MP
3. Note with pleasure the improved situation regarding the Board's Residential Homes
4. Note the proposal in line with Assembly Council thinking to reduce the present size of the Board at 96 to around 35 with an Executive Committee of 17
5. Note the proposal that in future Presbytery Representatives be asked to serve for a stipulated period
6. Note that a change in management structure has been approved

The report together with the deliverance was approved

It was further moved and agreed as follows:

Presbytery regret the decision of the Scottish Executive to withdraw funding from the Airborne Initiative

Parish Education Committee:

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that a children's ministry leaders' conference will be held in St Nicholas Church Halls on Wednesday 31 March at 7pm. Douglas Swanney of the Board of Parish Education will present workshops on the Xpedition Force Holiday Club material
3. Note that there will be a meeting for Child Protection Coordinators in St Nicholas' Church Hall at 7:30pm on Tuesday 16 March. The National Adviser will be present and the meeting is open to anyone with queries on child protection
4. Note that the Parish Education Committee are holding a Presbytery Children's Fun Day at Douglas: St Bride's on Saturday 8 May 2004

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 30 March 2004

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship & Finance
Superintendence & Records	World Mission

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet *in hunc effectum* in Culter Village Hall on Thursday 1 April 2004 at 7:15pm, and for ordinary business at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 13 April 2004 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Culter, on Thursday 1 April 2004, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* at Culter to induct the Rev James Cutler to the charge of Black Mount with Culter with Libberton & Quothquan, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Beverly Gauld, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 9 Ministers and 12 Elders and associated with them 6 ministers and elders from other Presbyteries.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Collins, Rev Anne McIvor, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and from Mr Malcolm Barclay, Mrs Mabel Doak, Mr William Sneddon and Mrs Ellen Young, Elders.

Induction of the Rev James Cutler

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life and doctrine of the Rev James Cutler, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Ian Watson conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula the Rev James Cutler was inducted to the charge of Black Mount with Culter with Libberton & Quothquan by the Moderator who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. Mr Cutler's name was added to the Roll of Presbytery. Rev Catherine Collins expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mr Watson for their conduct of the service of Induction.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 13 April at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 13 April 2004, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev. Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 7 Ministers, 20 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Collins, Rev William Craig, Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Jack Stewart and Rev Ian Watson, ministers, and Mrs Anne Moffat, Mr Tom Smith, Mrs Betty Smith and Mr Bill Sneddon, elders.

Welcome: The Moderator, Rev Margaret Muir, welcomed Rev James Cutler to his first ordinary meeting of the Presbytery

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 2 March being in the hands of members were held as read and were approved with minor amendments.

The Clerk explained that despite having been instructed to do so, he had not written to South Lanarkshire Council regarding the situation at Dalquhandy open-cast mine because Scottish Coal had withdrawn their proposal and the matter was now closed.

Tribute to Rev Ian Sandilands

Tribute to Rev Ian Sandilands, former minister of Black Mount who had died recently, was paid by Mr Lance Armstrong. It was resolved to send a copy of the tribute to Mrs Elizabeth Sandilands.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Rev Ron Blakey, Church Yearbook Editor, 8 March 2004 requesting updated details for the next Yearbook

From Mrs Janette Wilson Church Solicitor, 15 March 2004 regarding revaluation of churches and church halls, assuring congregational treasurers that there was nothing sinister in the revaluation process, and that the assessors have undertaken in future to make the forms clearer

From the Principal Clerk, 10 March 2004 thanking Presbytery for their comments on Barrier Act procedure

From the Secretary of the Parish Appraisal Committee, 16 March 2004 informing Presbytery of the concurrence of the Committee that the question of readjustment should not be pursued at Biggar

From Rev Gavin Elliott, March 2004 thanking Presbytery for the generosity of the tribute and gift given him on his leaving

From NHS Lanarkshire, 31 March 2004 inviting views relating to health issues from members of the local community

From the Accountant of the Board of Ministry, 8 April 2004 regarding Vacancy Allowances

The Report of the Business Committee:

Mrs Ellen Young presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance,

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the following as Commissioners to the General Assembly of 2004:
Rev James Cutler & Mrs Effie Dickson (Black Mount w Culter w Libberton & Quothquan),
Rev Helen Jamieson & Mrs Irene Williams (Carluke: St Andrew's),
Rev Bryan Kerr & Mr Robert Tweedie (Douglas St. Bride's w Douglas Water & Rigside),
Mr Ian Conn (Forth: St Paul's),
Rev Catherine Collins, Rev Margaret Muir & Mrs Moira White

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Further to the report, it was moved and seconded that Rev Catherine Collins and Rev Alison Meikle meet with representatives of South Lanarkshire Council on behalf of Presbytery, regarding the matter of civil funerals

This was agreed

Treasurer's Report

Mr Colin Young, Treasurer, presented his report, and the following deliverance was moved by the Clerk:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2003 and instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the accounts to the Board of Stewardship and Finance
3. Thank Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isabel Lawrie for their work as auditors
4. Thank the Treasurer for his diligent work throughout 2003

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the World Mission Committee

Mrs Sheena Thomson, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that each congregation should have a World Mission Team, consisting of World Mission Representative, Partner Plan Correspondent and Christian Aid Representative, and that the Convener should be informed accordingly
3. Recommend the Churches' HIV/AIDS campaign to all congregations
4. Recommend that congregations use fairly traded goods at church functions wherever possible
5. Note that the World Mission Rally will be held on Wednesday 10 November in St. Nicholas' Church Halls
6. Recommend to all congregations the sponsored walk for Christian Aid, to be held at Leadhills/Wanlockhead on Saturday 22 May
7. Note that the Convener will represent the Moderator at a meeting in Glasgow City Chambers on 22 April launching a campaign to strengthen links between Scotland and Malawi

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee:

The Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson, presented the report and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the charges to be visited and visiting teams for Quinquennial Visitations during 2004/2005 (first-named person to be the Team Leader)
Kirkmuirhill: Rev Catherine Collins, Rev Iain Cunningham and Mr Bill Sneddon
Carnwath: Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Jim Cutler, Mrs Edna McAllister and one Representative from the Presbytery Property Committee and one representative from the Stewardship and Finance Committee
Blackmount linked with Culter linked with Libberton & Quothquan: Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Bev Gauld and Mr Mike Chad
Carluk: **Kirkton:** Rev Ian Watson, Rev Aileen Robson, Mrs Anna Aitken
3. Instruct Team Leaders to make arrangements to conduct these visits, to appoint another elder to accompany them and to ensure that all reports for 2004/2005 are in the hands of the S&R Committee by the end of February 2005
4. Note that Forth: St Paul's will receive a Quinquennial Visitation in 2004 and the visiting team will be Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Alison Meikle, Mr Bill Sneddon and Mrs Ellen Young

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the Board of Ministry is intending to train new assessors for the Enquiry and Assessment process from a wide spectrum of church members and that nominations should be sent from Presbytery by 13 August 2004.
3. Request that the Convener be contacted with suggested names, or for more information, before the June Committee meeting.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev Catherine Collins presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that the Property Committee were generally satisfied with the property records submitted for inspection.
3. Agree to raise the Presbytery Financial Limit (which applies to repair work only) from £8,000 to £12,000.
4. Note that during 2004 Quinquennial Property Inspections are due to be carried out on the properties of Carluke: Kirkton and Biggar.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Parish Education Committee:

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that the total cost of the Fun Day, to be held at Douglas St Bride's on 8th May 2004, is estimated at £250 with a reduction of the total realised by a charge of £1 per child in attendance.
3. Resolve to nominate two delegates to the National Youth Assembly to be held in Dundee on the 10-13 September 2004, and invite congregations to submit the names of potential delegates to the convener as soon as possible.
4. Agree to the payment of £50 per delegate to cover the cost of the Assembly.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Worship Committee:

Mrs Margaret Filshie, Convener, presented the report of the Worship Committee.

Presbytery received the report, and the Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to everyone involved in the planning and presentation of the recent evening on the Fourth Edition of the Church Hymnary

Other Business:

Having been appointed as Acting Depute Clerk at the March meeting of Presbytery, Rev Catherine Collins took the oath *de fideli*

Notification of Committees Meeting on 27 April 2004:

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community	Ministry (7:30pm in Greyfriars Manse)
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for ordinary business at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Halls on Tuesday 4 May 2004 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 May 2004, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 11 Ministers and 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev Catherine Collins, Rev William Craig, Rev Helen Jamieson and Rev Ian Watson, Ministers, and Mrs Edna McAllister, Mrs Cath Steele and Mr John Strachan, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 13 April 2004 were held as read and approved

Report of the Guild Presbyterian Council

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Jean Morton, Convener of the Guild Presbyterian Council, and invited her to address Presbytery.

Mrs Morton paid tribute to the service of Miss Sheena Thomson, who had been Council Convener for some 10 years, and went on to describe the Guild's three year national strategy "Dare to Care" which had begun this session. Local Guilds have focused particularly on the issue of domestic abuse, and Mrs Morton drew attention to the resource pack "No Exceptions" for use in churches. She also informed Presbytery that the Guild is a member organization of the Women's National Commission, a government advisory body, and that a successful bid had been made to secure a place on the Scottish Executive's Women's Convention.

There being no questions, the Moderator thanked Mrs Morton for her address.

Senior Mission Adviser

The Moderator welcomed Rev David Currie, Senior Mission Adviser, and invited him to address Presbytery.

Mr Currie highlighted the importance of reaching out to the 90% of the population who are not church-goers, and drew attention to the resources of personnel, including himself, available to congregations in the Presbytery, and also that of Mr David Geddes, Adviser in Hamilton Presbytery. He also gave information on written, audio and video resources, particularly those relating to the Church Without Walls process, and to forthcoming conferences.

After questions, the Moderator thanked Mr Currie for his address

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From the Assembly Council Listening Group 24 March inviting Presbytery to appoint a representative to the Stakeholders Conference Group

From the Department of Ministry 2 April inviting Presbytery to indicate names of elder members of Presbytery who are interested in being trained as Interim Moderators

The Report of the Business Committee:

Mrs Betty Smith, Deputy Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the Report
2. Invite elders interested in Interim Moderator training to contact the Clerk
3. Agree to pass the new Ordinal to the Worship Committee for consideration and report
4. Note that the Presbytery Minutes for 2003 have been checked and are in order.
5. Note that the Rev Bryan Kerr is happy to serve as Lanark Presbytery's representative on the Group preparing the Stakeholders Conference in 2005

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee:

The Moderator welcomed members of the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water and Rigside, who had been cited to appear in their interest.

The Convener, Rev Steven Reid, reported that these congregations had, on their own initiative, resolved to unite under the Unitary Constitution. He presented the Draft Basis of Union and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to the Union of the churches of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water and Rigside in accordance with the Draft Basis of Union.
3. Instruct the Clerk to remit a copy of the Draft Basis of Union to the General Assembly's Committee for Parish Appraisal for their concurrence, and to the Law Department

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an addendum

4. Congratulate the congregations for their vision

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Deputy Convener of the Business Committee then moved in the following terms:

Presbytery:-

Resolve to hold a service of union at St Bride's Church, Douglas, between the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water and Rigside, on Thursday 17 June 2004 at 7:30pm; Presbytery to meet at 7:15pm, the Moderator to preside and Rev Aileen Robson to lead the first part of the worship and preach the sermon

This was agreed

Report on Civil Funerals

Rev Alison Meikle presented a report on a meeting she and Rev Catherine Collins had had with Mrs Jean Haughton of South Lanarkshire Council, on the matter of Civil Funerals. This service began in South Lanarkshire on 1 May, and is to be offered by registrars, working in liaison with undertakers. A fee is to be charged, and it is expected that the ceremonies would take place in crematoria or funeral parlours, though it appears that no consideration had been given to a possible venue in villages where no such facilities exist. A home visit may be made by the registrar in advance of the ceremony, but not thereafter. If hymns, prayers or readings are requested, these would be arranged by family members, not the registrar. Mrs Collins and Mrs Meikle had been informed that this service is already being offered widely in England and Wales.

Presbytery received the report, and the Moderator thanked Mrs Collins and Mrs Meikle for taking up the matter with South Lanarkshire Council on behalf of Presbytery

Malawi – Scotland Partnership

Miss Sheena Thomson reported on a meeting she attended on 22 April in Glasgow City Chambers launching the Scotland – Malawi Partnership. The aims of the Partnership are to focus, develop and extend the many existing links between the peoples of Scotland and Malawi. Its objectives are to encourage development in the fields of health, education, water and sanitation, and to break the cycle of poverty in Malawi. A representative of the Church of Scotland's World Mission Department had reminded the meeting that partnership is a two-way process. Miss Thomson felt that the enterprise is worthwhile and expressed the hope that it will bear fruit.

Presbytery received the report, and the Moderator thanked Mrs Thomson for attending on behalf of Presbytery

Parish Education Committee:

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee. She reported that 105 children from 9 congregations were booked to attend the Presbytery Fun Day on 8 May. She informed Presbytery that Mr David Adams had agreed to manage the hiring out and return of the new multimedia equipment, which is insured for use anywhere in the United Kingdom (though not if left unattended in a car). She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that a multimedia system has been purchased at a cost of £1,995 and can be borrowed by members of congregations within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery who have experience or have been trained in its use.
3. Note that there will be a training session in the use of the equipment at St Nicholas Church Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 3rd June, 2004.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Property Committee:

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report.
2. Grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars to install emergency lighting in the church and hall, subject to the approval of the General Trustees and the Committee on Artistic Matters.
3. Grant permission to Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church to install a ramp at the side of the church, subject to the approval of the General Trustees and (given that this is a B listed building) to the granting of any necessary statutory consents.
4. Grant permission to Forth: St Paul's for the installation of new lighting in the church along with associated electrical work, and for the redecoration of the church, all subject to the approval of the General Trustees and the Committee on Artistic Matters.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 8 June 2004 :

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Parish Education

Parish Mission

Property

Superintendence & Records (1 June at 7:30pm in St Andrew's Session House, Carluke)

World Mission

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for Communion, followed by ordinary business, at Lowther Church, Leadhills, on Tuesday 15 June 2004 at 7:00pm, and *in hunc effectum* at St Bride's Church, Douglas on Thursday 17 June 2004 at 7:15pm for the service of union of the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water and Rigside. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Leadhills, on 15 June 2004, the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lowther Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 8 Ministers and 18 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev David Carmichael, Rev William Craig, Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Steven Reid, Rev Aileen Robson and Rev Ian Watson, Ministers, and Mrs Mabel Doak, Mr Adam Foster, Mr Ian Ivison, Mr William Sneddon and Mrs Irene Williams, Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 4 May 2004 were held as read and approved

Extract Minutes and Letters:

From Martin Johnson, Priority Areas Support Worker, noting that the parish of Douglas Water & Rigside is included in the Department of National Mission's supplementary list of parishes with "very significant levels of poverty"

From the Board of Stewardship & Finance, informing Presbytery that its audited accounts for 2003 comply fully with the regulations, and thanking the Presbytery Treasurer

From the Law Department, noting the forthcoming union under the Unitary Constitution of Douglas St Bride's lw Douglas Water & Rigside

From South Lanarkshire Council, stating that after consideration, the Civil Funeral Ceremony will be offered without emphasising that a small religious content will be allowed

From the Department of National Mission, concurring with the draft basis of union between Douglas St Bride's lw Douglas Water & Rigside

From the Depute Principal Clerk, informing Presbytery that learning resources have been prepared for those elders who may moderate meetings of Kirk Sessions

Report of Diligence at the General Assembly

Mr Robert Tweedie and Rev James Cutler reported diligence in their attendance at the recent General Assembly. Mr Tweedie noted particularly the historic nature of the Assembly, with the election of its first woman Moderator, Dr Alison Elliot. Mr Cutler remarked on the fact that the Assembly made some definite decisions, while expressing personal uncertainty about the wisdom of them

The Report of the Business Committee:

Mrs Betty Smith, Deputy Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

6. Receive the Report
7. Thank the Moderator, the Organist and the Kirk Sessions of Glencaple lw Lowther for the conduct of the Presbytery Communion Service, and the tea ladies for their catering
8. Approve the nomination of Rev Jack Stewart to serve as Moderator of Presbytery for the session 2004/05
9. Amend Standing Order 20(a) to read: *The Presbytery shall appoint a Clerk and Depute Clerk from among its members, both of whom shall hold office during the pleasure of the Presbytery*
10. Appoint Rev Catherine Collins as Depute Clerk until June 2005
11. Appoint Rev Jim Cutler as Convener of the Business Committee from 1 July 2004
12. Approve the appointment of Rev Aileen Robson as Convener of the World Mission Committee from 1 July 2004
13. Resolve to appoint the following as additional elders for the session 2004/05: Mrs Anna Aitken, Mrs Mabel Doak, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mrs Betty Smith, Mrs Irene Williams
14. Appoint the following to serve as Presbytery Appointees on General Assembly Boards and Committees:

Rev Catherine Collins

Board of Ministry

Rev Alison Meikle	Board of National Mission
Mr John Strachan	Board of Social Responsibility
Rev Dr Graham Houston	Board of Stewardship & Finance
Mrs Margaret Filshie	Committee to nominate the Moderator

15. Note that the Business Committee intends to meet with Committee Conveners on a date to be confirmed in late September
16. Invite members of Presbytery to contact the Business Convener or the Clerk to indicate their preferences for service on Presbytery Committees
17. Thank for their service those commissioned and additional elders who are not continuing as members of Presbytery
18. Thank Rev Bryan Kerr for his service as Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe lw Symington, and discharge him
19. Note with pleasure that Rev Dr Graham Houston has returned to work, part-time on 16 May, and that he will soon resume full-time duties
20. Appoint a Consultative Committee consisting of Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Helen Jamieson, and Mrs Moira White, under the terms of Act XV 2002 anent long-term illness of ministers in charge (as amended by Act VIII 2003), to confer with the Board of Ministry and Rev Mel Coogan, and to report to Presbytery
21. Congratulate Rev Iain Cunningham on his 25 years service in the ministry

In answer to questions, the Clerk explained the terms of Act XV 2002 (as amended), and that the planned Quinquennial Visitation had been sisted while the Committee of Enquiry set up in April 2003 under the terms of Act I 1988 completed its work. A report had been prepared by this Committee but it had not been received by the minister of Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction because of his absence due to illness.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to Mrs Betty Smith for her service as Acting Convener of the Business Committee

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Presbytery resolved to meet in private and Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. In the case of **Lanark: St. Nicholas:**
 - a. Note with concern the fact that Mrs Meikle has not taken regular time off and urge Office Bearers to be supportive in ensuring that she is able to set aside adequate time for her family and recreational activities.
 - b. Commend the congregation on new initiatives of Bible Study, the foundation of a Girls Brigade Company and Children's Holiday Club
 - c. Urge the Congregational Board to take particular note of all the property issues raised in the recommendations given by the visitation committee and instruct the Presbytery Property Committee to meet with representatives of St Nicholas Congregational Board before the end of 2004 to offer support and assistance.
 - d. Commend the Minister, office bearers and congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas for the new enthusiasm clearly evident and note that this charge is fulfilling its function.
3. In the case of **Biggar:**
 - a. Note that in light of the vacancy the Superintendence and Records committee was heartened by the generally positive tone of the report but recommend that a further visit be made towards the end of the first year of a new ministry.
 - b. Note with concern the drop in income and encourage the Kirk Session and Congregational Board to seriously consider and make plans for a Stewardship Programme.
 - c. Recommend that with the support of the Interim Moderator and Advisory Committee, the Vacancy Committee assess the implications on the workload of the Minister that the Gillespie Centre creates

It was moved and agreed as an addendum:

- d. Note that this charge is fulfilling its function
4. In the case of **Douglas: St Bride's lw Douglas Water & Rigside:**

- a. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers of Douglas linked with Douglas Water and Rigside for their obvious vision and enthusiasm in constructing a 5 Year Plan
 - b. Note the sense of optimism about the future as a United Church
 - c. Note with concern the fact that the Visiting Committee felt the Minister may be overworking and urge Mr Kerr to avoid taking on extra responsibilities and to ensure he has adequate time for his wife and young family
 - d. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers of Douglas linked with Douglas Water and Rigside to the prayers of the Presbytery as they unite and note that this charge is fulfilling its function.
5. Note that the Superintendence and Records committee intend to prepare a pro-forma for a parish profile which each congregation will be asked to update annually.
 6. Note that because some elders are 'retiring' from Presbytery duties there may be changes to the Quinquennial Visitation teams for 2004.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Presbytery resumed in open court

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee. He informed Presbytery that the Congregational Board of Carstairs Junction were experiencing difficulties in undertaking the urgent and essential work recommended by their recent Quinquennial Property Survey Report, due to a drop in income. He then moved the following deliverance: Presbytery: -

6. Receive the report.
7. Grant Carstairs Junction permission to apply to the General Trustees for assistance from the Central Fabric Fund to enable them to undertake at least the urgent work recommended in their recent Quinquennial Property Survey Report.
8. Grant Libberton & Quothquan permission to apply to the General Trustees for assistance from the Central Fabric Fund to enable them to undertake repair work to a stained glass window.
9. Grant Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen permission to proceed with their proposed extension to their church and hall, subject to the approval of the General Trustees.

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve study leave proposals from Rev Helen Jamieson for computer training to be taken between September 2004 & March 2005 on a part -time basis.
3. Approve study leave proposals from Rev David Carmichael to attend a ministers' conference at Grace Mount Community Church Los Angeles from mid February – mid March 2005
4. Approve arrangements for the annual retreat on Monday 6th September
5. Approve the nomination of Mr Peter Simpson, 2 Westend Gardens, Kirkmuirhill, Mr Jerry Dunn, 7 Heathfield Drive, Blackwood, members of Kirkmuirhill Church, and Mr Tom Smith, Presbytery Elder, to the recruitment process as potential Assessors in the Enquiry and Assessment Process

She also reported on behalf of the **Pastoral Advisory Group**, informing Presbytery of the arrangements that the Group has for offering support across the Presbytery. She noted that Presbytery follows guidelines laid down by the Board of Ministry. These offer a Pastoral Adviser to ministers in their first three years of ministry. Thereafter, ministers should nominate a colleague who is willing to offer ongoing pastoral support. She then moved further items in the deliverance:

6. Approve arrangements for the pastoral care of ministers in the Presbytery
7. Approve the holding of a meal before the meeting of Presbytery on 7 September

The report together with the deliverance was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Mrs Anna Aitken presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

5. Receive the report
6. Note that the Committee is planning to visit all congregations within the bounds with a view to forming an up-to-date Parish Appraisal Plan

The report together with the deliverance was approved

Parish Education Committee:

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee. She commented on the success of the Presbytery Fun Day, which had been attended by over 100 children, and expressed her thanks on behalf of Presbytery to everyone involved. She informed Presbytery that the co-ordinator for the multi-media equipment is now Mrs Liz Ivison, 8 St Ninian's, Lanark ML11 7HX (tel: 01555 661944) and that the equipment is stored in Lanark: Greyfriars Church

Presbytery received the report

Notification of Committees Meeting on 31 August 2004 :

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry	Parish Education
Parish Mission	Property
Superintendence & Records	

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet *in hunc effectum* at St Bride's Church, Douglas on Thursday 17 June 2004 at 7:15pm for the service of union of the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water and Rigside, and for ordinary business on Tuesday 7 September 2004 at 7:00pm in St Nicholas' Church Hall, Lanark. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Douglas, on Thursday 17 June 2004, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* at St Bride's Church, Douglas for the service of union between Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water & Rigside, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 5 Ministers and 7 Elders, and associated with them 1 minister from another Presbytery.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Catherine Collins, Rev David Collins and Rev Steven Reid, Ministers, and from Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr Adam Foster, Mr Tom Smith and Mr William Sneddon, Elders.

Service of Union

The concurrence of the General Assembly's Committee on Parish Appraisal having been obtained, the Presbytery proceeded to the Church, where the first part of the service was conducted by Rev Aileen Robson. The Moderator presided over the Act of Union between the congregations of Douglas: St Bride's and Douglas Water & Rigside to form The Douglas Valley Church. Rev Helen Jamieson expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk, the Minister of the Charge and Miss Robson for their conduct of the service.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 7 September 2004 at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on 7 September 2004, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 16 ministers, 24 elders and 1 corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev David Carmichael, Rev Melvyn Coogan, Rev William Craig and Rev James Cutler, ministers, and Mrs Mabel Doak, Mr James Hardie and Mr Iain Roper-Caldbeck, elders.

Roll of Presbytery The Roll of Presbytery was laid on the table and the Moderator welcomed the 6 new elder members of the Presbytery.

Election and Installation of the Moderator

The Presbytery agreed to elect Rev Jack Stewart as Moderator of Presbytery for the session 2004/05. Rev Margaret Muir welcomed Mr Stewart with prayer and invited him to take the chair. The new Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Miss Muir for her skill and humour as Moderator during the last session.

Approval of the Agenda

Rev Ian Watson gave notice that at the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery he would move in the following terms: "Presbytery instruct the Church and Community Committee to write to Mr Jimmy Hood MP, urging him to support the House of Lords amendments to the Civil Partnership Bill".

Minutes

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 15 June 2004, and of the *in hunc effectum* meeting on Thursday 17 June 2004, were held as read and approved

Demission of Rev Melvyn Coogan

The Clerk reported that Rev Melvyn Coogan had applied to demit his charge on 30 September 2004 on the grounds of ill-health, and that all details had been satisfactorily arranged with the Pension Trustees and the Department of Ministry. The Moderator then welcomed members of the congregations of Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction, who had been cited to appear in their interest, and called for representatives to speak. Mrs Grace Stokes, from Carstairs Village, said that she was sorry to learn that Mr Coogan was leaving and wished him better health in retirement. Mrs Beatrice McClelland, from Carstairs Junction, said it had been a privilege to work with him as Session Clerk. She also spoke warmly of his preaching, and his influence on her own life and the life of others.

The Clerk then moved that Presbytery agree to the demission of Rev Mel Coogan, seconded by the Depute Clerk.

This was agreed

On behalf of Presbytery, the Moderator added his wishes for God's blessing and guidance for Mr and Mrs Coogan in the future.

On behalf of the Business Committee, Rev Catherine Collins then moved in the following terms.

Presbytery:-

1. Refer the Report of the Committee of Inquiry, set up under Act I 1988 into the situation at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction, to the Superintendence and Records Committee
2. Appoint Rev Ian Watson as Interim Moderator in the vacancy at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction

This was agreed

Extract Minutes and Letters

From Church Without Walls 2005, 30 June regarding availability of funding for regional events, and enclosing a video

From the Law Department, 20 July with information on changes to Employment Law, and sample styles of contracts for church employees

From the General Trustees, 20 July enclosing information on the proposed monitoring survey of the River Tweed SSSIs by Scottish Natural Heritage

From the General Trustees, 28 July inviting Presbytery to submit names of persons who might be considered for appointment to the Trustees

From the Principal Clerk, 30 July with a summary of recent General Assembly decisions on the issue of human sexuality

From the Board of Stewardship & Finance, July regarding shortfalls in payments to Ministry and Mission & Renewal Funds

From the Department of National Mission, 16 August enclosing the annual healthcare chaplains' report forms

The Report of the Business Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Deputy Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance.

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the list of Committee Members as detailed on the form issued to members of Presbytery
3. Approve the appointment of the Business Committee as the Vacancy Procedure Committee of Lanark Presbytery
4. Appoint Rev Margaret Muir as Presbytery's nominee to the Presbyterial Panel, in terms of Act III, 2001
5. Agree to deal with the Remits from the General Assembly 2004 as detailed in the table issued to members
6. Note the availability of the Office-Bearers information forms, and urge that these be returned to the Clerk by 15 September
7. Appoint Rev Catherine Collins, Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Steven Reid and Rev Ian Watson to attend the Board of National Mission seminars on the National Plan and Flexible Tenure
8. Note the meeting of Conveners of Presbytery Committees on 21st September 7.30 pm in St Nicholas' Church Hall
9. Note that the October and November meetings of Presbytery will be in St Nicholas Church with committees meeting as usual in the Church Hall
10. Thank Mrs Betty Smith and her helpers for arranging the meal before the Presbytery meeting

After discussion, it was agreed to amend item 2 of the deliverance to read, "Approve the revised list of Committee Members as detailed on the form issued to members of Presbytery".

The report, together with the revised deliverance, was approved

Report on Church Without Walls 2005

Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev Bryan Kerr presented a report from the Church Without Walls 2005 Planning Group. The group is planning "The Big Saturday" on 10 September 2005 at the SECC, Glasgow, for the Clyde Presbyteries with many different activities for adults and children, culminating with worship in the Clyde Auditorium. The events will centre around the themes of the original Church Without Walls Report, and be an opportunity for accountability, reflection and celebration. The total cost is estimated at just over £39,000, but with a grant from the CWW Fund (subject to the approval for the event from the Presbyteries), sponsorship and ticket sales, the group is confident of meeting this target.

Mr Cunningham moved the following deliverance

Presbytery:-

Support the plans of the Clyde Presbyteries (Glasgow, Greenock & Paisley, Hamilton, Lanark) Planning Group for "The Big Saturday" at the SECC on 10th September 2005.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee and moved the following deliverance.

Presbytery: -

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev Margaret Muir as Vice-Convener of Superintendence and Records.
3. Note that an Information Form is now available for each congregation which is due to have a Quinquennial Visitation in 2004/05, and request that it be returned to the Convener of the Visiting Team at least 2 weeks before the visit is made and then returned to the Superintendence and Records Convener along with the Visiting Team's report
4. Note that the Committee is happy to receive comments and suggestions regarding the Information Form so that it can be reviewed and developed
5. Note that the Quinquennial Visitation to Forth: St Paul's has been postponed

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee. In describing the defects in the rainwater goods he indicated that the problems were well-known to the congregation, and that the matter had been raised at Presbytery in December 2002, at which time the Congregational Board had been urged to attend to the matter. He then moved the following deliverance.

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Grant permission to Carnwath Church to undertake whatever work is required to remedy the serious defects in the rainwater goods at Carnwath Church building and instruct the minister and office bearers to apply without delay to the General Trustees for financial assistance towards the cost of these repairs.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and noted particularly the successful Ministers' Retreat on Monday 6 September, which consisted of a visit to the Lake District. She then moved the following deliverance.

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Vacancy Schedule and financial arrangements for Biggar Kirk
3. Approve the Study Leave application by Rev Iain Cunningham, leave to be taken between 25th July and 22nd August 2005
4. Thank those who organised the annual Ministers' Retreat

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 28 September 2004

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship and Finance
Superintendence and Records (8 September)	
World Mission	

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 5 October 2004 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on 5 October 2004, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 17 ministers and 22 elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev William Craig and Rev Anne McIvor, ministers, and Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston, Mr Ian Ivison and Mrs Betty Smith, elders.

Approval of the Agenda

It was noted that Rev Ian Watson had withdrawn his notice of motion, intimated at the meeting on 7 September 2004, and would take up the matter with the Church and Community Committee

Minutes

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7 September 2004 were held as read and approved

Extract Minutes and Letters

From the Committee on Education, 17 September drawing attention to the Committee's leaflet and press release on Sex and Relationships Education

From the Church Solicitor, 4 October with a final reminder that the remaining provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act came into operation on 1 October 2004

The Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Instruct the Clerk to write to local MSPs about the concerns that the Presbytery of Lanark and the Church of Scotland have over the Proposed 'Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Bill'.
 2. Encourage the Business Committee in its efforts to have the Committee Deliverances provided in print for the Members of Presbytery with the Minutes of the Previous Meeting; this would take effect from August 2005.
 3. Encourage the Business Committee in its proposal of a Conference Session to be held during the Springtime of 2005, with a meal beforehand, and invite members of Presbytery to provide suggestions as to a subject for the conference.
 4. Invite any member of Presbytery interested in serving as Scottish Bible Society Representative to contact the Business Convener.
 5. Note with regret the retirement of Mrs Beatrice McClelland as Representative Elder for Carstairs Junction, and thank her for her work and service to the Presbytery of Lanark
- Responding to Item 4 of the deliverance, Rev Alison Meikle offered to serve as the Bible Society representative, and it was agreed to appoint her.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee. The Moderator invited Rev David Collins, interim moderator at Forth: St Paul's to speak in relation to the call from the congregation to Mrs Sarah Ross. He reported that both the decision of the Nominating Committee and the election by the congregation had been unanimous, and that the congregation was looking forward greatly to the start of this new ministry. He also spoke warmly of Rev Susan Cowell's service as locum. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

Note the arrangements for the forthcoming Ordination and Induction service for the Mrs Sarah Ross to take place at Forth: St. Paul's Parish Church on Thursday 4th November at 7.30pm; Presbytery to meet at 7.15pm.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Presbytery resolved to meet in private and Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee concerning the situation at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction. She explained the background to the setting up of a Committee of Inquiry under Act I 1988, and to the fact that the report of this Committee had not been presented to the incumbent minister because of his absence on sick leave, followed by his retirement on health grounds on 30 September 2004. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Resolve to depart from the Report of the Committee of Enquiry (under Act 1 1988)
2. Thank Rev Jack Stewart and Mr Ian Ivison for their service on the Committee of Enquiry.
3. Instruct the Clerk to write to Rev Bill Hogg, Convener of the Committee of Enquiry, to express appreciation of his service within our Presbytery last year.
4. Instruct the Superintendence & Records Committee to approach the Board of Ministry and the congregations regarding the possible appointment of an Interim Minister
5. Instruct representatives of the Superintendence & Records Committee to meet with the Kirk Sessions of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to keep them informed of what is happening
6. Resolve to appoint an experienced minister as locum at the earliest opportunity
7. Commend the Office Bearers and members of Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction to the prayers of Presbytery
8. Refer the matter of the vacancy at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction to the Parish Mission Committee

Presbytery agreed to amend item 6 to read "Agree to the appointment of Rev Susan Cowell as locum in the vacancy at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction from 4 November 2004".

The report, together with the amended deliverance, was approved

The Presbytery resolved to meet in open court

The Report of the World Mission Committee

Rev Aileen Robson, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission Committee. She included in her report details of the annual World Mission Rally, which would focus on India, with a speaker from Scottish Love in Action. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Note arrangements for the World Mission Rally to be held in St Nicholas Church Hall on Wednesday 10 November 2004 at 7.30pm.
2. Note that a letter has been sent out to all congregations enquiring about their response to the HIV/AIDS Project.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Convener also gave notice of motion, to be considered at the meeting of Presbytery in February 2005: *Presbytery rename "World Mission Committee" as "World Church Committee"*.

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Rev Dr Graham Houston, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Agree to transmit to all congregations within the bounds the General Assembly's urgent call to all members to practise *sacrificial giving*.
2. Receive the Mission and Renewal Fund Allocations for 2005 and instruct the Committee to deal with any appeals which the Convener may receive from congregations by Friday October 22nd, and to report to the next meeting of Presbytery

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Approve additional voluntary stipend payment on the plus 5% scale for Lanark: St Nicholas' and Kirkmuirhill for 2005
2. Approve a grant of £100 to Mr Allan Wilson, candidate for the ministry, in his second year of training

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:-

1. Note that child protection training sessions for children's workers will be held at Carluke, Douglas, Lanark, Kirkmuirhill and Biggar over the coming months.
2. Note that there will be a training session at 7pm on 11 November at Kirkton Church, Carluke and on 2 December at St Bride's Centre, Douglas.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 26 October 2004

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church & Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship & Finance
Superintendence & Records	World Mission

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church on Tuesday 2 November 2004 at 7:00pm, and *in hunc effectum* at Forth:St Paul's on Thursday 4 November 2004 at 7:15pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on 2 November 2004, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 11 ministers, 26 elders and 1 corresponding member

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Catherine Collins, Rev Bill Craig, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Steven Reid and Rev Jack Stewart, ministers, and Mr Johan Hamelink, elder.

Minutes

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 5 October 2004 were held as read and approved

Extract Minutes and Letters

Board of Ministry Finance Implementation Committee, approving the Vacancy Schedule for Biggar

Board of Ministry Finance Implementation Committee, agreeing to recommend allocation of an endowment of £3895 from Lesmahagow: Old to Douglas Valley

Constituency MSP and List MSPs, acknowledging receipt of the letters concerning the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Bill, and expressing sympathy with the Church's arguments.

Scottish Executive Development Department, on the aforementioned subject, noting that the closing date for responses was 25 August 2004, but indicating that the Presbytery's comments would be taken into account

The Church Solicitor, informing Presbytery that the Scottish Churches Committee had received an assurance from Ross Finnie, Minister for Rural Affairs, advising that the exemption scheme for churches regarding Water and Sewerage Charges will continue until 2010. The same correspondence also noted that circulars from the Church Solicitor will no longer be sent to congregations by post; instead Presbytery Clerks will be asked to draw attention to these.

General Trustees, providing a check-list to assist with the inspection of glebes

Board of Ministry, agreeing to the study leave application from Rev Iain Cunningham

From the Presbytery of Hamilton, requesting consultations with the Presbytery of Lanark on the instruction of the General Assembly anent the number and size of Presbyteries

The Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Note the letter received from the Presbytery of Hamilton concerning the number and size of Presbyteries and instruct the Clerk to make arrangements for representatives from each Presbytery to meet. The representatives from the Presbytery of Lanark would be: Mrs Anna Aitken, Rev Michael Frew (Clerk); Rev Jim Cutler and Rev Ian Cunningham.
2. Note the invitation for a representative of the Presbytery to attend the conference on The Emerging Church and nominate the Rev Bryan Kerr (whom failing, Rev Michael Frew) to attend.
3. Resolve to add the name of Mrs Flora Cheeseman to the roll of the Presbytery, Mrs Cheeseman to serve on the Committees of World Mission and Parish Education.
4. On his moving to live in Glasgow, resolve to record the thanks of the Presbytery of Lanark to Mr David Adams for his services to the Presbytery

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Cheeseman to the Presbytery, noting that she had previously been a member; she also addressed Mr Adams, speaking warmly of his recent service to the Presbytery, particularly his organisation of the Committee nights.

It was agreed to remove Mrs Aitken's name from the first section of the deliverance, as she is unavailable, and to seek another elder to represent the Presbytery in this matter.

The report, together with the amended deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee concerning the Overture from the General Assembly, proposing amendments to Act III 2001. She described the substance of the Overture, indicating that the changes would bring greater clarity in the operation of the Act in the light of experience. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

Approve the Overture and Interim Act amending Act III 2001

On being put to the vote, there voted for the Overture 37 and against the Overture 0, with no abstentions

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

Mr John Strachan, Convener, presented the report of the Church and Community Committee. He concentrated on the government's Civil Partnerships Bill and spoke of the Committee's support for the House of Lords amendments, the effect of which would be to extend the proposed rights of civil partnerships to such pairings as a mother & daughter, disabled person & carer, or two widows living together. He stressed that the Committee was making no moral case on the issue of gay or lesbian relationships, but believed that the House of Lords amendments would be bringing greater justice in this area of our national life.

He then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

Instruct the Clerk to write to Jimmy Hood MP urging him to support the House of Lords amendments to the Civil Partnerships Bill

It was moved and seconded as a counter-motion: *Presbytery delay the discussion of the House of Lords amendments to the Civil Partnerships Bill until the December meeting, when written details of the amendments are available*

On a vote being taken, there voted for the counter-motion 13, and for the deliverance 20.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Rev Dr Graham Houston, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. The Presbytery Treasurer spoke to the Budget for 2005. The Convener moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Approve the finalised Mission and Renewal Fund allocations and instruct the Convener to send them to the Department of Stewardship and Finance
2. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2005, and set the congregational levy at £1.60 per member
3. Resolve to add the name of Rev Catherine Collins to the list of approved cheque signatories regarding the Presbytery bank account

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Accounts Inspection Committee

Mr Colin Young, Presbytery Treasurer, presented the report of the Accounts Inspection Committee, which consists of Mr Ian Ivison, Mr Alex McPhee and the Treasurer.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Note that all of the congregational accounts for 2003 had met the Church of Scotland's regulations anent congregational finance
 2. Commend treasurers for their efforts in achieving this position
 3. Thank Ian Ivison for his help to individual treasurers
 4. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the Church of Scotland General Treasurer
- It was agreed to thank the Treasurer for his work on behalf of Presbytery

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Note that a report has now been received following the Quinquennial Property Inspection of Biggar St Mary's Kirk, hall, manse and Gillespie Centre.
2. Approve the application to the General Trustees from the Congregational Board of Kirkfieldbank Church seeking grant aid towards work in progress at their church building.
3. Grant permission to Carnwath Congregational Board and the Auchengray Church Centre Committee to proceed with work on a new front entrance vestibule at the Auchengray Church Centre at a cost of £18,700, subject to the approval of the General Trustees.
4. Note that Carluke: St Andrews has completed the urgent work identified in their 2003 Quinquennial Property Report and that they have prepared a five year plan to deal with the essential and desirable work.
5. Note that a grant application has now been received to help finance urgent work to remedy serious defects in the rainwater goods at Carnwath Church building.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Anne McIvor presented the report of the Ministry Committee. She informed Presbytery that the report on his study leave had been received from Rev Ian Watson, and also that Mr Allan Wilson, candidate in training for the ministry, had written a letter of thanks to the Presbytery for the grant of £100. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Approve additional voluntary stipend payments for Carluke: St John's plus 5%
2. Approve additional voluntary stipend payments for Carluke: Kirkton plus 10%
3. Note the Parish Mission Committee's draft paper on 'Flexible Tenure' and remind Presbytery that the topic is to be considered at the December meeting. (Remits to Presbyteries p7 'Task Force for Change' and Appendix pp 18 – 28)

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee. She stressed the importance of contacting her with numbers of expected participants at the forthcoming Child Protection training event. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

Note that the Parish Education Committee is holding a special event for Lanark Presbytery children's workers on Thursday 10 March 2005.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Ian Watson presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee on the subject of the annual hospital chaplains' reports. All but one report had been received. He noted the difficulties some chaplains have in balancing parish and hospital responsibilities, and also that some felt the lack of training opportunities. He then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Thank the hospital chaplains, commending them for their work in the past year

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 30 November 2004

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Business

Ministry Parish Education

Parish Mission Property

Superintendence & Records

World Mission Worship

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet *in hunc effectum* at Forth: St Paul's on Thursday 4 November 2004 at 7:15pm, and for the next ordinary meeting at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 7 December 2004 at 7:00pm, The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Forth, on Thursday 4 November 2004, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Forth: St Paul's to ordain and induct the Mrs Sarah Ross to the charge of Forth: St Paul's, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Margaret Muir, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 10 Ministers and 10 Elders, and associated with them 5 ministers and elders from other Presbyteries and Churches.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Helen Jamieson and Rev Anne McIvor, Ministers, and from Mrs Anna Aitken, Mr Alex McPhee, Mrs Fiona Sandeman, Mr John Strachan, Mr Robert Tweedie and Mrs Irene Williams, Elders.

Ordination and Induction of the Mrs Sarah Ross

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of the Mrs Sarah Ross, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev James Cutler conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Mrs Sarah Ross was ordained by the laying on of hands and inducted to the charge of Forth: St Paul's by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service it was resolved to add Mrs Ross's name to the Roll of Presbytery. Mrs Moira White expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mr Cutler for their conduct of the service of ordination and induction.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 7 December 2004 at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on 7 December 2004, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 17 ministers, 21 elders and 1 corresponding member. The Moderator welcomed Rev Sarah Ross to her first meeting as a member of Presbytery.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev William Craig and Rev Margaret Muir, ministers, and Mr Robert Carson, Mr James Hardie, Mr Alex McPhee, Mr Cameron Morton, Mrs Lillias Nicol and Mrs Ellen Young, elders.

Tribute to the Rev James Bain

Rev David Collins paid tribute to Jim Bain, who had been a member of Presbytery during his ministry at Forth: St Paul's from 1996-2002, and who had died recently. Mr Collins noted how well Jim had worked with all kinds of people, encouraging and developing the life of the congregation, and described his involvement in a number of local community ventures. He had also played a very full part in the work of the Presbytery.

The Moderator then led the Presbytery in prayer.

**The Presbytery resolved to instruct the Clerk
to send a copy of the tribute to Mr Bain's family**

Minutes

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 2 November 2004, and of the *in hunc effectum* meeting held on Thursday 4 November 2004, were held as read and approved

Extract Minutes and Letters

Church Without Walls Planning Group stating that the period during which applications by Presbyteries can be made to the CWW 2005 Grant Award Scheme has been extended to a closing date of 20 November 2005

Panel on Worship requesting the assistance of precentors in introducing the new Church Hymnary

Board of Stewardship & Finance acknowledging receipt of an extract minute from the Presbytery regarding congregational accounts, and thanking all those involved in the work of attestation

Presbytery of Angus informing the Presbytery of Lanark of its view that the current arrangements for providing financial recompense to conveners of General Assembly boards and committees discriminate unfairly between ministers and non-ministers

Jimmy Hood, MP acknowledging receipt of the letter from the Presbytery regarding the Civil Partnerships Bill, and promising to take the Presbytery's views into account

Principal Clerk acknowledging receipt of the return to the Overture amending Act III 2001

The Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

5. Note the invitation from the Committee on Ecumenical Relations for a representative of the Presbytery to attend the Conference on 'A Church for All and of All' and nominate Mrs Betty Smith and the Rev Aileen Robson to attend.
6. Thank the Rev Bryan Kerr for attending the Conference on 'The Emerging Church' on behalf of the Presbytery.
7. Agree to hold a Conference Session on 'The Emerging Church' on 5 April 2005, to be led by Rev Peter Neilson, with a buffet meal at 6.30pm; business to commence at 7.30pm and be disposed of as quickly as possible
8. Agree to invite Mr Iain Johnston to speak to the Presbytery about the Parish Development Fund at the February 2005 Presbytery Meeting.

9. Grant permission to the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St Nicholas to have Joint Services on 26 December 2004 and 2 January 2005; and to the congregations of Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke St Andrew's and Carluke: St John's to have a Joint Service on 2nd January 2005.
10. Approve the proposal of the Business Committee that the Presbytery continue discussions with the Presbytery of Hamilton concerning the instruction of the General Assembly anent the size and number of presbyteries; the Presbytery of Lanark to be represented by Rev Anne McIvor, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Michael Frew (Clerk), ministers, and Mr Robert Carson and Mr Andrew Brown, elders.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Vacancy Procedure

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee on the election of Rev Dr James Francis to the charge of Biggar. Rev Iain Cunningham spoke of the straightforward procedure during the vacancy at Biggar, noting with pleasure that Dr Francis had been unanimously elected by the congregation on Sunday 5 December. He expressed his gratitude to the members of the Nominating Committee for their thorough work, and to the locum, Rev Ronald Blakey. The call to Dr Francis was in process of being signed by members and adherents. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Note the provisional arrangements for the forthcoming induction service for the Rev Dr James Francis to take place at Biggar Parish Church on Thursday 27 January 2005 at 7.30pm, Presbytery to meet at 7.15pm.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee. She gave details of the forthcoming Youth Ministry event under the leadership of Shuna Dick, National Education Worker, who would also lead a ministers' study day and a children's workers' training day during the period 10-12 March 2005. She also informed Presbytery that the videos held by the Presbytery resource centre were little used and going out of date. They were therefore offered at no charge. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Agree to donate £150 towards the Presbytery Youth Ministry event to be held on 10 March 2005.
2. Encourage Kirk Sessions to take part in the consultation process regarding the development of a Church of Scotland Youth Ministry strategy.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee. He summarised the National Plan, and argued that it should be accepted since it offered a strategy for a just and equitable distribution of ministers, and would serve as a guide to our own Presbytery planning. Members of Presbytery commented that the Plan was over-centralised and therefore inappropriate in this post-modern world; that the theology driving the Plan was unclear; that no space seemed to be given for the work of the Spirit; that no account was taken of New Charge Development; and that the guidelines could easily become a straitjacket. The Convener moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

Accept the proposals of the Board of National Mission for the National Plan

Presbytery received the report.

On a vote being taken, the deliverance was not approved.

The Clerk was instructed to send to the Board a summary of the comments made by members of Presbytery

The Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee. In commenting on the proposals for Flexible Tenure, she stated the view of her Committee that the Task Force has not made a good case for this change, whether in practical, biblical,

historical, ecclesiological or theological terms; that Flexible Tenure would be liable to weaken the relationship between minister and people; that it is likely to be detrimental to the unity and peace of the Church; that it depends on having a large Presbytery or Presbytery grouping and that steps in this direction might be against our best interests; that it would take a very long time to bring Flexible Tenure into effect throughout the Church; that the concept of Flexible Tenure runs contrary to the spirit of Church Without Walls; and that it is contrary to the culture of our society. In debate it became clear that Presbytery did, however, see the need for greater flexibility of deployment of ministers, in for example long vacancies or in releasing a minister from his or her charge for a period to engage in evangelism. The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Approve Mr Bill Love as a Reader in Training and note that confirmation is awaited of Mr Love's first formal placement
2. Reject the proposals for Flexible Tenure as outlined by the Task Force for Change

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Clerk was instructed to send an extract minute to the Principal Clerk

The Report of the Worship Committee

Mrs Margaret Filshie, Convener, presented the report of the Worship Committee. She described the Ordinal and Service Book; she informed Presbytery that the congregational and full music editions of the new Church Hymnary should be published in May next year; and also mentioned the search of the Panel of Worship for a network of precentors to promote the Hymnary. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Approve the recommendation of the Worship Committee that the Ordinal and Service Book of May, 2001 should be used at Presbytery services.

It was agreed to amend the deliverance to read:

Approve the recommendation of the Worship Committee that the Ordinal and Service Book of May, 2001 should be used as the basis for Presbytery services.

The report, together with the amended deliverance, was approved

The Report of the World Mission Committee

Rev Aileen Robson, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission Committee. She reported that in the effort to raise HIV/AIDS awareness, congregations within the bounds have tried a number of different approaches. Examples of action taken include:-

- Prayer support
- Special presentations both during the course of worship and in a conference setting using material produced by the Project and with the assistance of a guest speaker.
- Fundraising using the special envelopes produced by the Project, retiring offerings, and money raised in return of used stamps.
- Use of church magazines to circulate information about the work of the Project.

She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Agree the World Mission Committee Report as Presbytery's response to the General Assembly instruction anent the HIV/AIDS Project.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Presbytery resolved to meet in private

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee. She informed Presbytery that the office-bearers of Carstairs Iw Carstairs Junction felt very positive about the possibility of an Interim Ministry and had called a congregational meeting to consider the proposal. She also reported on the Quinquennial Visitation to Cairngryffe Iw Symington, the first such visit since 1996. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Subject to the agreement of the congregations of Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction at a meeting to take place on 14th December 2004, submit a request to the Board of Ministry to provide this charge with an Interim Minister at the earliest possible opportunity

2. Instruct the office bearers of Cairngryffe lw Symington to take note of the recommendations of the visiting team and make progress towards their implementation by 2006/7
3. Noting the importance of building and maintaining supportive relationships with all the charges in our bounds, appoint the same visiting team to return to Cairngryffe lw Symington and conduct a follow up visit in 2006/7
4. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers of Cairngryffe lw Symington to the prayers of Presbytery and note that this charge is fulfilling its function

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Presbytery resolved to meet in open court

The Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

6. Note that Andrew MacOwen, the Church's Energy Consultant, will shortly carry out an energy survey of Kirkfieldbank Parish Church in order to draw up specifications for a suitable new heating system.
7. Approve in principle the installation of a new heating system at Kirkfieldbank Parish Church, with the proviso that the system chosen should be subject to the recommendation of the Church's Energy Consultant.
8. Approve the application by Carnwath Parish Church to the General Trustees for financial assistance to enable urgent work to be professionally carried out at the manse.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Report of the Church and Community Committee

Mr John Strachan, Convener, presented the report of the Church and Community Committee. He described the major changes to the Board of Social Responsibility which will come into effect in May 2005, replacing the present Board with the Social Care Council.

The report was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting on 25 January 2005

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church & Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Superintendence & Records
World Mission	

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for ordinary business at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 1 February 2005 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Biggar, on Thursday 27 January 2005, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *pro re nata* at St. Mary's Hall to induct the Mr James Francis to the charge of Biggar, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 12 Ministers and 13 Elders, and associated with them 9 ministers, clergy and elders from other Presbyteries and Churches.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Alison Meikle and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and from Mrs Flora Cheeseman, Mrs Fiona Sandeman, Mrs Betty Smith and Mrs Irene Williams, Elders.

Induction of the Mr James Francis

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of the Mr James Francis, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Sarah Ross conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Mr Francis was inducted to the congregation and parish of Biggar by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service it was resolved to add Mr Francis' name to the Roll of Presbytery. Mr Robert Carson expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mrs Ross for their conduct of the service of induction.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 1 February 2005 at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on 1 February 2005, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 13 ministers, and 22 elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Philip Jones, Rev Alison Meikle and Rev Ian Watson, ministers, and Mr Jim Hardie and Mr Tom Neilson, elders.

Welcome The Moderator welcomed Rev Dr Jim Francis to his first meeting as a member of the Presbytery.

Tribute to the Rev William Niven

Mrs Anna Aitken paid tribute to Rev Bill Niven, formerly of Lesmahagow: Old, who had died on 30 December 2004. She described his arrival in Lesmahagow in 1969, and the big part he had played as minister in important stages in her own life. She also mentioned his musical gifts, his caring nature and his sense of humour.

The Moderator then led the Presbytery in prayer.

**The Presbytery resolved to instruct the Clerk
to send a copy of the tribute to Mr Niven's family**

Minutes

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7 December 2004, were held as read and approved.

Guest Speaker: Mr Iain Johnston (Parish Development Fund)

The Moderator welcomed Mr Iain Johnston, Development Officer for the Parish Development Fund, and invited him to address the Presbytery. Mr Johnston described the roots of the Fund in the Church Without Walls initiative, and how it aims to encourage congregations to reach out for the benefit of their communities. Its four guiding principles are partnership, creativity, making a difference, and helping people develop their gifts. The Fund can meet 50% of costs up to a maximum of £15,000 over 3 years, and 45 varied projects around the country have been assisted so far.

After questions, the Moderator thanked Mr Johnston for his visit and his address to the Presbytery.

Extract Minutes & Letters

From the General Treasurer 15 November noting the payment of dividends into various Fabric Funds held by the Church of Scotland Investors Trust

From various MSPs, and from the Scottish Executive, 4 December

assuring Lanark Presbytery that its concerns have been taken into account in the development of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Bill, and enclosing a copy of the report on the consultation process

From David Geddes, Big Saturday Planning Group, 6 December inviting information from churches about new or innovative ventures consistent with the themes of Church Without Walls, that could feature in the exhibition area

From the Department of Parish Education, 6 December seeking applications from children to be part of a children's group at the General Assembly 2005, names to be given by mid-February

From the Presbytery of Ardrossan, 8 December informing Lanark Presbytery that Rev Melvyn Coogan has been welcomed as a member of that Presbytery

From the Department of National Mission, 9 December noting the decision of Presbytery regarding the National Plan, and thanking Presbytery for its comments

From the Principal Clerk, 9 December noting the decision of Presbytery on Flexible Tenure, and thanking Presbytery for its comments

From the Board of Stewardship and Finance, December 2004 reminding Presbyteries that their audited accounts should be submitted no later than four months after the financial year-end

From the Board of Parish Education, 31 December enclosing a cheque for £100 from the Muriel & Sophia Hill Memorial Fund, to be used to promote the work of Sunday Schools

From the Board of Parish Education 17 January inviting Presbytery to begin the process of finding a youth representative to attend the General Assembly 2005

From the Department of Ministry 25 January informing Presbytery of the appointment of Rev Iain Goring as Interim Minister at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction

From the Lord Lieutenant of Lanarkshire, 31 January requesting recommendations for up to four people (including partners) to attend the Queen's Garden Party on 30 June 2005

Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Nominate the Rev Margaret Muir and Mr Ian Conn to be the Presbytery's representatives on the Commission of Assembly for the year 2004 – 2005
2. Encourage all members of Presbytery in their attendance at Induction and Introduction Services and the like, together with their attendance at Presbytery Committee Meetings
3. Approve the new arrangements for the Presbytery Committee evenings: as from August 2005, Presbytery Committee evenings to take place on Tuesdays, two weeks before ordinary Presbytery meetings, to allow the Clerk to have the deliverances of Presbytery Committees and the Minutes of Presbytery meetings in the hands of presbyters one week before the following Presbytery meetings
4. Note that the following charges should send commissioners (minister and one elder) to the General Assembly to convene in Edinburgh on Saturday 21 May 2005:– Carnwath; Lanark: Greyfriars; Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen; Cairngryffe lw Symington; and the Presbytery Clerk, the elder to accompany the Presbytery Clerk to be nominated from among the presbytery elders, and instruct that the names of elders be given to the Clerk by 23 February
5. Note the Deliverance of February 2003, namely: 'Approve the new arrangements for the provision of ministry at Carluke: St. Andrew's for the period March 2003 – February 2005 as detailed in the report.' and remit it to the Ministry Committee
6. Resolve to hold a service of introduction for the Rev Iain Goring as Interim Minister at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction, on Tuesday 15 March 2005, at 7:30pm in Carstairs Church, Presbytery to meet at 7:15pm; and to remit to the Business Committee the detailed arrangements for the service
7. Appoint Rev Iain Goring as Interim Moderator of the Kirk Sessions at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction during the period of the Interim Ministry, and grant him a seat in Presbytery

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Resolve that the charge of Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction be declared a Continued Vacancy

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Superintendence & Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Note that the annual Inspection of Records will take place in St Nicholas Church Hall on Monday 28 February 2005 and that records should be submitted on the evening of Tuesday 22 February 2005
2. Note that a Monitoring Group requires to be appointed for the period of Interim Ministry at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction and agree to appoint Rev Anne McIvor and Mrs Fiona Sandeman, with a third member to be appointed by the Superintendence and Records Committee
3. Note that the monitoring group will report to the Superintendence and Records Committee
4. Agree that the Interim Minister shall not be called as minister of the charge within five years of concluding the appointment
5. Note that Rev Dr Graham Houston will replace Rev Catherine Collins on the Quinquennial Visitation team to Kirkmuirhill, and that Rev Iain Cunningham will now lead the team

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the World Mission Committee

Rev Aileen Robson, Convener, presented the report of the World Mission Committee. She noted the changed nature of world mission, with many fewer staff working overseas, who are now known as "mission partners" rather than "missionaries". The flow of missionary activity has been changing, with staff coming from abroad to Scotland. The Committee therefore believed that its name is now somewhat misleading. She also reported on the Church of Scotland's links with those countries affected by the Tsunami Disaster, demonstrating as they do the true value of partnership. She moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Agree to rename 'World Mission Committee' as 'World Church Committee', and amend Standing Orders accordingly

The report, together with the deliverance (on a vote being taken), was approved

Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Grant permission to Kirkfieldbank Church for the release of 14,960 units held on their behalf in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.
2. Grant permission to Culter Church for the release of up to £27,000, in a combination of revenue and capital, held on their behalf in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.
3. Note that the Quinquennial Property Inspection Report on Kirkton church, halls and manse has been received and passed to the congregation.
4. Note that at the forthcoming Annual Inspection of Records, only three extracts from each Property Register will be required, namely:
 - a) The Schedule of Insurances (or other evidence of adequate insurance cover).
 - b) The pink Annual Inspection forms (or other similar form) detailing all work carried out with costs and completion dates, duly attested by the Chairman of the financial court.
 - c) The blue Quinquennial Property Inspection summary form (or other summary) detailing Urgent, Essential and Desirable work undertaken, with budget and actual costs,

and that these extracts should be presented in a document wallet or folder clearly marked with the name of the charge and the buildings to which they refer.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee. She described the forthcoming Children's Ministry Weekend, invitations to which are currently being sent out. The weekend will include a celebration for children's workers, a conference for ministers, and a training day. The training events will be led by Shuna Dicks, National Education Worker. She asked for the support of members.

The report was approved

Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee. She described the planned training evening for elders, and gave advance notice of a joint course with Hamilton Presbytery for elders in leading worship, pastoral care and mission, which it is hoped will take place in the autumn of 2005. She then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

Approve plans for a training evening to be led by Mrs Sheila Steven on Tuesday 19 April 2005 in Kirkton Church

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Big Saturday, 10 September

Rev Iain Cunningham commended the afternoon children's event with Stephen Fishbacher, and the evening worship event, which will include the Moderator of the General Assembly, and Rev Peter Neilson as the main speaker. He also encouraged applications from congregations to have their initiatives represented in the exhibition area. Ticket arrangements will be through the SECC.

The report was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 22 February:

Ministry Parish Education
Parish Mission Property
Stewardship & Finance

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for ordinary business at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 1 March 2005 at 7:00pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on 1 March 2005, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 15 ministers, 22 elders and 1 corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev David Carmichael, Rev William Craig and Rev Margaret Muir, ministers, and Mr Lance Armstrong, Mr James Hardie and Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston, elders.

Minutes

The Minutes of the *pro re nata* meeting held on Thursday 27 January and of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 1 February 2005, were held as read and approved

Extract Minutes & Letters

From Mrs Sheena Niven, 12 February thanking Presbytery for the letter of sympathy written by the Clerk and the copy of the tribute paid my Mrs Anna Aitken

From Mr John Thomson, Board of National Mission, 18 February informing Presbytery of a meeting that has been arranged with local hospital chaplains to explore transferring the responsibility for the appointment of healthcare chaplains to NHS Boards

From Rev Kenneth Ross, Board of World Mission, 18 February seeking the views of Presbytery on possible new models of mission partner support

From the National Archives of Scotland, 22 February with information on the process of digitally imaging pre-1901 records of the Church, and requesting that such records be deposited with NAS

From the Board of Education, 25 February attaching a copy of the Scottish Executive's Education Department circular on Religious Observance, and the Board's response

From Douglas Nicol, Board of National Mission, 1 March enclosing a copy of a DVD presentation about Parish Groupings, to be made available to interested charges

The Clerk was instructed to distribute copies of the Circular on Religious Education, and the Board of Education's response, by email to all those members with internet access, with the printed version going to others by request. It was also agreed to remit the matter to the Church and Community Committee

Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Approve the following as Commissioners of the Presbytery of Lanark to the General Assembly to convene in Edinburgh on Saturday 21 May 2005:— Rev David Carmichael, Rev Catherine Collins, Rev Michael Frew, Rev Beverly Gauld and Rev Dr Graham Houston, ministers, together with Mrs Marcella McLennan (Lanark: Greyfriars), Mrs Betty McLeod (Carnwath), Mr Jack McLellan (Cairngryffe Iw Symington) and Mr Tom Smith (Presbytery), elders
2. Note that Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen has been unable to commission an elder to attend the General Assembly, and authorise the Business Committee to nominate an alternative
3. Appoint Rev David Carmichael and Mrs Marcella McLennan as the Presbytery's representatives on the Commission of Assembly
4. Agree to invite a speaker from the Scottish Bible Society to address the Presbytery at its September Meeting
5. Urge Kirk Sessions who hold pre-1901 records to inform the Clerk accordingly by 28 March, with a view to these being submitted to the National Archives of Scotland

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Treasurer's Report

Mr Colin Young, Treasurer, presented his report on the Presbytery accounts for 2004. The opening balance was £23872, and after income of £14160 and expenditure of £14424, the closing balance was £23624, taking into consideration a slight movement in the market value of Church of Scotland Investors Trust Units. The following deliverance was moved by the Clerk:

Presbytery –

1. Approve the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2004 and instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the accounts to the Board of Stewardship and Finance
2. Thank Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isabel Lawrie for their work as auditors
3. Thank the Treasurer for his diligent work throughout 2004

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Steven Reid, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Appoint Rev Dr Jim Francis as chaplain at Kello Hospital, Biggar

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

Encourage Kirk Sessions to consider nominating a youth delegate to this year's General Assembly, and to inform the Convener accordingly

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee. She noted that the inspection of congregational records had shown that some minutes had been initialled rather than signed, and informed Presbytery that print-outs from computerised congregational rolls should contain a record of the method used to add or remove names. She then moved the following deliverance:

1. Note that the inspection of records took place on 28 February and that with some minor exceptions were found to be in order
2. Note that the Presbytery records have been inspected and found to be in order
3. Express appreciation to all record-keepers in our Presbytery for their diligence and service

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Big Saturday, 10 September

Rev Bryan Kerr informed Presbytery that plans were well under way for this event, and that tickets would shortly be on sale from the SECC box office. An adult day ticket will cost £5, and a child ticket for the children's event will cost £3. The website is www.thebigsaturday.org. £7,500 in grants has already been secured. Mr Kerr intimated that advertisers are being sought for the Big Saturday newspaper, and that interested parties should contact him or Rev Iain Cunningham. He also asked that members of Presbytery remember the organisers in prayer.

The report was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 29 March:

Church and Community	Ministry
Property	Superintendence and Records
World Church	Worship

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet *in hunc effectum* on Tuesday 15 March at 7:15pm in Carstairs Community Centre for the Service of Introduction in the Church at 7:30pm, and for ordinary business and a conference session at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 5 April 2005 at 7:30pm, after a shared meal at 6:30pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Carstairs, on Tuesday 15 March 2005, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* to introduce Mr Iain Goring as interim minister in the charge of Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 12 Ministers and 14 Elders, and associated with them 8 ministers and elders from other Presbyteries and the Board of National Mission.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Anne McIvor and Rev Steven Reid, ministers and Mrs Betty Gray, Mr Ian Ivison, Mr Alex McPhee, Mrs Betty Smith, Mr Robert Tweedie and Mrs Moira White, elders.

Introduction of Mr Iain Goring

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of the Mr Iain Goring, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Dr James Francis conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate question and signing the formula Mr Iain Goring was introduced to the congregations and parishes of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both the minister and members of the congregations. After the service it was resolved to add Mr Goring's name to the Roll of Presbytery. The Interim Moderator, Rev Ian Watson, was thanked for his services, and discharged. Rev Beverly Gauld expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Dr Francis for their conduct of the service of introduction.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 5 April 2005 at 7:00pm and the meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 April 2005, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 14 ministers, 21 elders and 1 corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev William Craig, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Beverly Gauld, Rev Aileen Robson and Rev Ian Watson, ministers, and Mr Robert Carson, Mr Alex McPhee, Mrs Fiona Sandeman and Mrs Betty Smith, elders.

Welcome and Thanks The Moderator welcomed Rev Iain Goring to his first ordinary meeting of the Presbytery, and Rev Peter Neilson, Missions Development Facilitator, who would be leading the conference session. He also thanked Mrs Betty Smith and Mrs Ellen Young on behalf of Presbytery for making the arrangements for the shared meal earlier that evening

Minutes

The Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 1 March 2005 were held as read and approved

Extract Minutes & Letters

From the General Trustees, 2 March confirming the sale of Dunsyre Church, the net proceeds being £30,180 after deduction of the 10% levy. The letter also seeks the view of Presbytery on re-allocation of part of the monies for stipend purposes

From the Board of Stewardship and Finance, 7 March confirming that the Presbytery's audited Accounts for 2004 comply fully with the regulations, and thanking the Presbytery Treasurer

From John Thomson, Board of National Mission, 7 March confirming the appointment of Rev Dr Jim Francis as chaplain at Kello Hospital

From Ian Manson, Director of Social Work, 21 March giving information on the annual review of charges for homes for older people, and the necessity of increased charges

From John Thomson, Board of National Mission, 28 March with a record note of a meeting with healthcare chaplains within NHS Lanarkshire, regarding moves towards direct NHS employment. This process had been delayed, but is likely to begin in the autumn of 2005

From the Bequest Fund for Ministers in Outlying Districts of the Church of Scotland, 29 March informing ministers that grants are available from this fund for such items as medical care, travel, manse furnishings, education, and pastoral efficiency

From Laura Vermeulen, Church Without Walls, 1 April with a reminder to congregations to send three Ambassadors to the National Day of Celebration on 28 May

From the Implementation Committee on Interim Ministry, 1 April regarding the Aims and Objectives for the Interim Ministry at Carstairs Iw Carstairs Junction, as agreed by congregational office-bearers, and the Monitoring Group

From Susan Cowell, 4 April thanking the Moderator and members of Presbytery for their support during her time in hospital, and asking that her thanks be conveyed to friends in congregations within the bounds who have been similarly supportive

Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Noting that Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen has been unable to commission an elder to attend the General Assembly, appoint Mr Robert Carson to be a Commissioner to the General Assembly to convene in Edinburgh on Saturday 21 May 2005.
2. Appoint the Rev Margaret Muir to be the Presbytery's representative on the Presbyterial Panel for the year 2005/2006.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Note receipt of the Aims and Objectives document from the Implementation Committee on Interim Ministry with regard to the Interim Ministry at Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 29 March:

Parish Education	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship and Finance
Superintendence and Records	World Church

Conference Session

The Presbytery then moved into a conference session on the theme of “Emerging Church”, led by Rev Peter Neilson, with additional input from Rev Bryan Kerr, who had attended a conference on behalf of Presbytery on this theme in November 2004. Mr Kerr began by summarising the content of the conference, which defined the Emerging Church as a new way to look at church, discipleship and engaging the community with the Christian faith. Unlike many new models of church that have been offered, it is tentative, experimental and varied. Many involved are hesitant, unsure whether they have got it right and reluctant to make bold claims.

After a period of discussion, Mr Neilson made his presentation, in which he stressed the importance of the new emerging alongside the old. He spoke on four themes – local story, cultural perspective, biblical model and spiritual challenge. Interspersing his presentation with times of discussion, he first described the efforts to establish a church for the club culture in central Edinburgh. This had taught him the importance of long timescales, of investing money in the future, of relationships with the traditional church leadership, and of letting the new, indigenous church grow. He then offered a cultural perspective, stressing that “Communities are now multilayered, comprising neighbourhoods, usually with permeable boundaries, and a wide variety of networks, ranging from the relatively local to the global. Increased mobility and electronic communications technology have changed the nature of community.” The focus in ministry and mission needs to shift from *where* people live to *how* they live.

Mr Neilson’s biblical model was taken from Acts chapter 6, verses 1-7. The issue for the early church in Jerusalem was how to attend to the concerns of outsiders. It did so by affirming strategic priorities (communion with God + communication of the Gospel), appointing new leaders, and anticipating new growth. The spiritual challenge facing the traditional church was to travel “beyond Christendom; from Jerusalem to Babylon - unlearning church and finding God; from Jerusalem to Emmaus - moving beyond grieving to discovering; and from Jerusalem to Antioch - becoming church for people not like us.”

At the end of the conference session, the Moderator warmly thanked Mr Neilson and Mr Kerr. Mr Neilson recommended that each person present note down three “connections” and three questions his presentation had stimulated. It was suggested that the Business Committee be asked to consider and recommend how best to take forward within Lanark Presbytery the issues that had been raised.

This was agreed

The Clerk was instructed to make available to members of Presbytery the Powerpoint files used by the conference presenters.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet for ordinary business at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 3 May at 7pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 May 2005, **The Presbytery of Lanark** met in St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 17 ministers and 24 elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev William Craig, Rev Alison Meikle and Rev Margaret Muir, ministers, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr Adam Foster, Mr Johan Hamelink and Mr Alex McPhee, elders, and Mr Colin Young, corresponding member.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 April, were held as read and, with some minor corrections, were approved.

Extract Minutes & Letters

From South Lanarkshire Council, 5 April acknowledging receipt of comments from Presbytery's Church and Community Committee on the proposed new Lanark Grammar School

From the Assessment Scheme Committee, 6 April regarding the application from Dr Bryson Arthur to be admitted as a minister of the Church of Scotland. The Committee recommends that his application be allowed to proceed, and invites comments from Presbyteries.

From the National Archives of Scotland, 8 April with a request that all congregations indicate to the Presbytery Clerk whether or not they possess pre-1901 records

From the Scottish Executive, 11 April with a consultation paper on the proposed Charity Accounting Regulations. This had been passed to the Stewardship & Finance Committee for their attention

From the General Trustees, 13 April advising that the River Tweed and many of its tributaries have been designated a Special Area of Conservation

From the Board of Parish Education, 14 April regarding "Omega - The Last ever General Assembly Youth Night", emphasising that this heading on the flyers for the 'Youth Night' is to be read in the context of it being the last one organised by the Board of Parish Education

From the Board of Stewardship & Finance, 14 April giving details of current and accumulated shortfalls in congregational contributions to central funds. This had been passed to the Stewardship & Finance Committee for their attention

Conference Feedback Session

The Moderator led a feedback session on the conference at the April meeting of Presbytery, and invited members to comment on their questions and "connections". On the theme of connections, members mentioned conference statements such as "The difference between success and failure is Jesus", "Memory blocks imagination", and the importance of the sting and flavour-enhancing quality of being the salt of the earth. Additional comments stressed the limited ability of Presbytery in causing new kinds of church to emerge, but that we need to offer encouragement and support in allowing new things to grow "from the bottom up". Other comments and questions related to the variety of tradition and theology within the Church of Scotland, the ongoing debate about number and necessity of the high number of church buildings, and the difficulty – given the parish system – of shifting the focus from "where" people live to the recommended stress on "how" they live. In conclusion, the Moderator encouraged members to pass their comments to the Business Convener or the Clerk

Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Instruct congregations to inform the National Archives of Scotland via the Presbytery Clerk of any pre-1901 records still in their possession, and encourage them to deposit such records with NAS, again via the Clerk.
2. Instruct the Clerk to purchase on behalf of the Presbytery a Christian Copyright Licence for an attendance up to 250 at a cost of £144
3. Grant powers to the Business Committee to commission a replacement for Mrs Betty McLeod, who is unable to attend the forthcoming General Assembly

The Convener gave notice that the Committee will propose a change to Standing Orders, to the effect of dispensing with the Worship Committee. It was noted that in order to debate this topic at the June meeting, Standing Order 24(b) requiring 3 months' notice of changes to Standing Orders would need to be suspended

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Worship Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, deputising for the Convener, presented the report of the Worship Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Resolve to appoint a Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator with effect from the new session in 2005-6
2. Refer the matter to the Parish Mission Committee

On a vote being taken, item 2 of the deliverance was not approved. It was then moved in the following terms:

Presbytery –

Agree to consider the matter of appointing a Prayer Co-ordinator at the June 2005 meeting of Presbytery.

This was agreed

The report, together with the amended deliverance, was approved

The Presbytery resolved to meet in private.

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Quinquennial Visitation Report – Kirkton Parish Church

- a) Encourage the provision and uptake of training for office bearers
- b) Commend office bearers for their care of fabric and the consideration being given to the provision of a new manse
- c) Affirm the efforts of the congregation and office bearers in their endeavours to sustain leadership of uniformed organisations and within their youth ministry
- d) Commend the imaginative and faith-enhancing worship and the strong links developed with churches overseas
- e) Commend the minister and office bearers to the prayers of the Presbytery
- f) Note that this charge is fulfilling its function

2. Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction

- a) Note that the Committee has given due consideration to the Aims and Objectives document and are confident that this will be very helpful in addressing the difficulties faced within the charge.
- b) Note that through the Parish Mission Committee the process of discussing the future of the charge in terms of the Presbytery Plan has now begun
- c) Commend the Rev Iain Goring and the office bearers and congregations of Carstairs Iw Carstairs Junction to the continuing prayers of the Presbytery

3. Quinquennial Visitations for 2005/2006

- a) Note the congregations to be visited and the ministerial team members, the first named to lead the team:
Carlisle: St Andrew's – Rev Bryan Kerr & Rev Sarah Ross
Coalburn Iw Lesmahagow Old – Rev Alison Meikle & Rev Jim Francis
Lanark: Greyfriars – Rev Ann McIvor & Rev Iain Cunningham

- Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen – Rev Jim Cutler & Rev Catherine Collins
- b) Note that reports should be submitted to the Superintendence & Records Committee by the end of February 2006
 - c) Note that an elder from Superintendence and Records Committee will be appointed to each team in September when the Committee lists have been drawn up, and that the team leader should appoint one more elder
 - d) Note that the postponed visit to Forth: St Paul's will take place later this year, Rev Margaret Muir to lead the visiting team

After debate, it was agreed to remove the names of ministerial team members from section 3.a) of the deliverance, for further consideration by the Committee

The report, together with the amended deliverance, was approved

The Presbytery resolved to meet in open court

Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Ian Watson, deputising for the Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee. He thanked congregational office-bearers for their response to the continuing visits by representatives of the Committee in relation to formulating the Presbytery Plan. He then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Encourage the congregations of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to work towards becoming a united charge

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the World Church Committee

Rev Aileen Robson, Convener, presented the report of the World Church Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Note that the World Church Committee is hosting an informal meeting on Wednesday 22 June 2005 to which World Mission representatives from each congregation will be invited. Details will be sent to each representative in due course
2. Encourage all Kirk Sessions to consider Board of World Mission proposals regarding continued support of Mission Partner Elaine McKinnon and respond to World Church Committee by 30 August 2005

It was further agreed as follows:

Instruct the Clerk to write to the Board of World Mission expressing the concerns of Presbytery regarding the proposals for the funding of missionary partners

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Thank Mrs Sheila Steven for leading "Being an Elder Today" on 18 April
2. Thank committee members for their assistance, and Kirkton Church for its hospitality
3. Remind members of Presbytery that the Ministry Committee would welcome feedback and requests for elder training on specific topics

After discussion, it was agreed that the Convener would write to the Council of Assembly, commending the work of Mrs Steven

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Property Committee

Presbytery -

1. Note that with a few exceptions, the property registers of congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery were inspected and found to be in order
2. Approve the sale of garden ground adjacent to Rigside Church as a plot for a residential dwelling, subject to the approval of the General Trustees
3. Approve the phased, routine re-pointing of Greyfriars Church and Hall at a cost of around £30,000 over two to three years

4. Approve the installation of Vodafone telecommunications equipment in Carluke: St Andrews church tower, subject to the approval of the General Trustees, and instruct the clerk to send an extract minute to the General Trustees and the Committee on Artistic Matters requesting that they pursue the matter further
5. Note that this year's Quinquennial Property Inspections should include: Forth St Paul's; Culter, Libberton & Quothquan, Blackmount

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee. She had been pleased with the attendance at and the content of the children's ministry weekend in March

The report was approved

The Big Saturday, 10 September

Rev Iain Cunningham commended the publicity materials, and the introductory DVD was shown. Rev Bryan Kerr gave an update on tickets, which were about to go on sale, informing Presbytery that adult tickets for the Something Fischy event will cost £4

The report was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 14 June:

Ministry	Parish Mission
Property	Stewardship & Finance
Superintendence & Records	

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet in Biggar Kirk for the celebration of Communion, followed by ordinary business, on Tuesday 21 June at 7pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Biggar, on Tuesday 21 June 2005, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Biggar Kirk, conducted by the Moderator, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Gillespie Centre, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 16 ministers, 20 elders and one corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev David Carmichael, Rev Beverly Gauld and Rev Steven Reid, ministers, and Mrs Anna Aitken, Mrs Mabel Doak, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr Ian Ivison and Mrs Betty Smith, elders.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3 May, were held as read and were approved with one minor correction

Guild Presbyterian Council

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Jean Morton, Convener of the Council and Mrs Mairi Somerville, Secretary. Mrs Morton then presented her annual report to Presbytery in which she highlighted the theme for 2004-05, "Dare to Care with Compassion", and the work of the Guild in wider society. She also spoke of the first ever Guild Week which took place in November 2004, mentioned some of the congregations within the bounds which had marked this in worship and social functions; then informed members of the forthcoming Guild Week 20-27 November 2005. The Presbyterian Council had enjoyed fellowship in their business meetings, and at their rallies. Mrs Morton concluded by saying that she believes morale is as high in the Presbyterian Guild as it is nationally. The Moderator thanked Mrs Morton for her presentation

Report from "All For One" Conference

Rev Aileen Robson gave a report on this national conference, on the place of people with disabilities in the church and in society, which she had attended in February on behalf of Presbytery along with Mrs Betty Smith. The conference had focussed on a report presented to the World Council of Churches, which encourages the view that "every human being is innately gifted and has something to offer that others need". People who live with disability often feel, however, that they are invisible, and more needs to be done to avoid excluding any person from finding their place and making their contribution in the life of the church. Miss Robson offered a copy of the WCC report to anyone interested, and was thanked by the Moderator for her presentation

Report of Diligence at General Assembly

Mr Robert Carson reported first, and spoke highly of his first experience of the Assembly. He had been impressed by the graciousness of the Moderator, the commitment of the conveners, and the quality of debate. He had also been encouraged by the contribution of the youth, and that of the overseas delegates, particularly on the HIV/Aids issue.

Rev Catherine Collins also reported diligence, noting the "farewell" atmosphere, as many Boards were making their final reports before the re-organisation took effect. She had felt that the Armed Forces Chaplains and the Housing and Loan Fund reports had been outstanding, and noted the vehemence of the World Mission debate, regarding the Tiberias Project in comparison with the cuts in other areas of work

Extract Minutes & Letters

From Rev Angus Mathieson, Department of Ministry, 13 May confirming that to the best of his knowledge all ministers in parishes within the bounds have submitted applications for Disclosure Scotland certificates to the Scottish Criminal Records Office

From Mr Sandy Gemmill, General Treasurer's Department, 18 May regarding the payment of locums

From Rev Douglas Nicol, Department of National Mission, 31 May summarising the remits of three of the new central Councils of the Church

From Christian Copyright Licence International, 1 June enclosing the Presbytery's Licence Certificate No: 988200

From Rev Prof Kenneth Ross, World Mission Council, 2 June regarding the funding of mission partners. The letter points to the deliverance passed at the recent General Assembly on this subject, draws attention to the fact that the timeframe for the consultative process was not of the Board's making, and welcomes the Presbytery's affirmation of the importance of the overseas work of the Church

From the General Trustees, 14 June requesting the return of the checklists regarding the condition of glebes direct to Mr Keith Fairweather of the General Trustees

From Mrs Pauline Willder, Ministries Council, 16 June drawing the attention of Presbyters to the Keay Thom Trust which exists to benefit the widows, daughters or other dependents, female relatives of deceased ministers, or wives of Ministers who are now divorced or separated, and who by reason of death, divorce or separation have been required to leave the manse

Report of the Business Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Thank the Moderator, Rev Jack Stewart, for his conduct of the Presbytery Communion Service. Thank also the Minister, the Organist, Mr Neil Martin, the Kirk Session of Biggar Parish Church and the ladies and gentlemen for their catering
2. Approve the nomination of the Rev Bryan Kerr to serve as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2005-06
3. Amend Standing Order 17(b), to Dispense with the Worship Committee
4. Thank all the retiring Conveners of Presbytery Committees
5. Appoint the following Conveners to serve for four years from 1 July 2005:
 - Rev Iain Cunningham: Parish Mission
 - Rev Anne McIvor: Ministry
 - Rev James Cutler: Property
 - Rev Bryan Kerr: Parish Education (Mrs Moira White acting as Depute)
 - Mr Robert Carson: Business
6. Agree to the Rev Catherine Collins acting as Clerk to the Presbytery during the absence of the Rev Michael Frew
7. Invite applications for the post of Depute Presbytery Clerk to be in the hands of the Business Committee at its meeting to take place on 21 September 2005
8. Appoint the following as Additional Elders for the session 2005-06: Mrs Anna Aitken, Mrs Mabel Doak, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mrs Betty Smith and Mrs Irene Williams
9. Appoint the Convener and Secretary of the Lanark Presbyterial Council of The Guild and Mr Ian Ivison as Corresponding Members of the Presbytery
10. Thank the following Retiring Representative Elders for their service to the Presbytery: Mr Johan Hamelink, Mr Ian Ivison and Mrs Lillias Nicol
11. Appoint the Rev Bryan Kerr, Mr Andrew Brown and the Clerk to attend on behalf of the Presbytery the Conference on the Emerging Church to take place in Kirkcaldy on 18 November 2005
12. Resolve that the Prayer Co-ordinator, when confirmed, be appointed as an *ex officio* member of the Parish Mission Committee

On a vote being taken, item 3 of the deliverance was not approved

This being the case, the matter of nominating a Convener for the Worship Committee was referred back to the Business Committee

It was agreed to delete the words "for four years" from item 5 of the deliverance

The Presbytery took up the matter of appointing a Prayer Co-ordinator, but there were no nominations.

The report, together with the amended deliverance, was approved

Report of the Property Committee

Rev David Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Homologate the decision to permit Lowther Parish Church to apply for £1000 financial assistance from the Central Fabric Fund for essential wall repairs.
2. Homologate the decision to permit Glencaple Parish Church to apply for financial assistance from the Central Fabric Fund to meet an £11,000 funding gap for their proposed church alterations and extension.
3. Homologate the decision to permit Carnwath Parish Church / Auchengray Church Centre to apply for financial assistance towards the cost of employing an architect.
4. Grant permission to Carluke St Andrews to proceed with essential repair work at an estimated cost of £25,000, subject to the permission of the General Trustees, and permit an application for financial assistance from the Central Fabric Fund.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Rev Dr Graham Houston, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee. He drew attention to a bar chart which his Committee had published, showing offerings per member for each congregation within the bounds for 2002-04, which indicated an average of £111 per member, compared with a national average of £115. 5 congregations in Lanark Presbytery have figures above the national average. He also drew attention to a report to the General Assembly which indicated that only 321 of the 1234 congregations of the Church of Scotland are meeting the full costs of their ministry, and commended the vital work of Edith Scott, our Regional Stewardship Consultant. He then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery-

1. Welcome the publication of statistics for givings per Member, 2002-04, for each congregation, and instruct the Committee to publish these annually, displaying 3-year averages.
2. Encourage all Sessions and Boards to recognise *the Big Saturday* as a key event for promoting congregational stewardship, and notes that, because of this, there will be no Presbytery stewardship event in the coming session.

The Presbytery resolved to meet in private

Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Catherine Collins, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

1. Approve arrangements for ministers' retreat on Monday 5 September
2. Note that the annual Review of Candidature has taken place for Mr Allan Wilson, in his second year of training for full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament.
3. Note with satisfaction that all aspects of Mr Wilson's training are progressing well
4. Agree to sustain the Candidature of Mr Wilson
5. Note that post of Pastoral Assistant at Carluke St Andrew's has been helpful to all concerned
6. Approve arrangements for a renewed contract with a reduction to four hours per week for a further year, the situation to be reviewed in June 2006

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Note the congregations due to receive Quinquennial Visitations during 2005-06, and the ministerial team members; the first named to lead the team
Carluke: St Andrew's – Rev David Collins & Rev Sarah Ross
Coalburn lw Lesmahagow Old – Rev Alison Meikle & Rev Jim Francis
Lanark: Greyfriars – Rev Ann McIvor & Rev Iain Cunningham
Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen – Rev Jim Cutler & Rev Catherine Collins
2. Note that reports should be submitted to the Superintendence & Records Committee by the end of February 2006

- Note that an elder from the Superintendence & Records Committee will be appointed to each team in September when the Committee lists have been drawn up, and that the team leader should appoint one more elder

The Presbytery resolved to meet in open court

The Big Saturday, 10 September

Rev Bryan Kerr presented the report. Members of the planning group were due to contact Session Clerks in the near future to encourage bookings. He intimated that a tabloid-style newspaper is to be published and that bookings are progressing well for the children's event. He requested the prayers of the Presbytery for the event and the organisers

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 23 August:

Church and Community	Ministry
Parish Education	Property
Stewardship and Finance	Superintendence and Records

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet in St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 6 September 2005. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 September 2005, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the St Nicholas' Church Halls, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Jack Stewart, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 16 ministers, 25 elders and 1 corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Jim Francis, Rev Mike Frew, ministers and Flora Cheeseman, Jim Hardie and Elizabeth Hiddleston, elders

Roll of Presbytery The Roll of Presbytery was laid on the table and the Moderator welcomed the new elder members of the Presbytery. The Moderator thanked Mrs Betty Smith for organising a buffet meal held prior to the meeting.

Election and Installation of the Moderator

The Presbytery agreed to elect Rev Bryan Kerr as Moderator of Presbytery for the session 2005/06. Rev Jack Stewart welcomed Mr Kerr with prayer and invited him to take the chair. The new Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Mr Stewart for his year as Moderator

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21 June, were held as read and were approved. The Moderator welcomed guest speaker Mr Allan Campbell, Field Development Manager of the Bible Society introduced by Rev Alison Meikle, Bible Society representative. Mr Campbell spoke about the society's work overseas and in Scotland. He drew attention to recent initiatives including the new 'Bibleworld SPS Studios' to be on show at Ingliston in October.

Extract Minutes & Letters

Mr David Robertson, General Trustees, 22 June reminding Presbytery that the Trustees still await its view on the possible reallocation of monies from the sale of Dunsyre Church

Mrs Pauline Willder, Ministries Council, 23 June clarifying the procedure for the new allocation process

Mr Keith Mason, General Trustees, 27 June informing Presbytery that the Trustees had made available a grant of £1500 to Lowther towards the cost of repairs

Mr Keith Mason, General Trustees, 27 June informing Presbytery that the Trustees had sent the appropriate forms to Carluke: St Andrew's to allow them to proceed with an application to the Central Fabric Fund

Rev Dr Marjory MacLean, Depute Principal Clerk, 30 June offering refresher courses in Church law

Mr Fred Marsh, Stewardship & Finance Committee, June concerning various matters, including the intention of the Committee to meet in conference with Presbytery representatives in the near future

Ms Muriel Armstrong, Life & Work, 1 July requesting that copies of tributes to deceased ministers be submitted to Life & Work by Presbytery Clerks, after they have been read at Presbytery meetings

Mr Keith Mason, General Trustees, 5 July informing Presbytery that the Trustees had made available a grant of £3000 to Carnwath (Auchengray Church Centre) towards the cost of employing an architect

Mr David Robertson, General Trustees, 13 July giving guidelines on "Housing for the Ministry" for distribution to congregational property committees

Rev Cameron Mackenzie, 17 July thanking Presbytery for its congratulations (conveyed by the Clerk) on reaching the 50th anniversary of his ordination

Mr David Robertson, General Trustees, 29 July informing Presbytery that the Chairman's Committee of the Trustees had approved in principle the sale of ground adjacent to Rigside Church, and that the matter has been passed to the Church Solicitor pending approval at a full meeting of the Trustees

Girls' Brigade Scotland, 10 August enclosing a letter from Dr Alison Elliot, then Moderator of the General Assembly, requesting that copies be made available to members of Presbytery

Mr David Robertson, General Trustees, 23 August regarding sale of ground adjacent to Rigside Church, acknowledging an Extract Minute from the Presbytery and awaiting an Extract Minute from a congregational meeting of The Douglas Valley Church

Rev Douglas Nicol, Mission & Discipleship Council, 25 August giving information on the new Council

Report of the Business Committee

Mr Robert Carson, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

- 1 Encourage ministers to attend the Church Law Refresher Course being organized by the Legal Questions Committee
- 2 Homologate the reply of the Business Committee to the Scottish Churches Committee request for support in its response to the Regulation of Private Landlords
- 3 Appoint Rev Dr Jim Francis as Convener of the Worship Committee
- 4 Appoint Mrs Moira White as Prayer Coordinator
- 5 Invite applications from members of Presbytery for the vacant positions of Presbytery Clerk and Depute Presbytery Clerk
- 6 Agree that all applications for this post should be in the hands of the Business Convener by 20 September 2005
- 7 Agree to appoint an interview panel consisting of Mrs Anna Aitken, Rev Dr Jim Francis, Rev Bryan Kerr, Mr Robert Carson
- 8 Agree to deal with the remits from the General Assembly 2005 as detailed in the table issued to members
- 9 Agree to provide copies of the CD containing the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly to each minister
- 10 Agree to reimburse Rev Bryan Kerr for the costs of production of the CD

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Mr Robert Carson presented the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

- 1 Note that the Committee agreed to release Rev Mike Frew from his charge at Carluke St John's
- 2 Agree that Rev Margaret Muir be appointed as Interim Moderator in the vacancy
- 3 Agree that Rev David Collins, Rev Sarah Ross and Mr Robert Tweedie will form the Vacancy Advisory Committee in this impending vacancy.

The report, together with the deliverance was approved

Report of the Parish Education Committee

Mrs Moira White, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Education Committee and moved the following deliverance:

- 1 Commend the organisers of the National Youth Assembly for the way the event has allowed the voice of young people to be heard within the church
- 2 Urge the Mission and Discipleship Council to ensure that the young people attending the National Youth Assembly be encouraged by their local church, by inviting the Minister or Kirk Session to endorse their application to attend.
- 3 Urge the Mission and Discipleship Council to invite Presbyteries to find representatives for the National Youth Assembly in January, to allow Presbytery time to seek nominations.
- 4 Note that the National Strategy for Young People will be launched at the Christian Resources Exhibition on Saturday 15th October 2005 at 11am.
- 5 Invite the Mission and Discipleship Council to ensure that all presbyteries and churches who will not be able to register under the youth forum structure due to a

- lack of young people, will receive the draft strategy for young people in order that they may take part in the consultation process and contribute to the final strategy.
- 6 Express concern to the Safeguarding Unit and St Andrews Press about the plans to remove the facility to download the new edition of the Child Protection Handbook from the Church of Scotland website, and the intention to charge congregations for extra copies and for volunteer factfiles.
- 7 Agree to transmit the deliverance to Mission and Discipleship Council

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

Presbytery resolved to meet in private for the first part of the report

Rev Helen Jamieson, Convener, presented the report of the Superintendence and Records Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

QV to Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan

- 1
- a) Note that a positive and encouraging report has been received about the charge of Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton and Quothquan
 - b) Note that the linkage appears to be positive and working well; 'having brought them a sense of belonging to one another, yet still having their own particular identity'.
 - c) Note that in the six months of the new ministry, good relationships have been established between the minister, office bearers and the congregation
 - d) Commend the congregations for their joint initiative of a holiday club in the summer, at Christmas and Easter, and for their outreach to the community by fundraising and social events
 - e) Commend the congregations for their willingness to be open to change and new ventures including doing projects with their neighbour Biggar Kirk
 - f) Note the concern of the Superintendence and Records Committee that the minister has little time to meet with people after worship on a Sunday, and urge the congregations to explore the possibility of forming a worship team who after training may assist in the conduct of worship in the charge
 - g) Remit to the Ministry Committee to explore ways of supporting these congregations through the provision of training in leading worship.
 - h) Commend the minister and office bearers of Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton and Quothquan to the prayers of Presbytery
 - i) Note that this charge is fulfilling its function
 - j) Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of this deliverance to the Session Clerks of this charge

Presbytery resolved to resume meeting in open court

Quinquennial Visitations 2005/6

- 2 Appoint the following elders as members of QV teams:
- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Carluk St Andrews | Mrs Liz Hiddleston |
| Lesmahagow Abbeygreen | Mrs Fiona Sandeman |
| Coalburn lw Lesmahagow Old | Mrs Betty Gray |
| Lanark Greyfriars | Mrs Ellen Young |
- 3 Note that conveners of QV teams will receive questionnaires which should be sent to the charge, completed and returned to the QV team convener prior to the visit.
- 4 Note that completed reports should be signed by the convener of the visiting team, and be in the hands of the convener of Superintendence and Records Committee by the end of February 2006

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Property Committee

Rev Jim Cutler, Convener, presented the report of the Property Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

- 1 Grant permission to Law Parish Church for the erection of a Portakabin in the grounds of the church, at a cost of £1,200, subject to the permission of the General Trustees, and instruct the Clerk to transmit the relevant application papers to the General Trustees

- 2 Homologate the decision to permit Kirkmuirhill Parish Church to apply to the General Trustees for financial assistance for the rewiring of the church.
- 3 Grant permission to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church to proceed with the rewiring of the church at a cost of £21,931
- 4 Note the Quinquennial Property Surveys to be carried out at Black Mount Iw Culter Iw Libberton and Quothquan, and Forth St Paul's
- 5 Grant permission to Lanark Greyfriars to apply to the General Trustees for the release of £13,706 (£11,664+ VAT) from their capital account in the Consolidated Fabric Fund to meet the cost of pointing work on the east wall of the church.

The Convener presented a supplementary report in relation to the Gillespie Centre Biggar and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery-

- 1 Note the situation with regard to the need for and possible future redevelopment of the interior of the Gillespie Centre Biggar.
- 2 Note, and with appreciation, the involvement and advice of the Church of Scotland Law Department.
- 3 Concur with the decisions of the Kirk Session and Congregational Board of Biggar Kirk to enter into a formal lease agreement with the Gillespie Centre Association the terms and conditions of which should be acceptable to the interests of the congregation of Biggar Kirk, and the General Trustees, and monitored by the Church of Scotland Law Department.
- 4 Agree that Presbytery Property Committee help monitor the congregation's interests, particularly with regard to funding considerations, in any future developments.
- 5 Instruct the Clerk to forward this deliverance to the General Trustees

The reports, together with the deliverance, were approved

Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Rev Dr Graham Houston, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Dr Houston reported that the Church of Scotland's Director of Stewardship has requested a consultation with all ministers in Presbytery on the theme 'Teaching Christian Giving'. The consultation will take place on Tuesday 8th November 10am – 12 in the Tinto Hotel Symington. Details and reply slips were available for members.

There was no deliverance

Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Anne McIvor, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

- 1 Note that the annual retreat took place on Monday 5th September and thank the organisers

The Big Saturday, 10 September

The Moderator reminded Presbytery of the Big Saturday event and reported on a high level of interest and ticket sales

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 20 September: Ministry, Parish Education, Parish Mission, Property, Stewardship and Finance, Superintendence and Records, World Church, Worship

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet in St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 4 October 2005. The meeting was closed with prayer.

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Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 October 2005, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the St Nicholas' Church Halls, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book - in all 17 ministers, 21 elders and 4 corresponding members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Robert McMahon, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Jack Stewart, Ministers, & Mrs Mabel Doak Mr Jim McLaren, Mr Bill Wilson, Elders

Agenda

The agenda was approved with one amendment, the World Church Report being withdrawn

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6th September 2005, were held as read and with one typing correction, were approved

Extract Minutes & Letters

Iain Cunningham, Nomination Committee, 16 September seeking names from Presbyteries for service on Councils and Committees

Mission & Discipleship Council organizing a series of consultations in November and December and inviting Presbytery to send 4 representatives, names to be notified by 7th November

Cornerstone Bookshop Edinburgh, 18 September drawing attention to the discounts still available on the melody edition of CH4 which will end after six months or the selling out of the print run

Mr Keith Mason, General Trustees, 20 September approving the application to the Trustees for financial assistance towards the cost of rewiring Kirkmuirhill Church. Local parties have been informed that the Trustees have made available a grant of £10,000 toward the cost of the work.

Mr Keith Mason, General Trustees, 20 September in connection with the portakabin proposal at Law Church. The matter will be referred to the meeting of the Fabric Committee on the 11th October. Should the Trustees give their approval the planning application will be returned for submission to the Local Authority.

Mr Keith Mason, General Trustees, 20 September approving the release of capital from funds held on behalf of Lanark Greyfriars in the Consolidated Fabric Fund to meet the cost of re-pointing at the church. A report on the matter will go to the next meeting of the Fabric Committee on 11th October.

Mrs Pauline Willder, Assistant Treasurer, Ministries, detailing Stipend scales and Allowances for 2006, regulations for Voluntary Additional Payments and charges eligible for such payments.

Church of Scotland Committee on Ecumenical Relations, the latest edition of the newsletter 'Groundswell'

Scottish Bible Society 12 September, latest newsletter

Report of the Business Committee

Mr Robert Carson, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Encourage members of Presbytery to put names forward, as nominations of Lanark Presbytery, to serve on the various Councils and Committees of the General Assembly

2. Appoint Rev Jim Cutler as Presbytery Clerk with immediate effect, allowing him the opportunity to shadow the previous Presbytery Clerk Mike Frew until Mike Frew vacates his charge
- 3 Appoint Rev Ian Watson as Depute Presbytery Clerk
- 4 Instruct the General Treasurer's Department to make the necessary arrangements to pay to the new Clerk Rev Jim Cutler, with immediate effect an amount reflecting the monthly salary of the present Clerk, Rev Mike Frew until the present Clerk demits office, and thereafter continuing only to pay the new Clerk

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Presentation of Readers, Reader in Training and Candidate for Ministry

Rev Anne McIvor, Ministry Convener, presented Mrs Sheilagh Kerr and Mr Alan Grant, Readers, Mr Bill Love, Reader in Training and Mr Allan Wilson Candidate for Ministry. She passed on an apology from Mr Robert Allan, Reader.

Mr Wilson was invited to address Presbytery. He spoke of his academic work, now in the final year, his attachments in congregations and hospital chaplaincy and the experience and insights he had gained in ministry. He thanked those in Presbytery who had supported him during his training.

The Moderator thanked all those presented for their continuing work and its value within Presbytery, offered help and support from Presbytery, and led the meeting in prayer.

Report of the Ministry Committee

The Convener presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance:

- 1 Note the information on National Stipend Scale 2006 from Council of Ministries
- 2 Note the regulations for Voluntary Additional Payments
- 3 Note that charges eligible to make Voluntary Additional Payments have been informed of the Council's recommendations
- 4 Note that charges are required to give notice of their decision on VAPs to the Convener by Friday 21st October, in time for a decision at the November Presbytery meeting.

The report, together with the deliverance was approved

Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

The report was presented by the Convener, Rev Dr Graham Houston, who then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

- 1 Note that the 2006 proposed figures for the Ministries and Mission Allocation have been sent to all congregational treasurers, and that any appeals be in the hands of the Convener by Monday 17th October 2005
- 2 Appoint Rev Steven Reid as Vice Convener of the Stewardship & Finance Committee

The report, together with the deliverance was approved

Report of the Parish Education Committee

The report was presented by Mrs Moira White, Vice Convener who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. Encourage Session Clerks to return completes questionnaires to the committee, to allow a strategy for education to be developed.
2. Urge Kirk Sessions to publicise forthcoming child protection training and to encourage volunteers within their congregations to attend

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The report was presented by the Convener, Rev Jim Cutler, who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

- 1 In compliance with the Deliverance of the General Assembly from the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland (Remits booklet page 7 item 3) instruct the Clerk

- to issue to all Session Clerks a list of the recommendations for manses contained in the Remits booklet (pages 25 – 27)
- 2 Urge those congregations with glebes who have not already done so to return the duly completed checklist
 - 3 Note the General Assembly deliverance of the General Trustees (Remits page 7)
Urge Presbyteries and congregations to take seriously their duties in maintaining the buildings of the Church for which they are responsible.
 - 4 Note that following intensive discussions between the congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas, the General Trustees and South Lanarkshire Council, an application for funding in the names of Lanark St Nicholas and South Lanarkshire Council is being made to Historic Scotland

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Parish Mission Committee

The report was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

- 1 Invite applications in writing for the vacant post of part-time hospital chaplain at Lockhart Hospital Lanark, on the basis of 0.625 sessions per week (approx 2.25 hours). Applications should be in the hands of the Presbytery's Parish Mission Convener by 15th October 2005. Copies of the General Duties and Responsibilities of Part Time Hospital Chaplains may be obtained from the Convener.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Big Saturday, 10 September

Rev Iain Cunningham gave a brief interim report on the event, highlighting the large number of visitors and the many positive comments received. The event was likely to break even financially, and a full report would follow in due course.

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 18th October at 8pm:

Church & Community Ministry
Stewardship and Finance.
Parish Mission (25 October)

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet in St Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 1 November 2005. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 November 2005, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St.Nicholas' Church Halls, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 ministers, 22 elders and 3 corresponding members. There were also present a number of Church Members from Carluke: St.John's.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Iain Goring, Rev Philip Jones, Ministers, and Mrs Mabel Doak, Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston, Mr Donald Barrie and Mr Bill Wilson, Elders

Agenda

The agenda, as printed, was approved.

Administration of the Oath

Having previously been appointed as Clerk and Depute Clerk respectively, Rev Jim Cutler and Rev Ian Watson took the oath *de fidele*

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 October 2005, were held as read and were approved

Translation of Rev Michael Frew

The moderator welcomed representatives from the congregation at Carluke: St John's Rev Iain Cunningham spoke graciously on behalf of Presbytery of his association with Mr Frew as a neighbouring Minister in Carluke and also of the friendship that they had enjoyed for many years.

The Moderator then invited a representative of Carluke: St John's to speak.

Dr Moira Elliott spoke warmly on behalf of the congregation of St John's of their Minister of some 14 years.

The Rev Michael Frew replied considerately of his time at St John's, of the many friendships that he'd made there, of his call to the congregation at Edinburgh: Slateford Longstone and of the warmth and friendship which he had experienced in the Presbytery of Lanark.

Extract Minutes & Letters

Rev Ken Ross, World Mission Council, 15 September enclosing a copy of the final report of the special committee on models of mission partner support. This letter had been passed to the World Church Committee Convener

Scottish Executive, 20 September enclosing a copy of the consultation paper concerning the regulations relating to Section 15 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. This document will be discussed by the Business Committee

Rev Peter Neilson, Ministries Support Officer, 10 October asking Presbytery if there are any objections to the application of Rev Brian Dingwall, minister in good standing with the Congregational Federation, to become a minister in the Church of Scotland

Mr David Robertson, General Trustees, 13 October informing Presbytery that the Trustees have authorised the sale of surplus ground at Rigside Church, and that free proceeds of the sale will be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund

Mr Keith Mason, General Trustees, 17 October confirming that the General Trustees have approved the installation of a portacabin in the grounds of Law Church, subject to planning approval

Mr Keith Fairweather, General Trustees informing Presbytery that the Consultative Draft of the South Lanarkshire Local Plan has been published and can be inspected at various locations

Report of the Business Committee

Mr Robert Carson, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Appoint Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Jim Cutler, Rev Bryan Kerr and Mr Andrew Brown as representatives at the Mission and Discipleship Council's Conference to be held in Edinburgh on the 24 November
2. Approve the setting up of an Ad-Hoc Committee to consider an approach from Hamilton Presbytery to share in the use and cost of their Congregational Development Officer, this Committee to comprise representation from each of the Worship, Parish Mission and Parish Education Committees
3. Approve the nominations of Rev Aileen Robson to the World Mission Council and the Rev Bryan Kerr to the Mission and Discipleship Council
4. Note and congratulate the Rev James Seath on his 25 years in the ministry at September 2005
5. Approve the substitution of Rev Ian Watson for the Rev Mike Frew at the Emerging Church Conference to be held in November 2005.
6. Appoint the Rev Sarah Ross as a member of the Business Committee
7. Appoint Mr Robert Tweedie as Convener of the Property Committee as replacement for the Rev Jim Cutler
8. Thank Rev Mike Frew for his service as Presbytery Clerk.
9. Thank Rev Catherine Collins for her service as Depute Presbytery Clerk
10. Note with approval the appointment of the Rev Susan Cowell as Locum at Carluke: St John's with effect from 18 November 2005.

Rev Mike Frew spoke to item 4 of the deliverance, summarising Rev James Seath's ministry and noting his service in retirement as a prison chaplain at Shotts, and in undertaking pulpit supply in many congregations within the bounds.

The Moderator spoke to item 8 of the deliverance, expressing the thanks of Presbytery to Rev. Mike Frew for his service as Presbytery Clerk.

Rev Mike Frew spoke to item 9 of the deliverance, expressing the thanks of the Presbytery to Rev Catherine Collins during her time of service as Depute Clerk, particularly during his absence in September 2005.

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Mr Carson then gave Notice of Motion for debate in Feb 2006: *Delete the word "Ministerial" from Standing Order 5*

Report of the Parish Mission Committee

Rev Iain Cunningham, Convener, presented the report of the Parish Mission Committee. He reported on the work of part-time chaplains during the year, and presented his Committee's proposals for the Lanark Presbytery Plan. He indicated that Lanark Presbytery had undertaken fairly extensive readjustment in the recent past, involving major reductions in congregations, charges and ministers. The proposals represented a gradual development in certain areas rather than any new radical upheavals. The plan envisaged a total complement of 18 full-time ministers, a figure within the guidelines that were being developed as part of the National Plan. However, as the plan would be reviewed annually, to take account of changing circumstances, some further adjustments might evolve. In particular his Committee believed that there may be scope within the period of the plan for further developing the concept of Parish Grouping in certain areas. One fundamental principle underlying the proposals was the need to ensure, wherever possible, the existence of a congregation in each significant "natural community."

Charge	Proposal
Biggar	<i>Parish Grouping with Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan</i>
Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan	<i>Parish Grouping with Biggar</i>
Cairngryffe lw Symington	<i>No change</i>
Carluke: Kirkton	<i>Parish Grouping with St. Andrew's & St. John's</i>
Carluke: St. Andrew's	<i>Parish Grouping with Kirkton & St. John's</i>
Carluke: St. John's	<i>Parish Grouping with St. Andrew's and Kirkton</i>

Carnwath	<i>No change</i>
Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction	<i>Union with two points of worship</i>
Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old	<i>No change</i>
Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank	<i>No change</i>
Douglas Valley	<i>No change</i>
Forth: St. Paul's	<i>No change</i>
Glencaple lw Lowther	<i>No change</i>
Kirkmuirhill	<i>No change</i>
Lanark: Greyfriars	<i>No change</i>
Lanark: St. Nicholas	<i>No change</i>
Law	<i>Raise to full status</i>
Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen	<i>No change</i>

He then moved the following deliverance
Presbytery –

1. Thank those Part-Time Hospital Chaplains who have submitted reports on their work and thank them for their diligent and faithful service and remind Chaplains who have not yet submitted reports to do so as soon as possible
2. Instruct the Business Committee to appoint an interview panel to interview applicants for the vacant post of joint Part-Time Chaplain to Lockhart Hospital, Lanark
3. Recommend in the forthcoming vacancy at Carluke: St. John's that the congregation be allowed to call a minister without restriction, notwithstanding the ongoing discussions being undertaken with neighbouring congregations on a basis of Parish Grouping in Carluke
4. Confirm that Lanark Presbytery should be designated as a Rural/Urban Presbytery (Group D)
5. Approve the Draft Presbytery Plan and instruct the Clerk to submit a copy to the Ministries Council for their approval

The report, together with the deliverance was approved

Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Rev Dr Graham Houston, Convener, presented the report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee, and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

1. Agree the finalised Ministries and Mission Allocation figures for 2006
2. Instruct all Boards and Sessions within the Bounds to ensure that payments to Edinburgh for the Ministries and Mission Allocation are made by monthly standing order, unless permission to do otherwise is granted by Presbytery. Requests for permission allowing for local circumstances should be in the Convener's hands by Friday 2 December 2005.
3. Approve the Presbytery budget for 2006 and set the congregational levy at £1.60 per member.
4. Resolve to add the names of Rev James Cutler and Rev Ian Watson to the list of approved cheque signatories for the Presbytery bank account and delete the names of Rev Michael Frew and Rev Catherine Collins

The report, together with the deliverance was approved

Accounts Inspection Committee

Mr Colin Young, Treasurer, presented the report of the Accounts Inspection Committee. The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Note that with the exception of a small number of minor points being followed up by the Treasurer, all congregational accounts for 2004 had met the Church of Scotland's regulations anent congregational finance.
2. Commend treasurers for their diligence in achieving this position.
3. Direct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the Church of Scotland General Treasurer

The report, together with the deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministry Committee

Rev Anne McIvor, Convener, presented the report of the Ministry Committee and moved the following deliverance: **Ministry Committee**

Presbytery -

1. Approve additional voluntary stipend payment on the plus 5% scale for 2006 for Kirkmuirhill and for Lanark St. Nicholas
2. Approve additional voluntary stipend payment on the plus 10% scale for 2006 for Carluke: Kirkton
3. Receive and commend the study leave report from Rev. Helen Jamieson on development of computer skills
4. Approve an increase of grant to Mr. Alan Wilson, candidate for ministry from its present £100 to £200 for his final year
5. Encourage ministers and congregations to make full use of Readers
6. Agree to invite Readers to become corresponding members of Presbytery

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

Report of the Property Committee

Rev Jim Cutler Clerk and retiring Convener reminded congregations that they must check annually what items are included in their buildings insurance and moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery -

Approve the installation of protective polycarbonate sheeting at Carstairs Church, at a cost of £879+VAT, subject to the approval of the Advisory Committee on Church Art and Architecture

The report, together with the deliverance, was approved

The Big Saturday, 10 September

The Moderator invited Rev David Cameron, minister of Maxwell Mearns Parish Church and Chairman of The Big Saturday organising committee, to address the Presbytery

At the close of his address, Mr Robert Carson, Business Convener moved that Presbytery –

1. Welcome the success of the Big Saturday and record its appreciation of the effective cooperation across Clyde Presbyteries
2. Invite the Clyde Presbyteries Planning Group to consider future events under the umbrella of Church Without Walls and in the name of Clyde Presbyteries

Notification of Committees Meeting

It was noted that the following committees would meet on Tuesday 22 November:

Ministry, Parish Education, Property, Stewardship and Finance, World Church and Worship.

Next Meeting

The Presbytery was publicly called to meet in Lanark: St.Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday 6 December 2005. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 December 2005, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as recorded in the Sederunt Book — in all 18 Ministers, 20 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. David Carmichael; Rev. Aileen Robson, ministers, and Mrs Anna Aitken; Mrs Mabel Doak; Mrs Betty McLeod; Mrs Jennifer Worthington; Mr Robert Carson; Mr Andrew Brown; Mr Tom Neilson; and Mr Bill Wilson.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 1 November 2005 were held as read and approved.

Welcome to the Rev. David J C Easton.

Having submitted a letter to the Clerk requesting his transfer from the Presbytery of Glasgow to the Presbytery of Lanark, Mr Easton was welcomed to the Presbytery by the Moderator. Mr Easton was Minister of Burnside-Blairbeth Parish Church in Glasgow and since he retired in October, he and his wife have lived at Quothquan.

Deliverance:

Presbytery Agrees to add the name of Rev. David J C Easton to the Roll of Presbytery, and instruct the Clerk to inform the Presbytery of Glasgow of this decision.

The deliverance was approved

Extract Minutes and Letters:

A list of the extract minutes and letters received till 28 November had been circulated is appended to the Minutes.

The Clerk referred to a Minute which had been received from the Presbytery of Edinburgh of Rev Mike Frew's induction to Edinburgh: Slateford Longstone.

A letter has also been received from Mr Frew thanking the Presbytery for all the fine things that were said about him at our last meeting and also for the presentation which he received.

The Clerk referred to the following correspondence which had been received since 28 November:

The Parish Development Fund: intimating that it will deal with applications for Grant Aid in April and October each year. The deadlines for applications will be the end of February and the end of August.

The General Trustees: intimating that since most of their meetings take place on various Tuesdays, the deadline for business for these meetings is to be 12.00noon the day before. Business received later than this will be delayed until the next scheduled meeting.

The Mission and Discipleship Council: requesting details of all Church Workers.

The Committee on Ecumenical Relations: a Newsletter is available from the Clerk.

The Committee on Parish Appraisal: two extract minutes concerning Carluke: St.John's have been received.

The Depute Clerk referred to three items of correspondence received from Mrs Janette Wilson, the Church's Solicitor:

1. The Ban on Smoking in Public Places which comes into effect on 26 March 2006. Advice about this, downloaded from the Internet, was circulated to members of Presbytery.
2. The Data Protection Act has been undated.
3. Safeguard Committee – delays in processing disclosure requests.

The Report of the Business Committee:

In the absence of the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, the Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Depute Clerk, Rev. Ian Watson who moved the following deliverances:
Presbytery:

1. Approve the Overtures under the Barrier Act in as far as they amend Acts II and III 2000, Act II 2002 and Act XIII 2003. (Voting: 38 'FOR' and 0 'AGAINST'.)
2. Appoint Rev. Iain Goring (Convener), Rev Aileen Robson, Mrs Liz Hiddleston and Mrs Betty Smith, together with a representative of NHS Lanarkshire, as the Interviewing Panel for the position of Chaplain at the Lockhart Hospital, Lanark.
3. Invite Convenors of Presbytery Committees, or their deposes, to a meeting in the

St.Bride's Centre, Douglas on Tuesday 31st January 2006 at 11:30 am to discuss the possible reorganisation of Presbytery Committees.

4. Encourage Congregations with Glebes to return their Glebe Inspection Reports to the General Trustees by the 31st December 2005.
5. Note that the forms for the completion of "Congregational Statistics" are now available for collection and should be returned completed to the Clerk by Tuesday 24th January 2005
6. Remind charges which are "linked" or are in "union" that they do not have to seek approval from Presbytery to hold joint services. Charges which are not "linked" continue to need the approval of Presbytery to have joint services.
7. Grant permission for Lanark: St.Nicholas' and Lanark: Greyfriars to have united services on Sunday 25th December 2005 and 1st January 2006, and for Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St.John's and Carluke: St.Andrew's to have a Joint Service on 1st January 2006.
8. Further to the Scottish Executive's consultation process on Charity Law Reform; resolve to align ourselves with representations made by the Church Solicitor.
9. Remind congregations of the requirement to include their Charity Registration number on all documentation.
10. Encourage the Parish Mission Committee to investigate how the Presbytery can be more properly represented in consultations with NHS Lanarkshire.
11. Give notice that, wherever possible, all communication concerning meetings of Presbytery will be undertaken by e-mail from the 1st January 2006.

The deliverances were approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was submitted by Mr Robert Tweedie who moved the following Deliverance: *Presbytery*

Instruct the Clerk to forward to the General Trustees the Completed Report Form on Diligence in terms of the Act Anent Care of Ecclesiastical Properties 1979 as amended.

The deliverance was approved

Report of the Parish Education Committee

The Report of the Parish Education Committee was presented by Mrs Moira White who moved the following Deliverances:

Presbytery

1. Concur with the committee report and comments relating to the National Strategy for Youth Work
2. Agree to appoint youth members of Presbytery within the following guidelines:
 - a. Presbytery youth members will be between the ages of 16 and 25.
 - b. Presbytery youth members will be involved in the life of a congregation but will not necessarily be a communicant member.
 - c. Presbytery youth members will be entitled to speak and move motions but not vote: during committee reports or during debates on overtures.
 - d. Presbytery youth members will not be entitled to speak, move motions or vote: during debates on Petitions or cases or during debates on matters affecting Presbytery procedure or Standing Orders.
 - e. If a Presbytery youth member is an ordained elder within a congregation but is appointed to Presbytery as a youth member they shall not be entitled to vote and shall be bound by the regulations above.
3. Invite ministers and Kirk Sessions to nominate suitable candidates for youth membership to the convener by Friday 17 February 2006.
4. Urge Kirk Sessions to encourage children's workers to attend the Lent & Easter Resource Day in Carluke: Kirkton Church on Saturday 28th January 2006.
5. Invite Kirk Sessions to encourage all volunteers working with children and young people to attend Child Protection Training to be held early in 2006.
6. Instruct the clerk to send a copy of the report to the Council of Mission & Discipleship's Education & Nurture Task Group

The Deliverances were approved

Report of the Worship Committee

The Report of the Worship Committee was presented by the Rev. Jim Francis who moved the following Deliverance: *Presbytery*:

Encourage the Worship Committee in its planning of a Celebration Service for Pentecost 2006.

The deliverance was approved

Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee was presented by the Rev. Dr Graham Houston who moved the following Deliverances: *Presbytery*

1. Grant exemption, on grounds of cash-flow problems, to the following congregations with reference to monthly payments by standing order for the *Ministries and Mission Allocation* in 2006: Carluke: St Andrew's, Carnwath, Carstairs Junction, Forth: St Paul's, Lesmahagow: Old and Culter, and instruct the Clerk to send and extract minute of this decision to the General Treasurer's Department.
2. Note that the General Treasurers' Department recommends that, for congregations so exempted, choice should be made from one or more of the following alternatives: (a) Set up a quarterly standing order, which may be for less than one quarter of the total allocation, with the intention of making up the difference at the end of the year. (b) Reclaim tax recoverable through Gift Aid quarterly rather than annually. (c) In extreme cases only, make at least two allocation payments per annum.
3. Concur with the responses of the Committee to the Council of Assembly's consultation on Budgets and Allocations, and transmit to the Council's Convener.
4. Note the position regarding the moneys credited to Blackmount Parish Church in the General Trustees Central Fabric Fund from the sale of Dunsyre Church.

The Deliverances were approved

Superintendence and Records Committee

The Presbytery met **in private** while the Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee was presented by the Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following Deliverances: *Presbytery*

1. Quinquennial Visitation to Kirkmuirhill
 - a) Commend the Minister, Office Bearers and congregation of Kirkmuirhill for their faithful worship, witness and service.
 - b) Commend the Office bearers for their healthy forward-looking attitude and openness to possible change.
 - c) Encourage the Minister and Office Bearers to continue the process of developing a forward plan, establishing priorities for action and harnessing the fresh energy and enthusiasm generated through the establishment of Kirk Session task groups.
 - d) Remind the Office Bearers that it is possible, in accordance with Church Practice and Procedure, to reduce the size of the Congregational Board.
 - e) Draw the attention of the Kirk Session to the law and practice of the Church regarding the ordination of women and instruct the Kirk Session to take account of this when next adding to their number.
 - f) Commend the Minister, Office Bearers and members of Kirkmuirhill to the prayers of Presbytery and note that the charge is fulfilling its function.
 - g) Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the deliverances to the Session Clerk of Kirkmuirhill.
2. Note that the QV team for Forth: St Paul's will now be Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Graham Houston, Mrs Anna Lumsden and one additional elder to be appointed by the team.
3. Note that in the QV team for Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen Rev Jim Cutler will be replaced by Rev Ian Goring.
4. Note that the Annual Inspection of Records will take place on Wednesday 22nd February 2006 and that all records should be brought to Lanark: St Nicholas Church Hall on Tuesday 21st February 2006 (Committee Night).
5. Note that records should be uplifted at Presbytery on 7th March.

The Deliverances were approved

Report of the Ministry Committee

The Report of the Ministry Committee was presented by the Rev. Anne McIvor who moved the following Deliverances: *Presbytery*:

1. Note the excellent report given by supervising Minister, Rev. Jim Cutler regarding the first formal placement of reader-in-training Mr Bill Love.
2. Approve that Mr Love's final six month placement to be with Rev Jim Francis, at Biggar Kirk; inclusive of a four week placement with Rev Iain Cunningham, Carluke: Kirkton Church.
3. Approve the Overture anent Licentiates of the Church of Scotland, under the Barrier Act; amending Act IX 2002 anent Admission and Re-admission of Ministers, and Act II 2002, (Consolidating Act anent the Ministry). (Voting: 38 'FOR' and 0 'AGAINST'.)
4. Note Elders Training Course on Leading Worship, to be run by Mr David Geddes for Hamilton and Lanark Presbyteries on five consecutive Thursdays, beginning on 23 Feb. 2006.

The Deliverances were approved

Report on Conference on the Emerging Church.

The Rev. Ian Watson presented a Report on the recent Conference on the Emerging Church and gave a Powerpoint Presentation.

Report on Parish Mission Committee.

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee was presented by the Rev. Iain Cunningham who moved the following Deliverances: *Presbytery*

1. Approve the Revised Presbytery Plan and instruct the Clerk to forward a copy to the General Assembly's Parish Appraisal committee for their concurrence. (The Plan is appended to the Minutes – Appendix A)
2. Approve the Basis of Parish Grouping for the congregations of Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the General Assembly's Parish Appraisal committee for their concurrence. (The Basis of Parish Grouping is appended to the Minutes – Appendix B)
3. Affirm that the proposal to allow the congregation of Carluke: St. John's to call a minister without restriction within the Basis of Parish Grouping in Carluke is in line with the Presbytery Plan and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the General Assembly's Parish Appraisal Committee for their concurrence.
4. Approve the Draft Basis of Union between Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and instruct the Presbytery's Parish Mission Committee to present the Draft Basis to the two congregations for their approval, and report back to Presbytery.

Notification of Committees Meeting to be held on Tuesday 24 January 2006:

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry, Parish Education, Parish Mission, Property, Stewardship and Finance, Superintendence and Records and Worship.

Next Meeting:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet at the Halls of Lanark: St.Nicholas' Parish Church on Tuesday 7 February 2006 at 7.00pm. of which Public Intimation was made.

Moderator

Clerk

December 2005 Appendix A

COMMITTEE ON PARISH APPRAISAL

PRESBYTERY PLANNING

Plan for the Presbytery of

LANARK

Agreed by the Committee on Parish Appraisal on _____

Congregation	Parish Population and relevant issues	Status at date of Plan	Plan for the Congregation at the end of the ten year Plan	Interim Step on occasion of Vacancy (where appropriate)	Structure of Staffing Required	Listing of buildings and appropriate issues
BIGGAR	2476 (2172)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Parish Grouping with Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quoathquan</i>		1 Minister	
BLACK MOUNT	815 (692) <i>(figures for combined parishes in linkage)</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i> <i>Linked with Culter, Libberton & Quoathquan</i>	<i>Parish Grouping with Biggar</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
CAIRNGRYFFE	1227 (1087)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i> <i>Linked with Symington</i>	<i>Linked with Symington</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
CARLUKE KIRKTON	4671 (3867)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Parish Grouping with Carluke St.</i>		1 Minister + <i>shared part-time</i>	

			<i>Andrews and Carluke St. Johns</i>		<i>Administrative assistant</i>	
CARLUKE ST. ANDREWS	3383 (2734)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Parish Grouping With Carluke Kirkton and Carluke St. John's</i>		1 Minister + <i>shared part-time Administrative assistant</i>	
Congregation	Parish Population and relevant issues	Status at date of Plan	Plan for the Congregation at the end of the ten year Plan	Interim Step on occasion of Vacancy (where appropriate)	Structure of Staffing Required	Listing of buildings and appropriate issues
CARLUKE ST. JOHN'S	6054 (4909)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Parish Grouping with Carluke Kirkton and Carluke St. Andrews</i>	<i>Unrestricted call within Basis of Parish Grouping</i>	1 Minister + <i>shared part-time Administrative assistant</i>	
CARNWATH	2085 (1888)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>To be reviewed when next vacant</i>	<i>Explore Parish Grouping with Carstairs United.</i>	1 Minister	'A' Listed building attached to church Major repairs to church
CARSTAIRS	1300 (1159)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Union with Carstairs Junction</i>	<i>Explore Parish Grouping with Carnwath</i>	1 Minister for united charge	
CARSTAIRS JUNCTION	1501 (1288)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Union with Carstairs</i>	<i>Explore Parish Grouping with Carnwath</i>	(as above)	
COALBURN	1382 (1274)	<i>Unrestricted tenure Linked with Lesmahagow Old</i>	<i>Linked with Lesmahagow Old</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	

CROSSFORD	719 (612)	<i>Unrestricted tenure Linked with Kirkfieldbank</i>	<i>Linked with Kirkfieldbank</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
CULTER	815 (692) <i>(figures for combined parishes)</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Parish Grouping with Biggar</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
FORTH ST. PAUL'S	2808 (2493)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>		1 Minister	
GLENCAPLE	1508 (1320)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Linked with Lowther</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
KIRKFIELDBANK	1294 (1080)	<i>Unrestricted tenure Linked with Crossford</i>	<i>Linked with Crossford</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
Congregation	Parish Population and relevant issues	Status at date of Plan	Plan for the Congregation at the end of the ten year Plan	Interim Step on occasion of Vacancy (where appropriate)	Structure of Staffing Required	Listing of buildings and appropriate issues
KIRKMUIRHILL	3845 (3207)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>		1 Minister	
LANARK GREYFRIARS	4614 (3820)	<i>Unrestricted tenure (Basis of Joint Ministry)</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure Possibly within Parish Grouping</i>	<i>Explore Parish Grouping with Lanark St. Nicholas</i>	1 Minister	

LANARK ST. NICHOLAS	4235 (3278)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure Possibly within Parish Grouping</i>	<i>Explore Parish Grouping with Lanark Greyfriars</i>	1 Minister	
LAW	2855 (2438)	<i>Reviewable tenure</i>	<i>Unrestricted Tenure</i>		1 Minister	
LESMAHAGOW ABBEGREEN	2260 (1933)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Unrestricted Tenure</i>		1 Minister	
LESMAHAGOW OLD	2599 (2278)	<i>Unrestricted tenure Linked with Coalburn</i>	<i>Linked with Coalburn</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
LIBBERTON & QUOTHQUAN	815 (692) <i>(figures for combined parishes)</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Parish Grouping with Biggar</i>		1 Minister	
LOWTHER	474 (386)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Linked with Glencaple</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
SYMINGTON	841 (714)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Linked with Cairngryffe</i>		1 Minister for linked charge	
THE DOUGLAS VALLEY CHURCH	3003 (2676)	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>	<i>Unrestricted tenure</i>		1 Minister	

December 2005 Appendix B

Basis of Parish Grouping: Carluke; St Andrew's, Carluke; Kirkton and Carluke; St John's:

The congregations of Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St Andrew's, and Carluke: St John's shall form a Parish Grouping from 1st February 2006 and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. **The Aim of The Parish Grouping:** The aim of this Parish Grouping shall be to provide a united Christian witness by the Church of Scotland in Carluke, to make the most effective use of resources, celebrating diversity, avoiding unnecessary duplication and unhelpful competition.
2. **Name:** The name of the Parish Grouping shall be "The Church of Scotland in Carluke"
3. **Territorial responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the Parish Grouping shall be the combined parishes of the participating congregations or as Presbytery shall determine.
4. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
5. **Kirk Sessions:** The Kirk Sessions shall continue their present status and authority. Each of the participating congregations shall appoint two of its members, together with the Minister (or Interim Moderator) and Session Clerk, to form a Development Group. The appointed members will serve a maximum of two years on the Development Group, retiring on a rotational basis with the option of reappointment. The Development Group shall be moderated by the respective Ministers by rota and shall have the task of promoting and co-ordinating the common work of the Parish Grouping, subject to the approval of each Kirk Session and, where necessary, financial court. The Kirk Sessions shall meet together at least once in each calendar year.
6. **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of each congregation shall be administered as at present.
7. **Ministry:** The ministers of the three congregations shall be Ministers of their respective charges on the tenure to which they were inducted. In the event of a vacancy in any of the three congregations, two members of each of the other two congregations will serve as non-voting members on the relevant Nominating Committee.
8. **Ministry Support:** The stipends and other salaries shall be agreed by the Presbytery in conjunction with the Councils and Committees of the General Assembly.
9. **Manses:** The manses of the three congregations shall continue to be the manses of the congregations during the course of the Parish Grouping.
10. **Areas of Co-operation:** The work of the Parish Grouping shall be promoted and co-ordinated by the Development Group initially along the lines of the document "Areas of shared activity of The Church of Scotland in Carluke".
11. **Power to adjust:** While these articles and terms shall form the Parish Grouping for the congregations now agreeing, the congregations shall be free, like any other congregation, to adjust arrangements under the authority of the Presbytery as need may arise.

December 2005 Appendix C

Areas of shared activity of “The Church of Scotland in Carluke”.

These will be subject to constant review and reform by the Development Group and the Kirk Sessions.

Worship: Parish Grouping will endeavour to work towards more ways of sharing worship with increased variety of styles, times and places of worship.

Market research may be required to gauge the needs of the town.

Pastoral Care Parish Grouping will promote co-operation and the sharing of resources among the participating congregations in order to promote more effective Pastoral care.

We commit ourselves to establishing the Christian Counselling Service in co-operation with other churches in the town.

A joint Marriage Preparation course will be developed.

We will explore ways of developing training in Pastoral Care.

Christian Education: Children’s education will retain its present forms within each congregation.

Parish Grouping will develop collaborative approaches to Christian Education for Teenagers and Adults.

Where new ventures are planned they will be run jointly with the focus being on time limited courses which will be well advertised.

Parish Mission: Parish Grouping will provide training and create opportunities to share faith and make disciples.

Social: Parish Grouping will provide opportunities for the participating congregations to meet informally.

We propose a worship event and ceilidh to establish the start of the Parish Grouping.

Communication: Parish Grouping will produce as much joint publicity as possible.

We will explore ways of developing shared press notices, a joint magazine and website.

Administration: Parish Grouping will establish an administrative structure, which will service the other aims of the Parish Grouping.

An administrator will be appointed for 2.5 hours per week, financed by a levy of £1/member.

The Development Group will administer this shared fund.

The Objective of Parish Grouping

When thinking of something new, actively look for ways of including everyone.

Lanark, on Tuesday, 7 February 2006 the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book — in all 13 Ministers, 24 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Aileen Robson, Rev. Steven Reid, Rev John Stewart, Ministers; Ellen Young, Mairi Somerville, Donald Barrie and Colin Young, elders

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved with the Report of the Parish Mission Committee to be taken after the report of the Business Committee.

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 6 December 2006 were held as read and approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters.

The Clerk referred to the following items of Extract Minutes and Letters

1. Mrs Jeanette Wilson, the Church's solicitor, informing the Presbytery that new Food Safety Regulations were introduced on 1 January, and also that each congregation has probably by now received this information through the Treasurer's mailing.
2. The Ministries Council have sent papers for two Ministers who are applying for readmission as Ministers of the Church. They are: Mr Donald Lawrie from Kirkintilloch; and a Mr Keith Ofor who currently lives in East Kilbride.

Rev. Ian Watson informed the Presbytery that the Kirk Session of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church had written to the Ministries Council stating their objections to the readmission of Mr Keith Ofor, and after discussion the following deliverance was moved:

Presbytery –

Note the action taken by the Kirk Session of Kirkmuirhill in regard to Mr Keith Ofor's application for readmission to the Ministry of the Church and encourage those with first hand knowledge of the case in question to make representations to the appropriate Committee of the Ministries Council.

The Deliverance was approved

3. Extract Minutes from Parish Appraisal.
 - a) Approving of the Presbytery Plan.
 - b) Our extract minute which was transmitted to the Committee, read: 'Affirm that the proposal to allow the congregation of Carluke : St. John's to call a minister without restriction within the Basis of Parish Grouping in Carluke is in line with the Presbytery Plan.' The Committee concurred subject to receipt of the terms of the Basis of Parish Grouping. The said Committee has received the Basis of Parish Grouping and has approved its terms.
 - c) Concerning the Classification of Presbyteries:
'The Committee noted that a meeting had been held, by the nominated task group, to examine the appeals by a number of Presbyteries against their given classification in the National Guidelines. After much deliberation the group concluded that all the Presbyteries concerned had been correctly classified. After questions and discussion, the Committee agreed to accept the findings of the task group and to intimate this to the Presbyteries concerned.'
4. A document (some 18 pages) has been received from the Ministries Council giving the structure of the Council.
5. The General Trustees informing the Presbytery that they have approved of the let of the Gillespie Centre in Biggar.

Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery – (Presbytery agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow discussion on item 1)

1. Resolve to delete the word "Ministerial" in Standing Order No. 5, proper notice of this motion having been given.
2. Note that the following charges should send commissioners (minister and one elder) to the General Assembly to convene in Edinburgh on 20 May 2006:- Carstairs lw Carstairs Junction, Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank, Carluke: St.John's and Glencaple lw Lowther and the Presbytery Clerk, the elder to accompany the Presbytery Clerk to be nominated from among the Presbytery's elders, and instruct that the names of Minister and elders together with their addresses and Bank Account details be given to the Clerk by 22 February 2006.

The Deliverances were approved

Parish Mission Committee

The Report of the Parish Mission Committee was presented by Rev. Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverances

Presbytery –

1. In line with the Presbytery Plan, approve the Draft Basis of Union for the congregations of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.
2. Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the Basis of Union to the General Assembly's Parish Appraisal Committee.

The Deliverances were approved

Following the Report of the Parish Mission Committee, the Convener of the Business Committee moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Resolve to hold a service of Union at Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction on Thursday 2 March 2006 at 7:30 pm in Carstairs Junction Church. The Presbytery will meet at 7:15pm., and the detailed arrangements for the service are remitted to the Business Committee. All of the aforementioned subject to receiving the appropriate approvals.

Committee to Interview Candidates for the Part-time Chaplaincy at Lockhart Hospital, Lanark

The Reports of the Committee to Interview Candidates for the Part-time Chaplaincy at Lockhart Hospital, Lanark was presented by Rev. Iain Goring who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Nominates Rev Alison Meikle for the part time post at Lockhart Hospital, on the basis of a 3 year reviewable appointment

The Deliverance was approved

Parish Education Committee

The Report of the Parish Education Committee was presented by Mrs Moira White who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. Note the rescheduled date of 25th February 2006 for the Lent & Easter Resource Day for Children's Workers to take place in Kirkton Church and urge Kirk Sessions to encourage workers to attend.
2. Agree to book places at the National Youth Assembly for 2 young people to attend.
3. Seek nominations for youth delegates to attend the National Youth Assembly in Dundee from 8 - 11 September. Names should be with the convener by Monday 6th March.
4. Urge Kirk Sessions to suggest possible names to the convener to attend the General Assembly in May as the Presbytery Youth delegate. Suggested names to convener by Monday 6th March

The Deliverances were approved

Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee was presented by Rev. Graham Houston who moved the following deliverances

Presbytery –

1. Note the General Assembly's
 - (a) urgent call for congregations to consider, where appropriate, the use of alternative energy sources, and wherever possible, of renewable energy resources, and to work for a reduction in their energy use; and
 - (b) encouragement to congregations to participate in the Eco-Congregation scheme.(see www.ecocongregation.org/scotland)
2. Remit Deliverance 1 and all relevant matters concerning environmental issues to the Church and Community Committee.
3. Welcome the Committee's concerns about the Stewardship of Cyberspace, and instruct the Business Committee to appoint a Working Group with Rev Graham Houston as convener and to report to a future meeting of Presbytery on three major issues: Confidentiality, Copyright, and Data Protection.

The Deliverances were approved

Property Committee

The report of the Property Committee was presented by Mr Robert Tweedie.

Mr Tweedie referred to the guidelines issued by the General Trustees concerning the provision of Manses. The General Trustees have made certain recommendations and the Property Committee have prepared a form containing these. The forms will be issued to each congregation, one to the minister and one to the Session Clerk. These should be completed and returned to the Property Committee by the 1st March 2006.

Ministry Committee

The Report of the Ministry Committee was presented by Rev Anne McIvor who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. Receive and commend the study leave report from Rev Iain Cunningham on ‘a growing partnership’ between Kirkton and Kiambaa
2. Invite him to give a presentation on this study project to Presbytery.
3. Commend the information from David Geddes on training courses and note the leaflets available for uplift.

The Deliverances were approved

The Rev. Iain Cunningham presented a Report on ‘a growing partnership’ between Kirkton and Kiambaa.

Superintendence and Records Committee

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamison who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. Instruct the Superintendence and Records Committee to continue supervision of the charge of Carnwath in order
 - a) that a conclusion about the future of the buildings may be reached as soon as possible
 - b) that the Minister, Office Bearers and Congregation are given the necessary support, encouragement and guidance to enable them to continue their Christian worship, witness and service
2. Instruct the Superintendence and Records Committee to continue supervision of the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old in order that
 - a) financial and fabric difficulties are addressed at Lesmahagow: Old
 - b) the Minister Office Bearers and Congregation of Lesmahagow: Old are given the necessary support and guidance
3. Instruct the Superintendence and Records Committee to report to Presbytery to the April meeting on progress made at Carnwath and Lesmahagow: Old

Notification of Committees Meeting to be held on Tuesday 21 February 2006:

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Church and Community, Ministry, Parish Education, Parish Mission, Property, Superintendence and Records and Worship.

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourns to meet *in hunc effectum* in Carstairs Junction Church for a service of union between Carstairs and Carstairs Junction on Thursday 2 March 2006 at 7:15pm with public worship commencing at 7:30pm.,

and at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 7 March 2006 at 7.00pm for Ordinary Business of which Public Intimation for both was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

APENDIX A

Basis of Union Between Carstairs and Carstairs Junction

The Congregation of Carstairs and the Congregation of Carstairs Junction shall be united as from the 2nd March 2006 and that on the following Terms and Conditions

1. Name of Congregation: The name of the United Congregation shall be the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.
2. Buildings: The churches used by the present congregations will continue to be used by the united congregation and will remain known as 'Carstairs' and 'Carstairs Junction'.
3. Transference of Property and Funds: The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly affected.
4. Places of Worship: Both Churches at present used and occupied by the Congregations shall be the places of worship of the United Congregation. Services shall be conducted in Carstairs Church and in Carstairs Junction Church each Sunday at times to be decided by the Minister and Kirk Session subject to the approval of Presbytery.
5. Territorial Responsibility: The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be those presently designated as the bounds of the Parishes of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
6. Kirk Session: The elders of both Kirk Sessions shall form with the minister the Kirk Session of the United Congregation.
7. Congregational Management: The financial or temporal affairs of the United Congregation shall be administered as at present in accordance with the Model Constitution.
8. Minister: At the end of the current Interim Ministry, the United Congregation shall proceed to seek the appointment of a new minister.
9. Manse: The present Manse of the linked charge shall be the Manse of the United Congregation.
10. Ministerial Support: The Stipend shall be such as sanctioned by the Presbytery in conjunction with the Board of Ministry.
11. Power to re-adjust: While these articles and terms shall form a Basis of Union for the two congregations now uniting, the united congregation shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Committee on Parish Appraisal as need may arise.

At **Carstairs Junction**, on Thursday 2 March 2006, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* at Carstairs Junction Parish Church, for the service of union between Carstairs Parish Church and Carstairs Junction Parish Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 5 Ministers and 13 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Steven Reid, Rev Graham Houston, Rev Ian Watson, Ministers, and from Ellen Young and Don Barrie, Elders.

Narrative

In 2003 that the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland passed an Act requiring that Presbyteries produce a Presbytery Plan for the Congregations within their bounds and for the next 10 years from the date of the approval of such plans by the General Assembly's Parish Appraisal Committee. The deadline for such plans was that they had to receive such approval by the General Assembly of 2006.

In January of 2006, the General Assembly's Parish Appraisal Committee approved the Presbytery Plan of the Presbytery of Lanark. With due consultation of the congregations involved within that plan provision was made for the Congregations of Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction to become united.

The Presbytery's Parish Mission Committee drew up a Basis of Union which was agreed by both congregations (with no dissensions). Both congregations were cited to appear at the meeting of the Presbytery of Lanark on 7th February 2006 for their interests and there the Presbytery agreed to the Basis of Union of the linked congregations of Carstairs with Carstairs Junction. The Presbytery also set the date of Thursday 2nd March 2006 at 7.30pm for the Service of Union to take place.

Service of Union

The Presbytery proceeded to the Church, where the Sermon was preached by the Rev Anne McIvor. The Moderator presided over the Act of Union between the congregations of Carstairs Parish Church and Carstairs Junction Parish Church. After the service Fiona Sandeman expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk, the Minister of the Charge, Rev Ian Goring and Rev Anne McIvor for their conduct of the service.

Next Meeting

Presbytery adjourns to meet at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 7 March 2006 at 7.00pm for Ordinary Business of which Public Intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 7 March 2006 the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book — in all 13 Ministers, 26 Elders and 4 Corresponding Member.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev. Sarah Ross, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev Iain Goring, Ministers, Moira White and Colin Young, elders

Minutes: The Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7 February 2006 were held as read and approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. 2 letters from the General Trustees regarding Auchengray Church and the work that's being done there.
2. E-mail received from the Principal Clerk regarding the Persons and Agencies Statistical Returns.
3. Letter from the Rev. Catherine Collins informing Presbytery that she had been invited to preach as Sole Nominee at Broughty Ferry: New Kirk in the Presbytery of Dundee on Sunday 5th March.
4. Letter from Rev Catherine Collins resigning her Hospital Chaplaincy posts.
5. Letter from Rev David Collins resigning his Hospital Chaplaincy posts.
6. E-mail from the Ministries Council recruiting Ministers and Elders as Assessors for the Enquiry and Assessment Process.
7. Intimation from Christian Aid Scotland informing us about 2 one day sponsored events: The Cumbrae Challenge on 16 June and The Ninian's Walk on 3 June.
8. Minute received from Parish Appraisal approving of the Basis of Parish Grouping at Carluke.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery: -

1. Resolve to appoint an ad-hoc committee on the "Stewardship of Cyberspace" under the chairmanship of Rev. Dr. Graham Houston assisted by Rev Dr Jim Francis, Rev Bryan Kerr and Mr Sinclair Scott.
2. Note that the following persons will attend the General Assembly in Edinburgh in May 2006:- Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Iain Goring, Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Ian Watson, Mr James Hardie (United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction), Ms Greta Stratton (Carluke: St John's), Mr Tom Neilson (Presbytery Elder) and Iain Sanderson (Kirkmuirhill). The Commissioners from Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank have yet to be determined.
3. Resolve to purchase a new laptop computer for the Presbytery Clerk at a cost not exceeding £950.
4. Following the death of his wife, grant leave of absence to the Rev. Steven Reid. The period to be two months, in the first instance, and instruct the Clerk to inform the Ministries Council accordingly.
5. Resolve to appoint Rev Ian Watson as Interim Moderator at Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank during the absence of Rev Steven Reid.
6. Resolve to appoint Rev Bryan Kerr as Interim Moderator at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old during the period of illness of Rev Aileen Robson.

The Deliverances were approved

Copies of the report: "Review of Presbytery Committees" had been issued with the Presbytery papers. This report was to be discussed fully at the next meeting of Presbytery on the 4th April 2006. However, the following additional deliverance was moved:

1. In view of the rather "light" agenda, to seek approval under Standing Order 24 (a) to dispense with Standing Orders, so that the report on the "Review of Presbytery Committees" can be considered this evening. The support of two thirds of the members present is required to dispense with Standing Orders.

The Deliverance was approved

Discussion took place after the other business.

Superintendence and Records Committee

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamison who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. Note that the Inspection of Records took place on Thursday 23rd February 2006 and with some exceptions have been found to be in order.

2. Instruct all congregations who use a loose leaf format for Kirk Session or Congregational Board minutes to ensure that the pages of these records are consecutively numbered.
3. Instruct all congregations who use a loose leaf format for the Congregational Roll to ensure that there is a list of those added and removed during the year and that the method of addition or removal is noted.
4. Note that the Superintendence and Records Committee will make further enquiries about the binding of loose leaf minutes and report to Presbytery.
5. Express appreciation to all 'record keepers' in our Presbytery for their diligence and service.
6. Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of these deliverances to all Session Clerks.
7. Note that the Presbytery Records have been inspected and found to be in order.

The Deliverances were approved

Report of the Worship Committee:

The Report of the Worship Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis:

The Worship Committee believe that, until the matter of the Restructuring of Presbytery and the matter of the Parish Education and Development Officer is settled, we should postpone any further work on developing its remit. This is because most, if not all, of the areas of work that have been identified would either fall under a new Committee or be picked up by the incumbent of the Officer's post. Nevertheless, the areas that have been highlighted should not be allowed to slip away and should be implemented in due course by whatever means Presbytery deems fit, and these issues, in no particular order of preference or importance, are listed below.

- Encouraging and resourcing special services for Presbytery
- Encouraging and resourcing worship initiatives in individual congregations
- Identifying and resourcing a pool of people ministers might call on to lead worship at short notice
- Ongoing training for elders and others interested in leading worship
- Supporting the work of other committees
- Resourcing the Presbytery and congregations with up-to-date worship materials
- Keeping Presbytery informed of national education initiatives in this area

The planning for the Pentecost Event has begun. The Kirk Session of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church has generously agreed to host the event, and it is believed have offered financial support for the catering. The event is to go ahead on Saturday the 3rd June: details of the programme will follow.

Report of the Ministry Committee:

The Report of the Ministry Committee was presented by Rev Anne McIvor who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

Welcome the Ministry Committee's planning of a social event for Presbytery members and guests which will take the form of a St. Andrew's Night Ceilidh. The Provisional date and venue is 24 November 2006 at the Tinto Hotel, Symington.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee:

Property Committee

The report of the Property Committee was presented by Mr Robert Tweedie who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

Approve of the further grant of £3,750 made by the General Trustees to Carnwath Parish Church for the on going work at Auchengray Church.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee (continued):

Presbytery took up discussion on the report: "Review of Presbytery Committees" which had been issued with the Presbytery papers after which the convenor Mr Robert Carson moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

Approve the changes to Standing Orders 1, 2, 3, 14, 18 and 19, together with the deletion of the previous Standing Order 19, as contained in the report on the "Review of Presbytery Committees".

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 21 March 2006:

It was noted that as most of the Conveners of Committees was be attending a Church Without Walls Conference, the Committee Night would not take place. Conveners were asked to arrange Committee Meetings as necessary.

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourns to meet at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 4 April 2006 at 7.00pm for Ordinary Business of which Public Intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday, 4 April 2006 the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book — in all 10 Ministers, 21 Elders and 2 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of: Revs. Susan Cowell, Alison Meikle, Aileen Robson, Iain Cunningham, Jim Francis. Iain Goring, Graham Houston, Philip Jones, William McCormick, Steven Reid and John Stewart, Ministers; Anna Aitken, Mabel Doak, Moira White, Jennifer Worthington and Donald Barrie, Elders, and Ian Ivison and Mairi Somerville, corresponding members.

Minutes: The Minutes of the *in hunc effectum* meeting at Carstairs Junction on Thursday 2 March and the ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 7 March 2006 were held as read and approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. Rev Ronald Blakey, editor of the Yearbook of the Church, requires updates and changes of the information contained in the Yearbook. Members of Presbytery are asked to check and correct where necessary.
2. The Presbytery has received from the Ministries Council the papers of two people who are applying for re-admission to the Ministry of the Church. They are Donald Laurie and Alex McAspurren.
3. The Solicitor of the Church has informed Presbytery about the Listed Places of Worship Scheme which has been extended for three years more and also to include professional fees, fixtures and fittings – e.g. clocks, bells, pews and organs.
4. The Depute Principal Clerk has informed the Presbytery about the Church's new web-site which is now up and running and contains all the Acts and regulations of the General Assembly.
5. The Principal Clerk has informed the Presbytery about an inter faith course: 'Basic Introduction to the Worlds Faiths, to be held in Edinburgh beginning 20 April for 8 evenings.
6. An Easter in Scotland DVD is available from Lorna Grady.
7. A conference is being organised by the Committee on the Rural Church to take place on 3/4 November.
8. The Mission and Discipleship Council sent to Session Clerks a survey form concerning the Disability Discrimination Act. These forms had to be returned and a number of our congregations have not done so: Carluke: Kirkton; Carluke: St.Andrew's; Black Mount; Law; Lesmahagow: Old. Replacement forms are available.
9. An Extract Minute received from the Presbytery of Dundee containing the Call to the Rev Catherine Collins.
10. Mr Sandy Gemmill seeking information concerning Rev David Collins.
11. Broken Rites Annual Report.

Translation of Rev Catherine Collins

The Moderator welcomed representatives from Lanark: Greyfriars, and invited a representative to address the Presbytery.

Mrs Marcella McLennan spoke warmly on behalf of the congregation of Greyfriars of their Ministers, David and Catherine Collins of some 13 years.

Rev Helen Jamieson spoke graciously on behalf of Presbytery of her association with David and Catherine as colleagues in the Ministry of the Church; as members of the Presbytery, paying tribute to them for the vast amount of time and effort they have contributed over the years, and also of the friendship that they have enjoyed for many years.

The Rev David Collins replied considerately of his time at Greyfriars, of their coming to Lanark, in their working together with the former congregations of Cairns and St.Kentigern's to form the united congregation of Greyfriars, of the many friendships that he and Catherine have made there and of the warmth and friendship which he had experienced in the Presbytery of Lanark. David then informed the Presbytery that he had been invited to preach as sole nominee at the linked parishes of Auchterhouse with Murroes and Tealing in the Presbytery of Dundee.

The Rev Catherine Collins also spoke warmly of her time in Lanark, of her work with the congregation of Greyfriars, of the various aspects of her work in the Presbytery, particularly with the Presbytery's Ministry Committee and also of her friendships with the various members of Presbytery of the past and of the present.

The Moderator congratulated David in his recent news and thanked Catherine and David for their work for the Presbytery over many years and expressed the hopes of the Presbytery for God's richest blessings upon their future work for the Church of Jesus Christ.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Agree to the translation of the Rev. Catherine Collins to the charge of Broughty Ferry: New Kirk in the Presbytery of Dundee, and instruct the Clerk to inform the Ministries Council of the Presbytery's decision.

The Deliverance was approved

The Clerk explained that in the case of Rev David Collins following the invitation for him to preach as nominee at the linked parishes of Auchterhouse with Murroes and Tealing in the Presbytery of Dundee, he would remain a member of the Presbytery of Lanark until the time came for his translation to the Presbytery of Dundee.

The Moderator thanked the people of Greyfriars for their attendance at the Presbytery meeting.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery: -

1. Resolve to appoint Rev. David Easton as Interim Moderator at Carluke: St John's.
2. Resolve to appoint Rev. Dr. Jim Francis as Interim Moderator at Lanark: Greyfriars.
3. Resolve to appoint Rev. Iain Goring as Interim Moderator at the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.
4. Resolve to appoint Rev. Alison Meikle as Interim Moderator at Forth: St.Paul's for a six month period commencing August 2006.
5. Resolve to appoint Rev. Anne McIvor and Mr Andrew Brown as members of the Advisory Committee to Carluke: St.John's.
6. Agree to provide a budget of £500 for the provision of a Presbytery Website and that Rev. Bryan Kerr and Rev. Sarah Ross liaise with the Web Designer as to the websites content.
7. Remind ministers, in anticipation of next year's local government elections, that in the terms of Act IV 2001 Anent Ministers and Deacons in Public Office, ministers are required to inform Presbytery of their intention to stand for office before so standing.
8. Grant permission to the Congregations in Carluke to hold a service, recognising the formation of the Carluke Parish Grouping, on the morning of Sunday 7th May 2006.
9. Remit to Parish Mission Committee, for consideration, the vacancy for a Hospital Chaplain at the Lockhart Hospital, Lanark.
10. Note that services were cancelled at Black Mount, Culter, Libberton and Quothquan, Cairngryffe, Rigside, Coalburn, Lesmahagow: Old, Kirkmuirhill, Glencaple and Lowther due to inclement weather on the 19th March 2006 and that the service at Biggar was led by the Session Clerk.
11. Resolve that the Rev Dr Jim Francis will replace Rev. Susan Cowell as a Commissioner at this year's General Assembly and that the Commissioners from Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank will be Rev. Steven Reid and Mr Kenneth Scott.

The Deliverances were approved

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction

- a. Warmly commend the work which has been undertaken in the now United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction by Rev Susan Cowell when she served as Locum and by Rev Iain Goring as Interim Minister.
- b. Thank the Monitoring Group (Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Anne McIvor and Mrs Fiona Sandeman) for their service and for their encouragement and support to the charge and to the Interim Minister
- c. Recommend that the sisting of the vacancy procedure be lifted and the United charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction be allowed to call a Minister
- d. Appoint the Monitoring Group as the Advisory Group during the period of the vacancy
- e. Approve the retention of the services of the Monitoring Group for the minimum period of one year after the vacancy has been filled; during that time the Monitoring Group to meet with Minister and Office Bearers and report every four months to Superintendence and Records Committee.

The Deliverances were approved

2. Carluke: St Andrew's – QV report

This part of the report was presented by the Vice Convener Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

- a. Congratulate the Minister and Office bearers and congregation of Carluke: St Andrew's on their life and vision for the future and their realistic approach to facing the difficulties they have

- b. Encourage the congregation's positive commitment to the development of the Parish Grouping with Carluke: St John's and Carluke: Kirkton
- c. Urge the Kirk Session and Congregational Board to plan their Stewardship Programme as soon as possible
- d. Assure Carluke: St Andrew's of the help and support of Presbytery into the future

The Deliverances were approved

The remainder of the report was taken in private and presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

3. Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old

- a. Commend the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old for the evidence of good teamwork which is exhibited in their links with Douglas Valley Church and encourage them to develop this through consideration of Parish Grouping
- b. Note that Coalburn has now appointed a corresponding member to attend Session meetings at Lesmahagow: Old, instruct the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old to reciprocate and urge both Kirk Sessions to consider how stronger links may continue to be forged between the congregations in order that closer links between them may be established.
- c. Commend the generosity of the congregation of Coalburn in paying more than is required into the Mission and Renewal Fund
- d. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers of Lesmahagow: Old for facing up to their difficulties in fabric and finance.
- e. Note that following a visit and report by Mr Alan Rodger, an organ specialist who assists the Church of Scotland's Committee on Art and Architecture, the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old have now resolved to purchase a new digital organ
- f. Commend the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old for their meeting with Edith Scott, Stewardship Consultant and encourage them to embark on a stewardship programme with enthusiasm and commitment
- g. Encourage the congregation of Lesmahagow: Old to continue the progress made in dealing with other property issues since our interim report
- h. Encourage the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Old to give serious consideration to the possible benefits of changing to a Model Constitution
- i. Commend the provision of administrative support for the Minister
- j. Appoint Mrs Anna Lumsden and Mr Ian Paterson as Assessor Elders to Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old until a review by Superintendence and Records Committee in June 2006.
- k. Commend the Rev Aileen Robson for her efforts in the first three years of her ministry and assure her of the continued prayerful and practical support of the Presbytery
- l. Commend the Office Bearers and congregations of Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old to the prayers of the Presbytery.

The Deliverances were approved

4. Carnwath

- a. Appoint Mrs Liz Hiddleston and Mr Robert Carson as Assessor elders and Mr Colin Young as Adviser to the charge of Carnwath with immediate effect for a period of six months; reporting to Superintendence and Records Committee in June and September 2006
- b. Instruct Superintendence and Records Committee to continue to be actively involved in the superintendence of the charge of Carnwath and to report to Presbytery as necessary
- c. Note that the Advisor will have the right to speak at Kirk Session and Congregational Board meetings and any formal advice given will also be communicated in writing to the Kirk Session and Superintendence and Records Committee.

The Deliverances were approved

The Convener concluded her report by stating that she would like it placed on record her sincere thanks to the members of the Superintendence and Records Committee who have willingly turned out to extra meetings and whose support for her as Convener is much appreciated. She also thanked the members of the Quinquennial Visitation teams and especially the Moderator for his work as Interim Moderator at Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old and the team of folks who are helping with the pastoral work, funerals and the like.

Report of the Parish Mission Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the report of the Parish Mission Committee was presented by the Rev Ian Watson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. Thank the Hospital Chaplains, commending them for their work and instruct the Clerk to forward the Hospital Chaplains report forms for 2005 to the Ministries Council.
2. In accordance with the approved Presbytery Plan, grant to the charge of Lanark: Greyfriars permission to call a Minister without restriction and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract Minute of the Presbytery's decision to the Ministries Council.
3. Following the removal of the sisting in the vacancy procedure and in accordance with the approved Presbytery Plan, grant to the charge of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction permission to call a Minister without restriction and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract Minute of the Presbytery's decision to the Ministries Council.

The Deliverances were approved

Report of the Property Committee:

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by Mr Robert Tweedie who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. Encourage all Property Conveners to archive all irrelevant material in their Property register
2. Encourage the Congregational Board at Carnwath to seek the advice of an architect before proceeding with any further work at the Manse.

After discussion it was proposed and seconded to alter the wording of deliverance 2 to read:

'Instruct the Congregational Board at Carnwath, as a matter of urgency, to seek the advice of an architect before proceeding with any further work at the Manse.'

The altered wording carried and both deliverances were approved.

Report of Stewardship and Finance Committee

In the absence of the convenor, the Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Instruct the Convener of the Stewardship and Finance Committee to apply to the General Treasurer's Department, on behalf of the united congregation of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, for the 15% discount which is applicable with reference to their ministries and mission allocation for 2006, as a newly-formed union.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministry Committee

The Report of the Ministry Committee was presented by Rev Anne McIvor who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

Approve the Vacancy Schedule for Carlisle: St. John's including the voluntary payment to stipend of plus 5%, and instruct the Clerk to forward the schedule to the Ministries Council, along with the relevant minute.

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 18 April 2006:

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry, Parish Education, Property, Stewardship and Finance and Worship

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 2 May 2006 at 7.00pm for Ordinary Business of which Public Intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Pastoral Support: Report to the Presbytery of Lanark – April 2006

Rationale:

Jesus command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. Jesus question: 'What do you want me to do for you?'

Outline of Current Provision

National: At national level at 121 we have John Chalmers in the Ministries Council. Along with Gavin Elliott he keeps in touch with a large number of ministries and families especially in cases of illness or personal or congregational difficulty. He also has the ability to offer practical help – grants, loans, networking.

Also available are the Professional Telephone Counselling Service which the Church pays for and is available at all times. It has for some people been a lifesaver. It is totally confidential and can also offer legal advice. The Face to Face Counselling service is semi local and available to ministers and families. Some people on the list have particular areas of expertise e.g. in debt or alcohol counselling, but the list of volunteers and other agencies is published.

The Occupational Health service is also provided through NHS Lanarkshire. You do not have to wait for an appointment but can access it yourself.

The booklet outlining services was revised May 2003 and issued to every minister. If you've lost them contact John or Gavin.

Local: See *Ministry Report in Blue Book 2001* for details of nationally agreed scheme.

Report suggested that every minister in Presbytery should have someone assigned to offer support during their first three years. The support could be practical e.g. making sure there was holiday cover or offering hospitality, or being available for spiritual sharing or being a good listener. We have tried to make sure that was done. Beyond that time period each Presbytery should have some agreed system whereby ministers and their families would have someone to turn to locally. Some Presbyteries appoint chaplains and pay them, often choosing someone who is not a minister but has knowledge of the Church and a genuine Christian care for others, and just as importantly, the trust of Presbyters. Here there is no way that Iain, Moira or I see ourselves in that role – we don't have the time. We publish our names, remind Presbytery from time to time of what is available and what we do relies on a number of networks.

At a general level there are various fraternal meetings, the Retreat and other social get togethers where we meet as fellow Christians. They have their limitations. We recognise that some ministers have their own networks outwith Presbytery, and most of us have friends who provide support. Our members each take an area we keep an eye on and take some responsibility for, and people we keep in touch with. Sometimes that takes the form of cards and phone calls, invitations for coffee or meals, and we keep an ear to the ground. Just as in your congregation you notice someone who's not there; we follow it up just to see if everything is ok.

So if we hear perhaps that someone is unwell, we might phone our colleague in that area, suggest a drop in and see if anything is needed. We keep in touch with John Chalmers - two way contact if there are public situations that are likely to be stressful for ministers and families, to make sure someone is there for them. I have to stress that we are not Mr Fixits, nor trying to be pastoral superheroes, but attempting to be available for colleagues as we would members of our congregations. We publish our names in the yearbook – it might be helpful also to publish some of this material also.

We do not publicise what we do, for obvious reasons of confidentiality. Frankly, someone else's difficulties are not your business unless someone chooses to make it so. Confidentiality is the main reason that we believe that Pastoral Support should not be annexed to a standing committee but should rather be answerable to Presbytery.

As Christian people we all ought to be committed to loving one another and all of our work be it in Superintendence, Business Committee or Property should be done with the welfare of our fellow Christians and colleagues at heart.

Individuals with expertise such as the Clerk or Treasurer are expected to offer appropriate advice. But it is important as we have seen in this Presbytery that office bearers who may have a disciplinary function are not at the same time expected to be offering pastoral care in the same situation. That would not be fair on anyone, and if anything should become disciplinary at a higher level, it might also be unjust. There are also legal areas around record keeping which should be kept in mind in any pastoral system.

Moderator, I report diligence, invite questions and ask Presbytery to **Receive the Report**
Deliverance: *Presbytery*: Receive the Report.

Lanark, on Tuesday, 2 May 2006 the Presbytery of Lanark met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book — in all 11 Ministers, 27 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 2 visitors: Miss Margaret Rose and Mrs Jean Morton.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of: Revs Susan Cowell, Aileen Robson, David Carmichael, Philip Jones, William McCormick, Steven Reid, John Stewart and Ian Watson, Ministers; and Donald Barrie and Iain Roper-Caldbeck Elders.

Minutes: The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Presbytery held on Tuesday 4 April 2006 were not approved.

The Clerk apologised for the omission of the Report of the Pastoral Care Committee. Fiona Sandeman intimated that the Service at Coalburn on Sunday 19 March was not cancelled due to the inclement weather but was conducted by the Session Clerk. Rev Helen Jamieson asked that deliverances be added to each section of the Superintendence and Records Committee deliverances to the effect of instructing the Clerk to send a copy of the deliverances to the Session Clerks of the congregations involved.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

12. Rev Ronald Blakey, editor of the Yearbook of the Church, requires updates and changes of the information contained in the Yearbook. Members of Presbytery are asked to check and correct where necessary.
13. The General Trustees have informed the Presbytery that they have granted £15 000 and reserved Loan facilities for the congregation of Carluke: St.Andrew's for work on the Roof of the Church and windows at the Manse.
14. Carluke: St.Andrew's have been informed by the Ministries Council that they hold endowments the proceeds of which go to other congregations, namely: Carluke: St.John's; Carluke: Kirkton and Law. Carluke: St.Andrew's would like to take steps to have the proceeds of these endowments come to themselves. To Ministry and Stewardship and Finance.
15. Borderline, an organisation, which supports homeless Scots in London are presenting a film about their work at the General Assembly on the 24th May at 7.00pm.
16. The Mission and Discipleship Council have informed the Presbytery about a Conference in Charlotte USA in September called the Scottish Connection. There is a travel subsidy of £285 available.
17. The Ministries Council have informed the Presbytery concerning the Enquiry and Assessment Process and the Training of Presbytery Representatives and Co-ordinators – to Ministry.
18. The Ministries Council have informed the Presbytery concerning the employment and payment to locums.
19. The Mission and Discipleship Council E-news.
20. The Committee on Parish Appraisal has responded to the Extract Minutes sent to it concerning the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction. They are in the category of Vacancies in which Questions are not being pursued.
21. The Ministries Council have updated the Presbytery concerning Interim Ministries.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery: -

1. Approve the Rev. David Easton serving as Pastoral and Preaching Locum at Carluke: St.John's from 23rd April 2006.
2. Appoint Rev. Iain Cunningham, Mrs Anna Aitken and Mr Tom Neilson as the Advisory Committee to Lanark: Greyfriars.
3. Approve Standing Orders Numbers 17 and 23 as issued previously except for the following:-
 - a. Standing Order 17 (c) to read "Congregational Support Committee – The remit of the Congregational Support Committee is to offer support to congregations within the bounds through regular visitation, examination of records and support and encouragement of ministers and office bearers. The Congregational Support Committee will be particularly supportive to ministers in their first charge. The Congregational Support Committee will, when necessary, provide disciplinary and support procedures to deal with difficult situations arising in congregations."

- b. Standing Order 17 (j) to read “All matters to be considered by any Committee must be in the hands of the Convenor of that committee before the appointed committee meeting.”
- c. Standing Order 17 (k) is deleted
4. Appoint two Chaplains to assist with the spiritual and physical welfare of members of Presbytery. This will necessitate a new Standing Order 21 – Chaplains, The Presbytery shall appoint 2 chaplains to offer pastoral care to all members of presbytery. One chaplain will be a minister and one chaplain will be a professional with experience in providing pastoral care. The chaplains will be paid an honorarium of £350.00 per annum to be reviewed annually. The present Standing Orders Numbers 21 to 24 will be renumbered 22 to 25 respectively.
5. Remind Ministers of the vacancy for a Chaplain at Wishaw General Hospital following the resignation of Rev David Collins. Ministers interested in this position should in the first instance contact the Presbytery Clerk at the Presbytery of Hamilton.
6. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write to Hamilton Presbytery reminding them of our involvement in the Chaplaincy Service at Wishaw General, Hairmyres and Monklands Hospitals given that these hospitals provide most of the hospital services to the residents of the Lanark Presbytery area and suggesting that a joint Chaplaincy group comprising of members of the Presbyteries of Hamilton and Lanark be set up to consider chaplaincy provision in our area.
7. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write to NHS Lanarkshire advising them of our involvement in the provision of the Chaplaincy Service at all hospitals in Lanarkshire and requesting that we be informed of and included in any consultation process.
8. Remind ministers that commissions in respect of Representative Elders and in respect of Additional Elders should be submitted to the Presbytery Clerk during May.
9. Thank and discharge Rev Ian Watson from his duties as Interim Moderator at Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank.
10. Appoint as follows:-
 - a. Rev. Bryan Kerr as Convenor of Congregational Development Committee for a period of three years.
 - b. Rev. Helen Jamieson as Convenor of Congregational Support Committee for a period of 2 years.
 - c. Rev. Alison Meikle as Convenor of Ministries Committee for a period of 4 years.
 - d. Rev. Dr Jim Francis as Convenor of Resources Committee for a period of 4 years.
 - e. Rev. Aileen Robson as Convenor of World and Community Issues Committee for a period of 2 years.
 - f. Mr Robert Carson as Convenor of Business Committee for period of 3 years.
22. Remind all members of Presbytery that they should indicate to the Presbytery Clerk their preference of committee(s) on which they would like to serve by the end of May.

The Deliverances were approved

The Convenor then reported on the proposed sharing of a Congregational Development Officer with the Presbytery of Hamilton. The Report is appended to the minutes as Appendix A. The following deliverances were moved:

Presbytery –

23. Thank the Presbytery of Hamilton for their vision and request that we look at ways in which we can share work and resources.
24. Commend the good work that has already taken place within our Presbytery with joint initiatives with the congregational development officer.
25. Agree to further the close working of our presbyteries through the sharing of a congregational development officer with the Presbytery of Hamilton, with all details to be worked out.
26. Agree to fund a part share of the post (equivalent to the number of days worked in Lanark Presbytery) by raising presbytery dues as necessary.
27. Invite the Presbytery of Hamilton to look at ways the Presbytery of Lanark can share the post when it becomes part of the presbytery plan, with the knowledge that as a small Presbytery Lanark would not be able to employ a worker of its own.
28. Agree that Bryan Kerr continues to work with the committee in Hamilton to work out details and report to the business committee at the earliest opportunity.
29. Instruct the clerk to forward a copy of these deliverances to the clerk of the Presbytery of Hamilton.

The Deliverances were approved

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverances:

Presbytery –

1. Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

- a) Note the positive and supportive relationship that exists between Minister and Office Bearers
- b) Commend the Kirk Session for outreach into the parish through a parish visitation in 2005 and their successful summer club which operates during one week in the summer
- c) In view of the great disparity between the number of funerals in Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the parish boundaries within Lesmahagow to the funeral directors in the area.
- d) Instruct the S & R Committee to continue to monitor and review the funeral workload in Lesmahagow and report to Presbytery no later than April 2007.
- e) Commend the general Christian liberality within Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen but in light of the relatively low numbers using Gift Aid encourage the Office Bearers to pursue the maximising of their income through the further promotion and use of the Gift Aid scheme
- f) Note the involvement and strong contacts Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen has with Christian organisations outwith the Church of Scotland and the commendable financial and prayerful support given to missionaries which enriches the life of the congregation.
- g) Encourage the Office Bearers to find ways of supporting and developing existing links between the Guilds in Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen and Lesmahagow: Old
- h) In light of the current re-structuring of Presbytery urge the Minister to be more actively involved in the work of the Presbytery
- i) Acknowledge the commitment of Minister and Office Bearers to Christ and His Church and commend them to the prayers of the Presbytery
- j) Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the deliverances to the Session Clerk at Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

The Deliverances were approved

2. Lanark: Greyfriars

- a) Commend the very positive outcome of the Stewardship Programme undertaken with assistance from Edith Scott in 2004
- b) Commend the 'caring bridge' between Church and community through the Wrigglers mother and toddler group and the involvement in the wider work of the Church through Christian Aid, support for their missionary partner and also Edinburgh Direct Aid.
- c) Encourage the Office Bearers to think creatively about the difficulties of lack of space for children and teenagers on a Sunday morning
- d) Commend the links which are being developed between neighbouring congregations through the joint preparation of packs for distribution to residents in new houses
- e) Encourage the development of co-operation and good relationships with neighbouring churches through shared local chaplaincies in the community
- f) Consider the possibility of developing existing relationships with neighbouring churches through consideration of parish grouping.
- g) Commend the commitment and efforts of Rev David and Rev Catherine Collins in ensuring that the congregation of Greyfriars is a strong stable congregation with well maintained buildings, good financial stewardship and a keen interest in and involvement with the local community and wider world church
- h) Commend the Office Bearers for their team work with their Ministers, encourage them to build on the stability created and at a time of change creatively re-focus their shared vision and priorities for the future
- i) Assure the Office Bearers of the continued support, guidance and prayers of Presbytery throughout the current vacancy.
- k) Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the deliverances to the Session Clerk at Lanark: Greyfriars

The Deliverances were approved

3. Remind all congregations that it is possible under the Model Deed of Constitution to reduce the number of elders serving on a Congregational Board in accordance with the regulations in Act II 1994

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee:

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by Mr Robert Tweedie who referred to the Manse Guidelines Questionnaire which had been sent to Ministers and Congregations in February. A number of congregations and Ministers had not responded, namely: Lanark Greyfriars, Biggar, Glencaple, Kirkmuirhill, Carluke St John's, Lesmahagow Old and Lesmahagow Abbeygreen. The convener asked that these be returned as soon as possible.

Report of Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee was presented by the Presbytery Treasurer, Mr Colin Young. The Convener of the Stewardship and Finance Committee moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Approve the Presbytery Accounts for 2005, thank the Treasurer, Colin Young, for his ongoing work, and instruct the Clerk to: send an extract of this minute of the Presbytery's approval to the Assembly's Committee on Stewardship and Finance and send letters of thanks the Auditors, Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isobel Lawrie.

The Deliverance was approved

Report on Procedure for Funerals

A report on Procedures at Funerals requested by the Business Committee was presented by the Rev. Dr Jim Francis. The report is appended to the Minutes as Appendix B. Dr Francis moved the following Deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report and accepts the results of the consultation
2. Agrees to the suggested protocol as laid out and invites undertakers/funeral directors within the bounds to adopt it in order to maintain and encourage good working relationships
3. Agrees, through the offices of the Clerk, to ensure that funeral directors and undertaker/funeral directors within the bounds are kept up to date with personnel changes.
4. Agrees to host and fund a forum for undertakers/funeral directors, representatives of the South Lanarkshire Council Cemeteries Department and ministers as an annual event.

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 6 June 2006:

It was noted that the following committees would meet:

Ministry, Parish Education, Property, Stewardship and Finance and Worship

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 20 June 2006 at 7.00pm in the Douglas Valley Church (St.Bride's, Douglas) for the celebration of Holy Communion and thereafter to St.Bride's Centre, Douglas for Ordinary Business of which Public Intimation was hereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Congregational Development Officer

Before Christmas 2005, members of Presbytery may remember that a discussion took place around the idea of sharing part of the Congregational Development Officer in Hamilton Presbytery and at that point the mind of Presbytery seemed to be positive and open to the idea. Members may also remember that Presbytery took the decision not to reduce congregational dues in case this went ahead. Rev. Bryan Kerr undertook to work with Hamilton Presbytery on this issue on behalf of the Presbytery of Lanark. The ultimate long term plan for Hamilton Presbytery is for the post to be absorbed in the extra staffing section of their agreed Presbytery Plan.

This still leaves the question of what happens to the post in the short to medium term. As Presbytery may remember questionnaires were sent to each minister and Kirk Session and a great response was forthcoming to these with 12 responses out of a maximum of 18 being returned. They overwhelmingly supported the idea of a worker being paid for by the raising of Presbytery dues.

At this point Hamilton Presbytery have written to '121' seeking funding for some of the post before it is absorbed into their Presbytery Plan and it is proposed that the Presbytery suggest to Hamilton that it would very much value a partnership and that from 1st January 2007 Lanark Presbytery would be willing to pay for a share of the costs of the post (after any grants are taken off) and have at least 1 day a week of time.

The post is likely to cost around £35,000 to fund and therefore a fifth should be in the region of £7,000. The committee in Hamilton still seem to be keen on a partnership and it is hoped that the Presbytery of Lanark might send a positive note to Hamilton Presbytery tonight saying that we are committed to that to. There certainly seems to be a desire from congregations to have help in leading worship, in training and in other aspects of congregational life, it is hoped that tonight Presbytery will endorse that desire.

Report to Presbytery on Funeral Procedures

1. By far and away the majority of funerals pass off without a hitch but the occasional glitches can occur and when they do they compromise the minister on two levels: that of their working relationship with the undertaker/funeral director and that of their pastoral relationship with the families involved.
2. Several ministers have expressed concerns about the way in which certain funeral directors do business with them. It is not uncommon to be phoned and told that a date has been booked 'at the family's request' and that the minister needs to fit in, and, 'if the minister can't fit in' another minister will be found who will. This puts tremendous strain on the minister either having to juggle to meet the date or changing the date and straining on the pastoral relationship with the family. This is particularly an issue at the moment with significant number of ministers doubling up across the Presbytery and in helping one another out, it would be useful to have a formalised mechanism for handing funerals on. This would protect both the ministers and the undertaker/funeral director from any misunderstanding or embarrassment.
3. In any case, in terms of dealing with a death, the only person with whom the undertaker/funeral director or family deals with in a way that is not formally in writing is the minister.
4. The Business Committee thought that, given the situation in presbytery and given the recurrences of these incidents it would be appropriate to formalise a procedure for dealing with funerals and invite the undertaker/funeral directors/funeral directors within the bounds of presbytery to adhere to it.
5. A consultation followed and what is suggested is the result of that consultation. In effect, it is only the clarification of one step in their own procedures (item 3) and the addition of one further step (item 4):
 1. Undertaker/funeral director visits family
 2. Undertaker/funeral director consults on possible timings
 3. Undertaker/funeral director consults minister on timings
 4. Undertaker/funeral director confirms to family
 5. Undertaker/funeral director confirms all details to the minister in writing by the most expeditious method.

Attached is a draft pro-forma of confirmation which the undertaker/funeral director will be invited to adopt adapt or otherwise use for these purposes - it can go both to the family and to the minister. All communications will go through the Parish Minister and no other minister may be invited by the undertaker/funeral director or the family without the prior consent of the Parish Minister.

6. A reciprocal undertaking is necessary and that is that the Presbytery, through, the clerk should keep all undertaker/funeral directors within the bounds up to date with personnel changes with regard to vacancies interim moderators and locums. We would also ask that the clerk be made aware of holiday cover in parishes so that the clerk can be the ultimate point of reference in case of any confusion.
7. The presbytery will also undertake to invite all the undertakers/funeral directors within the bounds, along with the representatives of South Lanarkshire Council Graves Dept. to an event once a year; the event will be largely a social event, but it will also offer a forum wherein any matters of mutual interest can be explored.

Deliverances

Presbytery:

1. Receives the report and accepts the results of the consultation
2. Agrees to the suggested protocol as laid out and invites undertakers/funeral directors within the bounds to adopt it in order to maintain and encourage good working relationships
3. Agrees, through the offices of the Clerk, to ensure that funeral directors and undertaker/funeral directors/funeral directors within the bounds are kept up to date with personnel changes.
4. Agrees to host and fund a forum for undertakers/funeral directors, representatives of the South Lanarkshire Council Cemeteries Department and ministers as an annual event.

Douglas, on Tuesday 20 June 2006, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Douglas Valley Church (St.Bride's, Douglas) conducted by the Moderator, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the St.Bride's Centre, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers, 19 elders and one corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev David Carmichael, Rev David Easton, ministers, and Mrs Mabel Doak, Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston, Mrs Betty Smith, Mr Adam Foster, Mr James Hardie, Mr Iain Roper-Caldbeck, elders, Mr Ian Ivison, and Mrs Jean Morton, corresponding members.

Minutes The Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 4 April 2006 (amended) and 2 May 2006, were held as read and were approved.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the removal of the Report of the Parish Education Committee

Guild Presbyterian Council

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Mairi Somerville, Secretary, who was representing the Guild Presbyterian Council in the absence of their Convener, Mrs Jean Morton. Mrs Somerville then presented the Annual Report of the Guild Presbyterian Council to Presbytery in which she highlighted the theme for 2005-6, "Dare to Care with Commitment", and the work of the Guild in wider society. She spoke of the Discussion Topic: 'Let's talk about HIV/AIDS', and of how the Presbyterian Council had enjoyed fellowship in their business meetings, and at their rallies: one in the springtime during which the Rev. David Collins celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the Summer Rally at which the Moderator, Rev. Bryan Kerr spoke on 'Church Without Walls' and the success of 'The Big Saturday'. The Moderator thanked Mrs Somerville for her presentation

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A copy of a letter was received from the General Trustees concerning the Glebe at Carnwath. During a recent meeting it was agreed that the Minister at Carnwath would have no further part in negotiations with anyone about the possible sale and development of the Glebe there for housing. Negotiations with the Lee and Carnwath Estate, the local council and anyone else, would be conducted by the General Trustees themselves or a firm surveyors appointed by them. The letter informs that the General Trustees have appointed Allied Surveyors of Hamilton to act for them.
2. A letter was received from Rev R Devenny who is employed by and looking into the Spiritual Care policy of Lanarkshire NHS Board. A few representatives of the Presbytery's Business Committee have met with Mr Devenny and our contacts with Lanarkshire NHS and the Presbytery of Hamilton in this regard are on going.
3. Two of the new Councils of the Church are having conferences/consultations. The Church and Society Council are having a conference on 9 September in Glasgow. The Ministries Council are having a consultation on 28th March 2007 in Glasgow.
4. A letter was received from the Legal Department picking up on the Union that had taken place at Carstairs and Carstairs Junction. According to the Legal Department we must formally register such changes of names of Congregations with the Scottish Charities Regulator which they would do on our behalf. However, any future changes of the names of congregations must involve some negotiation with the Charities Regulator, which the Legal Department can do on our behalf.
5. The Ministries Council are informing Presbytery of the application of the Rev T K Shadakshari to join the Ministry of the Church of Scotland.
6. The Rev Dr Kevin Scott sent one copy of a book which he has written entitled 'At variance' The Church's Argument against Homosexual Conduct.
7. Extract Minutes were received from the Presbytery of Dundee concerning the inductions of both the Revs. Catherine and David Collins.
8. Several items of correspondence were received from Lanark: Greyfriars concerning the replacement of the Manse there. Because of the urgency of the need to act, it was dealt with by the Business Committee.
9. Extract Minutes received from the Ministries Council concerning the vacancy Schedule for Carluke: St.John's and the allocation of endowments for Lanark: Greyfriars.

10. A copy of a letter sent to Lanark: St.Nicholas' from the General Trustees informing the Presbytery that grants have been approved to Lanark: St.Nicholas' of £10 000 from the Central Fabric Fund and £10 000 from the Valentine Bequest to help with the replacement of the rendering at the Church.

Report of the Business Committee:

Because the Convener, Mr Robert Carson was on holiday at the time of the meeting of the Business Committee, the Report was presented by Rev Ian Watson.

Mr Watson informed the Presbytery of the new Representative Elders, Mrs Janette Rae, Mrs Helen Chekansky and Mr Jim Muir and of the Elders who were retiring: Mrs Mabel Doak, Mrs Flora Cheesman, Mrs Margaret Filshie, Mr John Strachan and Mr Jim Hardie

The Moderator welcomed the new elders, thanked those who were retiring, and also thanked the Conveners of the Presbytery Committees who were retiring.

Mr Watson then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery: -

1. Thank Rev. Bryan Kerr, the Kirk Session and members of the Douglas Valley Church for their hospitality this evening.
2. Homologate the decision of the Business Committee to grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars to sell their present manse and make an offer for a new one.
3. Homologate the decision of the Business Committee to grant permission to Lanark: St.Nicholas' to apply for funds from the General Trustees, for the replacement of the rendering to the walls of the church.
4. Approve the membership of Committees for the coming year as intimated with this billet, and the appointment of Rev Iain Cunningham as Convener of the World and Community Issues Committee.
5. Approve the appointment of Rev. Jim Allerdyce as locum at Lanark: Greyfriars from 7th May 2006.
6. Approve the nomination of Rev. Dr. Graham Houston as Moderator of Presbytery for the year 2006/7.
7. Agree the service of Reception of a Graduate Candidate in respect of Mr. Allan Wilson, to take place at Carluke: Kirkton on 27th June 2006 at 7.30 p.m. (Presbytery to meet at 7.15 p.m.).
8. Agree the service of Setting Apart of a Reader in respect of Mr. Bill Love at Lanark: St.Nicholas' on 31st August 2006 at 7.30 p.m. (Presbytery to meet at 7.15 p.m.) subject to relevant approvals.
9. Agree to create the post of Presbytery Officer.
10. Agree the dates for Presbytery and Committee meetings for the coming year as intimated with this billet.
11. (a) Agree to seek nominations from minister members of Presbytery for the post of minister chaplain (as agreed by Presbytery on 2nd May 2006) and (b) agree to seek nominations from all members of Presbytery for the post of non-minister Chaplain (also agreed by Presbytery on 2nd May 2006).
12. Note the letter from Rev. Sarah Ross informing the Presbytery that her maternity leave begins on 21 August 2006.
13. Grant to the Moderator, the Clerk, the Depute Clerk and the Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
14. Grant permission for Lanark: St.Nicholas' and Lanark: Greyfriars to have united services at St.Nicholas' on the 2nd, 9th and 16th July and at Greyfriars on the 23rd and 30th July and 6th August.
15. Grant permission for Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St.Andrew's and Carluke: St.John's to have united services during the period 2nd July till 13th August.
16. Resolve to have an informal buffet meal at 6:00pm. on 5th September prior to the next Presbytery Meeting.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministry Committee

The Report of the Ministry Committee was presented by Rev Anne McIvor who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Approve arrangements for Minister's Retreat on Monday 4th September, including the payment of the Minibus.
2. Note that Reader-in-Training Mr. Bill Love has successfully completed his final church placement, and the remainder of his training is progressing well.
3. Note that the annual review of candidature has taken place for Mr. Allan Wilson in his third year of training for full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament.
4. Note with satisfaction that Mr. Wilson's candidature has been sustained at the review, and all aspects of his training are progressing well.
5. Note that Mr. Wilson's Probationary period begins in August, with Supervisor Rev Derek Hughes, within the Presbytery of Hamilton.

6. Note invitation to Presbytery's St. Andrew's Ceilidh, 24th November, Tinto hotel, is open to all Presbyters, including those outgoing. Contact for tickets or further information is to Betty Smith or Fiona Sandeman.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Worship Committee

The Report of the Worship Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who stated how disappointed both he, the others involved and the congregation of Kirkmuirhill were at the poor attendance at the Presbytery's Pentecost Celebration which took place on Saturday 4th June at Kirkmuirhill.

Some of the Members of Presbytery stated that they had not received any publicity for this and had assumed that it had not gone ahead. Dr Francis then moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee

(The Presbytery met in Private.) The Report of the Superintendence and Records Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Forth: St Paul's

- a) Note the positive relationship between Minister, Office Bearers and congregation in Forth: St Paul's
- b) Commend the minister's diligence in ensuring adequate time for rest and relaxation and the fact that she attends and has the support of a local Minister's fellowship and also a monthly meeting with a spiritual director.
- c) Note that there is clear vision, enthusiasm and willingness to try new ideas to ensure that the Church fulfils its calling to share the Good News of Christ's love in word and in action
- d) Encourage the Kirk Session to consider appointing a locum during the Minister's maternity leave.
- e) Congratulate the congregation for the enthusiasm and enterprise they showed during the recent vacancy of 2 years and in dealing with their finances
- f) Congratulate the Minister and Office Bearers in turning around a financial deficit of £330 in 2004 to a surplus of £3000 in 2005
- g) Encourage the Minister and Office bearers' vision to develop small groups in the congregation as well as to seek a variety of ways of reaching out to others in the community
- h) Commend the congregation's diligence in ensuring that all fabric is kept in good order
- i) Commend the Minister, Office bearers and congregation to the prayers of the Presbytery and ensure them all of our continuing prayerful and practical support.
- j) Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the deliverances to the Session Clerk of Forth St Paul's

2. Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow:Old

- a) Note with concern that difficulties still exist within Lesmahagow:Old
- b) Re-appoint Mrs Anna Lumsden as Assessor Elder at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old.
- c) Thank Mr Ian Paterson for his service as Assessor Elder at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old
- d) Grant powers to the Superintendence and Records Committee (Congregational Support Committee) to appoint a further two assessor elders for the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old and agree to homologate their appointment at the September meeting of Presbytery
- e) Instruct the assessor elders to provide a written report to the Congregational Support Committee by November 2006
- f) Instruct the Superintendence and Records Committee (Congregational Support Committee) to continue supervision of the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old and report to Presbytery by December 2006 and if necessary before that date.
- g) Thank the Interim Moderator for his continued service in the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old and assure him of the prayerful and practical support of the Presbytery.
- h) Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute of the deliverances concerning Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old to the Session Clerks.

3. Carnwath

- a) Note that Superintendence and Records (Congregational Support Committee) is still actively involved in the superintendence of the charge of Carnwath

- b) Instruct the Assessor Elders to report to Superintendence and Records Committee (Congregational Support Committee) by the committee meeting on 22nd August 2006 instead of September 2006
- c) Instruct the Superintendence and Records Committee (Congregational Support Committee), with the assistance of the Clerk, to appoint a pastoral advisor to Rev Bev Gauld as soon as possible and no later than the end of June 2006.

After a vote taken on Section 3 c) The Deliverance was approved

(The Presbytery resumed in Open Court)

Report of the Property Committee:

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by Mr Robert Tweedie who referred to the completion of the New Hall Building at Glencaple Parish Church which is to be dedicated at a special Service to take place on Sunday 2nd July. Rev Margaret Muir thanked the Presbytery, the convener and the Moderator and she also paid tribute to the members of the congregation who had worked so hard to bring the project to a happy conclusion.

Report of Stewardship and Finance Committee

The Report of the Stewardship and Finance Committee was presented by the Convener Rev Graham Houston moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Receive the publication of *Givings per Member* statistics, averaged for 2003-2005 and compared with 2002-2004, and urge all congregations within the bounds to ensure that Communion Rolls give a true reflection of active membership numbers.
2. *Note that three congregations are, for the second year in a row, considerably ahead of other churches in terms of Givings per Member – Lesmahagow Abbeygreen, Kirkmuirhill, and Law, and urge other congregations to consult with them and learn from their examples.*

It was proposed, seconded and carried on a vote that section 2 be not approved.

3. Encourage those congregations which have not recently engaged in a Stewardship Programme to consider doing so with the help of Edith Scott, Regional Consultant.
4. Thank the members of the Stewardship and Finance Committee for their diligence, and instruct the new Resources Committee to give a high priority to stewardship promotion within the bounds, recognising that there is room for considerable improvement in givings per member throughout the Presbytery.

With the removal of Section 2 the Deliverance was approved

Report on the *Ad hoc* Committee on the Stewardship of Cyberspace

The Report of the *Ad hoc* Committee on the Stewardship of Cyberspace was presented by the Convener Rev Graham Houston who moved the following deliverance:

(The Report in full was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached to the Minutes as Appendix A)

1. Receive and adopt the ‘Policy on Stewardship of Cyberspace’.
2. *Instruct all charges within the bounds to provide, from 2007, computer equipment, etc., for all parish ministers, in line with Section (1) of the Policy.*

It was proposed, seconded and carried that section 2 read: ‘Instruct Presbytery to purchase computer equipment for all parish Ministers within the bounds during the year 2006/7.’

3. Instruct all members of Presbytery to complete the declaration on page 2 of the policy, regarding email use, and to send a copy to the Clerk.
4. Instruct the Clerk, with technical consultation, to set up the *Pop3* e-mail accounts which are outlined in the Policy, Section (2).
5. Instruct all Sessions and Boards to comply with Section (3) regarding Copyright Policy.
6. Instruct all Sessions and Boards to create and implement a Data Protection Policy, following the guidelines in Section (4).
7. Instruct all Sessions and Boards to report diligence to Presbytery, regarding Deliverances 1 and 3-6, by June 2007.

The Deliverance was approved

Report from Clyde Presbyteries Planning Group

The Report from the Clyde Presbyteries Planning Group was presented by the Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

Note the conversation between Clyde Presbyteries Planning Group and Christian Resources Exhibition and encourages them to pursue these discussions.

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 22 August 2006:

It was noted that since it was to be the first meetings of the Presbytery’s New Committees, all Committees would meet:

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 5th September 2006 at 7.00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business of which public intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Presbytery of Lanark – Policy on the Stewardship of Cyberspace

(1) Provision of Computers, etc.

The Presbytery has decided to conduct its correspondence, wherever possible, by email. The Clerk sends out the papers for monthly meetings as email attachments to those who are able and willing to participate. Traditionally, ministers have purchased their own computer equipment for their ministry. Presbytery recognize, in issuing this policy, that there are very few other professions where workers have to purchase equipment for their regular work. As computers are now a necessary tool for ministry, congregations are instructed, as a matter of policy, to provide their ministers with computers and printing equipment, broadband internet access, paper and ink/toner, as part of their annual budget, from 2007, recognizing the need to replace computers every three years. The minimum specification laid down by the IT Department in 121 George Street for Presbytery Clerks will be the standard. Ministers will have the right to take computers with them when they move to another charge or appointment. Members are especially urged to ensure that full internet security software is operative on their systems, whether purchased or downloaded free of charge.

(2) Email Policy

Members of Presbytery will be provided with a *Pop3* email account for the exclusive use of church business. (jbloggs@lanarkpresbytery.org). While all Presbytery meetings are open to the public, except when matters are deemed to be private, papers may contain sensitive information and the disclaimer outlined below is meant to ensure that members of Presbytery observe professional or appropriate confidentiality. The purpose of this policy is to ensure best practice for the proper use of email by members of Lanark Presbytery when sharing information or opinions which may be construed as having a connection with the business of Presbytery or the work of its constituent committees and congregations, the General Assembly and its committees, or para-church organisations and charities. We cannot function effectively without the presumption of mutual trust and the understanding that we will never use email to undermine the reputation of or respect due to a fellow presbyter, or to pass on confidential information without the permission of the originator. All messages distributed to members via the Clerk are the Presbytery's property. If a member has any questions or comments about this Email Policy, please contact the Clerk.

Members of Presbytery engaged in correspondence by email through their Presbytery account, in connection with any matter relevant to Presbytery, committee, or congregational affairs, etc., should not:

- Send or forward emails containing libelous, defamatory, offensive, racist or obscene remarks. If you receive an email of this nature from another member, you must promptly notify the Clerk.
- Forward information contained in a message or copy a message or attachment belonging to another member, to a third party, without first acquiring permission from the originator.
- Send unsolicited email sales or promotion messages or chain mail.
- Forge or attempt to forge email messages, or disguise or attempt to disguise your identity when sending email.

Duty of care

Communication should enhance our relationships, and is part of the discipleship expected of those who are under the appropriate supervision of the Church, as well as being essential for proper ministerial professionalism. Members must take the same care in drafting an email as they would for any other communication. Confidential information should only be sent via email if marked clearly "Private and Confidential" in the message subject.

Disclaimer

The following disclaimer will be added to each outgoing email:

This email transmission is privileged, confidential and intended solely for the person or organisation to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, you must delete the message immediately without processing it further and you are asked to notify us of the error by email to clerk@presbyteryoflanark.org All messages passing through this gateway are checked for viruses but you are strongly recommended to check for viruses using your own virus scanner as the Presbytery of Lanark will not take responsibility for any damage caused as a result of virus infection.

Summary: *The Main Focus* of this email policy is to promote best practice, to enhance corporate identity and develop professionalism:

- i. Ensure internet security system is in place
- ii. Email etiquette – use same standards as for any correspondence
- iii. Disclaimers and signatures should be appended
- iv. Confidentiality is assumed and asserted.
- v. Policy assumes and enhances the need of trust between members.

Declaration

I have read, and agree to comply with, the guidelines set out in this policy, and accept that I am accountable to the Presbytery of Lanark for compliance.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

(3) Copyright Policy

General

The Presbytery instructs congregations to adhere to the following good practice, which is based on standards established by the United Reformed Church. All materials, words, music and illustrations, during the lifetime of an author or composer and for a period of 50 years after death, are covered by the Copyright Act of 1988. In 1995, the period was extended to 70 years. Permission must be obtained in writing for all items used within the 70 year limit, and an application made and reply received before the printing of a service sheet, church magazine, or any other kind of information, except where permission to reproduce has been granted and stated in the material. If congregations download or reproduce words of hymns on orders of service, OHP or AV presentations, or wish to download or photocopy music sheets for choirs, etc., they must ensure that they have in place an appropriate **Christian Copyright Licence**. (from Christian Copyright Licensing, PO Box 1339 Eastbourne BN21 1AD, on payment of the appropriate fee). Photocopying pre-printed material, or printing downloaded material is totally illegal without permission. New arrangements of copyright material, words or music, can only be made and circulated after written permission is obtained from the copyright holder. The rights to the page image of any publication are held by the responsible body for 25 years after the date of the last printing. Members of Presbytery should take proper care to acknowledge sources wherever possible. Remember that Bible versions are covered by copyright and publishers usually restrict the amount of verses which can be used without having to apply for permission. Tape recordings and videos of services or other live worship, which are for personal use only, may be made without the need to obtain copyright clearance. However churches which record services for the elderly or housebound should obtain a licence, as should couples who are employing a professional video unit for a wedding. (Also available from CCL, above).

Websites

Material that is within the legal copyright period may not be reproduced on any website without clearance for world-wide usage being obtained in writing from the copyright holder and the payment of any fee requested. This also applies to music played on any site in any form whatsoever, and permission for words, music and arrangement must be sought. If a commercial recording is used for a service, etc., permission must be sought from composer/arranger and artist or their agents. Production of music using a midi device is also a breach of copyright and permission must be sought from copyright holders.

Performing Rights Society (PRS) Licences

Christian Copyright Licensing are now agents for PRS. If you are performing or playing music in a church building, or permitting the use of your property for that purpose, it is the church's responsibility to obtain a licence. 'Music use' includes: concerts and recitals; discos; dances and karaoke sessions; aerobics; dancing classes; film or video shows; background music; radio or television; tape recorders, CD, video players, and DVDs, at such events as coffee mornings, youth clubs, fetes, fundraising film shows, etc. Where music is strictly confined to Divine Worship only, PRS will not at present require the purchase of a licence.

(4) Data Protection Policy

For a full treatment of the issues, the Presbytery refer members to the paper *DATA PROTECTION: Guidance Notes for Church of Scotland Congregations*, produced in 2001 by the Solicitor of the Church, Janette Wilson. She also refers congregations to the Information Commissioner's website, www.dataprotection.gov.uk The following is based on the United Reformed Church's advice to local churches, and shall be adopted by Kirk Sessions to ensure that each church within the bounds complies with the legislation, and has a policy appropriate to each situation.

Drawing up a policy appropriate to your church's situation

This should cover such items as (a) why the information is to be held including any secondary use that will be made of it; (b) what kind of information is to be held; (c) whether any information is being collected without the knowledge of the person concerned; (d) what types of disclosure that are likely to be made; (e) how you intend to ensure that the information held is accurate; (f) how long you will need to keep the information; (g) what level of confidentiality will be applied; (h) any special security measures that apply.

- Ensure that those who have access to the data know exactly what they are allowed to do with people's information.
- Ensure that anyone about whom you hold information knows that it is held, what it is used for and to whom you might pass it on.
- Get consent wherever possible for holding people's information and get explicit consent in writing if any detail could be classed as sensitive (such as racial or ethnic origin, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, health, sex-life, or criminal record.)
- Make sure that people are offered the chance to opt out of receiving any direct mailing, including fundraising.
- Design or modify your system so that anyone may have access to their own record without being able to view other records.
- Make appropriate security arrangements for both manual and computerised records (at the least passwords for electronic files and secure storage for hard copy.)

Guidelines to those who handle personal data

Remember that personal data can only be used for the purposes for which it was originally obtained, and that you must take good care of it. You must use it fairly and ensure that it is adequate, relevant, not excessive, accurate, up to date and not being held longer than required. You are committing an offence if you sell personal data you are not entitled to. When you obtain personal data remember that you must not deceive or mislead anyone. You must ensure that the person concerned knows that you are collecting the data and why and how it may be used.

When you disclose personal data, remember that you must check that the disclosure fits the purpose for which the data is being held, and that you must check that the person to whom you are disclosing it is authorised to have it, such as by legal obligation. If you put personal data on your website, you must gain consent from the data subject.

In conclusion, never forget that data subjects have rights – primarily that of CONSENT and that of ACCESS TO ALL PERSONAL DATA HELD.

*The Presbytery of Lanark ad hoc Committee on Stewardship of Cyberspace:
Rev Dr Graham Houston (Convener), Rev Dr Jim Francis, Rev Bryan Kerr,
Dr Sinclair Scott.*

June 2006.

Lanark, on Thursday 31 August 2006, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for the Setting Apart of Mr Bill Love to the Readership of the Church of Scotland, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book — in all 8 Ministers, 11 Elders, and 2 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Anne McIvor, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Sarah Ross, Rev Beverly Gauld, Rev Philip Jones, Rev James Seath, and Rev John Stewart, Ministers, and from Mrs Helen Chekansky and Mr Bill Wilson, Elders.

Setting Apart of Mr Bill Love

Rev Alison Meikle conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula the Moderator led in prayer and set apart Mr Bill Love to the Readership of the Church of Scotland. After the service it was resolved to add Mr Love's name to the Roll of the Presbytery as a Corresponding Member. Mrs Irene Williams expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mrs Meikle for their conduct of the service.

Closure

The Presbytery was reminded that its next Meeting for Ordinary Business would take place at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church on Tuesday 5 September at 7.00pm. A meal will be served at 6.00pm. to which all are invited. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 September 2006, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Bryan Kerr, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers, 22 elders and one corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson and Rev David Carmichael, ministers, and Mrs Jennifer Worthington and Mr Donald Barrie, elders, and Mrs Mairi Sommerville, corresponding member.

Election and Installation of the Moderator

The Presbytery elected Rev Dr Graham Houston as Moderator for the session 2006/07. Rev Bryan Kerr welcomed Dr Houston, installed him as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited him to take the chair. The new Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Mr Kerr for his year as Moderator

Minutes The Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 20 June 2006, were held as read and approved.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. Newsletters from The Committee on Ecumenical Relations and Broken Rites are available.
2. The Presbytery's Copyright Licence has been renewed. The report to CCLI about the praise items used by the Presbytery will be attended to by the retiring Moderator.
3. The Principal Clerk has informed the Presbytery about an event to be held by the University of Glasgow to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Trinity College. It is planned for this to take place on for 2nd November 2006 and during which there are to be lectures, exhibitions and a Grand Celebration Lunch.
4. Correspondence has been received from the Minister at Carnwath which contained a copy of a letter from Messrs Woolgar Hunter, Structural Engineers informing that Carnwath Church is in a safe condition.
5. Forms containing the current list of Congregational Office Bearers have been received from the IT Department in Edinburgh. These forms have to be checked and return by the end of September, and are issued to each congregation together with a copy of the Presbytery Handbook for Session Clerks.

Welcome to the Rev Harry Findlay

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the Rev Harry Findlay had applied to become a member of the Presbytery, and that his Presbyterial Certificate had been received from the Presbytery of Hamilton. Mr Findlay was Minister at Wishaw: St.Mark's from which he retired. He is now living in Carluke.

The Moderator welcomed Mr Findlay to the Presbytery, and the Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

Presbytery agrees to add the name of Rev. Harry Findlay to the Roll of Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. Homologate the appointment of Ms Liz Leckie as Locum at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow Old.
2. Homologate the appointment of Rev. Margaret Muir to the Panel which selects the Moderator of the General Assembly.
3. Homologate the appointment of Mr Hugh Meikle as Presbytery Officer with responsibility for setting up and clearing away chairs etc. at St Nicholas' Church Hall for Presbytery and Committee meetings.
4. Convene a meeting of Committee Convenors and the Business Committee on Wednesday 4th October in the St. Bride's Centre Douglas commencing at 11:00am. The main item of discussion will be Committee Budgets and Convenors are asked to discuss this matter with their Committees at their meetings on the 19th September. If any member of Presbytery has any other item for discussion at that meeting they should notify the Business Convener by the 26th September. If Convenors can not attend they should send a substitute.
5. Approve the allocation of the General Assembly's "Remits to Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions" as contained in the attached table.

5. Note with approval the resolution in the ongoing situation with regard to finance, organ work and roof repairs at Lesmahagow: Old.
6. Commend the Interim Moderator for his hard work in this matter and the Session of Lesmahagow: Old for their work, in recent months, towards a satisfactory resolution.
7. Homologate the decisions and actions taken, as laid out above, by the Session in instructing the work.
8. Agree that Lesmahagow: Old should be allowed to release all of the capital and revenue monies (£10 923) currently held in the Consolidated Fabric Fund to be applied to this project as specified above.
9. Instruct the Clerk to forward to the General Trustees the necessary applications forms for the work at Lesmahagow: Old including an application for grant aid.
10. Note the results of the inspection of the Manse of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.
11. Note the concerns of Carluke: St Andrew's with regard to the endowment monies currently being paid out to their various neighbouring congregations.
12. Agree that Carluke: St Andrew's be allowed to reclaim all of the endowments currently paid out to the parishes of Carluke: St John's, Carluke: Kirkton and Law, and support them in their efforts.

With the agreement of the Convenor, section 12 was altered to read:

“Instruct the Convenor to explore the mechanism whereby Carluke: St Andrew's may be able to reclaim some endowments currently paid out to the parishes of Carluke: St John's, Carluke: Kirkton and Law, together with other such circumstances as may exist.”

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the IT Equipment Committee

The Report of the IT Equipment Committee was presented by the Rev. Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. Agree to a phased purchase of IT equipment as outlined in the Committee Report. (Appendix A)
2. Agree to appoint Scotsys as the nominated supplier.
3. Agree that on sustaining a call Presbytery shall offer the minister a choice of computer system.
4. Instruct the clerk to forward a copy of the policy on the stewardship of cyberspace to every Session Clerk highlighting the responsibility of the Kirk Session to provide manse broadband access, paper and printer toner.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Thank the Assessor Elders Mr Robert Carson and Mrs Liz Hiddleston and the Advisor Mr Colin Young and discharge them from their duties
3. Authorise a further visit to the charge of Carnwath and appoint Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev David Carmichael as ministerial members of the visiting team; Rev Iain Cunningham to lead.
4. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee, in consultation with the minister leading the visiting team, to appoint two experienced elders to the team and bring the names to the October meeting of Presbytery for homologation.
5. Instruct the Minister and Office Bearers of the charge of Carnwath to facilitate and enable the visitation team in any way they request.
6. Instruct the Resources Committee Convener to arrange and chair the next joint meeting with representatives of Carnwath Church, the architect and the General Trustees which is scheduled to take place in September 2006
7. Instruct the Resources Committee to submit a report to the Congregational Support Committee immediately thereafter
8. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to forward an extract minute of the deliverance concerning Carnwath to the Session Clerk of Carnwath Church.
9. Homologate the appointment of Mr George Forbes and Mrs Irene Williams to serve as Assessor Elders for the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow:Old.
10. Appoint Rev Margaret Muir to lead the visit to Biggar along with Rev Bryan Kerr and Mrs Fiona Sandeman and instruct the team to report to the Congregational Support Committee by the end of Feb 2007

11. Appoint Rev Anne McIvor to lead the visitation team to Cairngryffe linked with Symington along with Rev Ian Watson and Mrs Ellen Young and instruct the team to report to Congregational Support Committee by May 2007
12. Instruct the visitation teams for Biggar and Cairngryffe linked with Symington to appoint one further elder with appropriate experience to their team.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. Propose that readers in Presbytery are presented on 3rd October 2006
3. Propose that a bible be presented by presbytery to all ministers on induction to a charge within the bounds of Presbytery, and to all readers and candidates for ministry on completion of their training.
4. Remind Presbytery about the St. Andrew's Ceilidh on Friday 24th November in the Tinto Hotel, noting the Ceilidh is now open to all office-bearers. Contact Betty Smith or Fiona Sandeman for tickets.

Report of World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Congratulate Kirkmuirhill Church on the opening of their new Second Chance charity shop and trust that God will continue to bless this Christian witness to the community;
3. Instruct the Clerk to convey in writing to the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Church the congratulations, prayers and best wishes of Presbytery.
4. Encourage all congregations to return the survey on World Church links to the committee by 19th September.
5. Agree to register as a partner with Revival FM Radio.

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 19 September 2006:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 3 October 2006 at 7.00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business of which public intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

**The Presbytery of Lanark
Report of the IT Equipment Committee**

At the meeting of Presbytery in June 2006 a policy on the stewardship of cyberspace was adopted and section 1 concerned the provision of IT equipment for all ministers in charges. This comprised of presbytery (through congregational dues) purchasing a computer system, printer and software and the congregation providing manse broadband access and all consumables.

After a specification was drawn up, tenders were sought. The committee met and looked at several quotations from various companies. Each computer would have at least 1GB of RAM and a DVD rewriter driver, a hard drive of at least 60GB and wireless capability. The printer would be a colour laser. Our intention was to make certain that the hardware purchased would last the 3 year life span of the system. It is our opinion that the specification on offer will meet the needs of all ministers, including those who use video and presentation software in worship.

It has been decided to offer a choice of 4 systems to ministers - a desktop windows PC (with tft monitor), a windows laptop, a MAC desktop system (with tft monitor) or a MAC book laptop. Each system would come with a good range of office based software and 3 years of anti virus protection. Each computer and printer would be covered by a 3 year warranty.

The committee looked at all of the issues involved in the purchase of these systems. The committee would propose a phased purchase with those in phase 1 receiving a system by 31st October 2006 and those in phase 2 by 31st March 2007. This will allow, in 3 years time, replacement systems to be purchased over a period of time rather than all at once. If a congregation is in a vacancy when their minister is due to be offered a system the new minister will be offered a system when his or her call is sustained. It is hoped that whilst Presbytery will pay for the systems the congregations would pay back the money over 3 years of presbytery dues. It will be proposed by the treasurer in the budget presented at the November meeting to increase dues by 90p per member.

As ministers have different needs when setting up a computer system it is proposed that presbytery engage the services of Sarah Peters from Douglas to help set up the systems and deliver them to ministers (pre installed with Lanark presbytery email addresses), providing some level of support during that visit. A fee of £250 per phase is proposed.

Phase 1

- Blackmount lw Cutler lw Libberton & Quothquan
- Cairngryffe lw Symington
- Carluke: Kirkton
- Carluke: St. Andrew's
- Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old
- Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank
- Douglas Valley
- Kirkmuirhill
- Lanark: St. Nicholas

Phase 2

- Biggar
- Carluke: St. John's
- Carnwath
- United Parish of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction
- Forth: St. Paul's
- Glencaple lw Lowther
- Lanark: Greyfriars
- Law
- Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 October 2006, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers, 23 elders and 5 corresponding members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Anne McIvor, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev David Carmichael, ministers, and Janette Rae, David McTaggart, Bill Wilson and Donald Barrie, elders.

Minutes The Minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 31 August and Tuesday 5 September 2006, were held as read and approved.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Church of Scotland Health and Healing Conference is to take place at Carberry from 13 – 15 November. The details, programme etc. are available
2. The Committee on Ecumenical Affairs are having an Ecumenical Week on Iona from 7 – 14 September 2007. Names of those who'd like to attend have to be intimated to the Committee by November this year
3. The Nominations Committee of the General Assembly are seeking nominations from the Presbytery of people to serve on General Assembly Councils by the end of November. Recommendations for nomination should be made to the Business Convenor as soon as possible
4. The Depute Principal Clerk has informed the Presbytery that last year new rules came in to effect that have had a serious impact on non-EEA nationals seeking to get married in this country. New requirements have to be fulfilled, and the effect is that the time taken to achieve all the pre-marriage registration processes is very long, indeed – many months. Ministers should be aware of this
5. Karen Muir who is our representative on the Religious Advisory Committee at Radio Clyde wrote to inform the presbytery that Clyde 2 on which most, if not all of Radio Clyde's religious programmes are broadcasted, is to carry much more sport on Sundays. The result is that the religious programmes broadcasted on Sunday mornings are to be moved to a much earlier time. Karen is simply asking that as many folks as possible write to Radio Clyde to voice their concerns over this change

Rev. Iain Goring.

The Rev Iain Goring has been serving as Interim Minister at Carstairs and Carstairs Junction for the last 18 months or thereby. He informed the Presbytery that he has been called to serve as Interim Minister at Holytown linked with New Stevenston in the Presbytery of Hamilton.

The Moderator welcomed members from the United Parish Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to the Presbytery and Mrs Irene Williams spoke warmly of Mr Goring's ministry among the people of the congregation and the community and of the advances that have been made because of his Ministry. She spoke of various highlights and especially of the union of the two congregations.

Mr Goring spoke about the warmth of the friendships he and his wife had made during their short time at Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and also of the warmness of the Presbytery of Lanark.

The Moderator spoke of Mr Goring's involvement in the work of the Presbytery, thanking him for this and also for his very valuable work with the congregations. The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer asking God's richest blessing to be with him in his new Ministry.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Appoint Rev. Alison Meikle to the vacant Chaplain post at Lockhart Hospital until such time as a new Minister is inducted at Lanark: Greyfriars. Thereafter the situation will be reviewed. Instruct the Clerk to notify the Ministries Council of this change
3. Appoint Rev Harry Findlay, formally of Wishaw: St Mark's, as one of two Presbytery Chaplains with effect from 2 October 2006

4. Seek nominations from members of Presbytery for the position of Presbytery Press Officer. Such nominations to be with the Business Convenor by the 24 October 2006
5. Introduce a "Good News from Congregations" item on the Presbytery Agenda with effect from the February 2007 meeting. Presbytery Elders who wish to share with others the "Good News" from their congregations will be able to use this slot having previously given notice to the Presbytery Clerk that they wish to do so
6. Presbytery homologate the decision taken by the Business Committee under powers granted to it viz: That the congregations of Biggar; Cairgryffe l/w Symington; Carluke: Kirkton and Kirkmuirhill represent the Presbytery at the meeting of the Special Commission on Structure and Change to be held at Kirkmuirhill on 30 October 2006. Each congregation to be represented by the Minister and an elder

The Deliverance was approved

A further section was proposed by the Rev Helen Jamieson.

Instruct the Clerk to write to Mrs Margaret Filshie expressing the appreciation of the Presbytery for her years of service to the Presbytery and in particular her leading the Presbytery in its praise

This additional section was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree to provide information for Candidates at their Initial Course Meeting, to enable a candidate to meet with a spiritual advisor if requested
3. Consider and forward the names of people with appropriate skills to train as Co-ordinators, Presbytery Representatives and National Assessors
4. Approve the Vacancy Schedule for the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and instruct the Clerk to forward it to the Ministries Council
5. Presbytery note the Presbytery Ceilidh which was to take place on Friday 24 November at Tinto Hotel has regrettably been cancelled. The Presbytery records its thanks to Fiona Sandeman and Betty Smith for all their effort and hard work

The Deliverance was approved

Overture Anent the Ministries Appeal Panel

The Presbytery took up discussion on the above Overture from the General Assembly which had been sent down to Presbyteries under the Barrier Act. After discussion a vote was taken, the result of which was:

35 for and 0 against

Presentation of Readers

Rev Alison Meikle presented the Readers to the Presbytery: Mrs Sheila Kerr, Mr Alan Grant and Mr Bill Love, and passed on an apology from Mr Robert Allan.

The Moderator thanked all those presented for their continuing work and assured them of its value within the Presbytery. He also assured them of the help and support of the Presbytery.

Report of World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report
2. Note the wide-ranging remit of the General Assembly's Church & Society Council as outlined at their recent conference and welcome the opportunities offered for future consultations with Presbyteries
3. Instruct the Business Committee to invite a speaker on Eco-Congregations to address Presbytery at a suitable date
4. Instruct the Business Committee to invite a speaker from Revival FM Radio to address Presbytery at a suitable date
5. Encourage congregations to establish twinning partnerships along the lines suggested by the Ministries Council [*remits p13: 26*]
6. Invite the World Church and Community Issues Committee if possible to prepare a twinning-partnership scheme linking congregations within the bounds
7. Note that the Annual World Mission Rally will take place on Wednesday 8 November at 7.30pm in Lanark: St.Nicholas' Parish Church

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

11. Receive the Report
12. Remind Kirk Sessions of the need to nominate people willing to participate in the Leading Worship Course by the end of October
13. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee and Congregational Development Committee to ensure that appropriate congregational safeguarding records can be inspected
14. Remind Kirk Sessions of their responsibility to ensure that safeguarding records are maintained and that workers with children and young people are familiar with the new Factfile
15. Instruct the Resources Committee to ensure the General Assembly Policy on Inclusion is adhered to in all building matters
16. Encourage Kirk Sessions to revisit the Vision Statement on Children in the Church and relate it to their ministry with children
17. Note with approval the planned elders social evening due to take place in March 2007 in Carstairs Community Centre and encourage Kirk Sessions to send as many representatives as possible to attend
18. Agree to Rev. Alison Meikle attending the Scottish Churches Rural Conference as a Presbytery delegate

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

13. Receive the Report
14. Note the Ministries and Mission allocations for 2007
15. Instruct Congregational treasurers to lodge appeals together with grounds of appeal, in writing, to the Convenor by the evening of 24 October 2006
16. Encourage Congregational Treasurers to circulate to their financial courts and to their wider congregations the document entitled 'Where the Money Goes'
17. Note the Committee's thoughts on Stewardship within the Presbytery
18. Encourage congregations to return the Stewardship Questionnaire

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Homologate the appointment of Mr David Waters and Mrs Fiona Sandeman to the visiting team for the charge of Carnwath
3. Instruct the visiting team to the charge of Carnwath to submit their report to the Congregational Support Committee by 15 December 2006

The Deliverance was approved

Overture Anent Superintendence of Congregations

The Presbytery took up discussion on the above Overture from the General Assembly which had been sent down to Presbyteries under the Barrier Act. After discussion a vote was taken, the result of which was:

35 for and 0 against

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 24 October 2006:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 7 November 2006 at 7.00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business of which public intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 7 November 2006, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 ministers, 21 elders and 3 corresponding members

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson and Rev Jack Stewart ministers, and Robert Carson, Donald Barrie, Adam Foster, Jim Muir, Stewart Toy and Bill Wilson, elders

Minutes The Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 3 October 2006, were held as read and approved

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A letter was received from the General Trustees informing the Presbytery that a grant of £15000 has been approved for Lesmahagow: Old
2. Papers have been received from the Ministries Council concerning the Rev Robert Cowieson, a Minister of the United Church of Canada, who has applied to become a Minister of the Church of Scotland. Comments and/or objections can be made directly to the Council or through the Clerk.
3. The Law Department have asked how many Congregations in the Presbytery of Lanark have a charities number and how many made the returns to OSCR in 2005. The OSCR Web Site has been checked and all congregations in the Presbytery have a charities number and all made the return. Charities numbers must appear on congregational correspondence
4. The Christian Education Association in Scotland are having a workshop for Sunday School Leaders at Renfield: St. Steven's Church on 18 Nov from 10:30 – 1:00
5. A letter was received from the Care Council informing the Presbytery that World Aids Day is 1 December and resources for this can be found on the Church of Scotland web site
6. A letter was received from the Scottish Prison Service is informing the Presbytery that Prisoners week is from 19 – 25 November
7. A letter was received from Nexus Scotland 2007 informing the Presbytery that a Launch Meeting is to take place on 22 November at the SECC
8. A paper has been received from the Law Department on Charities concerning Remuneration for Services

Report of the Business Committee:

In the absence of the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, the Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Rev Ian Watson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Seek nominations from Presbytery for the position of Ecumenical Relations contact. Such nominations to be with the Business Convener by 21 November 2006
3. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write to the Council of Ministry asking to extend the support from the Fisher Fund, to provide locum cover on a Sunday and one day a week, for a further three months or until Rev. Aileen Robson returns to full duties

The Deliverance was approved

Report on Meeting of Special Commission on Structure and Change

The Rev Ian Watson reported on his attendance with others from the Presbytery at the Meeting with the Special Commission on Structure and Change which took place at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church on 30 October 2006

The aim of the meeting was to consult with local church representatives. Those attending were divided into small groups and given the following questions to discuss:

1. What do you think are the financial issues surrounding the church since the restructuring?
2. What has been the effect of the Presbytery plan upon the local church?
3. Do you think some of the issues which people are raising could be helped by better communication?
4. What is the perception at the local level of how power is distributed within the church?

The Moderator thanked Mr Watson for his report and the others who attended the meeting on behalf of the Presbytery

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the ongoing situation at Carnwath
3. Note the receipt of the Quinquennial Survey Reports and the actions taken on receipt
4. Approve the final Ministries and Mission Allocations for 2007
5. Instruct the Clerk to forward these figures to the General Assembly's Stewardship and Finance Committee by the 15th of November
6. Note the update on the IT project
7. Note that with the exception of a small number of minor points all of the congregational accounts for 2005 meet the Church of Scotland's regulations anent congregational finance
8. Commend treasurers for their diligence in achieving this position
9. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute and a copy of the report to the Church of Scotland's General Treasurer and the Convenor of its Stewardship and Finance Committee
10. Approve the budget for 2007 and set the congregational levy at £3.50 per member.

It was proposed and the Convenor accepted that section 6 be revised to read:

“Instruct the IT Committee to review the scheme to supply ministers with computing equipment and to report their findings to the next meeting of Presbytery”

This revised section was approved.

An additional section was proposed and which the Convenor accepted:

11. Permit congregations to pay the Presbytery Dues in two equal parts, the first of which shall be paid no later than 31 December 2006, and the second no later than 31 March 2007

This New Section was approved as was the Deliverance as a whole

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage the Congregational Support Committee to continue their efforts to change the ethos of the Committee from Superintendence to Support

The Deliverance was approved

Overture Anent Superintendence of Congregations

An e-mail had been received from the Depute Principle Clerk stating that there had been pointed out to her a printing error in the Blue Book and in the Remits to Presbyteries Booklet that would have an effect on the above Overture and which the Presbytery considered at its last meeting. It was explained that in the Overture anent Superintendence of Congregations section 2, it appears to refer to the last sentence of s.6 of Act II 1984. This should have referred to the equivalent sentence just before the end of s.7 of the Act – removing the right of the minister to sit through the Kirk Session and other meetings.

The Presbytery decided to abide with the vote taken at the previous Presbytery meeting, the result of which was:

35 for and 0 against

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approves the Vacancy Schedule for the charge of Lanark Greyfriars and instruct the Clerk to forward it to the Ministries Council
3. Note regulations for Voluntary Additional Payments
4. Note that charges eligible to make Voluntary Additional Payments have been informed of the Council's recommendations
5. Note that charges are required to give notice of their decision on VAP's to the Convenor by Tuesday 21 November, in time for a decision to be taken at the December Presbytery meeting
6. Note the reinstatement of the Study Leave Scheme
7. Instruct all Hospital Chaplains to submit a report to the Convenor of the Ministries Committee by Tuesday 21 November, 2006

8. Instruct the Chaplain at the State Hospital at Carstairs to submit a report to Presbytery on his work at this establishment
9. Note the discussions at the Conference of the Ministries Council

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

19. Receive the Report
20. Note the elders evening to take place on 20 March 2007 in Carstairs Community Centre
21. Urge all congregations to appoint a prayer promoter and send contact details to Moira White
22. Form an ad hoc committee to develop a marriage course and report to the Congregational Development Committee consisting of Anna Aitken, Jim Francis, Bryan Kerr (convener), Alison Meikle and Jean Morton
23. Instruct the committee to investigate and recommend standard charges for funerals in churches within the bounds
24. In support of the Presbytery of Falkirk, invite the Legal Questions Committee to consider the appropriateness of ministers fees in respect of conducting funerals and instruct the clerk to transmit section 4 of the report to the committee

Voting was called for sections 5 and 6, the results of which were:

Section 5: 17 votes for and 15 votes against

Section 6: 20 votes for and 11 against

The Deliverance was approved

Report of World and Community Issues Committee

There was no Report from the World and Community Issues Committee, however the Convener Rev Iain Cunningham reminded the Presbytery of the Annual World Mission Rally which will take place on Wednesday 8 November at 7.30pm in Lanark: St.Nicholas' Parish Church

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 21 November 2006:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm except the Congregational Support Committee which will not meet.

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 5 December 2006 at 7.00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business of which public intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 December 2006, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers, 18 elders and 3 corresponding members

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Sarah Ross, Rev Jack Stewart, Rev William Craig and Rev James Seath ministers, and Elizabeth Hiddleston, Anna Aitken, Jennifer Worthington, Donald Barrie and Adam Foster, elders and Colin Young, corresponding member.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 7 November 2006, were held as read and approved

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Scottish Church Theology Society extends an open welcome to its forthcoming annual conference at Crieff Hydro from Monday 15 to Friday 19 January. The theme "One God: is trinitarianism monotheistic?" will be addressed by six expert speakers from the perspectives of the Old and New Testaments, early and contemporary Christian doctrine, Judaism and Islam. Bookings are to be placed with the Hotel and Ministers will qualify for the Meikle Trust.
2. The Bridge Pastoral Foundation is having its Scottish Annual Conference at St. Leonard's School, St. Andrew's from 10 – 14 April. The cost is £345.00. More details are available.
3. An extract Minute has been received from the Ministries Council approving the Vacancy Schedule for the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.
4. A letter was received from Margaret Filshie in response to the Presbytery's letter of thanks to her
5. The Clerk referred to the Statistical Returns forms which are to be uplifted and returned by 23 January 2007

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the convenor, Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

4. Receive the report
5. Appoint Rev Sarah Ross and Mr Tom Smith as the Presbytery's Ecumenical Relations contacts. Rev Sarah Ross from February 2007 and Mr Tom Smith with immediate effect
6. Convene a meeting of Presbytery on the 20 February 2007 at 8:00pm to discuss the "Festival of Hope"
7. Grant permission for the congregations in Carluke and Lanark to have Joint Services at Christmas and New Year

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the additional stipend payments to the ministers of the congregations of Carluke: Kirkton of £1290; Kirkmuirhill of £1255, and Lanark: St Nicholas of £37
3. Instruct the Clerk to forward the decisions to the Ministries Council
4. Approve the reports of the Hospital Chaplains and instruct the Chaplain at the State Hospital to complete his written report and forward it to the Presbytery Ministry Convenor before 23 January 2007
5. Instruct the Clerk to forward the reports to the Ministries Council

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve of the plans and instruct the Clerk to forward plans of the proposed alterations at Cairngryffe Parish Church to the General Trustees for their approval
3. Approve the release of the funds required for the project held in the Consolidated Fabric Fund

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

On the absence of the Convenor and vice convenor, the Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Ellen Young who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Re-appoint Mrs Anna Lumsden, Mrs Irene Williams and Mr George Forbes as Assessor Elders at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old until June 2007
2. Instruct The Congregational Support Committee to review their appointment by the beginning of June 2007 and report to Presbytery thereafter

The Deliverance was approved

Overture Anent Civil Partnerships

The Presbytery took up discussion on the above Overture from the General Assembly which had been sent down to Presbyteries under the Barrier Act.

The Convenor of the Business Committee opened the debate by stating the following:

The above Overture has come before the Presbytery because the 2006 Church of Scotland General Assembly voted by a majority that the conducting of religious services marking civil partnerships should be a matter for the conscience of individual ministers. This matter was sent down for Presbytery approval, as a piece of proposed legislation to be dealt with under Barrier Act procedure, which is designed to give opportunity for mature consideration mostly before major changes can be introduced. The Overture must gain a majority, with one vote for each of 46 Presbyteries. The Legal Questions Committee of the Kirk brought the matter to the General Assembly, and in their report, they speak of the “new pressure on the Church” brought about by the fact that civil partnerships are being entered into and legally recognised. The Legal Questions Committee acknowledges that this is a controversial question but believes that it is important to recognise “the existing freedom of pastoral conscience of ministers and others” and to ensure that they do not face disciplinary proceedings should they carry out a religious marking of a civil partnership. The Legal Questions Committee compares the proposed permissive legislation to that which enabled ministers, back in 1959, to have discretion regarding the remarriage of divorced persons in church and that none would be forced to carry out a service against an individual’s conscience. The Legal Questions Committee wants to affirm that the proposed Declaratory Act is permissive in tone, “in order to protect conscience on all sides.”

In conducting this debate it is requested that those who wish to speak, other than for a question or a comment, come to the lectern to speak and while there answer any questions that are put to them. When all of those who wish to speak have spoken there will be a time for comments and further questions. All questions should be addressed to a named individual.

After discussion a vote was taken, the result of which was:

11 for; 20 against

The Moderator thanked the contributors to the debate which had taken place in a friendly and businesslike atmosphere

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 23 January 2006:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 6 February 2007 at 7.00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business of which public intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 February 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers, 22 elders and 3 corresponding members. There were also present representatives of the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and the Douglas Valley Church together with representatives of Nexus Scotland and Revival FM Radio whom the Moderator welcomed

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson; Rev Alison Meikle; Rev Sarah Ross; Rev Philip Jones and Rev Jack Stewart ministers, and Helen Chekansky; Robert Carson, Donald Barrie, Jim Muir, Stewart Toy and Bill Wilson, elders

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 December 2006, were held as read and approved

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Rev John Turnbull

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Revd John Turnbull had applied to be a Member of the Presbytery of Lanark. John recently retired from Balfron linked with Fintry, and is now living in Biggar. His Presbyterian Certificate has been received from the Presbytery of Stirling. He was not present at the meeting and the Clerk proposed the following deliverance

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Agrees to add the name of Revd John Turnbull to the Roll of Presbytery, and instructs the Clerk to inform the Presbytery of Stirling of this decision

Vacancy Procedure Committee

In the absence of the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by Rev Ian Watson who informed the Presbytery that permission was given to Rev Bryan Kerr to accept a call to preach as sole nominee at Lanark: Greyfriars prior to the completion of 5 years in his first charge. Bryan will be 6 weeks short of his 5 years at the time of his proposed induction to the new charge. This was necessary under Act VIII 2003, Section 20 Nominations, Para 3B.

Also that the Vacancy Procedure Committee had subsequently sustained a call from Lanark: Greyfriars to Rev Bryan Kerr to be their Minister and that the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and the Douglas Valley Church had been cited to attend for their interests.

The Moderator formally welcomed the representatives from the congregations of the Douglas Valley Church and Lanark: Greyfriars and invited Mr Sinclair Scott, Session Clerk at the Douglas Valley Church, to address the Presbytery. Mr Scott spoke kindly of Mr Kerr's ministry and of the constructive changes that had been brought about in the congregation because of it.

Mrs Marcella McLennan, Session Clerk at Lanark: Greyfriars was then invited to address the Presbytery. Mrs McLennan spoke positively of the future for Lanark: Greyfriars and for the Ministry of Mr Kerr, she thanked the members of the Nominating Committee for their work and also the Interim Moderator, Rev Jim Francis for his leadership during the vacancy.

The Moderator thanked everyone concerned and invited Rev Bryan Kerr to address the Presbytery. Mr Kerr spoke warmly about his time in the Douglas Valley Church and of the many friendships he and his wife had made there. He also spoke confidently of his future ministry in Lanark.

Mr Watson intimated to the Presbytery that the Service of Induction will take place at Lanark: Greyfriars on Thursday 8 March at 7:00pm. Members of Presbytery will meet at 6:45pm., Ministers being robed. The Moderator will preside and deliver the charges and the opening devotions will be led by the Revd Harry Findlay.

Concerning the future vacancy at the Douglas Valley Church on behalf of the Committee Mr Watson recommend that the Rev Harry Findlay be appointed as the Interim Moderator for six months in the first instance.

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev Harry Findlay as the Interim Moderator at Douglas Valley for six months in the first instance.

The Deliverance was approved

Revival FM Radio

The Rev Iain Cunningham introduced and the Moderator welcomed Mr George Higgins from Revival FM Radio to the Presbytery and invited him to address the Presbytery. Mr Higgins brought greetings from Revival

FM and gave an illustrated talk concerning the Christian witness and work of the Radio Station. After questions and comments, the Moderator warmly thanked Mr Higgins.

Extract Minutes and Letters:

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Christian Education Association Scotland are informing the Presbytery that on 24 February a course entitled Stepping into the Bible will be held at Renfield: St. Stephen's Church Centre from 10.00am till 1.00pm. More information is available.
2. The Cairngorm Christian Centre formerly known as Badenoch Christian Centre, has reopened and it's understood that it's now being privately run. Information is available.
3. A leaflet which has come from the Church and Society Council regarding Graduate Internship Opportunities with the Church has been received
4. A Church without Walls Event is to take place at Aviemore.
5. A Minute has been received from the Ministries Council approving the Vacancy Schedule for Lanark: Greyfriars.
6. George and Joan Owens who were employed by the Oriental Mission Society have returned to this country from Southern Ecuador and they are available to speak to Church groups. Further information is available.
7. The application papers of the Rev. Marc Prowe who is currently a Minister in Germany and who wishes to become a Minister of the Church of Scotland, have been received from the Ministries Council. Members of Presbytery were invited to make comment directly to the Ministries Council.
8. The Church's Solicitor, Mrs Janette Wilson has sent papers concerning the possibility of congregations having to pay water and sewerage charges from the year 2010. With other bodies the Legal Department is in negotiations with the Scottish Parliament about this and it is understood that a letter has been sent to treasurers.
9. The Presbytery of Glasgow has enquired about how many congregations don't have women elders.
10. The Principal Clerk has asked that the Presbytery be informed that the Drummond Lectures are to be given by Richard Harries, former Bishop of Oxford and now Lord Harries of Pentregarth. The Lectures will be given at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 March 2007 in the Logie Lecture Theatre, University of Stirling.
11. The Rev Sarah Ross has intimated that she wishes to extend her Maternity leave by a further month.
12. The Advisory Group on Health and Healing are to have a meeting on 12-14 November at Carberry. There are to be various speakers and further details are available
13. The Lieutenancy of Lanarkshire is informing the Presbytery about the Royal Garden Party which is to take place at the Palace of Holyroodhouse on Wednesday 4 July. The number of places available to the Presbytery is 4 and the forms have to be returned to the Lieutenancy by the 16th of this month. The Clerk suggested that the Moderator and his wife together with two others to be decided should attend
14. The quarterly newsletter from Broken Rites is available

Good News Stories

The Rev Margaret Muir spoke about the success of and the difference the New Hall at Glencaple Church has made to the congregation there.

Report of the Business Committee:

In the absence of the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, the Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Rev Ian Watson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Homologate the decision taken by the Business Committee to grant Rev Jim Allerdyce permission to celebrate the Sacraments during the remainder of his period as locum at Lanark: Greyfriars
3. Homologate the decision taken by the Business Committee to appoint Mrs Anna Lumsden as the Presbytery's Social Care Council Contact and invite her to report to Presbytery through the World and Community Issues Committee as necessary.
4. Homologate the decision taken by the Business Committee to appoint Rev Ian Watson as Interim Moderator at Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow: Old and record the thanks of the Presbytery to Rev Bryan Kerr for his service there.
5. Note that the following charges are to send commissioners (Minister and one Elder) to the General Assembly to convene in Edinburgh on 19 May 2007: Biggar, Lanark: St. Nicholas, Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow: Old, Law and Carluke: Kirkton and instruct that the names of ministers and elders together with their addresses and bank account details should be given to the Clerk by the 20 February 2007.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Encourage Kirk Sessions to support the elders evening to take place on 20 March 2007 in Carstairs Community Centre
2. Invite nominations by 9 March from ministers and Kirk Sessions for suitable young people who are aged between 18 and 25 (on 19 May 2007) and are regularly involved in the life and worship of a congregation within the bounds to attend the General Assembly in May.
3. Invite nominations by 9 March from ministers and Kirk Sessions for suitable children in primary 6 and 7 (as at September 2007) to attend the first ever Children's Assembly in Gartmore House from 28 – 30 September 2007.
4. Invite nominations by 9 March from ministers and Kirk Sessions for suitable young people who are aged between 16 and 25 to attend the National Youth Assembly in Dundee from 6 – 10 September 2007.
5. Encourage congregations to send those involved in promoting prayer to the prayer conference in Glencleugh Church Hall, Abington on 24 April 2007.

The Deliverance was approved

Mr Kerr introduced the Rev Jill Clancy and Rev Christine Murdoch who had come to the Presbytery to represent Nexus Scotland and invited them to give their illustrated presentation on the Nexus Scotland Event to take place at the SECC from 23 – 25 August 2007.

After questions and comments, the Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to Jill and Christine.

Report of World and Community Issues Committee

The report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Note the proposal to hold a World Mission Evening for congregational representatives on 14 June 2007.
2. Instruct the World & Community Issues Committee to enter into dialogue with the Presbytery of East Seoul (PROK) with a view to developing a partnership link between Presbyteries.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note with concern the developments regarding the Church Building at Carnwath
3. Instruct the Session and Board of Carnwath to instruct the works detailed in the architect's emergency plan
4. Instruct the Session and Board of Carnwath Parish Church to apply to the General Trustees for such funding as required to meet the difference between the monies they have and the cost of the work included in the emergency plan.
5. Remit to the Presbytery's Ministries Committee the matter of appraisal necessitated in the whole Parish of Carnwath by the total cost of the remedial works
6. Note the situation with regard to the Auchengray Church Centre Committee, the Courts of the Parish of Carnwath and the proposed development in Auchengray
7. Grant retrospective approval of the Terms of Reference agreed between the ACCC and the Congregational Board of Carnwath on 24 June 2003
8. Likewise approve the three phase project proposed by the ACCC to redevelop the church and hall at Auchengray
9. Remind all parties that, while the appraisal process referred to in deliverance 5 above continues, no work can be undertaken on buildings within the Parish with the exception of the emergency work permitted by deliverance 3 above
10. Affirm the Presbytery's intention to work through the problems currently facing the congregation, no matter how difficult the decisions, with the people of Carnwath in order to release them to be the witnesses to the Gospel that God would have them be
11. Note the transmission of the Quinquennial Fabric Reports to the appropriate congregations
12. Instruct the Resources Committee to commission the set of surveys due in 2007/8
13. Note the good work already done by the people of Biggar Kirk through the Gillespie Centre in Biggar – especially in reaching the fundraising target
14. Approve the redevelopment project to be undertaken in partnership with the Gillespie Centre Association.
15. Note the Health and Safety pilot project taking place in the Presbytery
16. Note the report of the ITEC delivered through the Resources Committee
17. Note with thanks the work done by the ITEC in getting the project up and running
18. Reaffirm the principle of the project.

19. Accept the desirability of having a reconstituted permanent ITEC to better serve the needs of Presbytery
20. Release the current members of the ITEC from their responsibilities
21. Instruct the Business Committee, as a matter of urgency, to reconstitute the ITEC utilising expertise and skills more widely available in Presbytery provide the new ITEC with a specific remit covering the ongoing issues of specification, procurement, maintenance and cost; and establish the ITEC accountability and reporting channels
22. In light of concerns raised by some congregations with regard to the impact on Presbytery Dues of the IT project, instruct the new ITEC to consult with the Treasurer in early course with a view to lessening the impact in the longer term

It was proposed and seconded that the following words be added to section 7 of the deliverance: 'subject to a review of these terms with advice from the Legal Department following the appraisal process'

This was accepted by the Convener

With this addition, the Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

In the absence of the convener, Rev Alison Meikle, the Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve of Jacqui McQueen's visit on 27 March 2007 to inform Presbytery of the role of the Hospital Chaplain at the State Hospital at Carstairs
3. Note receipt of the State Hospital Chaplain's Report on Tuesday 30 January 2007
4. Approve the Evening of Thanks for the Readers.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Note that the Inspection of Records will take place on Monday 26 February 2007 in St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall
2. Instruct all congregations within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery to submit their records for inspection (as detailed on the sheet provided) on Tuesday 20 February 2007 at 7:00pm in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall
3. Under the terms of Act IV 2001, instruct any Minister in a charge within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery who intends to stand as a candidate in the Local Government Elections in May 2007 to inform the Clerk in writing by Friday 16 February 2007.
4. Instruct the Clerk to transmit the name of any minister intending to stand as a candidate in the Local Government Elections in May 2007 to the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee
5. Resolve to take in private any applications made in terms of the Act IV 2001

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 20 February 2007:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

At 8:00pm. that evening there will take place a *pro re nata* meeting of the Presbytery

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 6 March 2007 at 7.00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business of which public intimation was thereby made.

Moderator

Clerk

2007 Appendix 1

Special Meeting of Lanark Presbytery
to discuss follow-up to NEXUS (August 2007)
Tuesday February 20th 2007 8pm

NEXUS takes place in the SECC Glasgow, August 23-25, organised by the Clyde Presbyteries in association with Scottish Christian Resources Exhibition. "Nexus" means "the bond, link, or tie existing between members of a group". The event aims to encourage connections between presbyteries, congregations, and individual members, with a view to developing the outreach of our churches, through exhibitions, seminars, church stories, fellowship, worship and much more. A recent survey of people who have publicly professed faith throughout Scotland in the past few years has shown how the church, the body of Christians gathered together, is probably the single most important factor in people's spiritual journeys. They reported seven qualities about the churches they encountered: "different", "accepting", "non-judgmental", "friendly and informal", "like family", "happy, joyful, enthusiastic", "loving."

In order to promote church growth in quality and quantity, we as a Presbytery need to follow up events like Nexus more effectively. We probably need to start at a local level, facilitate larger gatherings, and improve our communication as a Presbytery, helping more of our members to see the need and benefit of such developments. We are tentatively calling this process "Festival of Hope", to be carried through in the year following Nexus. It may involve area gatherings in different quarters of the Presbytery, half day or evening events, or whatever the Presbytery decides. Events might include sharing food, worship, learning together, sharing good news stories, and clear messages of hope from God's word. Whether the "Festival" is to be spread throughout the year or during a more focused time such as Lent is to be decided. The purpose of this special conference meeting on February 20 is to enable us all, through small group discussion, to decide what we would like to see happening (if we agree that it is right to proceed with such plans) and to explore what we would seek to achieve, how to encourage participation by every congregation, and above all how better to express our thanksgiving to God and our Christian hope.

I look forward to sharing with you in this special gathering.

Graham Houston (*Rev Dr*)
Moderator.

Lanark, on Tuesday 20 February 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *pro re nata* in Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 6 ministers, 16 elders and 1 corresponding member

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson; Rev Alison Meikle; Rev Sarah Ross; Rev Philip Jones; Rev Jack Stewart; Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev Ian Watson, ministers, and Alex McPhee; Jim Muir and Bill Wilson, elders

Proposed Festival of Hope

The Moderator referred to a Paper which he had produced to facilitate discussion on the possibility of a follow-up to NEXUS Scotland which is to take place in Glasgow in August 2007. (This paper is appended to this Minute as Appendix 1 2007) The Moderator then invited the Presbytery to break into smaller groups to discuss the paper after which in Plenary Session questions and comments were noted.

The Clerk proposed and it was seconded that such notes of the meeting be remitted to the Business Committee for discussion and report

This proposal was approved

Next Meeting:

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 6 March 2007 at 7:00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business of which public intimation was thereby made

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 March 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers, 24 elders and 2 corresponding members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson; Rev Sarah Ross; Rev Philip Jones; Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev Jack Stewart, Ministers, and Betty Smith; Jennifer Worthington; Donald Barrie, Stewart Toy and David McTaggart, Elders and Mairi Somerville, Corresponding Member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 February 2007, were held as read and approved

Presentation by Eco Congregations

The Convener of the Business Committee, Mr Robert Carson introduced Mrs Margaret Warnock to the Presbytery. The Moderator welcomed her and invited her to address the Presbytery. Mrs Warnock gave an illustrated talk about Climate Change and the need for us all including our congregations to be much more 'Eco aware'. After inviting questions and comments, the Moderator on behalf of the Presbytery thanked Mrs Warnock for her presentation

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Mission & Discipleship Council are organising conferences on Emmaus, a similar kind of course to Alpha, in Glasgow at the International Christian College on 20 April and in Edinburgh at the Scottish Story Telling Centre in the Royal Mile on 21 April. These meetings are to be addressed by Bishop John Finney.
2. The Panel on Review and Reform are inviting Ministers especially Ministers who have recently moved to make comments to them on Vacancy Procedures.
3. A new Book is available from the Mission & Discipleship Council entitled 'Journeys and Stories – Finding Faith in Scotland Today' by Nick Spencer and Peter Neilson – one copy is supplied free to all congregations.
4. A new book is to be published by Women of Word and Sacrament and the compilers are encouraging Lady Ministers to contribute to it.
5. The Mission & Discipleship Council have published a new preaching resource entitled 'Investigate – Luke through Lent' and is available from the Council.
6. The Mission & Discipleship Council have produced a service sheet for the Commissioning of the Commissioners to the General Assembly.
7. Action for Churches together in Scotland – ACTS – are having a training day for Rural Ministries at Kinnoull in Perth from Wednesday to Thurs 28 – 29 March.
8. OSCR are having training events from March to May for anyone who is interested in the workings of the Charities Regulator – the details are available.
9. The Solicitor of the Church has informed the Presbytery about an Internet Petition concerning the removal of VAT for charities.
10. The Solicitor has also informed the Presbytery that we should carry out a Data Protection Review at least once every year. This would be remitted to the Business Committee.
11. Scottish Churches House in Dunblane has informed the Presbytery of what they have on offer in the way of courses, accommodation etc.
12. A letter has been received from the session Clerk of Carnwath which may or may not be referred to in one of the debates of the evening.

Good News Stories

Fiona Sandeman spoke of the renovation work that is on going at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church and also of the overhaul work currently being carried out on the organ there. This together with the return to work of their Minister, Rev Aileen Robson has engendered a new spirit of excitement and optimism among the congregation. Mrs Sandeman also thanked the Presbytery for the help and support the congregation received during what had been rather difficult times.

Vacancy Procedure Committee

The report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Locum at Douglas Valley Church

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the appointment of Rev Harry Findlay as Locum at Douglas Valley Church

The Deliverance was approved

Vacancy at Carluke: St. John's

Members of Presbytery were advised that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has sustained the call from Carluke: St. John's addressed to Rev Roy Cowieson

The details of the Service of Induction are still to be arranged because of the notice which Mr Cowieson must give before leaving his congregation in Canada; however the service is likely to take place during May 2007. The Congregation of Carluke: St. John's will be cited to attend the next ordinary meeting of the Presbytery

Report of the Business Committee:

the Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve that Rev Bryan Kerr manages the implementation of the second phase of computer provision within the terms previously agreed.
3. Invite nominations from members of Presbytery and other church members who are interested in joining ITEC and who have experience in the provision, specification, procurement and maintenance of computer and ancillary equipment. Nominations to be with the Business Convener by 13 March 2007
4. Approve that ITEC, once reformed, will report through the Resource Committee

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who reminded the Presbytery that the Committee is hosting an evening for elders to take place on 20 March 2007 in Carstairs Community Centre beginning at 7:15pm. Letters have been sent to all Session Clerks and the Committee is inviting as many elders as can attend from each Kirk Session. Approximate numbers from each Kirk Session should be in the hands of the convener by the next committee night (Tuesday 13 March).

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who because of a letter which had been received from the General Trustees concerning the Glebe at Carnwath, moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Note the contents of the letter of the 19 February from the General Trustees
2. Instruct the Minister of Carnwath to cease forthwith any involvement with or approaches to any party interested in the sale of the glebe, regardless of whether the involvement or approaches are formal or informal or whether they are made in his capacity as Minister or as Councillor.
3. Further instruct the Minister to refer all such matters to the General Trustees in whose hands, and in the hands of their professional advisers, such matters are properly dealt with.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the convener, Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Accept the resignation of Rev Bryan Kerr as Part-Time Hospital Chaplain at Lady Home Hospital, Douglas with immediate effect.
3. Instruct the Clerk to send notification of the resignation of Rev Bryan Kerr to the Ministries Council.
4. Welcome the return to ministerial duties of Rev Sarah Ross and Rev Aileen Robson.

5. In line with the Presbytery Plan, allow the Douglas Valley Church to call a minister without restriction and instruct the Clerk to forward this decision to the Ministries Council for their concurrence.
6. Approve of the Ministries Committee discussing the possibility of running a course for readers, in conjunction with the Presbytery of Hamilton and with the approval of the Ministries Council.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report as printed
2. Inspection of Records
 - a) Note that the Inspection of Records took place on Monday 26 February 2007 and that most Congregational records inspected by the Congregational Support Committee have been found to be in order
 - b) Note that where there have been deviations from requirements a note has been placed in the records box presented
 - c) Note that the Resources Committee will inspect the Property Registers and report thereafter and that the Accounts Inspection Committee will inspect the Accounts and report thereafter
 - d) Thank all Office Bearers for their time and effort in maintaining congregational records
 - e) Instruct all Kirk Sessions:
 - i. to ensure that all loose leaf minute books have consecutively numbered pages
 - ii. to ensure that Roll Keepers maintain a record of those added and removed from the roll and also the method by which they have been added/removed
 - iii. to ensure that, regardless of Constitution, they call a Stated Annual Meeting each year
 - f) Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to transmit a copy of the deliverances concerning Inspection of Records to all Session Clerks

The Deliverance was approved

The Rev Margaret Muir continued the Report of the Congregational Support Committee which was taken **IN PRIVATE** and moved the following deliverance:

3. Carnwath

- a) Receive the report of the Visiting Team to the charge of Carnwath (Rev Iain Cunningham {Convener} Rev David Carmichael, Mr David Waters and Mrs Fiona Sandeman), and thank them for their efforts on behalf of Presbytery.
- b) Resolve to appoint a Committee of Inquiry under the terms of Act I 1988 (as amended) to the charge of Carnwath
- c) Refer the appointment of the Committee of Inquiry to the Business Committee
- d) Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of these deliverances to the Session Clerk of the charge of Carnwath and the Ministries Council

The Rev B Gauld moved the following:

‘The proposed motion to institute proceedings under Act I 1988, Anent Congregations in an Unsatisfactory State (as amended) being based on the report issued on 5th February 2007 is ill-founded, inaccurate and therefore incompetent and should be rejected by Presbytery.’

On a vote being taken there were: 3 FOR and 34 AGAINST and the Moderator announced that the proposed deliverance put by Rev B Gauld falls.

The Deliverance as put by the Committee was approved

The remainder of the report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson

3. Rev. B Gauld – ACT IV 2001 Anent Ministers and Deacons in Public Office (As amended)

- a) Commence proceedings under the terms of Act IV 2001 (as amended)
On a vote being taken there were: 28 FOR; 1 AGAINST
- b) Resolve that the holding of public office would not be compatible with the exercise of the present ministry of Rev B Gauld, Minister of the charge of Carnwath
On a vote being taken there were: 32 FOR; 1 AGAINST
- c) Instruct Rev B Gauld to inform the Presbytery Clerk in writing immediately after the meeting of the Local Scottish National Party Constituency Association in March 2007 if he intends to stand as a Councillor at the Local Government Elections
- d) Resolve to proceed in terms of Act IV 2001 (as amended) Section 3 1(b) should Rev Bev Gauld be reselected as a candidate for the SNP
On a vote being taken there were: 32 FOR; 1 AGAINST

- e) Instruct the Ministries Committee and Congregational Support Committee to confer with the Minister and other Office Bearers of the charge of Carnwath should Rev B Gauld be re-selected as a candidate for the forthcoming local government elections, to make such determinations as are necessary on Presbytery's behalf and to report to the next meeting of Presbytery

On a vote being taken there were: 32 FOR; 0 AGAINST

The Deliverance as put by the Committee was approved

The Convener of the Business Committee, Mr Robert Carson moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Note that the Committee of Inquiry referred to above would compose of the Very Rev David Lacey; Rev Ian Watson and Mrs Helen Chekansky

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 13 March 2007:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet *in hunc effectum* at Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church on Thursday 8 March 2007 at 6.45 pm. for the Induction of the Rev Bryan Kerr to the charge of Lanark: Greyfriars (Ministers will be robed) and then for Ordinary Business on 27 March 2007 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Thursday 8 March 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church to induct Mr Bryan Kerr to the charge of Lanark: Greyfriars, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 ministers, 12 elders and 1 corresponding member. There were also present the following visitors whom the Moderator welcomed: Rev James Allardyce, Rev Donald McCorkindale, Rev Peter Johnston, Rev David Burt, Rev Gavin Elliott and Mrs Liz Leckie.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Sarah Ross; Rev Philip Jones; Rev Jack Stewart; Ministers, and from Ellen Young, Donald Barrie, Adam Foster, Alex McPhee and Andrew Brown, Elders.

Induction of Mr Bryan Kerr

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Mr Bryan Kerr, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Harry Findlay conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Mr Kerr was inducted to the congregation and parish of Lanark: Greyfriars by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service the call was presented to Mr Kerr and Mrs Anna Lumsden expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mr Findlay for their conduct of the service of induction.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on 27 March 2007 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 27 March 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers, 17 elders and 2 corresponding members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson; Rev Philip Jones; Rev David Carmichael; Rev Jim Francis; Rev Steven Reid and Rev Jack Stewart, Ministers, and Anna Aitken; Anna Lumsden; Donald Barrie; Stewart Toy; Andrew Brown and Tom Neilson, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20 February; 6 March and 8 March 2007, were held as read and approved

Vacancy Procedure Committee

The report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev Steven Reid, Mrs Betty McLeod and Mr Cameron Morton as the Advisory Committee to the Douglas Valley Church.

The Deliverance was approved

Carluke: St John's

The service of induction of Rev Roy Cowieson is to take place on the 3 May 2007. Further details will be available at a later date.

The congregation of Carluke: St. John's had been cited to attend Presbytery on the 27 March 2007 for their interests. The Moderator welcomed the members of Carluke: St. John's and invited Mr George Reid, the convener of the Nominations Committee at St. John's to address the Presbytery. Mr Reid spoke warmly of the Rev Roy Cowieson who is currently finishing his ministry in Canada before moving back to his native Scotland with his family in late April. Notwithstanding Mr Cowieson's age of 63, the congregation is in good heart and are certain that he is the Minister for them.

The Interim Moderator, Rev David Easton spoke similarly of Mr Cowieson's credentials for the post and paid tribute to the members of the Nominations Committee for their work in finding a new Minister for St. John's.

The Moderator thanked both speakers for their contributions and wished the folks of Carluke: St John's well for their future Ministry together.

Presentation from the State Hospital, Carstairs

The Moderator welcomed Jacqui McQueen who had been invited to speak to the Presbytery about the establishment at the State Hospital at Carstairs and also about the Chaplaincy Services provided there.

Mrs McQueen thanked the Presbytery for the invitation and spoke of her work at the State Hospital and the care that is provided for the patients there. She also spoke of her work with the chaplaincy team consisting of 4 members which included the Rev B Gauld, Minister at Carnwath.

After questions and comments Mrs McQueen was warmly thanked by the Moderator for her coming to the Presbytery and for her lively and very interesting address.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. Rev Ronald Blakey, the editor of the Church of Scotland Year Book is asking for updates for the new edition. The papers are on the table and Ministers were asked to take a few moments to check their details and alter or add as they see fit.
2. The OSCR returns have to be made, but Treasurers have been advised by the Treasurer's Dept at 121 that they should not make these returns at the moment. There are a few unanswered questions between OSCR and the Treasurer's Dept and they are simply asking that Congregational Treasurers do not make their returns until they're informed by 121 to do so.
3. The Assembly's Committee on Parish Appraisal have concurred with the Presbytery that the Douglas Valley Church be allowed to call a Minister without restriction.
4. The Ministries Council are doing research in to Conflict Management in Congregations and a Consultative Clinic is to take place on Wednesday 25 April. Details are available for anyone who would like to attend.

5. The solicitor of the Church is advising that from 1 April 2007 different rules and regulations come into effect concerning 'Marches'. The Solicitor has further details.
6. The Clerk asked Members of Presbytery to try to keep the Presbytery records concerning office bearers of congregations up to date.

Good News Stories

Betty Smith spoke of the excitement among the Members of Carluke: St. John over the imminent arrival of their new Minister. It is very much seen as a new beginning for this congregation.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that Rev David Carmichael, Dr Richard Martin, Mr Duncan Shaw, Mr Tom Smith and Mr Colin Young be appointed to the ITEC committee.
3. Note that the following are the Presbytery's commissioners to the General Assembly which will convene in Edinburgh on 19 May 2007:-

Law	Rev Anne McIvor	Mrs Helen Young
Carluke: Kirkton	Rev Iain Cunningham	Dr William MacSween
Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow: Old	Rev Aileen Robson	Mrs Fiona Sandeman
Lanark: St Nicholas	Rev Alison Meikle	Mr Robin Murdoch
Lanark: Greyfriars	Rev Bryan Kerr	Mr Mac Wilson

4. Agree that there would be two meetings of Presbytery a year outwith Lanark: St Nicholas', one in the autumn and one in the spring. These would be in addition to the one which is presently held outwith Lanark: St Nicholas', i.e. the Communion and Presbytery meeting held in the Moderator's parish which is held in June. These meetings would be held on a rotational basis.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of World and Community Issues Committee

The report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Welcome the proposal to invite a group from East Seoul Presbytery (PROK) to visit Lanark Presbytery in the Autumn of this year
3. Instruct the Committee to consult with the World Mission Council as to the possibility of obtaining financial assistance for this trip as a 'Local Faithshare Initiative'
4. Welcome the proposal to hold a Presbytery Reception in a venue to be decided and agree that the cost of the visitors' meals at the reception be met from Presbytery funds

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the convener, Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the advice of the local Police Force concerning the pleading letters from Uganda
3. Note the proliferation of pleading emails being received at this time.
4. Approve the Presbytery Plan.
5. Instruct the Clerk to forward the decision of Presbytery concerning the Plan to the Ministries Council.
6. Agree that no further work should be approved or carried out on any of the buildings in the Parish of Carnwath, with the exception of the emergency repairs, previously agreed to make Carnwath Church wind and water-tight.
7. Instruct the Clerk to communicate this decision to the Kirk Session and Congregational Board of Carnwath Parish Church.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Rev I Goring has provided a helpful report detailing his work as Interim Minister at Carstairs and Carstairs Junction during the period 15 March 2005 and 14 October 2006
3. Note that at the beginning of Interim Ministry there are clear aims and objectives established under five headings: history, discovering a new identity, working through transitional changes, relating to the wider church and preparing for the future.
4. Note that during the time of Interim Ministry there was increased commitment, participation and enjoyment of the life of the church, with a real desire for spiritual growth and a willingness to try new things
5. Note that although the Union was not one of the aims and objectives set out initially, it developed into a ‘marvellous tool’ for tackling some of the aims and objectives
6. Commend the Office Bearers and members of the United charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction for their increased participation and commitment to working together to further the life and witness of the church in that area.
7. Express sincere appreciation to Rev Iain Goring for the sense of stability brought to the charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, for his diligence and enthusiasm in tackling the aims and objectives set for the period of Interim Ministry and for his regular participation in the life of Lanark Presbytery which assisted in restoring relationships.
8. Instruct the Clerk to write a letter of appreciation to Mr Goring.
9. Note with concern that the charge is still vacant, commend the Office Bearers to the prayers of Presbytery and assure them of our continued support during this time.
10. Instruct the Advisory Group to maintain contact with the charge at intervals of no more than three months in order that ongoing support may be provided.
11. Instruct the Clerk to write to Rev Angus Mathieson, Ministries Council to express the concern of Presbytery regarding long periods of vacancy following the support provided through Interim Ministry
12. Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the deliverance to the Session Clerk of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
13. Note that the Presbytery Minutes have been inspected and found to be in order
14. Remind all ministers that the first point of contact for the conduct of a ‘parish’ funeral should be the parish minister of the deceased and to seek permission from the parish minister of the deceased before agreeing to conduct a funeral or confirming arrangements with an undertaker or relatives.
15. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the previous section to all Funeral Directors within the bounds enclosing a copy of parish boundaries for their information and use.
16. Note that Rev B Gauld has not as of 27 March informed the Clerk in writing whether he intends to stand as a candidate at the local government elections
17. Note that as a result the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee have been unable to carry out the instruction of Presbytery to confer with the Minister and Office bearers of the charge of Carnwath
18. Note that the Ministries Committee and Congregational Support Committee will now confer with the Minister and other Office Bearers of the charge of Carnwath in terms of Act IV 2001 (as amended), make such determinations as are necessary on Presbytery’s behalf and report to the next meeting of Presbytery

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

In the absence of the convenor Rev Dr Jim Francis, the Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Mr Robert Tweedie who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report of the Resources Committee
2. Approve the revised cost of £307,102 for the works at St Nicholas Parish Church
3. Approve the request by the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to sell Church House and instruct the Clerk to transmit this approval to the General Trustees
4. Approve the project proposed by Black Mount Parish Church to redevelop the interior of Black Mount Church and instruct the Clerk to transmit this approval to the General Trustees
5. Note that the inspection of the Property Registers has taken place.
6. Thank Congregational Fabric Convenors for their diligence and hard work.
7. Note the Committee’s initiative to ease the complications of both record keeping and inspection and commend this, and the evening get together, to Congregational Fabric Convenors

8. Note the action taken with regard to Carnwath's payments to central funds: granting permission for them to make payments when funds are available
9. Note the situations with regard to the changes in Accounts inspections and procedures and that most of the congregational accounts have been submitted for inspection.
10. Thank Congregational Treasurers for their diligence and hard work
11. Note the warning from the Church of Scotland Insurance Company with regard to the insurances across the Presbytery and the Committees actions so far

The Deliverance was approved

Presbytery Accounts 2006

The Presbytery Accounts for 2006 having been circulated, the Report was presented by the Presbytery Treasurer, Mr Colin Young. The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

Approve the Presbytery Accounts for 2006, thank the Treasurer, Colin Young, for his ongoing work, and instruct the Clerk to: send an extract of this minute of the Presbytery's approval to the Assembly's Committee on Stewardship and Finance and send letters of thanks the Auditors, Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isobel Lawrie.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Welcome the success of the Elder's evening on 20 March 2007 and commend all those Kirk Sessions who sent elders to share in the event
2. Encourage the committee to look at another elders event in the autumn of 2007
3. Agree that Susan Carruthers and Sara Gilchrist, both from the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and Laura Jane Sinclair from Forth: St. Paul's be nominated to attend the National Youth Assembly in September 2007 and invite business committee to make arrangements for them to address presbytery at the meeting in October 2007.
4. Agree to pay for places for the three delegates to the National Youth Assembly at a cost of £75 per place.
5. Encourage Kirk Sessions to utilise the gifts and expertise of prayer promoters within the life of their congregations.
6. After the success of The Big Saturday and the initiatives that many of the congregations within the bounds have undertaken as a result, strongly urge congregations to book tickets for adults and children to attend the Nexus event in August 2007
7. Encourage nominations (with a brief CV) for the post of church representative to South Lanarkshire Council's Education Committee to be in the hands of the convenor or clerk by Thursday 29 March 2007.
8. Agree powers to the clerk and convenor to select and forward a nomination to the standing committee on education in the church offices.
9. Agree that in the absence of any nominations from within Lanark Presbytery, the clerk intimates that Lanark presbytery is in agreement with the nomination of Ms Marion Dickie from Hamilton Presbytery as the church representative to South Lanarkshire Council's Education Committee.
10. Express disappointment that only one report has been received from the current church representative to South Lanarkshire Council's Education Committee and urge the standing committee on education to instruct the successful nominee to report to all Presbyteries within the operating area of the local authority
11. Instruct the clerk to forward a copy of section 10 of the deliverance to the church's standing committee on education with any nomination

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 17 April 2007:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 1 May 2007 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix A

Copyright Policy**General**

The Presbytery instructs congregations to adhere to the following good practice, which is based on standards established by the United Reformed Church. All materials, words, music and illustrations, during the lifetime of an author or composer and for a period of 50 years after death, are covered by the Copyright Act of 1988. In 1995, the period was extended to 70 years. Permission must be obtained in writing for all items used within the 70 year limit, and an application made and reply received before the printing of a service sheet, church magazine, or any other kind of information, except where permission to reproduce has been granted and stated in the material. If congregations download or reproduce words of hymns on orders of service, OHP or AV presentations, or wish to download or photocopy music sheets for choirs, etc., they must ensure that they have in place an appropriate **Christian Copyright Licence**. (from Christian Copyright Licensing, PO Box 1339 Eastbourne BN21 1AD, on payment of the appropriate fee). Photocopying pre-printed material, or printing downloaded material is totally illegal without permission. New arrangements of copyright material, words or music, can only be made and circulated after written permission is obtained from the copyright holder. The rights to the page image of any publication are held by the responsible body for 25 years after the date of the last printing. Members of Presbytery should take proper care to acknowledge sources wherever possible. Remember that Bible versions are covered by copyright and publishers usually restrict the amount of verses which can be used without having to apply for permission. Tape recordings and videos of services or other live worship, which are for personal use only, may be made without the need to obtain copyright clearance. However churches which record services for the elderly or housebound should obtain a licence, as should couples who are employing a professional video unit for a wedding. (Also available from CCL, above).

Websites

Material that is within the legal copyright period may not be reproduced on any website without clearance for world-wide usage being obtained in writing from the copyright holder and the payment of any fee requested. This also applies to music played on any site in any form whatsoever, and permission for words, music and arrangement must be sought. If a commercial recording is used for a service, etc., permission must be sought from composer/arranger and artist or their agents. Production of music using a midi device is also a breach of copyright and permission must be sought from copyright holders.

Performing Rights Society (PRS) Licences

Christian Copyright Licensing are now agents for PRS. If you are performing or playing music in a church building, or permitting the use of your property for that purpose, it is the church's responsibility to obtain a licence. 'Music use' includes: concerts and recitals; discos; dances and karaoke sessions; aerobics; dancing classes; film or video shows; background music; radio or television; tape recorders, CD, video players, and DVDs, at such events as coffee mornings, youth clubs, fetes, fundraising film shows, etc. Where music is strictly confined to Divine Worship only, PRS will not at present require the purchase of a licence.

(4) Data Protection Policy

For a full treatment of the issues, the Presbytery refer members to the paper *DATA PROTECTION: Guidance Notes for Church of Scotland Congregations*, produced in 2001 by the Solicitor of the Church, Janette Wilson. She also refers congregations to the Information Commissioner's website, www.dataprotection.gov.uk The following is based on the United Reformed Church's advice to local churches, and shall be adopted by Kirk Sessions to ensure that each church within the bounds complies with the legislation, and has a policy appropriate to each situation.

Drawing up a policy appropriate to your church's situation

This should cover such items as (a) why the information is to be held including any secondary use that will be made of it; (b) what kind of information is to be held; (c) whether any information is being collected without the knowledge of the person concerned; (d) what types of disclosure that are likely to be made; (e) how you intend to ensure that the information held is accurate; (f) how long you will need to keep the information;(g) what level of confidentiality will be applied;(h) any special security measures that apply.

- Ensure that those who have access to the data know exactly what they are allowed to do with people's information.
- Ensure that anyone about whom you hold information knows that it is held, what it is used for and to whom you might pass it on.

- Get consent wherever possible for holding people's information and get explicit consent in writing if any detail could be classed as sensitive (such as racial or ethnic origin, religious or political beliefs, trade union membership, health, sex-life, or criminal record.)
- Make sure that people are offered the chance to opt out of receiving any direct mailing, including fundraising.
- Design or modify your system so that anyone may have access to their own record without being able to view other records.
- Make appropriate security arrangements for both manual and computerised records (at the least passwords for electronic files and secure storage for hard copy.)

Guidelines to those who handle personal data

Remember that personal data can only be used for the purposes for which it was originally obtained, and that you must take good care of it. You must use it fairly and ensure that it is adequate, relevant, not excessive, accurate, up to date and not being held longer than required. You are committing an offence if you sell personal data you are not entitled to. When you obtain personal data remember that you must not deceive or mislead anyone. You must ensure that the person concerned knows that you are collecting the data and why and how it may be used.

When you disclose personal data, remember that you must check that the disclosure fits the purpose for which the data is being held, and that you must check that the person to whom you are disclosing it is authorised to have it, such as by legal obligation. If you put personal data on your website, you must gain consent from the data subject.

In conclusion, never forget that data subjects have rights – primarily that of CONSENT and that of ACCESS TO ALL PERSONAL DATA HELD.

*The Presbytery of Lanark ad hoc Committee on Stewardship of Cyberspace:
Rev Dr Graham Houston (Convener), Rev Dr Jim Francis, Rev Bryan Kerr,
Dr Sinclair Scott.*

June 2006.

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 May 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers, 24 elders and 1 corresponding member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson; Rev Susan Cowell; Rev David Easton; Rev Philip Jones; and Rev Jack Stewart, Ministers, and Fiona Sandeman and Jean Morton; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27 March 2007, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. Mr Gauld, has provided copies of a letter from the then Board of Practice & Procedure concerning the conduct of Parish Weddings and Funerals
2. Newsletter No 2 from the Cairngorm Christian Centre is available
3. Stewardship and Finance have approved the Presbytery Accounts for last year
4. A very kind letter has been received from Rev Iain Goring in response to the letter sent him thanking him for his services to Carstairs and Lanark Presbytery
5. A response has been received from Rev Angus Mathieson concerning a letter sent to him about Interim Ministries and the long term vacancies which can follow them
6. The Blue Book from the General Assembly is available on CD rom
7. Details and Sponsor forms are available from the Rev Frank Campbell, minister at Ancrum concerning his Bus Hop for Charity
8. A Minute has been received from the Committee on Parish Appraisal noting that there is no change in our Presbytery Plan for the ensuing year
9. The Minister's Handbook is now available on line
10. Christian Copyright Licensing have intimated that lyrics of worship songs can be downloaded from the Internet
11. Rev Ronald Blakey, the editor of the Church of Scotland Year Book has asked for updates for the new edition. Ministers are asked to take a few moments to check their details and alter or add as they see fit
12. The Presbytery nominated to the Mission and Discipleship Council the name of Mr David McTaggart to be the Church's representative on South Lanarkshire Council's Education Committee. Notification was received that this nomination was not successful

Good News Stories

Law Parish Church reported on the great success of its Easter Labyrinth

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the nomination of Rev Alison Meikle as Moderator of Presbytery for 2007-08
3. Approve the appointment of Rev Sarah Ross as Interim Moderator at the United Church of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction on a date to be arranged
4. Agree that the 2 October 2007 meeting of Presbytery take place at Glencaple Parish Church
5. Agree that the 6 May 2008 meeting of Presbytery take place in Carluke
6. Remind charges which are not "linked" or in "union" that they require the approval of Presbytery to have joint services over the summer period, and note that the Lanark: St. Nicholas and Lanark: Greyfriars will have Joint Services from 1 July – 5 August inclusive
7. Agree that a meeting of Committee Convenors and the Business Committee be held at the St. Bride's Centre, Douglas on the 28 August to discuss the report from the Special Commission on Structure and Change amongst other matters
8. Remind ministers and presbytery elders that the names of representative and additional elders have to be with the Presbytery Clerk by the end of May together with an indication of which committee they would like to serve on
9. Grant to the Moderator, Presbytery Clerk, Depute Presbytery Clerk and the Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery shall next meet, on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought

10. Approve the appointment of Rev Iain Cunningham as the Presbytery's representative on the Commission of Assembly
11. Note that a meeting for new Presbytery Members will take place on Wednesday 13 June at 7:30 pm in Symington

The Deliverance was approved

Joint Report of the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee (IN PRIVATE)

The Joint Report of the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Resolve that, in the event of Rev B Gauld, Minister of the Charge of Carnwath, being elected as a Councillor to serve on South Lanarkshire Council on 3 May 2007, in accordance with (i) Act IV 2001 section 3, and (ii) the Deliverance of Presbytery of 6 March 2007:
 - a) the Charge of Carnwath shall be declared vacant as at 30 September 2007
 - b) the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee is hereby instructed to confer with the Ministries Council as a matter of urgency, regarding the possibility of Interim Ministry in Carnwath
3. Instruct the Clerk to forward this deliverance to the Session Clerk of Carnwath

This was seconded by Rev Alison Meikle convener of the Ministries Committee

Questions and comments were asked and made

The Rev B Gauld moved a counter-motion to Section 2 in the following terms:

In the light of the fact that Rev B Gauld presently holds the office of local councillor for Carstairs / Carnwath; and in the light of the show of support from the congregation and community of Carnwath Parish, in accordance with Act IV 2001 Section 3(1)(b)(i):

Resolve that, if Rev B Gauld is elected as local councillor for Clydesdale East Ward on 3 May, a special and reviewable arrangement of ministerial staffing and financing, to allow Rev B Gauld to remain in post, should be created by the Presbytery subject to the approval of the General Assembly's Committee on Parish Appraisal

This counter-motion was seconded by Mrs Elizabeth McLeod

The Rev B Gauld addressed the Presbytery. Questions and comments were asked and made.

The Presbytery proceeded to vote. On a vote being taken between the motion and the counter-motion, there voted for the motion 33 and for counter-motion 5; and by a further vote to resolve accordingly there voted for 35 and against 3

The Moderator declared that the original motion in the name of the Committee carried and the original deliverance as a whole was approved

Rev B Gauld begged leave to dissent and complain, and crave extracts, and the Clerk reminded him of the time limits in terms of Act V 2004; the text of Rev B Gauld's 'dissent and complaint' must be in the hands of the Principal Clerk by 5:00pm on Friday 11 May 2007

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

12. Receive the report
13. Note communication from the Congregational Board of Glencaple Parish Church (14 March 2007) regarding repairs to the church access road at an estimated cost of £8.5K - £11K
14. Agree that the work on the road is necessary to facilitate improved access to Glencaple Parish Church
15. Support their application to the General Trustees seeking the release of money totalling £11K previously granted for work on the New Hall but not drawn down to be applied to the repairs of the road
16. Note the communication from the Congregational Board of Lanark Greyfriars (17 April 2007) regarding the ongoing programme of repointing to the church building at a cost of £24 675
17. Approve the ongoing repointing work, the appointment of a suitably qualified specialist approved by the General Trustees and the Committee on Art and Architecture to survey and undertake any necessary work on the windows on this elevation and instruct the Clerk to transmit completed forms A & B along with any relevant extract minutes to the General Trustees
18. Approve the release of £24 675 of capital from the congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars' monies held in the Central Fabric Fund
19. Note the communication (15th April 2007) received from the Session Clerk of Carnwath concerning the proposed work at Auchengray

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the convener, Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. While noting that at the present time as the Ministries Committee is revisiting the Presbytery Plan and the work of the Committee of Inquiry is proceeding, Presbytery is reminded of the decision of 27 March to sist any works at Auchengray, fully understanding the implications of this action
3. Instruct the Clerk, to again forward this re-iterated decision to the Kirk Session and Congregational Board at Carnwath Parish Church
4. Note that a condition for Rev R Cowieson being accepted as a Minister by the Church of Scotland is that Presbytery offers support following his induction to Carluke: St John's on 3rd May 2007, for 6 months
5. Approve that Revs I Cunningham and H Jamieson, as part of the Parish Grouping in Carluke and the ministers fraternal in Carluke, offer the support network for Rev R Cowieson
6. Note Mr Andrew Brown's appointment as Vice-Convenor of the Ministries Committee

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 5 June 2007:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet *in hunc effectum* at Carluke: St. John's Parish Church on Thursday 3 May 2007 at 6.45pm for the Induction Service of the Rev Roy Cowieson and then for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Symington Parish Church on 19 June 2007 at 7.00pm and then for Ordinary Business in the Church Hall there.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Thursday 3 May 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Carluke: St. John's Parish Church to induct Mr Roy Cowieson to the charge of Carluke: St. John's, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 ministers, 10 elders and 2 corresponding members. There was also present Mr John Thomson from the Council of Ministries whom the Moderator welcomed.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Dr Jim Francis; Rev Philip Jones; Rev Jack Stewart; Ministers, and from Don Barrie, Adam Foster, and Alex McPhee Elders.

Induction of Mr Roy Cowieson

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Mr Roy Cowieson, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev John Turnbull conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Mr Cowieson was inducted to the congregation and parish of Carluke: St. John's by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service the call was presented to Mr Cowieson and Rev Sarah Ross expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mr Turnbull for their conduct of the service of induction.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Symington Parish Church on 19 June 2007 at 7.00pm and then for Ordinary Business in the Church Hall there.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Symington, on Tuesday 19 June 2006, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Symington Parish Church conducted by the Moderator, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Church Hall at Symington, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers, 21 elders and 1 corresponding member. There were also a number of visitors

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson; Rev Susan Cowell; Rev David Easton; Rev Philip Jones; Rev David Carmichael; Rev Roy Cowieson; Rev John Turnbull and Rev Jack Stewart, Ministers, and Fiona Sandeman and Dr Sinclair Scott; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1 May 2007, were held as read and approved

Roll of the Presbytery

The Clerk laid on the table the completed Roll of the Presbytery containing the names of 16 Ministers in Charges, 12 Retired Ministers; 24 Commissioned Elders and 8 corresponding members; there are currently 2 vacant charges. Last year there were 6 additional elders and this year 2 further Additional Elders have been recommended. They are: Mr Ewan Easton from Lesmahagow: Old and Mr Willie MacSween from Carluke: Kirkton. Mr Easton is a Project Manager and experienced in building works while Mr MacSween is very keen to help in any way he can in the Presbytery.

The Clerk proposed the following deliverance appointing these elders:

“Presbytery appoints Mr Ewan Easton and Mr William MacSween to serve as Additional Elders in the Presbytery of Lanark from 30 June 2007.”

The Deliverance was approved.

Guild Presbyterial Council

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Jean Morton, now Secretary of the Guild Presbyterial Council. Mrs Somerville presented the Annual Report of the Guild Presbyterial Council in which she highlighted the following:

The Annual Meeting held in the Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow; The Discussion Topic: ‘Let's Talk About Body Image’; Violence against Women; and a range of new projects under the ‘Let's Live’ theme.

Guild Week ran from 19 November and was designed to raise the profile of the Guild in communities and congregations.

The Guild participates at National and International levels with women's organisations in influencing the Scottish and Westminster Parliaments and it plays a part with other Christian organisations in the campaigns for Trade Justice and to end trafficking in people.

The Moderator congratulated the Guild on its achievements and thanked Mrs Somerville for her presentation.

Report of Diligence at the General Assembly

Mrs Fiona Sandeman reported diligence at the General Assembly and spoke very highly of her first experience of being a Commissioner.

Rev Bryan Kerr reported diligence and commented that the Rural Church seems to be getting a much higher profile than in previous years. He felt that the Assembly seemed to be more nervous than in previous years about taking big decisions and as a result nothing really groundbreaking passed through. However, the Assembly refused to endorse the Ministries Council's proposals of an ill thought out and rushed report on Locally Ordained Ministry and returned it for further consideration. This will come to Presbyteries in the coming session.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

- Rev Miriam Gross, who has been studying theology in Germany, has applied to become a Minister of the Church of Scotland. Members of Presbytery have the right to reply, object etc directly to the Ministries Council
- Presbytery received an account from Messrs Davidson & Shirley for work carried out on behalf of the Presbytery. Because of the continual threats from Mr Gauld to take legal action against the Presbytery, we were advised to lodge what's called ‘Caveats against Interdict’ with the Sheriff Court, here in Lanark and also with the Court of Session in Edinburgh. This was done so that should Mr Gauld apply to the Civil Courts to stop the Presbytery acting, then these courts would not do so without informing and having consultation with the Presbytery. The account comes to some £445 and has been passed to the Treasurer

- The General Trustees have approved of the proposed scheme of works at Black Mount Parish Church
- The Ministries Council has written to the Presbytery to ask if any of our Retired Ministers would be interested in doing Locum work. It's really if they would be interested in living away from home for 3 – 6 months at a time
- The Ministries Council are also inviting applications for Ministers or Elders to become assessors in the Ministry Selection Process. Anyone interested should speak to Mr Meikle in the first instance.
- The Baird Trust is to have a conference on 31 October at New College in Edinburgh. The Baird Trust's most popular work is in granting money for church building projects, but it also sponsors lectures and conferences. The Trust has also changed its status recently by becoming a company limited by guarantee.
- The principal Clerk has forwarded to the Presbytery, really it's a plea from the Edinburgh Peace and Justice Resource Centre who are looking for a Convener of their Management Committee
- I have forwarded to Ministers some recent information which has come from the Ministries Council concerning Locums. There's really quite a lot in it about the work and employment of Locums, so if anyone else would like a copy, please ask me
- The Ministries Council have sent a Booklet concerning a pilot scheme of Ministry Review Process. Again if any Minister would like a copy, it's on e-mail so I can forward it to you.
- The Eldership Working Party is having a training event on Bereavement Visiting and Funerals. It's to take place at Carberry from 5 – 7 October the cost is around £100 – 150 depending on the accommodation
- The Draft Remits from the General Assembly have been received from the Principal Clerk and have been circulated to Conveners of Committees

Good News Stories

- Rev Helen Jamieson referred to an involvement of the Bible Reading Fellowship at Crawforddyke Primary School, Carluke and also to some new resources which had been produced by them
- Mr Iain Roper-Cauldbeck referred to a Fellowship Meal which was organised by Culter Parish Church – the first time anything like this had taken place at Culter in many years
- The Rev Dr Jim Francis spoke of the ongoing refurbishment of the Gillespie Centre in Biggar which is due to be reopened in August.

Report of the Business Committee (IN PRIVATE):

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverances: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report.
2. Thank Rev Dr Graham Houston, the Kirk Sessions, the Congregational Board and members of Symington and Cairngryffe Churches for their hospitality this evening
3. Approve the nomination of Rev Alison Meikle as Moderator of Presbytery for the year 2007-08
4. Homologate the response to the Commission of Assembly concerning the appeal of Rev B Gauld (Appendix A)
5. Homologate the decision to suspend proceedings under Act I 1988
6. Homologate the decision concerning emergency repairs at Auchengray: "The Congregational Board of Carnwath, with the Auchengray Church Centre Committee, be permitted to undertake essential repairs to the boundary wall and gateposts at Auchengray. This permission is given on the understanding that the work is necessary to remove the risk of injury to third parties, and consequent liability to the Congregation of Carnwath, and to protect the existing insurance coverage. This work is to be undertaken in terms of the quote for work obtained from Mr George Greig, Builder, at a cost of £1,621.50. This permission is exclusively for emergency work to the wall and gateposts and may not be taken to imply or infer any further permission for work at Auchengray. In accordance with the Presbytery's decision in May, no other work should be carried out at Auchengray until the appraisal process can be conducted. Neither the Congregational Board nor the ACCC may use any of the grant money raised for the development project on the building to carry out this work."
7. Approve the membership of committees for the coming year as listed (Appendix B)
8. Resolve to have an informal buffet meal at 6:00 pm on 4 September prior to the next Presbytery meeting.
9. Agree the dates of Presbytery and Committee meetings for the coming year as listed (Appendix C)
10. Receive notice of amendment to Standing Order number 3
11. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and the Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought
12. Note that the churches in Carluke will have combined services during the period 1 July to 12 August inclusive

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee (IN PRIVATE)

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Thank the Interim Moderators, Rev B Kerr and Rev I Watson, for their service and support for the charge of Coalburn linked with Lemahagow: Old and note the continued involvement of Rev Ian Watson during the phased return of the Minister there, Rev Aileen Robson
3. Thank the Assessor Elders, Mrs Anna Lumsden, Mrs Irene Williams, Mr George Forbes, who have served at Lesmahagow: Old, reappoint them until a review by the Congregational Support Committee in January 2008 and instruct them to report to the Congregational Support Committee in January 2008
4. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee to continue to review the situation in Lesmahagow: Old and report to Presbytery in February 2008
5. Note, with regards to Biggar Kirk, that the three Presbytery deliverances of 15 June 2004 have been implemented and that the additional aspect of elder training is in hand
6. Warmly commend the Minister and office bearers of Biggar Kirk for their collaborative working, the re-organisation of the Gillespie Centre and the new Kirk Session structure
7. Strongly encourage the elders of Biggar Kirk to make use of local and national training to enable them to grow in confidence in their role
8. Commend the Minister, Office bearers and members of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old and Biggar Kirk to the prayers of the Presbytery
9. Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the relevant sections of the deliverance to the Session Clerk of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old and Biggar
10. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee to initiate discussions with the Congregational Development Committee with a view to holding an elders conference later this year

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the convener, Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree to advertise the position of 0.9 sessional chaplaincy at Lady Home Hospital, Douglas and invite applications for the above chaplaincy to be given in writing to Rev A. Meikle by 30 June 2007
3. Note the decision of NHS Lanarkshire about the chaplaincy at the Lockhart Hospital.
4. Approve arrangements for the Presbytery retreat on September 3 2007
5. Agreed to pay £140 for the mini-bus for the retreat on 3 September 2007
6. Thank Revs J Francis and A McIvor for their work in organising the retreat
7. Note the information about Accompanied Reviews. (The Convenor of the Ministries Committee to be informed of anyone who would like further information)

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee:

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the convener, Rev Ian Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

5. Receive the report.
6. Welcome the programme for the visit of the group from East Seoul Presbytery (PROK) to visit Lanark Presbytery from 27 August to 8 September (Appendix D)
7. Encourage members of Presbytery to purchase tickets for themselves and partners for the Reception on 29th August at Hollandbush Golf Club (priced £17.00 each) and note that additional tickets may be purchased from the Convener or from Kirkton Church Office (Tel. 01555 750778)
8. Note that the date for this year's World Mission Rally is Wednesday 14 November

The Deliverance was approved

Report of Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverances:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Welcome the committees plans to hold the first 'You're an Angel' Course in Biggar from Wednesday 26 September 2007 and encourage congregations to send people to the Course
3. Note the Child Protection Training for volunteers to take place on Monday 27 August 2007 at 7:00pm in Greyfriars Church, Lanark and invite those interested in attending to contact Rev Bryan Kerr as soon as possible
4. Welcome the intention to hold a second elders evening on Tuesday 30 October 2007 following the success of the last event in March of this year and urge Kirk Sessions to send as many of their number as possible to attend
5. Invite Kirk Sessions to send prayer promoters to the next meeting on Tuesday 9 October 2007 at 7:00pm in Glencaple Parish Church Hall
6. Urge congregations to attend the NEXUS event in the SECC from August 23 – 25 August 2007
7. Note the children's worship event and children's worker training day taking place during NEXUS in August and encourage congregations to support these specific parts of the event

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 21 August 2007:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 4 September 2007 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

(A Buffet Meal will be available from 6:00pm. and must be ordered with Betty Smith)

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

June 2007 Appendix A

Responses to the Dissent and Complaint against the Decision of the Presbytery of Lanark by the Rev Beverly Gauld

Introduction

This Response document, answering the Rev B Gauld's Dissent and Complaint point by point, seeks to elaborate for the Commission of Assembly the background to and basis of the decisions taken by the Presbytery of Lanark. It is intended to show through these responses that, rather than the precipitate action the Dissent and Complaint suggests the Presbytery has taken, the Deliverances that Mr Gauld is complaining against are actually the result of long and arduous efforts on the part of Presbytery stretching back many years, and that, even in the shortest term view, the decisions and Deliverances were necessary, appropriate and proportionate. Moreover, the responses will show that while keeping the proceedings under Act IV 2001 and Act I 1988 separate and running in parallel is lawful, the Presbytery has sisted proceedings under Act I until the outcome of these proceedings is known. Finally, the responses will show that throughout this proceeding Mr Gauld and his rights have been treated with the greatest respect and dignity, that the Presbytery has stringently sought to follow both the letter and the spirit of the legislation and that the Presbytery has diligently afforded Mr Gauld the opportunity of representation and response at every stage.

Answers: the paragraph numbers refer to the relevant paragraphs in the Dissent and Complaint Document.

- (1) The Presbytery of Lanark would contend that the course of action taken under Act IV 2001 anent Ministers and Deacons in Public Office (as amended by Act VIII 2003) is both proportionate, appropriate and had proper basis. The history of proceedings under Act IV 2001 has a much lengthier narrative and more sweeping trajectory than the Dissent and Complaint suggests. The Report of the Visiting Team which Mr Gauld argues triggered action under Act IV 2001 was, in fact, the follow up to a previous Quinquennial Report that was unsatisfactory. This first Report commenced with a visit in 2004, continued with a year of visits and support by the visiting team and was finally received by Presbytery in February 2006.¹ This 2004 Report highlighted clear and present problems within the Congregation, the leadership and the fabric of the Parish of Carnwath. During the year that the Visiting Team spent with the Congregation help, advice and support were given in all of these areas but most particularly as they related to the buildings and the finances of the Congregation. The Report was submitted to the Superintendence and Records Committee, Mr Gauld made a lengthy response and he and the Session Clerk took up the invitation given to respond and make representation in person to all issues raised in the Report when it was being discussed. Finally the Report was received by Presbytery in February 2006. Thereafter the Presbytery undertook to assist the Congregation and Minister further in their efforts to begin to remedy the situation by appointing Assessor Elders and instructing a follow up visit. This follow up visit was undertaken in October/November 2006 and the result is the report which Mr Gauld cites here, received by Presbytery in March 2007. This report did not trigger the proceedings under Act IV but was part of a pre-existing process which began in 2004 and which had identified serious issues at Carnwath. Importantly, the first Quinquennial Report of 2004/2006 identifies the matter of the dual roles held by Mr Gauld as a not insignificant issue amongst the many other problems faced by the Congregation.

What follows is the explanation of how and why the Presbytery came to its conclusion under Act IV 2001 that the Charge of Carnwath should be declared vacant from the 30th September 2007 should Mr Gauld be re-elected to the office of Local Councillor; dealing with the problem of this dual role, quite separately, and deliberately so, from any proceedings under Act I 1988 which the Presbytery has in fact sisted pending the outcome of these proceedings under Act IV in the interests of fairness and for the avoidance of confusion for the Minister and the Congregation. In the time between the first Quinquennial Visit of 2004 and the Presbytery Visit of October/November 2006, some of the issues that had previously been identified as problematic had significantly worsened or otherwise come to a head. These issues were specifically related to the state of the fabric of the church buildings in Carnwath, relations between the office bearers and a group of people called the Auchengray Church Centre Committee who were in the throes of redeveloping a mission station which is part of the Parish of Carnwath and the finances of the Congregation, including the proposed sale of the Glebe. We shall deal with each of these issues in turn.

First of all, the particular problems with the church fabric have a history stretching back many years involving a feasibility study of 2002, by Messrs Stewart Tod & Partners Architects, produced a vision for redeveloping the Church building that would cost between £100 000 and £300 000 (an updated version of the feasibility study from Angus Design Associates in 2005/6 placed the cost for the feasibility study at nearer £500 000 - £600 000).² The reason for the feasibility study in the first place was in response to the need to 'explore all available options with regard to the extensive remedial work required on the fabric of Carnwath Church.'³ In the meantime there were also repeated instructions to the Congregational Board to carry out essential works to improve the situation. This work was, variously, never done, done badly or half done and left despite the Congregation having already received loans and grants, to the value of some £40 000, from the General Trustees to carry out the work.

¹ See Appendix III QV Report 2004/2006

² See Appendix I which contains extract minutes of Presbytery dating back to 2001 and which deal repeatedly and often with the property problems at Carnwath.

³ Appendix I Report I *Report of Property Committee*

A very specific example, which typifies the pattern, related to a problem with the Church gallery which was in a state of collapse and supported on a scaffold structure. This condition has existed for over five years despite repeated instruction to repair. The major reason repeatedly given for work not being done was the existence of the feasibility study which envisioned the transformation of the Church building into a multi-use centre and the possibility of disposing of other buildings within the Parish. The work on the gallery would be rolled into that project. However, the feasibility study was and remains well outwith the financial capacity of the Congregation and the gallery remained in a state of disrepair. In June 2006, in consultation with the General Trustees and with their full support, the Presbytery finally insisted that unless a safety certificate could be produced by an accredited structural engineer the building would be closed. The General Trustees agreed to pay for this certificate and a verbal assurance from the engineers was provided at the 11th hour.⁴

Meanwhile, the project described by the two feasibility studies, recognised by Presbytery as visionary, remains well outwith the financial capacity of the Congregation. Development, even at the most modest end of the vision depends on the sale of all or part of the Glebe, once zoned for development, to finance it. The sale of the Glebe though would not be straightforward, not least because the monies raised would not be unencumbered – the first call on the money would be to endow local ministry costs, there is a sitting tenant with a registered interest and Lee and Carnwath Estates own a ransom strip limiting access to the Glebe. Recognising, therefore, that this was at best a very long term project which was by no means a certainty and, at worst, an impossibility to achieve, the Presbytery and the General Trustees sought to move forward once again to address the worsening state of the buildings independently of the Glebe sale.⁵

In June of 2006, on the Presbytery's initiative, representatives of the Presbytery, along with representatives of the General Trustees, an architect and office bearers of the Congregation met for an urgent discussion of the state of the buildings at Carnwath especially - the church, the halls and the manse. The result of this meeting was to determine that the church building especially was in a perilous state and to instruct that immediate action be taken just to make the buildings wind, watertight and rot free (there would be no development work). The estimate for this work came in at £154 938.12 plus VAT, a sum again well beyond the resources of the Congregation. Further work was also instructed on the manse which has a window in a dangerous state. In January 2007 at a subsequent meeting an emergency plan was worked out at the cost of £34 676.36 (excluding VAT and fees) that could more manageably be afforded by the Congregation since it would utilise the monies (approximately £40 000) that the General Trustees had already advanced to the Congregation to carry out remedial work that had not been done. The Trustees representatives undertook, if possible, to make a further small grant/loan to the Congregation in order to ensure that this work was done. Consequently, the Congregation was instructed to carry out these emergency works as a matter of urgency and to apply to the General Trustees for any monies needed to make up the cost – to date (June 2007) the works remain undone and have not even been commenced, nor application made to the General Trustees, despite Presbytery's best efforts to make progress. The Presbytery once again committed itself to working with the Minister and office bearers of the Congregation through the difficult times ahead. During the process of establishing the extent of the building problem and the emergency works, various parties, including office bearers of the Congregation, Presbytery and the General Trustees, again stated that working through these problems would be more likely to be achieved if Mr Gauld's full attention was focused on his Parish. This begged the question of his continued role as a local councillor.

Second, while all this was going on, a further problem came to light in relation to the mission station at Auchengray which is part of the Parish of Carnwath. In 2002 Auchengray Church Centre Committee (ACCC) was formed, with the agreement of Presbytery, to help fundraise from sources that otherwise would not consider churches. Subsequently, a 'Terms of

⁴ Appendix I various references throughout, particularly Reports II, III, XXIV

⁵ Appendix III Report to the General Trustees of meeting of 16th January 2007 by Findlay Turner.

Reference' document was drawn up and agreed between Congregational Board and ACCC giving the ACCC day to day responsibilities for the running of the centre. This was a shift away from the original purpose of the ACCC and neither this change nor the Terms of Reference document were ever ratified by Presbytery. The ACCC have developed a project for the development of the Auchengray Church Centre. Essentially, the development is planned to equip the somewhat run down existing building as a community centre and resource, particularly for the use of the local primary school.

The plans submitted to the Congregational Board in 2002 referred to one project in three 'work areas' subsequently referred to as phases one, two and three. During 2003 the Committee undertook to obtain estimates, organise fundraising, and make grant applications. Work commenced on phase one in 2004, phase two in 2005. These were preparatory stages to permit phase three to be undertaken with minimum disruption to the school, allowing the ACCC to comply with the terms of the South Lanarkshire Council let of the building. The ACCC wished to embark on the most substantial part of the works Phase 3 which involves the rebuild of the kitchen, boiler house and hall. The cost for this phase is approximately £122 000, some £95 000 of which has been raised in grants etc. Unfortunately, there is no evidence that this project was ever brought to Presbytery in its entirety. The first evidence of Presbytery's substantial involvement came in 2005 when together with the General Trustees the ACCC were bailed out of a mismanaged (by the ACCC) project to redevelop the entrance to the building. There is, however, significant cause for concern in the Presbytery's Resources Committee (Fabric and Property, Stewardship and Finance) that the ACCC has been acting with altogether too much autonomy from the Congregational Board. This was borne out when the ACCC tried, on numerous occasions, to circumvent both Congregational Board and Presbytery by communicating directly with the General Trustees. The Resources Committee believed that the problem that had developed was symptomatic of other problems relating to Congregational leadership, administration and governance. Again, discussions with Congregational office bearers on this matter suggested that the problems were not insurmountable if Mr Gauld would focus his attention on the Parish and give the leadership that is necessary.

Third, with regard to finance, it was clear that although for the last five years the Congregation have met their Ministry and Mission and Renewal costs, they still carry a substantial deficit from previous years and there remains significant cause for concern. Not unrelated to the financial state of the Congregation is the possible sale of the Glebe which may solve many immediate financial problems and leave the Congregation comfortably off. Nevertheless, the Presbytery remains concerned about the Congregation relying on the realisation of this possibility. First of all, the sale is neither straightforward nor imminent. Secondly, while the General Trustees are engaged in negotiating a sale on behalf of the Congregation, Mr Gauld's involvement has proved counterproductive: so much so that he has been requested by the General Trustees on more than one occasion and was, in March 2007, finally instructed by the Presbytery to have nothing more to do with the sale of the Glebe when the General Trustees' agents threatened to withdraw because Mr Gauld's activities in relation to the Glebe were jeopardising their work. Notwithstanding the possibility of a significant conflict of interest that the dual role created for Mr Gauld himself, the essential problem was that his dual role caused confusion and complication. Yet again this raised the question of the compatibility of the two roles. Furthermore, it was not made clear to the office bearers of the Congregation that the monies realised from the sale would not be theirs to do with as they pleased; they were not aware for instance that a significant sum would be used to endow ministry costs nor of the interests of the sitting tenant nor of the ransom strip.⁶

The Presbytery would contend that it is in fact this collection of concerns, detailed above, not the Report to Presbytery of 2007 in and of itself, that is the proper basis from which the Presbytery drew its conclusions that the dual roles of Parish Minister of Carnwath and Local Councillor which Mr Gauld was holding, and sought to renew at the 2007 Local Elections, are incompatible and that he should focus his attention on the Parish. The Presbytery felt that any one of these things alone might well make holding these dual roles incompatible, but together

⁶ Appendix III Letter from General Trustees re: Glebe and Appendix I Report XXVIII

they certainly demanded the Minister's undivided attention. Nevertheless, the Presbytery has always believed that with focused and dedicated leadership, ways through the problems may well be found. The person called to give that leadership is, of course, the Minister.

Therefore, in April 2006, in light of the recurring concern that Mr Gauld's dual role of Minister of Carnwath and Local Councillor was exacerbating existing problems and with an eye to the 2007 Local Elections, the Presbytery's Business Committee reminded all Ministers of their responsibilities under Act IV 2001: to seek Presbytery's permission before standing for public office. Mr Gauld has never at any time in the last twelve years sought or been given such permission. In February 2007, because the forthcoming Local Elections were now imminent, the Congregational Support Committee of Presbytery (previously Superintendence and Records) again reminded Presbyters of the obligations placed on Ministers and Deacons in regard to holding public office by Act IV: that is to say their requirement to inform the Presbytery of their intention to stand and thus seek Presbytery's approval. To this end, Presbytery instructed any Minister who intended to stand to inform the Clerk in writing by 16th February 2007. Mr Gauld provided a written but indirect response on 16th February which failed to clarify his position. On 6th March 2007, Presbytery declared the dual roles incompatible and resolved to proceed in terms of Act IV 3(1)(b). Mr Gauld still refused to declare his intention to stand until pressed on the floor of Presbytery and even then did so very reluctantly on 27th March 2007. Therefore, on 13th April 2007 [as per para 3(1)(b) of Act IV], representatives of the Presbytery's Ministries Committee and Congregational Support Committee met with Mr Gauld and then with representatives of the Congregation of Carnwath to consult on the possible outcomes of Act IV and to hear if the Minister or the Congregation had a persuasive argument against the Presbytery's decision or a practical alternative suggestion to allow Mr Gauld to continue in the dual role. No such argument was presented.

The two Committees then held a joint meeting on the 17th April 2007 to explore further any other possibilities allowed by the Act. Local knowledge of the lack of Congregational and Presbyterian resources to enable any alternative Ministerial support and a belief that the interests of the Congregation would be best served by Mr Gauld's focused attention, led to the conclusion that the only possible reasonable conclusion that Presbytery could reach was to act according to 3(1)(b)(ii). The Presbytery was so advised by the joint report of the Congregational Support and Ministries Committees. Hence the decision on 1st May 2007 that the Charge of Carnwath should be declared vacant should Mr Gauld be re-elected on 3rd May 2007.

- 1 (i) To point out that Mr Gauld has held the dual role of Local Councillor while discharging his duties as Parish Minister in Carnwath for 12 years is not the same as saying that he has done so successfully nor is it to say that a situation that existed in the past is still desirable or acceptable. Without wishing to comment on Mr Gauld's record as a Local Councillor, based on the background detailed above, it is the Presbytery's belief and understanding that, given the circumstances prevailing in Carnwath at the present time, the two roles are incompatible. Indeed the Presbytery believes that these problems have worsened over the last 12 years until they have more recently reached a crisis point.
- 1 (ii) As already stated, it is an erroneous assertion that that the proceedings under Act IV 2001 were triggered by the Report to Presbytery of the Visiting Team; received by Presbytery in March 2007. This Dissent and Complaint unfortunately attempts to conflate two sets of proceedings. As a result of the Visiting Team Report that Mr Gauld refers to, the Presbytery determined to take action under Act I 1988 anent Congregations in an Unsatisfactory State. As stated this Report was the follow up to a previous Quinquennial Report that was less than satisfactory and was received by Presbytery in February 2006. The 2006 Report highlighted clear and present problems within the Congregation, the leadership and the fabric of the Parish of Carnwath. The office bearers, with the help of Presbytery via Assessor Elders and direct intervention from various Committees of Presbytery and the General Trustees, were given time to begin to remedy the situation and a follow up visit was instructed. This was undertaken in October/November 2006 and the result is the report which Mr Gauld cites here, received by Presbytery in February 2007. This Report, along with considerable previously existing evidence, triggered proceedings under Act I 1988 – not Act IV 2001. When it became clear that Act IV 2001 was to be played out to its conclusion, and in the interests of fairness, the Presbytery sisted proceedings under Act I until such time as the outcome of this present Dissent and Complaint is known.
- (1) (iii) and (iv) As argued above, when explaining the basis of Presbytery's decision to proceed under Act IV, The Visiting Team Report was not the basis of these proceedings. Contrary to Mr Gauld's assertion that he was not offered a full opportunity 'to respond to the allegations made in the Report of the Visiting Team or make representations on its content and conclusions', he was invited in writing by the Congregational Support Committee to do precisely that at their February meeting prior to its presentation to Presbytery on 6th March 2007.⁷ Furthermore, since this Report gave rise to proceedings under Act I 1988 it is through those offices that Mr Gauld will have the opportunity to 'respond to the allegations made in the [2007] Report' and deal fully and frankly with its content and conclusions since under that Act a Committee of Inquiry will investigate *de novo*. At the moment, though, pending the outcome of proceedings under Act IV, Act I proceedings have been sisted.

What brought matters to a head with regard to Act IV was the proximity of the local elections and the fact that Mr Gauld felt that he did not need to seek Presbytery's permission to stand for re-election as Local Councillor: despite Presbytery's clear and timeous advice that he must and despite the worsening situation in his Parish and Congregation and despite the fact that the Presbytery was about to instruct a Committee of Inquiry under Act I. This meant that the Presbytery was left in the position of having to decide either to turn a blind eye to Mr Gauld's presumed intention to carry on in a dual role which had for some considerable time been identified as problematic or to act prior to the election. In choosing to make this determination under Act IV 2001 regarding the compatibility of the dual roles prior to the election Presbytery ensured that Mr Gauld and his Congregation knew the Presbytery's mind. Even now, the Presbytery still believes that were Mr Gauld to focus his attention on giving the concentrated and determined leadership that his Congregation and Parish need a productive way forward could be found. The Presbytery does not believe that this is possible while Mr Gauld is employed as a Local Councillor as well as the Parish Minister.

⁷ Appendix II letter dated 5th Feb 2007

While acknowledging that there is some inevitable crossover between the background to Act IV and the background to any proceedings which may follow under Act I, the Presbytery believes the specific matter of the compatibility of the dual roles and the desirability of the Minister holding them and the more general matter of the satisfactory state of the Congregation, can and should be handled separately. Severance of the pastoral tie is not a necessary outcome of either proceeding and, in fact, handling them separately and addressing this particular issue could well have assisted in making the proceedings of the Committee of Inquiry under Act I much more pastoral and therapeutic in outcome for both Congregation and Minister – that is now a moot point.

In the meantime, since we are actually dealing with a Dissent and Complaint against the Presbytery's decisions under Act IV 2001, the Presbytery will focus on matters specifically related to Act IV.

- (1) (v) There is nothing in Church Law to preclude two processes being run in parallel: particularly in this case as Act I refers to the state of the Congregation and Act IV to the Minister holding dual roles contrary to the stated wishes of Presbytery. Nevertheless, in the interests of fairness, Presbytery has sisted proceedings under Act I 1988 until the outcome of these Act IV proceedings are known.

Meanwhile, the Presbytery is not asserting that Mr Gauld's involvement in public office has had a causal effect in creating the problems currently faced by the Congregation. Rather, the Presbytery is arguing that, with circumstances as they are, the dual roles are not currently compatible if the problems are to be worked through to a satisfactory resolution in the future. Furthermore, it must be noted that Mr Gauld intended to stand for re-election. In other words, his term of office was about to come to an end and a new one commenced should he be re-elected. Presbytery acted for the avoidance of doubt or confusion: if Mr Gauld was to be re-elected it was to be without the approval of Presbytery. Had matters described elsewhere in this Response come to a head, say, in the middle of a term of office then there would have been less urgent reason to invoke Act IV.

That said, there is no question of circumventing one process by another. In light of the close proximity of a local election, the Presbytery believes that, in the matter of the dual roles, when the two roles had been deemed incompatible and therefore permission to proceed to election would not to be forthcoming, Presbytery could not allow a situation where conditional permission or implicit permission appeared to be offered. Presbytery acted accordingly and has since sisted proceedings under Act I 1988 precisely to avoid any confusion of the two processes in the mind of Mr Gauld, his Congregation or his Parish.

- (1) (vi) The Presbytery took the view that the decision on the 6th of March 2007 was part of an ongoing process and the ultimate decision against which a Dissent and Complaint should be raised would be a decision to act under 3(1)b(ii) of Act IV 2001 should the Presbytery agree that this was appropriate and proportionate and Mr Gauld then be re-elected. The Deliverance of Presbytery in terms of Act IV 2001 on the 6th of March 2007 was that the dual role of Parish Minister and local councillor are currently incompatible in the circumstances prevailing in the Congregation and Parish of Carnwath. This led to the decision on the 27th March to proceed under 3(1)(b). Following on from the consultation, and Mr Gauld's insistence on standing for re-election, the Joint Report of the Congregational Support and Ministries Committees to Presbytery on 1st May contained the consequent deliverance under 3(1)(b)(ii) that the charge should be declared vacant should Mr Gauld be re-elected. The Presbytery took the view that the May 1st deliverance was not an inevitability: at any stage between March 6th and the elections of May 3rd Mr Gauld could have decided not to stand at all, to demit his charge and stand, have failed to be selected by constituency party, or indeed failed to be elected. In the event, Mr Gauld was selected and chose to stand. Having made his choice, and the Presbytery having stated its position on the possible outcomes of that choice, Mr Gauld had the opportunity on no less than three occasions to demonstrate the compatibility of the dual roles and persuade the Presbytery that it was incorrect in its understanding: first at the 6th March meeting prior to which he received by recorded delivery a letter informing him that the Congregational Support

Committee would be asking Presbytery to proceed in terms of Act IV 2001; the second occasion was during the consultation with representatives of the Ministries and Congregational Support Committees; the third occasion was at the Presbytery meeting of 1st May 2007. Again Mr Gauld was provided with copies of the proposed Deliverances well in advance of that meeting. Consequently, Mr Gauld appeared at the May meeting with a proposed counter deliverance which was debated and which fell to an overwhelming majority.⁸

It is clear, therefore, that Presbytery fully discharged its responsibility to allow Mr Gauld opportunity for representation both according to the letter and spirit of the legislation. That he did not respond or make representations on some occasions nor convince the Presbytery on the occasions when he did respond and make representations was not due to lack of opportunity afforded to him.

- (1) (vii) The Presbytery notes the apparent support for Mr Gauld. Nevertheless, this support should not disguise the fact that there are serious problems facing the community and Congregation of Carnwath which the Presbytery believe need the full and undivided attention of the Minister if there is to be any hope of a satisfactory resolution in the future. The Presbytery would question whether the people supporting Mr Gauld, or indeed his Congregation or even all of his office bearers are fully aware of the extent of the problems that the Congregation faces. Once again, the Presbytery is not saying that the dual roles have had a causal effect in creating these problems, but it is saying that, in Presbytery's opinion, fully aware as it is of the extent of the problems, that it deems the dual roles to be incompatible at this present time.
- (1) (viii) While it may have been competent for the Presbytery to act by declaring the two roles compatible and keeping the matter under review according to 3(2) of Act IV, it was also competent for the Presbytery to judge the two roles to be incompatible and keep that decision under review in accordance with 3(2) if the Presbytery deemed this course of action appropriate. This is exactly what Presbytery has done. Far from failing to consider the option suggested in Mr Gauld's Dissent and Complaint, the Presbytery's Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee considered all of the possible options at the disposal including the possibility of acting according to 3(1)(b)(i) though local knowledge of lack of Congregational and Presbyterial Resources ruled this out. The issues were brought to a head because of the impending local elections on 3rd May 2007.

It was thought better to make Mr Gauld aware of the fact that Presbytery deemed the dual roles incompatible for the time being and that Mr Gauld, being under the discipline of Presbytery, faced a clear choice. The Presbytery felt that it was the fairest course of action to Mr Gauld to make this clear prior to the election, rather than act after Mr Gauld had perhaps been re-elected.

- (1) (ix) On the campaign that Mr Gauld has maintained with regard to the Glebe, it should be noted that this is a convoluted and problematic issue. Mr Gauld has for many years held out the sale of the Glebe as a panacea for all of the ills in Carnwath. The Presbytery and the General Trustees have been and remain significantly less sanguine about this. Nevertheless, negotiations have been taking place with the Trustees acting on behalf of the Congregation. Mr Gauld's 'campaign', however, has proved counterproductive. So much so that he has been requested by the General Trustees on more than one occasion and finally instructed by the Presbytery to have nothing more to do with the sale of the Glebe when the General Trustees' agents threatened to withdraw because Mr Gauld's activities in relation to the Glebe were jeopardising their work. Notwithstanding the possibility of a significant conflict of interest that the dual role created for Mr Gauld, the essential problem was that his dual role caused confusion and complication. The ultimatum from the General Trustees' agents came because Mr Gauld had failed to abide by the assurances that he had previously given the General Trustees to stay out of the negotiations. The instruction required him to stay out of the proceedings either in his capacity as Minister or local councillor. It is therefore difficult to see how this can be used as a coherent ground of appeal for allowing the dual role to continue.

⁸ Appendix I Reports XXXIII

Since Mr Gauld has been so instructed by Presbytery, for him to continue in this campaign would place him in contempt of Presbytery.⁹

- (1) (x) The Presbytery simply does not believe that the work of a Local Councillor in a rural area can be done within the weekly five hour limit. Previously Mr Gauld himself stated that at busy times his role as Councillor took up one and a half to two days per week. Likewise research done through conversations with other Local Councillors in the area, as well as an understanding of the number of Council Committees that Mr Gauld sits on, suggests otherwise. Furthermore, Mr Gauld suggests that it ‘... is the case that since the election the workload of his position of local councillor will be reduced, as additional SNP councillors have been elected.’ The Presbytery has yet to be have demonstrated to its satisfaction that there is a basis to this claim. Mr Gauld’s Ward was incorporated into a ‘Super-Ward’ covering an enormous area of rural Clydesdale and in this Ward there is in fact only one SNP Councillor (Mr Gauld) and two Conservative councillors.

Moreover, an issue over the remuneration for the office of local Councillor was raised by Presbytery. The salary of £15 452 is now attached to the Councillor’s office in recognition of the significant workload that the office entails. Therefore, in relation to Mr Gauld’s claims about a five-hour week, the Presbytery expressed its concern, from a moral and disciplinary point of view, about this level of remuneration for so little time spent doing the job. Likewise, and on a similar basis, the Presbytery found Mr Gauld’s assertion that he would redirect these funds for the employment of a pastoral assistant for only five hours per week somewhat difficult to accept.

- (1) (xi) The Presbytery is not saying that all ministries are incompatible with holding public office. The Presbytery is not even saying that Mr Gauld’s ministry and holding public office will always be incompatible. The Presbytery is saying that holding the public office of Local Councillor and being the Parish Minister of Carnwath, with the problems that Parish and Congregation are currently facing, is at the present time incompatible. The key phrase is ‘... at the present time’. The Presbytery is saying that, while the dual roles are currently incompatible, should Mr Gauld have chosen to heed his colleagues in Presbytery and focus on the Congregation’s problems and should the problems have been satisfactorily resolved, and should Mr Gauld have then chosen to stand again for public office, the Presbytery may well at that point take a different view and agree that the dual roles are compatible. Clearly that is now academic as Mr Gauld has chosen the course of action he has and set himself against the advice and wishes of Presbytery.

There is absolutely no inconsistency between saying that other Ministers may hold public office and stating that one person’s ministry makes holding public office problematic in their particular case. In fact, it is entirely consistent since each Presbytery must treat each application for permission to seek and hold such public office on its merits on a case by case basis.

- (2) (i) & (ii) The Presbytery is not clear what the Dissent and Complaint means by ‘... policy grounds require that the Deliverances of Presbytery be overturned’. The Presbytery has stated repeatedly why it believes that the two roles held by Mr Gauld are at present incompatible. That is not to say that Mr Gauld may not have done good work in the past as a councillor – that may be true. But the problems facing the Congregation and Parish at present demand that the Minister should concentrate his efforts on his Congregation and Parish. The Presbytery in its judgement believes that they are in need of strong, focused spiritual leadership in the face of these problems. Under the circumstances, the Presbytery could not vaunt Mr Gauld as an exemplary model of the way in which the church might engage with the world.

If there is a policy decision to be made, rather than looking to a research document, it might more profitably be drawn from the Ordination Vows that Mr Gauld took and which were reaffirmed at his Induction to Carnwath. That is to say that his first priority at all times must be the spiritual and pastoral welfare of the people given into his care and which placed him, as their Minister, under the discipline of Presbytery. If any other priority, such as an extra parochial

⁹ Appendix II various Letters From The General Trustees and Appendix I Report XXVIII

appointment or office, comes between a Minister and the priority that is the spiritual and pastoral welfare of the people given into their care then the Minister must surely choose which one to follow. The Presbytery believes that at this time in their history his people need Mr Gauld to be their pastor and leader as he was called to be. The Presbytery therefore asked Mr Gauld to choose whether the spiritual and pastoral welfare of his people is at present best served by him as their Minister or their councillor and act accordingly.

June 2007 Appendix B**Membership of Committees**

The Following is the proposed list of convenors and members of each committee for 2007-08.

Congregational Development Committee

Rev Bryan Kerr (Convenor)	Mrs Jean Morton	Mrs Anna Aitken	Mr Iain Roper-Caldbeck
Rev Roy Cowieson	Rev Sarah Ross	Rev David Easton	Mrs Moira White
Mrs Betty McLeod	Mrs Irene Williams		

Resources Committee

Rev Dr Jim Francis (Convenor)	Mrs Janette Rae	Mr Donald Barrie	Rev Steven Reid
Rev David Carmichael	Mrs Betty Smith	Mr Ewan Easton	Mr Stewart Toy
Mr Cameron Morton	Mr Robert Tweedie	Mr Tom Neilson	Mr Colin Young

Congregational Support Committee

Rev Helen Jamieson (Convenor)	Mr Willie MacSween	Rev Harry Findlay	Rev Margaret Muir
Mrs Elizabeth Hiddleston	Mrs Fiona Sandeman	Mrs Anna Lumsden	Mrs Ellen Young
Rev Dr Graham Houston	Rev John Stewart	Mr Alexander McPhee	

World and Community Issues Committee

Rev Iain Cunningham (Convenor)	Mr David MacTaggart	Mrs Mary Barclay	Rev Aileen Robson
Rev Susan Cowell	Mr Sandy Russell	Mr Jim McLaren	Mrs Maira Sommerville
Mr Peter McLeish	Mrs Jennifer Worthington		

Ministries Committee

Rev Alison Meikle (Convenor)	Mr David Hodgson	Rev Anne McIvor	Mr Robert Carson
Mr Thomas Smith	Mrs Helen Chekansky	Rev John Turnbull	Rev Beverley Gauld
Mr Andrew Brown (Depute Convenor)	Mrs Ruth Campbell		

Business Committee

Mr Robert Carson (Convenor)	Mrs Anna Lumsden	Mr Andrew Brown	Mrs Irene Williams
Rev Alison Meikle (Moderator)	Rev Roy Cowieson	Rev Ian Watson (Depute Clerk)	
Rev James Cutler (Clerk)	Rev Dr Graham Houston		

June 2007 Appendix C

Dates of Presbytery and Committee Meetings

The proposed dates for meetings of Presbytery and Presbytery Committees are as follows:-

Presbytery Meetings

4 September 2007	2 October 2007 (Abington)	6 November 2007	4 December 2007
5 February 2008 (Carluke)	4 March 2008	1 April 2008	6 May 2008
17 June 2008			

Meetings of Committees

21 August 2007	18 September 2007	23 October 2007	20 November 2007
22 January 2008	19 February 2008	11 March 2008 *	22 April 2008
3 June 2008			

All meetings to be held at 7:00pm and in St Nicholas' Church Halls, Lanark unless otherwise stated.

* Date of Committee Meetings in March is changed because of Holy Week.

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 September 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Dr Graham Houston, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers, 21 elders and 2 corresponding members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson; Rev Anne McIvor; Rev Ian Watson; Rev Philip Jones; and Rev Jack Stewart, Ministers, and Fiona Sandeman, Elizabeth Hiddleston, Anna Lumsden, David Hodgson, David McTaggart, Tom Neilson, Tom Smith and Stewart Toy; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Election and Installation of the Moderator

The Presbytery elected Rev Alison Meikle as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2007/08. Rev Dr Graham Houston welcomed Mrs Meikle and installed her as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited her to take the chair. The new Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing her, and also thanked Dr Houston for his service in his year as Moderator

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 June 2007, were held as read and approved

Introduction of Visitors from Korea

Rev Ian Cunningham, convenor of the Presbytery's Committee on World and Community Issues introduced 7 visitors from Seoul East Presbytery, PROK. They were:

Rev. Kim, Chung-Sup – pastor of Sungil Church and Moderator of the Presbytery

Rev. Choi, Pu-Ock – Chairperson of Overseas Mission Committee, East Seoul Presbytery and pastor of Yangmuri Church

Mrs. Oh, Sang-kun – wife of Rev. Choi

Rev. Kim, Young-Hwa – pastor of Poyee Church and formerly Chairperson of Overseas Mission Committee, East Seoul Presbytery

Rev. Lee, Joong-tek – pastor of Hanjin Jungang Church

Mr. Yi, Kae-tong – Elder of Youngmoon Church and Secretary of Overseas Mission Committee, East Seoul Presbytery.

Mr. Choo, Byoong-kook – Elder of Shinsadong Church and Previous Vice Moderator of PROK

The Moderator welcomed the visitors and invited the Moderator of Seoul East Presbytery, Rev. Kim, Chung-Sup to address the Presbytery. With the help of their translator Mr. Yi, Kae-tong, Rev. Kim brought the greetings of his Presbytery and presented a gift to Dr Houston and to Mrs Meikle who reciprocated with a gift to him.

Rev Iain Cunningham presented the following as a **draft** agreement between the Presbytery of East Seoul, PROK and the Presbytery of Lanark:

Seoul East Presbytery, PROK and the Presbytery of Lanark agree, in the love of Jesus Christ, and in mutual respect, that:

1. Both Presbyteries will work together for the mission of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ.
2. Both Presbyteries will maintain constant contact with each other to promote better understanding and solidarity.
3. Both Presbyteries will encourage all the Presbytery members to share and work together, acknowledging that they are deeply involved in the partnership.
4. Each Presbytery will finance its share for any exchange programs, and can modify its share through discussions, if necessary.
5. Both Presbyteries will serve one another other in the Holy Spirit, believing it is in harmony with God's will for them to be partners in the mission.

Rev Iain Cunningham proposed the following deliverance:

Presbytery: approve the draft agreement on partnership between Seoul East Presbytery, PROK, and Lanark Presbytery, Church of Scotland.

The Deliverance was approved

A copy of the draft agreement was signed by:

Rev. Kim, Chung-Sup, Moderator of Seoul East Presbytery, PROK

Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator of Presbytery of Lanark

Rev. Choi, Pu-ok, Chairperson, Overseas Mission Committee, Seoul East Presbytery, PROK

Rev. Iain D. Cunningham, Convener of World & Community Issues Committee, Presbytery of Lanark

The Moderator thanked Mr Cunningham, the Members of the World and Community Issues Committee and all those who had supplied hospitality to the visitors from Korea.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The current newsletter has been received from Broken Rites
2. The Ministries Council are to hold various courses or conferences
 - Discerning Direction and Navigating Transitions – in 4 places during September, October and November
 - Renewing our Ministries 3 - 5 February 2008 in Dundee
 - A Conference for Chaplaincies – 13 November
 - Health and Healing Conference is to take place at Carberry on 12 – 14 November
 - Course for elders who could serve as Interim Moderator – the presbytery has to nominate, so any elders who are interested should inform the Ministries Convenor
3. A pack containing information on 'Human Trafficking' has been received from The Guild
4. Rev David Brian Dobby, a Minister in the Methodist Church in England has applied to become a Minister of the Church of Scotland
5. Mission and Discipleship have inquired about the state of our Plans for Emergency situations. This will be taken up by the Business Committee
6. More information concerning Treasurers and the Charities Regulator has been received from the Solicitor of the Church
7. A one day event for those who wish to conduct All Age Worship is to be given by Rev Jock Stein and is to take place in the Renfield Centre, Glasgow on 3 November from 10:00am – 4:30pm
8. The Principal Clerk is organising a course for lawyers who wish to know more about Church Law – 19 & 26 September
9. The Scottish Churches Parliamentary Office have invited applications for the employment of a part time research assistant
10. The 2008 allocations for congregations have been received from Stewardship & Finance and are now in the hands of the Resources Convenor. S & F are also to have area meetings about these allocations and treasurers have been informed about them.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

12. Receive the report
13. Homologate the decision to appoint Rev John Turnbull as Interim Moderator at Carnwath until 17 September 2007
14. Following consultations with the Principal Clerk and the Council of Ministries appoint Rev Iain Goring as Interim Moderator at Carnwath from 17 September 2007 if the Minister at Carnwath is still off ill after that date. (Pulpit Supply, Weddings and Funerals etc. will be arranged by the Clerk and Rev Dr Jim Francis)
15. Following the illness of Rev Harry Findlay, appoint Rev Ian Watson as the Interim Moderator at Douglas Valley.
16. Approve the change to Standing Order Number 3. The first sentence to read: "The Presbytery shall meet for ordinary business, at a venue to be determined by Presbytery, on the first Tuesday of September, October, November, December, February, March, April and May at 7:00 pm."
17. Approve the allocation of Remits from the General Assembly to the Presbytery Committees as detailed as follows.

Committee	Remit	Page	Section	Report Date
Congregational Support	Act V 2007 anent Discrimination	3	20	06/11/07
Resources	Environmental Energy Assessment	4	27	04/12/07
Ministries	Local Ordained Ministry	5	3	04/12/07
Business	Special Comm, Structure & Change	7	3	02/10/07
Congregational Development	Safeguarding Committee	7	4	06/11/07
Congregational Support	Panel on Review and Reform	8	3	04/12/07

The Deliverance was approved

Having been asked about the situation at Carnwath, the Clerk informed the Presbytery that because the Minister at Carnwath, Rev B Gauld has been off ill since 26 June, the Committee of Inquiry appointed by the Commission of Assembly and to report to the Commission prior to the hearing of the Appeal lodged by Mr Gauld concerning Act IV 2001, has been unable to complete its report. Consequently the hearing of the Commission of Assembly scheduled for 14 September has been postponed until Mr Gauld is well again.

After discussion Rev Brian Kerr proposed the following additional Section to the Deliverance of the Business Committee: 'Note serious concerns regarding support given to the Presbytery by the Ministries Council with respect to the situation at Carnwath and if necessary, following a review of the situation in November, instruct the Clerk to write to the Ministries Council detailing these concerns.'

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Congratulate the minister and office bearers of Cairngryffe and Symington for their vision and hard work in following up the recommendations of the 2004 Quinquennial visitation
3. Commend the strengthened and developing relationship between Cairngryffe and Symington and encourage the Minister and office bearers to continue to implement their development plans
4. Commend Rev Graham Houston, office bearers and congregations of Cairngryffe linked with Symington to the prayers of the Presbytery
5. Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of this report and deliverance pertaining to Cairngryffe linked with Symington to the Session Clerks of the respective congregations
6. Appoint the under noted visiting teams to conduct Quinquennial Visitations
Glencaple linked with Lowther – Rev Graham Houston, Rev Aileen Robson Mrs Fiona Sandeman and Mr Willie Macsween
Carluke: St John's – Rev Jim Francis and Rev Sarah Ross, Mrs Anna Lumsden, Mr Alex McPhee
Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank – Rev Ian Watson, Rev Margaret Muir, Mrs Liz Hiddleston, and Mr Andrew Brown
7. Instruct the Visiting teams to plan their visits for January/February 2008 and to ensure that their report is in the hands of the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee by the end of March 2008
8. Instruct Presbytery Elders to ensure that the Questionnaire regarding Quinquennial visitations is discussed by their Kirk Session and to provide a report on the discussion to the Congregational Support Committee Convener by the end of October 2007

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis. Dr Francis referred to the following

1. The statutory responsibility to make returns to OSCR
2. The new Accounts format required by the Charity Accounts regulations.

The Presbytery is asked to note the following and ensure that congregational treasurers are aware of these matters.

OSCR Annual Return Form and Supplementary Return Form

The General Treasurers office has passed on the following information: 'It is mandatory for all congregations to submit a return along with an originally signed copy of the accounts within **ten months of the year end** which for most congregations will be by 31 October 2007. This advice supersedes the previous instruction not to submit returns and comes with guidance notes.' Each congregational treasurer should have received these notes, if they have not please contact Jim Francis and let him know.

New Accounts Format

As previously advised congregation accounts for the year ended 31 December 2007 will have to be in a new format in order to comply with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Sample formats together with guidance notes are enclosed. There are two formats available; Receipts and Payments Accounts or Accrued (SORP compliant) Accounts.

A congregation **must** prepare accrued accounts if its annual gross income exceeds £100,000. The Committee **recommends** that a congregation should prepare accrued accounts if its annual gross income exceeds £90,000 **or** if the congregation is likely to be involved in major fund raising or other specific activity which will result in its annual gross income exceeding £100,000 in the near future. Annual gross income includes all income of a congregation (excluding income received as capital funds) including income of restricted funds (such as fabric fund, or a legacy) and also income of organisations operating under the charity number of the congregation.

To help with this change the General Treasurers Department will be offering training workshop for Congregational Treasurers and other interested parties. The Presbytery of Lanark will be holding its own training workshop on the evening of the October Committee night i.e. Tuesday 23 October 2007. All congregational Treasurers will be invited to attend.

Dr Francis moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

20. Receive the report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve Readers within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery be presented to Presbytery at October meeting
3. Approve Mr Tom Smith to be considered as a Potential Church Assessor, and urge members of Presbytery to ask elders to consider the important role of Church Assessor and forward names to the Ministries Convenor by Sept 18 2007
4. In the event of Rev B Gauld's continued sick leave, Presbytery approves the advertisement for and appointment of an Interim Chaplain at the State Hospital, Carstairs, and that all applications should be with the Convenor of the Ministries Committee by September 18
5. Instruct all Chaplains to Hospitals within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery to submit their annual report to Ministries Convenor by 18 September 2007
6. Thank Rev Dr J Francis and Rev A McIvor for organising the annual retreat

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 18 September 2007:

All Committees except Congregational Support will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 2 October 2007 at 7.00 pm at Glencaple Parish Church (Abington)

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Glencaple (Abington), on Tuesday 2 October 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Glencaple Parish Church, Abington, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers, 23 elders and 3 corresponding members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Helen Jamieson; Rev Harry Findlay, Rev Dr Jim Francis and Rev Steven Reid, Ministers, and Anna Lumsden, Mary Barclay, Tom Smith and Stewart Toy; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 September 2007, were held as read and approved

Report from Delegates to Youth Assembly and Children's Assembly

Presbytery welcomed representatives from the National Youth Assembly (Laura Jane Sinclair, Susan Carruthers and Sara Gilchrist) and the National Children's Assembly (Nicola Aitken). Bryan Kerr, convenor of Congregational Development Committee interviewed the representatives and Presbytery heard about the events and also the hopes that each had for the Church. Presbytery were encouraged to hear that as well as enjoying the events and the fact that they would go back again, each of the representatives enthused about their own congregations and the ways in which they are involved. The Moderator thanked the representatives and wished them well in their congregations and at future events they choose to go to.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Charities regulator has written to us asking all congregations to tidy-up the names which congregations want to be known as
2. The Council of Ministers has informed the Presbytery that all but one Presbytery has a Presbytery Plan and asking that we keep it up-to-date with our yearly review and also the review of Church Buildings which the Ministries Committee has embarked upon
3. The Ministries Council has informed the Presbytery that Rev Geoff McKee has intimated his resignation as Chaplain at Roadmeetings Hospital. This has been passed to our Ministries Committee to deal with
4. NHS Lanarkshire have informed the Presbytery that Mr Bob Devenny has been appointed to the post of Head of Spiritual Care for NHS Lanarkshire
5. The Cairngorm Christian Centre has sent a Newsletter
6. The Ministries Council have asked the Presbytery to supply the Council with a list of all non-parochial appointments held by Ministers in the Presbytery. This has been forwarded to our Ministries Committee
7. Ministries Council have informed the Presbytery that Rev Roy Cowieson has successfully completed the supported phase of his Ministry in Carluke. He's been supported by the other Ministers in Carluke: Rev Helen Jamieson and Rev Iain Cunningham
8. Mr Alex McPhee has informed the Presbytery that his Telephone Number in the Presbytery Handbook is not correct – it is 01555 895669
9. The Nominations Committee have asked the Presbytery to nominate Ministers and Elders to the various Councils and Committees of the General Assembly. This should be done through the Business Committee
10. Rev Beverley Gauld has written to the Presbytery concerning the Chaplaincy at the State Hospital, Carstairs. This has been passed to the Ministries Committee

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

18. Receive the report
19. Approve the response to the report of the Special Commission on Structure and Change and instruct the Presbytery Clerk to forward the response to "121" by the 31 October 2007, with a slight alteration on page 4 suggested by Rev John Turnbull.
20. Agree that Mrs Jessie Bryce may make a presentation on the Church of Scotland's Parish Development fund at the Presbytery meeting on the 5 February 2008.
21. Agree that Ms Eildon Dyer may make a presentation on behalf of Christian Aid at the Presbytery meeting on the 4 March.
22. Note that Rev B Gauld's period of absence due to ill health will continue until at least 17 November 2007.
23. Thank the Minister, Kirk Session and Members of Glencaple Parish Church for their welcome, hospitality and for their hosting of the Presbytery Meeting.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Welcome the contribution of the youth delegates and children's delegate from the National Assemblies and encourage them in their work within their own congregations
3. Encourage all Kirk Sessions to send representatives to the elder's evening on 30 October 2007 in the Harry Smith Complex, Lanark
4. Note the child protection training to take place in St. John's Church, Carluke on 27 November 2007 and that co-ordinators should contact Rev Sarah Ross to book places
5. Encourage congregations to appoint and to send a prayer promoter to the conference taking place on 9 October at 7:30pm in Glencaple Church Hall

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr David Hodgson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the reports of the Hospital Chaplains and Instruct the Clerk to forward them to the Chaplaincy Convenor of the Ministries Council.
3. Note the advertisement for a part-time sessional chaplain at Roadmeetings Hospital for 1.75 sessions, and that applications should be with the ministries committee convenor with 2 references by 23 October 2007.
4. Note the re-advertisement for a part-time sessional chaplain at Lady Home Hospital for 1.75 sessions and applications should be with the ministries committee convenor by 23 October 2007.
5. Instruct the remaining part-time sessional hospital chaplains to submit their annual report to Ministries Convenor by 23 October 2007.
6. Approve B Kerr to organise the minister's retreat for 2008 with one other Minister
7. Appoint Rev Bryan Kerr as the new interim chaplain covering Carstairs State Hospital for the term of Rev B Gauld's sick leave, beginning on 3 October 2007.
8. Approve the readers within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery be presented to Presbytery on 6 November 2007

A further section to this deliverance was proposed by the Rev Dr Graham Houston and seconded by the Clerk which read:

9. Express appreciation of those Ministers and Elders who have been involved in supporting the families and leading services following the recent tragic helicopter crash near Lanark, and commend the bereaved to the comfort and care of Almighty God and his Church

This new section was approved as was the Deliverance as a whole

Report of World and Community Issues Committee (Church and Society Council)

A Report was submitted by Dr Sinclair Scott concerning the Church and Society Conference 2007 which took place on Saturday, 15 September at the Gateway Centre, University of St. Andrews

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report and thank Dr Scott for his attendance at the conference

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Mr Robert Tweedie.

Mr Colin Young, the Presbytery's Treasurer was invited to present the Presbytery Budget for the ensuing year.

Mr Robert Tweedie moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the Ministries and Missions Allocations for 2008
3. Instruct Congregational Treasurers to lodge any appeals together with grounds of appeal, in writing, to the Convener by the evening of 24 October 2006
4. Encourage Presbytery Elders to circulate to their Congregational Treasurers, financial courts and to their wider congregation the document entitled 'Where the Money Goes'
5. Note the seminar on the new Congregational Accounting procedures and encourage congregational treasurers and other interested parties to attend
6. Receive the report of the ITEC Committee
7. Commend the former ITEC committee for the good work done on Presbytery's behalf

8. Agree that computers should be replaced every four years and printers every 5 years unless there is a pressing need to do so at an earlier time
9. Note that there will be a budget requirement of £1 per member from 2009 onwards and have this fact communicated, by the Clerk, to all congregational treasurers
10. Agree to the new conditions relating to the removal, or purchase, of computers from Presbytery
11. Instruct the Clerk to make necessary changes to the Presbytery's Policy on the Stewardship of Cyberspace in order to incorporate the agreed changes in ITEC policy and practice
12. Receive the Presbytery Budget Paper noting the impact of the work of the ITEC and the Presbytery Treasurer with regard to Presbytery Dues
13. Approve the Presbytery's Budget for 2008

Congregation	03 - 05 Average Income	04 - 06 Average Income	2007 Actual Allocation	2008 Proposed Allocation	Presbytery Adjusted Allocation
Biggar	73 608	74 802	48 142	45 371	45 062
Carluk: Kirkton	93 793	97 505	62 000	60 128	59 819
Carluk: St Andrews	49 485	48 821	29 000	28 483	27 174
Carluk: St John's	82 980	79 952	52 500	48 718	48 409
Carnwath	44 358	44 487	26 231	25 666	25 357
Coalburn	17 087	17 336	7 990	7 841	7 332
C'stairs & C'stairs Jcn	46 352	47 151	24 759	26 987	24 450
Crossford	28 472	28 434	15 716	15 166	14 807
Culter	14 353	13 806	6 170	5 511	5 201
Douglas Valley	53 899	55 474	24 100	26 269	23 791
Blackmount	17 989	19 260	7 570	8 251	7 808
Glencaple	38 160	37 747	22 796	21 285	20 976
Forth St Paul's	53 780	54 176	29 892	31 964	30 136
Kirkfieldbank	18 398	18 810	8 683	8 814	8 505
Kirkmuirhill	99 132	109 146	65 000	67 237	65 021
Lanark: St Nicholas	83 292	86 258	54 138	52 817	51 187
Lanark: Greyfriars	80 832	85 531	50 775	52 345	52 036
Law	39 136	38 415	21 118	21 719	21 410
L'hagow Abbeygreen	75 894	77 746	49 799	47 284	46 975
L'hagow: Old	56 903	64 612	33 135	36 117	34 225
Libberton & Q'uan	14 873	13 419	3 646	3 974	3 665
Symington	31 573	37 040	17 800	19 402	18 093
Lowther	9 080	9 586	2 606	2 841	2 532
Cairngryffe	36 285	36 392	21 167	20 404	20 095
Total			684 773	684 595	664 057

The Rev Brian Kerr proposed an addendum to section 6 of the deliverance in the following terms:

6. Receive the report of the ITEC Committee *'with the exception of the last paragraph of the report and urge the Committee to reinvestigate the provision of IT support within the Presbytery.'*

This Addendum was approved by the Presbytery as was the Deliverance as a whole

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 23 October 2007

All Committees except Congregational Support will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on 6 November 2007 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 November 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers, 22 elders and 3 corresponding members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Anne McIvor; Minister, and Ruth Campbell, Betty Smith, Alex McPhee and David McTaggart; Elders; and Jean Morton; Corresponding member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of a tribute to the late Rev Bill McCormick

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2 October 2007, were held as read and approved

Tribute to Rev Bill McCormick

A tribute to Rev Bill McCormick, Retired Minister who had died recently, was paid by Rev Dr Graham Houston, after which the Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. An e-mail has been received from the Principal Clerk concerning the Presbytery's representative on the Presbyterian Panel for the next year. The Presbyterian Panel hears cases concerning Ministerial Misconduct. The Presbytery's representative has been Rev Margaret Muir for last 2 years and as there is a 3 year cycle this would be her last year
2. Attention was drawn to the new web pages on the Church's Web Site (noted on the papers)
3. The Rev Drs Groenewald (husband and wife) from Dutch Reformed Church in SA have applied to be ministers of Church of Scotland
4. Elizabeth Duffy of the Diocese of Motherwell has written to the Presbytery inviting us to forge links with the Diocese in Youth Work
5. The General Trustees have informed the Presbytery that North Lanarkshire Council has completed its new Local Plan
6. James Picardo has written to the Presbytery intimating that he represents Jubilee Scotland. This letter has been sent to Ministers for their information and if they want to lend support to it
7. The Presbytery of Glasgow has informed the Presbytery that it is seeking applications for the post of Presbytery Clerk of Glasgow Presbytery

Good News Stories

1. Rev Bryan Kerr informed the Presbytery about the New Lanark: Greyfriar's Web Site which is now up and running.
2. Rev Sarah Ross informed the Presbytery about Forth: St. Paul's recent outreach campaign called Your Village, Your Church. A professionally printed magazine telling people about church life was delivered to all the homes in the parish. A weekend event was held, where on the Saturday there were exhibitions with free tea and coffee and a 'Back to Church' service on the Sunday which was very well supported and church attendance greatly increased and has remained good since. This was followed up with a Holiday Club in the October break where on average 20+ children attended every day, some of whom have started attending Sunday School

Address – Rev Bob Devenny, Head of Spiritual Care for NHS Lanarkshire

The Moderator welcomed and introduced the Rev Bob Devenny, Head of Spiritual Care for NHS Lanarkshire to the Presbytery and invited him to address the Presbytery. Mr Devenny spoke of the many challenges which this new position in NHS Lanarkshire presented. NHS Lanarkshire has not had any full-time chaplaincies until the present time

The Moderator invited questions and comments after which she thanked Mr Devenny for his address and his presence at the Presbytery

Following Mr Devenny's address and on his advice the Rev Helen Jamieson proposed the following deliverance which was seconded by Rev Iain Cunningham:

1. Instruct the Clerk to write to the Chief Executive of NHS Lanarkshire urging adequate funding and resources for Spiritual Care within NHS Lanarkshire
2. Remit the above to the Ministries Committee for discussion and report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree to nominate for the General Assembly Councils and Committees, Rev Roy Cowieson for the Ministries Council, Rev Dr Graham Houston for the Publishing Committee and Rev Sarah Ross for the Ecumenical Relations Committee
3. Approve the appointment of Rev David Easton as Locum at Douglas Valley Churches
4. Presbytery: thank the Rev Bryan Kerr for his work in formulating and agreeing with congregations the names which they are to be known as for the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator and instruct the Clerk after further consultation with some congregations to forward these agreed names to the Solicitor of the Church

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev John Turnbull who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the report of the Hospital Chaplain to Kello Hospital and Instruct the Clerk to forward all the chaplains' reports to the Chaplaincy Convener of the Ministries Council
3. Note the re-advertisement for a part-time sessional chaplain at Roadmeetings Hospital for 1.75 sessions, and that applications should be with the Ministries Committee convener with 2 references by 20 November 2007
4. Note the re-advertisement for a part-time sessional chaplain at Lady Home Hospital for 0.9 sessions and applications should be with the ministries committee convener with 2 references by 20 November 2007
5. Approve the Vacancy Schedule for Douglas Valley Church and instruct the Clerk to forward it to the Ministries Council
6. Approve Revs B Kerr and A Robson to organise the 2008 Minister's Retreat

The Deliverance was approved

Presentation of Readers

Rev John Turnbull presented the Readers to the Presbytery: Mr Alan Grant and Mr Bill Love. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Robert Allan and Mrs Sheilah Kerr

The Moderator thanked those presented for their continuing work and assured them of its value within the Presbytery. She also assured them of the help and support of the Presbytery.

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Ministries and Missions and Renewal Allocations figures for 2008 and instruct the Clerk to transmit these approved figures to the General Treasurers' Department in Edinburgh by the deadline of 15 November 2007
3. Note the contents of the communication from the Congregational Board of Coalburn Parish Church and in line with the decision of the General Trustees and the conditions they have laid down, approve in principle the proposed sale of the strip of land
4. Grant powers to the Convener of the Resources Committee and the Presbytery Clerk to give final approval pending the satisfactory outcome of a site meeting at Coalburn

The Deliverance was approved

World and Community Issues Committee

The Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham presented a slide-show of the recent visit by representatives from East Seoul Presbytery (PROK) to Lanark Presbytery."

Mr Cunningham moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Thank all those who made possible the visit by representatives from East Seoul Presbytery (PROK) to Lanark Presbytery, in particular those who provided hospitality for the guests and the World Mission Council for financial assistance
2. Note the account of expenditure for the visit and agree that the small financial surplus be used towards expenses for the forthcoming World Mission Rally

3. Instruct the World & Community Issues Committee to make plans for a reciprocal visit to Seoul, South Korea, in 2008
 4. Note that the annual World Mission Rally will take place in Lanark: St. Nicholas Church on Wednesday 14 November at 7.30pm, the speaker to be Mr. Albert Chituka, Deputy Principal of Chipembe School in Zambia, and entertainment to be provided by RSAMD music students from the Korean Church in Glasgow
- The Rev Ian Watson moved the following additional section which was seconded by the Clerk
5. Instruct the Treasurer to offer a gift to those who hosted our guests from Korea at the rate of £50.00 per guest
- This new section was approved as was the deliverance as a whole**

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who referred to the following:

Overture Amending Act V 2007 anent Discrimination

The Presbytery took up discussion on the above Overture from the General Assembly which had been sent down to Presbyteries under the Barrier Act. After discussion a vote was taken, the result of which was:

0 for and 32 against

Mrs Jamieson then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

9. Receive the Report
10. Resolve to give further consideration to Act IV and Act V 2007 in the first instance by referring them to the Business Committee

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who referred the following:

1. The successful evening held for church leaders organised by the Congregational Development Committee in late October. Over 60 people attended when they thought about pastoral and bereavement care of the parish and how all can play their part. The committee was pleased with the response and will be organising similar events in 2008.
2. The Church Without Walls National Gathering which is to take place in Ingliston, Edinburgh on 3-4 May 2008. Congregations are being invited tell their stories of what is happening in their congregation and parish – sharing good news. Information has already been sent to Session Clerks with details of how to get involved. A fuller presentation will be made at the December Presbytery Meeting.

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 20 November 2007:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on 4 December 2007 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with a Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 December 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 ministers, 20 elders and 1 corresponding member

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs Sarah Ross and Roy Cowieson; Ministers, and Anna Aitken, Mary Barclay, Elizabeth Hiddleston, Moira White, Jennifer Worthington and Donald Barrie; Elders; and Mairi Somerville and Colin Young; Corresponding members

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 November 2007, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A letter was received from the Kirk Session at Symington concerning the Funeral of the late Rev Bill McCormick which was read together with the Clerk's reply.
2. The Mission and Discipleship Council have asked the Presbytery to consider its youth representation to the General Assembly of 2008
3. A newsletter has been received from Broken Rites
4. Menzieshill Parish Church, Dundee is having its event Juice '08 in March 2008 – leaflets are available.
5. Notification has been received from the Ministries Council that an Insurance Certificate has been received in respect of the Rev Beverley Gauld for 8 weeks which takes his absence to 7 January 2008
6. Christian Copyright Licence has informed the Presbytery of their new Website which has the words of songs which can be downloaded
7. The General Trustees have set up a new Website on Church Maintenance – leaflets are available.
8. An e-mail was received from Solicitor of the Church concerning Water Charges. It has been forwarded to Ministers in charges.

Good News Stories

3. Mr Tom Smith spoke of his attendance along with 3 other members of the Presbytery at the Ordination and Induction service to the charge of Dunbarney and Forgandenny in the Presbytery of Perth of Mr Allan Wilson. The service took place in the Chapel of Kilgraston Roman Catholic School for Girls
4. Mrs Anna Lumsden spoke of a Christmas leaflet which had been produced by the Lanark Churches for distribution throughout the town
5. The Clerk spoke of the attendance of the Moderator and himself at the service of rededication of the Church at Cairngryffe on Sunday 2 December after the alteration and refurbishment work there had been completed.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to the setting up of a panel of at least six persons to deal with matters arising under Acts IV and V 2007 and that these persons are appointed by and report to the Congregational Support Committee
3. Seek nominations from members of Presbytery, Kirk Sessions and Congregations to serve on the panel detailed in "2" above, such nominations to be with the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee by 22 January 2008
4. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and the Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought
5. Note that the Rev B Gauld's period of absence due to ill health will continue until at least 7 January 2008
6. Grant permission for the congregations in Lanark to have Joint Services on the 30 December 2007 and the 6 January 2008 and the congregations in Carluke to have a Joint Service on 6 January 2008

The Deliverance was approved

The Clerk spoke of a difficulty which had arisen at Carnwath and the following deliverance was proposed:

“Presbytery expresses its ongoing pastoral concern for the Rev B Gauld and the Parish of Carnwath. In the interest of clarity and fairness and in the best interest of Mr Gauld’s recovery Presbytery instruct that he must not make himself available for any pastoral or other ministerial duties, including the conduct of funerals, weddings, baptisms and the like until a graduated return to work programme is agreed with the Presbytery and the Ministries Council; and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract of this to Mr Gauld, the Session Clerk at Carnwath, the Local Undertakers, the Principal Clerk, the Interim Moderator, Rev Iain Goring, and the Ministries Council (J Chalmers and M Scott)”.

The Deliverance was approved by a vote being taken. There were 32 votes for and 1 against

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

Rev Ian Cunningham, convenor reported on the Presbytery’s World Mission Rally which took place on Wednesday 14 December at Lanark: St. Nicholas Church. He reported that while there was a very poor attendance at the event, it was very enjoyable and a very inspiring address was delivered by Mr. Albert Chituka, Deputy Principal of Chipembe School in Zambia.

Because of the poor attendance, the convenor asked the Presbytery to consider the future of this event in its calendar.

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Note that several people are willing to be accredited through the leading worship scheme authorised by Presbytery and encourage the committee in the final stage of the process for local worship leaders.
2. Encourage Kirk Sessions to send people who require child protection volunteer training to Coalburn Church on 12 February or the Gillespie Centre, Biggar on 27 May.
3. Note that plans for a second ‘You’re an Angel’ Course are underway and encourage Kirk Sessions to publicise the course amongst their membership and send people interested to attend
4. Invite Kirk Sessions to nominate young people between the ages of 18 – 25 (at the time of the General Assembly 2008) to be our representatives to the General Assembly in May 2008. Names to be in the hands of the convenor by the Committee Night in February

The Deliverance was approved

Church Without Walls National Gathering

Rev Bryan Kerr presented a Video Address concerning the Church without Walls National Gathering which is to take place at Ingliston, Edinburgh on 3 – 4 May 2008

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct the Clerk to transmit the Committee’s Report on the Panel on Review and Reform’s Questions on Superintendence (Appendix B) to Mr Richard Wallis, Convener Superintendence Working Group, Panel on Review and Reform.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery –*

1. Receive the report
2. Note the co-operation received from congregations in preparation of the Presbytery Plan.
3. Ask congregations still to be visited to co-operate in arranging visits to complete the questionnaire concerning the Presbytery Plan
4. Give powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Business Convenor to forward to the Council of Ministries any VAP’s to Carlisle: Kirkton and Kirkmuirhill, after they have been accepted by the congregation(s) timeously, preferably by 31 December 2007.
5. Approve the report of the Ministry Committee (Appendix A) on the consultation document from the Council of Ministries and instruct the Clerk to forward it to the Council of Ministries by 31 December 2007

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Note that the Congregational Accounts for 2006 meet the required standards for the Church of Scotland.
2. Thank and commend Treasurers for their diligence and hard work.
3. Thank and commend Colin Young for his work in support of the Presbytery
4. Instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the General Treasurer
5. Grant powers to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk, and Convenor of Resources Committee to deal with the application for funds from the Central Fabric Fund for the upgrading of the Access Road at Glencaple Parish Church

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 22 January 2008:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on 5 February 2008 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with a Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Presbytery of Lanark December 2007

APPENDIX A

Report of Ministries Committee – December 2007

The Ministries Committee has given full consideration to the report from the General Assembly 2007 on **Ministries Council Consultation with Presbyteries**. This document, which should be in the hands of all presbyters, has wide-ranging repercussions for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Church of Scotland.

Having read and discussed the contents of the document the Ministries Committee recognises the need for change in moving the Church forward into the 21st century but was not persuaded that what was being suggested was the way in which to move forward, although we did recognise that some form of local ministry would in some areas within our own Presbytery even be an advantage. The document as presented raises more question than it tries to answer and by its own admission recognises the need for further theological discussion to determine what qualifications are required for the Ordained Local Ministry. The document in the considered opinion of the committee misses an opportunity to develop the use of what is a key element of leadership in the church that of the ruling elder which, having acknowledged the role of eldership, then claims is beyond the scope of this report. This new position of OLM appears therefore to be the way forward for the church without consideration for the position of the Auxiliary Minister or Reader as being an opportunity to move the church forward in reaching out to those who need to hear the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments.

The Ministries Committee respond to section three with the following answers to the questions asked.

- 1 (a) So far as the full-time Ministry of Word and Sacrament is concerned, it is believed that the proposals would have the effect of creating a ministry so similar to it, that it would seriously detract from its standing and value in the Church's theological tradition.
 - (b) It would appear to be a reworking of much of what is already in place.
 - (c) At one level it may be appropriate that the role of Readership should continue. At another it is believed that the use of the Auxiliary Ministry would be more appropriate.
- 2 (a) The consultation document does not indicate how the existing Ministry of Word and Sacrament could or would be developed.
 - (b) The consultation document is proposing the demise of the Auxiliary Ministry, so how can it be developed?
 - (c) There is no indication of how those who remain in the position of Readership will be given training in the future.
- 3 (a) Can this idea be taken separately from the theology of ministry? Ministry is for the whole people of God; but there requires to be a calling from God. If this is a natural progression, then what about the call of God, ministers have received and had validated by the church and by the congregations? Are they true or not?
 - (b) The committee of 40 and the Panel of Doctrine both agree that ordination stresses a connection between ordination and oversight of congregations. The Panel on Doctrine has noted that "where there are multiple offices, tightly defined and regulated, with relatively small differences between them but large barriers in the way, you arguably have less flexibility. You have the fragmentation of the Church's ministry rather than its liberation."
- 4 (a) The flexibility of structures in ministry already exist (see 2.1.2). The wheel doesn't need to be reinvented to give it a new meaning.
 - (b) It could prove to be positive subject to the level of academic training being declared but with some other job title.
- 5 (a) It is believed that they would make no difference for enhancing the mission in the church locally or at Presbytery level. The same would be true also for 5 (b).
- 6 (a) It is believed that if we were to have OLM then they should be Members of Presbytery.
 - (b) OLM's for the purposes of training should be assessed at national level.
 - (c) Oversight and supervision of OLM's should be the responsibility of Presbytery.
- 7 (a) It is believed that too much time and effort would be spent on administration when it should be being spent on the spiritual growth of the church. The same argument follows for 7 (b).

In conclusion the Ministries Committee recognises the need to be always looking forward in its thinking and its outlook but does not see how the consultation document as presented for discussion in its current form will achieve its objective. The Committee recommends therefore that Presbytery

rejects the discussion document and gives the responses, to the Ministries Council, to the questions it has asked.

Whenever any change is being discussed to the Ministry of the Church, it should be initiated by theology and not by practice and need. Therefore Presbytery feels, more thought about the theology of the ministry should be discussed before this matter is presented again.

Presbytery of Lanark December 2007

APPENDIX B

Report of Congregational Support Committee

Panel on Review and Reform Questions on Superintendence Remit book page 31 (Please Bring)

Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions had been instructed by the General Assembly to debate the questions contained in the remits booklet on page 31 and submit their conclusions to the Panel by 31 Dec.

Rather than try to arrange another conference, when there were already other courses and a conference being offered by Congregational Development Committee, the Support Committee felt that it would be helpful to produce a simpler questionnaire for all Kirk Sessions and in Sept Presbytery instructed Presbytery Elders to ensure that the matter was discussed and a report provided to Congregational Support Committee by the end of October.

The Committee were delighted with the response (only 2 charges out of 18 failed to return the questionnaire) and indeed it was clear from the responses that Kirk Sessions had clearly taken time to discuss the matter of Quinquennial visits and in fact the responses are extremely helpful to our Committee in trying to develop our work and to improve relationships between charges and Presbytery. In response to

- 1. Do you think the Church of Scotland should have a way of exercising oversight and offering support to congregations on a regular basis?**

If you answer 'yes' – how often should congregations be visited?

Almost all Sessions felt that there should be regular oversight (one thought it may be better to have a self assessment tool with Presbytery oversight only as necessary) and there was a slightly higher number of Session who felt that there ought to be a visit perhaps around three years rather than once every five years as at present (some felt that there ought to be an annual visit) To visit every congregation annually may be an ideal but with our current resources we felt this was not practical.

- 2. At present there are regulations which govern the visits but these are not always strictly enforced and practices vary from Presbytery to Presbytery. Should there be one clear set of detailed guidelines for the way in which the report is prepared and submitted, recorded and acted upon?**

Again a majority felt there should be clear guidelines but also that these should be flexible – and as one response stated there are already guidelines in place which build in flexibility. Clear guidelines with flexibility for Presbyteries would be a fairly accurate summary. One suggestion for reporting was that there could be similar categories to Property report for responding to any actions required following a visit i.e. urgent, essential and recommended so that priorities may be set.

- 3. Should it be essential for every congregation to prepare a development plan and should Presbytery report on this at each visit?**

In the Panel on review and reform report the phrase used was 'strategic planning' but the committee chose to use the words 'development plan'. We recognised that for some Sessions the wording of this question caused a problem. Where have we come from, where are we now and where are we going? – were in fact three questions asked within that section of the Panel's report but it was recognised in the report that strategic planning is still an uncomfortable concept for many.

On the whole Sessions acknowledged the need for planning but also felt that there was a requirement for support in this area. It was also noted in some responses that plans were not much use if they were not implemented – as had been the experience of one Session.

- 4. At present charges are visited every five years but some charges in our Presbytery have had Interim Visits.(e.g. after 2 years)**

If your congregation has had an 'Interim Visit' did you find this helpful and do you think this would be worthwhile developing?

If you have not had an Interim Visit would you have found this helpful in ensuring any recommendations made by Presbytery were carried out?

The Committee recognised that some charges had no experience of interim visits but of the charges who had, most felt it had been helpful and again most of those who had not had an interim visit still felt it would be helpful. This seems to have a correlation to the fact that in Q1 most charges would welcome a visit approx every three years or even less

5 In many charges little is known about the work of Presbytery and visits often appear to be undertaken only when there is a problem.

Have you any constructive ideas on how our Support Committee may better enable and support as well as supervise congregations

In response to this it was clear that we could do much better in communicating with charges and keeping Sessions much better informed about the work of Presbytery. Our Presbytery elders will play a vital role in this and this role could be developed within each Kirk Session. Presbytery may also like to know that the fact we are not always meeting in Lanark has been positively received.

One practical suggestion of a portable loop was made – for places where there is no loop system – and in fact maybe this is something which ought to be considered for those who have a hearing impairment and struggle to hear in some of our halls. Perhaps this merits further consideration by the Business committee.

Other suggestions were made such as inviting Presbyters to special services (which is already happening sometimes), Committee members attending Sunday services and training for those visiting congregations.

SUMMARY

The Congregational Support Committee would like to extend sincere thanks to all those who responded.

It is very clear that we have to find a way of improving communication between Presbytery and charges and providing much more ongoing contact, guidance and support. Responses from some charges were coloured by their own experience of support or lack of support from Presbytery. The Committee feel that it is important that we address the issue of having a core Congregational Support team who will be trained to work to a clear format and undertake visits to charges every 2/3 years. This will possibly require additional elders or elders to serve for at least four years. It will be demanding in terms of our resources in Lanark Presbytery but in light of experiences of the past few years the initial efforts to set this up would be worthwhile in the longer term.

In principle we are committed to a compulsory Superintendence scheme which is supportive and enabling, providing regular contact (every 2/3 years) and thus encouraging Sessions and congregations to plan and review. The way this is done may well of necessity vary from Presbytery to Presbytery but training for visiting and reporting should be a requirement.

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 February 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers, 25 elders and 2 corresponding members

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs Susan Cowell, Aileen Robson, Anne McIvor, Iain Cunningham and Harry Findlay; Ministers, and Willie MacSween, David McTaggart, Tom Neilson and Donald Barrie; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 December 2007, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Ministries Council have informed the Presbytery that the Rev Robert Cleland who was a Minister with the Baptist Church in Scotland has applied to become a Minister of the Church of Scotland. His application forms etc. are available for anyone who would care to see them and respond to the Ministries Council.
2. The Ministries Council are having Training Days for Co-ordinators and Presbytery Representatives for the Enquiry and Assessment Process. The dates and details are available
3. The Ministries Council are informing the Presbytery of a conference to take place at the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh run by Fife NHS on Bereavement of children and families. It's on 21 May from 9.00am – 4.00pm. The cost is £40.00 including lunch and it's to be chaired by Sally Magnusson. More details are for anyone who is interested
4. The Rev John Birrell who was once a Minister in Carluke, is informing the Presbytery about courses in Bereavement Counselling to take place in September in Dundee. More information is available
5. The Presbytery has been notified that a further sick note had been received concerning the Rev B Gauld taking his absence to 3 March 2008
6. Aberdeen Presbytery have informed the Presbytery that the Scottish Churches Industrial Mission has changed its name to Work Place Chaplaincy SCOTLAND
7. The Assembly Council have been communicating with the Presbytery concerning its Communication Strategy. The Business Committee will be looking at this
8. The General Trustees have written to the Presbytery and the Clerk has forwarded their letter on by e-mail to members of Presbytery who have e-mail. It's concerning Water and Sewerage charges from which the Church currently enjoys an exemption. This however is to come under discussion by the Scottish Parliament and the Trustees are asking for as many letters as possible to be sent to MPs etc. and a sample letter is attached.

Good News Stories

1. The Rev Helen Jamieson spoke of the success of a Stewardship Campaign currently taking place at Carluke: St. Andrew's Parish Church
2. The Clerk spoke of a turn around in the financial situation at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church where a deficit in 2006 has been turned into a health surplus in 2007

Presentation from the Parish Development Fund Committee

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Jessie Bruce to the Presbytery Meeting and invited her to address the Presbytery. After questions and comments, the Moderator thanked Mrs Bruce for her attendance and address.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Give approval to Lanark: Greyfriars to withdraw funds from their Fabric Fund account which is held by the General Trustees
3. Agree to form a committee of Presbytery comprising Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Ian Watson and Mr Sinclair Scott to deal with the issues arising from Rev B Gauld's continuing absence

4. Note that the following charges are to send commissioners (minister and one elder) to the General Assembly to convene in Edinburgh on Thursday 15 May 2008: Lanark: Greyfriars, Forth: St Paul's, Kirkmuirhill, Carluke: St. Andrews, and Carluke: St. John's and instruct that the names of Minister and elder, together with their addresses and bank account details, should be given to the Clerk by 22 February 2008

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the actions and concerns of the General Trustees in relation to the emergency building work now completed at Carnwath
3. Note the developing situation with regard to the desired improvements to the driveway at Glencaple Church and Instruct the Clerk to forward the appropriate completed and signed forms to the General Trustees
4. Note the circumstances in respect of the work to repair the lime render on St. Nicholas Church.
5. Commend the Minister, the Congregational Board and the Session of St. Nicholas and the General Trustees for their work to make progress with matters thus far.
6. Remit to the Presbytery Treasurer the matter of the request of the Treasurer of Carnwath that the Congregation make ad hoc payments to Central funds with an instruction that there should be a more definite programme of payments put in place.
7. Instruct Congregations to submit, at the Presbytery meeting of 1 April 2008, both their Annual Accounts and the extract of their Property Registers for the annual inspection

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery

1. Receive the Report
2. Encourage Kirk Sessions to send people who require child protection volunteer training to Coalburn Church on 12 February, noting the future training to take place in the Gillespie Centre, Biggar on 27 May
3. Encourage congregations to make use of website technologies and pay particular attention to a local website www.theguidlife.net which offers support and technical expertise to local charities
4. Welcome the CH4 sing-a-long to take place on 2 April 2008 at 7:00pm in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and invite congregations to be well represented at the event

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the positive and encouraging tenor of the report made by the Assessor Elders appointed to Lesmahagow: Old and commend the Minister and Office bearers to the continuing prayers of the Presbytery.
3. Congratulate the members of Lesmahagow: Old for the positive steps taken and progress made in tackling the difficulties they have faced over the last few years.
4. Note that the Rev Aileen Robson has now returned to full duties in good health.
5. Encourage Minister and Office Bearers to continue to move forward both spiritually and administratively
6. Thank Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Ian Watson and Assessor Elders; Mrs Anna Lumsden, Mrs Irene Williams and Mr George Forbes for the support provided to the charge of Lesmahagow: Old and discharge the Assessor Elders from their duties.
7. Appoint Mrs Anna Lumsden, Mrs Irene Williams and Mr George Forbes as a follow up visiting team for Lesmahagow: Old, instruct them to visit in Sept/Oct 2008 and report thereafter to the Congregational Support Committee.
8. Note that the Inspection of Records will take place on 21 February and instruct congregations to provide Records, as per the guidelines issued, on the evening of Tuesday 19 February.

9. Seek further nominations for the Panel to deal with Act IV and V; nominations to be submitted to the Congregational Support Committee by Tuesday 19 February.
10. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the Assessor Elders report and the deliverances concerning Lesmahagow: Old to the Session Clerk of the charge.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the appointment of Rev H Jamieson as Temporary part-time sessional chaplain at Roadmeetings Hospital (1.8 sessions) with effect from 14 January and instruct the Clerk to forward this information to Mr John Thomson, Chaplaincies Convenor at the Council of Ministries.
3. Approve the Study Leave of Rev Dr G Houston beginning in 2008 and instruct the Clerk to forward this decision to the Council of Ministries.

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 19 February 2008:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on 4 March 2008 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with a Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 March 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers, 25 elders and 3 corresponding members

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs David Carmichael, Roy Cowieson and Steven Reid; Ministers, and Betty Smith, Jim McLaren. David McTaggart and Tom Neilson; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 February 2008, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Ministries Council are to hold Road Shows on Interim Ministry at Inverness, Glasgow and Edinburgh on Dates in April
2. The Principal Clerk is to hold a Course on Advanced Church Law at St. Andrew's in August – mainly for New Clerks and Deputes
3. The Law Department has issued a document concerning Elders and Board members at Trustees which has been e-mailed to all members who have e-mails
4. A letter has been received from The Law Department concerning Congregations' Constitution. It seems that OSCR only know of and have approved of the Unitary Constitution and the Model Constitution, and it would seem that the Law Department are encouraging congregations to change to one or other. The Clerk has to inform the Law Department of congregations who are not on either of these constitutions
5. The Principal Clerk has sent a preliminary programme for this year's General Assembly and will be forward to those who are going as soon as their details are in the hands of the Clerk
6. An Extract Minute has been received from The Ministries Council approving of the Locum cover at Carnwath
7. The Mission and Discipleship Council have offered to come and address the Presbytery on Eldership training
8. The Mission and Discipleship Council have informed the Presbytery about a Conference on the Spiritual Lives of People with Learning Disabilities to be held in Perth on 2 April
9. The Independent Funeral Directors in our area are to hold an evening conference on Bereavement in Whitburn on 11 March
10. The Lindisfarne Retreat Centre is to hold a Retreat and Workshops at Scottish Churches House, Dunblane from 3 – 5 June
11. St. Andrew's Press are to produce a Church of Scotland Diary for 2009 and they wish to be informed of any information that the Presbytery believes would be useful to congregations

Presentation from Christian Aid

The Moderator welcomed Eildon Dyer to the Presbytery Meeting and invited her to address the Presbytery. After questions and comments, the Moderator thanked Eildon for her attendance and address.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

5. Receive the report
6. Approve the appointment of Rev Margaret Muir as Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe l/w Symington for the period 15 September to 27 October 2008.
7. Note the nomination of Mr Andrew Brown, elder at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church as Moderator of Lanark Presbytery for 2008 – 09.
8. Agree to convene a meeting of Presbytery on 11 March 2008 to discuss the Presbytery Plan
9. Agree to Lanark: St. Nicholas' and Lanark: Greyfriars having a Joint Service on Sunday 13 April

The Deliverance was approved

Report of Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the appointment of Rev Bryan Kerr as Interim Moderator at Law.
3. Ask the Ministries Committee to consider further the vacancy at the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who invited Mr Colin Young, Presbytery Treasurer to present the Presbytery Accounts for 2007 which had been circulated. After questions and comments, Dr Francis moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

8. Receive the Report
9. Approve the Presbytery Accounts for 2007, thank the Treasurer, Colin Young, for his ongoing work, and instruct the Clerk to: send an extract of this minute of the Presbytery's approval to the Assembly's Committee on Stewardship and Finance and send letters of thanks to the Auditors, Mr Jack Campbell and Mrs Isobel Lawrie.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve Mr R Carson and Rev A Meikle to attend NHS Lanarkshire Spiritual Care meeting on 17 March
3. Instruct Presbyters to be aware of the confidential nature of the Draft Presbytery Plan to be issued at the close of the meeting
4. Instruct Kirkfieldbank to meet urgently with members of the Ministries Committee
5. Note that The Presbytery of Lanark has the highest proportion of women Ministers

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint the following members of Presbytery to represent Lanark Presbytery on a visit to East Seoul Presbytery, South Korea, from 6 to 18 October 2008 — Rev Iain Cunningham (*Convener*) Dr Sinclair Scott (*Vice-Convener*) Rev Dr Graham Houston (*former Moderator of Presbytery*) Mrs Jenny Worthington (*member of Community & World Issues Committee*)
3. Invite any other members of Presbytery wishing to participate in the visit to South Korea to notify the convener of the Community & World Issues Committee by 18 March
4. Agree, in principle, to meet the cost of providing suitable gifts for the visit to South Korea
5. Instruct the Business Committee to make arrangements for a representative of the Church & Society Council to address Presbytery at a future meeting
6. Note "Fair Trade Fortnight" and encourage congregations within the bounds to work towards achieving Fair Trade status

The Deliverance was approved

Rev. Bryan Kerr reported on a meeting that had been organised by Scottish Churches Housing Action urging Churches in the area to offer practical support to those who find themselves homeless within Clydesdale. Mr Kerr invited each 'area' of Presbytery to send one or two representatives to form a steering group in order that the work can be taken forward and reported back to the churches of all denominations in individual areas. Those interested in serving were asked to contact Mr Kerr or the Moderator.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the appointment of Rev Bryan Kerr, Mr Robert Carson and Mr Campbell Thomson to the Panel for Act IV and Act V 2007

3. Seek further nominations for appointment to the Panel; names to be submitted to the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee by the end of May 2008.
4. Note that the annual Inspection of Records has taken place and with a few minor exceptions all records are in order.

The Deliverance was approved

Church Without Walls – National Gathering

Rev Bryan Kerr presented a Video Address concerning the Church without Walls National Gathering which is to take place at Ingliston, Edinburgh on 3 – 4 May 2008

After questions and Comments, the Moderator thanked Mr Kerr.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on 1 April 2008 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with a Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 April 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers, 23 elders and 1 corresponding member

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev David Carmichael, Minister, and Mary Barclay, Willie MacSween, Sinclair Scott and Cameron Morton; Elders and Mairi Somerville and Colin Young; Corresponding Members

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 March 2008, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A circular has been received from the Solicitor of the Church reminding congregations that the Church is a Registered Charity, and as such according to the OSCR regulations, charities do not donate money to other charities. This doesn't mean that a congregation can't have a designated offering or collection for another charity
2. The General Trustees have informed the Presbytery that the system that's been operated for a number of years where if a congregation sells a building, a 10% levy is taken from the proceeds which go to the General Trustees special fund for priority area buildings and the Parish Development Fund. This system has been a voluntary provision, but the General Trustees have intimated that regulations will be proposed at the forthcoming General Assembly
3. The Solicitor has informed the Presbytery that the 22% Gift Aid provision will be maintained for the present, and Members of Presbytery are asked to inform Treasurers of this
4. The Solicitor has informed the Presbytery that there have been some updates on Employment Law. This has been forwarded to Ministers and it is hoped that they would share these documents with their congregations if they are actually employers.
5. Questions have been raised concerning whether Stated Annual Meetings are now required since according to the OSCR regulations; it's the Financial Courts of the Church that approve the Annual Accounts and not the Congregation. The Solicitor has informed the Presbytery that it's still the regulations of the Church that all Congregations have a Stated Annual Meeting each year.
6. The Solicitor has reminded Members once more that the OSCR regulations came into force on 1 April. Congregational correspondence particularly must bear the agreed name of the congregation and it's Charity Number
7. The Presbytery of Glasgow is discussing the possibility of having a course of instruction for elders on preaching. It has asked if the Presbytery has any experience in this line and if it would wish to participate with them.
8. The Presbytery of Hamilton, it is believed in partnership with Scripture Union, has invited the Presbytery to participate in a course they are to have on Children's Ministry
9. A Call addressed to the Rev Anne McIvor from the Charge of Gigha and Cara has been received from the Presbytery of Argyll. This will be dealt with by the Vacancy Procedure Committee at its next meeting and it will report to Presbytery at the May meeting. The Congregation of Law will be cited for members to appear at the May meeting for their interests
10. The Yearly papers concerning the updates to the Church of Scotland Year Book have been received from the Editor, the Rev Ron Blakey. These documents are available for Members to update them as necessary
11. The approved Presbytery Accounts from 2007 were sent to the Stewardship and Finance Department in Edinburgh. However, the Treasurer has been informed that they have to be in the form provided by OSCR even although the Presbytery of Lanark is not a registered charity. The Treasurer is in discussions with them.

Good News Stories

Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church reported on a Labyrinth which was provided on Good Friday

Kirkton Parish Church reported that the Small Hall has to be renovated and plans for this are proceeding

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the appointment of Rev Iain Cunningham as Convenor of the World and Community Issues Committee for a further year.

3. Approve the appointment of Rev Dr Graham Houston as Convener of the Congregational Support Committee for a four year period.
4. Approve the appointment of Mrs Anna Lumsden as Convenor of the Business Committee for a four year period.
5. Grant permission to Carluke: Kirkton, St. Andrew's and St. John's to have a united service of worship on Sunday 4 May to allow those who wish to participate in the National Gathering to do so.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who sought the indulgence of the Presbytery to hear a report to be presented by Rev Aileen Robson, Anna Aitken and Ewan Easton on a visit to Peru under the auspices of the Vine Trust. The Presbytery received a very interesting slide show presentation which was followed by questions and comments

The Moderator thanked Rev Aileen Robson, Anna Aitken and Ewan Easton for their presentation

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who referred to the Report from the ITEC sub committee which was circulated with the Presbytery papers. After questions and comments, Dr Francis moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the contents of the report.
3. Agree that the cost of seeking professional help in regard to IT is one to be met by the local congregation.
4. Encourage ministers and members within the bounds of Presbytery, who have the appropriate expertise, to consider volunteering to help in the forming of a computer support group or to suggest to the convener a constructive way to deal with the issues identified.

The Deliverance was approved

Rev Bryan Kerr reminded the Presbytery that the responsibility of insuring the computer equipment supplied by the Presbytery to Ministers rests with the congregations.

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who introduced the Committees thoughts on the Presbytery Plan. A general discussion ensued after which the Committee withdrew its proposals and will seek to bring a report to a future meeting of the Presbytery

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 6 May 2008 at 7.00 pm at Carluke: Kirkton Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with a Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Carluke, on Tuesday 6 May 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Carluke: Kirkton Parish Church, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 ministers, 25 elders and 3 corresponding member

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs Susan Cowell, Aileen Robson, Roy Cowieson and David Carmichael, Ministers, and Janette Rae, Tom Neilson and Sinclair Scott; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 1 April 2008, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

12. The Yearly papers concerning the updates to the Church of Scotland Year Book have been received from the Editor, the Rev Ron Blakey. These documents are available for members to update as necessary.
13. A letter was received from the Law Department two months ago concerning Congregations' Constitution. They have asked that they be informed of congregations who are not on the Model Deed or the Unitary Deed.
14. Resource material has been received entitled 'Praying across Scotland'. It is designed and produced to help people who wish to pray for the Church of Scotland and the General Assembly. It has been sent to those whose e-mail address is known. The document runs to some 7 pages and can be obtained from Ministers
15. A letter has been received from a Mr John Henderson concerning Liverpool City of Culture events in the Church of Scotland in Liverpool
16. This year's Haddington Pilgrimage has been cancelled
17. Mrs Irene Crosthwaite has sent the booking form for the Church and Society Council's Conference which takes place on Saturday 13 September
18. The Solicitor has informed the Presbytery that although it has not yet been confirmed by the Scottish Parliament, it would appear that the exemption scheme for water charges is to be further extended
19. An e-mail was received from the Ministries Council concerning the Presbytery's inspection of Ministers Car Log Books. This is something that has never been done in this Presbytery and it's a subject that will be taken up by the Congregational Support Committee in the first instance
20. A letter has been received from 'Hygiene and Safety Concepts' who are offering to run Elementary Food Hygiene Courses for presbyteries. The costs are quite substantial however (£30 per person). If members believe that the Presbytery should have such a course, they are asked to speak to the Business Convenor concerning it.
21. Copies of a flyer concerning Scripture Union Courses on Children's Ministry to be held at the Glo Centre in Motherwell on Thursday 5 June are available
22. A CD Rom of the Blue Book – the reports to the General Assembly – has been received
23. The Elder's Commission forms have been sent to Session Clerks to be returned by Friday 23 May

Good News Stories

Cairngryffe and Symington Parish Churches reported on Prayer Services which take place once a month
Law Parish Church reported that the congregation celebrated the 125th Anniversary of the Church Building at Law. A Stained Glass panel has been installed along with a garden. A special service took place during which the former Minister Rev Bill Izett was invited to preach

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

6. Receive the Report
7. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
8. Approve that Biggar Kirk changes its Constitution from the Model Constitution to the Unitary Constitution.
9. Approve the appointment of Mr Bill Love as Pastoral Locum at Law from 9 June 2008 and as Pastoral and Preaching Locum from 31 August 2008.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has agreed to the release of Rev Anne McIvor to take up the charge of Gigha and Cara in the Presbytery of Argyll
3. Approve the appointment of Rev Roy Cowieson to the Advisory Committee for Carstairs in union with Carstairs Junction
4. Approve the appointment of Rev Steven Reid, Mr Alan Grant and Mr Tom Smith to the Advisory Committee for Law

The Deliverance was approved

Mr Andrew Brown presented part of the Report of the Ministries Committee and moved the following deliverance which is Section 6 in the Ministries Committee's Deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

6. In accordance with the current Presbytery Plan agree to allow Law Parish Church to call a Minister without restriction and instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute of this decision to the Ministries Council

The Deliverance was approved

The Moderator invited members from Law who had been cited to appear for their interests to address the Presbytery. Ellen Young and Harry Stewart both spoke warmly on behalf of the congregation of Anne McIvor's ministry among them

Rev Helen Jamieson spoke graciously on behalf of Presbytery of her association with Anne as colleagues in the Ministry of the Church and as members of the Presbytery, paying tribute to her for the amount of time and effort she contributed over the years, and also of the friendship that they have enjoyed for those years

The Rev Anne McIvor replied benevolently of her time at Law, of her coming to be Minister there, her working together with the Members and Office Bearers, of their joint achievement, of the many friendships that she has enjoyed there and of the warmth of those friendships

The Moderator thanked those who spoke and assured Anne of the Presbytery's thoughts and prayers on her move to Gigha and Cara

Report on the Parish Grouping in Carluke

The Moderator invited Liz Bartham to address the Presbytery concerning the Parish Grouping which has existed in Carluke since 2006. Liz spoke of the initial difficulties and prejudices which existed prior to the formation of the Grouping and of the efforts to remove these and commit them to the past. She spoke of their many joint ventures and shared activities, of the success of these and indeed of the Parish Grouping in general

The Moderator thanked Liz for her presentation and assured the congregations in Carluke of the prayers of the Presbytery for the continued success of their Parish Grouping

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who sought the indulgence of the Presbytery to hear an address to be presented by Mrs Irene Crosthwaite on the Church and Society Council

The Presbytery received a very interesting presentation on the work of this Council which was followed by questions and comments

The Moderator warmly thanked Mrs Crosthwaite for her presentation

Lanark Presbyterial Guild Council

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Mairi Sommerville now President of the Lanark Presbyterial Guild Council. Mrs Sommerville presented the Annual Report in which she highlighted the following:

The Annual Meeting held in Dundee; The three year Discussion Topic: 'Let's Live, Body, Mind and Soul' this year concentrating on the Mind; the changes that have been happening within the Guild, the reports on Human Trafficking and 'To be silent is to be unfaithful'.

Guild Week ran from 18 November and was designed to raise the profile of the Guild in communities and congregations.

The Council participates at National and International levels with women's organisations and there are currently 21 Guilds and one Young Woman's Group partaking in the Council.

The Moderator congratulated the Guild on its achievements and thanked Mrs Sommerville for her Report

Report of the Presbytery Chaplains

The Rev Harry Findlay presented the report of the Presbytery Chaplains on behalf of himself and Dr Sinclair Scott. Mr Findlay spoke of how his efforts had been hampered due to his own illness; however he assured the Presbytery of the readiness of Dr Scott and himself to continue to offer support to the Ministers and Elders of the Presbytery

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Congregational Support Committee reports of Presbytery visits will be given in summary form but are available in full to any Presbyter on request.
3. Urge the Minister and Office Bearers of Glencaple linked with Lowther to give due consideration to the recommendations made by the Visiting Team and to report to the Presbytery through the Congregational Support Committee when invited to do so as part of the follow up strategy being developed
4. Note the commendably increased givings at Lowther and the completion of the new hall at Glencaple.
5. Encourage the Ministry Committee and/or Congregational Development Committee to give consideration to development of school chaplaincy work in rural areas
6. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers of Glencaple linked with Lowther for the good relationship which clearly exists between them and encourage them to continue with their faithful worship witness and service
7. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers of Glencaple linked with Lowther to the ongoing prayers of the Presbytery
8. Note with appreciation the support given to Rev Steven Reid and his children by the congregations of Crossford and Kirkfieldbank
9. Commend the Office Bearers and members of Crossford and Kirkfieldbank for their continued commitment to prayer, mission and outreach and congratulate them on the renovation and restoration of the sanctuary at Kirkfieldbank in 2005
10. Urge the Office Bearers of Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank to give serious consideration to providing their Minister with some administrative assistance and to report to Presbytery through the Congregational Support Committee when invited to do so as part of the follow up strategy being developed
11. Commend the most harmonious linkage which exists between Crossford and Kirkfieldbank
12. Commend the Minister, Chloe and Martyn and the Office Bearers of Crossford and Kirkfieldbank to the continuing prayers and practical support of Presbytery
13. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant section of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerks of the charges of Glencaple linked with Lowther and Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank

The Clerk proposed a new section 2 which read:

‘2. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee to consult with the Principal Clerk on the presentation of the Reports to Presbytery of visits to congregations’

This was seconded and on a vote being taken it did not receive the approval of the Presbytery

The Deliverance as printed was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the inspection of the Property Registers has taken place.
3. Thank Congregational Fabric Convenors for their diligence and hard work
4. Permit the Congregational Board of Carnwath to install the planned disabled access ramp at Tarbrax Church building at the costs quoted.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Ministers Annual Retreat and ask all those interested to return the forms to the convener by June Presbytery.
3. Note the details for the Information days for potential Church Assessors.
4. Approve Mr David McTaggart and Mr Stewart Cutler to conduct public worship in Lanark Presbytery in the absence of a minister.

5. Approve the payment of £50 for the Sermon and Worship course in 2009, for Mr Bill Love, reader in Lanark Presbytery.
6. In accordance with the current Presbytery Plan agree to allow Law Parish Church to call a Minister without restriction and instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute of this decision to the Ministries Council

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Rev Bryan Kerr who spoke of the success of the Church Without Walls – National Gathering which took place at Ingliston, Edinburgh on 3 – 4 May 2008. Mr Kerr moved the following deliverance from his committee:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

5. Receive the Report
6. Encourage Kirk Sessions to send people who require child protection volunteer training to the Gillespie Centre, Biggar on 27 May.
7. Remind congregations of the Presbytery data projector and laptop that is available for use through the convenor
8. Thank those involved in the CH4 sing-a-long evening and especially Lanark: Greyfriars and Carluke: Kirkton Churches for their musical groups.
9. Urge congregations to make use of the General Assembly prayer diary and to encourage members to support the Assembly in prayer.
10. Invite congregations to submit applications to the Mission and Discipleship special trusts for help with congregational projects and grant powers to the convenor and presbytery clerk to authorise applications in the name of Presbytery and report back at the next available meeting.

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion on 17 June 2008 at 7.00 pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church and then for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with a Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 17 June 2008, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church conducted by the Moderator, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers, 25 elders and 2 corresponding members

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs Susan Cowell, Margaret Muir, David Carmichael and David Easton, Ministers, and David Hodgson, David McTaggart, Stewart Toy and Sinclair Scott; Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of the Report of the Resources Committee

Minutes The Minutes of the meeting which took place on Tuesday 6 May 2008, were held as read and approved

Roll of the Presbytery

The Clerk laid on the table the completed Roll of the Presbytery containing the names of 15 Ministers in Charges, 10 Retired Ministers; 24 Commissioned Elders (8 New Elders) and 8 corresponding members; there are currently 3 vacant charges. Last year there were 8 Additional Elders and this year Mrs Anna Aitken having resigned 1 further Additional Elder has been recommended. He is Mr Robert Carson who was formerly the Commissioned Elder for Symington and Convener of the Business Committee.

The Clerk proposed the following deliverance appointing the new Additional Elder:

Presbytery appoints Mr Robert Carson to serve as an Additional Elder in the Presbytery of Lanark from 30 June 2008

The Deliverance was approved.

The Moderator welcomed the new Elders who were present

Report of Diligence at the General Assembly

Rev Roy Cowieson reported diligence at the General Assembly and spoke warmly and very highly of his first experience of being a Commissioner at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

Mr Cowieson apologised on behalf of Mr Ken Mackie who also reported diligence at the General Assembly, but who was unable to be present at the Presbytery Meeting. He hoped to be given the opportunity to report to a future meeting

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

24. The Church Buildings Renewal Trust is organising a conference on the use and re-use of Rural Church Buildings on 19 September at St. Andrew's in the Square in Glasgow
25. A letter has been received from the Safeguarding Office concerning the safe recruitment of Organists
26. Scottish Agricultural College is doing research into and preparing a database on rural community buildings and the Clerk has to furnish a list of Church Halls in our area
27. The Solicitor of the Church has informed the Presbytery about the continuation of the Water Charges Exemption Scheme
28. The Ministries Council received a sick note in respect of Mr Gauld for 4 weeks from 27 May – 23 June
29. The Ministries Council has informed the Presbytery about an application from the Rev Geoff McKee to become a Minister of the Church of Scotland.
30. The Ministries Council have informed the Presbytery that it intends to provide Training Courses for Elders who wish to be Interim Moderators. The Presbytery has to provide a list of names of those willing to be trained. Names should be given to the Convener of the Business Committee
31. The Ministries Council received a sick note in respect of Rev David Carmichael who was suffering from a detached retina and had recently undergone an operation. He is back at work and all is well.
32. An Extract Minute was received from the Ministries Council's Presbytery Planning Task Group to the effect that their representatives had a meeting with those of the Presbytery
33. A note was received from Pomphreys Solicitors concerning the Rev Alexander Barclay Bequest and asking to be informed of the name of our Moderator.

Good News Stories

Mr Robert Tweedie spoke of the success of perhaps the last Cameronian Day to take place at Douglas

Mr Tom Smith reported that the renovations to the Small Hall at Carluke: Kirkton Parish Church were almost complete

Rev Helen Jamieson spoke of the Service and Social etc. for the Rev Anne McIvor at Carra and Gigha.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

10. Receive the report
11. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk, Convener of the Business Committee and the incoming Moderator powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
12. Approve that Carluke: Kirkton and Lanark: Greyfriars change their Constitution to the Unitary Constitution.
13. Approve the membership of each of the Presbytery Committees for 2008-09.
14. Approve the appointment of Rev Ian Watson to the Committee to nominate the Moderator.
15. Approve the appointment of Rev Bryan Kerr and Mr. David Waters (Session Clerk at Kirkmuirhill) to the Commission of Assembly.
16. Grant permission for Joint Services to take place in Lanark and Carluke as detailed below:
St Nicholas: 29 June, 6, 13 and 20 July; Greyfriars: 27 July, 3, 10 and 17 August.
The Carluke Churches, St Andrew's, St John's and Kirkton will have joint services over the period 6 July to 10 August inclusive
17. Agree that Lanark Presbytery should be represented at the Commission of Assembly for the Dissent and Complaint lodged by Rev B Gauld by Rev Jim Cutler, Rev Ian Watson and Rev Dr Jim Francis and if necessary that Presbytery provide one Sunday Pulpit Supply for the afore mentioned

The Deliverance was approved

The Moderator warmly thanked Mr Carson for this his last report as Convener of the Business Committee and for his service to the Presbytery

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree that providing the Vacancy Procedure Committee sustain the call to Rev Alan Gibson at its next meeting, then the induction of Rev Alan Gibson to the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction will take place at Carstairs Village Church on Thursday 28 August at 7:00pm.

The Deliverance was approved

There were a number of representatives of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction present at the meeting and the Moderator invited them to address the Presbytery

Ruth Campbell and Alex Nelson addressed the Presbytery speaking of how delighted they were that they had at last found a new minister to lead them.

The Moderator thanked them for their attendance.

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the arrangements for the exchange visit to Seoul in October.
3. Note that in the new session the committee intends to make a special focus on the topic of "End of Life Issues," an area of concern currently being addressed by the Church & Society Council. To facilitate exploration of this matter at a local level, the Committee invites contributions from members of Presbytery or Kirk Sessions on subjects such as Pastoral Care for the Elderly, Nursing Home provision, the Hospice movement, Euthanasia and any other related matters.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee was presented by Rev. Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

DELIVERANCE: – *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the report on Carluke: St John's will be presented to Presbytery in September 2008

3. Thank Rev Sarah Ross and members of Forth: St. Paul's for their hospitality and assistance in the organisation of the meeting between the Congregational Support Committee and the Office Bearers of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
4. Rejoice with the Office Bearers of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction that a new ministry will begin this year and warmly commend them to the ongoing prayerful and practical support of the Presbytery.
5. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract of the section of this report concerning the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to the Session Clerk of the charge.
6. Note that the Presbytery records for 2007 / 2008 have been inspected and found to be in order

The Deliverance as printed was approved

The Moderator warmly thanked Mrs Jamieson for this her last report as Convener of the Congregational Support Committee

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the ongoing discussions with congregations at Blackmount, Carnwath, Carstairs and Douglas Valley as part of the presbytery planning process.
3. Re-appoint, in accordance with Act II, 2000 as amended by the General Assembly in May this year. Rev R Cowieson, Minister of Carluke: St John's as minister there for a minimum of one year from his 65th birthday and instruct the Ministries Committee to confer with all parties regarding the revised legislation anent retirement age of ministers and report to the September meeting of Presbytery.
4. Note the various rules about the completion of wedding schedules.
5. Note the agreement of the Kirk Sessions of Cairngryffe and Symington for the Study Leave of Rev Dr G Houston.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Permit the United Church of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to purchase a new property to use as a Manse and to dispose of the existing Manse.
3. Instruct the United Church of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to arrange, through the offices of the General Trustees and the Law Department, the necessary finances and professional assistance for the purchase and sale.

The Deliverance was approved

Committee Meetings

All Presbytery Committees except the Business Committee are due to meet next on 19 August 2008 at 7.00pm

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet on 2nd September 2008 at 7.00 pm for Ordinary Business at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with a Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Carstairs, on Thursday 28 August 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Carstairs Village Church to induct Mr Alan Gibson to the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers, 14 elders and 2 corresponding members. There were also present Revs Cartriona Ogilvie, Shaw Paterson, Iain Goring and Peter Johnston whom the Moderator welcomed.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Margaret Muir and Rev Dr Jim Francis; Ministers, and from Elizabeth Hiddleston, David McTaggart, Jim Sinclair, Robert Carson, Alex McPhee and Hugh Stewart, Elders.

Induction of Mr Alan Gibson

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Mr Alan Gibson, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev David Easton conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Mr Gibson was inducted to the United Congregation and Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation.

After the service the call was presented to Mr Gibson and Mr Andrew Brown expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mr Easton for their conduct of the service of induction.

The Moderator thanked the Interim Moderator, Rev Sarah Ross for her work with the congregation and with the approval of the Presbytery, she was discharged from her duties.

The Clerk proposed and it was agreed that the Mr Alan Gibson's name be added to the membership of the Presbytery.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet on 2nd September 2008 at 7.00 pm for Ordinary Business at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 2 September 2007, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St Nicholas' Parish Church Hall, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Alison Meikle, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers and 23 elders. There were also a number of visitors from Kirkmuirhill.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs Susan Cowell, Margaret Muir and Iain Cunningham, Ministers; Elizabeth Hiddleston, David Hodgson, Robert Carson, Peter McLeish, Alex McPhee and Cameron Morton, Elders; and Mairi Somerville and Colin Young; Corresponding Members.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved. The Clerk sought the indulgence of Presbytery to delay the tribute to the late Rev Robert McMahon until the October meeting as his wife who was on holiday had asked to be present.

Election and Installation of the Moderator

The Presbytery elected Mr Andrew Brown as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2008/09. Rev Alison Meikle welcomed Mr Brown, installed him as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited him to take the chair. The new Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Mrs Meikle for her service in her year as Moderator

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 17 June 2008, were held as read and approved

Good News Stories

The Rev Bryan Kerr spoke of the success of the change in Lanark: Greyfriars from the Model Constitution to the Unitary Constitution and the formulating of a five year plan for the congregation.

The Rev Roy Cowieson spoke of the success this summer of the Children's Holiday Club where from all the congregations in Carluke some 90 children attended and 30 adults offered their services and help.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

34. The Church Buildings Renewal Trust is organising a conference on the use and re-use of rural Church Buildings on 19 September at St. Andrew's in the Square in Glasgow
35. A letter has been received from the Church and Society Council informing the Presbytery that Rev Sarah Ross has been appointed to be the Church's representative on South Lanarkshire Council's Education Committee
36. The schedule of contributions for 2009 has been received from Stewardship and Finance
37. The Marie Curie Hospice in Glasgow are to employ a full-time chaplain and are seeking to let this be known if anyone is interested
38. The Panel on Review and Reform is seeking representatives for a conference to be held at Crieff Hydro. It has asked that Our Conveners of Business, Ministries, Superintendence and Mission be invited
39. The Ministries Council have informed the Presbytery that it has been asked about an increase to the 40p/mile travelling expenses for Ministers. The Ministries Council has informed that this figure is set by the government and it cannot be increased unless the government does it
40. The Assembly Arrangements Committee sent a letter and questionnaire to Kirk Sessions asking what they thought about the General Assembly. Much the same sort of questionnaire has come to Presbyteries and the Business Committee will deal with it
41. The Ministries Council has sent out the Manse Condition Schedules and these will be issued to congregations in the near future
42. The General Trustees are asking Presbyteries for nominations of people to become General Trustees. Anyone interested who must be an architect, lawyer, accountant, surveyor, engineer, builder or the likes should get in touch with the Clerk
43. The forms listing Congregational Office Bearers have been received. They are to be taken by elders or Ministers, checked and returned to the Clerk by 30 September
44. The Presbytery Year Book and the Booklet containing the Remits from the General Assembly are available. There are copies of these addressed to folks who may be absent and members are asked to deliver them to members whom they live close to

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Homologate the decision to appoint Rev. Ian Watson to the Presbyterial Panel.
3. Homologate the nomination of the Rev Sarah Ross as the Churches' representative on the Education Committee of South Lanarkshire Council and congratulate her on her appointment
4. Appoint Mrs. Betty Smith as a member of the Business Committee.
5. Remit the implementation of the Inspection of Ministers' Log Books to the Ministries Committee.
6. Convene Presbytery meetings of 7 October 2008 and 3 March 2009 in Carstairs Junction Church and Coalburn Church respectively.
7. Thank Rev Alison Meikle and her team for arranging this evening's buffet meal

The Deliverance was approved

The Clerk introduced an item of business which was taken IN PRIVATE and which concerned the dissent and complaint made by the Rev B Gauld regarding the decision of the Presbytery of May 2007 relating to Act IV 2001 After returning to work after an absence of 1 year through illness, Mr Gauld was asked by the Principal Clerk if he wished to add to the pleadings and submissions which he had made earlier for the Commission of Assembly. Mr Gauld made two further submission; these and proposed answers to them were sent to all members who have e-mail and copies were made available to those who do not have e-mail.

The Rev Ian Watson gave a brief summary of the case for the benefit of the new members of Presbytery.

The Clerk proposed a new Section 8 to the deliverance of the Business Committee:

8. Presbytery, agree to the addendum to the responses to the Commission of Assembly concerning the dissent and complaint made by Rev B Gauld relating to Act IV 2001

The Deliverance was approved by 34 votes for and 0 against – the were 3 abstentions

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report

2. Note the developments and actions taken by all parties and homologate the decisions taken under powers with regard to Manse provision in the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
3. Note the development and actions taken by all parties and homologate the decisions taken under powers with regard to the Manse provision in the Parish of Law, and instruct the Clerk to send and extract minute along with the relevant section of the report to the General Trustees
4. Note the action taken by all parties in relation to the access road at Glencaple Church and approve the application made by the Congregation of Glencaple Church to the General Trustees for grant monies
5. Note the progress of the Inspection of Accounts
6. Note the Training days on offer from the General Treasurers department and encourage congregational treasurers to consider attending
7. Note the Presbytery statistics for Per Capita Ordinary General Income

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was submitted by Dr Sinclair Scott who spoke of the visit by a delegation of the Presbytery to the Presbytery of East Seoul PROK in Korea. He moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Request that the delegation from Lanark Presbytery to the Presbytery of East Seoul PROK in Korea take with it the good wishes of the Presbytery

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev Dr Graham Houston who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. **Quinquennial Visitation to Carluke: St. John's**
 - i. Note with pleasure the happy and constructive relationship between the office-bearers of Carluke: St. John's and their new Minister Roy Cowieson and his wife Christine since his induction in May 2007.
 - ii. Welcome the variety of opportunities for worship, including united evening services with other Carluke congregations and monthly healing services in St. John's, resourced by a local doctor. Also commended is the weekly informal service on Thursday mornings attracting over 50 participants, involving other churches.
 - iii. Encourage the development of the Pastoral Care Group in tandem with the Minister's programme of visitation.
 - iv. Congratulate St. John's and all the congregations in Carluke for their joint sponsoring of the Street Level Youth Project and the associated charity shop, 'Choices', which has raised over £500,000 in 15 years for the project, Christian Aid and local elderly folk. Encouragement is given for more helpers to get involved.
 - v. Encourage the Minister and Office-bearers to explore and implement opportunities for training in appropriate areas where the gifts of God's people are being identified.
 - vi. Encourage the Minister to continue to share insights with congregation and Presbytery from his 30 years service in Canada as may be appropriate.
 - vii. Encourage the Presbytery Elder to ensure that remits from the General Assembly and full reports on the meetings of Presbytery and local implications are shared regularly with office-bearers.
 - viii. Encourage the office-bearers to keep under review the administrative help for the Minister that is provided.
 - ix. Plan an Interim Visit to the charge in 2010-11 when a visiting team should focus on the themes of vision for mission to the 20-40 age group, and stewardship development, along with that of improving communication with the Presbytery.
3. Appoint Robert Carson, Bryan Kerr, Campbell Thomson, Sarah Ross, Libby Muir and Mary McLellan to the Presbytery's Panel on Bullying
4. **Quinquennial Visitations in 2008-9**
 - i. Approve the arrangements for Quinquennial Visitations in 2008-9, instructing conveners of visiting teams to ensure that Reports, including Recommendations and a Summary of the main points, are in the hands of the Committee Convener by 31 March 2009 at the latest.
 - ii. Note that the Visiting Teams for the Quinquennial Visitations in 2008-9 will be as follows:
Lanark St Nicholas: Rev Steven Reid(Convener),
Rev Roy Cowieson, Mr Willie McSween and Mrs Betty McLeod
Carstairs and Carstairs Junction: Rev Helen Jamieson(Convener),
Rev Alison Meikle, Dr Sinclair Scott and Mrs Jenny Worthington

- iii. Instruct each Kirk Session to be visited to provide a printed Review of the previous 5 years in the life and work of the congregation and some pointers to proposed developments in the coming years. Reviews (4 copies) should be in the hands of visiting team conveners by 30 November 2008.
- iv. Instruct the Committee to send to all Session Clerks of congregations to be visited details of this requirement (4 iii.) along with the Guidance Notes containing QV questions for discussion.
5. Note that Interim Visits will also be paid to two vacant congregations as follows:
Law: Rev Aileen Robson(Convener), Mr Jim Sinclair and Mrs Betty Smith.
Douglas Valley: Rev Graham Houston(Convener), Mrs Ray Wilson, and Mr Alex McPhee.
Reports with Recommendations and Summary should be in the hands of the Convener of the Committee by 30 November 2008
6. Note that Rev Margaret Muir has been re-appointed as Vice-Convener of the Committee, and the Convener's forthcoming absence on Study Leave from 15 September to 28 October 2008
7. Instruct the Committee to work with all relevant committees involved in the life of vacant charges to ensure that visits by Presbytery are carried out in a co-ordinated way and that congregations are not overwhelmed by the input from Presbytery

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve that Readers within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery would be presented to Presbytery at the meeting on 7 October
3. Note the re-advertisement for a part-time Sessional Chaplain at Lady Home Hospital for 0.9 sessions and applications should be with the Convener of the Ministries Committee with 2 references by 7 October 2008
4. Thank Revs Aileen Robson and Bryan Kerr for organising the retreat this year, and Rev Ian Gilmour for being willing to give his time for Holy Communion
5. Thank Rev B Kerr for his service as Interim Chaplain at the State Hospital, Carstairs, covering for the sick leave of Rev B Gauld
6. Note that the Kirk Session of Carluke: St John's, Rev Roy Cowieson and the Ministries Committee of Lanark Presbytery agree to the continuing tenure of Rev Roy Cowieson as minister of Carluke: St. John's, subject to Act Anent Retirement of Ministers, Amending Acts II 2000 and VIII 2003
7. Approve the continuing tenure of Rev Roy Cowieson as minister of Carluke: St. John's until his 70th birthday, according to Act Anent Retirement of Ministers, Amending Acts II 2000 and VIII 2003 and instruct the Presbytery Clerk to forward this decision with an extract minute to the Ministries Council

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Agree to Rev Alan Gibson and Mrs Moira White representing the Presbytery of Lanark at the forthcoming Rural Conference on 31 October and 1 November 2008

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 23 September 2008:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 7 October 2008 at 7.00 pm at Carstairs Junction Church

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Carstairs, on Tuesday 7 October 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Carstairs Junction Church, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 ministers; 22 Elders and 4 Corresponding Members; there were also 2 visitors present: Jessie McMahon and Eleanor Mackie

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev David Carmichael and Rev David Easton, Ministers, from Betty Smith, Ruth Campbell, Lambert Allan, Willie MacSween, Dr Sinclair Scott, Elders and from Colin Young, Corresponding Member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2 September 2008, were held as read and approved

Tribute to Rev. Robert McMahon

The Rev Steven Reid paid tribute to the life and ministry of Rev. Robert McMahon who passed away on 2 July 2008. The Moderator then led the presbytery in prayer following which the Depute Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Instruct the clerk to send a copy of the tribute to the family of the late Rev. Robert McMahon

The Deliverance was approved

Good News Stories

No Good News Stories were shared

Correspondence

The Depute Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Presbytery has been informed that World Aids Day takes place on 1 December 2008
2. The Royal Navy is looking for Chaplains. If Ministers under the age of 49 would like details, please speak to the Clerk
3. A Special Commission was set up at this year's General Assembly concerning the third article of the Articles Declaratory of the Church of Scotland. The Special Commission wishes to hear from Presbyteries concerning this and the Business Committee will be looking at how the Presbytery may respond.
4. The Rev Iain Goring has moved. His e-mail address is still the same, but he now resides at 156 Old Castle Road, Glasgow, G44 5TW Tel. 0141 637 5451
5. Mrs Janette Wilson, the Solicitor of the Church has sent an e-mail reminding congregations concerning the proper use of congregational funds. There is a section on the Church of Scotland Extranet Site concerning this.
6. World Mission Council is currently recruiting for 2 Mission Partners and details can be had from the Clerk.
7. A letter was received from the Friends of St. Colm's inviting attendance at an Open Day on 17 October to celebrate the Centenary of the College
8. A letter was received from NHS Lanarkshire inviting attendance at a celebration of spiritual care to be held at Hairmyres Hospital on 6 November. This is part of the 60th Anniversary celebrations of the NHS and Members of Presbytery should intimate their attendance to Valerie Waugh at 01698 377632
9. There have been e-mails from the Solicitor of the Church concerning the Financial Crisis. The Clerk was asked to forward these on to congregations via their Ministers

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev. Helen Jamieson as a member of the Business Committee
3. Send any required Year Book changes in writing to the Presbytery Clerk
4. Appoint Rev. Bryan Kerr as our representative to the General Assembly Arrangements consultation meeting on 22 October 2008
5. Note that the Report of the Investigation Committee in the case of Rev. B. Gauld against the Presbytery of Lanark has been received by the Presbytery Clerk and that the Commission of Assembly is scheduled for 30 October 2008
6. Approve the allocation of Remits from the General Assembly to the Presbytery Committees as detailed in the report.
7. Note that the congregations of Culter and Lesmahagow Old Parish have or are adopting the Unitary Constitution
8. Remind Libberton & Quothquan and Cairngryffe congregations of the General Assembly's Instructions regarding constitutions

9. Instruct Committee Convenors to give Mr. Hugh Meikle one week's notice of their intention to cancel a meeting
10. Remit to the Congregational Development Committee the task of arranging an open meeting of representatives from all congregations to discuss matters raised by the Panel on Review and Reform
11. Thank Rev. Alan Gibson and the people of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction for their hospitality and fellowship this evening

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the application submitted by the congregation of St. Nicholas Church, Lanark for funding assistance from the special mission trusts for equipment for a 'drop in' for young people and instruct the clerk to issue an extract minute to the Council of Mission & Discipleship

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the production of the Manse Condition Schedules and instruct congregations to implement their use
3. Note the developments with regard to insurance revaluation of ecclesiastical buildings within the bounds of Presbytery
4. Instruct the Resources Committee to issue a composite instruction to GAB Robbins Ltd to carry out the revaluation
5. Instruct all congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery of Lanark to participate in the revaluation programme
6. Approve of the use of the 3% allowance in the Ministries and Mission allocation to offset the cost to congregations of this revaluation.
7. Note the proposed Ministries and Missions Allocations for 2009
8. Instruct Congregational Treasurers to lodge any appeals together with grounds of appeal, in writing, to the Convener by the evening of 21 October 2008
9. Note that the Congregational Accounts for 2007 meet the required standards for the Church of Scotland
10. Thank and commend Treasurers for their diligence and hard work
11. Thank and commend Colin Young for his work in support of the Presbytery

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Rev Sarah Ross, Representative on the Education Committee of South Lanarkshire Council reported on a recent conference she had attended. Following the report the Depute Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Welcome the appointment of David McTaggart to the General Teaching Council of Scotland as the representative of the Church of Scotland

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Thank the readers for their support and diligence over the years.
3. Thank Mr T Smith and Mrs B Smith for their effort to gather the information regarding ministers' workload.
4. Commend the Nominating committee and congregation of Douglas Valley for their fortitude and remember them in our prayers.
5. Instruct all ministers to bring their logbooks for 2008 to the February 2009 Presbytery Meeting.
6. Instruct all Part-time Hospital chaplains to return their completed Chaplain's Reports by October 21 2008 to the Convener of the Ministries committee.
7. Adopt the Overture Amending Act IX 2002 Anent Admission and Re-Admission of Ministers (As Amended).
On a vote being taken there were 32 for and 0 against

8. Instruct the interim chaplain and chaplain of the State Hospital to provide the ministries committee with a report on chaplaincy work at the State Hospital, Carstairs for October 2007 to June 2008 and June 2008 to October 2008 respectively by 21 October 2008.

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 21 October 2008:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 4 November 2008 at 7.00pm at St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 November 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of St. Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers; 26 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Helen Jamieson, and Rev David Carmichael, Ministers, and from David McTaggart and Stewart Toy, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7 October 2008, were held as read and approved

Good News Stories

Greta Stratton of Carluke: St. John's spoke of the recent concert held by the organist of the congregation and informed presbyters that a recording of the concert will be available for sale to help a young member of the congregation engaged in Christian work.

Mrs Jenny Worthington, Glencaple shared the work of the congregation, along with Lowther, in raising funds and boxes of goods for the charity 'Harvest Help' and offered details of the charity to presbyters.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

45. Two applications from Ministers of other churches wanting to be Ministers of the Church of Scotland have been received: Rev Kristina Herbold who is currently a Minister in the Regional Church of Hanover, and the Rev Robert Calhoun who is currently the Director of Heart Matters Counselling Ministries, and until fairly recently he was Associate at Alamo City Christian Fellowship.
46. The Moderator of the General Assembly each year has a meeting with the First Minister. Such meeting took place on 9 October and a statement was agreed: "The Leaders and Representatives of Scotland's Churches encourage our church communities and all people in Scotland to celebrate St. Andrew's Day this year as a day of prayer and reflection in which we will hold the principles of social justice and the difficulties facing the nation and world in our hearts and prayers in faith and hope before God." The Clerk has sent this on to Ministers
47. The Presbytery has been informed of a press release from Ecumenical relations: 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland will again partner BBC Radio 4 and BBC Local Radio to provide a rich worship and prayer resource for Lent 2009. This time, the Sense Making Faith Lent project will enable people to make their Lenten journey accompanied and inspired by worship, prayer and reflections prompted by the senses'.
48. The World Mission Council are advertising vacancies which they have in Jerusalem and Tiberias for an Ordained or lay person and for a Chemistry and/or French Teacher in Jaffa.
49. On 21 October a sick note in respect of Rev Beverley Gauld, Minister at Camwath from the Ministries Council for 8 weeks beginning 20 October. There have been follow-up e-mails from the Principal Clerk informing the Presbytery that the Meeting of the Commission of Assembly scheduled for 30 October had to be cancelled. Following this, the group who were to have represented the Presbytery at the commission met with John Chalmers who deals with the Pastoral Care of Ministers nationally and subsequently Mr Chalmers and the Clerk met with Mr Gauld. There have to be further meetings concerning this.
50. Lochaber Presbytery has informed the Presbytery that it has a number of vacancies and is looking for locum cover.
51. An e-mail was received from Douglas Galbraith concerning the pilot copy of a music magazine for the Church entitled: 'Different Voices'. He says that there has been a lot of encouragement but so far only 250 or so folks have subscribed and there would have to be many more subscribers if the magazine was to be viable.
52. An e-mail was received from the Secretary of the Moderator of the General Assembly to say that the Presbytery is due a visit from the Moderator during 2009 – 2010. It would be normal to have a small ad hoc committee to deal with this and the Business Committee will deal with that at its next meeting. Meanwhile the Presbytery been asked that it be represented at a meeting to take place in Edinburgh on 5 December. It would be normal for the Clerk and Convenor of the Business Committee to attend such an initial meeting. The Presbytery would also have to budget for this.
53. The Cairngorms Christian Centre has sent its latest newsletter and it has been circulated to Ministers.
54. The Presbytery is informed that 3 congregations have now transferred on to the Unitary Constitution Carluke: Kirkton, Biggar Parish Church and Libberton and Quothquan Parish Church. Culter has sent an application away as has Caingryffe.
55. Prisoners' Week is on 16-23 November and cards are available for distribution.
56. The Nominations Committee are seeking nominations for General Assembly Committees. If there is anyone who would like to serve on a General Assembly Council, please see the Convenor of the Business Committee

57. A letter has been received from the Church's Solicitor concerning water charges, and it's really to do with congregations that have water meters or have had water meters fitted. Whether or not congregations have a water meter, the letter from Business Stream who act for Scottish Water, states that you should not be paying for water.
58. The IT Dept in 121 have informed the Presbytery that the Church is soon to have a Fasti database. There will be forms available soon which all Ministers will be required to complete and send back to 121.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

12. Receive the Report
13. Appoint the Rev. Sarah Ross to the World and Community Issues Committee
14. Approve an Honorarium to the Presbytery Officer of £200 to be reviewed annually.
15. Note the invitation from Clyde Scout Council to Presbytery.
16. Invite representatives of the General Trustees to address the February 2009 meeting.
17. Note that the Kirk Session of Cairngryffe has unanimously agreed to adopt the unitary constitution.
18. Instruct the clerk to send a letter to all funeral directors in the area informing them of the period of sick leave of Rev. Beverly Gauld and the instruction that he should not be undertaking any parish work whilst off.
19. Instruct the clerk to send a letter to Rev. Beverly Gauld informing him of the decision of Presbytery that he is instructed by the Presbytery that he must not undertake any parish work of any kind during his period of sick leave and that all approaches should be directed to the Interim Moderator.
20. With regard to Mr Gauld returning to work to prepare for the Commission of Assembly as stated by the Occupational Health Service, instruct the clerk to confer with the Ministries Council and Principal Clerk's office as to their understanding of the situation that now pertains.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the Presbytery Plan and instruct the Clerk to forward the approved plan to Mr John Jackson of Ministries Council Task Group by 30 November 2008.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the figures for the 2009 Ministries & Mission allocations and instruct the Clerk to transmit them to the General Treasurers' Department in Edinburgh by the November deadline
3. Approve the transfer of the St Bride's Car Park from the control of the Congregation of Douglas Valley Church to South Lanarkshire Council and the Douglas Community Group and commend the Congregation in its stewardship as it takes these steps to secure its financial situation
4. Approve of the application to the General Trustees for financial aid in relation to a Manse provision 'Options Study' for Carluke: Kirkton and instruct the Clerk to send the completed application forms to the General Trustees
5. Approve the application for Grant Aid from Carluke: St. Andrew's for the creation of a new toilet / shower area in Carluke: St. Andrew's Manse and instruct the clerk to transmit the forms to the General Trustees

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the proposals contained in the report as a basis for the future development of the partnership with East Seoul Presbytery (PROK)
3. Thank the World Mission Council for helping to fund this particular trip, through its Faithshare Scheme, and for the extremely valuable help and advice given by staff.

4. Note the World Mission Rally to be held on Wednesday 12 November 2008 at 7:00pm in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church

The Deliverance was approved

AOCB

Mr Tom Smith, Ecumenical Representative reported on a conference organised by ACTS and the Ecumenical Relations Committee of the Church of Scotland.

Intimations

Mrs Mairi Sommerville, Guild Presbyterian Council Convenor reminded presbyters of Guild Week from 16 – 23 November 2008 and shared a prayer for peace. The moderator was presented with a copy of the prayer and a candle.

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 18 November 2008:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 2 December 2008 at 7.00pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Presbytery of Lanark Ministries and Mission Allocation 2009

Congregation	<i>04 – 06 Average Income</i>	05 – 07 Average Income	<i>2008 Actual Allocation</i>	2009 Proposed Allocation	Presbytery Adjusted Allocation
Biggar	74 802	76 734	45 062	44 924	44 488
Carlisle: Kirkton	97 505	105 656	59 819	62 630	61 000
Carlisle: St Andrews	48 821	52 379	27 174	29 620	28 674
Carlisle: St John's	79 952	82 972	48 409	48 792	48 356
Carnwath	44 487	46 358	25 357	26 091	25 218
Coalburn	17 336	19 014	7 332	7 992	7 556
C'stairs & C'stairs Jcn	47 151	44 384	24 450	24 867	24 431
Crossford	28 434	30 518	14 807	16 140	15 704
Culter	13 806	13 725	5 201	5 669	4 796
Douglas Valley	55 474	57 340	23 791	25 932	24 741
Blackmount	19 260	19 792	7 808	8 511	8 074
Glencaple	37 747	35 845	20 976	19 573	19 136
Forth St Paul's	54 176	56 751	30 136	32 535	31 636
Kirkfieldbank	18 810	19 874	8 505	9 270	8 834
Kirkmuirhill	109 146	125 531	65 021	70 873	66 021
Lanark: St Nicholas	86 258	90 661	51 187	53 559	52 256
Lanark: Greyfriars	85 531	88 805	52 036	52 408	51 972
Law	38 415	37 277	21 410	20 461	20 024
L'hagow Abbeygreen	77 746	77 797	46 975	45 584	45 147
L'hagow: Old	64 612	78 037	34 225	37 305	35 725
Libberton & Q'uan	13 419	15 454	3 665	3 995	3 559
Symington	37 040	40 688	18 093	19 721	19 285
Lowther	9 586	9 317	2 532	2 760	2 324
Cairngryffe	36 392	37 297	20 095	20 474	20 038
Total			664 057	689 686	668 995

Lanark, on Tuesday 2 December 2008, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in St. Nicholas' Parish Church, Lanark, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers; 19 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Aileen Robson, and Rev David Carmichael, Ministers, and from Helen Chekansky, Elizabeth Hiddleston and Irene Williams, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of a report from the Vacancy Procedure Committee

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 November 2008, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

59. An Extract Minute has been received from the Presbytery Planning Task Group to the effect that the Group has approved of our Presbytery Plan.
60. The General Trustees have informed the Presbytery that due to the down turn in the property markets, for the time being, they will not be able to offer Bridging Finance to congregations intent on replacing their Manse; and that their Agenda for meetings will have a cut-off time of the Wednesday prior to their meetings which normally take place on a Tuesday.
61. The Church of Scotland has been invited to send up to two representatives to the 32nd German Protestant Kirchentag to be held in Bremen from 20-24 May 2009.
62. The Rev Sarah Ross is expecting her second child in May 2009. At the moment, it looks as though she will be on Maternity Leave from 3 May to 1 November.
63. The first Church of Scotland Review was presented at the last General Assembly. The authors of this wish to make it an annual record and so they are seeking news stories etc for inclusion into the next Review.
64. The Solicitor of the Church is reminding the Presbytery that new laws came into effect on 30 November 2008 concerning all "workers" and students coming to the UK from countries out-with the European Economic Area and Switzerland. Any congregation wishing to know more about these new laws should be in touch with Mrs Wilson. Mrs Wilson is also informing the Presbytery that the next five yearly revaluation of non domestic buildings is due to take place in 2010. She is aware that some Assessors in preparation for this are already sending out questionnaires to congregations seeking information about their buildings. They do so backed up by statutory powers to obtain such information and the questionnaires should be responded to within the timescale given. At the end of the day, however, because of the exemption from non-domestic rates which church buildings receive, the exercise is mainly an academic one but could make a difference to those congregations paying for water on a non measured basis which have not been exempted under the Scheme.
65. The Rev Dr Jim Francis has written to the Presbytery informing of a call received by him to serve as a Chaplain with Her Majesty's Forces (Army) and seeking the permission of the Presbytery to demit his charge at Biggar from 12 January 2009.
66. The New Fasti Forms which were spoken about at the last meeting are now available. Some have been sent out by post with the presbytery papers and others are to be picked up.
67. The Yearly Congregational Statistics Forms are available. There is one for each congregation and the Clerk indicated that he needed these forms to be returned to him by the committee night in January i.e. 20 January 2009.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

21. Receive the Report
22. Appoint Dr Sinclair Scott as Presbytery's Representative on Clyde Regional Scout Council
23. Approve the purchase of a new lap top computer for the Presbytery Clerk
24. Note the meeting on 5 December 2008 to discuss the Moderator of the General Assembly's proposed visit to Lanark Presbytery in 2009/10
25. Approve requests from Carluke Parish Grouping and Lanark: St. Nicholas' and Lanark: Greyfriars to have Joint Services over Christmas period

26. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener of the Business Committee the right to act on behalf of the Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought
27. Note that Mr Campbell Thomson has resigned as the Presbytery Elder for Law Parish Church and is replaced by Mr Tom Chalmers

The Deliverance was approved

The Presbytery then took up discussion on the Third Article Declaratory of the Church of Scotland, material for which had been produced by the Rev Harry Findlay.

The Moderator thanked Mr Findlay for his work in producing the material and the Clerk proposed that a small committee be appointed to study the material and report to the Presbytery at a future date. The Committee would consist of the following who had volunteered: Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Ian Watson, Rev Harry Findlay (Convener), Mr Ewan Easton and Dr Sinclair Scott

This was approved by the Presbytery

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant permission for the Rev Dr Jim Francis to demit his charge at Biggar from the 12 January 2009

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Convener of the World and Community Issues Committee, Rev Iain Cunningham and those who travelled to Korea with him presented a report of their visit.

Rev Sarah Ross reported on a meeting of the South Lanarkshire Rural Partnership which she attended

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

5. Receive the report
6. Thank all those involved in the recent World Mission Rally, including the Moderator
7. Note that Sarah Ross has agreed to compile a bi-monthly Presbytery newsletter, including points for prayer, and invite conveners and members of Presbytery to pass on information of events and situations in congregations, as well as in Presbytery, that may be of interest. (This newsletter will also be shared with our partners in Korea.)

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Dr Jim Francis who invited the Treasurer, Mr Colin Young to present the Presbytery Budget for the ensuing year. Dr Francis then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

6. Receive the report
7. Receive the Presbytery Budget Paper appreciating the work of the Presbytery Treasurer and noting the various considerations having an impact on the Presbytery Dues: namely the ITEC requirement, the Moderator's Visit and the recent twinning of the Presbytery of Lanark and the Presbytery of East Seoul, Korea.
8. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2009
9. Grant powers to the Presbytery Clerk and the Convener of the Resources Committee to scrutinise the proposed project by Symington Church to develop an area of their sanctuary and if the project is found to be in order, the Clerk to sign and forward Form A to the General Trustees

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev Dr Graham Houston who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

3. Receive the report
4. Note with approval the comments of the Committee regarding the Superintendence issues relating to the report to the 2008 General Assembly on Congregational Conflict, including further comments received and

instruct the Clerk to send the Committee's report and deliverance to the Ministries Council before the deadline of 31 March 2009.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the resignation of Rev Helen Jamieson from Roadmeetings Hospital from 30 November 2008, and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to John Thomson of the Ministries Council regarding this resignation
3. Note the request for the completion of the workload survey, and forward the statistics to Tom Smith by 31 December 2008
4. Note the retreat on 2 February 2009
5. Instruct the Clerk to forward the completed Vacancy Schedule for Law Parish Church to the Ministries Council following a satisfactory Manse inspection

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 20 January 2009:

All Committees will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 3 February 2009 at 7.00pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 February 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in St. Nicholas' Parish Church, Lanark, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers; 22 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members. There were also 11 Visitors from Biggar Parish Church and 6 visitors from Law Parish Church. Both congregations had been cited to appear for their interests.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Alan Gibson, Ministers, and from Betty Smith, Dr Sinclair Scott and Alex McPhee, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the removal of the Report on World and Community Issues Committee

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2 December 2008, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. The Church is advertising the post of Parliamentary Officer to replace Graham Blount
2. An extract Minute was received from the Ministries Council noting and concurring with the Annual Review of the Presbytery Plan and also that we have completed our building categorisation
3. An extract Minute was received from the Ministries Council passing the Vacancy Schedule for Law
4. The Rev Sarah Ross has formally written concerning her Maternity Leave and confirming that, all being well, it will begin on 3 May
5. A letter has been received from Rev B Gauld stating his wish to demit from the charge of Carnwath on and from 28 February. This was to be dealt with under the Vacancy Procedure Committee
6. The Congregational Statistics forms were issued at the Presbytery Meeting in December. Some forms are still to be returned and it is now very, very urgent that they be returned to the Clerk as soon as possible

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

The Moderator formally welcomed the Visitors from Biggar and from Law.

The Moderator invited Mrs Caroline Deerin to address the Presbytery on behalf of the Rev Dr Jim Francis. Mrs Deerin spoke warmly of Dr Francis concerning his ministry at Biggar, his leadership skills and of the sadness of the congregation on his decision to leave them.

The Rev Bryan Kerr addressed the Presbytery and also spoke of the skills possessed by Dr Francis and of his friendship with him over many years.

Dr Francis was then invited to address the Presbytery.

The Moderator invited Mrs Ellen Young to address the Presbytery concerning the call from Law Parish Church address to the Rev Una Stewart.

The Interim Moderator, Rev Bryan Kerr spoke of the journey which he and the Congregation at Law, the Kirk Session and the Nominating Committee had taken together culminating in the Call addressed to Miss Stewart

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Rev. Dr. Jim Francis demitted the Charge of Biggar on 12 January 2009
3. Note that every effort will be made to expedite the discussions with Biggar and Blackmount, Culter and Libberton and Quothquan concerning the current Presbytery Plan to facilitate a timeous decision regarding the way forward and permission to call a minister
4. Note that the call from the congregation of Law Parish Church to the Rev Una Stewart has been sustained by the Vacancy Procedure Committee; the Call having been signed by 106 people and the Concurrence of Call signed by 20 people
5. Note that the Presbytery of Hamilton has agreed to release Rev Una Stewart from her current charge in Strathaven
6. Note that the Induction Service for the Rev Una Stewart will take place in Law Parish Church on Thursday 19 February 2009 at 7:00pm. The Moderator will preside and give the charges and the preacher will be the Rev Roy Cowieson

7. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has accepted the demission of the Rev Beverly Gauld from the Parish and Charge of Carnwath on and from 28 February 2009. The Congregation will be so informed and will be cited to appear for their interest at a future Meeting of the Presbytery
8. Presbytery further notes that whilst Mr Gauld will retain a Presbyterial Certificate and remain able to perform ministerial duties as Chaplain to the State Hospital, Carstairs, Lanark, he has formally agreed not to perform any ministerial duties within the Parish of Carnwath or for the parishioners of said Parish without the prior agreement of the then Parish Minister (or Interim Moderator). Presbytery hereby regards this term of the demission agreement as an instruction to Mr Gauld from the Presbytery of Lanark

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Homologate the appointment of the Rev Jim Cutler as Interim Moderator at Carnwath Parish Church
3. Homologate the appointment of the Rev Helen Jamieson as Convener of the Resources Committee on a pro tem basis until June 2009
4. Homologate the appointment of Rev Bryan Kerr as Interim Moderator at Biggar Parish Church
5. Homologate and note the taking place of a service in Biggar Parish Church on Thursday 26 February 2009 at 7:00pm to introduce Rev Dr Jim Francis as a Chaplain to H.M. Forces (Army)
6. Note that the Moderator of the General Assembly will visit Lanark Presbytery from the 6 – 15 March 2010 and that the Business Committee will be the organising committee for the visit
7. Agree to delete Standing Order No. 19
8. Note that an event for elders where instruction will be given in the administrative duties of Interim Moderators will be arranged. Ministers and Presbytery Elders are requested to inform their Kirk Sessions of this opportunity and encourage elders to attend this event
9. Note that the Presbytery meeting of 3 March 2009 will take place in Coalburn Parish Church at 7:00pm.
10. Note with pleasure and congratulate Tom Smith on receiving a Community Service Award

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Invite nominations by 13 March from ministers and Kirk Sessions for suitable young people who are aged between 18 and 25 (on 21 May 2008) and are regularly involved in the life and worship of a congregation within the bounds to attend the General Assembly in May
3. Invite nominations by 13 March from ministers and Kirk Sessions for suitable young people who are aged between 16 and 25 to attend the National Youth Assembly in Stirling from 4 – 7 September 2008
4. Urge congregations to send volunteers for children's work to the Child Protection Training taking place in Kirkmuirhill on Tuesday 10 March at 7:00pm. (Now to take place at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall)

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Clerk who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant permission to the Kirk Session at Biggar to consult with the General Trustees and the Legal Department with a view to selling the existing manse

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev Dr Graham Houston who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report

2. Commend the Interim Moderator and Kirk Session of Douglas Valley Church for maintaining momentum during the vacancy through a Session Conference and urge them to organise another in 2009 on the development of pastoral care
3. Thank the Locum, Rev David Easton, for his ongoing ministry in pulpit, pastoral work, and school chaplaincies
4. Urge the Kirk Session of Douglas Valley to consult with the Congregational Development Committee about the possibility of appointing a parish development worker
5. Instruct the Committee to explore new initiatives in the support of congregations during vacancies and report to the June 2009 meeting
6. Note that the Annual Inspection of Records is set for 19 February 2009 and instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that records are submitted according to the requirements on the appended information page

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the appointment of Rev Susan Cowell as temporary part-time sessional chaplain at Lady Home Hospital from 1 January 2009 and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to Mr John Thomson of the Ministries Council
3. Note the vacancies for part-time sessional chaplains at Kello and Roadmeetings Hospitals
4. Thank Rev I Watson for his assistance in organising the retreat, and Rev P White for his offer of help and support both by himself and his congregation
5. Approve the report on Congregational Conflict and instruct the Clerk to forward the report to the Ministries Council
6. Note the completed study leave form from Rev U Stewart, which has been agreed already by Ministries Council, to attend Tearfund Inspire Tour to Russia from 13 April to 4 May 2009, visiting various projects and partners and on return being available as a speaker

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 17 February 2009:

All Committees except Congregational Support and Resources will meet at 7.00pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet *in hunc effectum* at Law Parish Church on Thursday 19 February 2009 at 7:00pm for the Induction of the Rev Una Stewart to Law Parish. The Presbytery will also meet *in hunc effectum* at Biggar Parish Church on Thursday 26 February 2009 at 7:00pm for the Introduction Service to HM Forces Chaplaincy (Army) for the Rev Dr Jim Francis; and on Tuesday 3 March 2009 at 7.00pm at Coalburn Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Law, on Thursday 19 February 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Law Parish Church to induct Rev Una Stewart to the charge of Law Parish, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers; 10 Elders and 2 Corresponding Members. There were also 4 visitors associating with Presbytery: Rev Ewan Ross (Falkirk), Rev Scott Raby (Stirling), Rev Bruce Sinclair (Hamilton) and Rev Peter Johnston (Hamilton)

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev John Turnbull; Rev Philip Jones; Rev Jack Stewart; Ministers, from Robert Carson, Alex McPhee, Dr Sinclair Scott and Jim Sinclair Elders; and from Mairi Somerville and Colin Young, Corresponding Members

Induction of Miss Una Stewart

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Rev Una Stewart, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Roy Cowieson conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Rev Una Stewart was inducted to the Congregation and Parish of Law by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service the call was presented to Rev Una Stewart and Anna Lumsden expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to Mr Cowieson for their conduct of the service of induction.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet *in hunc effectum* at Biggar Parish Church on Thursday 26 February 2009 at 7:00pm for the Introduction Service to HM Forces Chaplaincy (Army) for the Rev Dr Jim Francis

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Biggar, on Thursday 26 February 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Biggar Parish Church for the Introduction Service to HM Forces Chaplaincy (Army) of the Rev Dr Jim Francis

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 ministers; 12 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member. There were also 6 visitors associating with Presbytery: Rev Steven Blakey (Army Chaplaincy), Rev Peter Eagles (Army Chaplaincy), Rev James Gibson (Hamilton) and Rev Ian Paterson (Stirling), Rev Stewart Gillan (West Lothian), Ministers and Douglas Hunter, Elder (Edinburgh)

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Sarah Ross, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Philip Jones, Rev Jack Stewart; Ministers, from Elizabeth Hiddleston, Alex McPhee, and Dr Sinclair Scott, Elders; and from Jean Morton and Colin Young, Corresponding Members

Introduction of Dr Jim Francis to HM Forces Chaplaincy (Army)

The appropriate papers being laid before the court the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Bryan Kerr conducted worship, preached the sermon and Rev Ian Paterson read the lessons. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Rev Dr Jim Francis was introduced to HM Forces Chaplaincy (Army) by the Moderator. Rev James Gibson welcomed Dr Francis into Army Chaplaincy and presented a letter of appointment to him. The Rev Peter Eagles led the congregation in prayer. After the service Anna Lumsden expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, Mr Paterson, Mr Kerr, Mr Gibson, Mr Eagles and the Clerk for their conduct of the service

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 3 March 2009 at 7.00pm at Coalburn Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Coalburn, on Tuesday 3 March 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Coalburn Parish Church, Lanark, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers; 21 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member. There was also present Mr Martyn Payne from 'Barnabas' (BRF Children's Ministry)

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev David Carmichael, Rev Harry Findlay and Rev Jim Francis, Ministers, from Ruth Campbell, Moira White, Jennifer Worthington and Ray Wilson, Elders; and from Jean Morton and Colin Young, Corresponding Members

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of a Report on Congregational Development Committee

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3 February 2009, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

7. NHS Lothian is advertising for a full time chaplain at St. John's Hospital in Livingstone.
8. Alan Staff has relinquished his position as Chief Executive with Crossreach
9. Scottish Church Heritage Research Ltd is to have a conference focusing on Church Interiors to take place in the Story Telling Centre, 43/45 High Street, Edinburgh on Saturday 25 April from 9:15 – 5:00
10. There is a procedure outlined by the Legal Dept. for changing the name of your congregation in the eyes of OSCR – the charities regulator
11. Ministers would receive a flyer concerning a meeting that's to take place at Hairmyers Hospital on 30 March at 10:30am. This meeting is to be addressed by Rev Tom Gordon who is Chaplain at the Marie Curie Hospice in Edinburgh
12. Waverley Care's next 'Come and Sing' event is to be a singing workshop conducted by John Rutter in Wellington Church in Glasgow on 28 March from 11:00 – 5:00
13. A DVD has been received from Care Scotland entitled 'Keeping Faith in Schools – How Churches are making a difference'

Good News Stories

Mrs Irene Williams informed the Presbytery of a visit to The United Parish or Carstairs and Carstairs Junction of an African Children's Choir from 14-17 June

Mr Martyn Payne – Barnabas

The Moderator welcomed Mr Martyn Payne from Barnabas which is part of the Bible Reading Fellowship (Children's Ministry) and invited him to address the Presbytery.

Mr Payne brought the greetings of his organisation and spoke informatively of the work he is called to do. He also spoke of his current visit to the Carlisle area and of the exciting challenges which he has brought to the children's groups of the area.

The Moderator called for questions and comments after which he thanked Mr Payne for his lively and informative presentation

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Appoint Rev. Alan Gibson as Interim Moderator and Rev. Susan Cowell as Locum from 3 May 2009 until the Rev. Sarah Ross returns to full duties at Forth: St Paul's following her maternity leave
3. Note that the Presbytery dues for 2009 are set at £2.75 per capita
4. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to send a letter to the Finance Committee of the Ministries Council applying for a second day's locum cover for the Parish of Carnwath
5. Appoint Rev. John Turnbull as Locum at Carnwath Parish Church from the beginning of April 2009, the exact date yet to be determined
6. Note that the Commissioners to the 2009 General Assembly will be the Ministers and an elder from each of the rota charges of Lanark: Greyfriars, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, Cairngryffe lw Symington, the Presbytery Clerk together with Rev. Alison Meikle and an elder from Carnwath

7. Note with regret and accept the resignation of the Rev. Sarah Ross as the Presbytery's Representative for Ecumenical Relations
8. Presbytery extends sincere thanks to the Minister, the Kirk Session and the congregation of Coalburn Parish Church for their hospitality and fellowship this evening

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the gift of £50 to Rev P White for his time taken to organise the retreat
3. Note thanks to the ministers for their timeous return of the mileage logbooks for 2008 and to the committee for their help in expediting this in the first instance
4. Note the continuing vacant position of part-time sessional chaplain at Roadmeetings Hospital

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convenor, Rev Iain Cunningham who sought Presbytery's indulgence to hear a report on South Lanarkshire Council's Education Resources Committee which was presented by Rev Sarah Ross. There was no deliverance

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr. There was no deliverance

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Clerk who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

3. Receive the Report
4. Grant permission to the Kirk Session at Biggar to consult with the General Trustees and the Legal Department with a view to selling the existing manse

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev Dr Graham Houston who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Thank all office-bearers within the bounds who engage in record-keeping, and urge all Presbytery Elders to ensure that records are submitted annually on time
3. Instruct all clerks of boards and sessions to ensure that the pages of all minutes of meetings which are produced loose-leaf are numbered consecutively
4. Thank and discharge assessor elders at Lesmahagow: Old, Irene Williams, George Forbes, and Anna Lumsden, noting with pleasure the positive developments which are taking place under the leadership of minister and Kirk Session

The Deliverance was approved

Notification of Committees Meeting scheduled to take place on Tuesday 17 March 2009:

The Congregational Support Committee would be addressed by Mrs Sheila Gunn, solicitor, on discrimination and bullying. Other members of Presbytery would be made welcome. The Resources Committee would meet at 7:00pm and the Ministries Committee would meet at 7:00 on 25 March at Lanark.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 31 March 2009 at 7.00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 31 March 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers; 19 Elders and 4 Corresponding Member. There were also present 9 visitors from Carnwath Parish Church and Rev Rachel Dobie from the Ministries Council Self Assessment Scheme

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Sarah Ross and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and from Donald Barrie, Ewan Easton, David McTaggart and Dr Sinclair Scott, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3 March 2009, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

14. The Mission and Discipleship Council have meetings from time to time for Presbytery Representatives and the Presbytery is asked to nominate a person to be our representative. The Congregational Development Committee has been asked to nominate someone.
15. The Presbytery has been informed that Mr Iain Johnstone who worked in the Law Department for 24 years has died. Ian had been ill for a number of months with pancreatic cancer and fought the good fight throughout that time against increasing pain and weakness.
16. The Church and Society Council will be holding a conference on Thursday 7 May, for School Chaplains when the theme will be Religious Observance and Informal Worship. It will be held at 121 George Street and will run from 10 to 4pm.
17. An organization that calls itself RUN is having a conference on 'Handling Change'. It's being hosted by Orchardhill Parish Church, Giffnock on Thursday, 23 April 2009. A Flier concerning the conference is available.
18. There's to be a day conference for elders who would feel that they could serve as Interim Moderators. It's to take place in Dundee on 13 June.
19. The General Trustees have now given their agreement to the replacement of the Manse at Biggar.
20. Members of Presbytery should know that the Principal Clerk, the Very Rev Findlay Macdonald has been quite unwell; indeed he's had major surgery for a condition known as ulcerative colitis. There was nothing malignant found and no Crohn's either. He is now out of hospital and making good progress. His place is being filled the Depute Principal Clerk the Rev Marjory McLean and her place is being taken by the Rev Peter Graham.
21. The update lists for the Church of Scotland Year Book are available and all Ministers are asked to check their details and alter them if necessary.
22. The Clerk drew the attention of the Members of Presbytery to the fact that when the General Assembly is meeting, we should not have an official meeting of any lower court of the Church without the permission of the General Assembly. Similarly, when the Presbytery is meeting including *in hunc effectum* or *pro renata* meetings, the lower courts of the Church should not be meeting without the permission of the Presbytery. Such lower courts will probably be given permission to meet, but it is procedure and good manners to ask.

Good News Stories

There were no Good New Stories shared

Rev Rachel Dobie – Self Assessment

The Moderator welcomed Rev Rachel Dobie and invited her to address the Presbytery on the subject of 'Self Assessment for Ministers'

The Moderator called for questions and comments after which he thanked Mrs Dobie for her informative presentation

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Rev. B. Gauld demitted the charge of Carnwath on 28 February 2009

3. Note that the Carnwath vacancy is sisted and the Congregational Support Committee is strenuously seeking the services of an Interim Minister
4. Note that the Rev. Robert Cleland will preach as sole nominee for the charge of Douglas Valley on Sunday 19 April 2009

The Moderator formally welcomed the visitors from Carnwath and invited Mrs Betty McLeod to address the Presbytery. Mrs McLeod spoke of the vacancy at Carnwath due to the retiral of Rev Beverly Gauld, of the many years of Mr Gauld's ministry at Carnwath and of the sadness of the congregation on his retiral. The Rev Beverly Gauld was not present at the meeting.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. *Note that application for the vacant elder commission for the General Assembly 2009 is immediately required.*
3. Note that all other Commissioners to the 2009 General Assembly must lodge all their details including bank details with the Presbytery Clerk by March 31 at the latest
4. Thank the Very Rev David Lacey, Rev Ian Watson and Mrs Helen Chekansky for their willingness to serve on the Committee of Inquiry regarding Carnwath Parish Church set up under Act I (1988) and discharge the committee
5. Note that the Rev John Turnbull commences his duties as Locum at Carnwath Parish Church on Sunday 5 April 2009
6. Approve confirmation of the reservation for accommodation at New Lanark Hotel for the Moderator of the General Assembly during the dates 6 to 15 March 2010

The convener moved that section 2 of the deliverance be withdrawn and it was agreed.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report on the 3rd Article Declaratory

The Report on the 3rd Article Declaratory was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the transmission of the Report to the Special Commission

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the nomination of Mr Alan Shearer from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church as the Presbytery Youth representative to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in May 2009 and instruct the clerk to send notification of this nomination to the Mission and Discipleship Council

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Rev Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Grant permission to the congregation of Carnwath to proceed with further redevelopment work at Auchengray Church Centre at a cost of £84 354 with a further expenditure of £25 185 on internal fittings on the basis of an instruction that
 - a. the project must be fully funded by external bodies and therefore at no cost to the Church
 - b. the services of the architect must be retained until completion of the project to ensure necessary supervision.
3. Grant permission to Carluke: St. John's to proceed with repairs to heating system in Church at a cost of around £25 000 and with the installation of audio visual equipment at a cost of £6 370
4. Grant permission to the congregations of Carnwath and Culter not to make contributions to central funds by standing order
5. Instruct all charges to present one set of accounts and required property information including the manse condition schedule to the Resources Committee on Tuesday 21 April 2009 at 7:00pm

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the tentative arrangements for the 2009 September retreat and inform the Rev A Meikle if interested in attending.
3. Approve Rev Jim Cutler as temporary part-time chaplain at the Kello Hospital from 1 April 2009, and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to Mr J Thomson of the Ministries Council.
4. Approve the project at Auchengray Church Centre but with the instruction that the Kirk Session must have oversight and take ownership of all its buildings and all the worship within the bounds of the parish.
5. Approve the emergency heating works at Carluke: St. John's.
6. Approve that the Remit on Building on the Future should be addressed by all presbytery committees.

It was moved and seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 4 of the Deliverance: To alter the wording to read: "Approve the project at Auchengray Church Centre and instruct the Kirk Session of Carnwath Church to fulfil its obligations in oversight and take responsibility for all its buildings and all the worship within the bounds of the parish."

The convenor moved and it was agreed as an addendum to the Deliverance: Add a new section 7 and 8

7. Accept Mr Ross Blackman as an approved person to lead worship within the bounds of Lanark Presbytery
8. Instruct the clerk to forward the annual inspection of log books form to Ministries Council

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the Deliverance: Add a new section 9

9. Instruct the ministries committee to formally transmit a copy of the current presbytery plan to each session clerk

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Rev Ian Watson who spoke of a meeting held on the recent Committee Night which was addressed by Mrs Sheila Gunn on the subject of 'discrimination and bullying'

There was no deliverance.

Committees Meeting on Tuesday 21 April 2009

The Moderator reminded members that Presbytery Committees meet on Tuesday 21 April 2009

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 5 May 2009 at 7:00pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 May 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers; 22 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members. There were also present a number of visitors from the Douglas Valley Church

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Sarah Ross and Rev Roy Cowieson, Ministers, and from Donald Barrie and Tom Chalmers, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 31 March 2009, were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

23. Following the retirement of the Rev Douglas Nichol the Mission and Discipleship Council are looking to employ a new General Secretary. The details are available.
24. There are new rules and regulations which govern the employment of people from outside the EEC. The Ministries Council are informing us that these apply to Ministers also
25. A letter has been received from Carluke: Kirkton concerning the repairs and upgrade of the Manse and informing Presbytery that the Kirk Session has a preferred option. They need the General Trustees and the Presbytery's agreement to proceed with this and a meeting with representatives of the Congregation, the General Trustees and the Clerk as a representative of Presbytery; this meeting will take place on Wednesday 6 May
26. Rev Sarah Ross has informed the Presbytery that she will begin her maternity leave on 3 May and she will be taking 39 weeks leave.
27. The Mission and Discipleship Council are having a course for Elders Moderating Kirk Session Meetings. It's to take place in Dumfries at the Woodlands House Hotel on 26 September from 10:00am – 3:30pm. There is a charge of £10.00 for the day.
28. The Ministries Council have agreed to pay for a second day a week for locum cover for Carnwath for a period of 6 months
29. Again the update lists for the Church of Scotland Year Book are available. Ministers are asked to check their details and alter them if necessary.
30. A letter has been received from Rev. Bob Devenny giving names, contact telephone numbers and e-mail addresses for the full time chaplains at Wishaw Monklands, Hairmyers and Mental Health. Copies of the letter are available for Ministers

Good News Stories

There were no Good New Stories shared, however the Moderator on behalf of Presbytery offered congratulations and good wishes to the Clerk and Mrs Cutler on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding

Report of Lanark Presbyterial Guild Council

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Mairi Somerville, President of the Lanark Presbyterial Guild Council. Mrs Somerville presented the Annual Report in which she highlighted the following:

The Annual Meeting was again held in Dundee. The three year Discussion Topic has been: 'Let's Live, Body, Mind and Soul' and this year concentrating on 'He restores my soul'. Many of the Guilds in the Presbytery have been focusing on 'Let's talk about the search for spirituality'. And again with other Christian Organisations, the fight against Human Trafficking is one cause in which the Guild is deeply involved.

Guild Week ran from 16-23 November and one notable speaker at Douglas Water and Rigside was May Nicholson from Preshal Trust in Govan.

The Council participates at National and International levels with women's organisations and there are currently 21 Guilds and one Young Woman's Group within the Council.

The Moderator congratulated the Guild on its achievements and thanked Mrs Somerville for her Report

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee:

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden who informed the Presbytery that on Sunday 19 March 2009 Rev. Robert Cleland was elected to be Minister to Douglas Valley Church.

The Moderator invited members of the Douglas Valley Church to address the Presbytery. The Presbytery was addressed by Mr Andrew Robinson and then by the Interim Moderator, Rev Ian Watson concerning Rev Robert Cleland. Mrs Lumsden then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note with regret the resignation of the Rev. Bryan Kerr as Interim Moderator at Biggar.
3. Note the Kirk Session Meeting attended by representatives of the Vacancy Procedure Committee on 22 April 2009 and refer the matters of unresolved issues at Biggar to the Congregational Support Committee.
4. Appoint Rev. Roy Cowieson as Interim Moderator at Biggar for an initial period of 6 months.
5. Note that the Call addressed to the Rev. Robert Cleland from the congregation of Douglas Valley Church has been sustained by the Vacancy Procedure Committee and the Induction Service will take place on 19 May 2009 in Douglas: St. Bride's Parish Church at 7:00pm
6. Appoint Rev. Iain Cunningham as Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe l/w Symington for the duration of the illness of the Rev Dr. Graham Houston.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that press releases to the local press will be issued on 22 May 2009 informing people of the Moderator's visit to Lanark Presbytery in 2010.
3. Note the dates for the Presbytery meetings and Presbytery Committee meetings for 2009/10 attached.
4. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
5. Agree to appoint Rev Ian Watson as a commissioner to the General Assembly to take the place of Rev Dr Graham Houston who is still on sick leave.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

In the absence of the Convenor, Rev Graham Houston, the report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Vice Convenor, Rev Margaret Muir, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Progress is being made regarding Interim Ministry at Carnwath and representatives of the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Council will meet with the Office Bearers of Carnwath on Thursday 7 May.

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

3. Receive the report.
4. Approve the nomination of Mr Alan Shearer from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church as the Presbytery Youth representative to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in May 2009 and instruct the clerk to send notification of this nomination to the Mission and Discipleship Council

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Rev Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that when Sophos anti-virus expires Ministers should uninstall Sophos from their computers and use AVG free until the purchase and supply of new computers in 2010
3. Instruct the Resources Convener to write to Cathy Robertson, Assistant Treasurer (Ministries) to seek to have the accumulated arrears of £12,140 for the charge of Carnwath written off.
4. Instruct the congregations of Carluke: Kirkton, and Lowther to submit their accounts to the Resources Committee.

5. Instruct the congregation of Carluke: Kirkton to submit the required property information to the Resources Committee
6. Note that a meeting of property conveners will be arranged later this year and request Presbytery elders supply (in writing) the name and contact details of their property convener to the Convener of the Resources committee by the next committee night in order that invitations be issued.
7. Having consulted with and accepted advice from the Committee on Art and Architecture, grant permission to Coalburn Church to re-erect a plaque in memory of Rev Peter Walker in Coalburn Church.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage ministers and elders to consider training as Local Assessors/Presbytery Representatives for the National Enquiry and Assessment Scheme.

The Deliverance was approved

Committees Meeting on Tuesday 2 June 2009

The Moderator reminded members that Presbytery Committees meet on Tuesday 2 June 2009

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet *in hunc effectum* at Douglas: St. Bride's Parish Church on Tuesday 19 May 2009 at 7:00pm for the Induction of the Rev. Robert Clelland.

The Presbytery will also meet for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion on 16 June 2008 at 7.00 pm at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and then for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Douglas, on Tuesday 19 May 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Douglas: St. Bride's Parish Church to induct Rev Robert Clelland to the charge of the Douglas Valley Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers; 16 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member. There were also 2 visitors associating with Presbytery: Rev Jim Robertson from Inverness and Mr Len Cazaly, elder from Inverness.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev John Turnbull; Rev Bryan Kerr and Rev Steven Reid; Ministers, from David Hodgson, Elder; and from Jean Morton and Colin Young, Corresponding Members

Induction of Mr Robert Clelland

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Rev Robert Clelland, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Alan Gibson conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Rev Robert Clelland was inducted to the charge of the Douglas Valley Church by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service the call was presented to Rev Robert Clelland and Rev Alison Meikle expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and to the rev Alan Gibson for their conduct of the service of induction.

Adjournment: The Presbytery will meet for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion on 16 June 2008 at 7.00 pm at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and then for Ordinary Business

Closure: The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Kirkmuirhill, on Tuesday 16 June 2009, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church conducted by the Moderator, Mr Andrew Brown, the Sacrament being celebrated by the Rev Ian Watson, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers; 18 Elders and 2 Corresponding Members. There were also present 2 visitors, Roddy Dick, Auxiliary Minister in training at Carluke: Kirkton and the Presbytery's Youth Representative at the General Assembly.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Aileen Robson and Rev David Carmichael, Rev Bryan Kerr, and Rev John Turnbull, Ministers, and from Ruth Campbell, Elizabeth Hiddleston, Greta Stratton, Jean Morton and Willie MacSween, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5 May 2009, were held as read and approved

Roll of the Presbytery

The Clerk laid on the table the completed Roll of the Presbytery containing the names of 16 Ministers in Charges, 10 Retired Ministers, and 1 Minister serving with H M Armed Forces; 24 Commissioned Elders (6 New Elders) and 8 corresponding members; there are currently 2 vacant charges. Last year there were 8 Additional Elders. Mrs Betty Smith having resigned, the total is now 7

The Moderator welcomed the new Elders who were present and Rev Robert Cleland to his first meeting of the Presbytery

Report of Diligence at the General Assembly

Mrs Liliash Nicholls (Libberton and Quothquan) and Mrs Retta Sleight (Carnwath) reported enthusiastically concerning their attendance at the General Assembly and spoke warmly and very highly of their first experience of being commissioners to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

Mr Alan Shearer who was the Presbytery's Youth representative at the General Assembly also reported on his attendance and spoke warmly of his experiences at the Assembly.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. There were available letters addressed to each Session Clerk from the Girls' Brigade. Members were asked to please make sure that Session Clerks received these letters
2. The World Mission Council has some posts available in Dhaka and Malawi – anyone interested can receive the information from the Clerk
3. An Insurance Certificate has been received in respect of the Rev Dr Graham Houston. Flowers and a card have been sent to Graham and Irene
4. Rev Sarah Ross has had her baby – a little girl. Flowers and a card have been sent
5. The Rev Bill Whitson is a retired Minister and a member of the Presbytery of West Lothian. He wishes the Presbytery of Lanark to know that he is available for Locum work and Pulpit Supply. His details are in the Red Book
6. The General Treasurer has informed the Presbytery that a number of congregations have still not submitted their accounts for 2008 to 2011. They are Biggar, Culter, Kirkmuirhill, Law, Symington and Lanark: Greyfriars
7. The Mission and Discipleship Council are reminding the Presbytery that the National Youth Assembly takes place at Stirling University from 4 – 7 September and places are still available. The contact is Steve Mallon if you know of anyone who would like to go
8. The Presbytery Year Book is available this evening for members to uplift their copy. There is also a copy for Session Clerks

Good News Stories – there were no Good News Stories shared

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Thank the Moderator and Rev. Ian Watson, the Kirk Session and members of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church for their hospitality this evening.
3. Note the nomination of the Rev. David Easton as Moderator of Presbytery for the year 2009/10.

4. Approve the membership of committees for the coming year as listed.
5. Resolve to have an informal buffet meal at 6pm on 1 September prior to the Presbytery meeting.
6. Note that the Presbytery Year Book for 2009/10 is available for collection this evening.
7. Grant permission to the churches in Carluke and to the churches in Lanark to have combined services during the summer period.
8. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and the Convenor of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

In the absence of the convener, Rev Alison Meikle, the Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Helen Chekansky who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that at this time, the Ministries Committee is not able to approve the Basis of Deferred Linkage for Biggar and Blackmount linked with Culter linked with Libberton & Quothquan, and support is offered to these congregations in their decision-making process.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Rev Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the necessary repairs to stonework and stained glass windows at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church and the transmission of the relevant financial limit application forms for these repairs to the General Trustees.
3. a) Agree in principle to the project to refurbish the manse of Carluke: Kirkton Church:
 - to purchase a small strip of land from South Lanarkshire Council,
 - tidy up the boundary lines of the property and sell part of the manse garden behind the existing manse with outline planning permission for the erection of one house.
 - to utilise the proceeds of the sale of the ground to refurbish the existing manseb) Instruct the Office bearers of Carluke: Kirkton to ensure that the provision of adequate alternative housing for the manse family and associated removal costs are included within the costs of the refurbishment of the existing manse
4. Grant permission to the Kirk Session of Carluke: Kirkton Church to make application to the General Trustees for funds to assist with the refurbishment of the Manse.
5. Approve the application of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to the Central Fabric Fund for 'assistance with the part purchase of their new manse'.
6. Note serious concerns regarding the interior and exterior of the Manse at Carnwath
7. Advise the Office Bearers of the charge of Carnwath to refrain from any further expenditure on the Manse until such times as a thorough review of all possible options has been undertaken.
8. Instruct the Resources Committee to organise a meeting between representatives of Presbytery, General Trustees and Office Bearers of Carnwath at the earliest opportunity.
9. Note that Property Registers have been duly inspected and any defects found have been highlighted for attention by the congregations concerned.
10. Note that nine Presbytery Property Inspections will be undertaken by architects and reports submitted to the Resources Committee by December 2009.
11. a) approve the Presbytery accounts for 2008
 - b) Instruct the Clerk to forward a signed copy to the General Treasurer's Department.
 - c) Instruct the Clerk to write to Mr Tom Anderson, Independent Examiner, and his assistant, Mr David Clarkson, of I A Stewart & Co. Chartered Accountants, expressing Presbytery's appreciation of their efforts in carrying out the examination and help with the accounts production process.
 - d) Record sincere appreciation to Mr Colin Young, Presbytery Treasurer for all his efforts in preparing and presenting the accounts in the new format.
12. Instruct the congregation of Carluke: Kirkton to forward their accounts to Mr Colin Young for inspection and their Property Information to the Resources Convener.
13. Instruct the congregations of Biggar, Culter, Lanark: Greyfriars, Kirkmuirhill. Law and Symington to forward their accounts to the General Treasurers Department.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Invite all congregations to complete the questionnaire informing the committee of their links with the wider world church and overseas missions.
3. Note the committee's priorities for the session September 2009 to June 2010
4. Note the date of the "World Mission Rally" of 25 November 2009 and note that responsibility for organising the event will be taken over by the Guild Presbyterial Council.
5. Note the intention to host visitors from our partner Presbytery (East Seoul Presbytery, PROK) in 2010.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

In the absence of the Convenor, Rev Graham Houston, the report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Vice Convenor, Rev Margaret Muir, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Warmly commend the Office bearers of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction for their perseverance in faith and hope during the lengthy vacancy and for their clear enthusiasm for outreach to the community
3. Commend the Minister and the Office bearers of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction for their "Journey Ahead" booklet setting out clear but realistic aims
4. Rejoice with the Minister and the Office bearers of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction in the clear aims, teamwork and good relationships already established at the beginning of a new ministry
5. Recommend to the Minister and the Office bearers of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction prayerful consideration of a stewardship campaign and consideration of and discussion with the Presbytery Ministries and Resources Committees regarding the current and long term use of the two church buildings
6. Commend the Office bearers of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction for progress already made in "Cementing the Union" and encourage the congregation in their endeavours to make the union a success
7. Note the ongoing difficulty in selling the manse at the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and offer the continuing support and advice of the Presbytery
8. Commend the Minister, his family and the Office bearers and Congregation of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to the ongoing prayers of the Presbytery
9. Advise the members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Quinquennial Report of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction together with the "Journey Ahead" booklet can be provided on request
10. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant section of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerk of the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
11. Following agreement by the Office bearers and Members of the Congregation of Carnwath to proceed with Interim Ministry, submit a request to the Council of Ministries to provide this charge with an Interim Minister at the earliest possible opportunity
12. Appoint Mr Alex McPhee and Mr Willie MacSween as Assessor Elders to the charge of Biggar for a period of six months and instruct them to report to the Congregational Support Committee by November 2009 Committee Meeting
13. Note that the Congregational Support Committee will continue to provide ongoing monitoring and support to the charge of Biggar

The Deliverance was approved

Committees Meeting on Tuesday 2 June 2009

The Moderator reminded members that Presbytery Committees meet on Tuesday 18 August 2009

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet on 1 September 2009 at 7.00 pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 September 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of St. Nicholas Church, Lanark, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers; 23 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members. There were also present 11 visitors from Biggar, Black Mount Culter and Libberton and Quothquan whose congregations had been cited to appear for their interests

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Graham Houston, Minister, Irene Williams, David Whitefield, Stewart Toy and Robert Carson, Elders and Mairi Somerville, Corresponding Member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Election and Installation of new moderator

The Presbytery elected Rev David Easton as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2009/10. Mr Andrew Brown welcomed Mr Easton, installed him as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited him to take the chair. The new Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Mr Brown for his service in his year as Moderator.

In recognition of Andrew Brown being the first Elder Moderator of the Presbytery of Lanark, he received a special framed certificate.

Report of the Ministries Committee (Basis of Linking):

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Alison Meikle, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the Draft Basis of Linking for Biggar, l/w Black Mount l/w Culter l/w Libberton and Quothquan

The Deliverance was approved

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2009 were held as read and approved

Good News Stories

Law Parish Church had sent a leaflet out to all members of the parish

Lesmahagow: Old had re-established the 1st Lesmahagow Boys' Brigade Company

Carluke: Kirkton will be welcoming visitors from Korea within the next two weeks

Kirkmuirhill are employing a full-time evangelist

The congregations in Carluke had enjoyed a successful Holiday Week for children

Carluke: St. John's have successfully completed recent renovation work

Rev Sarah Ross' baby is to be baptised in the near future.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A number of items were left for members of Presbytery to look at from a DVD concerning the Church of Scotland and the United Free Church working together to adverts for courses and events. .
2. A letter was received from the Ministries Council informing the Presbytery that Mr Andrew Brown and Mr David Waters (elders, Kirkmuirhill) have diligently taken part in a recent Event for Elders training as Interim Moderators.
3. There's to be a Presbytery Representatives Meeting of the Mission and Discipleship Council on 10 September. This was passed to Rev Alan Gibson.
4. Hairmyres Hospital is opening a new Sanctuary Area on 29 October and NHS Lanarkshire has asked for a representative of the Presbytery to attend.
5. The Rev Dr Robert Anderson is attempting to raise some sort of legal case concerning the conduct of the recent General Assembly. He is seeking the support of Presbyteries. It will be taken up by the Business Committee and reported on at a future meeting.
6. The Ministries Council have sent extract Minutes approving of the work at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church and also a minute concerning the Basis of Linking for Biggar, Blackmount, Culter and Libberton & Quothquan, merely noting the position. They are awaiting an extract Minute from Presbytery
7. A flower card has been sent to Graham and Irene Houston and a card acknowledging this has been received from them.

8. The Bible Society has asked to come and speak to the Presbytery and the Business Committee will be looking at a date when this can happen.
9. A letter has been received from the General Trustees informing us that a grant of some £18,000 has been awarded to Carstairs to assist with the shortfall concerning the sale of their previous Manse.
10. A Letter has been received from the Principal Clerk informing us the Rev Frank Gosling and the Rev Professor Francis Dalrymple-Hamilton do not have any standing within the Church of Scotland.
11. The Presbytery Year Book is available again this evening for members to uplift their copy. There is also a copy for your Session Clerk, so please take it to him or her.
12. The Solicitor of the Church is reminding the Presbytery that Accounts have to be submitted to OSCR by 30 September.
13. A letter had been received from Rev Bryan Kerr and some members of a recently bereaved family concerning the conduct of Rev Beverly Gauld. These letters were passed to the Congregational Support Committee

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Homologate the decision to grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars to urgently remove the asbestos found under the chancel floor.
3. Homologate the decision to grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars to apply to the General Trustees for grant funding to help meet the costs of the asbestos removal.
4. Note that any required changes to the Yearbook 2009/10 should be sent in writing to the Presbytery Clerk as soon as they are known.
5. Thank the Rev. A. Meikle and her team for arranging this evening's buffet meal.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance (with sections 1 and 2 previously being agreed):

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

3. Approve the readers to be presented to Presbytery on 3 November
4. Note with approval the appointment of Rev B Kerr as Temporary Part-time chaplain at the State Hospital, Carstairs during the period of the investigation concerning the Rev B Gauld
5. Note the information regarding Marriage Registration

The Deliverance was approved

Rev Una Stewart Report on Study Leave

The Moderator invited Rev Una Stewart to give her report on her recent Study Leave.

Miss Stewart delivered a very interesting power point presentation on her visit to Russia with Tear Fund.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who indicated that the situation at Biggar Parish Church was continuing to be carefully monitored

There was no Deliverance.

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that all Congregational Accounts are now in the hands of the Presbytery Treasurer and the General Treasurer of the Church
3. Note that the First Stage of the Current Inspection of the Accounts of all Congregations within the bounds is complete; and that the Presbytery Treasurer now awaits the response of those Congregations who need to amend their Accounts, which response should be in his hands by 30 September, 2009
4. Note that a meeting with Congregational Treasurers and Office-bearers with financial responsibilities will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 24th November, 2009 in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall, and ask Presbyters to relay this information to their respective Office-bearers

5. Agree to make further application to the Church's Stewardship and Finance Department to write off the shortfalls in the Mission and Ministries Allocation of Carnwath Parish Church incurred from 1993-2004 and amounting to £12,140
6. Note that the Temporary Manse of Carluke: Kirkton Parish Church is *Dunard*, 21 Braidwood Road, Braidwood, and that the Manse Telephone Number is retained
7. Note that the General Trustees, on receipt of the necessary application forms, have undertaken to finance a Feasibility Study *to identify the structure and process by which the Congregation of Carwath Parish Church can provide a suitable manse*, and that the Congregation have issued a brief to selected Architects so that the Study may be completed by early November, 2009
8. Note that the General Trustees, following an inspection of Carnwath Parish Church and in receipt of the necessary application forms, have made available a sum of money to tackle a further outbreak of dry rot in the Church
9. The Congregation of Carnwath is instructed to formally apply to the General Trustees for grant aid for the eradication of this outbreak of dry rot and have the necessary work completed.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Instruct the Clerk to write to Robert Devenney, Head of Spiritual Care at Lanarkshire NHS Board, expressing concern and dismay at the recent change of policy at Wishaw General Hospital whereby information about which ward a patient may be in is now withheld from Parish Ministers, and other visitors, including even family members; and to send copies of this communication to the Chaplain at Wishaw General Hospital, the local MSP and Hamilton Presbytery.
3. Note that Marjorie Clark, a former member of the Church and Society Council, and previously employed as an Area Co-ordinator for Christian Aid, has recently been appointed as the new Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Co-ordinator.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the Deliverance:

Amend Section 2 to read:

Instruct the Clerk to write to the Chairman and Chief Executive of NHS Lanarkshire, along with David Mundell MP, Jim Hood MP, Karen Gillon MSP, Aileen Campbell MSP, and patient advocacy groups representing the Lanarkshire area expressing concern and dismay at the recent change of policy at Wishaw General Hospital whereby information about which ward a patient may be in is now withheld from Parish Ministers, and other visitors.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an addendum to the Deliverance:

Add a new Section 3 and renumber to read:

Instruct the World and Community Issues committee to liaise with Hamilton Presbytery regarding the situation with patient whereabouts at Wishaw General Hospital.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an addendum to the Deliverance:

Add a new Section 4 and renumber to read:

Instruct the committee to produce a resource for congregations and other community groups to lobby local politicians and NHS Lanarkshire in the situation of withholding patient whereabouts from ministers and other visitors.

1. Receive the Report
2. Instruct the Clerk to write to the Chairman and Chief Executive of NHS Lanarkshire, along with David Mundell MP, Jim Hood MP, Karen Gillon MSP, Aileen Campbell MSP, and patient advocacy groups representing the Lanarkshire area expressing concern and dismay at the recent change of policy at Wishaw General Hospital whereby information about which ward a patient may be in is now withheld from Parish Ministers, and other visitors.
3. Instruct the World and Community Issues committee to liaise with Hamilton Presbytery regarding the situation with patient whereabouts at Wishaw General Hospital.
4. Instruct the committee to produce a resource for congregations and other community groups to lobby local politicians and NHS Lanarkshire in the situation of withholding patient whereabouts from ministers and other visitors.

5. Note that Marjorie Clark, a former member of the Church and Society Council, and previously employed as an Area Co-ordinator for Christian Aid, has recently been appointed as the new Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Co-ordinator.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage Kirk Sessions to note the date of “Back to Church Sunday” as 21 February 2010.
3. Invite applications for the National Children’s’ Assembly, taking place on Iona between Saturday 10 and Tuesday 13 October 2009.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 6 October 2009 at 7.00pm at Black Mount Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by pronouncing a Benediction

Moderator

Clerk

Draft Basis for Deferred Linking:

Biggar Parish Church, Black Mount Parish Church, Culter Parish Church, Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church

1. Name - The name of each parish will remain the same with the full name of the linked charge being Biggar Parish Church linked with Black Mount Parish Church linked with Culter Parish Church linked with Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church. It is proposed that a working title for the Linking be *Upper Ward Parishes*.
2. Territorial Responsibility
The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the bounds at present served by the linking congregations.
3. Places of Worship
The four churches presently used by the congregations shall be the Places of Worship of the linked congregations. Services shall be held each Sunday at times to be decided by the Kirk Sessions.
4. Property and Funds.
The property and funds belonging to, or held on behalf of, each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present. For the avoidance of doubt, ownership of the three currently linked churches' manse is 40% by Blackmount, 32.5% by Culter and 27.5% by Libberton & Quothquan.
For maintenance and listed expenses, there will be established a Joint Fund to pay for expenses incurred jointly. Contributions from each church to be on the following percentage basis: 50% by Biggar, 20% by Blackmount, 16.25% by Culter and 13.75% by Libberton & Quothquan. For the further avoidance of doubts the arrangements will stay in place until they are superseded. The financial arrangements will be reviewed annually. The amounts will be agreed jointly by the four finance bodies of each Session and, where necessary, the Presbytery of Lanark will arbitrate.
Any buildings determined by the Kirk Sessions to be surplus to the requirements of the charge shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the titles on which they are held and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sales or lets shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act V11 1995 be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, to be held and applied for Fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.
5. Ministry
The minister of Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan will continue to be minister of these parishes with tenure unaffected by this Basis of Deferred Linking. The minister inducted to Biggar Parish Church will be minister of this parish until the vacancy occurs in Blackmount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan, and thereafter be the called minister of the linked charge, supported by an Associate minister to be appointed at that time.
6. Nominating Committee
The Nominating Committee will be drawn from the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan. The nominee will preach at a service at Biggar Parish Church and separately also at a joint service of the other three parishes. The minister duly elected will serve as minister of Biggar Parish Church until the retiral of the present minister of Blackmount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan.
The composition of the Nominating Committee shall be seven from Biggar, two from Blackmount, two from Culter and two from Libberton & Quothquan.
7. Kirk Sessions
In the first instance, the minister of Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan will continue to moderate those three Sessions. Any minister inducted as provided herein to Biggar will moderate the Session there.
The Kirk Sessions will meet in joint conference at least twice a year. Business considered at joint Kirk Session conferences will, in accordance with the General Assembly legislation, become the subject of formal decisions at the next meeting of each Kirk Session separately.
8. Congregational Management
The congregations of Biggar, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan shall each continue with their Unitary Constitution whilst Black Mount will retain its separate Congregational Board. Presbytery can be asked to review the percentage of joint costs paid by each of the four congregations, should there be a material change in the circumstances of one or more, of the congregations.
9. Manses
The congregations shall retain two manses. The manse to be purchased as a replacement for Biggar Manse, will be used by the new minister inducted to the deferred linking. The manse of Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan will become the manse of the Associate minister on the retiral of the current minister.
10. Ministerial Support
The stipend will be such as determined by the Ministries Council for each minister.
11. Power to Adjust
While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Deferred Linking for the congregations now agreeing so to do, the Presbytery shall have the authority to adjust arrangements in terms of any future Presbytery Plan or as the need may arise.

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 October 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Black Mount Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers; 24 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member. There were also present 11 visitors from Biggar, Black Mount, Culter and Libberton and Quothquan whose congregations had been cited to appear for their interests

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Graham Houston, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bryan Kerr, and Rev John Turnbull, Minister; Stewart Toy, Alex McPhee, David McTaggart and Dr Sinclair Scott, Elders and Jean Morton, Corresponding Member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved. The Clerk informed the Presbytery, however, that the Reports of the Vacancy Procedure Committee and the Congregational Support Committee would be taken in two parts.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2009 were held as read and approved

Report from Youth Assembly

Mr Andrew Longwe attended the recent Youth Assembly of the Church of Scotland; the Moderator welcomed him to the Presbytery meeting and invited him to address the Presbytery.

Mr Longwe said that he had enjoyed the experience of being at the Youth Assembly; however there were some things that he found troubling about the event:

- a. Although he was aware that the Church of Scotland is a 'broad' Church in theological terms, he found that there was not an equal distribution of evangelical and liberal viewpoints represented
- b. He had observed that alcohol was being consumed
- c. He noted in the discussions that inappropriate sexual innuendos were used

Rev David Carmichael stated that he had complained to the Presbytery some years ago concerning similar criticisms of the Youth Assembly and asked that a letter now be sent to the Mission and Discipleship Council outlining these criticisms (and copy the letter to all Presbytery Clerks). The Clerk agreed to write to the Council.

The Moderator thanked Mr Longwe for his attendance to the Youth Assembly and for his report to the Presbytery.

The Rev David Easton asked that he be replaced in the Moderator's Chair by Mr Andrew Brown, the previous Moderator, as he had an involvement in the next few items of business.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The first part of the Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note with regret the resignation of the Rev. Roy Cowieson as Interim Moderator at Biggar Parish Church and thank him for his work there.
3. Appoint Rev. David Easton as Interim Moderator at Biggar Parish Church on the understanding that, in accordance with Act VIII 2003 (as amended) Anent Vacancy Procedures, he ceases to be a member of Biggar Parish Church and the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

In the absence of both the convener and vice convener the Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Helen Jamieson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. In line with Act I 1988, appoint a Special Committee of Enquiry to investigate the events surrounding the resignation of two Interim Moderators to the charge of Biggar; the Investigating Committee comprising 2 ministers and one elder with suitable experience and convened by an experienced minister from a neighbouring Presbytery (under Act VI 2002 Act anent co-operation between Presbyteries (as amended by Act VII 2003) and that this Special Committee be charged to complete their investigation and report to Presbytery by December 2009 with their conclusions and recommendations
2. Recommend that if meetings of Biggar Kirk Session are to be called by the Interim Moderator during the investigation, the Visiting Team be asked to attend.

After discussion the following counter proposal was put by Rev David Easton:

“Presbytery receives the report of the Congregational Support Committee on Biggar, but places on hold the decision to appoint a Committee of Enquiry to allow time for further efforts to be made to address the situation which has been cause for concern.”

On a vote being taken the result was 22 for Mr Easton’s proposal and 10 for the deliverance

The Moderator declared that Mr Easton’s proposal was approved.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The second part of the Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden who stated that in light of the resignation of the Rev. Roy Cowieson as Interim Moderator and the concerns raised by the Congregational Support Committee, the Vacancy Procedure Committee in accordance with Act VIII 2003 section 8(d) agreed that Presbytery may wish to consider delaying permission to call a minister to Biggar Parish Church. The Vacancy Procedure Committee therefore referred the question of permission to call a minister to Biggar Parish Church to Presbytery with the recommendation that Presbytery delays the granting of permission to call.

Mrs Lumsden then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

“in light of the resignation of the Rev. Roy Cowieson as Interim Moderator and the concerns raised by the Congregational Support Committee, delays giving Biggar Parish Church permission to call in terms of Act VIII 2003 s.8(d) and resolves to reconsider the question of call at its December meeting.”

The Deliverance was approved

The Rev David Easton resumed his position as Moderator

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Rev Helen Jamieson continued the Report of the Congregational Support Committee and moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

“In response to letters of complaint received from a bereaved family regarding the conduct of Rev B Gauld, instigate an Enquiry under Act III 2001 (Act anent discipline of ministers, licentiates, graduate candidates and deacons) and appoint an Investigating Committee of two ministers and one elder; the convener of the Investigating Committee being a member of a neighbouring Presbytery (under Act VI 2002 Act anent co-operation between Presbyteries (as amended by Act VII 2003) and the Business Committee is instructed to appoint the committee.”

The Deliverance was approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A number of items were left for members of Presbytery to look at mainly concerning to adverts for courses and events
2. The IT Department at 121, each year asks Presbyteries to update them on our Congregational Office Bearers. A form was available for each congregation on which is the names of those whom they believe are Office Bearers. Members are asked to take the sheet for their congregation, have it checked and return it to the Clerk as soon as possible. On the reverse side is the way in which Office Bearers can be changed and you are asked to use it
3. A letter has been received from the Ministries Council informing the Presbytery that an Interim Ministry may be available for Carnwath. However, it is unlikely to be before the end of the year and this Ministry would be peripatetic with no requirement for accommodation
4. The Mission and Discipleship Council is currently in the process of reviewing all its work. It has employed the services of a firm of Consultants who would like to hold discussions with Presbyteries. If we agree, our details will be passed to the Consultants who would make further contact with us
5. The Ministries Council is considering how the Presbytery Planning process might be developed to meet the Church’s needs in future. The Council wishes to engage with Presbytery representatives early in the process. It is thus inviting each Presbytery to send representation to a **24 hour consultation to be held on 24th and 25th November 2009**, to take place at Crieff Hydro
6. Omega Church is a company which provides administration and accounting software to churches. They ask simply that this information be brought to the attention of potentially interested parties in our presbytery: Administrators, Ministers and Treasurers
7. The Mission and Discipleship Council are in the process of compiling maps showing the boundaries of Rural Parishes and have asked if the Presbytery can supply them with these maps. At one time maps of all

the parishes were drawn up and a few of them are with the Clerk but not all. Ministers are asked to copy the map of their parishes and send it to the Clerk

8. The Membership of the Special Commission the formation of which was agreed at the last General Assembly has been communicated to the Presbytery
9. At the last Presbytery meeting the Clerk was asked to write to various parties concerning the difficulty which had arisen at Wishaw General Hospital in that Ministers were not being given information about where patients were located in the hospital. Soon after this meeting the Clerk was contacted by Rev Bob Devenny, head of Chaplaincy Services for NHS Lanarkshire, who informed him that the situation had been rectified. This was followed by a letter in similar terms. Rev Alison Meikle stated that although the situation at Wishaw General Hospital had improved, it was far from satisfactory and asked that the Clerk now write to NHS Lanarkshire
10. A letter had been received from the South Lanarkshire Council via the General Trustees stating that the Glebe at Carnwath was not included in the Council's Local Plan for housing development
11. The General Assembly's Nominations Committee is seeking nominations to the General Assembly's Councils and Committees
12. A letter was received from the Kirk Session at Lanark: St. Nicholas enquiring about the non receipt of the report from a Quinquennial Visitation which took place some time ago

Good News Stories

The Rev Iain Cunningham gave a brief report on the visit to Carluke: Kirkton of visitors from Korea

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the meeting with new Presbytery Elders on 15 September 2009.
3. Appoint Mr. Jim Johnston, elder of Symington Parish Church, as an Additional Elder.
4. Appoint the Rev. Alison Meikle and Mrs. Anna Lumsden as Presbytery representatives on the Commission of Assembly 2009/10.
5. Approve the allocation of Remits from the General Assembly to the Presbytery Committees as detailed in the Report (Appendix A)
6. Thank Rev. Jim Cutler, Kirk Session and congregation of Black Mount Parish Church for their hospitality and fellowship this evening.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

4. Receive the report
5. Notes the date of the Safeguarding Course for those working with children and young adults as Wednesday 25 November in Lanark: St Nicholas Church Hall at 7:00pm.
6. Encourages Kirk Sessions to appoint a representative to attend the Back to Church Sunday Seminar on Tuesday 24 November at 7:30pm in Lanark: St Nicholas Church Hall

The Deliverance was approved

Address from the Clydesdale Christian Youth Trust

The representative of the Clydesdale Christian Youth Trust, Mr Campbell Fisher, given the late hour, volunteered that his address be heard at a later date. With the Presbytery's approval, the Moderator thanked Mr Fisher for his kind indulgence.

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that, for reasons beyond its control, Presbytery has not met the reporting deadline set for the current inspection of Congregational Accounts

3. Remind Presbyters of the Meeting for Congregational Treasurers and Trustees with financial responsibilities that has been arranged to take place at 7:00 pm in Lanark: St. Nicholas' Church Hall on Tuesday, 24 November, 2009
4. Note the proposed Ministries and Mission Allocations for 2010
5. Instruct Congregational Treasurers to lodge any appeals against Ministries and Mission Allocations for 2010 with Convener or the Clerk in writing together with grounds of appeal before 20 October, 2009 (Appendix B)
6. Approve the Application of Carnwath Parish Church to apply to the Central Fabric Fund for a Grant to finance a feasibility study to identify how the Congregation can provide a suitable manse and other functioning church buildings, and instruct the Clerk to send the Application to the General Trustees
7. Approve the Application of Carnwath Parish Church to apply to the Central Fabric Fund for a Grant of £13,077:80 to eradicate an outbreak of Dry Rot in the Church building and instruct the Clerk to send the Application to the General Trustees
8. Remind Congregations that they require to keep Presbytery informed of all important property changes as well as to submit plans, costings and details of financial resources on all work that exceeds the current financial threshold set by Presbytery

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee, given the late hour, was held over to a later date

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the action to be taken concerning Mr James Paxton
3. Approve the Presbytery Plan for 2010
4. Approve the study leave for Rev Bryan Kerr
5. Note Notice given on The Future of Tenure

The Deliverance was approved

The Clerk was asked to note that 4 votes were recorded against section 4

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 3 November 2009 at 7.00pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by pronouncing a Benediction

Moderator

Clerk

October 2009 Appendix A**REMITTS TO PRESBYTERIES**

Detailed below are the remits which have been passed down from the General Assembly. This list should be read in conjunction with the remits booklet which Presbyters will have already received.

COMMITTEE	REMIT	PAGE	SECTION	REPORT DATE
Congregational Support	Overture – Discipline of Elders etc	3-9		1 st Dec 2009
World & Community Issues	Climate Change etc *	10	20	1 st Dec 2009
Resources	1. Climate Change etc *	10	20	1 st Dec 2009
	2. Generous Giving	15	4	1 st Dec 2009
Ministeries	1. Future of Tenure (separate booklet)			3 rd Nov 2009
	2. Training Interim Moderators	12	16	3 rd Nov 2009
Congregational Development	1. Holy Communion	13	14	2 nd Feb 2010
	2. Children's Ministry etc	13	19	2 nd Feb 2010
	3. Safeguarding	16	7	2 nd Feb 2010

* Note: joint report requested for Climate Change etc

October 2009 Appendix B

Proposed Ministries & Mission Allocation for 2010

CONGREGATION	2010 PROPOSED CONTRIBUTION
BIGGAR	47,542
CARLUKE: KIRKTON	61,934
CARLUKE: ST. ANDREW'S	29,653
CARLUKE: ST. JOHN'S	48,749
CARNWATH	27,188
COALBURN	8,236
CARSTAIRS & CARSTAIRS JUNCTION	25,170
CROSSFORD	17,117
CULTER	5,228
DOUGLAS VALLEY	26,968
BLACK MOUNT	8,801
GLENCAPLE	18,783
FORTH: ST. PAULS	33,056
KIRKFIELD BANK	9,629
KIRKMUIRHILL	69,914
LANARK: ST. NICHOLAS	53,749
LAW	20,698
LESMAHAGOW: ABBEYGREEN	45,679
LESMAHAGOW: OLD	38,940
LIBBERTON AND QUOTHQUAN	3,879
SYMINGTON	21,021
LOWTHER	2,533
LANARK: GREYFRIARS	51,425
CAIRNGRYFFE	20,302
Proposed Total Contribution	697,194

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 November 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of St. Nicholas Church, Lanark, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers; 23 Elders and 5 Corresponding Members. There were also present 3 visitors

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Graham Houston, and Rev Steven Reid, Ministers; Moira White, Jennifer Worthington, Stewart Toy, Dr Sinclair Scott, Ewan Easton, and James Ferguson, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved. The Clerk informed the Presbytery, however, that the Reports of the Ministry Committee would be taken after the Report of the Business Committee.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2009 were held as read and approved

The Rev Bryan Kerr in answer to a question which was raised concerning criticisms of the Youth Assembly, stated that this same criticism had been raised two years ago and that he was asked by the Presbytery to raise the matter with the Council of Mission and Discipleship which he did at the time. He reported that he had received assurances that these matters would be looked into and that steps would be taken to see that such criticisms would not be raised again.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A number of items were available for members of Presbytery to look at mainly concerning adverts for courses and events and including one from a small singing group from Russia.
2. The Cintra Bequest Fund, which is administered by the Church of Scotland General Trustees, provides financial assistance towards the cost of accommodation in Scotland for missionaries on leave or for Ministers on temporary holiday or on rest. Because of additional funds which have been generously donated by the Todd Endowment Trust, financial help can also be given to defray the cost of travel to the holiday destination concerned, which requires, however, to be in Scotland. Assistance can also be given so that spouses and dependent children can go on holiday too. Applications to the Bequest have been few this year and funds are therefore available to help those who need a good break and have not sufficient funds to afford one. A form of application is available by contacting the Law Department.
3. A television documentary company called 'Matchlight' has been asked by BBC 3 to look for some subjects for a season of documentaries about what it means to become an adult. In the light of this, they are looking for young couples, both aged between 16 and 20, who will be getting married in February 2010.
4. The Solicitor of the Church has written to say that the Scottish Government which not only confirms that the Water Rates exemption scheme will run from 2010 to 2015 (as opposed to 2014) but that three changes have been made to it as follows:
 1. Moving premises will no longer cause any registered charity to lose its exemption and this will be backdated to cover changes of premises since 1st April 2006;
 2. Any registered charity receiving a permanent liquor licence from 1st April 2010 will continue to be eligible for exemption;
 3. The maximum income criteria will be increased from 1st April 2010 from £50,000 to £60,000 and will increase by £1,500 per annum thereafter.
5. The Planning and Deployment Group of the Ministries Council have sent an extract minute to say that they've noted the Basis of Linkage of Biggar lw Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan
6. There is a Bequest Fund for Ministers in Outlying Areas and the secretary wishes to bring it to the attention of Ministers in our Presbytery

Clydesdale Christian Youth Trust

The Moderator welcomed Mr Campbell Fisher and invited him to address the Presbytery concerning the Clydesdale Christian Youth Trust

Mr Fisher gave an illustrated talk on the work of the Trust whose ultimate aims are to encourage and enable:

- prayer for our schools and their communities
- volunteers to assist in both curricular and extra curricular activities
- participation in residential holidays and weekends

and by raising financial support to employ through Scripture Union an Associate Worker

After questions and comments, the Moderator thanked Mr Fisher for his lively and informative presentation

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the proposed meeting of Committee Convenors on 27 January 2010
3. Approve the adoption of the policy to fill spare and replacement places for Commissioners at the General Assembly
4. Approve the appointment of the Rev Arthur Barrie, the Rev Una Stewart and Mr Colin Gibson to the Investigating Committee into the complaint against the Rev B Gauld.
5. Approve the appointment of the Rev David Easton as locum Minister at Biggar Parish Church

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who introduced the readers, Bill Love and Allan Grant, auxiliary probationer Roddy Dick, and Ross Blackman who was admitted as available for pulpit supply in the past year, and she invited the Moderator to address them. The Moderator thanked Bill, Allan, Roddy and Ross who were present, for all their efforts in supporting the Ministry of the Church over the years. Rev Alison Meikle moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report.
2. Thank the Readers, Auxiliary Probationer and those admitted to be available as pulpit supply for their on-going support of the ministry in Lanark Presbytery
3. Approve the reports of the part-time sessional hospital chaplains and instruct the Clerk to forward the reports to Rev Bob Devenney, head of Spiritual Care, NHS Lanarkshire
4. Approve the report on the Future of Tenure and instruct the Clerk to forward the report to Ministries Council (Appendix B)

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the report;
2. Note that Presbytery has completed the current inspection of Congregational Accounts by the end of November – two months after the expiry of the deadline;
3. Remind Presbyters of the Meeting for Congregational Treasurers and Trustees with financial responsibilities that has been arranged to take place at 7pm in the Hall of St. Nicholas' Church, Lanark, on Tuesday, 24th. November, 2009;
4. Approve the revised Ministries and Mission Allocations proposed for 2010 (see appendix A)
5. Approve the decision of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church to replace the Hall windows with double glazed units and repair the Hall roof at a total cost £20,000 plus VAT drawn from funds held locally;
6. Approve the Application of Glencaple Parish Church to apply to the Central Fabric Fund for a further Grant of £8,241 to repair the access road to the Church, and instruct the Clerk to send the Application to the General Trustees;
7. Approve the Application of Carluke Kirkton for a grant and loan to repair and modernise the Manse at a cost £176,250 inclusive of VAT and Professional Fees, and instruct the Clerk to send the Application to the General Trustees;
8. Note that, under instruction from the General Assembly of 2009 and in association with Presbytery's Community and World Issues Committee, Colin Gibson of the Resources Committee will be contacting all Congregations within the bounds with a view to establishing 2008 as data base year.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Notes the intention of the Scottish Government to provide protection for “vulnerable groups” in Scotland, and awaits further guidance on the implementation thereof
3. Urges Kirk Sessions to note the instruction of the General Assembly 2009 to appoint a Safeguarding Panel.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Mairi Somerville who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the Report

2. agree to a fund-raising goal of £6,000 [SEE NOTE BELOW] to benefit the Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Project, this figure to be reached through the actions of Presbytery and congregations by October 2011;
3. invite congregations to observe Sunday 10 January 2010 as “Souper Sunday”, a day of worship, reflection and fund-raising on the theme of the Church’s response to HIV.
4. Note the arrangements for the World Mission Rally which will take place in St. Nicholas Church on Wednesday 25 November at 7:30pm. and encourage all members of Presbytery, and members of congregations to attend.
5. Note the appointment of Karen Francis as Twinning Development Officer for the World Mission Council.

Note: “£**,***”: The General Assembly is encouraging “all Presbyteries to set up a fund-raising goal averaging at least £10,000 (according to size) for the Church of Scotland HIV/AIDS Project”.

David McTaggart reported that he had had no answer to his request of 27 March 2009 for information concerning South Lanarkshire Council’s teacher numbers and R E Specialists in particular. He shared his concerns about teacher numbers with Keith Brown, Minister for Schools and Skills, during the summer. He sought the mind of the Presbytery about pursuing clarity about RE teacher numbers and received encouragement to do so by passing the information to the Clerk who would write to South Lanarkshire Council

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the arrangements for the Quinquennial Visitations in 2009 – 2010 and instruct the convenors of the visiting teams to ensure that reports are in the hands of the Committee Convenor by 31 March 2010

The QV visiting teams this session are as follows:

- i. Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan: Rev Ian Watson (Convenor), Rev Una Stewart and Mr Willie MacSween
- ii. Carluke: Kirkton: Rev Bryan Kerr (Convenor), Rev Robert Cleland Mrs Anna Lumsden and Mr James Watt
- iii. Law: Rev Aileen Robson (Convenor), Rev Margaret Muir and Mr Jim Sinclair
- iv. Kirkmuirhill: Rev Alan Gibson (Convenor) Rev Helen Jamieson and Mrs Jenny Worthington

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on 1 December 2009 at 7.00pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

November 2009 Appendix A

Approved Ministries & Mission Allocation for 2010

CONGREGATION	2010 CONTRIBUTION
BIGGAR	47,542
CARLUKE KIRKTON	61,934
CARLUKE ST ANDREW'S	29,653
CARLUKE ST JOHN'S	48,749
CARNWATH	27,188
COALBURN	8,236
CARSTAIRS & CARSTAIRS JUNCTION	25,170
CROSSFORD	17,117
CULTER	5,228
DOUGLAS VALLEY	26,968
BLACK MOUNT	8,801
GLENCAPLE	18,783
FORTH ST PAULS	33,056
KIRKFIELD BANK	9,629
KIRKMUIRHILL	68,865
LANARK ST NICHOLAS	53,749
LAW	20,698
LESMAHAGOW ABBEY GREEN	45,679
LESMAHAGOW OLD	38,940
LIBBERTON AND QUOTHQUAN	3,879
SYMINGTON	20,390
LOWTHER	2,533
GREYFRIARS	51,425
CAIRNGRYFFE	20,302
Total Contribution	694,514

November 2009 Appendix B

Report on the Future of Tenure

The report as a whole was well-received by the committee. The variety of tenure, according to the document will be replaced by unrestricted and restricted tenure, and the committee felt that for congregations and for ministers this was positive. However, the legal language used, was not particularly helpful and often was a barrier to understanding.

2. Unrestricted Tenure allows for a variety of ministry to be displayed, and gives a minister security, but we realise that ministry is the only profession which allows a minister to remain in post without appraisal, accountability or the views/situation of a congregation being taken into consideration. However, with the information regarding Act VII 2003, and Act VI 1984 now highlighted in this document, it may be that presbyteries will not be so afraid to use the Acts if circumstances change as documented.

2.1 Act VII 2003 Section 13 (1) (b) The removal of this clause, which does not permit discussion between office-bearers and Presbytery is sensible and reasonable, as ministers should have the long-term needs of the congregation as part of their vision for the congregation. If discussion takes place with the congregation, then this allows a congregation to think about/accept a change, as they may have some time to become accustomed to an idea, rather than just on vacancy. However, tension may arise between the minister and the congregation and Presbytery if adjustment is being discussed. Equally, Gods call to serve in the congregation must not be overlooked.

2.2 Act VI 1984 Anent Congregations in Changed Circumstances This Act has never been used possibly due to the lack of definition of changed circumstances. The committee welcomes the definition and new phrasing, as in the report. However, presbyteries would have to be aware that it should give a congregation/minister adequate time for their vision to work.

2.3 Capability Policy would provide for a mechanism for establishing support for ministers but also accountability. Congregations don't always understand ministers' rights; that ministers are office-holders rather than employees, and there is no system to determine competency. This policy would enable presbyteries to be supportive of ministers identifying areas of need for ministers to focus on and access training in – i.e. strengths and weaknesses. This would hopefully be positive for the minister, the ministry and for all office-bearers with whom the minister comes in contact.

However, the committee felt further discussion is required about who will administer this policy for all the ministers of the Church of Scotland – are there sufficient administrators and also will there be a route to appeal? Has consideration been given to employment law and if a minister still feels called to that particular parish/ministry?

3. Restricted Tenure The committee feels restricted tenure is a welcome change to reviewable tenure. Reviewable tenure is an instrument of adjustment (i.e. a stepping-stone to the ultimate aim for readjustment) and can be of variable length. However, restricted tenure is a form of adjustment- i.e. the end result of adjustment. Restricted tenure will help congregations cope with change; it seems to give Presbytery more control in particular circumstances; it addresses the concerns of employment law; it attaches conditions to the tenure (e.g. another minister would not be inducted to the charge and notice is given) This tenure seems to be a consolidating measure, which updates Act VII section 10, and appears to give more flexibility as it is not time restricted-(i.e. not 3 or 5 year reviewable or terminable.)

However, it could be said that this tenure may result in less movement of ministers within the church.

4 and 5. Transition/Interim Ministry The committee feels that although there are different purposes for the ministries and different deliveries of ministry, the two types of ministry have very similar objectives, and so could be encompassed into one ministry – i.e. the elements of both types of ministry do not differ sufficiently. The committee feels that transition ministry could be amalgamated into the Interim Ministry or vice versa, by changing the length of the interim/transition ministry to include all variables, and adding the criteria for and aims of transition ministry into interim ministry or vice versa. The committee feels the 2 different types of ministry are confusing, and that if a congregation says we have an interim or transition ministry, then they could be stigmatised. In addition, the committee didn't like transition ministry as a name, and would be happier with maintaining an Interim Ministry with wider scope and wider training for those involved. The committee is aware of the variety of skills and aptitude of the ministers in Interim Ministry, and feel the ministers called to this type of ministry could add the necessary skills to their talents, as they are versatile and adaptable.

6. Continued Vacancy The committee feels that if continued vacancy becomes a form of adjustment rather than an instrument of adjustment, as previously described above, this clarifies the position for a congregation/presbytery, and leaves no doubt about the future. Equally, if continued vacancy becomes a form of adjustment, it removes the focus being on the vacancy only and means the congregation/presbytery will focus on and address the situation a congregation/presbytery finds itself in. It means something will have to be done, rather than waiting ad infinitum or something else happens which may/may not help.

However, this form of continued vacancy could be seen to be confusing, and could result in no change (i.e. a continuation of the situation before, and may even be a disadvantage for congregations – e.g. with regard to waiting for a decision about buildings). The question arose is it just playing with words?

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 December 2009, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of St. Nicholas Church, Lanark, and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 ministers; 18 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members. There were also present 4 visitors from Biggar and Libberton and Quothquan

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Graham Houston, and Rev David Carmichael, Ministers; Moira White, Mabel Doak, Greta Stratton, Hugh Stewart, David McTaggart, David Whitefield, Stewart Toy, and James Ferguson, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved. .

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2009 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

31. The editors of the Church of Scotland Annual Review are inviting material to be included in next year's Review
32. The Scottish Churches Rural Group is having a day conference at 121 George Street on 9 December. If you are interested in attending please get in touch with the Clerk
33. The General Assembly through the Mission and Discipleship Council urged Presbyteries, in consultation with the Council, to explore the possibility of appointing Disability Advisors to serve the congregations within the bounds. The Business Committee, in consultation with Congregational Development Committee, will consider this
34. A reply had been received to a letter sent to SLC concerning the number of RE Teachers. This will be taken up by the World and Community Issues Committee
35. A letter was received from the Principal Clerk concerning the update to the Fasti. A number of Ministers in the Presbytery have not updated the Fasti information and they are asked to do so
36. The Ministries Council are reviewing Health Care Chaplaincies and have asked the Presbytery to complete a survey. The Ministries Committee would consider this
37. A letter from the Ministries Council informing the Presbytery concerning the Interim Ministry for Carnwath. Rev Ian MacKenzie will be available from Monday 8 February. The Business Committee will say something about proposals for the Service of Introduction
38. The Annual Persons and Agencies Statistics Forms are available. They are to be returned by the Committee night – 19 January
39. A reply had been received to a letter sent to NHS Lanarkshire concerning the difficulty which had arisen at Wishaw General Hospital in that Ministers were not being given information about where patients were located in the hospital. The letter stated that a system had been put in place and was being reviewed. The offer contained in the letter to meet with senior staff is to be pursued by the Clerk

Good News Stories

Following a visit to Russia by Rev Una Stewart, under the auspices of Tear Fund, and a visit to Law Primary School, the children held a 'Wool Drive' and presented their collection of 6/7 sacks of wool to the minister to be used to knit baby clothes for young pregnant drug addicted girls in one of the projects in Russia. The wool has multiplied by the work of church members, their families, friends and neighbours and people from the village with no church connection, into 8 boxes of knitted clothes and some bought articles. The minister is currently trying to find the most efficient way of sending it as none of the Aid Agencies go as far as the far side of the Ural Mountains!

18 members from the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction spent a weekend at the Cathedral of The Isles on Millport on a Church retreat. This was led by the Minister, Rev Alan Gibson and members of the worship group with everyone taking part. The time was spent on Worship, Prayer, Discussion and also some 'Fun Time'. On the Sunday afternoon, Holy Communion was celebrated on the beach. The whole time was found to be an excellent way of building relationships with in the congregation

The Rev Alan Gibson reported that The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction is taking Christmas 2010 into the heart of the parish by organising a Christmas Procession through the community, led by camels. The Christmas Extravaganza will see the re-telling of the Christmas Story in open air, and planning for the event is already underway

The Rev Bryan Kerr reported on the dedication of an Outdoor Nativity Scene in Lanark

Rev Bryan Kerr informed the Presbytery of the opening of the New Skye Centre at the State Hospital at Carstairs

Congregational Support Committee (1)

The first part of the Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the Report
2. Reappoint Alex McPhee and Willy McSween as assessor elders to the charge of Biggar for a period of 5 months and instruct them to report to the Congregational Support Committee by 20 April 2010
3. Appoint Irene Williams, Ellen Young and Rev Jim Cutler, to serve on the Transitional Support Group for the Interim Ministry of Rev I MacKenzie in the charge of Carnwath

The Deliverance was approved

Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden who moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

In light of the Report from the Congregational Support Committee, delays permission to call a Minister to Biggar Parish Church and resolves to review this decision at its' meeting on 4 May 2010

The Deliverance was approved

Overture anent Discipline of Elders, Readers and Office-bearers

The Overture was discussed by the Congregational Support Committee and the Committee's acting Convener, Rev Margaret Muir, on behalf of the Committee, recommended acceptance of the Overture

On a Vote being taken 35 voted for acceptance and 0 against

Congregational Support Committee (2)

The second part of the Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

Quinquennial Report for the Charge of Lanark: St. Nicholas

1. Receive the Report
2. Commend the Minister, office bearers and congregation of Lanark: St. Nicholas for the diversity of their congregational life, activities, worship, witness, outreach and service
3. Commend the elders of Lanark: St. Nicholas for their commitment to Elder Conferences and Training
4. Commend the Minister, office bearers and congregation of Lanark: St. Nicholas for the growth in their income, particularly at a time of major fund raising for building work
5. Commend the Minister, office bearers and congregation of Lanark: St. Nicholas for the balance they have achieved between channelling congregational giving into the building project while maintaining the financial resources, energy and commitment to the ongoing spiritual Christian work and witness
6. Recognise the additional demands on the Minister of Lanark: St. Nicholas of a major building project, to the work of an already busy charge and encourage the office-bearers and congregation to continue to find ways to give support and practical help to her
7. Commend the Minister of Lanark: St. Nicholas for her faithful ministry to the congregation and the wider community.
8. Commend the Minister, her family, the office bearers and congregation of Lanark: St. Nicholas to the ongoing prayers of Presbytery
9. Advise the members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Quinquennial Report of the charge of Lanark: St. Nicholas can be provided on request
10. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant section of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerk of the Charge of Lanark: St. Nicholas

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the Conveners' Meeting on 27 January 2010 will be held in St. Bride's Centre, Douglas at 10.30am Any additional items for the Agenda outlined in the Report should be given to the Clerk by 12 January 2010
3. Note the draft timetable for the Moderator's Visit (6 – 15 March 2010); the list for the Golf Tournament and the Social Evening on Saturday 13 March 2010

4. Note the Service of Introduction for Rev Ian Mackenzie as Interim Minister to the charge of Carnwath on Thursday 11 February 2010
5. Grant compassionate leave of 2 Sundays' Pulpit Supply to Rev Helen Jamieson

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

4. Receive the report
5. Note the Instruction from the General Assembly for Kirk Sessions to appoint a Safeguarding Panel with immediate effect
6. Instruct Kirk Sessions to minute the appointment and annual reappointment of a Safeguarding Panel and mark appropriately for the annual inspection of records and instruct the Clerk to transmit details to Session Clerks

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

9. Receive the report
10. Thanks the Presbytery Treasurer, Mr. Colin Young, and the Rev Bryan Kerr for their presentation and Mrs Irene Williams for catering at the meeting of Congregational Treasurers on 24 November
11. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2010 maintaining the Presbytery Levy at £2.75 *per capita*
12. Approve the disposal of the St. Bride's Centre Douglas to the Douglas St. Bride's Community Group
13. Note that Carnwath Parish Church has appointed Thomson Dawes, Chartered Architects of Kilmarnock, to carry out the Feasibility Study which has already been approved by Presbytery
14. Note that the General Trustees have awarded a second Grant of £5,000 to the Congregation of Glencaple Parish for repairs to the Church access roadway
15. Note that the General Trustees have awarded a Grant of £15,000 and a Loan up to £70,000 to Carluke: Kirkton Church for the repair and upgrading of the Manse

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Instruct the Business Committee to arrange a special consultation meeting of Presbytery early in 2010 to discuss proposals to ministry funding and invite congregations to send representatives to the meeting

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on 2 February 2010 at 7.00pm at Kirkfieldbank Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 2 February 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Kirkfieldbank Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers; 22 Elders and 2 Corresponding Members

The Moderator welcomed to the Presbytery Meeting, Rev Ian Mackenzie, soon to be introduced as Interim Minister at Carnwath and Rev Bob Devenny, Head of Spiritual Care NHS Lanarkshire

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Susan Cowell and Rev David Carmichael, Ministers; Moira White, David McTaggart, David Whitefield, Stewart Toy, and David Hodgson, Elders; and Jean Morton, corresponding member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved. .

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2009 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. A course in Healing in Ministry is to take place from 19 to 21 April 2010 led by the Rev Jenny Williams, a Church of Scotland minister, who is chaplain of the Christian Fellowship of Healing. The Ministries Council is endorsing the course for approval under the Study Leave Scheme and the deadline for applications is 28 February
2. The Rural Church Conference is to take place at the Scottish Police College, Tulliallan from 29 October to 30 October on the theme of 'Unlocking the Potential in Rural Churches'
3. The Solicitor of the Church wrote saying that she'd been contacted by a Congregational Treasurer concerning an out of the blue bill for water charges recently received from Scottish Water requiring payment of charges from 2008. The Treasurer was eventually able to trace the relative documentation received, which demonstrated that the Congregation had been exempted under the scheme some years before. On contacting Scottish Water about this, he was advised that Scottish Water have apparently lost all their records – presumably relating to the exemption scheme – for the period prior to 2008. In some cases, therefore, it seems that they are treating Congregations as "new customers" and sending out bills
4. There is also information for any congregation which has a Water meter and is quite complicated. If any congregation has a water meter would you please contact the Clerk
5. The Solicitor of the Church draws attention to the regulations regarding the letting of Manses and property owned by the Church
6. The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has commissioned a survey into the use of property by the community. They are keen to include information about assets owned by church congregations and it is of course the case that many churches and halls are considerably used by community groups and operate for the benefit also of the wider community. This has been useful in obtaining grants and in maintaining the water charges and non domestic rates exemptions. It would be appreciated therefore if you could publicise the survey and encourage congregations to complete it – More information should be available from your Minister
7. Rev John Chalmers BD has been successful in his application for the post of Principal Clerk. This will now go to the General Assembly in 2010 for approval

Good News Stories

Jim Watt spoke of the setting up of a new Charity called New Beginnings, Clydesdale, the opening of Cemetery Lodge in Kilmory Road, Carluke and asked that some time to be made available at the next Presbytery meeting the speak further on this project

A meeting was held at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church to inform the community of plans for future ministry among drug addicts. Following the death by overdose of an addict who had been attending church, the congregation has entered a partnership with Teen Challenge, an international ministry to addicts. Also, the congregation is running a course entitled Drug Proofing your Kids.

Rev Roy Cowieson spoke of his recent visit to the Holy Land during which he attended the Induction of Rev Colin Johnston to Tiberias: St. Andrew's and reported that the Church of Scotland's Hotel at Tiberias is now managing to pay back money to the World Mission Council

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the update on preparations for the Moderator's visit as outlined in the Report.
3. Agree to meet at the later time of 7.30pm on Tuesday 9 March 2010
4. Thank and discharge the Rev Alan Gibson as Interim Moderator at Forth Parish Church
5. Grant permission for congregations to join with the congregations hosting the Sunday services during the Moderator's visit

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report.
2. Commend the Mission and Discipleship Council's 2009 paper on the Lord's Supper.
3. Encourage congregations to discuss the 2009 paper on the Lord's Supper, and reflect on the importance of the Lord's Supper to the life and renewal of the church.
4. Extend its gratitude to the on-going support of its Safeguarding Trainers.
5. Note the resignation of Moira White as Presbytery Prayer Co-ordinator and thank her for her work and support in this post
6. Nominate Mr Alan Boyd, a member at Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church as the young person representing Lanark Presbytery at the General Assembly in May 2010

The Deliverance was approved

World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the report
2. Urge congregations to complete the survey form concerning connections with the wider church and return them to the convener by 31 March 2010.
3. Agree in principle to issue an invitation to representatives of our partner Presbytery of East Seoul (PROK) to visit Lanark Presbytery in late spring 2011

The Deliverance was approved

Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the annual inspection of congregational Records is to take place on 18 February 2010 and instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that records are submitted according to the requirements on the appended information page

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct all ministers to present their completed Annual Mileage Log Books to the Ministries Committee, before the Presbytery meeting on Tuesday 9 March at 6.45pm
3. Note the actions of the Ministries Committee regarding the Training of Mr Jim Paxton, and commend him to our prayers as he takes his calling to serve God in the ministry of the Readership a step further forward

4. Thank all who attended the Consultation evening, for their co-operation and contribution and thank the Moderator for chairing the meeting
5. Encourage ministers and presbytery elders to continue the dialogue with Kirk Sessions and congregations, and feedback to the Ministries committee

The Deliverance was approved

The Moderator invited Rev Bob Devenny to address the Presbytery concerning difficulties which are being experienced by Ministers on visiting members of their congregations as patients at Wishaw General Hospital.

Mr Devenny addressed several issues concerning ministers' visits to Wishaw General Hospital and promised to keep the Presbytery informed and work with the Presbytery towards a solution to these difficulties

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report;
2. Appeal to Congregations for the help of Accountants with experience in dealing with Charity Accounts to act either as Independent Examiners or as part of a team to help the Presbytery Treasurer in the Annual Inspection of Congregational Accounts;
3. Urge Congregations to respond to Colin Gibson in his request for information that will enable Presbytery to set up 2008 as the base year for Congregational Energy Consumption;
4. Approve the request to the General Trustees of the Douglas Valley Church Kirk Session to grant Wayleave to install piping that will enable St. Bride's Church to draw hot water for central heating from the Bio-Mass Boiler to be installed at St Bride's Centre;
5. Note that the Resources Committee will attest all Property Registers on 18 February from noon till 4:00p.m. in the Office at St. Nicholas' Church Hall;
6. Note that Mr. Chester Studzinski of GAB Robins U.K. Ltd. Is shortly to begin the Insurance Re-valuation Programme of Church Scotland Properties within the bounds of the Presbytery of Lanark.

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet *in hunc effectum* on Thursday 11 February 2010 at 6:45pm. at Carnwath Parish Church for the Service of Introduction of the Rev Ian MacKenzie as Interim Minister at Carnwath.

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 9 March 2010 at 7.30 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

(Note: the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Right Rev Bill Hewitt will be in attendance)

A buffet meal will be available from 6:30pm

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Carnwath, on Tuesday 11 February 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* to introduce Mr Ian Mackenzie as interim minister in the charge of Carnwath, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 10 Ministers; 13 Elders; 1 Corresponding Member, and associated with them Rev Dr Gordon A McCracken, Rev Angus Mathieson and Rev Iain Goring.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Robert Cleland, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Graham Houston, Rev Bryan Kerr and Rev Ian Watson, ministers and Mrs Mabel Doak and Mr David Hodgson, elders.

Introduction of Mr Ian Mackenzie

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of the Rev Ian Mackenzie, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Una Stewart conducted worship and preached the sermon.

After answering the appropriate question and signing the formula Rev Ian Mackenzie was introduced to the congregation and parish of Carnwath by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both the minister and members of the congregations. After the service it was resolved to add Mr Mackenzie's name to the Roll of Presbytery.

The Interim Moderator, Rev Jim Cutler was thanked for his services, and discharged. The Rev John Turnbull was also thanked for his services to the congregation as Locum.

Rev Helen Jamieson expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and Rev Una Stewart for their conduct of the service of introduction.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 9 March 2010 at 7.30 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

(Note: the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Right Rev Bill Hewitt will be in attendance)

A buffet meal will be available from 6:30pm

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 9 March 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers; 21 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member

The Moderator welcomed to the Presbytery Meeting, the Right Rev William Hewitt, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland together with his wife Moira and the Clerk's wife Annis

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev David Carmichael, Rev Iain Cunningham and Rev Steven Reid, Ministers; Moira White, Stewart Toy, and Colin Gibson, Elders; and Jean Morton, and Colin Young corresponding members

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved. .

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 February 2010 were held as read and approved

Moderator of the General Assembly

The Moderator again welcomed the Right Rev Bill Hewitt and invited him to address the Presbytery

The Right Rev Bill Hewitt thanked the Presbytery for its welcome and for the opportunity to share fellowship with members over a meal prior to the meeting. He spoke of his year as Moderator, of his visits to the Island of Mull, South Africa, India; to the Presbyteries of Caithness and Dundee, to his visit to the Presbytery of Lanark and of how much he looked forward to the rest of the visit and to his visit to the Holy Land in the weeks to come

The Moderator thanked the Right Rev Bill Hewitt for his interesting address and asked God's richest blessing on the remainder of his time in office

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

8. The Human Resources Manager at 121, Angela Ocak, advised that the post of Depute Principal Clerk is advertised and the closing date for applications is 19 March 2010. Details are available
9. The University of Aberdeen in partnership with Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in the USA is offering a programme leading to a Doctorate in Ministry. The programme is to begin this year and other details are available
10. The General Assembly is asking for volunteer to be stewards at this year's assembly. They are needed from 19-26th May and for "shifts" of two or three hours
11. A note from the Principal Clerk again concerning the General Assembly:
There will be no Garden Party on the Saturday afternoon; Saturday will be a full day of business with, amongst others, the Ministries Council reporting.
On Sunday 23 May there will be a Special Session of the General Assembly from 4:00pm to around 6:00pm to mark the 450th anniversary of the Scottish Reformation.
The normal Sunday morning Assembly services will take place at St Giles' at 10:00am and Edinburgh: Greyfriars Tolbooth and Highland Kirk (the Gaelic Service) at 12.30pm. However, there will be no evening service in the Assembly Hall
12. Rev Derek Peat who is the chaplain at Hairmyres Hospital is offering a training morning aimed specifically to give people in ministry access to communication skills. Date: Thursday 25 March 2010 Venue: WRVS Canteen, Cleland Hospital, Bellside Rd, Cleland Time: 9.15am-12.45pm Cost: £10

Good News Stories

Rev Alison Meikle spoke of the Good2Talk group at Lanark St Nicholas which began 4 years ago because there was nowhere in the area for those who are grieving to chat about how they were coping with bereavement. A CRUSE group meets in Hamilton, however it's in the evening and many people are unable to travel there. The group has become popular that we have to consider what we will do about the size of it. It is a self-help group with Christian facilitators; it is open to anyone who is grieving. Please feel able to inform congregations about it and for further information, please call Margo/ Robin on 01555 661454 or Alison on 662600

Rev Bryan Kerr spoke of the success of the 'Back to Church' Sunday held by the congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars

The Clerk spoke of the success of the Presbytery Golf Tournament held at Lanark Golf Club.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

6. Receive the Report
7. Note that the following charges will send Commissioners to the 2010 General Assembly:- United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction; Crossford I/w Kirkfieldbank; Carluke: St. John's; Glencaple I/w Lowther and The Douglas Valley Churches
8. Approve the 2010/11 dates of meetings of Presbytery and Presbytery Committees as outlined in the Report.
9. Note that the special meeting to prepare the response to the Consultation Paper of the 2009 General Assembly appointed Special Commission on Same-sex Relationships and the Ministry will be held on Tuesday 18 May 2010 in St. Nicholas Church Hall at 7:00pm.
10. Thank the Rev Alison Meikle and the ladies of Lanark: St. Nicholas who provided and served the fellowship meal before the Presbytery Meeting

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

7. Receive the report
8. Grant the Parish Churches of Carnwath and Culter dispensation from paying this year's Ministries and Mission Allocation by Standing Order
9. Note that Presbytery is now due to meet the first stage of Assembly's Deliverance on Climate Change; that this stage is simply to provide a base year of data on gas, oil, and electricity usage over a complete twelve month period within the years 2008-9 and urge all Congregations to contact Mr. Colin Gibson as soon as possible
10. Note that Lanark: St. Nicholas Church is now in a position and has the finances to fulfil its promise to Presbytery that the Congregation would extend the Manse to bring it to the standard required by the General Trustees and grant permission to the Congregation to build an extension at the cost of £31,000 plus Fees and VAT

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

6. Receive the Report
7. Instruct the convener of the Ministries Committee to forward the completed questionnaire about pastoral mileage to the Ministries council by 31 March 2010

The Deliverance was approved

Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

3. Receive the Report
4. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that the points regarding the keeping of records that the Congregational Support Committee have indicated need attention are acted upon
5. Thank the Moderator, the members of the Congregational Support Committee and the Presbytery Officer for carrying out and assisting in the inspection

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

7. Receive the report
8. Agree to hold an annual golf tournament for members of congregations, and allow the Congregational Development Committee to undertake the organisation of this

9. Nominate Alan Boyd and Andrew Matthieson to be the Presbytery's representatives at the forthcoming National Youth Assembly

The Deliverance was approved

World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct the Clerk to write to South Lanarkshire Council to express Presbytery's dismay and deep regret concerning the closures of a number of registration offices throughout the area which could have a serious impact on some of the most vulnerable people in our communities at times e.g. bereavement

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 6 April 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 April 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 ministers; 22 Elders and 2 Corresponding Members

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Sarah Ross; Rev David Carmichael, Rev Iain Cunningham; Rev Roy Cowieson and Rev Ian Watson, Ministers; Moira White, Stewart Toy, Colin Gibson, Ewan Easton, Willie MacSween, Dr Sinclair Scott, and James Watt, Elders; and Jean Morton, corresponding member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2010 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

13. Rev David Hamilton from Australia wishes to do locum work with the Church of Scotland. If anyone can use him please get in touch with the Clerk.
14. Mr David McTaggart wrote to inform the Presbytery that he has moved to Cambuslang and has resigned his membership of the Presbytery. He was an additional elder.
15. Rev John Chalmers is to host a course for Elders who wish to train as Interim Moderators on 12 June. A venue has yet to be arranged
16. A day event is being organised by the Ministries Council to support development of health and healing within the life of local congregations: Edinburgh: 13 May; Perth: 3 June; Ayr: 10 June. Papers for this and one or two other courses/events were on the table at the back of the hall.
17. Letters were sent to Session Clerks and Treasurers informing them of how much it costs for ministry and how much their congregation pays. The Clerk has all the letters for our Presbytery.
18. Questions have been raised concerning Kirk Session meetings arranged to discuss and vote on the Same Sex Relationships and the Ministry – have these to be private meetings? There appears to be nothing in the documents to say that these meetings have to be in private. However, anyone attending who is not a member of the Kirk Session would not be allowed to speak or have a vote. The same would be the case for our Presbytery Meeting.
19. The update lists for the Church of Scotland Year Book are available. Ministers are asked to check their details and alter them as necessary.

Good News Stories

Rev Margaret Muir informed the Presbytery concerning the completion of the reconstruction and resurfacing of the access road at Glencaple Church. She thanked the Clerk and the General Trustees for their help.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the successful Moderatorial Visit of the Rt. Rev. and Mrs. Bill Hewitt to the Presbytery
3. Thank all involved from Presbytery in the Moderator's Visit for their part in its success
4. Thank Andrew Ironside, Hunter Murray, David Thomson and the other photographers for their generosity, hospitality and professionalism respectively
5. Agree that all Presbytery meetings in 2010/11 will be convened in St. Nicholas Church Hall, Lanark, the only exception being the June meeting which will be held in the Moderator's church
6. Request Presbyters to uplift their own named copy of the Special Commission Consultation Paper booklet; remind them of the Special Meeting to discuss the Paper to be held on 18 May 2010 at 7:00pm in St. Nicholas Church Hall and urge them to attend
7. Invite applications for the voluntary post of Presbytery Treasurer to be lodged with the Clerk as soon as possible

The Deliverance was approved

The Convener read a letter from the Presbytery Clerk intimating his resignation as Clerk as from 7 September 2010. This matter was remitted to the Business Committee

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Robert Carson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the next Back to Church Sunday on 26 September 2010.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

11. Receive the report
12. Note that the Resources Committee has been unable to fulfil its part of the Assembly Remit on Climate Change and has reported the same to the Business Committee
13. Thank all Property Conveners within the bounds for submitting their Property Registers for Attestation, commends them for their work, and notes the intention of the Resources Committee to meet with Property Conveners to discuss the difficulties of keeping a Property Register

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to the issue of practising certificates and instruct the Presbytery Clerk to follow Act II 2000 regarding the issuing of practising certificates
3. Commend Rev Roddy Dick and Mr Jim Paxton to the prayers of the Presbytery of Lanark

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 4 May 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Committees meet at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church at 7:00pm on Tuesday 20 April

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 May 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 18 ministers; 27 Elders; 2 Corresponding Members and 5 visitors

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Sarah Ross, Rev Susan Cowell and Rev David Carmichael, Ministers; Moira White, and Robert Carson, Elders

The Moderator led the Presbytery in a time of prayer for the forthcoming General Assembly and the various Councils and committees of the Church.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2010 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

20. An e-mail was received from Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald informing the Presbytery that the Rev John Chalmers has taken up his post working, for the time being, as Depute Principal Clerk and with the Assembly's approval, he will become the Principal Clerk on Finlay's retiral in July
21. An e-mail was received informing the Presbytery that the Rev Dr George Whyte has been successful in his application for the post of Depute Principal Clerk
22. An e-mail was received from the Ministries Council inviting applications for folks who wish to become Local Assessor and Presbytery Representative in the Enquiry and Assessment process for Ministers. A Training day will take place in September but they would like to know of anyone who wants to go to this by 25th June 2010. This will be referred to the Ministries Committee
23. Extract Minutes have been received from the Kirk Session and Congregational meetings at Forth St. Paul's approving the change of constitution to the Unitary Constitution. The Business Committee will ask the Presbytery to note this
24. A letter has been received from Karen Gillon MSP enclosing a letter from NHS Lanarkshire informing the Presbytery that NHS Lanarkshire are reconsidering how Ministers are informed as to the whereabouts in Wishaw General Hospital of members of congregations when they are in that hospital
25. A letter was received from South Lanarkshire Council informing the Presbytery that it cannot reconsider its decision to close a number of registration offices throughout Clydesdale
26. The material concerning the updates to the Church of Scotland Year Book was available.
27. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that The Blue Book containing the reports etc to the General Assembly is on CD rom for anyone who may wish to borrow it.
28. The Clerk read a letter which was received from the Rev Bryan Kerr concerning a complaint made by Rev B Gauld and a subsequent interview by the police regarding the possible theft of a presbytery computer. This was referred to the Congregational Support Committee

Good News Stories

Rev Iain Cunningham informed the Presbytery concerning a Prayer Walk which had taken place in Carluke

Rev Alan Gibson reported on how Carstairs Church Football Team took on the might of a Celebrity XI, made up of former stars from Scottish football on Sunday 2nd May. A crowd of over 300 watched players like Dougie Bell (Aberdeen), John MacDonald (Rangers), Chick Young (BBC), and Tommy Sheridan (Scottish politics). £1400 was raised for local outreach projects in which the church is involved with. Sadly the final score was 6-2 to the Celebrity XI

Rev Bryan Kerr reported on the success of Hustings Meetings which had taken place in Lanark

The Moderator welcomed to the meeting Mrs Mary McLellan from Cairgryffe Parish Church and invited her to address the Presbytery about 'New Beginnings'

Mrs McLellan gave an interesting talk detailing the set up and running of 'New Beginnings', a charitable group concerned with homelessness in Clydesdale and which seeks to provide starter packs for young people in their first homes.

After questions and comments, The Moderator congratulated Mrs McLellan for the initiative taken by her group, thanked her for her interesting and lively presentation and assured her of the support of the Presbytery in the future.

Report of Lanark Presbyterial Guild Council

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Mairi Somerville, President of the Lanark Presbyterial Guild Council. Mrs Somerville presented the Annual Report in which she highlighted the following:

The Session has been the first in the Guild's new three year strategy under the overall title taken from Micah 6 'What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God'

The Annual Meeting was again held in Dundee with the overall title "Just Guild". The next three year projects were lunched, including projects from: Crossreach, HIV/AIDS, International Justice Mission, Ministries Council, Mission Aviation Fellowship and World Mission Council. Guild groups are free to choose to support any of these projects, both prayerfully and financially while understanding the underlying issues presented by each.

The Summer Rally took place in Biggar, the World Mission Rally took place in November in Lanark and the Spring Rally had the Moderator of the General Assembly the Right Reverend Bill Hewitt as its guest speaker.

The Council participates at National and International levels with women's organisations and there are currently 21 Guilds and one Young Woman's Group within the Council although last year also saw the closure of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen Guild.

The Moderator congratulated the Guild on its achievements and thanked Mrs Somerville for her Report.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee (1)

The first part of the Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Reappoint Mr W Macsween and Mr Alex McPhee as assessor elders to the charge of Biggar for a period of 7 months and instruct them to report to the Congregational Support Committee by November 2010 Committee Meeting
3. Note the report of the congregational support committee regarding the charge of Biggar and note that progress has been made.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. In light of the report from the Congregational Support Committee, grant permission to Biggar Parish Church to proceed to call a minister on the basis of deferred linkage with Black Mount l/w Culter l/w Libberton & Quothquan
3. Note that the Rev. Sarah Ross, Mr. Jim Watt and Mr. David Whitefield have been appointed to serve on the Advisory Committee for the charge of Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount l/w Culter l/w Libberton & Quothquan

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that all deliverances should be written down and handed to the Clerk and where possible e-mailed to him in advance of the meeting.
3. Note the arrangements for the Special Commission Consultation Meeting to be held on Tuesday 18 May at 7:00pm as detailed in the Report.
4. Note that Ministers and Presbytery Elders are asked to intimate the vacancy for the position of Presbytery Treasurer to their congregations and request applications to be sent to the Presbytery Clerk as soon as possible.

5. Note that Presbyters are requested to notify the Business Convenor in writing or by e-mail of any changes required to their current congregations' entry in the Year Book.
6. Approve the appointment of the following people to become members of the Appointment Panel to seek a replacement for the Presbytery Clerk: Rev David Easton (Convenor), Mrs Moira Galbraith, Rev Alan Gibson, Rev Margaret Muir and Mr Jim Watt.
7. Note that applications for the position of Presbytery Clerk should be sent to the Rev David Easton by 24 May 2010
8. 'Note that the Kirk Session of Forth: St. Paul's are to adopt the Unitary Constitution.'

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the date of the Lanark Presbytery Sunday School Teachers' Meeting at the GLO bookshop in Motherwell, as the 16 September at 7.30pm.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report;
2. Instruct Congregations who have not yet lodged their 2009 Accounts with Presbytery to do so immediately;
3. Note that Mr Colin Gibson will continue to receive Congregational Reports that will provide a base year of data on gas, oil, and electricity usage over a complete twelve month period within the years 2008-9;
4. Approve the application of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church to draw down £17,156.37 from the Consolidated Fabric Fund, and instructs the Clerk to send an Extract Minute to the General Trustees.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report.
2. Urge all Kirk Sessions of Lanark Presbytery to send at least one representative to the public meeting regarding the End of Life Assistance Bill to be held on the 24 May 2010 at Carluke: St John's Large Hall at 7:30pm and to report back to their congregations.
3. Encourage all Presbytery Elders to promote the End of Life Assistance Bill meeting to their congregations through intimations and posters.
4. Welcome Rev Sarah Ross' research into chaplaincy in schools, particularly when dealing with sudden death or tragic circumstances in the school community, and look forward to receiving an update at the June meeting of Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Alison Meikle who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the local arrangements for the Study leave of Rev Ian Watson from 4 Sept to 10 Oct 2010
3. Remit to Business Committee, the appointment of Interim Moderators for the periods of study leave for Rev B Kerr and Rev I Watson

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee (2)

The second part of the Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the Report

Law Parish Church

2. Commend the Minister, Office bearers and congregation of Law Parish Church for their commitment and emphasis on Christian spirituality through worship and prayer alongside their willingness to move more into the village and the community.
3. Commend the Minister, Office bearers and the congregation of Law Parish Church for developing worship midweek and monthly on Sunday evenings, offering a variety of forms of worship and using the gifts of lay people in leading worship.
4. Encourage the Office bearers of Law Parish Church to pursue their desire for more training.
5. Commend the Minister and Office bearers of Law Parish Church for their clear understanding of the social needs of the parish and their outreach to the community.
6. Commend the Minister and Office bearers of Law Parish for their realistic approach to addressing financial and fabric concerns and encourage them to seek the advice and guidance of the Presbytery Resources Committee.
7. Commend the Office bearers and members of the congregation for their care and support of their minister.
8. Commend the Minister, Office bearers and the congregation of Law Parish Church to the ongoing prayers of the Presbytery.
9. Advise members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Quinquennial Report of Law Parish Church can be provided on request.
10. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant section of this Report and the deliverance to the Session Clerk of Law Parish Church.

Carluke: Kirkton

11. Encourage the Minister of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton in his ministry within Carluke: Kirkton and the wider Church and commend him for developing such a strong sense of team working within the life of the congregation.
12. Commend the Minister of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton for his vision and his ability to be open to change and renewal and to reinvigorating his ministry.
13. Commend the Minister, Kirk Session of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton for their vision, their innovation in worship, their work with children/young people, deepening the faith of their members and their links with the community and the world church.
14. Commend the Minister and Kirk Session of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton for their efforts to involve members of the congregation, including former congregational board members in the leadership structure of the church
15. Commend the vision of the Minister and Kirk Session of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton of continuing to find new ways of working with children and young people and encourage them to continue to look for ways to incorporate the views and experiences of young people in their work and use them as a resource to add to their numbers.
16. Commend the Kirk Session and the members of the congregation of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton for their partnership in working with the Minister to provide care for the congregation and community, especially post funeral support.
17. Commend the Minister and Kirk Session of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton in their desire to use technological advances to share the work of the church with members and new and potential members.
18. Commend the Minister and Kirk Session of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton for their attitude of looking forward and strategically planning for the future.
19. Commend the Minister and Kirk Session of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton for their proactive approach to raising finance and maintaining the fabric of the church to a high standard.
20. Commend the Minister and Kirk Session of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton for keeping a balance between financing a major manse refurbishment and maintaining the financial resources to the ongoing mission work of the church and encourage them to monitor that.
21. Commend the Minister, his family, the Kirk Session and the congregation of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton to the ongoing prayer of Presbytery.
22. Advise the members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Quinquennial Report of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton can be provided on request.
23. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant section of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerk of the charge of the charge of Carluke: Kirkton.

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet *in hunc effectum* at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church on Tuesday 18 May 2010 at 7:00pm for deliberations on the Consultation paper from the Special Commission on Same-sex Relationships and the Ministry

The Presbytery will meet for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion on 15 June 2010 at 7.00 pm at Biggar Parish Church and then for Ordinary Business

Committees meet at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church at 7:00pm on Tuesday 1 June

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 18 May 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

The purpose of the meeting was to consider, debate and complete the voting papers on the Consultation Paper given by the Special Commission on Same-sex Relationships and the Ministry

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 17 ministers; 19 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and one visitor: Rev James Hastie from the Presbytery of Hamilton

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Harry Findlay, Minister; Moira White, Greta Stratton, Stewart Toy and Tom Chalmers, Elders; and Jean Morton, corresponding member.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in a time of prayer asking for God's help and blessing on this special and important meeting of the Presbytery

The DVD supplied by the Special Commission was played to the Presbytery

The Moderator led the Presbytery in an open discussion and debate taking each of the questions asked in the Consultation Paper in turn.

Contributions to the debate were received from many of the Members of Presbytery

The voting papers were handed out to the members together with an additional voting paper that would help with written contributions on some of the questions and the members of Presbytery were asked to complete these papers and hand them to the Clerk before leaving the meeting.

The Moderator thanked everyone for their attendance and for taking part in the debate

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion on 15 June 2010 at 7.00 pm at Biggar Parish Church and then for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Biggar, on Tuesday 15 June 2010, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Biggar Parish Church conducted by the Moderator, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in St. Mary's Hall in Biggar, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 16 ministers; 19 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Alison Meikle, Rev Susan Cowell, and Rev Iain Cunningham, Ministers, and from Lambert Allan, Colin Gibson, David Hodgson and Cameron Morton, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting which took place on Tuesday 4 May 2010 and the special meeting which took place on 18 May 2010 were held as read and approved

Roll of the Presbytery

The Clerk laid on the table the completed Roll of the Presbytery containing the names of 16 Ministers in Charges, 1 Interim Minister, 10 Retired Ministers, and 1 Minister serving with H M Armed Forces; (there is currently 1 vacant charge); 24 Commissioned Elders (4 New Elders), 8 Additional Elders and 7 corresponding members

The Moderator welcomed the new Elders who were present.

Report of Diligence at the General Assembly

Rev Robert Cleland and Dr Sinclair Scott (The Douglas Valley Church) reported enthusiastically concerning their attendance at the General Assembly and Mr Cleland spoke warmly and very highly of his first experience of being a commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland

Mr Alan Boyd who was the Presbytery's Youth Representative at the General Assembly will report to the Presbytery Meeting to take place in September.

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

29. An e-mail was received from Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald informing the Presbytery that his last day in the office at 121 George Street would be 4 June 2010. He officially retires on 1 July and is on holiday until then.
30. An e-mail was received from the Special Commission on Same-sex relationships in the Ministry that they are unable to send an acknowledgement of received reports from Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries which have requested them.
31. An e-mail was received from David Robertson, Secretary to the General Trustees, concerning the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme. He says that this scheme which rebates some of the VAT on some building works in Church buildings which are listed is to come to an end at the end of March 2011. If we would wish the scheme to continue, he is strongly urging that individual members of the Church make representations to the government. To this end he has sent an explanatory letter and a sample letter which members may use to write to their MPs. Copies were made available.
32. A letter was received from the Kirk Session at Culter concerning the report of the recent Quinquennial Visitation there.
33. A letter was received from the State Hospital, Carstairs informing the Presbytery that the Rev Beverly Gauld has been suspended from his chaplaincy post there
34. A letter was received from the General Trustees concerning their formal determination authorising the sale of the Church hall at Douglas, known as the St. Bride's Centre

Good News Stories

Dr Sinclair Scott reported that the St Bride's Centre and the Car Park have been finally "sold" to the Community Group, following the determination by the General Trustees. He also reported on the confirmation of a grant of just under £400,000 from Big Lottery, bringing the funds of the Group up to some £885K.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the positive remarks made regarding his visit to Lanark Presbytery in the report to the General Assembly by the Very Rev Bill Hewitt
3. Note the nomination of Rev Aileen Robson as Moderator of the Presbytery for the year 2010/11
4. Approve the membership of the committees for the coming year as listed in the papers
5. Note the Presbytery Year Book for 2010/11 is available for collection this evening
6. Appoint: (a) Rev Aileen Robson as Interim Moderator for Lanark: Greyfriars during the Study Leave of Rev Bryan Kerr from 29 June until 6 September 2010
(b) Rev Steven Reid as Interim Moderator for Kirkmuirhill during the Study Leave of Rev Ian Watson from 6 September until 10 October 2010
7. Thank Rev Bryan Kerr for his work on compiling the Report on the analysis of questionnaires on the Special Commission on Same Sex Relationships and the Ministry
8. Resolve to have an informal buffet meal at 6:00pm on 7 September 2010 prior to the Presbytery meeting
9. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Clerk Designate and the Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting, Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought
10. Appoint to the revision of the Presbytery Plan Ad hoc Committee: Rev Alan Gibson, Rev Harry Findlay, Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Sarah Ross, Rev Bryan Kerr (Convener) Mrs Anna Lumsden, Andrew Brown, Alex McPhee, Jim Fergusson, Colin Gibson, Sinclair Scott and Mairi Somerville, and the Presbytery Clerk designate will serve ex officio.
11. Thank the Moderator Rev David Easton, the Kirk Session and members of Biggar Parish Church for their hospitality this evening
12. Grant permission to Carluke: St Andrew's, St John's and Kirkton to hold united summer services between 4 July and 8 August 2010
13. Accept the resignation of the Rev Ian Watson as Depute Presbytery Clerk and thank him for his five years of fine service

The Deliverance was approved

Report of Panel to Appoint the Presbytery Clerk Designate

Mr Andrew Brown served as Moderator while the Report of the Panel to appoint the Presbytery Clerk Designate was presented by the Rev David Easton who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the Report
2. Appoint Rev Helen Jamieson Minister of Carluke: St. Andrew's as Presbytery Clerk with effect from 7 September 2010 and as Presbytery Clerk Designate with immediate effect.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

3. Receive the report
4. Agree to alter the date of Back to Church Sunday to Sunday 28 November 2010.
5. Note the decision of the General Assembly to reduce the staffing levels within St Andrew's Press.
6. Thank Mr Alan Boyd for representing the Presbytery of Lanark as a Youth Representative at the General Assembly of 2010.
7. Note the purchase of a new multimedia Projector and commend this to the use of all congregations.
8. Commend Pat Reid and Robert Boag, both of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church, on the completion of Safeguarding Training for Congregational Safeguarding Coordinators.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

14. Receive the Report;
15. Note that Reports have been received and delivered to eight of the nine Charges whose Property Inspections were commissioned last year;
16. Note that the buildings of six Charges within the bounds will be the subject of Property Reports this year and that three Architects/Surveyors will be invited to tender for the work;
17. Approve the Presbytery Report and Accounts for 2009;
18. Instruct the Clerk to:-
 - 5.1 forward a signed copy of the Presbytery's 2009 Accounts to the Stewardship and Finance Department,
 - 5.2 write to Mr. Tom Anderson, Independent Examiner, and his assistant, Mr. David Clarkson, of I A Stewart & Co., Chartered Accountants, expressing appreciation of their service to the Presbytery,
 - 5.3 record sincere appreciation to Mr. Colin Young for preparing and presenting the Presbytery Accounts for 2009 - and for his many years of diligent and conscientious service to the Resources Committee;
19. Instruct Congregations who have still not lodged their 2009 Accounts either with Presbytery or with the Stewardship and Finance Department to do so immediately.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Note the success of the public meeting held in Carluke on 24 May to discuss the "End of Life Assistance" bill and thank Rev. Sarah Ross for making the arrangements and chairing the meeting, and thank Carluke: St. John's for their hospitality.
3. Note that the World & Community Issues Committee would like to organise future similar public meetings, and invite members of Presbytery to give suggestions for discussion topics to be addressed at such meetings.
4. Note with concern the growing tensions in the Korean peninsular between North and South after the sinking of the South Korean ship, Cheonon, and assure our sister Presbytery of East Seoul (PROK) that the people of Korea are very much in our prayers at this time.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

In the absence of the convener, Rev Alison Meikle, the Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mr Andrew Brown who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Sessional Chaplains of the local hospitals, who have been in the past been paid indirectly by the Church of Scotland; will, as from 1 July 2010, be directly employed by NHS Lanarkshire.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

24. Receive the Report
25. Grant Practising Certificates for 2010-2011 to Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Harry Findlay, Rev David Easton, Rev John Turnbull, Rev William Craig, Rev Steven Pacitti, and Rev James Seath
26. Withhold a Practising Certificate from the Rev Beverly Gauld on the following grounds:

- a. The investigation under Act III 2001 Anent Discipline of Ministers into a complaint against the Rev Beverly Gauld by the Presbytery regarding a funeral is ongoing and has not yet reported its findings to the Presbytery
- b. The Rev Beverly Gauld filed a complaint with the police over an issue concerning the Presbytery Computer scheme. The presbytery was informed of this at the meeting on 4 May 2010 and has it under review.
- c. The Rev Beverly Gauld has been suspended from his role as chaplain at the State Hospital, Carstairs pending their investigation

The Clerk moved a counter motion which was seconded and read:

‘Grant a Practising Certificate to the Rev Beverley Gauld pending the outcome of the undernoted investigations, with the clear understanding that Presbytery will review the granting of said Practising Certificate when the outcome of each of the investigations is made clear:

- a. The investigation under Act III 2001 Anent Discipline of Ministers into a complaint against the Rev Beverly Gauld by the Presbytery regarding a funeral is ongoing and has not yet reported its findings to the Presbytery
- b. The Rev Beverly Gauld filed a complaint with the police over an issue concerning the Presbytery Computer scheme. The Presbytery was informed of this at the meeting on 4 May 2010 and has it under review
- c. The Rev Beverly Gauld has been suspended from his role as chaplain at the State Hospital, Carstairs pending their investigation

On a vote being taken there were 7 votes for the counter motion and 25 for the original section of the deliverance.

The original section of the deliverance was approved

The Rev Beverly Gauld begged leave to ‘dissent and complain and crave extracts’.

Black Mount, Culter, Libberton and Quothquan

27. Commend the Minister, for his faithful Ministry to such a wide rural area
28. Commend Mrs Annis Cutler for her support and commitment to the work and lives of the three congregations
29. Commend the Congregation of Libberton and Quothquan for their worship, witness and service to the parish, their hard work and their positive attitude to their calling as a congregation
30. Commend the Congregation of Black Mount for their hard work, the vision they have had in refurbishing their Church and encourage them to employ that same boldness and imagination in reaching out to their parish in mission
31. Extend sympathy to the Minister and Congregation of Culter Parish Church on the death of their Treasurer and Session Clerk, Mr Ted McCosh
32. Recognise the hard work of individual Office Bearers and members of Culter Parish Church in the wider community
33. Recognise the difficulty Culter Parish Church has in maintaining viability as a congregation and note the comments made by the Presbytery Elder in relation to the report and assure the Kirk Session of the ongoing prayerful support of the Presbytery
34. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee together with the Minister and Office Bearers of Culter Parish Church to work through the implications in this report which state that: “It is the opinion of the visiting team that Culter Parish Church is not fulfilling its purpose as a Church of Jesus Christ.”
35. Commend the Minister, his wife, Kirk Sessions and Congregations to the ongoing prayers of Presbytery
36. Advise the members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Quinquennial Visitation report can be made available on request
37. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant sections of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerks of the congregations

Kirkmuirhill Parish Church

38. Commend the Minister for his preaching ministry, his vision of reaching out to the community and enabling and encouraging the gifts of the congregation to be developed in the service of Christ
39. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers for their healthy, forward looking leadership and their shared zeal and focus on mission and outreach supported by worship and prayer
40. Commend the Minister and Office Bearers for employing an evangelist to spearhead the congregation’s mission and outreach

41. Commend and encourage the Minister and Office Bearers in their embracing the new areas of mission and ministry among the more challenging sections of the community and their initiatives in reaching out towards a closer relationship with those who have drug and alcohol problems within the parish.
42. Commend the work of the 'Second Chance Shop'
43. Commend the Minister, Office Bearers and Congregation for their Christian spirituality and commitment to furthering their Christian growth and education
44. Commend the Minister, Office Bearers and Congregation for their high level of Christian giving
45. Note that monies put into the restricted fabric and evangelist funds have resulted in a decrease in the givings to the general funds

A vote taken for or against section 22 resulted in 17 for 12 against

46. Encourage the Office Bearers to review the condition of the Manse
47. Commend the Minister, his family, Office Bearers and Congregation to the ongoing prayers of Presbytery
48. Advise the members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Quinquennial Visitation report can be made available on request
49. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant sections of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerk of the congregation

The Deliverance was approved

Committees Meeting on Tuesday 24 August 2010

The Moderator reminded members that Presbytery Committees meet on Tuesday 24 August 2010

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet on 7 September 2010 at 7.00 pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for Ordinary Business

(A Buffet Meal will be available from 6:00pm. and must be ordered with Helen Chekansky)

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Members of Presbytery to say the Grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

APPENDIX A

**Presbytery of Lanark
Proposed Committees 2010-2011**

Congregational Development

Rev Alan Gibson (Convener)
Mr Robert Carson
Mr Tom Chalmers
Rev Robert Cleland
Rev Roy Cowieson
Rev David Easton
Mr James Ferguson
Rev. Alison Meikle
Mr. Alex Nelson
Mrs Alison Plenderleith
Mrs Moira White

Congregational Support

Rev Margaret Muir (Convener)
Rev Dr Graham Houston
Mr. Malcolm Barclay
Rev Helen Jamieson
Mr. Jim Johnstone
Mrs Anna Lumsden
Mr Willie Macsween
Mr Alex McPhee
Mr Jim Sinclair
Rev Ian Watson
Mr Jim Watt
Mrs. Irene Williams

Ministries

Rev. Bryan Kerr (Convener)
Mr Lambert Allan
Mr Andrew Brown
Mrs Helen Chekansky
Mrs Moira Galbraith
Mr David Hodgson
Rev. Ian MacKenzie
Mrs Greta Stratton
Rev Una Stewart
Rev John Turnbull

Resources

Rev Harry Findlay (Convener)
Rev David Carmichael
Mr William Coulter
Rev. Jim Cutler
Mr Ewan Easton
Mr Colin Gibson
Mr Cameron Morton
Rev. Stephen Reid
Mr Stewart Toy
Mr Robert Tweedie
Mr David Whitefield
Treasurer

World & Community Issues

Rev Iain Cunningham
Rev Susan Cowell
Mr Peter McLeish
Rev Aileen Robson
Rev Sarah Ross (Convener)
Dr Sinclair Scott
Mrs Mairi Sommerville
Mr Hugh Stewart
Mrs Jennifer Worthington
Mr David Waters

Business

Mrs Anna Lumsden (Convener)
Mr Andrew Brown
Rev Robert Cleland
Rev Jim Cutler (Clerk)
Rev. David Easton
Rev Helen Jamieson
Dr Sinclair Scott
Depute Clerk
Mrs Irene Williams
Rev. Aileen Robson (Moderator)

Lanark, on Tuesday 7 September 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev David Easton, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 15 ministers; 20 Elders; 2 Corresponding Members and 2 visitors

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev Beverly Gauld and Rev Steven Reid Ministers; Mr Lambert Allan, Mr Cameron Morton Mrs Greta Stratton, Mr David Waters, Mr Jim Watt, Mrs Jennifer Worthington, Elders and Mrs Mairi Somerville, Corresponding Member. Also present were Mr A Longwe and Mr A Shearer from Kirkmuirhill and visitors from Biggar, Black Mount Culter, Libberton and Quothquan whose congregations had been cited to appear for their interests.

Welcome to New Members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed all new members of Presbytery and the visitors present.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Tribute to Rev Phil Jones

Rev Ian Watson, Minister of Kirkmuirhill paid tribute to Rev Phil Jones. He described not only the earlier years of Phil's life but his ministry in Kenmure, Bishopriggs, his continued worship witness and service in retirement and his gracious nature, offering support and encouragement to others not only within the fellowship of the Church but also within the community.

Rev Ian Watson led the Presbytery in a prayer of thanksgiving for the life and witness of Rev Phil Jones.

Resignation of Presbytery Clerk

The Moderator offered the sincere thanks of Presbytery to Rev Jim Cutler on his retiral as Presbytery Clerk. Gifts of a cheque and a mounted photograph of the Falls of Clyde were presented on behalf of Presbytery. Mr Cutler thanked all members of Presbytery for their kindness and support.

Appointment of Presbytery Clerk

Rev Helen Jamieson, having been appointed Clerk Designate at the meeting of Presbytery on 15 June 2010, took the *oath de fidei*.

Election and Installation of new Moderator

The Presbytery elected Rev Aileen Robson as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2010/11. Mr Easton welcomed Miss Robson, installed her as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited her to take the chair. The new Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing her, and also thanked Mr Easton for his service in his year as Moderator.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2010 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

Rev J Cutler referred to the following items of Correspondence:

35. An e-mail was received from Cliff Jackson who is the new chaplain at Auchlochan requesting contact details for the Ministers in the Presbytery. Rev Aileen Robson will find out more about the chaplaincy there before Mr Jackson is furnished with such details.
36. A letter was received from Carluke: St. John's inviting the Clerk, Rev Jim Cutler, and other parties to meet with representatives of their Kirk Session to discuss the future for their congregation. Rev J Cutler, Rev H Findlay and Rev B Kerr will arrange a meeting.
37. A letter was received from the Panel on Review and Reform dated 3 June which was received by the Clerk on 13 August asking Presbytery to work directly with the Panel on the Reform of Presbyteries and requesting that Presbytery make contact. This has been remitted to the Business Convener.

38. The Ministries Council informed the Presbytery about a special meeting which they were to have with Presbytery Planning representatives on 18 August and further information followed regarding Presbytery Planning Review and 2020 vision. This has been forwarded to Rev B Kerr for Presbytery Planning Review Committee to action.
39. An email was received from the Church Solicitor drawing the Presbytery's attention to the Equality Bill. The Bill made a number of important changes to the existing law, some of which generated considerable controversy. This has been referred to World and Community Issues Committee.
40. An e-mail was received from Ruth Johnston who is the Ministry Support Officer for the Readership attaching a new Readership Handbook and information regarding the Readership. This has been passed to the Ministries Committee Convener and if anyone else would like a copy, please contact the Clerk.
41. Several e-mails have been received from the Legal Department:
 - a. Regarding the Public Service Reform (Scotland) Act 2010. Our attention is drawn to the details which must appear on Congregations' Web Sites etc
 - b. Regarding the regulations concerning the storage of heating oil on Church premises.
 - c. Regarding the lets of Churches and Church Halls to non Church bodies
 - d. Regarding Water and Sewerage chargesDetails have been forwarded to all Ministers.
42. Rev B Devenny wrote to advise that Rev Jim Allardyce has retired from his post as Chaplain at WGH and NHS Lanarkshire were advertising for his replacement. The closing date for applications was 20 August.
43. A letter was received from Pomphreys, Solicitors, concerning the Alexander Barclay Bequest requesting and update on the details of the Moderator and the Clerk. This has been provided.
44. Information from Stewardship and Finance:
 - a. Presbytery has received the details of the proposed Stipend allocations for 2011. This has been remitted to Resources Committee.
 - b. Noting that their yearly Consultation with Presbyteries has been delayed until 28 October because of the Pope's visit.
45. An email was received from Dorothy Davidson at 121 concerning the Scottish Cot Death Trust and asking for the support of our ongoing prayers – details have been forwarded to all Ministers.
46. IT Department has forwarded forms for updates on Congregational Office Bearers—one for each congregation. These should be uplifted tonight and returned to the Clerk no later than 30 September.
47. A number of forthcoming conferences and events:
 - a. Church and Community are having a conference with the Church Buildings Renewal Trust to take place on 29 September
 - b. Church and Society are having a day conference in Stirling on 11 September. Among the speakers will be Stuart Wilson, the new Church of Scotland's Head of Media and Communication.
 - c. The Scottish Association for Pastoral Care and Counselling are having a day conference on 9 October at Linlithgow.
 - d. There is notice of the Charteris Lecture to take place in Edinburgh on 21 September.
 - e. There is also copied an email concerning the Christian Fellowship for Healing. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in receiving the information.
 - f. Crossreach are having an International Conference on Dementia to take place on 28 OctoberDetails of these are on the table for members to look at.
48. Letter from Rev B Kerr asking Presbytery to note his resignation as temporary Chaplain at the State Hospital, Carstairs
49. Letter from Rev B Gauld received on 3rd September apologizing for his absence at Presbytery this evening and outlining a number of his concerns regarding the Agreement between The Ministries Council and himself at his demission last year including his contention that the document was unilaterally altered by Presbytery. The Business Committee met briefly prior to Presbytery this evening to consider the letter and it has been remitted to Congregational Support Committee.

Good News Stories

Rev Ian Mackenzie informed Presbytery about a nine year project at the Auchengray Church Centre, which with a range of funding, has seen the installation of a new toilet block and kitchens, entrance hall and vestry. This is a community project administered by a Centre committee of church and community members. The Primary School next door uses the facilities daily for lunches and hall games, so it is a self-supporting venture

Rev Roy Cowieson informed Presbytery about the holiday club which took place in Carluke during the first week in August. Over 100 young people attended. A number of the leaders then went to Jedburgh the following week and ran a Holiday Club there with about 65 children attending.

Report of Diligence at the Youth Assembly from Youth Representative Alan Boyd

Mr Boyd gave an interesting reflection on his experiences as a youth representative, highlighting a variety of emotions experienced through worship and speaking also of the support received from other Youth Representatives. Mr Boyd thanked the Presbytery for affording him the opportunity to attend.

The Moderator thanked him for his presentation.

Report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Suspend its existing Presbytery Plan.
3. Resolve that, until a revised Presbytery Plan has been agreed, all calls within Presbytery shall be on the basis of a three-year conformable reviewable tenure, which shall mean –
 - (a) that the charge shall be reviewed as part of the revision of the Presbytery Plan as instructed by the General Assembly 2010 or three years from the date of induction, whichever is the sooner;
 - (b) that when the Presbytery Plan has been completed and concurred with by the Ministries Council of the General Assembly, the minister shall have the option at that point of allowing his/her tenure to be conformed to the plan, or of completing a term of three years from the date of his/her induction under Reviewable Tenure, after which Presbytery may terminate the tenure of the minister at any time, on giving him/her six month's notice in writing;
 - (c) that the minister shall be free to seek to demit or to be translated as in the ordinary case of any minister inducted to a charge, provided that, if this Reviewable Tenure is his/her first charge, Presbytery hereby agrees that these conditions constitute exceptional circumstances in terms of section 4(2) of Act VII 2003, and will accordingly issue the necessary certificate if he/she seeks to be translated within five years.
4. Instruct the Vacancy Procedure Committee to consult the Presbytery Planning Committee when a congregation becomes vacant, and –
 - (a) where both Committees agree that a call is appropriate, give a congregation permission to call on the basis of conformable reviewable tenure as defined in section 2 above;
 - (b) where both Committees agree that a call is not appropriate, report this matter to the next meeting of Presbytery;
 - (c) where the two Committees either do not agree or consider that the issue is not straightforward, refer the matter to the next meeting of Presbytery for a decision.
5. Following the suspension of the current Presbytery Plan and the moratorium on Presbytery Parish Workers being appointed, agree to suspend vacancy procedures in the charge of Biggar, in deferred linkage with Black Mount linked with Libberton & Quothquan.
On a vote being taken there were: 24 FOR and 12 AGAINST
The deliverance as put by the Committee was approved
6. Agree to confer all rights and privileges of a standing committee of Presbytery to the Presbytery Plan Review Group in all matters of appraisal and readjustment until such times as the Presbytery Plan is reviewed and agreed by all parties.
7. Agree to seek a reclassification of Presbytery type in the Ministries Council Weightings Review from Category C to Category D in recognition of the rural nature of Lanark Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

The Presbytery agreed to a short recess. Due to the Moderator's being taken ill Rev D Easton assumed the chair.

Report of the Investigating Committee into Act III 2001(Act Anent Discipline of Ministers, Licentiates, Graduate Candidates and Deacons (as amended by Acts III and IX 2002 and III 2003,X 2004, III 2005, XVI 2006, I and II 2007, VII 2008 and III 2010) **(IN PRIVATE)**

In the absence of the Convener Rev A Barrie, the report was presented by Mr Colin Gibson.

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report in terms of Act III 2001(Act Anent Discipline of Ministers, Licentiates, Graduate Candidates and Deacons (as amended by Acts III and IX 2002 and III 2003,X 2004, III 2005, XVI 2006, I and II 2007, VII 2008 and III 2010)
2. Thank and discharge the Committee of Presbytery: Rev A Barrie, Rev U Stewart, Mr C Gibson.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee (IN PRIVATE)

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

4. Receive the report
5. Instruct the Clerk to write to the Rev Beverly Gauld expressing the disappointment of the Presbytery that he felt the need to write to the Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police concerning a Presbytery Computer
6. Grant a Practising Certificate for 2010 - 2011 to Rev Beverly Gauld
7. Appoint the Rev Roy Cowieson (Convener), Mrs Irene Williams and Mr Jim Johnstone to meet with the Minister and Office Bearers of Culter Parish Church to work through the conclusions of the report of the Quinquennial Visitation of March 2010 and report to the meeting of the Congregational Support Committee on 16 November 2010

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Appoint Mrs Mary McGillivray as Treasurer of Lanark Presbytery
3. Note the Year Book Changes included in the papers
4. Approve the appointment of the following people to the Appointment Panel to seek a replacement for the Depute Presbytery Clerk: Rev David Easton (Convenor), Mr Andrew Brown, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Margaret Muir and Mrs Jennifer Worthington
5. Note that applications for the position of Depute Presbytery Clerk should be sent to the Rev David Easton by 24 September 2010
6. Appoint Messrs Ewan Easton and Jim Watt to the Ad Hoc Committee to review the Presbytery Plan in place of Messrs Alex McPhee and Colin Gibson
7. Thank the Rev Alison Meikle and helpers for organising and serving the buffet meal

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to forward the name of Rev Bryan Kerr for training as a supervisor for the enquiry and assessment and training schemes of the Church of Scotland to the Ministries Council.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee including Report from ITEC Committee

In the absence of the Convener of the Resources Committee Rev Bryan Kerr presented the report of the Resources Committee and moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the Report

2. Note that the 1 June deadline has passed and that no Congregation has intimated to the Resources Committee that it needs help to meet its current M&M Allocation from the Presbytery's 2010 Variation Allowance which stands at approximately £14,771
3. Agree that £12,140 of the 2010 Variation Allowance be used to meet the Accumulated Shortfall of Carnwath Parish Church

Following discussion Rev Ian Watson proposed a counter motion

'Apply the 2010 variation allowance equally amongst all congregations of the Presbytery.'

On a vote being taken the motion carried and the deliverance was approved.

4. Appoint Mr Michael Nisbet, Chartered Architect, to carry out Presbytery's 2010 Property Survey

Rev David Carmichael moved the following section of the deliverance

5. Accept the recommendations of the ITEC Committee with regard to the replacement of ministers' computers

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

5. Receive the report
6. Note the date of the World Mission Rally on Wednesday 24 November
7. Remind congregations about the on-going fundraising for the Church of Scotland HIV/Aids project and encourage those who have not yet planned a Souper Sunday or similar event to do so in the coming months.
8. Commend to the prayers of Presbytery the difficult situations in Pakistan, China, Niger and Iraq.
9. Commend the CARE Education conference in Edinburgh on 29 September to Presbytery.
10. Encourage Presbytery Elders to ask their Kirk Sessions and congregations about issues that they would like opportunity to discuss that the World and Community Committee can facilitate, and have them report back to Rev Sarah Ross via email or in person by 18 September.
11. Agree that the Presbytery of Lanark will sponsor one presbyter of the World and Community Issues committee to attend the CARE Education conference on Religious Education and Religious Observance in Edinburgh on 29 September covering the costs of £170+VAT Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

3. Receive the report
4. Invite all Sunday School staff to attend the Resource Evening on Thursday 16 September at 7.30pm in the GLO bookshop, Motherwell

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 October 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, 5th October 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Aileen Robson , Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 16 ministers; 23 Elders; 3 Corresponding Members and visitors from the charges of Biggar and Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton & Quothquan

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Roy Cowieson and Rev Una Stewart, Ministers; and Messrs Johnstone, Morton, Scott, Whitefield and Mrs Moira White, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Appointment of Depute Presbytery Clerk

The report of the Appointments Panel was presented by Rev David Easton who moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: Presbytery

Appoint Rev Bryan Kerr as Depute Presbytery Clerk.

The Deliverance was approved

Rev Bryan Kerr took the *oath de fideli*

Minutes: Subject to an amendment on page 23 inserting the words 'in deferred linkage with' following the word Biggar, the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2010 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

1. E-mails received from Ministries Council regarding 2020 Vision were remitted to Presbytery Planning and Review Group.
2. E-mail received from Rev Iain Campbell Mission Development Worker seeking the opportunity to address Presbytery. The Business Committee agreed to invite Mr Campbell to address Presbytery in November.
3. E-mail received from Rev A Robson regarding her meeting with Rev C Jackson, the new chaplain at Auchloch. A Presbytery yearbook has been forwarded to Mr Jackson.
4. E-mails from the Safeguarding Office notifying changes to procedures In November 2010 following the implementation of PVG (Scotland) Act were remitted to the Congregational Development Committee
5. E-mail from the Law Dept regarding Radio Microphones was distributed to all ministers
6. E-mail from Church & Society Council regarding Prisoners Week was remitted to World & Community Issues Committee
7. E-mail from Law Dept regarding Charity Accounts Regulations; Supervision & Responsibilities of Presbytery was remitted to Resources Committee
8. E-mail from the Principal Clerk with information regarding Presbytery Planning from the Legal Questions Committee was remitted to the Presbytery Planning & Review Group
9. E-mail from Rev Iain McKenzie giving notice of his retiral as a Regional Interim Minister in 2011. This will be formally processed by Ministries Council (to whom he is contracted) in October 2010. The letter also expressed the gratitude of the congregation of Carnwath for Presbytery's action in September 2010 to remove the outstanding debts owed by the congregation form past years.
10. E-mail from Rev Dr Graham Houston informing Presbytery of his decision to retire on the grounds of ill health on 31 December 2010 and seeking some assistance in his change until that date. The matter was referred to the Business committee.

Good News Stories

Mr David Hodgson, Libberton & Quothquan, informed Presbytery of the successful Back to Church Sunday held there in September.

Mr Ewan Easton, Lesmahagow: Old, informed Presbytery of the successful 'Souper Sunday' service held there which was combined with the Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Rev John Turnbull informed Presbytery that Clydesdale Christian Youth Trust had achieved its financial target and can go forward now to employ a Christian Youth Worker for Clydesdale schools.

Report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the ongoing discussions being held with Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton & Quothquan with regard to the vacancy at Biggar.
3. Approve the Presbytery Plan Review Process as outlined in the report
4. Instruct Kirk Sessions and Congregations to attend all meetings they are invited to for the Presbytery Plan Review
5. Inform all Kirk Sessions that meetings called by the Presbytery Plan Review Group are seen by the Presbytery as meetings called by a higher court and therefore take precedence over Kirk Session and other congregational meetings
6. Instruct ministers and Kirk Sessions to make arrangements to distribute Presbytery Plan Review Group Newsletters to worshippers within their congregations at the first available opportunity following delivery
7. Instruct Kirk Sessions to provide the convenor with copies of the accounts and annual reports for the years ending 31st December 2007, 2008 and 2009 no later than 31st October 2010
8. Invite ministers to seek a meeting with representatives of the Presbytery Plan Review Group should they so desire to discuss, in confidence, their views about how the Presbytery best serves God's mission within the bounds
9. Invite ministers, Kirk Sessions, congregations and members to remember the work of the Presbytery Plan Review Group in prayer and to seek God's blessing upon the work, discussions and decisions that may arise.

The Convener stated that since the production of Presbytery papers it had been necessary for a Supplementary Report to be prepared. In light of the information in the Supplementary Report, he requested Presbytery delete Section 2 of the Deliverance.

Presbytery agreed.

It was moved and seconded as an amendment to Section 4:

After 'Review' add: and note that the linked charges of Crossford and Kirkfieldbank and Cairngryffe and Symington will now meet at Lanark on 22nd November 2010.

On a vote being taken For or Against it carried Against

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Supplementary Report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The supplementary report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the supplementary report
2. Immediately rescind the decision of Presbytery taken in September 2010 to sist vacancy procedures in the charge of Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan and allow the congregations involved to recommence vacancy procedures in relation to the permission to call granted by the Presbytery of Lanark on 4th May 2010
3. For the avoidance of doubt inform the charge of Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan that under terms of section 26 of Act VIII, 2008 Act anent Vacancy Procedure (as amended by Acts IX and X 2004, II 2005, V 2006 and I, IV and VI 2008, II and V 2009 and IV 2010) the 12 months permission to call will expire on 31st May 2011
4. Instruct the Interim Moderator, Kirk Sessions and nominating committee in the charge of Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan to inform all potential candidates for the vacancy of the moratorium of the appointment of Presbytery Parish

Workers and to share with honesty the unlikely nature, at present, of appointing an associate minister and the implications of such a situation for the new minister

5. Expresses its deep regret and disquiet that the Ministries Council of the General Assembly did not work collaboratively with other agencies of the church to ensure that legal questions were adequately answered before issuing guidelines to Presbyteries on how to manage the process of review of Presbytery Plans putting the Presbytery of Lanark in an invidious position with the charge of Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan and seek assurances that before any further advice is distributed to Presbyteries appropriate legal counsel is sought
6. Instruct the clerk to send extract minutes to all affected congregations and the Ministries Council, Legal Questions Committee and the Office of the Principal Clerk.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Mr Alex McPhee has resigned as Assessor Elder to the congregation of Biggar
3. Note that no Quinquennial Visits will take place during the period June 2010 – June 2011

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the allocation of remits from the General Assembly as detailed in the report. (Appendix A)
3. Thank Greyfriars Church for gifting photographs to elders who were presented with long service certificates.
4. Note the communication received from Rev Dr Graham Houston concerning his retirement on 31 December 2010.
5. Appoint Rev Jim Cutler as Interim Moderator to the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Symington with immediate effect.
6. Resolve to deal with the demission of Rev Dr Graham Houston at the December meeting of Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage congregations to support the World Mission Rally on 24 November 2010 at Lanark St Nicholas at 7.30pm.
3. Encourage all Ministers and Kirk Sessions to consider using the Prisoners Week material.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Note the Proposed Ministries and Mission Contributions for 2011 (Appendix B)
3. Instruct Congregational Treasurers to lodge any appeals against Ministries and Missions Contributions for 2011 with the Convener of the Resources Committee before 16 November 2010

The Deliverance was approved**Report of the Congregational Development Committee**

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

9. Receive the report
10. Note the success of the Sunday School Teachers' Resource Event, and thank the GLO Bookshop, Motherwell, for its provision of catering, staff and resources.
11. Urge Kirk Sessions and Safeguarding Panels to be aware of the need to implement the new Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 (PVG) from the 15 November 2010.

The Deliverance was approved**Report of the Ministries Committee:**

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that readers will be presented at the November meeting of the Presbytery and invite the Business Committee to formally invite readers to attend.
3. Invite interested individuals to offer their service as a local assessor in the Enquiry and Assessment Scheme and to give their names to the convenor as soon as possible.

The Deliverance was approved**Adjournment:**

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 2 November 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator**Clerk*****APPENDIX A Remits Table***

COMMITTEE	REMIT	PAGE	SECTION	REPORT DATE
Congregational Support	Overture anent Local Church Review	3		Dec 2010
Ministries	Local spiritual care committees	9	25	Dec 2010
World/Community Issues	Church/Society contact	10	4	ASAP
Congregational Development	Safeguarding	12	7	ASAP
Presbytery Planning	Church Art/Architecture	13	19	ASAP

APPENDIX B Ministries and Mission Allocations 2010 – 2011

**PRESBYTERY of LANARK - RESOURCES COMMITTEE
2011 MINISTRIES & MISSION ALLOCATIONS**

CONGREGATION	2010 ACTUAL CONTRIBUTION	2011 PROPOSED CONTRIBUTION	2011 PROPOSAL		AV'GE INCOME 2007-9	2011 PROPOSAL AS % OF AV'GE INCOME	2011 VARIANCE FROM SCALE	
			INCREASE/(DECREASE)				SUM	%
BIGGAR	47542	50699	6.60%	3,157	89,000	57.00%	0	0.00%
CARLUKE KIRKTON	63,849	64811	1.50%	962	116,123	55.80%	0	0.00%
CARLUKE ST AND'S	29653	31,748	7.10%	2,095	56,665	56.00%	0	0.00%
CARLUKE ST JOHN'S	49491	51,440	3.90%	1,949	90,346	56.90%	0	0.00%
CARNWATH	27188	27,585	1.50%	397	49,726	55.50%	0	0.00%
COALBURN	8236	8,977	9.00%	741	20,425	49.00%	1027	10.30%
CARSTAIRS & CAR JUNCT.	25424	26,205	3.10%	781	47,426	55.30%	0	0.00%
CROSSFORD	17,117	18,658	9.00%	1,541	36,980	53.90%	1,279	6.40%
CULTER	5,228	5,699	9.00%	471	15,382	46.90%	1,511	21.00%
DOUGLAS VALLEY	26,968	29,395	9.00%	2,427	59,109	56.20%	3,820	11.50%
BLACK MOUNT	8,801	9593	9.00%	792	20,373	49.00%	380	3.80%
GLENCAPLE	18,783	17,964	-4.40%	-819	33,691	53.30%	0	0.00%
FORTH ST PAULS	33,056	35411	7.10%	2,355	62,769	56.40%	0	0.00%
KIRKFIELD BANK	9,629	10442	8.40%	813	21,154	49.40%	0	0.00%
KIRKMUIRHILL	69,914	72210	3.30%	2,296	130,921	55.20%	0	0.00%
LANARK ST NICHOLAS	55,411	60398	9.00%	4,987	108,325	56.20%	514	0.80%
LAW	20,698	21,340	3.10%	642	39,318	54.30%	0	0.00%
LESMHGW. ABBEY GREEN	45,679	48,210	5.50%	2,531	84,474	57.10%	0	0.00%
LESMAHAGOW OLD	38,940	42,445	9.00%	3,505	91,097	56.90%	9408	18.10%
L1BB & QUOTH'QUAN	3,879	4,228	9.00%	349	19,948	48.70%	5493	56.50%
SYMINGTON	21,021	22,070	5.00%	1,049	40,535	54.40%	0	0.00%
LOWTHER	2,533	2,761	9.00%	228	7,506	45.00%	617	18.30%
GREYFRIARS	51,425	52,647	2.40%	1,222	92,541	56.90%	0	0.00%
CAIRNGRYFFE	20,302	20,784	2.40%	482	38,391	54.10%	0	0.00%

Lanark, on, 2nd November 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted with prayer; the Moderator leading the Presbytery in prayers for Rev Dr Graham Houston and family in his time of illness and the family of the late Rev Bill Longmuir, minister of Cairns Church, Lanark (1984-1992) who passed away on 22 October 2010.

Sederunt: Rev Aileen Robson, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 17 ministers; 27 Elders; 5 Corresponding Members and one visitor.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Dr Graham Houston and Rev David Carmichael, Ministers; and Mr David Hodgson, Elder.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2010 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

11. 'Letting it Happen' handbook & CD copies of 'Inform Church' website – materials from the General Trustees are available for each congregation.
12. Scottish Church Theology Society – details of conference are available from Clerk
13. Mission and Discipleship E-news – copies available from the Clerk
14. Parliamentary Office Newsletter – available by e-mail from the Clerk
15. Holy City 2010/11 – Information postcards available to uplift
16. Moira Anderson Foundation, Stay Safe Launch – 16th November – details forwarded to Ministers
17. Jayne Scott, Ministries Council – review of report on Domestic Abuse to GA 2003 – details forwarded to Ministers.
18. Law Department - Listed Places of Worship scheme – has been continued in part and information has been forwarded to ministers.
19. Martin Scott, Ministries Council – 2020 vision Regional Consultations – information forwarded to Planning and Review Group
20. Workplace Chaplaincy – job vacancy for Oil and Gas Chaplain – forwarded to ministers
21. General Trustees – e-mailed letter regarding inspection of Manse Condition Schedules – forwarded to Resources Convener
22. Stewardship & Finance – postal letter giving update on Lanark Presbytery current Ministries and Mission Shortfalls – forwarded to Resources Convener

Good News Stories

Rev Una Stewart, Law Parish Church, informed Presbytery that Law Parish Church had undertaken the Future Focus Process in 2009, looking at the parish and how the church engages with it. Following the review the Church has started a parents and toddlers group with a registration morning bringing 28 children to the group. A waiting list is now in operation with attendance at 30 children each week. Church members are actively involved in the group.

Rev Sarah Ross, Forth St Paul's Parish Church, highlighted the importance of mission and sharing faith and allowing God to work in people when she informed Presbytery of an enthusiastic new Christian in the congregation wishing to get involved in the church and participating in Alpha.

Rev David Easton, Biggar Parish Church, informed Presbytery of seven new communicants joining by profession of faith in Biggar Kirk following an attendance of nine people at their recent enquirers group.

Presentation of Readers

Rev Bryan Kerr, Ministries Committee Convenor, presented Mr Alan Grant and Mr Bill Love, Readers, to the Presbytery and invited the Moderator to address them. The Moderator thanked Mr Grant and Mr Love for their service within Lanark Presbytery and reminded Presbyters of the valuable resource that the Readers offer in supporting the ministry of the Church.

Mission Development Worker (West) – Mr Iain Campbell

Mr Iain Campbell, Mission Development Worker (West), from the Mission & Discipleship Council was invited to address Presbytery. Mr Campbell spoke of the warmth of welcome within the Presbytery and how he appreciated the Good News Stories that members of Presbytery shared. Mr Campbell covers 14 Presbyteries with approximately 670 churches within the council. Following the restructuring of the Council Mr Campbell noted that there are fewer staff available to resource the wider church and as a result the Council is prioritising work at Presbytery rather than congregational level. Future Focus is a major part of work within the Council and is used to help and encourage congregations in a Mission Audit as recommended by the Ministries Council during this period of Presbytery Plan Review. Mr Campbell also shared news of the development of the faith sharing course, 'You're an Angel', which is being piloted as a day conference and reminded Presbytery of the other areas of work within the Council; worship, church leadership training and faith development. The Moderator thanked Mr Campbell for his attendance and his informative address and wished him God's blessing in his work.

Report of Presbytery Scottish Bible Society Representative

Rev Alison Meikle, Presbytery Scottish Bible Society Representative, presented her report as in the papers and moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

10. Receive the report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the Nomination of Rev. Alan Gibson for appointment to the General Assembly Mission and Discipleship Council.
3. Approve the Nomination of Mr Andrew Brown for appointment to the General Assembly Safeguarding Committee.
4. Note that the Depute Clerk will remain as Convener of the time-limited Presbytery Planning Review Group.
5. Note that the Depute Clerk will demit office as Convener of the Presbytery Ministry Committee.
6. Approve the appointment of Mr Andrew Brown as Acting Convener of the Presbytery Ministry Committee.
7. Note the meeting for New Elders held on 21st October 2010 and thank the Presbytery Clerk for revising and updating the Guide for Presbytery Members.
8. Approve the reimbursement of necessary expenditure incurred by the Presbytery Planning Review Group during the 2010 Financial Year.
9. Remind Committee Conveners to inform the Presbytery Officer of meetings not taking place.
10. Remind Committee Conveners to give all special material for inclusion in Power Point to the Depute Clerk by the Friday preceding the Presbytery Meeting.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Welcome the success of the Presbytery conference held on 25 October 2010, thank all those who contributed to the evening, and remind congregations of the need to attend the area meetings throughout November.
3. Remind Kirk Sessions to submit all information requested by the deadlines set by the Review Group and to deal with the Review Group courteously during the process.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

12. Receive the report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay. The Moderator invited the new Presbytery Treasurer, Mrs Mary McGillivray, to present the budget for 2011. Rev Harry Findlay, Convener, then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report of the Resources Committee.
2. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2011. (Appendix 1)
3. Note with satisfaction that all Congregations within the bounds, except for two who had previously been given dispensation from paying by Standing Order, have met, and some exceeded, their monthly contributions toward their Ministries and Mission Allocation for this year;
4. Instruct Congregational Treasurers to lodge any appeals against Ministries and Missions Contributions for 2011 with the Convener of the Resources Committee before 16 November, 2010.
5. Note that Messrs Colin Gibson and Cameron Morton together with the Rev. Steven Reid have been appointed to serve on this year's Congregational Accounts' Inspection Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Ian Ivison.
6. Note that the Manse of Carluke: Kirkton has been re-occupied by the Incumbent who can be contacted as indicated in the Presbytery Year Book.
7. Note that the Property Report for the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction is now to hand.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree to welcome and support a delegation from East Seoul, PROK in June 2011.
3. Note the World Mission Council Day for Lanark Presbytery will now be in February 2011 in Dunblane/Stirling.
4. Encourage congregations to think about the economic messages they are sending out this Christmas and take steps to be sensitive to the economic climate.
5. Instruct Presbytery elders to take the letter from World and Community Issues Committee to their Kirk Sessions, ensuring that details are returned to the Convener by the December meeting of Presbytery.

The convener moved an amendment to Section 3:

Delete 'Dunblane/ Stirling' and replace with 'Bridge of Allan'

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 7 December 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1 – 2011 Budget

PRESBYTERY BUDGET 2011

Opening balance **19034**

Income:-

Interest 500

2011 Dues (7591 @ £1.75) 13284

IT replacement levy (7591 @ £1) 7591

-7591

Total **13784**

Expenditure

Clerk's salary & NI 5000

Clerk's expenses 500

Clerk's office 1000

Printing & postage 200

Insurance & copyright 450

Honoraria 650

Congregational Development 250

World & Community Issues 2250

Ministry Committee 250

Congregational Support 250

Business Committee 400

Plan Review Group 350

Pulpit Supply 950

(included in this figure is 12 x £50 congreg visits
Plan Review Group)

Travel 150

Hall rent 750

Grants & Bursaries 200

Sundry 500

Total **14100**

Reduction in general reserve **-316**

Projected closing balance **18718**

Closing balance - general 18718

IT 10216

Surveys 8000

Total Reserves **36934**

Lanark, on Tuesday 14 December 2010, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church. In the absence of Rev Aileen Robson, Moderator, Rev Iain Cunningham took the chair and the meeting was constituted with prayer

Sederunt: Rev Iain Cunningham, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 16 ministers; 21 Elders; 1 Corresponding Member and 3 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Jim Cutler, Rev Bryan Kerr, Ministers; Messrs Chalmers, Hodgson, Johnstone, Waters and Whitefield and Mrs White and Mrs Worthington, Elders and Mrs Plenderleith and Mrs McGillivray, Corresponding members

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was amended to take the Report of the Resources Committee as item 11 and the report of the Congregational Support Committee as item 13. The agenda was then approved.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2010 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk referred to the following items of Correspondence:

Correspondence remitted to

Business Committee

From Helen Mee Chaplain at Monklands Hospital -attendance at service to mark retiral of Rev J Allardyce as Chaplain at Wishaw General (Business Convener to attend but service was postponed due to weather)

Telephone Request from Panel on Review and Reform (followed by e-mail) regarding conversations with Hamilton Presbytery – dealt with under the Business Committee Report

Resources Committee

From Jennifer Hamilton Law Dept –

4 Nov - Outstanding OSCR returns – highlighting to Presbyteries congregations who have missed the deadline for returns and some who have been late or had accounts returned on more than one occasion

2 Dec – Outstanding OSCR returns - thanking those who have helped chase up returns though there is still some way to go

General Trustees – Diligence report on properties and property registers to be submitted

Congregational Development Committee

From Safeguarding Office - Postponement of PVG

World and community Issues

E-mail from Fiona Brown - Letter from Professor Charles W Munn, Special Commission Chairman for the Economics Commission.

Forwarded to Ministers

- **Christian Aid magazine article**
- **Mission & Discipleship Council** - Alpha in Partnership with Church of Scotland – details of conference on 1 December 2010
- **Law Dept –**
 - **review of music copyright** - information regarding a proposal by the music industry to curtail certain exemptions for charities in regard to the playing of commercial music (from CDs, radio etc) at events and on charities' premises. CLAS (the Churches Legislation Advisory Service) has been keeping a watching brief for the churches on this. An announcement has been made about the laying of a statutory instrument to remove the current exemptions from 1st January 2011 although there will be a one year free licence period to give charities time to "adapt" and apparently cheaper licensing fees than paid by commercial entities thereafter.
 - **Trustee Indemnity Insurance** stating that the decision reached by the General Assembly in 2009 that all Congregations should have such a policy through a block scheme with the Church of Scotland Insurance Company may not be known to all congregations and asking that we pass on the information
 - **Radio Mics** – further reminder about date for compensation claims for those who use channel 69 (Depute Clerk will explain)
 - **Gift Aid Consultation** – information about Gift Aid (also sent to Treasurers and Financial Clerks who have e-mail addresses)

- **Employment Law – holidays** – information about holidays and public holidays for employees
- **Principal Clerk's Office** – Roll Away The Stone event in Princes St Gardens on Sun 22 May (ie during General Assembly) from 1-6pm – a time of celebration, Inspiration and Discovery
- **Rev Martin Scott Ministries Council** – Information about stipends and salaries 2011, update on admissions and re-admissions, update on PPW appointments moratorium
- **Grace solutions** – information about a 'gift of hope' – a practical response to the housing crisis

Forwarded to Readers

From Ministries Council - Information regarding Ministries Consultation with Readers on Ordained Local Ministry

Forwarded to Session Clerks

From Scott McCarthy, Minister to Langholm, Eskdalemuir, Ewes and Westerkirk - Information about a conference in the Borders 'Visitors welcome – unlocking your church's potential'

Blythswood Trust - Information regarding re-cycling bins for clothing at churches

Annual Statistical Return Forms were distributed by the Clerk. These have to be returned to the Clerk by 25 January 2011

Good News Stories

Mr Jim Watt spoke of the charity New Beginnings and expressed gratitude for all the support received from congregations in Lanark Presbytery

Rev Margaret Muir spoke of her use of music which enabled members to reflect more deeply on their spirituality.

Retirement of Rev Dr Graham Houston

Mr Jim Watt, elder at Cairngryffe and **Mr Lambert Allan**, elder at Symington spoke warmly of the leadership and guidance offered by Mr Houston throughout his ministry in Cairngryffe linked with Symington. Despite his own ill health at times Mr Houston had continued to encourage his congregations, inspiring them through his preaching and example to share the Gospel. It came as no surprise to both congregations that Mr Houston had chosen to retire. Both elders affirmed that Mr Houston leaves his congregations in good heart and in a strong position to deal with whatever lies ahead and wished Mr Houston well in his retirement.

In the absence of Rev Bryan Kerr, the Clerk read out a tribute to Mr Houston's involvement in the life and witness of Lanark Presbytery, serving as Convener of Stewardship & Finance and then Congregational Support Committee and also as Moderator of Presbytery. Mr Houston's service to Christ's Church in earlier years was also mentioned, including his involvement with the National Bible Society where he encouraged Roman Catholics to become involved in the work of the Society.

Rev Dr Graham Houston spoke warmly of the encouragement and support received from his wife and family as well as his congregations and colleagues and indicated that health permitting he would continue to be involved in the work of Lanark Presbytery.

On behalf of Presbytery the Moderator wished Graham and Irene every blessing in this new chapter of their life together.

Mrs Anna Lumsden, Convener of the Business Committee moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: Presbytery –

8. Agree to the demission of Rev Dr Graham Houston from the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Symington as of 31 December 2010

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The report of the Presbytery Planning and review Committee was presented by Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that 564 members of congregations, elders and office bearers were present at the series of consultations regarding the Presbytery Plan Review in November 2010.
3. Thank all who attended consultations for their attendance, engagement and challenge to the Review process.

4. Encourage Kirk Sessions and congregations to undertake a written audit of their parish, containing information on, for example, population, education, poverty, transport, access to services, what local people feel about the place of the church, the impact the church makes on the community and to submit them to the Review Group by the middle of February 2011 (or 1 week before the review meet with the Kirk Session).
5. Remind Kirk Sessions and congregations of the conference due to take place on 8 February 2011 in Kirkton Church, Carluke.
6. Sist the vacancy at Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton & Quothquan until the findings of the Presbytery Plan Review are known.

It was moved and seconded as an addendum to the Deliverance:-

Add a new section 5 and re-number:

Instruct the Review Group to adhere to the terms of Deliverance 8 of the Ministries Council's report to the General Assembly of 2010 as it applies to Lanark Presbytery in Appendix 1 of said report, namely that there should be a reduction of only three ministries in Lanark Presbytery.

On a vote being taken For or Against it carried **Against**.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Decline the request from the Panel on Review and Reform to enter into conversations with Hamilton Presbytery regarding the possibility of joining together in a pilot project.
3. Appoint Messrs. Alan Grant and William Love as Additional Elders and invite them to serve on the Ministries Committee until 30 June 2011 in the first instance.
4. Note that the Conveners meeting will be postponed until the Presbytery Plan Review has been completed.
5. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet on the understanding that at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
6. Grant permission to Lanark: St. Nicholas and Greyfriars and to Carluke: St Andrew's, St, John's and Kirkton to hold united services over the Christmas and New Year period.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee will meet with the Presbytery Plan Review Group to discuss the Vacancy at Cairngryffe I/w Symington and report to the Presbytery meeting of 1 February 2011.
3. Note that the Advisory Committee for vacancy at Biggar in deferred linkage with Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan will be retained but held in abeyance until the outcome of the Presbytery Plan Review is known.
4. Note that a meeting will take place in the near future to discuss issues relating to the provision of Interim Ministry at Carnwath following the retiral of the Rev. Iain MacKenzie on 30 April 2011. This meeting will be attended by Angus Matheson of the Ministries Council, the Presbytery Clerk and the Convener of the Presbytery Plan Review Group. the Congregational Support Committee and the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Mr. Colin Young, has only now been able to sign off the 2009 Congregational Accounts and that Presbytery's Final Attestation Return to the Church's Stewardship and Finance Department has just been signed by the Clerk and the Resources Convener, so missing its closing date for yet another year;
3. Thank Mr Colin Young for his work in attestation of congregational accounts for 2010.
4. Note that, while the Kirk's Law Department has reported that two Congregations within the bounds failed to satisfy the standards set by OSCR for 2009, both are now in compliance;
5. Support the decision of the Kirk Session of Libberton and Quothquan to increase its 2011 Contribution to the Ministries and Mission Fund by £1,000 to £5,228;
6. Subject to a resolution with regard to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church, approve the revised Ministries and Mission Allocations for 2011 (see Appendix A)
7. Note that Presbytery's 3% Variation Allowance now stands at £22,072;
8. Grant dispensation from paying their Ministries and Mission Allocation by Standing Order to the Parish Churches of Culter, Carnwath and Forth: St. Paul's;
9. Note that the Carnwath Feasibility Study has been received and is being studied by the Congregation;
10. Approve the application of St. Paul's Parish Church, Forth, to apply to the Central Fabric Fund for a Grant to finance a Feasibility Study to identify how the Buildings could be developed to meet the needs of the modern Church, but note that no Recommendations can be acted upon until Final Approval of the Presbytery Plan;
11. Note that the Property Report for Biggar Parish Church and Carluke: St Andrew's Parish Church are now to hand.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

13. Receive the report
14. Urge all congregations to submit a form at Presbytery's annual inspection of records 2011, detailing the names of all approved children's workers within the congregation.
15. Invite congregational Safeguarding Officers to a meeting regarding the new PVG Scheme membership, on January 25th at 7pm in St Nicholas Church hall, Lanark.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who referred to the

Overture Anent Local Church Review

The Presbytery took up discussion on the above Overture from the General Assembly which had been sent down to Presbyteries under the Barrier Act.

On a vote being taken there voted For-28 Against-2

Miss Muir then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Mr James Watt as Vice Convenor of the Congregational Support Committee
3. Instruct the Visiting Team under the Convenership of Rev Roy Cowieson to have another meeting with Minister and Office Bearers of Culter Parish Church and report to the Congregational Support Committee in March 2011
4. Re-appoint Mr Willie MacSween and appoint Mr Malcolm Barclay as Assessor Elders to the charge of Biggar for a period of 6 months and instruct them to report to the Congregational Support Committee in May 2011

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Thank Rev Clarence Musgrave of INTERfaith in action in Israel and Palestine for speaking, Lanark St Nicholas for hosting and helping, Mrs Alison Plenderleith, Mrs Mhairi Somerville and Rev Iain Cunningham for co-ordinating and supporting the World Mission Rally.
3. Remind Kirk Sessions to return their Church and Society Contact Forms as soon as possible to the Convener.

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 1 February 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix A

REVISED 2011 MINISTRIES & MISSION ALLOCATIONS

BIGGAR	50,699
CARLUKE KIRKTON	64,811
CARLUKE ST ANDREW'S	31,748
CARLUKE ST JOHN'S	51,440
CARNWATH	27,585
COALBURN	8,977
CARSTAIRS & CARSTAIRS JUNCTION.	26,205
CROSSFORD	18,658
CULTER	5,699
DOUGLAS VALLEY	29,395
BLACK MOUNT	9,593
GLENCAPLE	17,964
FORTH ST PAULS	35,411
KIRKFIELD BANK	10,442
KIRKMUIRHILL	72,210
LANARK ST NICHOLAS	60,398
LAW	21,340
LESMHGW. ABBEYGREEN	48,210
LESMAHAGOW OLD	42,445
LIBBERTON & QUOTHQUAN	5,228
SYMINGTON	22,070
LOWTHER	2,761
GREYFRIARS	52,647
CAIRNGRYFFE	20,784

Lanark, on, Tuesday 1 February 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church.. In the absence of the Moderator, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Iain Cunningham took the chair and the meeting was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt:, Rev Iain Cunningham Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers; 24 Elders; and 3 Corresponding Members

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev R Cleland, Rev S Cowell, Rev D Easton Ministers; Messrs McLeish, McPhee, Scott, Whitefield and Mrs J Worthington, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Items taken under powers during Presbytery Recess

Mrs Anna Lumsden, Convener of the Business Committee presented two items for homologation and moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Homologate the appointment of Mr Andrew Brown, Ministries Convener, as Presbytery Representative for the current Enquirer in the Enquiry and Assessment scheme.
3. Homologate the appointment of Rev. Iain Cunningham as Moderator of Presbytery until September 2011.

The Deliverance was approved

The Presbytery Clerk installed Mr Cunningham as Moderator of Presbytery by prayer.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2010 were held as read and approved

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated that a number of pieces of correspondence had been received and remitted to appropriate Committee Conveners or passed on by e-mail to Ministers or Readers.

The Clerk read

- an extract from a letter from ACTS giving notice of the financial difficulties experienced by Scottish Churches House, Dunblane and notifying with regret the closure of Scottish Churches House on 15 July 2011.
- A letter from Rev Jim Cutler giving intimation of his demission from the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan on 10 October 2011. The Vacancy Procedure Committee has been informed. Rev J Cutler currently serves as Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe linked with Symington and also as a member of the Transitional Support Group at Carnwath and Presbytery requires to plan to relieve Mr Cutler of these duties. These matters have been passed to the Vacancy Procedure Committee and Congregational Support Committee respectively.
- Leaflets from SCOTS Scottish Churches Organist Training Scheme are available for uplift this evening.

Good News Stories

Rev Ian Watson, Kirkmuirhill Church spoke of the positive effect his study leave to Uganda had on his congregation who have linked with the Chilli Children project and have already sent money for the purchase of a new motorbike. Fifteen members are now planning to run five miles per day to raise funds to purchase an ambulance.

Rev Alan Gibson, United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, spoke of the Christmas event in the heart of the community involving a performance of the nativity by local schools and including a procession of camels and 'wise men' from Carstairs Junction to Carstairs. The event had been well attended and was covered by local and national media. Mr Gibson spoke of the impact of the procession and how the event had encouraged people to reflect again on their Christian faith.

Joint Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee and Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The Joint Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee and Presbytery Planning and Review Group was presented by Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. In the interest of all parties, agree to delay permission to proceed to call a minister to the charge of Cairngryffe I/w Symington until final approval of the Presbytery Plan is granted by all relevant parties.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the meeting of 17 January 2011 held between representatives of Presbytery and representatives of the Interim Ministry Task Group of the Ministries Council to discuss the future Interim Ministry provision in the charge of Carnwath.
3. Note that it is unlikely that there will be another Interim Minister immediately available following the retirement of the Rev. Ian Mackenzie at the end of April 2011.
4. Approve the Vacancy Procedure Committee's approach to Rev. Martin Scott requesting funding for an extra day's locum cover in Carnwath from May 2011.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Annual Inspection of Congregational Records is to take place on 23 February 2011 and instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that records are submitted according to the requirements on the appended information. (Appendix A)

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage Kirk Sessions to advertise and encourage attendance at the World Mission Council Regional Conference being held on the 26 February 2011 at Bridge of Allan Parish Church.
3. Encourage all presbyters to pray for our brothers and sisters in PROK East Seoul Presbytery, and the wider situation there.
4. Remind all Kirk Sessions who have still to submit the Church and Society Contact Forms to do so by February committee night.
5. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write to South Lanarkshire Council regarding the closure of the Registrars offices over the Christmas period and the negative impact it had on grieving families.
6. Encourage Presbytery Elders to inform Kirk Sessions and congregations about the Special Commission on the Purpose of Economic Activity.

It was moved, seconded and agreed

Add new section 7

Seek an urgent meeting with Norrie Anderson, Executive Director of Community Resources, South Lanarkshire Council, the head of the Council's Bereavement Services and Colin Reid to discuss the unsatisfactory situation regarding lack of space in cemeteries in Clydesdale, recognising the major pastoral issues that will be involved for a family being forced to bury their relative many miles away from their own community.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Thank Andrew Brown for updating congregations on the rapidly developing details concerning implementation of new safeguarding practices.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the Report
2. Urge that, in best practice, cheques drawn on Congregational Bank Accounts should be signed by two of three or more nominated persons;
3. Note that the Resources Committee will attest all Property Registers and Manse Condition Schedules in the Halls of St. Nicholas' Parish Church on Wednesday 23 February, 2011, between the hours of 11.am and 1pm.
4. Approve the Application of Carnwath Parish Church to the Central Fabric Fund for a grant of £2880 to repair the central heating of the Hall, and instruct the Clerk to send the Application to the General Trustees

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct all ministers to present their completed Annual Mileage Log Books to the Ministries Committee, before the Presbytery meeting on Tuesday 1 March at 6.45pm.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The report of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct Kirk Sessions and Congregations to advertise the forthcoming conference on 8th February 2011 in Kirkton Parish Church, Carluke and encourage a good attendance from their congregation.
3. Note the revised Presbytery Planning figures likely to be presented to the General Assembly in May 2011 by the Ministries Council and instruct the Review Group to work towards a Presbytery Plan containing 15.2 FTE ministries

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 1 March 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

APPENDIX A

INSPECTION OF CONGREGATIONAL RECORDS

Please bring your records on Tuesday 15th February 2011 (Committee Night)

for inspection on Wednesday 23rd February 2011 at St Nicholas Church Hall – 11am.

Please **put your records together in a box** clearly labelled with the name of the congregation and whether it has a Model Constitution (with a Congregational Board), Unitary Constitution or is Quoad Omnia (Kirk Session only) and **ensure records are uplifted at Presbytery on Tuesday 1st March 2011**

We extend our grateful thanks to all who maintain our official records and offer the undernoted checklist to assist Kirk Sessions who are responsible for ensuring that all the rolls and records of their congregation are correct and properly kept.

Please submit for inspection

- **Congregational Roll and Supplementary Roll**
- **Kirk Session Minute Book/s**
- **NEW for 2011 – a form listing the names of all approved children’s workers within the congregation (ie those who have completed Safeguarding/Disclosure checks)**
- **Congregational Board Minute Book/s**
- **Baptismal Register**
- **Property Information from Property Folder for Resources Committee – Insurance schedule (yellow) Quinquennial Inspection (blue) Schedule of work required from annual inspection and outstanding work (yellow) and Manse Condition Schedule**
- **Accounts – if they are ready for presentation please bring one set – if not please forward a copy to the Resources Convener for transmission to the Accounts Inspection Committee no later than the April meeting of Presbytery (5th April 2011)**

If the following appointments could be marked with a slip of paper this would greatly assist the Committee and save us reading through lots of pages

In Kirk Session minutes

- A minute recording the annual attestation of the Communion Roll
- A minute recording the annual appointment of a Safeguarding Co-Ordinator
- A minute recording the election of a Presbytery elder

In Congregational Board minutes (or, if quoad omnia, Kirk Session minutes)

- A minute recording the approval of the annual accounts and budget
- A minute of the Stated Annual Meeting (which must be held between 1 January and 31 March)

These checks apply to all records examined –

- All books inspected should be in good physical condition
- Pages should not be stuck into books
- Loose leaf records are acceptable when pages are consecutively numbered and are kept securely together until being permanently bound
- Any large blank spaces at the end of typed minutes should be scored through
- All entries should be legible and written in permanent ink

These additional checks apply to Kirk Session and Board minute books –

- The place and date of all meetings should be shown
- Meetings should be opened and closed with prayer
- A sederunt should be included
- There should be marginal references or headings
- There should be no blank spaces between entries (or these should be ruled off)
- All minutes signed by the Moderator/Chairman and the Clerk
- Alterations should be signed by the Moderator/Chairman and the Clerk
- If loose-leaf, there should be evidence that the minutes are bound from time to

Communion Roll and Supplementary Roll

- Communion roll should have a list of names of those removed during the year, along with the date, reason and means of removal. (If roll is computerised, the annual printout should be kept as a historical record and permanently bound at intervals not exceeding ten years)

Lanark, on, Tuesday 1 March 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt:, Rev Iain Cunningham Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers; 24 Elders; and 4 Corresponding Members. In the absence of the Presbytery Clerk due to illness the Depute Clerk acted in this capacity.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs S Cowell, A Gibson, H Jamieson, S Reid and A Robson, Ministers; Messrs J Ferguson, J Johnstone, A McPhee and D Whitefield and Mrs J Worthington, Elders, Mrs M McGillivray, Presbytery Treasurer.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2011 were held as read and approved. Following legal advice it was proposed and seconded that an amendment to the minute of 3 February 2009, Vacancy Procedure Committee Section 8 be made to read “Presbytery further notes that *“whilst Mr Gauld will retain a Presbyterian Certificate and remain able to perform ministerial duties in his role of Chaplain to the State Hospital, Carstairs, Lanark, he will not otherwise perform any ministerial duties within the parish of Carnwath or for the parishioners of the said congregation without the prior agreement of the then Parish Minister (or Interim Moderator, in the case of a vacancy).* Presbytery hereby regards this term of the demission agreement as an instruction to Mr Gauld from the Presbytery of Lanark.” The amendment as proposed was agreed.

Correspondence

The Depute Clerk intimated that a number of pieces of correspondence had been received and remitted to appropriate Committee Conveners or passed on by e-mail to Ministers or Readers.

The Depute Clerk referred to

- A letter received from the Moderator of the General Assembly about the Firm Base Initiative for the Armed Forces about how civilian and military communities communicate and co-ordinate services. They are hoping to use the churches to help facilitate this work when people wish to send things to chaplains and forces to help out. Details have been sent to ministers and session clerks.
- A request from Davidson’s Mains Church in Edinburgh asking for applications for a new Development Ministries Leader. Information has been sent to all ministers.
- An invitation from the Glasgow Society of the Sons and Daughters on Ministers of the Church of Scotland has been received for their 221st Anniversary celebrations. More details are available from the clerk.
- Notification of a medical certificate from Rev Helen Jamieson.

Good News Stories

Dr Sinclair Scott, Douglas Valley Church spoke of the installation of a ‘greener’ community owned Biomass heating system to provide low cost heating to the church, St. Bride’s centre and bowling club in Douglas. This may be the first community owned biomass system in Scotland.

Mr Jim Sinclair, Forth: St. Paul’s informed Presbytery that on Thursday 10th March young people of Forth St Paul’s will hold a Pizza and Praise night within the congregation. The impetus for this initiative has come from the young people of the congregation.

International Children’s Games

The Depute Clerk reported on a meeting that he had attended in relation to the response of churches across North and South Lanarkshire to the International Children’s Games taking place from 3 – 8 August 2011. He spoke of ways in which churches can get involved including prayer, publicising the event, providing host homes for athletes families to stay, providing volunteers to help with the games, to take part in organising coffee houses near the venues, help provide entertainment for the athletes and families in the schools where the young people are staying, and providing opportunities for worship. An organising committee has been set up to help co-ordinate the churches involvement and congregations were encouraged to play their part in whatever way they could. The Moderator thanked the Depute Clerk for his report.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

5. Receive the Report.
6. Note that Rev. Robert Clelland and Dr. Sinclair Scott will represent Presbytery at Lanarkshire Mental Health Conference on 8th March 2011
7. Note the expression of initial interest in the Diaconate Project sent to the Ministries Council.
8. Remind presbyters of the importance of providing deliverances in writing to the Clerk ahead of the meeting and, where possible, of giving a convener prior notice of questions and items to be raised on the floor.
9. Instruct congregations concerned to deliver outstanding Statistical Returns to the Depute Clerk as soon as possible and no later than 5th March 2011.
10. Approve the proposal to hold a meeting of Presbytery in hunc effectum to present the Presbytery Plan Review on Thursday, 2nd June 2011 at 7pm in Kirkton Church, Carluke.
11. Note that the Charges of Biggar, Lanark: St. Nicholas, Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old, Law and Carluke: Kirkton will send Commissioners to 2011 General Assembly.
12. Note that commissioners to the General Assembly of 2011 will be comprised of the minister and one elder from the Charges of Biggar, Lanark: St. Nicholas, Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old, Law and Carluke: Kirkton.
13. Instruct the Commissioners from the congregations attending the General Assembly in May 2011 to give their details (including bank details) to the Clerk or Depute Clerk by Monday 28th March 2011.

The Convener proposed, and presbytery agreed, that Section 7 of the Deliverance be removed and renumber.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report
2. Urge Kirk Sessions that are still to inform the committee of their Church and Society Contacts to do so as soon as possible.
3. Note the School Chaplains training day on the 3rd March 2011 at Renfield St Stephen's, Glasgow.
4. Encourage Kirk Sessions who are interested in supporting the visit of members of East Seoul Presbytery PROK with events or accommodation to get in touch with Rev Iain Cunningham.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee:

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Andrew Brown.

During the report Rev Ian Watson reported on his recent Study Leave to Uganda. Mr Watson spoke of his work with Chilli Children and the new partnership with Kirkmuirhill Church. Chilli Children work with many 'hidden' children in Uganda as well as children brought by family members to the open medical clinics. Uganda has a very high rate of deaths from AIDS and the charity is involved in medical outreach, transporting children to surgeries and funding medical procedures and after-care, teaching life skills with families of children with cerebral palsy and mental health issues, education and generating income. Mr Watson spoke of the privilege of leading worship and sharing the gospel with families in Uganda. Kirkmuirhill Church have committed to support the Chilli Children charity and have raised money and will continue so to do for the work of the charity. Mr Watson further commented on his impressions of and respect for the ministers of the country who perform many and varied roles within the community they serve. The Moderator thanked Mr Watson for his report and encouraged members of Presbytery to invite Mr Watson to speak to their congregations and think about supporting the charity as a local world mission focus.

The Convener moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

3. Receive the report

4. Thank all ministers for their assistance in the inspection of log books.
5. Thank those who attended the Enquiry for Ministry briefing and note those who are now available to act as assessors.
6. Thank the Rev I Watson for his report on his visit to Uganda and his report to presbytery.
7. Agree to hold an open debate on the position of Tenure with standing orders suspended during the discussion.

The Convener proposed, and presbytery agreed, that Section 5 of the Deliverance be removed in light of assurances from Ministries Council that no change will be made to existing tenure arrangements at the General Assembly of 2011.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Margaret Muir, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

3. Receive the report
4. Accept the resignation of Rev. Jim Cutler as convener of the transitional support committee for the charge of Carnwath and thank him for his work on this committee.
5. Appoint the Rev. Alison Meikle as the convener of the transitional support committee for the charge of Carnwath.
6. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that the points regarding the keeping of records that the Congregational Support Committee have indicated need attention are acted upon
7. Instruct Kirk Session to ensure that congregational registers of those authorised to work with children, young people and vulnerable groups is accurately maintained, with appointments and removals noted in the Kirk Session minutes and all dates properly completed.
8. Agree that the annual attestation of congregational registers of those authorised to work with children, young people and vulnerable groups be carried out by members of the Congregational Development Committee at the same time as the attestation of records.
9. Thank the Depute Clerk, the members of the Congregational Support Committee and the Presbytery Officer for carrying out and assisting in the inspection.

It was moved, seconded and agreed

Add new section 8

Instruct the clerk to send an extract minute of the relevant sections of deliverance to all Session Clerks.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

The Depute Clerk drew members attention to the intimations contained in the mailing and also of various year book changes.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 5 April 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 5 April 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt:, Rev Iain Cunningham Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 ministers; 20 Elders; 2 Corresponding Members and 18 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Easton, A Gibson, A Robson, I Watson, Ministers; Messrs E Easton, J Ferguson, D Hodgson, P McLeish, D Waters, J Watt and Mrs H Chekansky, Elders, Mrs M Somerville Corresponding Member.

Welcome to Visitors

The moderator welcomed visitors from the congregation of Carnwath who had been cited to appear.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 1 March 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2011 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 Clerk and members of Presbytery.

The Clerk referred to

- A request from the editor of the Church of Scotland Year Book for updated information
- A circular from the Law Department outlining changes to the Listed places of worship scheme for VAT reclamation.
- A letter from Ministries Council seeking potential mediators to be trained through the Place for Hope project.
- Newsletter from the Panel on Review and Reform
- The annual report from Broken Rites
- An invitation from St. Andrew's Hospice who are holding a service of thanksgiving for their 25th anniversary on 26th April at 7pm
- A Deaf Choir festival being held on 8 May in Paisley.
- A circular from the Law Department regarding changes to arrangements for licensing churches with a public entertainment license.

The Clerk also referred to correspondence between the clerks and the Principal Clerk regarding the minute amendment made at the meeting of 1 March 2011 to the minute of 3 February 2009. Following advice from the Principal Clerk a handwritten note has been appended to minute of 3 February 2009 pointing to the minute of 1 March 2011.

Good News Stories

Rev Una Stewart, Law Parish Church spoke of a group of people interested in church membership in the congregation with an age spread of 21 to over 80. Una commented on the joy of this experience in her ministry.

Rev John Turnbull, spoke of the appointment of a worker for the Clydesdale Christian Youth Trust, Alec Kelly who will be making contact with ministers in due course.

Retirement of Rev I McKenzie

The Moderator invited Mrs Betty McLeod, Session Clerk at Carnwath Parish Church to speak on behalf of the congregation. Mrs McLeod spoke warmly of the period of interim ministry that Mr McKenzie embarked upon, noting his tireless work in the congregation and community. The congregation has appreciated his pastoral work and his involvement in all aspects of the life of the congregation and wish Mr McKenzie and his wife a long and happy retirement. Mrs McLeod also thanked the Presbytery of Lanark for its continuing support to

the parish of Carnwath. The Moderator also invited Rev Jim Cutler to speak on behalf of the Presbytery. Mr Cutler spoke of Mr McKenzie's ministry throughout Scotland since the early 1970's and of his sterling work within the parish of Carnwath, which had faced difficult situations. Mr Cutler spoke warmly of Mr McKenzie's ministry and the difference that he had made in the atmosphere within the congregation. Mr McKenzie was invited to address the Presbytery and spoke of the welcome and friendship that he had found within the Presbytery of Lanark and within the parish of Carnwath. Mr McKenzie commended the congregation for the good work it undertakes in the name of Christ; for their positive way of dealing with change, their evaluation of the place of the church and in setting goals for the future. The congregation has set mission goals, has a desire to build links and bridges with the community and aims to have a comfortable multi-use worship centre. Mr McKenzie thanked the Presbytery for their support and the Moderator thanked Mr McKenzie for his period of ministry in Carnwath.

The convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee, Mrs Anna Lumsden moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

14. Agree to the demission of Rev Ian C. McKenzie as Interim Minister of the Charge of Carnwath as of 30 April 2011.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note the appointment of Rev. Russell McLarty as Interim Moderator for the charge of Carnwath.
3. Note that the Ministries Council's Finance Committee has agreed to grant funding for an extra day locum cover from May 2011 for the charge of Carnwath.
4. Note that the Transition Support Group will continue to support the charge of Carnwath meantime.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the change of date for the June Presbytery Meeting to Tuesday, 21st June 2011.
3. Invite Elders interested in undertaking the Training Course as Interim Moderators on Saturday, 11^h June 2011 in Perth to submit their names to the Business Convener before 31st May 2011.
4. Approve the nomination of Rev. U. Stewart and Mr. W. Macsween as Lanark Presbytery Representatives at the 2011/12 Commission of Assembly.
5. Grant permission to Rev. A. Gibson to take up the post of part time chaplain at Udston Hospital, Hamilton, commencing July 2011.

Members of Presbytery were reminded that the change of meeting in June 2011 is a change to the ordinary meeting and the in hunc effectum meeting previously agreed for 2nd June 2011 in Kirkton Church will still go ahead. The meeting on 21st June 2011 will take place in the Moderator's Church, Kirkton Church, Carlisle.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Congregational Accounts for last year should be lodged with Presbytery and the Kirk's Stewardship and Finance Department as soon as they have been independently examined, adopted by the Trustees and received by the Congregation;
3. Thank those Property Conveners who submitted their Property Registers and Manse Condition Schedules for attestation.

4. Instruct those Conveners who did not present all or some of their Records, to make arrangements with the Resources Convener to submit these Document for attestation;
5. Note that a number of Property Registers have departed significantly from the form and content as laid down in Act XII, 2007.
6. Note that the General Trustees are preparing to revise the present Property Register but that, in the meantime, Presbytery has been advised to bring all current Property Registers to that Record's present standard with regard to form and content.
7. Note that G.A.B. Robins U.K. Ltd. has now completed the Insurance Revaluation of all Ecclesiastical Properties within the bounds as required by the General Assembly of 2008.
8. Note that a Revaluation Statement and a Copy GAB Robins' Final Invoice to Presbytery has been made available to Presbyters tonight for transmission to the Financial Board of their Congregations.
9. Note that the cost of the Revaluation Report is a charge on each Congregation.
10. Note that the cost of the Revaluation to each Congregation has been reduced by a double discount that reflects a Presbytery-wide commission and the recent rise in VAT.
11. Note that, to meet the Congregational cost of Revaluation, a substantial reduction was made to each Congregation's Ministries and Mission Allocation for 2009.
12. Note that a careful congregation-by-congregation comparison will be made of the reduction in the 1999 M. &M. Allocation in relation to the Revaluation Total Cost inclusive of VAT.
13. Note that the Quinquennial Property Surveys of the Parish Churches of Law, Carluke: Kirkton and Cairngryffe linked with Symington have been completed and the Reports are now in the hands of their respective Congregations.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Andrew Brown, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the report
2. Note with concern the availability of registration facilities during holiday periods.
3. Note that minister's log books have been inspected and found to be in order.

It was moved, seconded and agreed

Amend section 2

Insert the words "lack of" before "availability"

The Deliverance as amended was approved

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the report.
2. Appoint Rev Una Stewart as Prayer Co-ordinator for Lanark Presbytery.
3. Invite Andrew Mathieson (Lanark: Greyfriars) and Catriona Easton (Lesmahagow: Old) to represent Lanark Presbytery at the National Youth Assembly 2011.
4. Invite Ministers, Readers and Worship Teams to register for the Workshop on "Reflective Worship, to be held on 13th September at 7pm at Carstairs Junction Church.
5. Urge Kirk Sessions to intimate the Bereavement Care and Funeral Course that takes place on Saturday 1st October in St Nicholas Church halls, Lanark.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the report

2. Urge Kirk Sessions to contact World and Community Issues Committee with suggestions of events the South Koreans can attend.
3. Encourage World and Community Issues Committee to pursue the shortage of cemetery space in the Lanark Presbytery area with South Lanarkshire Council.

It was moved, seconded and agreed

Amend section 3

Delete the word "encourage" and insert the word "instruct"

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Margaret Muir, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* –

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Presbytery records have been inspected and found to be in order
3. Note that there will be no further visits of the Congregational Support Committee to Culter Parish Church until the Presbytery planning review process is completed.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Depute Clerk intimate that a hustings meeting will take place on 28th April 2011 in Greyfriars Parish Church and will be webcast live at www.lanarkgreyfriars.com to allow interested parties from around the large constituency to join the debate. The Moderator had previously intimated a hustings meeting to take place on 26th April in St John's Church, Carluke. The Clerk drew members attention to the intimations contained in the mailing.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 10 May 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 10 May 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt:, Rev Iain Cunningham Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 Ministers; 27 Elders; 3 Corresponding Members and 1 Visitor.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs R Cowieson, J Cutler and U Stewart, Ministers; Mr D Waters and Mrs Moira Galbraith, Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of new item 7 - Report of the Guild Presbyterial Council: Mrs Mairi Somerville.

Minutes of meeting on 5 April 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2011 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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, Treasurers and members of Presbytery.

The Clerk referred to

- A letter from the Chief Executive, South Lanarkshire Council stating that there will be no formal closure of registration office over the Christmas 2011 period
- A letter from Whitecheter Christian Centre, Hawick regarding the Boardman - Weston Fund; offering the possibility of grants to people over 55 with pastoral needs to holiday there. Details available from the Clerk.
- Information from Glasgow University regarding a conference on Better health and wellbeing for people with long term conditions.
- Information from SRT project on neuroethics regarding a forthcoming conference
- Information regarding American Memorial Chapel Travel Grant. Details from Clerk
- CCL renewal letter
- Information leaflets from Panel on Review and Reform
- Extract minute from Ministries Council Finance Committee intimating support for a second day Locum at Carnwath
- Information Leaflets regarding The Peoples Bible event organised by The Bible Societies. In our Presbytery Area the Peoples Bible event will take place in October in Biggar Lanark and Carluke. Volunteers are sought for local co-ordinators in the Biggar and Lanark area.

The Clerk read a letter received from Rev Beverly Gauld dated 24th February 2011. The Clerk stated that the Business Committee sought legal advice and responded appropriately. The Clerk read out the response sent by the Business Committee dated 27th April 2011.

It was moved, seconded and agreed

"Presbytery notes the contents of the letter from Rev Beverly Gauld dated 24th February 2011 and the response sent by Business Committee dated 27th April 2011 and endorse the actions taken by the Business Committee"

Good News Stories

Rev Aileen Robson, Coalburn Parish Church spoke of a Labyrinth and different forms of worship during Holy Week and specifically commented on the positive change in atmosphere during the events.

SOLAS Festival, Mr Brian McGlynn

The Moderator invited Mr Brian McGlynn to share information regarding the SOLAS arts festival which takes place in Wiston Lodge from 24-26 June 2011. The festival is a celebration of art, faith and justice which has its roots in the Christian tradition and is organised by a committee in partnership with Greenbelt, Christian Aid and Iona Community. Faith is a thread that is woven into and through the fabric of the event. There are four

main themes running through the festival - equality, justice, beauty and hospitality. Music also plays a large part in the festival's weekend programme and a participatory ethos is encouraged by all who attend. A varied programme of talks led by internationally renowned speakers is planned for the event. Worship plays an important part in SOLAS with a Communion service, Labyrinth, secluded woodland sanctuary, Messy Church and prayer. The festival is an all-age festival with children up to the age of 11 able to attend for free with teenagers enjoying heavily subsidised prices. Mr McGlynn invited members of Presbytery to take leaflets and advertise the event in local churches and stated that more information is available from www.SOLASfestival.co.uk

Guild Presbyterial Council

The Moderator invited the Convener of the Guild Presbyterial Council, Mrs Mairi Sommerville to give the annual report of the Council. Mrs Sommerville brought the good wishes of the members of the Guilds throughout the Presbytery and spoke of the annual meeting focussed on the theme "Called to love mercy" the second year in the three year strategy "What does the Lord require of you?". Many Guilds in the past year have focussed on the discussion topic "can we forgive and forget?" as well as dealing with issues of violence at the end of the World Council of Churches Decade to Overcome Violence. Mrs Sommerville spoke of the fact that the Guild is not in the background of the church but at the forefront of church and society being represented on many religious and political bodies in Scotland and internationally. Mrs Sommerville spoke of some of the highlights of the Council's programme with the spring and summer rally. There are currently 21 groups throughout the Presbytery although it is proving more difficult for local groups to appoint office bearers. There is one young woman's group in St. John's Church. The Moderator thanked Mrs Sommerville for her report and her work throughout the last nine years in the Council.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve formation of an ad hoc committee to consider Trustee Indemnity Insurance.
3. Note that the June Presbytery meeting will be held on June 21st 2011 in Carluke: Kirkton Church commencing at 7pm with Holy Communion
4. Approve the nomination of Rev. Sarah Ross as Moderator of Presbytery for 2011/12
5. Note the intention to alter Standing Order No. 3 to omit the word "April"
6. Approve meeting dates for Presbytery and Presbytery Committees as noted in the report.
7. Approve the name of Mr. Bill Love to be transmitted to the Ministries Council to undergo training as an Interim Moderator.
8. Welcome the appointment of Ann Lyall DCS to work with the congregations in the Biggar area for a period of 2 years commencing 19th June 2011 and
 - a) Note that salary costs are met by the Ministries Council
 - b) Remit to the Resources Committee the arrangements for reimbursing local congregations for the cost of Council Tax and Travelling Expenses
 - c) Remit the project and management thereof to the Congregational Development Committee and instruct it to arrange a conference meeting with representatives of each Kirk Session as soon as possible
 - d) Instruct the Depute Clerk to make enquiries regarding accommodation for Miss Lyall with congregations in the area.

It was moved, seconded and agreed

Amend Section 2 to read "Approve formation of an ad hoc committee to consider Trustee Indemnity Insurance to report to the September meeting of Presbytery and appoint Rev Harry Findlay as Convener"

It was moved, seconded and agreed

Insert a new Section 3 and re-number "Instruct the Business Committee to appoint suitably qualified persons to serve on the ad-hoc committee on Trustee Indemnity Insurance and report the appointments to the next meeting of Presbytery."

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the appointment of Mr Bill Love as pastoral Locum at Carnwath from 1st May until 4th June 2011.
3. Note the appointment of Rev. Jim Allardyce from 5th June 2011 onwards as preaching and pastoral Locum at Carnwath.
4. Grant permission to Rev. Jim Allardyce to celebrate the Sacraments during his period as Locum in Carnwath.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that all Congregational Accounts for 2010 should now have been lodged with Presbytery and with the Kirk's Stewardship & Finance Department;
3. Instruct Congregations which have not yet lodged their Accounts with Presbytery or the Stewardship & Finance Department, to do so immediately;
4. Remind Congregations that the Convener of Presbytery's Committee for the Attestation of Congregational Accounts is Mr. Ian Ivison whose address is to be found in the Presbytery Handbook under the List of Corresponding Members;
5. Note that the Stewardship and Finance Department's Head of Stewardship has issued each Session Clerk with an Annual Statement of the Congregation's Ministries and Mission Contributions for this year;
6. Note that the purpose of these Statements of Ministries and Mission Contributions is to inform Congregations of what they will each contribute this year to the Kirk's Mission and Renewal as well as how much they will pay towards the Ministry Costs of their Parish Minister;
7. Grant permission to Lowther Parish Church to make safe the damage to the retaining wall forming the boundary between the Church grounds and the public highway that is the Main Street of the Village of Leadhills;
8. Instruct Lowther Parish Church to consult with an Engineer concerning the impact to the Church building of the damage to, and the making safe of, the retaining wall;
9. Note that the Local Authority may award a 70% grant to Lowther Parish Church to repair the damaged wall;
10. Grant Lowther Parish Church permission to make application to the Central Fabric Fund for a grant and loan to help pay the rest of the cost of the repair and the fee for the work and report of an Engineer, and instruct the Clerk to send the applications to the General Trustees;
11. Note that the Limit before Property Repairs must receive prior permission from Presbytery remains at £12,000 – the limit set by Presbytery in 2004;
12. Note that the Property Surveys for 2010-11 are now complete;
13. Note the ecclesiastical buildings to be surveyed in 2011-12 are those for the Parish Churches of Carnwath, Forth: St. Paul's, and Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank;
14. Note that Mr. Michael Nesbit, Chartered Architect, has been appointed to carry out the Property Surveys scheduled for 2011-12;
15. Note that the Resources Committee has not yet Issued Congregations with Invoices for their Insurance Revaluation because the necessary information from GAB Robins UK Ltd is still not to hand.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

Sarah Ross, Convener of World and Community Issues committee spoke of a "green day" in Blantyre in June in respect to Eco congregations. Details have been sent to ministers and session clerks.

The Depute Clerk asked all members to inform him of any changes necessary for the production of the Presbytery Year book 2011-2012

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet in hunc effectum on Thursday 2 June 2011 at 7.00 pm in Kirkton Church, Carluke to receive the report of the Presbytery Plan Review Group and on Tuesday 21 June 2011 at 7.00 pm in Kirkton Church, Carluke for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion followed by Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Carluke, on Thursday 2 June 2011, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* to hear the Report of the Presbytery Plan Review Group, and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Iain Cunningham, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 16 Ministers; 25 Elders; 4 Corresponding Members along with 255 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Roy Cowieson, Minister and Mrs Irene Williams and Dr Sinclair Scott, Elders

Moderator Pro Tempore

Rev Iain Cunningham, Moderator, installed by prayer, Rev John Turnbull, as Moderator Pro Tempore.

Approval of Agenda

Following questions, comment and response by the Business Convener, the Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Report of the Presbytery Plan Review Group

The report was presented in sections by Rev Bryan Kerr Convener and Rev Sarah Ross, Vice Convener of the Presbytery Plan Review Group. Rev Bryan Kerr Convener, moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: Presbytery

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Presbytery Plan as contained in the report of the Presbytery Plan Review Group
3. Thank members of the Presbytery Plan Review Group for their work in producing the Presbytery Plan and agree that a Presbytery Plan Implementation Group be appointed to serve until June 2013.
4. Instruct the Business Committee to bring forward names for membership of the Presbytery Plan Implementation Group, including the name of the Convener, to the Presbytery meeting on 21 June 2011.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as a Counter Motion to sections 2,3,4

2. Thank the Review Group for their work so far
3. Reject the proposed Presbytery Plan in its present form
4. Instruct the Review Group to revise the Plan in a way that better meets the needs of the Presbytery and its local communities; that more closely follows the rationale of the Report of the Ministries Council to the General Assembly of 2010; that makes use of non-stipendiary ministries to retain the maximum numbers of congregations; and that more clearly outlines a positive mission strategy, in line with the Strategic Framework adopted by the General Assembly of 2011.

It was moved seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 4 of the Counter Motion

4. Instruct the Review Group to consult with each Kirk Session in order to hear their considered response to the Presbytery Plan and in the light of their finding bring back to Presbytery a revised plan in a way that better meets the needs of Presbytery and its local communities; that more closely follows the rationale of the Report of the Ministries Council to the General Assembly of 2010; that makes use of non-stipendiary ministries to retain the maximum numbers of congregations; and that more clearly outlines a positive mission strategy, in line with the Strategic Framework adopted by the General Assembly of 2011.

The counter motion, as amended, carried.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 21 June 2011 at 7.00 pm at Carluke: Kirkton Church, for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion followed by Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator thanked all those who had attended and closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Carluke, on Tuesday 21 June 2011, after the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Carluke: Kirkton Parish Church conducted by the Moderator, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Iain Cunningham, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 ministers; 23 Elders, 1 Deacon, 4 Corresponding Members and 7 visitors

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev David Carmichael, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bryan Kerr and Rev Aileen Robson, Ministers, and from Cameron Morton, Elder.

Welcome

The Moderator welcomed Miss Ann Lyall, DCS who has been appointed to work in the Biggar area. He also welcomed visitors.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of Item 14 – *In hunc effectum* meeting – June 2 2011. It was remitted to the Business Committee to ascertain the necessity of approving the agenda.

Minutes: The Minutes of the meetings which took place on 10 May 2011 and on 2 June 2011 were held as read and approved

Roll of the Presbytery

The Clerk laid on the table the completed Roll of the Presbytery containing the names of 15 Ministers in Charges, 11 Retired Ministers, 1 Deacon and 1 Minister serving with H M Armed Forces; (there are currently 3 vacant charges); 24 Commissioned Elders (4 New Elders), 11 Additional Elders and 5 Corresponding Members
The Moderator thanked those elders who were retiring for their service.

Report of Diligence at the General Assembly

Mr Bill Love and Rev Una Stewart gave a report of their attendance at the General Assembly. Mr Love spoke highly of his first experience of being a commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland noting that the introductory session on Friday evening was helpful in navigating the way round the hall and through the Business during the week. Mr Love also commented on the uplifting worship, the contribution from members of the Youth Assembly and the polite and courteous way in which contentious business was conducted. Rev Una Stewart spoke of her feeling that having attended many Assemblies before, this year's Assembly was different; expressing her disappointment with 'Church politics' and a feeling that lobbying for different sides was taking place and that the church was being pulled apart.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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, Treasurers and members of Presbytery.

The Clerk referred to

- an e-mail from Ministries Council regarding procedures for Local Ordained Ministry
- Information from Church and Society highlighting a 4 week Sunday School Resource from Traidcraft
- Jane Stirling Secretary to Glasgow Society of Organists requesting Moderators details for a civic reception in Oct 2011 to mark their Centenary
- an e-mail from David Alexander of Hamilton Presbytery intimating that they were still happy to pursue transfer of Dalsersf to Lanark Presbytery.

Good News Stories

Rev Alan Gibson spoke of a new communicants class at the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction which had 12 people all in their 20s attending. Mr Gibson would appreciate the prayer support of Presbytery for these people.

Rev Sarah Ross spoke of the welcome extended at Forth: St Paul's to 5 new members who had professed their faith on Pentecost Sunday.

Report of the Business Committee:

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev. Harry Findlay Convenor. William Tennant, Libby Muir, Colin Gibson and Kenneth McCartney as members of the ad hoc committee on Trustee Indemnity Insurance and request a report by September 2011 meeting.
3. Approve the membership of the Presbytery Committees for 2011/12 as detailed in the attached paper.
4. Note the Service Of Introduction of Ms, Ann Lyall, Deaconess, on Thursday 25th August 2011 in Biggar Kirk at 7pm.
5. Appoint Mrs. Mairi Somerville as an Additional Elder.
6. Grant permission to Carluke: St. Andrew's, St. John's and Kirkton and to Lanark: St. Nicholas and Greyfriars to hold united services over the summer recess.
7. Note that the Presbytery Year Book for 2011/12 will be available in September.
8. Resolve to have a Fellowship Meal at 6pm on Tuesday 6th September 2011 prior to the Presbytery meeting.
9. Appoint Rev Harry Findlay as Interim Moderator at Carluke: St John's for the duration of Rev Roy Cowieson's sick leave.
10. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convenor of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that at the next meeting, Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
11. Thank the Moderator, Rev. Iain Cunningham, the Kirk Session and members of Kirkton Church Carluke for their hospitality this evening.
12. Note that Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church has agreed to change from the Model Constitution to the Unitary Constitution.
13. Appoint Mr Andrew Brown to the Committee to Nominate the Moderator.
14. Appoint Rev H Jamieson to the Presbyterial Panel

The Convener amended section 2 of the Deliverance by removing the name of Mr Colin Gibson from the ad hoc committee on Trustee Indemnity Insurance and Section 3 by noting an amendment to the proposed Committee List noting that Mrs Irene Williams, Mr Andrew Brown and Rev Robert Cleland had agreed to serve a further year on the Business Committee

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Thank and discharge Rev J Cutler as Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe linked with Symington
3. Appoint Rev Alan Gibson as Interim Moderator to the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Symington

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Rev Margaret Muir who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant Practising Certificates for 2011-2012 to Rev Susan Cowell, Rev William Craig Rev Harry Findlay, Rev David Easton, Rev Beverly Gauld, Rev Steven Pacitti, Rev James Seath, Rev Jack Stewart, Rev John Turnbull, Rev David Young
3. Discharge Mr William Macsween and Mr Malcolm Barclay as Assessor Elders to the charge of Biggar and commend them for their diligence and thank them for the support they have given to Rev David Easton, the Kirk Session and congregation of Biggar

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Rev Harry Findlay who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that this year's General Assembly has raised the threshold of Receipts and Payments Accounts from £100,000 to £250,000.
3. Note that the deadline for Presbytery's Initial Attestation Report to the Kirk's Stewardship and Finance Department is 30th. June and that two sets of Congregational Accounts have yet to be lodged with Presbytery and with the Stewardship and Finance Department;
4. Note that this year's General Assembly has agreed to proceed with a National Stewardship Programme which is to be launched with a Stewardship Conference in every Presbytery between Monday, 22nd. August, and Friday, 11th. November, this year;
5. Note that information concerning the National Stewardship Programme may be found in Paragraphs 1-12 of Section 3.1 of the Council of Assembly's Report to this year's General Assembly, and that Congregation's should pay particular attention to Paragraphs 3.1.9 and 3.1.11.
6. Note that the Presbytery of Lanark's Stewardship Conference will be lead by Mrs. Edith Scott, the Local Stewardship Consultant;
7. Agree that Presbytery will hold its Stewardship Conference on Wednesday, 5 October, in St.John's Parish Church, Carluke, from 7.30 to 9.00pm.
8. Instruct the Congregations within the bounds to appoint four Representatives to attend the Stewardship Conference;
9. Approve the application of £7,000 of this year's 3% Variation Allowance to reimburse the local Congregations in the Biggar area for meeting the cost of the Council Tax and Travelling Expenses of Miss Ann Lyall, DCS.
10. Note that any further application with regard to using the 3% Variation Allowance must be in the hands of the Resource Committee before its next meeting on 23 August, 2011.
11. Note that Vacant Charges may let out their manses in the form of a Short Assured Tenancies but only after the prior agreement of Presbytery and the General Trustees and using a Lease that has been prepared and issued by the Secretary's Department of the General Trustees.
12. Approve the application of the Charge of Cairngryffe Parish Church linked with Symington Parish Church to let out its manse and instruct the Clerk to notify the applicant and the General Trustees of this approval.
13. Note that the Quinquennial Survey of the properties of Carnwath Parish Church has been completed but that, after consultation with the General Trustees, this survey explicitly excluded both Church and Manse.
14. Note that Reports of the Quinquennial Surveys of the properties of Carnwath Parish Church are now available for distribution;
15. Note that the Quinquennial Survey of the properties of the Charge of Crossford Parish Church linked with Kirkfieldbank Parish Church has been completed and that the Reports of this Survey are now available for distribution.
16. Instruct the Presbytery Treasurer to pay the Revaluation Fee of GAB Robins UK Ltd amounting to £9,813.60 inclusive of VAT.
17. Note the Resources Committee will shortly be issuing Invoices to Congregations asking them to pay their share of the GAB Robins' Fee.
18. Instruct all Linked Charges whose Congregations do not meet Manse Costs equally to notify the Resources Committee immediately of their specific arrangements.
19. Agree that the failure of a Linked Charge to inform the Resources Committee of its specific arrangements regarding the payment of the Fee for Revaluating its Manse, will mean that the Committee will charge all Congregations in that Linkage equally.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Rev Sarah Ross who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery

1. Receive the report.
2. Welcome the link with South Lanarkshire Council Bereavement Services through Mr David MacColl.
3. Encourage World and Community Issues Committee to continue working through cemetery issues with South Lanarkshire Council.
4. Note the Ecumenical Relations Autumn Conference on 28th October 2011 at 121 George Street.
5. Appoint Dr Sinclair Scott as Vice Convener of World and Community Issues Committee.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Rev Alan Gibson who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Invite congregations to nominate a Prayer Coordinator and submit names and contact details to Rev Una Stewart

The Deliverance was approved

In Hunc Effectum Meeting - 2 June 2011

The Clerk read all correspondence which had been received following the meeting on 2 June

Rev Ian Watson apologised to the Review Group for comments he made at the meeting.

Following discussion regarding the meeting and the many letters which had been received following the meeting, Mrs Anna Lumsden, Business Convener moved the following deliverance, which was duly seconded.

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Instruct the Clerk to write to the Principal Clerk seeking advice on all the issues raised by the correspondence following the in hunc effectum meeting of Presbytery on 2 June 2011 and report to the Business Committee.
2. In light of the resignation of the Presbytery Plan Review Group remit to the Business Committee to bring forward proposals for progressing the Presbytery Plan.

On a vote being taken the Deliverance carried.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet *in hunc effectum* on Thursday 25 August at Biggar Kirk for the Service of Introduction of Miss Ann Lyall and then on Tuesday 6 September at 7pm at Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business

(A Buffet Meal will be available from 6:00pm. and must be ordered with Helen Chekansky)

Committees meet on Tuesday 23 August 2011 at 7pm

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

APPENDIX A

**Presbytery of Lanark
Presbytery Committees 2011-2012**

Congregational Development (Convenor – Rev Alan Gibson – 3 rd Year)				
Fifth+ Year	Fourth Year	Third Year	Second Year	First Year
Roy Cowieson			Alison Meikle	Ann Lyall DCS
Robert Carson Moira White		Tom Chalmers Jim Ferguson	Alex Nelson Alison Plenderleith	David Whitefield

Congregational Support (Convenor – Rev Margaret Muir – 2 nd Year)				
Fifth+ Year	Fourth Year	Third Year	Second Year	First Year
		Ian Watson		Robert Cleland
Anna Lumsden Willie MacSween Alex McPhee Jim Sinclair		Jim Watt	Malcolm Barclay Jim Johnstone Irene Williams	

Ministries (Convenor – Mr Andrew Brown – 2 nd Year)				
Fifth+ Year	Fourth Year	Third Year	Second Year	First Year
John Turnbull		Una Stewart		
Lambert Allan Helen Chekansky Moira Galbraith David Hodgson				Anne Cochrane Alan Grant Bill Love

Resources (Convenor – Rev Harry Findlay – 3 rd Year)				
Fifth+ Year	Fourth Year	Third Year	Second Year	First Year
David Carmichael			Jim Cutler Steven Reid	
Ewan Easton Colin Gibson Cameron Morton Stewart Toy Robert Tweedie			William Coulter Mary McGillivray	Robert Boag

World & Community Issues (Convenor – Rev Sarah Ross – 2 nd Year)				
Fifth+ Year	Fourth Year	Third Year	Second Year	First Year
Iain Cunningham Susan Cowell Aileen Robson				
Peter McLeish Sinclair Scott Mairi Sommerville Hugh Stewart				Frances Henderson Anne Reid

Business (Convenor – Mrs Anna Lumsden – 4 th Year; Clerk - Helen Jamieson; Depute Clerk - Bryan Kerr)				
Fifth+ Year	Fourth Year	Third Year	Second Year	First Year
		Robert Cleland	Iain Cunningham (final year)	Sarah Ross
Irene Williams Andrew Brown		Sinclair Scott		

Biggar, on Thursday 25 August 2011, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum*, to introduce Miss Ann Lyall DCS to an Area Ministry within the Biggar Area, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Iain Cunningham, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 9 Ministers; 6 Elders; and associated with them Rev Valerie Duff, Rev Michael Lyall and Deacons Dot Getliffe, Elspeth McPheat, Marion Buchanan, Ann Merrilees and Anne Mulligan.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Aileen Robson, Rev Sarah Ross and Rev Una Stewart, Ministers and Mr Andrew Brown, Mr Tom Chalmers, Mrs Anne Cochrane, Dr Sinclair Scott and Mr David Whitefield, Elders.

Introduction of Miss Ann Lyall

Rev Robert Cleland conducted worship and preached the sermon.

After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula Miss Ann Lyall was introduced to an Area Ministry in the Biggar Area by the Moderator, who delivered charges to Miss Lyall. After the service it was noted that Miss Lyall's name had been added to the Roll of Presbytery.

Rev Harry Findlay expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, Rev Robert Cleland and the Clerk for their conduct of the service of introduction.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting the Presbytery to say the Grace together

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 6th September at 7pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business

(Note: A buffet meal will be available from 6:00pm)

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 6 September 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt; Rev Iain Cunningham Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 16 ministers; 1 Deacon; 21 Elders; 3 Corresponding Members and 9 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs S Cowell and J Turbull, Ministers; Messrs D Hodgson and J Watt and Mrs I Williams, Elders.

Welcome to new members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed those who were new members of Lanark Presbytery to their first meeting and visitors from the congregations of Black Mount, Coalburn, Culter, Lesmahagow: Old and Libberton and Quothquan who had been cited to appear.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Election and Installation of New Moderator

The Presbytery elected Rev Sarah Ross as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2011/12. Mr Cunningham welcomed Mrs Ross, installed her as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited her to take the chair. The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing her, and also thanked Mr Cunningham for his service as Moderator.

Minutes of meeting on 21 June 2011 and 25 August 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2011 and 25 August 2011 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- two circulars from the Law Department regarding the Bribery Act and Styles of contracts
- an e-mail from Jane Denniston, Ministries Council informing of candidates for Diaconate, Ministry of Word and Sacrament and Ordained Local Ministry. The Clerk read the names to the Presbytery.

Good News Stories

Rev Una Stewart, Law Parish Church spoke of a toddler group started last year that has doubled in attendance. Ms Stewart also spoke of a church football team from Law with 38 people in attendance.

Farewell to Rev Aileen Robson

Following the translation of Miss Robson from Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow Old to South East Cowal, the Moderator invited Mr Peter McLeish from Coalburn and Mr Ewan Easton from Lesmahagow Old to pay tribute to Miss Robson's ministry. The representatives from the congregations spoke of the innovations that were brought by Aileen to the churches including a work party to Peru, Emmaus courses, the re-establishment of 1st Lesmahagow Boys' Brigade, development of the gifts of all God's people and Labyrinths to name only a few. In Coalburn, Aileen established a new model for children's ministry in a midweek meeting from which the congregation has benefitted. In Lesmahagow: Old a new feeling of life has been felt by the congregation with a refocussing on mission. Both representatives spoke of the feelings of sadness as Aileen moves to her new charge but also of their gratitude for the ministry that she undertook. The Moderator invited Rev Bryan Kerr to speak on behalf of Presbytery. Mr Kerr spoke of Miss Robson's service in Presbytery as well as the time spent studying together at New College. Mr Kerr spoke warmly of the ministry that Miss Robson had embarked upon and the difference she had made to the congregations in Lesmahagow Old and Coalburn. Miss Robson was invited to address Presbytery and spoke of the challenges that her congregations presented her with throughout her ministry and the positive memories that she has been left with. Miss Robson thanked

Presbytery and the congregations for their support and the Moderator thanked Miss Robson for her period of ministry in Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow Old.

Retirement of Rev Jim Cutler

The Moderator invited Mr Donald Barrie from Black Mount, Mrs Sandra Teo from Culter and Mrs Liliias Nicholls from Libberton and Quothquan to pay tribute to Mr Cutler's ministry. The representatives spoke of their gratitude at Jim's seven years of ministry among them. Jim brought a great sense of leadership to the congregations as well as meaningful worship and the leading of the sacraments. The congregations have appreciated opportunities for joint worship and lunches as well as study groups and community work. The congregation of Black Mount commended and spoke appreciatively of Jim's enthusiasm and vision during the renovations and remodelling of the church. Thanks were also expressed to Mrs Annis Cutler for her support to Jim and to the congregations. The Moderator invited Rev Alison Meikle to speak on behalf of Presbytery. Mrs Meikle spoke of Jim's ministry in Dunoon, Coldstream and the Biggar area where he has left lasting impressions on all of his congregations. Jim has served as Presbytery Clerk in both Duns and Lanark Presbyteries and has always had an 'open door policy' for all members of Presbytery. Mr Cutler was invited to address the Presbytery and spoke of his time in ministry within the Presbytery of Lanark at both the beginning and end of his ministry. Mr Cutler thanked Presbytery for support throughout his ministry and clerkship and the Moderator thanked Mr Cutler for his years of ministry in Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton and Quothquan.

The convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee, Mrs Anna Lumsden moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Agree to the demission of Rev James Cutler from the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan as of 10 October 2011.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that the charge of Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old became vacant on 4 September 2011 following the Translation and Induction of Rev. Aileen Robson to South East Cowal.
3. Note that the Interim Moderator of the charge of Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old will be Rev. Robert Cleland.
4. Note that the Advisory Committee for the charge of Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old will be Rev Ian Watson (Convener), Rev. Margaret Muir and Mrs Helen Chekansky.
5. Note that the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan will become vacant on 10 October 2011 following the retiral of Rev James Cutler.
6. Note that the Interim Moderator of the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan will be Rev Una Stewart.
7. Note that the Advisory Committee for the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan will be Mr. Andrew Brown (Convener), Mrs. Irene Williams and Rev. Iain Cunningham.
8. Approve the appointment of Mr. William Love as locum tenens of the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan from 10 October 2011.

The Deliverance was approved

Presbytery Plan

Following intimation, Rev David Easton was invited to speak on the Presbytery Plan. Mr Easton enquired as to the steps taken following the rejection of the Presbytery Plan on 2 June 2011. He spoke of the frustration of the congregation in Biggar who were happy to proceed with the presented plan. Mr Easton invited Presbytery to remember the congregations for whom the delay causes immediate issues. Mr Easton invited the Review Group to withdraw their resignation, reform and consult with congregations to allow those who can do so to move on in their vacancies. The Clerk replied that the Business Committee and Vacancy Procedure Committee heard Mr Easton's plea, will discuss the matter further and report to Presbytery as soon as possible. The Clerk also asked for the prayers of members of Presbytery in this matter.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree to alter Standing Order no. 3 to omit the word "April" from the list of meetings of Presbytery.
3. Appoint Mrs Alexandra Muir to the World and Community Issues Committee and the Rev Roy Cowieson to the Resources Committee.
4. Note that it is good practice to approve the Agenda at Presbytery meetings.
5. Note that the agenda item "AOCB" will be replaced by agenda item "Intimations."
6. Note that the Presbytery Yearbook 2011/12 is available for uplift by Presbyters.
7. Grant permission to the congregations of Carnwath and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to have a Joint Service on Sunday 9 October 2011 at 11am in Carnwath Hall.
8. Extend sincere thanks to Rev Alison Meikle, Mrs Helen Chekansky and their team for organising and serving a most enjoyable buffet meal.

The Deliverance was approved

Follow up to in hunc effectum meeting – 2 June 2011

The Clerk read a further three letters which had been received following the meeting on 2 June 2011. Mrs Anna Lumsden, Convener of the Business committee presented a report on the follow up to the *in hunc effectum* meeting on 2 June 2011 and moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Acknowledge with regret the conflict within Presbytery caused by the bounds of good behaviour being breached at the meeting of 2 June 2011.
3. Acknowledge the very deep hurt and distress felt not only by Presbyters, but also by the representatives of the congregations cited to attend that evening.
4. Agree to set up an ad hoc committee to review Presbytery Standing Orders with the likely inclusion of a Code of Conduct to which all members of Presbytery would adhere.
5. Instruct the Business Committee to bring forward names of members of the Ad Hoc Committee to the October meeting of Presbytery.
6. Agree that as a first step on a process of Conflict Resolution, the Business Committee meets with Hugh Donald from A Place for Hope.
7. Instruct Presbytery Elders to ensure that all sections of this Deliverance are reported in full to their Kirk Sessions.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the Presbytery Accounts for 2010;
3. Instruct the Clerk to:-
 - a) Forward a signed copy of the Presbytery's 2010 Accounts to the Stewardship and Finance Department
 - b) Write to Mr. Tom Anderson, Independent Examiner, and his assistant, Mr. David Clarkson, of I. & A. Stewart & Co., Chartered Accountants, expressing appreciation of their service to the Presbytery
 - c) Record sincere appreciation to those who prepared and presented the Presbytery Accounts for 2010 - Presbytery Treasurer, Mrs. Mary McGillivray for preparing the Financial Statements and the Rev. Bryan Kerr, Depute Clerk, for writing the Report of the Trustees.
4. Thank the twenty-three congregations who have re-imbursed Presbytery for payment of their Insurance Re-Valuation Fees to GAB Robins UK Ltd., and instruct the remaining two congregations who have not yet done so, to make their re-imburement to Presbytery as soon as possible.

5. Noting that Presbytery's 3% Variation Allowance for 2011 stands at £22,072, agree to apply some of that Allowance to reduce the remaining Ministries and Mission Contributions of Biggar Parish Kirk and the United Parish of Carstairs by £100 and £210 respectively in recognition of the fact that their fees for the Insurance Revaluation were greater than Presbytery allowed in the reduction of their 2009 Ministries and Mission Allocations.
6. Remind Congregations to send four representatives to the Stewardship Conference which has been arranged to take place from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. in St. John's Parish Church on Wednesday, 5th October, 2011.
7. Noting that, on 19 June 2011, Miss Ann Lyall, DCS, started Presbytery's two year Diaconate Project working with the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther, and Symington agree that the following expenses for the Diaconate Project-hereafter called "*Listed Expenses*" - shall be paid at a total estimated cost of £7,300 per annum: Council Tax, Travelling Expenses, Car Allowance, Telephone and Broadband, Stationery and Postage.
8. Agree that the cost of the Listed Expenses for the Diaconate Project will be allocated to the participating congregation on a percentage basis using the data employed to assess congregational ability to contribute to the Ministries and Mission Fund.
9. Instruct the Presbytery Treasurer to:
 - a. pay the Diaconate Project's Listed Expenses;
 - b. receive re-imburements from congregation for paying these Listed Expenses;
 - c. keep a record of all transactions and report the same, as required, to the participating congregations and Presbytery's Congregational Development and Resources Committees
10. Agree to meet the Diaconate Project's Listed Expenses from Presbytery Funds in the first instance provided the congregations concerned make full and prompt reimbursement to Presbytery from their remaining Ministries and Missions Allocation.
11. Agree to use some of Presbytery's 3% Variation Allowance for the years 2011 - 2013, and, if necessary, 2014 to finance the Diaconate Project so that the congregations concerned can meet the Project's Listed Expenses from their Ministries and Mission Allocations thereby saving them from a greater outlay than they were already expecting to pay to the Ministries and Mission Fund.
12. Instruct the congregations participating in the Diaconate Project to reimburse Presbytery for paying Listed Expenses that have been, or will be, incurred in the 28 weeks to the year-end, and to do so by paying the following amounts from their remaining Ministries and Mission Allocations: Biggar £1,321.13, Black Mount £302.27, Cairngryffe £569.96, Culter £228.38, Glencaple £499.99, Libberton & Quothquan £295.99, Lowther £111.24 and Symington £601.80.
13. Note that, at a later date, an application will be made to Presbytery to occupy a vacant manse on the basis of a rent-free, *Caretaker Agreement* drawn up by the General Trustees.
14. Note that the Presbytery has been informed of a congregation's Previous Year's Shortfall to the Ministries and Mission Fund amounting to £13,635.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Trustee Indemnity Insurance

The Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Trustee Indemnity Insurance was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the Report
2. Urge all Kirk Sessions, Financial Boards, and Trustees who have concerns about the Church's Indemnity Insurance Cover in general, and that Cover's exceptions in particular, to communicate the same to the Convener as soon as possible.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Vice-Convener, Dr W Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the report

2. Appoint Rev Sarah Ross as Lanark Presbytery Representative to attend the Church and Society Council Presbytery Representatives Conference on 16 and 17 September 2011.
3. Encourage School Chaplains to attend the training day at 121 George Street, Edinburgh on Thursday 29 September 2011.
4. Appoint Dr Sinclair Scott as Lanark Presbytery Representative to attend the World Mission Council Presbytery Conveners Conference on Thursday 22 September.
5. Encourage World Church representatives or interested church members to attend the first World Mission Council National Twinning Conference on Saturday 1 October 2011 at Auchterarder Church Community Centre.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Alan Gibson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report
2. Invite congregations to take part in Back to Church Sunday 2011.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Representative on the Committee to Nominate Moderator of the General Assembly

In the absence of Mr Andrew Brown, Presbytery representative, the Clerk reported to Presbytery and moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the report
2. Invite members of Lanark Presbytery to convey any suggestions for Moderator of the General Assembly 2012-2013 to Mr Andrew Brown no later than 23 September 2011.

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 4 October 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 4 October 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 ministers; 24 Elders; 4 Corresponding Members and 4 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs R Cowieson, J Cutler and A Gibson, Ministers; Miss A Lyall, Deacon; Messrs D Hodgson, B Love, P McLeish, A McPhee and Mrs H Chekansky, M Galbraith, F Henderson, Elders.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed those visiting the Presbytery.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6 September 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2011 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- information from the Principal Clerk regarding errors in the remit book. A sheet is available from the Clerk with the corrections noted.
- an open letter received about the Prebsytery Plan which will be discussed elsewhere in the meeting.
- a report from Place for Hope which will be discussed elsewhere in the meeting.
- a letter from St. John's Church in Carluke seeking a resolution to the current impasse with the Presbytery Plan
- information regarding Prisoner's Week, 20th - 27th November 2011
- an email from Mission and Discipleship Council regarding a training for elders to moderate Kirk Sessions on 12th November 2011 in Riverside Church, Perth.

Good News Stories

Mrs Irene Williams, United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction spoke of 12 people of mixed ages who recently joined by profession of faith.

Royal Navy Chaplaincy

The Moderator invited Rev Ross McDonald, from the Royal Navy Chaplains Department to address the Presbytery. Mr McDonald spoke of the work of Chaplains in the Royal Navy and Royal Navy Reserve and urged members of Presbytery to think about serving as chaplains or encourage others so to do. After a time of questions, the Moderator thanked Mr McDonald for his presentation.

Report of diligence from the National Youth Assembly

The Moderator invited Mr Andrew Mathieson, from Lanark: Greyfriars and Miss Catriona Easton, from Lesmahagow: Old to address Presbytery on their recent attendance at the National Youth Assembly held in Stirling University, as representatives of Lanark Presbytery. 'Love Life' was the overarching theme of the weekend, and through a varied mix of worship, discussion and debates the theme was explored. Through the talks by Rev John Bell delegates were encouraged to think about how they loved God and others. Three main topics of the sexualization of children, marriage and priority areas were debated during the Youth Assembly, and friendship and fellowship was greatly encouraged and welcomed by all who attended. The worship at the Youth Assembly was highlighted as being particularly appreciated and helpful over the course of the weekend. After a period a questions the Moderator thanked Miss Easton and Mr Mathieson for their attendance at the National Youth Assembly and their report to Presbytery.

Following the presentation, Rev Bryan Kerr, Depute Clerk informed Presbytery that Miss Laura Jane Sinclair, from Forth: St. Paul's who had also attended the National Youth Assembly, had been chosen by the delegates to represent the Youth Assembly at the General Assembly on 2012 and be one of 10 national delegates in addition to the Presbytery representatives. Mr Kerr moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

2. Receive the report
3. Thank Catriona Easton, Lesmahagow: Old and Andrew Mathieson, Lanark: Greyfriars for their attendance at the National Youth Assembly and for their presentation to the Presbytery.
4. Note with pleasure the appointment of Laura Jane Sinclair as a Youth Assembly delegate to the General Assembly of 2012
5. Assure Catriona Easton, Andrew Mathieson and Laura Jane Sinclair of the continued prayers and support of Presbytery in their work and ministry within the Church.

The Deliverance was approved

Presbytery Planning

The Clerk, on behalf of the Business Committee, which had previously received an open letter to members of Presbytery from the members of the former Presbytery Planning and Review Group, presented the contents of the letter to the Presbytery.

"To: Rev Helen Jamieson
Presbytery Clerk
St Andrews Manse
120 Clyde Street
Carluke
ML8 5BG

20th September 2011

An Open Letter to the Presbytery of Lanark regarding Presbytery Planning

On Monday 19th September 2011 former members of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group met at Forth St Paul's Church Hall to discuss the events of June 2nd 2011 at the *In Hunc Effectum* meeting of the Presbytery of Lanark.

The group discussed the events of that night and the situation in which Lanark Presbytery now finds itself. The group are well aware of the pressure being exerted upon them to reconvene. However the group agreed that we stand by our decision made on the 2nd June to resign. We consider that we are unable to reconvene for we do not believe it is in the best interests of Lanark Presbytery or the members of the former Review Group. The former Review Group remain committed to the plan as it was presented and feel unable to make any significant changes and would not be able to present anything different. It is suggested that Lanark Presbytery bring together a new committee which should include members of Presbytery who could not support the draft plan and members of the previous Review Group by invitation. However given the level of conflict within Lanark Presbytery there are other issues that should be dealt with first.

Nevertheless the former Review Group are sympathetic towards the growing number of charges that are vacant within our Presbytery. Therefore members of the former Review Group, having discussed the issues suggest to Presbytery a potential way forward that would move towards meeting the requirements of Presbytery Planning as set out by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. For the avoidance of doubt the Instruction from the General Assembly is that Lanark Presbytery is to plan for 15.2 ministries within the Presbytery with the planning process to be completed by December 2012.

In light of the difficulties in which the Presbytery currently finds itself, we suggest that Presbytery agrees the four areas as previously described in the plan, that Presbytery agrees the numbers of ministries allocated to each area, and that Presbytery inform Kirk Sessions to allow for discussion as to how they would use their allowance in their own time scale, but no later than 31 May 2012, using external facilitators provided in consultation with the Ministries Council, if they felt it necessary. This would allow Lanark Presbytery to agree with local decisions on an individual basis, to seek concurrence from the Ministries Council on the agreed areas and move forward with vacancies whilst still allowing time to deal with conflict resolution.

It is the hope of the former Review Group that this course of action will be useful and therefore if Presbytery so wishes, a suggested deliverance is given.

Deliverance

1. Receive the open letter from the former Presbytery Planning and Review Group.
2. Agree, for the purposes of the planning process, the four areas of Biggar (Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther & Symintgton), Carluke (Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Carluke: St. John's & Law), Lanark (Carnwath, Carstairs & Carstairs Junction, Forth St Paul's, Lanark: Greyfriars & Lanark: St. Nicholas), and Lesmahagow (Coalburn, Crossford, Douglas Valley, Kirkfieldbank, Kirkmuirhill, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen & Lesmahagow: Old) as laid out in the draft plan.
3. Agree the allocation of ministries of each area as follows:
 - i. Biggar receives 2.8 FTE of the staffing allowance;
 - ii. Carluke receives 3.7 FTE of the staffing allowance;
 - iii. Lanark receives 4 FTE of the staffing allowance;
 - iv. Lesmahagow receives 4.7 FTE of the staffing allowance.
4. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to engage in collaborative discussions with all Kirk Sessions within their area as to how the allocation of ministries may be used and report back to the Presbytery Clerk by 31 May 2012.
5. Agree that should external facilitation be deemed necessary by Kirk Sessions within an area that Kirk Sessions seek such assistance from the Business Committee in the first instance.
6. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute, and a copy of the open letter from the former Presbytery Planning and Review Group, to all Kirk Sessions.

Yours in Christ

From former members of the Presbytery Planning and Review Group

The Reverends Harry Findlay, Alan Gibson, Bryan Kerr, Margaret Muir, and Sarah Ross

Elders: Andrew Brown, Ewan Easton, Jim Ferguson, Anna Lumsden, Sinclair Scott and Jim Watt"

The Moderator invited discussion on the contents of the letter.

Following a period of discussion the Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the open letter from the former Presbytery Planning and Review Group.
2. Agree, for the purposes of the planning process, the four areas of Biggar (Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther & Symintgton), Carluke (Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Carluke: St. John's & Law), Lanark (Carnwath, Carstairs & Carstairs Junction, Forth St Paul's, Lanark: Greyfriars & Lanark: St. Nicholas), and Lesmahagow (Coalburn, Crossford, Douglas Valley, Kirkfieldbank, Kirkmuirhill, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen & Lesmahagow: Old) as laid out in the draft plan.
3. Agree the allocation of ministries of each area as follows:
 - i. Biggar receives 2.8 FTE of the staffing allowance;
 - ii. Carluke receives 3.7 FTE of the staffing allowance;
 - iii. Lanark receives 4 FTE of the staffing allowance;
 - iv. Lesmahagow receives 4.7 FTE of the staffing allowance.
4. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to engage in collaborative discussions with all Kirk Sessions within their area as to how the allocation of ministries may be used and report back to the Presbytery Clerk by 31 May 2012.
5. Agree that should external facilitation be deemed necessary by Kirk Sessions within an area that Kirk Sessions seek such assistance from the Business Committee in the first instance.
6. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute, and a copy of the open letter from the former Presbytery Planning and Review Group, to all Kirk Sessions.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as a counter motion to section 2-6 "2. Resolve to form a new Presbytery Planning Group and instruct the Business Committee to bring nominations to the next meeting of Presbytery."

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Place for Hope

At the meeting held on 6 September 2011 Presbytery agreed a section of deliverance as part of the follow up to the in hunc effectum meeting held on 2 June 2011 which read as follows; "Agree that as a first step on a process of Conflict Resolution, the Business Committee meets with Hugh Donald from A Place for Hope." The Business Committee Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden informed Presbytery that a meeting took place on 19

September with representatives from A Place for Hope and presented a report from the consultant, Mr Hugh Donald (the text of which is reproduced below).

“It was a privilege for Joanne Finlay and myself from Place for Hope to meet with a number of members of the Business Committee on Monday 19 September. Thank you for your welcome and hospitality. It was agreed that I would follow up our meeting with a proposal outlining how we would offer to work with the Lanark Presbytery. In making this proposal I will comment upon:

- what is Place for Hope,
- what we heard from you, and
- how we would work with you.

What is Place for Hope?

This is the ‘vehicle’ established in response to the Report on Church Conflict submitted to the General Assembly in 2008. It brings together a group of trained individuals to support and work with individuals/groups in conflict. It offers an alternative to the existing church processes, recognising the limitations of such processes.

Conflict can be defined in many ways

“Conflict represents a lack of skill or experience at being able to handle a certain kind of behaviour as well as the lack of skill in saying what we fear, think or want.”

“Conflict is the sound made by the cracks in a system.”

“Conflict is often a fearful interpretation of difference, diversity and opposition which ignores the essential role of polarity in creating unity, balance and symbiosis.”

It is necessary to recognise the fact of conflict, the challenge being how we deal with it. Our experience would suggest the need to learn new skills and use new processes, enabling the conflict to be truly transformed.

This is not necessarily easy, straightforward or quick. It demands an increased level of openness and honesty, generated not in a spirit of blame, but in a desire to learn and understand. In any conflict it is essential to explore ‘under the surface’, to identify the real needs and interests of individuals, and where “the cracks” in the system exist.

Through Place for Hope we offer skilled individuals whose role is to create the safe space for those in conflict to engage honestly, for all voices to be heard, for relationships to be re-built and for systems to be re-designed.

What we heard from you

In listening to you we invited each of you to share what was on your heart, in particular in the context of the meeting of Presbytery held on 2 June 2011. The over-riding message conveyed to us was of brokenness, individually and collectively as a Presbytery. More specifically we identified:

- a need to understand why the meeting appears to have been so unhealthy
- a need to recognise and to look to healing hurts
- a need to recognise the diversity within Presbytery
- a need for Presbytery to function effectively going forward.

This is no more than a snapshot and reflective of what we heard from those present. Going forward it will be critical to hear all voices before discerning a path forward.

As often in the case of conflict which appears to suddenly erupt, there can be traced through the history underlying currents and attitudes that have been present for many years. There is little doubt that at this time in the life in the Church of Scotland the differing and apparently polarised opinions expressed in the context of the human sexuality debate are having a significant impact on relationships.

How would we work with you?

I would seek to make clear that our role is not to impose or define solutions. We would start a journey with you working through a process where outcomes will become clear. It can be helpful to understand that dialogue is not necessarily a means to an end, but an end in itself. Nor is this some form of counselling or pastoral care. It is a means of equipping ourselves to have the real conversations and to respect the validity of opinions different from our own.

So going forward we can only look at the first few steps in this journey, and see where it leads.

1. Recognising the existing level of anxiety that exists, there is a need to lower this. A first step would be to undertake some skills training towards understanding conflict, how to listen to gain understanding and

how to speak honestly without attributing blame. This could be done in an evening on the basis this would suit most people, though ideally better on a Saturday.

2. The next step would be to create a safe environment for all voices to be heard, looking to better understand the brokenness and the underlying causes. It is yet unclear to us whether this could be achieved all together or working through smaller groups.
3. At each step of the way, facilitated by us, we would seek to agree 'guidelines' for ways of effectively working together. Hopefully these could evolve into something that would support the Presbytery going forward.
4. Throughout this process it is important that the business of Presbytery can continue to be done. At the same time it is important to reflect the existing reality and our suggestion would be to look to prioritise the business in such a way that only essential business is undertaken.

Two final thoughts:

Choice

This has to be a voluntary process. No-one is compelled to attend any meeting. It is a choice made by each individual. However, I hope that through what we bring we can allay any natural anxieties and commend participation to everyone.

Prayer

Place for Hope is centred on Christ's call to love one another and to offer a ministry of reconciliation. It is in our times of darkness that we cry out to God and seek to place our trust in Him. As we will pray for all of you, so you may be encouraged to pray for one another.

Hugh Donald, Consultant, Place for Hope"

The Moderator invited discussion on the contents of the report from Mr Hugh Donald.

Following a period of discussion the Convener moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

9. Receive the Report
10. Approve the engagement of Place for Hope as outlined in the report and remit to the Business Committee to make the necessary arrangements
11. Agree to meet in conference with Place for Hope representatives on 8 November 2011 at 7pm to undertake some skills training towards understanding conflict.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant permission to delay meantime the formation of an ad hoc Committee to review Presbytery Standing Orders.
3. Note the meeting with New Presbytery Elders held on 12th September 2011.
4. Grant permission to Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old to hold joint services on 9th October 2011 and 1st January 2012.
5. Remind Presbyters that services should be held on Christmas Day 2011 and New Year's Day 2012 and permission should be sought from Presbytery to hold Joint Services on these dates if required.
6. Approve the allocation of Remits from the General Assembly as detailed in the report.
7. Welcome Rev. Roy Cowieson's return to ministerial duties and thank and discharge Rev. Harry Findlay as Interim Moderator of Carluke St. John's.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

16. Receive the Report
17. Note the findings of the Congregational Accounts Attestation Committee

18. Note the Ministries and Mission Contributions that have been proposed for 2012.
19. Instruct Congregational Treasurers to lodge any appeals against the proposed Ministry and Missions Contributions for 2011 with the Convener of the Resources Committee before 18 October, 2011.
20. Grant Permission for Tarbrax Church to be closed following a special service on Sunday, 23 October, 2011
21. Instruct the Kirk Session of Carnwath to ensure that Tarbrax Church is inspected weekly in order that it remains wind and watertight and complies with insurance regulations for churches not in use.
22. Note that discussions on the future use or disposal of Tarbrax Church will take place and that local parties, Presbytery and the General Trustees will be involved in these.
23. Note that the General Trustees Fabric Committee have agreed to make available a grant of £7,800 towards the cost of the reconstruction of the Retaining Wall at Lowther Parish Church.

The Deliverance was approved

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Vice-Convener, Dr W Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

6. Receive the report.
7. Note the report from the Church and Society Conference.
8. Note the report from the South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources September 2011 meeting.
9. Grant permission to the World and Community Issues Committee to organise a public event on the topic of Neuroethics.
10. Encourage all Kirk Sessions to consider how their church can be welcoming to or more inclusive of people with mental health issues and where appropriate encourage at least one member of their congregation to complete Scotland's Mental Health First Aid Course.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk intimated that the People's Bible 'scribe pod' will be in Carluke on 11th October from 10am - 6pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 1 November 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas's Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Ministries and Mission Proposals for 2012

Congregation	Income Base			Scale 2012 Alloc restricted to 9% incr				2012 M&M Allocation		
	Period 2008-2009	Income Base Incr/(Decr)		Increase(Decrease) on 2011 Alloc		Variance from Scale	Proposed 2012	M&M Fund Edinburgh	Diacon Proj Presbytery	
BIGGAR	91,440	2,440	2.7%	9.0%	4,563	287	0.5%	55,262	52,809	2,453
C. KIRKTON	112,677	(3,446)	(3.0%)	4.1%	2,634	0	0.0%	67,445	67,445	
C. ST ANDREW'S	55,686	(979)	(1.7%)	4.7%	1,490	0	0.0%	33,238	33,238	
C. ST JOHN'S	92,489	2,143	2.4%	9.0%	4,630	98	0.2%	56,070	56,070	
CARNWATH	48,366	(1,360)	(2.7%)	3.5%	969	0	0.0%	28,554	28,554	
COALBURN	21,054	629	3.1%	9.0%	808	1,289	11.6%	9,785	9,785	
CARSTAIRS V&J	53,141	5,715	12.1%	9.0%	2,358	3,047	9.6%	28,563	28,563	
CROSSFORD	37,064	84	0.2%	9.0%	1,679	983	4.6%	20,337	20,337	
COULTER	14,001	(1,381)	(9.0%)	9.0%	513	828	11.8%	6,212	5,788	424
DOUGLAS VALLEY	59,389	280	0.5%	9.0%	2,646	3,567	10.0%	32,041	32,041	
BLACK MOUNT	19,641	(732)	(3.6%)	6.3%	605	0	0.0%	10,198	9,637	561
GLENCAPLE	32,882	(809)	(2.4%)	3.8%	680	0	0.0%	18,644	17,715	929
FORTH ST PAULS	65,123	2,354	3.8%	9.0%	3,187	680	1.7%	38,598	38,598	
KIRKFIELD BANK	20,345	(809)	(3.8%)	1.7%	178	0	0.0%	10,620	10,620	
KIRKMUIRHILL	120,594	(10,327)	(7.9%)	(0.7%)	(513)	0	0.0%	71,697	71,697	
L. ST NICHOLAS	117,849	9,524	8.8%	9.0%	5,436	4,404	6.3%	65,834	65,834	
LAW	42,101	2,783	7.1%	9.0%	1,921	1,283	5.2%	23,261	23,261	
LMHG ABBEYGREEN	89,158	4,684	5.5%	9.0%	4,339	1,654	3.1%	52,549	52,549	
LESMAHAGOW OLD	83,607	(7,490)	(8.2%)	9.0%	3,820	4,663	9.2%	46,265	46,265	
LIBB & QUOQUAN	19,247	(701)	(3.5%)	9.0%	471	4,279	42.9%	5,699	5,149	550
SYMINGTON	37,741	(2,794)	(6.9%)	(1.4%)	(316)	0	0.0%	21,754	20,636	1,118
LOWTHER	6,589	(917)	(12.2%)	9.0%	248	154	4.9%	3,009	2,803	206
L. GREYFRIARS	90,870	(1,671)	(1.8%)	4.9%	2,566	0	0.0%	55,213	55,213	
CAIRNGRYFFE	36,928	(1,463)	(3.8%)	2.2%	449	0	0.0%	21,233	20,174	1,059
								782,081	774,781	7,300

Lanark, on, Tuesday 1 November 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 ministers; 1 deacon; 26 Elders and 4 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs R Cleland, S Cowell, I Cunningham, A Meikle Ministers; Messrs E Easton, C Gibson, A McPhee, H Stewart and Mrs M White, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 4 October 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 October 2011 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- An expression of thanks received from Barry Kerr, husband of the late Sheilah Kerr, thanking Presbytery for the card and expression of sympathy following Sheilah's death

Good News Stories

Rev Russell McLarty, Interim Moderator at Carnwath spoke of a service which took place on 23 October 2011 to mark the closure of Tarbrax Church. Mr McLarty spoke of the unity and positive feeling which prevailed as the congregation acknowledged the decision to close the building as the correct course of action to have followed.

Mrs Alison Plenderleith, Carluke: St Andrew's spoke of the recent 80th Anniversary celebrations of their Guild.

Rev Ian Watson, Kirkmuirhill, spoke of the attendance of the Wishaw Battalion of the Boys' Brigade at the founders day parade on Sunday 30th October. This was the first time the Battalion had met in Kirkmuirhill

Mr Jim Sinclair, Forth: St. Paul's, spoke of the success of the October week holiday club in the church hall and the service following the weeks activities.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant permission for a joint ecumenical Remembrance Service between Lanark: St Nicholas, Lanark: Greyfriars and Christ Church to take place on Sunday, 13 November 2011 in Lanark: Greyfriars.
3. Grant permission for the charge of Black Mount l/w Culter l/w Libberton & Quothquan to hold a United Service at Culter on Sunday 25 December 2011.
4. Note that Mr Alan Grant (Carluke: St John's), Mr David Waters (Kirkmuirhill) and Mr John Veitch (Lesmahagow: Old) have undertaken the necessary training to enable them to moderate the Kirk Session in which they serve and grant approval for them to do so in accordance with the terms of Act VI 2004.
5. Note that it has not been possible to form a Presbytery Planning Review Group of eight people.
6. Invite elders to indicate privately to the Clerk of their willingness to serve on a new Presbytery Planning Group before 23 November 2011.
7. Note that a further report will be brought to the December Presbytery Meeting.

It was moved and seconded as a Counter Motion to sections 6 and 7 "Agree in principle to form a committee of six people with powers to co-opt other members paying due regard to geographical spread, gender balance, and minister/ elder parity."

On a vote being taken For or Against the Counter Motion, it carried Against.

The Deliverance as presented by the Business Committee was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Margaret Muir, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant a Practising Certificate to Rev Jim Cutler.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Alan Gibson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2012. (Appendix 1)
3. Thank all congregations within the bounds for having reimbursed Presbytery for paying their Insurance Revaluation fees.
4. Note that, at the end of the first three months of the Diaconate Project, four of the congregations taking part have made their full contributions to the year-end, two have made partial contributions, and two have still to make any contribution.
5. Note that all but two of the congregations within the bounds were represented at Presbytery's Stewardship Conference which took place on Wednesday 5 October 2011.
6. Thank Mrs. Edith Scott, Stewardship Consultant, for her input to the Stewardship Conference and the Congregation of St. John's Parish Church, Carluke, for the use of its halls and the provision of light refreshments.
7. Instruct all congregations within the bounds to take some action with regard to stewardship every year with a focus on the giving of money every third year.
8. Approve the Ministry and Mission Allocations for 2012.(Appendix 2)
9. Note that Presbytery's Ministries and Mission Variation Allowance for 2012 stands at £23,462 less £7,300 awarded to the Diaconate Project.
10. Remind those congregations who require dispensation from paying their Ministry and Mission Contributions by Standing Order that an application for such dispensation must be made to Presbytery annually.
11. Note with satisfaction that, at the start of the final quarter of this year, two congregations within the bounds have met their full Ministries and Missions Allocations for this year and that sixteen are fully compliant with the requirement to pay by Standing Order.
12. Note with concern that four congregations within the bounds are in shortfall with regard to their Ministries and Missions contributions for this year but only two of those congregations have been granted dispensation from paying by Standing Order.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

Mrs Alison Plenderleith, Guild Presbyterial Council gave intimation of Guild Week to take place from 20th - 27th November 2011.

The Moderator reminded members of Prisoner's Week from 20th - 27th November and the World Mission Rally on 23rd November with a speaker addressing the meeting on church twinning.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 6 November 2011 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

PRESBYTERY BUDGET 2012

Opening balance		<u>17325</u>	
Income:-			
Interest		350	
2012 Dues (7410 @ £1.25)		9263	
IT replacement levy (7410 x £1)		7410	
		-7410	Transferred to IT reserve
Diaconate Project		7300	
		-7300	(Proposed spending for 2012)
Total		9613	
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Clerk's salary & NI		5000	
Clerk's expenses		600	
Clerk's office		1200	
Printing & postage		150	
Insurance & copyright		300	
Honoraria		700	
Congregational Development		250	
Congregational Support		250	
Ministry Committee		250	
Resources Committee		250	
World & Community Issues		350	
Business Committee		400	
Presbytery Plan Review Group		150	
Pulpit Supply		950	
Travel		100	
Hall rent		750	
Grants & Bursaries		100	
Sundry		400	
Total		12150	
Reduction in general reserve		-2537	
Projected closing balance		14788	
Closing balance - general		14788	
	IT	IT	
		19801	(Reserve £12391 + £7410 from levy)
Surveys	Surveys	0	
	Diaconate Project	0	
Total Reserves		34589	

Ministries and Mission Allocations for 2012

Congregation	Scale 2012 Alloc restricted to 9% incr				Proposed 2012	2012 M&M Allocation	
	Increase(Decrease) on 2011 Alloc		Variance from Scale			M&M Fund Edinburgh	Diacon Proj Presbytery
BIGGAR	9.0%	4,563	287	0.5%	55,262	52,809	2,453
C. KIRKTON	4.1%	2,634	0	0.0%	67,445	67,445	
C. ST ANDREW'S	4.7%	1,490	0	0.0%	33,238	33,238	
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CARNWATH	3.5%	969	0	0.0%	28,554	28,554	
COALBURN	9.0%	808	1,289	11.6%	9,785	9,785	
CARSTAIRS V&J	9.0%	2,358	3,047	9.6%	28,563	28,563	
CROSSFORD	9.0%	1,679	983	4.6%	20,337	20,337	
CULTER	9.0%	513	828	11.8%	6,212	5,788	424
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KIRKMUIRHILL	(0.7%)	(513)	0	0.0%	71,697	71,697	
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CAIRNGRYFFE	2.2%	449	0	0.0%	21,233	20,174	1,059
					782,081	774,781	7,300

Lanark, on, Tuesday 6 December 2011 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 ministers; 1 deacon; 14 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael, S Cowell, R Cowieson, A Gibson, U Stewart, I Watson Ministers; Messrs A Brown, T Chalmers, C Gibson, B Love, P McLeish, D Whitefield and Mrs M Galbraith, A Reid, M Sommerville, M White, Elders and Mrs A Muir, Mrs A Plenderleith, Corresponding Members.

Approval of the Agenda

The Clerk intimated that due to inclement weather Mr Hugh Donald and Rev Joanne Findlay (Place for Hope) were unable to be present and moved that section 13 Place for Hope be deleted. This was agreed. The Clerk also intimated that it was hoped to arrange a meeting with Place for Hope in January 2012 and details would be circulated to all Presbyters.

The Agenda as amended was approved.

Intimations

Presbyters were reminded to uplift annual statistical returns forms from the Clerk.

Minutes of meeting on 1 November 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2011 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 letter from Rev Margaret Muir indicating her intention to retire on 9th April 2012. This has been remitted to the Vacancy Procedure Committee. Miss Muir also indicated her intention to step down as Convener of Congregational Support Committee as at December Presbytery.
Mr Jim Watt has agreed to be Acting Convener of Congregational Support Committee.
- Symington Kirk Session – the Clerk read a letter regarding the continuing vacancy there and recording the Session's 'disappointment that slow progress appeared to be made on reaching a resolution of the impasse brought about by events on 2 June this year'.
- E-mail communication received on 6 December from Safeguarding Service regarding the next Safeguarding Learning and Development Course to be held at Carronvale 28-29 January 2012 and indicating that a requirement of the course was a 15 minute presentation on any subject of your choice. The information received was passed to the Convener of the Congregational Development Committee
- A letter from 'Journeying' with information about their not for profit organisation which takes small groups of people on holiday 'in an informal Christian ambience' Further information available from the Clerk
- Letter from Douglas Walsh, Session Clerk, Lesmahagow: Old indicating that at a meeting of the joint Kirk Sessions of Coalburn and Lesmahagow:Old there had been unanimous agreement to appoint Mr Ian White as Locum

The Clerk informed Presbytery that Mr White is a Reader in Hamilton Presbytery and also currently serves as a part time Chaplain at Auchlochan. In order that Mr White commence at a date yet to be confirmed in the New Year, the Clerk moved the following deliverance.

Presbytery agree in principle to the appointment of Mr Ian White as locum at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old.

The deliverance was approved.

Good News Stories

Rev Margaret Muir spoke of the financial assistance received from a local Conservation Trust as well as the support of Convener of the Presbytery Resources Committee which enabled all boundary walls at Glencaple Church to be repaired

Rev Bryan Kerr spoke of a Gift Day in Greyfriars Church on the first Sunday in Advent with gifts of over £5000 recorded and also of a 'Breakfast with Santa' which will be held in the Clydesdale Inn, Lanark. All children will receive a photograph and a professionally printed colouring book of the Christmas Story; artwork being done by the Church Officer of Greyfriars - Keith Prentice. 670 booklets had also been sold to congregations at a cost of 75p each.

Rev D Easton, Interim Moderator at Biggar, spoke of the joy of ordaining five new elders and admitting one other on 4 December 2011.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Messrs. Jack Meikle and Denholm MacDougall (Cairngryffe) and Messrs. David Brown and David Hodgson (Libberton & Quothquan) have undertaken the necessary training to enable them to moderate the Kirk Session in which they serve and grant approval for them to do so in accordance with the terms of Act VI 2004.
3. Note that negotiations are ongoing between the Clerk and the Mission and Discipleship Council to hold a further elder training day in this area and inviting other Presbyteries to participate.
4. Note the possibility of a training day early in 2012 for Elders as Interim Moderators and invite any elders interested to submit their names to the Business Convener by 25 January 2012
5. Grant permission to the congregations of Carluke: St. John's and Carluke: St. Andrew's to hold United Services on 25 December 2011 and 8 January 2012 in St. John's Church.
6. Grant permission to Carluke Parish Grouping to hold a United Service on 1 January 2012 in St. Andrew's Church.
7. Grant permission to Carnwath Church and the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to worship together at 11am on 1 January 2012 in Carstairs Village Church.
8. Grant permission to Lanark: St. Nicholas and Lanark: Greyfriars to hold United Services on 25 December 2011 in Greyfriars Church and 1 January 2012 in St Nicholas Church.
9. Approve the recommendation that the Clerk emails a letter to the Minister and Session Clerk of each congregation in Presbytery updating them as outlined in the Report and containing an instruction that it be read out at morning worship on Sunday 11 December 2011.
10. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that, at the next meeting, Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
11. Appoint the Rev. Iain Cunningham (Convener), Rev. Robert Cleland, Rev David Easton, Rev. Ian Watson, Mrs Anne Cochrane, Mr David Hodgson and Mrs Anne Reid as members of the new Presbytery Planning Group.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

Overture Anent:

1. Discipline of Ministers, Licentiates, Graduate Candidates and Deacons (Act III 2001)
2. Bullying (Act IV 2007)
3. Discrimination (Act V 2007)
4. Discipline of Elders, Readers and Office Bearers (Act I 2010)

Having heard the report of the Congregational Support Convener, Rev Margaret Muir, Presbytery voted on each overture in turn. Each Overture recorded the same votes:-

Approval : 23 Disapproval: 0

The Convener presented the remainder of the report and moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report

2. Agree that there will be no Local Church Review Visits to congregations until the Presbytery Plan is completed and approved by the Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

3. Receive the Report
4. Grant the Parish Churches of Carnwath, Culter and Forth: St. Paul's Dispensation from paying their 2012 Ministries and Mission Allocation by Standing Order.
5. Approve the view of Biggar Parish Church that the net proceeds from the sale of their old manse should be applied to the Central Fabric Fund on behalf of the Congregation and instruct the Clerk to transmit this decision to the General Trustees.
6. Approve the decision of Lanark St. Nicholas' Parish Church to renovate and refurbish the Vestibule and Main Hall at an estimated cost of £74,305 inclusive of VAT and Professional and other fees to be met from funds held by the congregation, and instruct the Clerk to complete relevant Forms and submit them to the General Trustees.
7. Approve the decision of Biggar Parish Church to renovate and refurbish St. Mary's Hall at an estimated cost of £307,828 inclusive of VAT and Professional and other fees.
8. Approve Biggar Parish Church's applications to the Consolidated Fabric Fund and the Central Fabric Fund for the release of Capital and a Grant and Loan and instruct the Clerk to send the applications to the General Trustees.
9. Approve the following:

"In terms of the Regulations regarding Work at Ecclesiastical Buildings, the Presbytery Resolution Limit is set at £12,000 and such that, if drawn from Funds, the cost does not represent more than 20% of Congregational Reserves.

"Presbytery is authorized and empowered from time to time to make provision by way of resolution that the requirement for its work to buildings may be dispensed with in such circumstances and on such conditions as it may deem appropriate except where the following apply:

- *the cost **inclusive of VAT** exceeds the Resolution Limit;*
- *the cost plus the cost of work at the same building authorized by Presbytery during the **previous three years** exceeds the Resolution Limit;*
- *the cost plus the cost of other work likely to be required at the same building over **the following three years** is likely to exceed the Resolution Limit;*
- *the work is otherwise work which requires the Approval of the General Trustees."*

It was moved, seconded and agreed

Add a new Section 8

Instruct the Resources Committee to revisit the matter of the Resolution Limit, to revise the figure set and report to Presbytery as soon as possible.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by Mr Robert Carson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

2. Receive the Report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The report of the World and community Issues Committee was presented by Dr Sinclair Scott, Acting Convener, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.

2. Thank Hugh Meikle of Lanark St Nicholas Church, Karen Francis of World Mission Council and all involved in making the World Mission Rally an informative and pleasant evening.
3. Welcome “Souper Sunday 2012” as a day of worship, reflection and fundraising on the theme of the Church’s response to HIV, encouraging congregations to use the resources produced by the Church of Scotland HIV Programme to organise their own Souper Sunday events.
4. Agree to sign the “See Me” pledge as Lanark Presbytery in partnership with Hamilton Presbytery if appropriate.
5. Encourage World and Community Issues Committee to develop materials to help congregations explore and commit to the “See Me” Pledge.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 7 February 2012 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas’ Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 7 February 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Moderator: Due to the illness of Rev Sarah Ross Moderator, Rev Iain Cunningham was invited to take the chair.

Sederunt: Rev Iain Cunningham, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all XX Ministers; 1 Deacon; XX Elders; X Corresponding Members and X visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6 December 2011

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2011 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- an email from the Law Department giving a reminder of the necessity to state the Registered Charity Number on church websites, alongside other documents, from 1st May 2012;
- notification from ministries Council of the period of absence due to illness from Rev Alan Gibson who has now returned to work;
- a letter from Rev Margaret Muir intimating a change to her retirement date which will be 23rd April 2012;
- confirmation from the safeguarding office regarding supply organists who state that only certain organists will require to be checked according to their job descriptions. The safeguarding office asked Presbytery to inform people that if they secure the services of a church organist as a private tutor, the family employing their services should ask for a PVG statement to be provided by the organist.

Good News Stories

There were no specific stories reported.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree to the Interim Appeal Process for the transfer of Readers to Ordained Local Ministry as suggested by the Ministries Council (attached in appendix one).
3. Note that the Presbytery Clerk and the Convener of the Ministries Committee, Mr Andrew Brown have been trained in the process to interview prospective OLM candidates.
4. Note that the Commissioners to the 2012 General Assembly will be the Minister and an elder from the rota charges of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan; Forth: St. Paul's; Kirkmuirhill; Carluke: St. Andrew's; The Douglas Valley and Ms Ann Lyall DCS. Since Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan is currently vacant an elder from the charge will be commissioned together with a Minister appointed by the Business Committee.
5. Note that nominations from ministers to fill the spare place at the General Assembly 2012 should be submitted to the Business Convener by 22nd February 2012.
6. Approve the name of Ms Ann Lyall DCS to be transmitted to the Ministries Council to be trained as an Interim Moderator.

7. Invite Kirk Sessions to submit to the Depute Clerk by 31st March 2012 nominations of suitable elders to undertake training to moderate their own Kirk Sessions.
8. Nominate Rev. Sarah Ross as Presbytery representative on South Lanarkshire Council Education Committee.
9. Agree that the honorarium for the Presbytery Officer be set at £250 for 2012 and reviewed in 2015.
10. Note that future reports from the Place For Hope Team will be presented directly to Presbytery.
11. Note that the Presbytery Clerk is an ex-officio member of the new Presbytery Plan Group.
12. Grant permission to the congregation of Carluke: St. John's and St. Andrew's to have a united service on Sunday 19th February 2012 at 11am in St. Andrew's Church conducted by Rev Roy Cowieson.

The convener, Mrs Lumsden proposed an addendum to the deliverance, to add a new section 13, 'Note that Mr Ian Whyte, Reader, has been appointed as locum at Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow: Old from 8 January 2012'
The addendum was agreed.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Rev. Margaret Muir will retire from the charge of Glencaple I/w Lowther on 23rd April 2012.
3. Note that Rev. Bryan Kerr will serve as Interim Moderator for the charge of Glencaple I/w Lowther from 24th April 2012 for 6 months.
4. Note that Presbytery shall bid farewell to Rev. Margaret Muir on 6th March 2012.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of A Place for Hope

The Report of A Place for Hope (appendix 3) submitted by Mr Hugh Donald was introduced by the clerk who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree to invite A Place for Hope to hold a further meeting with Presbytery and instruct the clerk to make the necessary arrangements for an evening meeting.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented in the absence of the Convener, Miss Ann Lyall DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the annual Presbytery Golf outing will take place on Friday 14 September at Carluke Golf Club.
3. Note that a Sunday School Teachers Training Event will be held on Thursday 10 May 7pm until 9.30pm in St John's Church Halls Carluke and request Presbyters ensure this information is passed on to Sunday School Teachers
4. Invite nominations for Presbytery Youth Representatives for the General Assembly 2012; nominations to be sent to Miss Ann Lyall before 21st February 2012
5. Urge Presbyters and Kirk Sessions to give prayerful consideration to the appointment of an additional Presbytery Safeguarding Trainer
6. Thank Miss Ann Lyall DCS for her informative presentation on her work in the Biggar area Diaconate Project.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Annual Inspection of Congregational Records will take place on Wednesday 22 February 2012 and instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that records are submitted according to the requirements on the sheet issued by the Congregational Support Committee.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Vice-Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Request that Presbytery Elders pass information regarding congregation twinnings to Anne Reid by the March Presbytery meeting for forwarding to the World Mission Council.
3. Encourage Presbyters and congregations to pray for our brothers and sisters in Seoul East Presbytery, Nigeria, Israel and Palestine.
4. Remind congregations to participate in Souper Sunday as part of Lanark Presbytery's £9000 commitment to the HIV/Aids Programme of the Church of Scotland.
5. Instruct all Presbytery Elders to share the details of the "Mad or Bad?" event with Kirk Sessions and Congregations.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Mr. Ian Ivison has completed the attestation of and signed off the 2010 Congregational Accounts and thank him for his service to Presbytery (see appendix 2)
3. Note that Presbytery's Final Attestation Return to the Church's Stewardship and Finance Department has just been signed by the Clerk and the Resources Convener
4. Agree that *"In terms of the Regulations regarding Work at Ecclesiastical Buildings, the Presbytery Resolution Limit is set at £25,000 and such that, if drawn from Funds, the cost does not represent more than 20% of Congregational Reserves and that "Presbytery is authorized and empowered from time to time to make provision by way of resolution that the requirement for its work to buildings may be dispensed with in such circumstances and on such conditions as it may deem appropriate except where the following apply:*
 - *the cost **inclusive of VAT** exceeds the Resolution Limit;*
 - *the cost plus the cost of work at the same building authorized by Presbytery during the **previous three years** exceeds the Resolution Limit;*
 - *the cost plus the cost of other work likely to be required at the same building over **the following three years** is likely to exceed the Resolution Limit;*
 - *the work is otherwise work which requires the Approval of the General Trustees."*
5. Approve the application of Biggar Parish Church to let out its manse under a Short Assured Tenancy Agreement, and instruct the Clerk to notify Biggar Parish Church Financial Board and the General Trustees of this approval
6. Note that the Congregations of Blackmount lw Culter lw Libberton and Quothquan have asked the General Trustees for a Short Term Caretaker Lease to be drawn up in favour of Miss Ann Lyall, D.C.S. approve let of the vacant Manse on a Caretaker basis
7. Note that the Resources Committee will attest all Property Registers in the Halls of St. Nicholas' Parish Church on Wednesday 22nd. February, 2012, from 12noon to 4pm

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Andrew Brown, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the study leave application of Rev Sarah Ross; 19-25 March 2012 and 28 May to 10 June 2012
3. Note that Ministers Log Books have been inspected and found to be in order.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 3, that it be changed to read, 'Note that a number of Ministers Log Books have been inspected and found to be in order and instruct those who have not already done so to present their Log Book to the Ministries Committee prior to the March meeting of Presbytery.'

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

Mr Bill Love intimated that the congregation of St. Nicholas are looking to employ a new church secretary and details are available from him.

The clerk thanked members of presbytery for their diligence in returning annual statistics forms which allowed her to submit the same to the church offices on time.

The clerk intimated 'The shape of things to come' conference and leaflets are available from her.

Rev Ian Watson intimated that 30 members of Kirkmuirhill will once again become chilli runners and walkers to support the work of Chilli Children and invited members of sponsor them to enable them to purchase a new ambulance.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 6 March 2012 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1

Presbytery Interviews for Readers seeking transfer to Ordained Local Ministry

The General Assembly in May 2011 passed an Act (Act IX 2011) which set out a process in for Readers seeking to transfer to Ordained Local Ministry. In planning the process, it was felt that it was important for Presbyteries to be able to indicate their opinion, from experience of the Readers working within their bounds, as to whether or not they would be willing to support the application of an individual Reader. The Act implies that the Presbytery would be making a *decision* about whether or not a person should be allowed to transfer to OLM and this is reinforced by the appeals process outlined for those whose application may be considered unsuitable by the Presbytery. In line with all other Church appeal processes, if the Presbytery has made a *decision*, the proper course of appeal is to a Commission of Assembly. While this is technically correct, it raises the spectre of an applicant having the potential of making *three* separate appeals in relation to one process. This could work out as follows:

1. The Presbytery interviews the applicant and decides *not* to support the application for transfer. The applicant appeals to the Commission of Assembly and the appeal is upheld.
2. As a consequence of (1), the applicant is now able to attend an Assessment Centre run by the Ministries Council. The individual is assessed there and the Council decides that the applicant is not someone who should be accepted for transfer. The applicant appeals to the Ministries Appeal Panel (the appropriate body for decisions made under the processes delegated by the General Assembly to the Ministries Council) and the appeal is upheld.
3. As a consequence of (2), the applicant is now commended by the Council to the Presbytery for nomination as a candidate in training for the Ordained Local Ministry. The Presbytery considers the matter and does not agree to nominate the individual as a candidate. The applicant appeals to the Commission of Assembly (against a separate decision of Presbytery) and the appeal is finally either upheld or dismissed.

There are two facets to this which are of concern. The first and most obvious one is that an applicant can have, as it were, three bites at the same cherry! This is neither good for the applicant nor for the Presbytery and will undoubtedly lead to poor decision making in the long term. The second is that it would be extremely costly both in terms of money (bringing together all the members of the Commission of Assembly on two occasions to hear the same person appeal the same issue from two different angles) and in terms of time for those involved in the Commissions. It is also likely that quite a number of Readers will not be commended by their Presbyteries and will want to appeal, so there could be numerous sittings of the Commission throughout the year in order to cope with the cases brought forward.

We believe there is a fairly simple way to deal with this, but it would require the approval and cooperation of ***all applicants and Presbyteries***. It is for this reason that we are writing to you now, in the hope that you will be able to commend this to Presbytery and agree to an interim way forward. The Ministries Council's Education & Support Committee considered a paper drawn up by the Council Secretary last week, outlining a potential process for dealing with this and I attach the paper for your consideration. This shows that the process could work out as follows:

- a. Presbyteries agree that their interviews with Readers applying for transfer will lead to a *recommendation* to the Council, rather than a *decision* of Presbytery
- b. All applicants would then come to an Assessment Centre and be assessed on the normal basis, taking account of all evidence including the recommendation of Presbytery
- c. If an applicant is considered unsuitable through the Assessment Centre, any appeal would be to the Ministries Appeal Panel.
- d. If either the Assessment Centre, or following appeal the Ministries Appeal Panel, deems the applicant suitable for nomination as a candidate in training, this decision would be transmitted to Presbytery for further consideration.
- e. In the event of (d) occurring, a meeting would take place between representatives of the Ministries Council and the Presbytery to discuss the options. Ultimately, if the Presbytery continues to deem the applicant unsuitable for *nomination* as a candidate, the applicant would have the right of a final appeal to the Commission of Assembly.

We would be grateful if you could consider this matter at your earliest convenience and indicate to the Principal Clerk if you are willing to follow this course of action. We believe that by doing so, a more workable, cost effective and ultimately fairer process can be followed which continues to respect the right of Presbytery to make a *decision* about the acceptability of a Reader's application for transfer.

With thanks for your consideration.

Rev John P. Chalmers Principal Clerk

Rev Dr Martin Scott Council Secretary, Ministries

Appendix 2

Presbytery of Lanark

Report on the attestation of Congregational Accounts for 2010

1. Presbytery's responsibilities

Presbytery is responsible for inspecting the accounts of each congregation and reporting to the Church's Stewardship & Finance Department (SFD) on compliance with the General Assembly's Regulations for Congregational Finance and the requirements of the Charities Accounts regulations of 2005 and 2006. The inspection carried out by Presbytery is concerned only with the format and content of the accounts, not the underlying records.

2. Timescales

31st March – Accounts of each congregation completed, independently examined and filed with Presbytery and SFD

30th June – Presbytery's initial report on attestation process to SFD

30th September – Presbytery's final report to SFD and individual accounts to OSCR, together with OSCR return.

3. Results of attestation process

Of the 24 sets of accounts in Presbytery, 11 are fully accrued SORP type, examined by a qualified accountant, and the remaining 13 are Receipts & Payments type, examined by an individual considered suitably able.

By 30th June, one set of accounts was still outstanding. Of the remainder, eleven were satisfactory, although the majority of discrepancies in the unsatisfactory accounts were of a minor nature.

The outstanding set of accounts was received in early October, and by the end of October all the discrepancies in the remaining accounts had been rectified.

The most disappointing feature of the attestation procedure is that the same problems arise each year. The most common errors are :-

1. The type of constitution is not specified – unitary or model.
2. Trustee remuneration and expenses notes are incomplete or inaccurate.
3. Reserves policies are incomplete or inaccurate
4. The examiners report is dated before the date of trustee's approval.

The overwhelming majority of discrepancies would be avoided if as part of their reporting, the accounts examiners completed the checklist available on the Church of Scotland website. If this was done, it might then be possible for the Presbytery attestation to concentrate on helping to improve the format and content of some of the smaller congregations' Accounts.

As of 31st January 2012, all of the Accounts had been accepted by OSCR.

Appendix 3



PLACE FOR HOPE

To: All Members of Lanark Presbytery

It has been a privilege for us to be invited to work with you and to have met a good number at the meetings on Tuesday 8 November and Tuesday 17 January.

The invitation arose in the context of the Presbytery meeting on 2 June 2011, hearing from you a sense of brokenness, individually and collectively. We identified:

- a need to understand why the meeting appears to have been so unhealthy;
- a need to recognise the hurts and look to healing those hurts;
- a need to recognise our differences within Presbytery;
- a need for Presbytery to function effectively going forward.

The role of *Place for Hope* is to enable all members of Presbytery to engage in a process where those needs are addressed. We seek to offer a safe space where all voices can be heard and where open, honest and healthy conversations take place. We provide the means and the skills to enable us to listen to one another, seeking understanding, in a spirit of love.

At the first meeting, our team comprising Joanne Finlay, David Adams and myself, gave some background to *Place for Hope* and explored some of the reasons the Church faces conflict. Recognising that conflict has been a part of Church since the early Christian Church, the challenge is to demonstrate an ability to understand our differences, learning the skills we need to engage in healthy dialogue with one another. Through a listening circle that evening, we heard about the hopes those attending had for the process going forward.

At the recent meeting, we offered a reprise of what we had heard from the listening circle. Those attending then addressed three questions:

1. What challenges do we face as a Presbytery?
2. What are the specific issues we face as a result of the meeting on 2 June 2011?
3. What are our expectations about the Presbytery planning process?

As those attending looked at the overall responses, it was agreed unanimously that a priority was to identify the means of addressing the impact and hurt arising from the June meeting. Whether or not this could or should have been done sooner, our sense was that the time was now right and that it would be necessary before addressing other challenges.

Next Steps

- To continue to build up the picture; we welcome hearing from all Presbytery members your thoughts in answer to the three questions raised at the meeting on 17 January. For those who were there on the evening, you may have further reflections to share. We would particularly welcome hearing from those unable to attend as there is an obvious value in all members of the Presbytery taking part in some way in this process.

Your responses should be sent to hughrdonald@aol.com ; written responses should be sent to Hugh Donald, marked “confidential”, at 14 Corstorphine House Avenue, Edinburgh EH12 7AD, and will be “anonymised” in collecting the overall responses to the three questions.

- Recognising that we have been meeting with a collective group, we welcome the opportunity of listening to anyone individually in the context of understanding what you may find helpful from the process, what you may need to say or do, what you may need to hear and from whom. You may contact any of us – our contact email addresses are below. What is shared by any individual will be held by our team in confidence.
- On a date and venue to be arranged, to offer to the Presbytery the opportunity for sharing with others the impact and hurt that you may have or are continuing to carry and a means of addressing those hurts individually and collectively. It is recognised that this will be a challenging exercise for everyone who participates, though a critically important opportunity. In part, this is why we are offering the one-to-one discussions in advance, to equip you for this day. If you do not envisage that you will have anything you need to contribute, it would still be very important to attend, to listen and support one another. I should add that, because of the importance of this meeting, in our experience it should take place during the first half of the day, rather than an evening when we can be more tired. Despite busy schedules, I hope you will be able to accommodate these arrangements. Currently, we are offering Friday 24th and Saturday 25th February as possible dates.
- Beyond this, we anticipate a further meeting to explore the ability of the Presbytery to function effectively, specifically supporting and enabling the ongoing Presbytery planning process. We would aim for that meeting towards the end of March.

We recognise each of you will have differing perceptions and needs. We would commend to you those next steps as a way of meeting our individual needs and, importantly, the needs of the gathered Presbytery. For that reason we hope that all members of the Presbytery will recognise the importance of taking part.

As Peter found, stepping out the boat was not easy. He needed to take that risk, that step of faith, and fix his eyes upon Jesus. We hope that we may all share that same trust as we step out in the next part of this journey.

Hugh Donald
David Adams
Joanne Finlay

hughrdonald@aol.com
david@adamsassociates.co.uk
joanne.finlay196@btinternet.com

Lanark, on, Tuesday 6 March 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 27 Elders; 3 Corresponding Members and 8 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael Minister; Messrs L Allan, C Gibson, S Scott, H Stewart and Mrs A Reid and Mrs M Sommerville, Elders and Rev R McLarty, Corresponding Member.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 7 February 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 February 2012 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 letter received from a firm of accountants regarding a bequest fund for ministers and dependants in outlying areas in the Church of Scotland. Application forms and details are available from the clerk.
- An email from the Principal Clerk regarding amendments to the arrangements for the working of the General Assembly including a new personal voting system and alongside that, a record of attendance will be able to be taken more easily using the individual voting keypads. It is expected that commissioners should attend every session of the Assembly and if commissioners do not attend for a minimum of ten sessions out of thirteen expenses will not be paid.
- An email received from the Principal Clerk regarding the Heart and Soul event on the Sunday of General Assembly week in Princes Street Gardens. Members were encouraged to visit the event and the event website.
- An email from the IT department offering surplus printers and copying machines to congregations and presbyteries. Further details are available from the Clerk.
- Intimation from Hugh Donald, A Place for Hope, that there is a possibility of meeting on 26 or 27 March. It was agreed to remit the setting of the date to the Presbytery Clerk to find a suitable date which avoids conflict with any other Presbytery meeting.

Presbytery Clerks Forum Conference

The Clerk reported on the recent conference for Presbytery Clerks and shared the following with the Presbytery:

- Information about Heart and Soul
- Information regarding the IT department and their support for the Presbytery Clerk and the new computerised information system.
- Information from Legal Questions Committee who are looking to reduce the size of the Judicial Commission and Commission of Assembly. Each time a Commission of Assembly is called there is a cost to the church of £10,000. The committee is interested to hear comments and ideas from anyone about how these reductions in size may be achieved. The Committee is also looking at the process of appointing the Moderator and streamlining the various appeals processes that currently exist.
- The Clerk expressed her gratitude at the support of the Presbytery in her attendance at the Forum.

Good News Stories

Rev Ian Watson from Kirkmuirhill expressed his thanks to members of Presbytery for their support by sponsoring his walking for the Chilli Children Project. The initial sum of £2,300 has already been sent to the charity towards the purchase of a new ambulance.

Retirement of Rev Margaret Muir

The Moderator invited Mr Muir Jackson from Glencleugh and Mrs Moira White from Lowther to pay tribute to Miss Muir's ministry. The representatives spoke of the life that Miss Muir brought to the congregations and parish, as well as her gentle wisdom and her sense of fun. Miss Muir taught her congregations how to love God and the fact that spirituality is not confined to a Sunday. Miss Muir gave of herself to the congregations and parishes and has shown them how to express themselves without being 'shushed', as well as developing a culture of discussion within the church and committees. The congregations feel wiser, more certain in their faith and richer for the presence of Miss Muir amongst them. The Moderator invited Rev Helen Jamieson to speak on behalf of Presbytery. Mrs Jamieson spoke of the depth of character Miss Muir brought to the Presbytery, her humour and straightforward talking when dealing with matters and her active participation and support within the Presbytery serving on the Ministries Committee and in particular with the work of the Congregational Support Committee where she served as Vice Convener and Convener. Miss Muir was invited to address the Presbytery and spoke of the joys and challenges within the ministry and the need to do the basic tasks well alongside her desire to bring people into a deeper relationship with Christ. Miss Muir spoke of her hopes for her retirement and thanked Presbytery for support throughout her ministry. The Moderator thanked Miss Muir for her years of ministry in Glencleugh linked with Lowther and within the wider area of Lanark Presbytery and led the Presbytery in prayer.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Grant permission to Rev Margaret Muir to demit the charge of Glencleugh l/w Lowther on 23 April 2012 on the grounds of retirement.
3. Note that the Advisory Group for Glencleugh l/w Lowther will be Rev. Sarah Ross, Mr Lambert Allan, and Mrs Anna Lumsden (convener)

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the recommendation that Rev. Bryan Kerr be commissioned to attend the General Assembly 2012.
3. Note that Miss Ann Lyall DCS is unable to take up her commission to the General Assembly 2012.
4. Note that Rev Helen Jamieson (Carluke St. Andrew's) And Mr Ian Conn (Forth St. Paul's) will serve on the Commission of the General Assembly 2012/13.
5. Approve the recommendation that the members of the Liaison Group with Place for Hope will be the Clerk, Business Convener and Rev Robert Cleland (Convener)
6. Note that a meeting of the Presbytery Conveners and members of the Business Committee will be held on 12 March 2012 at 11am in the hall of Carluke: St. Andrew's Parish Church.
7. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that, at the next meeting, Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
8. Appoint a Special Committee comprising the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Resources Convener and Congregational Support Convener to deal with any concerns which arise regarding the issue of same sex relationships and the ministry.
9. Grant to the Special Committee powers of Presbytery in respect of
 - Instructing ministers, elders and other office-bearers to meet with the Special Committee, with its representatives, or with representatives of other Standing Committees.
 - Referring matters to Standing Committees for consideration and comment.
 - Calling and arranging Congregational Meetings in accordance with Act XVIII (1932).

10. Instruct the Special Committee to report to the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery if and when it has acted with powers.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Remind Kirk Sessions to return information regarding their links with overseas congregations to Anne Reid as soon as possible.

Rev Iain Cunningham delivered a supplementary report and proposed an addendum to the deliverance, to add a new section 3 and 4:

3. Invite the Moderator, the Presbytery Clerk and Dr Sinclair Scott to participate in the signing ceremony of the "See Me" pledge on Tuesday 24th April 2012.
4. Encourage Kirk Sessions to engage with the mental health action packs from World and Community Issues Committee.

The addendum was agreed.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that Congregational Records were inspected on 22 February 2012 and with some exceptions have been found to be in order
3. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that the points regarding the keeping of records which the Congregational Support Committee have indicated need attention are acted upon.
4. Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that congregational registers of those authorized to work with children, young people and vulnerable groups is accurately maintained, with appointments and removals noted in the Kirk Session minutes and all dates properly completed.
5. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to examine any Contracts of Employment to which they may be party and ensure that they comply with current employment legislation.
6. Thank the Depute Clerk, the members of the Congregational Support Committee and the Presbytery Officer for carrying out and assisting in the inspection
7. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute of the relevant sections of deliverance to all Session Clerks.

The Convener, Mr Watt proposed an addendum to the deliverance, to add a new section 8:

8. Note that the Presbytery minutes for 2011 have been inspected and found to be in order and instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to relevant parties.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report of the Presbytery Treasurer and approve Presbytery's Accounts for 2011
2. Instruct the Clerk to:
 - a. Forward a signed copy of Presbytery's 2011 Accounts to the Stewardship and Finance Department;
 - b. Write to Mr Tom Anderson, Independent Examiner, and his assistant, Mr David Clarkson, of I. A. Stewart & Co., Chartered Accountants, expressing appreciation of their services to the Presbytery

- c. Record the gratitude of Presbytery to Mrs Mary McGillivray for her work in keeping and preparing the Accounts and for accepting the additional duties with regard to Presbytery's Diaconate Project
 - d. Record gratitude of Presbytery to the Rev. Bryan Kerr for his work in the preparation of the Accounts
3. Receive the Report of the Resources Committee
 4. Approve the plans of the congregation of Law Parish Church to refurbish the Sanctuary at the cost of £17,000 noting that funds are to hand and that the Committee on Art and Architecture has been consulted and given its approval
 5. Approve the application to the Consolidated Fabric Fund of Law Parish Church for the release of £8,000 to meet part of the cost of the refurbishment of the Sanctuary
 6. Note that the revision of the Congregational Property Register has been completed by the General Trustees and may be downloaded in full from their Website and that the Register comes into effect immediately
 7. Note that the Resources Committee have attested all but two of Property Registers of all Congregations within the bounds and will report upon the Attestation at the May meeting of Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

WHY BELIEVE - What Can I say? (12 May Edinburgh) and How Can I Say It? (27 Oct Glasgow) – two day events to help people 'give a reason' for the faith. Further information from the Clerk.

Mission Shaped Ministry Course in Aberdeen and Edinburgh commencing in May 2012 – details from the Clerk. The Depute Clerk urged Ministers and Session Clerks to return Presbytery Elder commission forms at their earliest convenience and by the 31st March 2012.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 1 May 2012 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas' Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 1 May 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the Sanctuary of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

In the absence of Rev Sarah Ross, Rev Iain Cunningham took the chair as Moderator.

Sederunt: Rev Iain Cunningham, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 25 Elders and 3 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael, R Cowieson, S Ross and U Stewart Ministers; Messrs R Boag, W Coulter, J Johnstone, C Morton, S Scott and Mrs A Cochrane, A Reid and M White Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6 March 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2012 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- an email from the Solicitor of the Church regarding the removal of the zero-rating of VAT for listed church buildings. Further information for congregations who will be affected is available from the Clerk;
- Church of Scotland Year Book 2012-2013 update sheets for Ministers to check their details;
- intimation from the Ministries Council informing Presbytery that Rev Una Stewart is on sick leave from 16th April - 14th May.

The Clerk also shared pastoral concern regarding the number of vacancies and the workload on ministers of the Presbytery. She drew attention to Presbytery Standing Order Number 4 and also highlighted the need for people to be supportive and understanding of Ministers, particularly when the General Assembly is in Session and numbers in the Presbytery are seriously depleted.

Good News Stories

Rev Ian Watson from Kirkmuirhill informed Presbytery of the work of Chilli Children, including the news that £13,000 has been raised to purchase the new ambulance.

Mr Andrew Brown from Kirkmuirhill informed the Presbytery that the appeal against their Mission and Renewal Allocation has been upheld and their allocation has been reviewed and reduced by £8,500.

Report of Guild Presbyterial Council

Mrs Allison Plenderleith, Convener reported on the work of the Presbyterial Council over the previous year. Mrs Plenderleith spoke of the Guild three year theme and her reflections on the Annual Meeting. Mrs Plenderleith highlighted the projects supported in the last three years and the new projects the Guild will be invited to support for the next three. The strategy for the next three years will be the motto "Whose we are and whom we serve", as the Guild prepare for their 125th anniversary celebrations. The Moderator thanked Mrs Plenderleith for her report.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report

2. Homologate the decision taken under delegated powers to allow the congregations of Carluke : St. Andrew's and Carluke : St. John's to hold a United Service on Sunday, 15 April 2012 in St. John's Church.
3. Note that the Commissioners from Lanark Presbytery to 2012 General Assembly are :
Revs. Sarah Ross : Robert Cleland : Helen Jamieson : Ian Watson : Bryan Kerr.
Messrs. Ian Conn : James Fleming : James Johnstone : Robert Boag : Donald Barrie.
4. Note that, at the meeting of Committee Conveners with Business Committee, held on 12 March 2012, it was agreed that a similar meeting should be held annually.
5. Note that, following receipt of all Presbytery Elder Commission Forms, the list of Presbytery Committees for 2012/13 will be issued at the June meeting.
6. Thanks Rev Bryan Kerr for designing and organising Lanark Presbytery Flag to be carried at the General Assembly Heart and Soul event.
7. Note the dates of Presbytery Meetings and Presbytery Committees as outlined in the report.
(Appendix 1)

The convener moved a new section 8 to the deliverance:

8. Approve the name of Mr Alan Grant be transmitted to the Ministries Council as a candidate for Interim Moderator Training.

It was moved, seconded and approved to add a new section 9 to the deliverance: "Assure Rev Iain Cunningham of the prayers of members of Presbytery and congregations during his role as Chaplain to Rev. Albert Bogle, Moderator of the General Assembly of 2012."

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the charge of Glencaple I/w Lowther became vacant on 23rd April 2012 and Rev. Bryan Kerr became Interim Moderator of the charge on 24th April 2012.
3. Note that a joint meeting of the Presbytery Plan Group and the Vacancy Procedure Committee will be held on Thursday, 3rd May 2012.

The convener moved a new section 4 and 5 of the deliverance.

4. Note that Rev. Una Stewart resigned as Interim Moderator of the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan on 17th April 2012.
5. Homologate the appointment of Rev. Bryan Kerr as Interim Moderator pro tempore of the charge of Black Mount I/w Culter I/w Libberton and Quothquan from 17th April until the Presbytery Meeting of 1st May 2012.

The clerk spoke to a matter regarding Biggar and Black Mount, Culter and Libberton & Quothqan. The Clerk then moved a new section 6.

6. Remit to the Vacancy Procedure Committee to make appropriate arrangements to appoint an Interim Moderator for the charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton & Quothquan.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

The Moderator vacated the chair to present the report of the Presbytery Planning Group and Mr Andrew Brown assumed the chair as Moderator.

Report of the Presbytery Planning Group

The Report of the Presbytery Planning Group was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham.

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report

Mr Andrew Brown, Moderator, vacated the chair and Rev Iain Cunningham assumed the chair again.

Report of the Place for Hope Liaison Group

The Report of the Place for Hope Liaison Group was presented by the Convener, Rev Robert Cleland, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report

It was moved and seconded to add a new section 2 to the deliverance "Thank the members of Place for Hope for their input to the Presbytery over the past months and depart from the process with immediate effect."

Following discussion and a vote for or against section 2, the new section 2 was not carried.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

In the absence of the Convener and Vice-Convener, The Report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Clerk who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to engage with the Mental Health packs.
3. Encourage all congregations to train at least one person using the Scotland Mental Health First Aid course.
4. Grant permission for the World Mission Rally to take place on Wednesday 21 November 2012.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the Deadline for lodging the 2011 Congregational Accounts with Presbytery was the 31 March, but that Presbytery is still awaiting delivery of some Accounts
3. Instruct those Congregations who have still to submit their 2011 Congregational Accounts to Presbytery to do so immediately
4. Appoint Harry Findlay, Mary McGillivray, Alex McPhee, Cameron Morton, and Steven Reid to serve on the Committee to attest the 2011 Accounts of Congregations within the bounds
5. Appoint Steven Reid and Harry Findlay as Joint Conveners of the Attestation Committee
6. Noting that Presbytery has no one suitably qualified to carry out the Attestation of Fully Accrued (SORP) Accounts, instruct the Resources Committee to appoint a firm of Chartered Accountants to assist the Attestation Committee in this aspect of its work
7. Agree that £500 of Presbytery's Ministries and Mission Variance Allowance be allocated to Greyfriars' Church, Lanark, to help meet the cost of running its Summer Holiday Club for Children
8. Thank the three members of the Resources Committee who attested the Property Registers of the Congregations within the bounds on 22 February
9. Thank all those who work hard, not only to maintain the ecclesiastical properties within the bounds, but to keep their Congregation's Property Register in good order
10. Noting that six Registers were not presented for Attestation while four that were presented, were not signed off as satisfactory and instruct those congregations concerned to consult with the Resources Convener with a view to resolving the problems
11. Note that the newly revised form of the Property Register can be down-loaded from the website of the Church of Scotland under the General Trustees section, that the new Register is to be used from this year onwards, and that the Resources Committee is considering how it may assist Property Conveners in the task of maintaining the registers.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Alan Gibson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Appoint Ailsa Fyfe from Biggar Kirk to be Lanark Presbytery's Youth Delegate at this year's General Assembly.
3. Appoint Cara O'Connor from Forth St Paul's as one of Presbytery's delegates at this year's National Youth Assembly.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Andrew Brown, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Mr Ross Blackman has been accepted to proceed to Assessment Conference.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the Report.
10. Note the appointment of Mrs Irene Williams as Minute Secretary to the Congregational Support Committee.
11. Approve the document 'Congregational Records – Guidance Notes for Session Clerks etc'. (Appendix 2)
12. Instruct the Clerk to send copies of this document to all Session Clerks with instructions that it be circulated to other relevant office bearers within their congregation.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk referred to the 'Why Believe' conferences in May and October and invited members to collect leaflets should they so wish.

Further intimations regarding See Me Campaign, A book launch by Very Rev Dr Findlay Macdonald and a new book from Handsel Press were on the Presbytery Papers.

Rev John Turnbull invited members to collect information about Clydesdale Youth Trust AGM.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 19 June 2012 at 7.00 pm at Forth: St Paul's Church for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion followed by Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1

Dates of Presbytery Meetings and Presbytery Committees 2012/13

Presbytery Meetings ;

4 September 2012 2 October 2012 6 November 2012 4 December 2012
5 February 2013 5 March 2013 April no meeting (Easter 31 March)
7 May 2013 18 June 2013 3 September 2013

Presbytery Committees :

21 August 2012 18 September 2012 16 October 2012 20 November 2012
22 January 2013 19 February 2013 19 March 2013 16 April 2013
4 June 2013 20 August 2013

Committee Conveners' Meeting 11 March 2013

Presbytery World Mission Evening 21 November 2013

Appendix 2

CONGREGATIONAL RECORDS

Guidance notes for Session Clerks, etc.

The following notes are provided in order to assist Session Clerks, Clerks to Congregational Boards, Safeguarding Co-ordinators, Roll Keepers and others who keep Congregational Records to ensure that these records are kept in the proper manner and are properly presented for attestation by Presbytery.

The following applies to all records:

1. All books should be in good physical condition
2. Pages should not be stuck into books
3. Loose leaf records are acceptable when pages are consecutively numbered and are kept securely together until being permanently bound
4. Any large blank spaces at the end of typed minutes should be scored through
5. All entries should be legible and written in permanent ink

KIRK SESSION MINUTES

The form of Kirk Session Minutes

The following are extracts from the booklet 'The Office of Session Clerk' available on line at http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0010/3133/session_clerk.pdf :-

'.....Until comparatively recently the Minutes of Kirk Session meetings were recorded by the Session Clerk in long hand in a bound volume. Increasingly Minutes are now recorded in loose-leaf form.' (Page 6)

'The General Assembly has approved the keeping of Minutes in loose-leaf form provided certain precautions are taken. One copy should be printed on heavier paper for eventual binding. Each page should be numbered consecutively. Each page should begin with the last word of the preceding page. When the Minutes are submitted for approval, each page should be initialled by the Moderator, and the Minute as a whole should be signed by both the Moderator and the Clerk. From time to time the signed pages are to be bound together into a conveniently-sized volume.' (Page 6)

The minute of each meeting should contain all of the following:

- a) The place and date of all meetings should be shown
- b) Meetings should be opened and closed with prayer
- c) A sederunt should be included
- d) There should be marginal references or headings
- e) There should be no blank spaces between entries (or these should be ruled off)
- f) Blank spaces at the end of typed minutes should be ruled off.
- g) All minutes signed by the Moderator/Chairman and the Clerk and dated with the date of signing.
- h) Alterations should be signed and dated by the Moderator/Chairman and the Clerk.
- i) No papers should be pasted or clipped into the minute.
- j) If loose-leaf, there should be evidence that the minutes are bound from time to time.
- k) The Clerk should ensure that, prior to the annual inspection by Presbytery, sufficient space is left after the last signed Minute in the Kirk Session Minute Book to allow for the Presbytery's attestation to be inserted.

The following items of business must be dealt with each year and recorded in Kirk Session Minutes:

1. The attestation of the Communion Roll
2. The election of a Presbytery elder
3. The appointment of a Safeguarding Co-Ordinator
4. The appointment of a Safeguarding Panel

In addition, any changes in those persons recorded in the Safeguarding Register must be approved by Session and those approved changes recorded in the minutes. It is therefore recommended that Safeguarding be a standing item on the agenda of all ordinary Kirk Session meetings .

Also, if Unitary/Quoad Omnia Constitution:

5. The approval of annual accounts and budget
6. A minute of the Stated Annual Meeting of the congregation (which must be held between 1 January and 31 March)

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD MINUTES (where applicable)

The form of Congregational Board Minutes

The comments with regard to the form of Kirk Session Minutes also apply to Congregational Board Minutes as do items a) – j) and 5. & 6. above.

SAFEGUARDING REGISTER

The Safeguarding Register, the list of those who have completed Safeguarding/Disclosure checks, must be on the form provided by The Church of Scotland, available at:

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/word_doc/0009/3240/congregational_register.doc
or in pdf form at:

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/3241/congregational_register.pdf .

Guidance on this can be found at:

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/8925/congregational_register_guidance.pdf .

As outlined above, all changes to the Register must be approved by the Kirk Session.

From 2013 Kirk Sessions will be required to present two hard copies of the Register for the immediate past year, along with the Presbytery endorsed Register from the year preceding, to Presbytery during the Annual Attestation of Records.

COMMUNION ROLL AND SUPPLEMENTARY ROLL

The General Assembly of 1995 agreed that "*only one roll [need] be kept, but in such a way that names can be coded or annotated so as to identify members, adherents, children attending communion, children not attending communion, persons on the supplementary roll, and any other categories a Kirk Session may choose.*" (Office of The Session Clerk Page 9)

Communion roll should have a list of names of those removed during the year, along with the date, reason and means of removal.

Computerised Rolls

"The printout shall contain the names and addresses, with date and manner of admission, of all members as at 31st December of the year under inspection. It shall also contain an appendix recording the names and addresses of people who have been removed from the Roll during the year, along with the date, reason and means of removal. The form and style of the printout shall be approved by the Superintendence Committee, or other committee appointed by the Presbytery for this purpose, before it first comes into use, and the committee shall report such approval to the Presbytery." (2000 Act 06)

"After attestation by the Presbytery, annual printouts shall be kept as historical records, and shall be preserved in a substantial loose-leaf binder, or permanently bound at intervals not exceeding ten years." (2000 Act 06)

The Roll should be printed out in alphabetical order of surname and not geographically or in elder's districts.

PROPERTY AND FINANCIAL RECORDS

Guidance for Property Convenors and Treasurers is available from the Presbytery Resources Committee

ANNUAL ATTESTATION OF RECORDS

The Annual Attestation of Records will normally take place towards the end of February. It is the responsibility of the Session Clerk to collect together the records and arrange for them to be delivered to Presbytery for attestation.

Records should be delivered on the February Committee Night in St Nicholas Church Hall for inspection by Presbytery.

Please **put your records together in a box** clearly labelled with the name of the congregation and whether it has a Model Constitution (with a Congregational Board), Unitary Constitution or is Quoad Omnia (Kirk Session only) and **ensure records are uplifted at the following Presbytery meeting in March**.

We extend our grateful thanks to all who maintain our official records and offer the undernoted checklist to assist Kirk Sessions who are responsible for ensuring that all the rolls and records of their congregation are correct and properly kept.

Please submit for inspection

- Congregational Roll and Supplementary Roll
- Kirk Session Minute Book/s
- a form listing the names of all approved children's workers within the congregation (ie those who have completed Safeguarding/Disclosure checks)
- Congregational Board Minute Book/s
- Baptismal Register
- Property Information as required by the Resources Committee
- Accounts – if they are ready for presentation please bring one set – if not please forward a copy to the Resources Convener for transmission to the Accounts Inspection Committee **no later than 31st March**.

The following appointments must be marked with a slip of paper as this will greatly assist the Committee and save us reading through lots of pages. Note that minute books which are not so marked will be returned, unattested, for resubmission once so marked :-

In Kirk Session minutes

- A minute recording the annual attestation of the Communion Roll
- A minute recording the annual appointment of a Safeguarding Co-Ordinator
- A minute recording the annual appointment of the Safeguarding Panel
- Minutes recording changes in the Safeguarding Register
- A minute recording the election of a Presbytery elder

In Congregational Board minutes (or, if Unitary/ quoad omnia, Kirk Session minutes)

- A minute recording the approval of the annual accounts and budget
- A minute of the Stated Annual Meeting (which must be held between 1 January and 31 March)

Forth, on, Tuesday 19 June 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Forth: St. Paul's Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers; 19 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 31 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs S Cowell, R Cowieson, D Easton, A Meikle, M Muir, U Stewart Ministers; Miss A Lyall, Deacon, Messrs M Barclay, W Coulter, J Ferguson, D Hodgson, A McPhee, C Morton and Mrs A Reid and Mrs M Sommerville Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 1 May 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 May 2012 were held as read and approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Convener of the Business Committee, Mrs Anna Lumsden, moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Appoint Bill Love, Willie Macsween, Mairi Sommerville, Alan Grant, Sinclair Scott, Ewan Easton, Robert Carson, Irene Williams and Andrew Brown as Additional Elders for 2012-2013

The Deliverance was approved.

The Roll of Presbytery for 2012-2013 was laid on the table

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Rev David Easton has been appointed as Interim Moderator of the Charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton and Quothquan.
3. Note that Rev Roy Cowieson has been appointed as Interim Moderator of the Charge of Law Parish Church for the duration of the illness of Rev Una Stewart.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Joint meeting of the Vacancy Procedure Committee and Presbytery Planning Group

The Joint Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee and Presbytery Planning Group was presented by the Convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery –*

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree that permission to call a minister to the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow Old will not be granted until the Presbytery Plan (or part thereof) has been presented and agreed by all parties.
3. Agree that permission to call a minister to the charge of Glencaple linked with Lowther will not be granted until the Presbytery Plan (or part thereof) has been presented and agreed by all parties.
4. Agree that the current situation of the four-way linkage of Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton and Quothquan will remain until discussions take place to renegotiate any change of linkages made necessary following the agreement of the Presbytery Plan (or part thereof).
5. Agree that permission to call a minister to the charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter linked with Libberton and Quothquan will not be granted until the Presbytery Plan (or part thereof) has been presented and agreed by all parties.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Planning Group

The Clerk informed Presbytery that citations had been served on the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton and Quothquan, Lowther and Symington to appear for their interests.

The Report of the Presbytery Planning Group (Appendix 1&2) was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery –

1. Receive the Report
2. Accept the planning recommendations for the Biggar area as laid out in the draft interim plan, which will result in a staffing reduction in the area from 4 Full-Time Equivalent posts to 2.5 Full-Time Equivalent posts.
3. Agree to seek the concurrence of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council with the proposals.
4. Remit to the Ministries Committee of Presbytery to draw up the necessary draft Bases of Linkage and Union, which will be presented to the congregations concerned as soon as the concurrence of the Ministries Council has been received.

The Convener moved and it was agreed to amend section 2 of the deliverance to read: "Agree to the planning recommendations for the Biggar area as laid out in the draft interim plan, which will result in a staffing reduction in the area from 4 Full-Time Equivalent posts to 2.5 Full-Time Equivalent posts." This was agreed.

The Convener invited Presbytery to remove section 4 of the deliverance. This was agreed.

Parties were called.

Representatives from the congregations of Glencaple linked with Lowther and Cairngryffe made statements to the Presbytery.

Parties were removed.

It was moved and seconded to amend section 2 and add a new section 3 to the deliverance:

- "2. Agree the planning recommendations for the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton and Quothquan and Symington as laid out in the draft interim plan, which will result in a staffing reduction in the area from 3 Full-Time Equivalent posts to 2 Full-Time Equivalent posts.
3. Instruct the planning group to bring further proposals for the congregation at Glencaple and Lowther following further discussion with the Kirk Session, with the proposals to be brought when the full Presbytery Plan is presented."

A vote was taken with 11 voting for the amendment and 10 voting against the amendment. The amendment carried.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

General Assembly Reflections

The Moderator invited Mr Jim Fleming, The Douglas Valley Church and Rev Bryan Kerr, Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark to offer reflections on their recent attendance at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Mr Fleming submitted a written report, given by Robert Cleland in his absence. Mr Fleming spoke of his apprehension as a first time Commissioner and highlighted his appreciation of the devotions including the Communion service as well as reflecting how attendance at the General Assembly helped him to see the work of '121' in a different light and not simply as an office which simply sent out many letters to him as a Congregational Treasurer. Mr Fleming strongly encouraged all elders to take every opportunity to attend the General Assembly if they can.

Mr Kerr spoke of the friendly mood of the Assembly this year and the discussions that took place in a respectful manner. He spoke of the greatly increased attendance at many of the debates following the introduction of the electronic 'check-in' for each session. Mr Kerr highlighted the debate of the Panel on Review and Reform and in particular the proposal to look at consensus voting within the Church of Scotland, the launch of the 'Go for It' Fund, and the reports in the press highlighting bullying in the church offices which had come to light following a staff survey. Mr Kerr finished by speaking of the 'Heart and Soul' event in Princes St Gardens on the Sunday afternoon and how pleased he was to see a good number of representatives from the congregations within the Presbytery of Lanark.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 letter from Community Bible Study International offering information about materials they produce
- an email from the Solicitor of the Church regarding the extension of the Listed Places of Worship Scheme for recovering VAT on eligible building works
- receipt of reports on Rural Deprivation as referred to in the Mission and Discipleship Council's report to the General Assembly of May 2012
- an email inviting people to take part in an Introduction to Biblical Counselling course
- copies of E-News from Mission and Discipleship
- a letter from the Kirk Session and Congregational Board at Carnwath Parish Church stating their despair at the lack of progress made in their vacancy and uncertainty with matters of appraisal within the Presbytery Planning Process
- a letter from Ministries Council informing Presbytery that Ross Blackman has been accepted by an assessment conference as a candidate in training for full-time ministry of Word and Sacrament
- a letter from Ross Blackman seeking the nomination of the Presbytery as a candidate in training for the full-time ministry of Word & Sacrament
- notification from Ministries Council of a further sick note from Rev Una Stewart for a period of 4 weeks from 11 June.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Nominate Ross Blackman as a Candidate in training for the full time ministry of Word and Sacrament.

The Deliverance was approved.

Good News Stories

- Mr Jim Watt from Cairngryffe spoke of the congregation's Back to Church Sunday on 10th June 2012. Pairs of elders visited every member able to attend church - some of whom had not been for some time. Over 70 people were present on the day which was a 50% increase on normal Sunday attendance. It is hoped to continue to build on this.
- Dr Sinclair Scott from The Douglas Valley spoke of the recent opening of the refurbished St. Bride's Centre. Dr Scott spoke of the building being once again fit for purpose after being sold to a community group with strong links to the church. Thanks were paid to Presbytery for their role and advice in recent years.
- The Moderator spoke of the 'See Me pledge' recently signed by Presbytery and invited congregations to uplift and then to display the 'See Me' board in every church within the Presbytery.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve the membership of Presbytery Committees as outlined in the paper attached to the Report. (Appendix 3)

3. Note that the Presbytery flag will be presented to the Presiding Moderator to display in her/his church during her/his year of office.
4. Note that "See Me" will be used on Presbytery notepaper and will also be made available to all Ministers and Session Clerks.
5. Agree the change of dates of Presbytery Committees in October 2012 and April 2013 from the 16th to the 23rd of these months.
6. Resolve to hold a Fellowship Meal at 6pm on Tuesday 4th September 2012 prior to the Presbytery meeting.
7. Note that the 2012/13 Presbytery Yearbook will be available at the Presbytery's September meeting and that Presbytery Committees will next meet on Tuesday 21st August 2012.
8. Adopt the Guidelines on the use of Social Media (Appendix 4) and agree that they be included in the Presbytery Yearbook from 2012/13
9. Note the recommendation to nominate Mr Bill Love as Moderator of Lanark Presbytery for 2012/13.
10. Grant permission to the congregations of Carnwath and the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to hold a united service in Carstairs on the 8th of July 2012.
11. Grant permission to the congregations of Carluke Parish Grouping to hold united services from 1st July until 12th August 2012.
12. Grant permission to the congregations of Lanark: St. Nicholas and Lanark : Greyfriars to hold united services from the 1st of July until the 29th of July 2012 and for the above two congregations to join together on 5th August 2012 with the congregations of Lanark Christ's Church (Scottish Episcopal) and Lanark EU Congregational Church for an Ecumenical Service.
13. Grant to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convenor of the Business Committee powers to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that, at the next meeting, Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
14. Thank the Moderator Rev. Sarah Ross, the Kirk Session and members of Forth St. Paul's Church for their hospitality this evening.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Place for Hope Liaison Group

The Report of the Place for Hope Liaison Group was presented by the Convener, Rev Robert Cleland, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

13. Receive the Report.
14. Grant Practising Certificates for the year 2012-2013 to Rev Susan Cowell, Rev William Craig, Rev David Easton, Rev Harry Findlay, Rev George Fox, Rev James Francis, Rev. Beverly Gauld, Rev Graham Houston, Rev Margaret Muir, Rev Stephen Pacitti, Rev James Seath, Rev John Stewart, Rev John Turnbull and Rev David Young
15. Note that Rev James Francis will transfer to the Presbytery of England.
16. Note the Transitional Support Group for Carnwath is now Rev Alison Meikle (Convenor), Rev Ian Watson (Congregational Support Committee) and a member of the Resources Committee (to be advised).

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report

2. Appoint Messrs. I. & A. Stewart & Co. Chartered Accountants to examine all the 2011 Accounts of all the Congregations within the bounds and to report their findings to Presbytery's Attestation Committee
3. Agree that £500 of Presbytery's Ministries & Mission Variance Allowance be allocated to the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to help meet the cost of running its Summer Holiday Club for Children
4. Agree that £500 of Presbytery's Ministries & Mission Variance Allowance be allocated to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church to help meet the cost of running its Summer Holiday Club for Children
5. Approve the proposals of St. Paul's Parish Church, Forth, to make repairs to Church halls and manse at a cost of £13,440 inclusive of VAT noting that these repairs arise in response to the findings of the recent Quinquennial Property Survey.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Moderator drew attention to the Church and Society Event on Neuroethics on 20th June 2012 and the fellowship meal on 4th September 2012.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 4 September 2012 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1 - PRESBYTERY OF LANARK – Presbytery Planning Group Interim Report

INTRODUCTION

Since the current Presbytery Planning Review Group first met in January of this year, some progress has been made in trying to find a way to achieve the required reduction in the number of ministries to be allocated to Lanark Presbytery. Twelve exploratory meetings between the Planning Group and different Kirk Sessions have already taken place to consider various proposals and a broad measure of agreement has been achieved between the various Kirk Sessions and the Planning Group on the best way forward.

The primary focus has been on the south-eastern (Biggar) area of the Presbytery as all of the charges within this area are currently without a minister and some have been vacant for a number of years.

At this stage in the process the Planning Group would like to present, first of all to the Presbytery, and then to the Ministries Council, a *partial plan* dealing with this particular area. It is the opinion of the Planning Group that, regardless of whatever proposals might emerge with respect to other areas of the Presbytery, it is highly unlikely that the proposals for the Biggar area of the Presbytery would be significantly different from those being presented now.

The Planning Group has made use of the data gathered by the previous Review Group into population figures, church membership, numbers of worshippers and financial contributions of congregations in its deliberations and Presbytery will recognise that for much of the Biggar area the proposals currently being presented are quite similar to those previously offered.

PLANNING PRINCIPLES

The Primary Principle—Mission

In the guidelines for Presbytery Planning issued by the Ministries Council it is stated that the *primary* principle that must inform and shape all the planning decisions must be MISSION. However, the concept of mission is not defined in the guidelines.

The Presbytery Planning Review Group would like to offer the following understanding of mission.

Mission begins in the heart of God who so loves the world that he sent his only Son. It is essential, therefore, to understand mission as primarily *God's* mission, not the Church's mission. This has been neatly summed up in the saying "*it is not that the Church of God has a mission but that the God of mission has a Church.*"

However, God invites the participation of the Church in this mission.

The Mission of God, in which the Church is invited to participate, is the same mission in which Jesus Christ was engaged. The whole of his life, his teaching, his caring and healing ministry, together with his self-giving death and resurrection belong to that mission and provide the church with a template for mission that is integrated and holistic, and which contains *all* of the following elements:

- **PRESENCE** (*Being*)
- **PROCLAMATION** (*Saying*)
- **PRACTICAL ACTION** (*Doing*)

PRESENCE:

When St Francis of Assisi is reputed to have said, "*Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words*" it was not to deny the importance of words but to declare that the Word must be 'made flesh and dwell among people.' Given our belief in the Incarnation we have no alternative but to adopt an *incarnational* approach to mission, in which a *ministry of presence* is fundamental, and in which *relationships* of mutual respect are central to our whole way of working. *Who* we are will then shape *what* we do and *how* we do it. Both self-understanding and cultural sensitivity are necessary in order to ensure authenticity and integrity.

PROCLAMATION:

It was God's Word that brought the Universe into being and it was his Word that was made flesh in Jesus Christ. Participation in the mission of God therefore will mean that words *are* necessary. At times this will mean the explicit proclamation of the good news: at times it will mean being a prophetic voice for the voiceless and exercising advocacy on behalf of the powerless.

PRACTICAL ACTION:

"My children, our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action." 1 John 3:18 [Good News Bible]

As the ministry of Jesus Christ involved reaching out to the marginalised and excluded, bringing good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed, so the Church's participation in that mission must involve love that similarly shows itself in transformative action.

When such integrated Mission is engaged in authentically and with sensitivity to culture and context it results in transformation, reconciliation and empowerment.

This threefold approach to mission may be applied to the business of Presbytery Planning.

Congregations (*Presence*)

In the Planning Group's discussions with Kirk Sessions it was clear that in each instance the view was held that in all but the very smallest of population-centres the presence of a local worshipping Christian community was an essential element for effective local mission. This does not necessarily mean the physical presence of a church building and one Kirk Session made clear to the Planning Group that the building currently used by their congregation was a hindrance rather than a help to its mission.

Ministers of Word and Sacrament (*Proclamation*)

Conversations with each of the Kirk Sessions visited also revealed a very strong desire in *every* case to have available to congregations and communities the services of a Minister of Word and Sacrament. Other ministries, including that of the diaconate, are highly valued by the congregations in the southern part of Lanark Presbytery (who have enjoyed first-hand experience of such ministry) but are seen as complementary to that of the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and not as a direct replacement.

Clearly, if the required reduction in number of ministries is to be achieved, more congregations may have to learn to share Ministers of Word and Sacrament and find ways to complement their work through additional forms of ministry and through developing the gifts of the 'whole people of God' in local areas.

Diakonia (*Practical Action*)

In particular, diaconal service (that is the ministry of practical loving action) may be provided not only by deacons set apart by the Church and offering full-time service, but also by members of congregations whose gifts and skills have been recognised, affirmed and developed. All congregations need to learn to develop the gifts of the whole people of God for the work of Christian service.

Secondary Principles

1. The recognition of natural communities
2. Ecumenical co-operation wherever possible
3. A focus on the poor and marginalised
4. Developing the ministry of the whole people of God
5. Maintaining vibrant worshipping congregations
6. Varieties of approach, including engaging with 'non-geographical' communities
7. Financial responsibility and realism
8. Strategic use of buildings

The Planning Group has endeavoured to take account of all of these principles in presenting the proposals.

Population Data

The data gathered by the previous Planning Review Group revealed that Lanark Presbytery has a population of approximately 61,690.

The number of FTE ministries allocated to the Presbytery is 15.2.

If all else were equal this would amount to one ministry for each 4,113 people.

However, in a predominantly rural situation, with many small and scattered communities, such 'parity' would be both impractical and undesirable. *(It would mean, for example, that the town of Carlisle, with its population of 15,248 would be 'entitled' to 3.7 ministries in place of the current 3 and the whole of the Biggar area, covering the existing parishes of Biggar, Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan, Cairngryffe, Symington, Glencaple and Lowther, with its total population of 8,174 would be 'entitled' to less than 2 ministries.)*

Clearly the Planning Group has to take account of local situations and exercise judgement, balance and wisdom (as the guidelines suggest) if it is to ensure a genuinely equitable distribution of ministerial resources. One other factor worth bearing in mind, however, is that with a total Scottish population of around 5,250,000 to be served by a total of 1000 ministries, Lanark Presbytery's allocation of ministerial resources is considerably above the average for the country as a whole.

BIGGAR AREA**Area Introduction**

Congregations:	Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther and Symington.		
Financial Situation:	Currently only Biggar pays the full costs of a minister (112%). Cairngryffe and Symington pay approximately 95%, Glencaple lw Lowther approximately 46% and Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan approximately 43%.		
Population:	Whilst it has proven difficult to get accurate population figures the best data available to the Presbytery with the mid year estimates at 2009 suggest the following Parish populations: Biggar (2614), Black Mount (761), Cairngryffe (1240), Culter (262), Glencaple (1565), Libberton & Quothquan (349), Lowther (443) and Symington (940). This represents a total population of 8,174 or 13% of the total population of the Presbytery area.		
Congregation:	The size of membership (as at 31/12/2010) and size of worshipping congregation (as noted in the congregational audit forms issued in Nov 2010) are as follows:		
	Congregation	Membership	Worship
	Biggar	598	85 (monthly eve – 20)
	Black Mount	68	24
	Cairngryffe	171	45
	Culter	29	10
	Glencaple	192	30
	Libberton & Quothquan	86	30 (occasional songs of praise–40)
	Lowther	36	18
	Symington	210	35
Current situation:	Currently there exists a four-way linkage between Biggar, Black Mount, Culter and Libberton & Quothquan that was to have been served by a team ministry. <i>(This linkage exists in name only since the sisting of processes meant it was never properly put into effect.)</i> There is also a linkage between Cairngryffe and Symington and a linkage between Glencaple and Lowther. All the charges are currently vacant.		

Culter:

Within the past year the roll at Culter Church has been reviewed and reassessed and whereas the previous plan indicated a membership of 87, with a regular worshipping congregation of 12, the current reality is that there are only 29 members on the roll with an average of 9 or 10 attending worship.

The majority of the Kirk Session now recognise that the current situation is no longer sustainable.

Lowther:

The situation at Lowther is somewhat different to that of Culter, in that out of an accurate roll of 36 there is an average weekly attendance of 18. However, the church building is totally unsuitable and a hindrance to the congregation's mission. An enthusiastic Kirk Session is keen to retain a vibrant worshipping community in the village of Leadhills and has identified Leadhills Miners' Library as a suitable and available alternative worship

space. However, the Kirk Session at Lowther believes that the most workable administrative solution is to enter into a union with Gencaple rather than a linkage. After discussions on ministry requirements for such a united parish it was felt that it may be easier for the united congregation to find a minister willing to serve in a 50% part-time capacity rather than the 80% suggested by the previous plan, as this arrangement would enable such a minister (should he or she wish) to engage in additional part-time employment or study.

Glencaple:

The Kirk Session at Glencaple indicated a willingness to enter into a union with Lowther on the basis of a 50% part time ministry.

The Planning Group therefore make the following recommendations for the Biggar area:

1. That the four-way linkage between Biggar, Black Mount, Culter and Libberton & Quothquan be formally severed.
2. That Biggar be linked with Black Mount
3. That the congregation of Culter be dissolved, and its parish added on to the parish of Biggar, and that the building at Culter be closed and disposed of.
4. That Cairngryffe be linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington
5. That the congregations of Glencaple and Lowther be united and the building at Lowther be closed and disposed of.
6. That the united parish of Glencaple and Lowther explore the option of using the Leadhills Miners' Library, or some other community resource, to maintain a regular worshipping community in the village of Leadhills.

The Planning Group therefore recommends the following allocation of resources to the Biggar area:

Biggar linked with Black Mount — 1 Full-time Minister of Word & Sacrament

Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington— 1 Full-time Minister of Word & Sacrament

Glencaple united with Lowther — 1 Part Time (50%) Minister of Word & Sacrament

It is further recommended that in each case the readjusted charges be given the right to call a minister without restriction, other than the part-time restriction at Glencaple and Lowther.

Appendix 2

<i>(please indicate, if applicable, whether a particular congregation is a priority area congregation)</i>		Presbytery of Lanark Draft Presbytery Plan – South Area (as at 19 June 2012)			Key <i>UT : Unrestricted tenure; RT : Reviewable Tenure; PG : Parish Grouping (refers to XX area only); DL : Deferred linkage; LEP Local Ecumenical Project; Buildings: a) expected to remain in use beyond lifetime of plan; b) expected to be closed during plan period; c) expected to be disposed of under an adjustment; d) Presbytery unable to make a determination at this time.</i>			
Congregation Name and Roll	Gross Population (Net Population)	Congregational membership	Current Status	Plan for Congregation(s) by end of Plan	Implementation or Interim Steps required (if any or if necessary)	Structure of Staffing required	Other staffing - locally provided	Building designation
Biggar	2614 ()	598	Linked with Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan	Link with Black Mount	Sever existing four-way linkage, which had never actually been operational	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Biggar lw Black Mount (UT)		a
Black Mount	761 ()	68	Linked with Biggar, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan	Link with Biggar	Sever existing four-way linkage, which had never actually been operational	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Biggar lw Black Mount (UT)		a
Cairngryffe	1240 ()	171	Linked with Symington	Link with Libberton & Quothquan link with Symington		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington (UT)		c

Lanark Presbytery

Culter	262 ()	29	Linked with Biggar, Black Mount, Libberton & Quothquan	Dissolve congregation	Close and dispose of building Transfer parish responsibility to Biggar			⒃
Glencaple	1565 ()	192	Linked with Lowther	Unite with Lowther		50% P/T Minister of Word & Sacrament Glencaple & Lowther		⒃
Libberton & Quothquan	349 ()	86	Linked with Biggar, Black Mount, Culter	Link with Cairngryffe, Symington		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington (UT)		⒃
Lowther	443 ()	36	Linked with Glencaple	Unite with Glencaple	Close and dispose of building Secure use of alternative worship space (e.g. Leadhills Miners' Library)	50% P/T Minister of Word & Sacrament for Glencaple & Lowther		⒃
Symington	940 ()	210	Linked with Cairngryffe	Link with Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington (Unrestricted Tenure)		⒃

Appendix 3 – 2012-2013 Committee Membership

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Rev. Alan Gibson (Convenor)
Rev. Alison Meikle
Anne Lyall DCS
Robert Carson
Moira White
Tom Chalmers
David Whitefield
Fiona Hannah
Lillias Nicol

CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT

Jim Watt (Convenor)
Rev. Ian Watson
Rev. Robert Cleland
Alex McPhee
Anna Lumsden
Willie Macsween
Jim Johnstone
Irene Williams

MINISTRIES

Andrew Brown (Convenor)
Rev. John Turnbull
Rev. Una Stewart
Helen Chekansky
David Hodgson
Alan Grant
Bill Love
Anne Cochrane
Pat Saulnier

RESOURCES

Rev. Harry Findlay (Convenor)
Rev. David Carmichael
Rev. Steven Reid
Rev. Roy Cowieson
Ewan Easton
Colin Gibson
Cameron Morton
Robert Tweedie
William Coulter
Mary McGillvray
Robert Boag
Malcolm Barclay
Mabel Morris

WORLD AND COMMUNITY ISSUES

Rev. Sarah Ross (Convenor)
Rev. Iain Cunningham
Rev. Susan Cowell
Sinclair Scott (Vice Convenor)
Mari Sommerville
Hugh Stewart
Frances Henderson
Anne Reid
Alex Muir (Mrs.)
Peter McLeish

BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Anna Lumsden (Convenor)
Rev. Helen Jamieson (Clerk)
Rev. Bryan Kerr (Depute Clerk)
Rev Robert Cleland
Rev. Sarah Ross (Past Moderator)
Sinclair Scott
Mary Mc Gillivray(Presbytery Treasurer)
New Moderator

Appendix 4 – Guidelines on the use of Social Media

Guidelines on the use of Social Media

The following guidance relates to ministers, deacons and parish workers on the use of Social Media. It may also prove helpful for other members of Presbytery.

With all new forms of communication come opportunities to share our Good News and have interactive conversations with people with whom we might not otherwise connect. The Presbytery of Edinburgh welcomes the enthusiasm of many ministers and deacons to use online social media (please see the appendix below if you need explanation of what social media means), but it is necessary to outline a few issues office holders should bear in mind when communicating online.

Electronic communication, particularly social media, takes us into new territory where we have to think differently and more carefully about what we say – unlike printed matter, it is interactive, conversational and open-ended, and it always happens in a public space. However, it should not change our understanding of confidentiality, responsibility and Christian witness.

1. Remember that the law views anything you share online as being in the public domain Sharing your thoughts and reflections with friends using social media or email might feel personal and private; but if more than one person can access what you have written it is highly likely that the law would class it as “published,” and therefore subject to numerous laws around libel, slander, copyright, Freedom of Information and data protection. So, if you wouldn’t say something in the local newspapers, in front of a meeting or in the parish magazine, you certainly shouldn’t say it online.
2. Assume that what you say is permanent Even if you delete a comment you have made on a website, it could still have already been seen by other people and/or re-published on other, unconnected sites. It can be easy to say something in the heat of the moment that you will come to regret, but it could remain permanently online for all to see. So always think carefully and never make personal comments about someone that you wouldn’t also say in public or to them in person.
3. Do not assume anything electronic is secure You might be able to delete or recall an email but there’s no guarantee the recipient will. Equally, your privacy settings on your social media tools might mean only your accepted “friends” or “followers” can see the things you say, but there is no guarantee that they will not pass them on outside your trusted circles.
4. Be sensitive about confidentiality and the risk of intrusion Social media does not change our fundamental understanding about confidentiality across the whole life of the Church. When telling a story about a situation which involves someone else, always ask yourself Is this my story to tell? – would it cause distress, inconvenience, upset or embarrassment to others if they found out you had shared in this way? If in any doubt, do not share it online. Equally, be very careful when copying others into an email which has gone backwards and forwards a couple of times – there may be confidential information earlier in the correspondence.
5. Remember that the distinction between public and private lives is blurred Whether you like it or not, as a member of the clergy, anything you do or say in the public domain will be interpreted by the public as being representative of the church – even if you feel you are speaking in a personal capacity rather than an official one. Be aware that any controversial or sensitive comments you make may attract attention of the media. If in doubt, take advice, but please remember that you are responsible for your online activities.
6. Have clear boundaries when communicating with children and young people Remember that the law and Church of Scotland policies around safeguarding apply in your communications with children and young people – you should not exchange private messages with young people via social media and should not accept “friend requests” from young people without due consideration. If it is appropriate in your own setting that your youth work includes an element of social media, try to keep all your communications public and only send messages to whole groups, rather than to individuals.
7. Be mindful of your own security Be careful about the personal details you share online – again, assume anything you share about yourself is in the public domain.

8. Remember the value of other forms of communication!

It can become very easy to hide behind an online persona and neglect other relationships – remember that while social media is an exciting forum which presents many new opportunities, the value of face-to-face relationships should never be forgotten.

Appendix: Some common social media tools

Blogs: these are online diaries or personal websites where the owner will publish regular posts, and comments are invited.

Twitter: this is the most common micro-blogging site, where users publish short messages (140 characters max), known as “tweets”. Users can choose to follow other users, meaning they receive a stream of all the updates made by the people they are following. Private and public messages can also be sent between users.

Facebook: this is the most popular social networking site worldwide. Users can build networks of friends, find people with similar interests and backgrounds to them, organize events and social gatherings, send messages and joint campaigns. Users can select the levels of privacy they wish to have, but the mechanisms for doing this have received widespread criticism for being complicated and confusing. Other social networking sites include Ning, MySpace and Bebo.

Flickr: this is a photo sharing website. Users upload pictures and can share them with others. You can also search for photos uploaded by other users on a particular theme.

Forums and discussion boards: many websites have discussion boards or forums. These allow users to discuss, debate and ask questions. Many are open to registered users only, but some are fully public.

Youtube: this is a video sharing website. It is free and easy to upload video from a computer or mobile phone. The site has caused controversy over issues of copyright infringement.

The Presbytery of Lanark is indebted to the Presbytery of Edinburgh for permission to reproduce their guidance material.

Lanark, on, Tuesday 4 September 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers; 22 Elders; 1 Deacon; 4 Corresponding Members and 17 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael, S Reid and I Watson Ministers; Messrs W Coulter, A McPhee and Mrs M Sommerville and Mrs M White Elders.

Rev David Carmichael, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

The Clerk informed Presbytery that 2 September 2012 marked the 30th anniversary of the Ordination and Induction of Rev David Carmichael to Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen. Presbytery offered good wishes to Mr Carmichael and the Moderator remembered him in prayer. Though unable to attend, Mr Carmichael recorded his thanks through an e-mail to the Clerk.

Welcome to New Members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors from Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington congregations and Mr Ross Blackman, Divinity Student. She also welcomed new members of Presbytery to their first meeting as Commissioned Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Election and Installation of New Moderator

The Presbytery elected Mr William Love, Reader as Moderator of the Presbytery for the Session 2012/13. Mrs Ross welcomed Mr Love, installed him as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited him to take the chair. The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Mrs Ross for her service during her term as Moderator.

Minutes of meeting on 19 June 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2012 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- requests to address Presbytery received from Mr Murdo McDonald to speak about SRT Project and Rev B Abeledo Deputy Assistant Chaplain General to speak about Firm Base and Community Engagement
- an e-mail from the Solicitor regarding health and safety reminders circulated to ministers
- Ministries Council – seeking Presbytery representation by someone under 45 years of age to attend a conference in October – Rev S Ross to attend
- John Thomson Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group Secretary – extract minute regarding the section of the Presbytery Plan agreed by Presbytery in June 2012; the extract minute being forwarded to the Convener of the Presbytery Plan Group, Business Committee and Vacancy Procedure Committee Convener with the item being taken under Vacancy Procedure Committee
- Note from Ministries Council informing Presbytery of a further sick note from Rev Una Stewart. The Clerk informed Presbytery that Rev U Stewart had remained on sick leave during the summer but hoped to be able to return to duties later in September and commended Ms Stewart to the prayers of Presbytery.

Pianist for Presbytery Meetings - the Clerk intimated that it would be helpful to establish a list of those willing to assist in playing the piano for worship at Presbytery meetings and invited Presbyters to contact her if they were able to help.

Homologation of items taken under powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery of decisions taken under powers over the summer recess, and moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Agree in principle to the sale of Carnwath Manse and Manse Grounds, instruct the Clerk to inform the General Trustees and forward a copy of the extract minute of 1 July 2012 from Carnwath Kirk Session.
2. Grant permission for a service of worship to take place in Carnwath Town lesser hall on Sunday 29 July 2012
3. Note the receipt of a minute of a Congregational Meeting of Carnwath Parish Church agreeing to the sale of Tarbrax Church.
4. Grant permission for the sale of Tarbrax Church.
5. Note that the Kirk Session and Congregational Board of Carnwath Church has agreed to the Auchengray Church Centre exploring the setting up of a Trust registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation to preserve the Church and hall for regular worship and the hall for community use.
6. Note the receipt of a minute of a Congregational Meeting of Carnwath Parish Church approving the transfer of the buildings at Auchengray following the establishment of a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation Trust at Auchengray and invite the General Trustees to negotiate terms of transfer of the Auchengray buildings with the said Trust at the appropriate time.
7. Instruct the Clerk to inform the General Trustees and forward a copy of the minute of the Congregational meeting of Carnwath Parish Church held on 29 July 2012.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Youth Delegate to the General Assembly

The Moderator invited Miss Ailsa Fyffe from Biggar Kirk to offer reflections on her attendance at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland as the Youth Delegate for Lanark Presbytery.

Miss Fyffe spoke of her interest in, and appreciation of finding out more about the workings of the central church. She spoke of the community and family nature of the youth delegates; living together and attending the proceedings together. Miss Fyffe commented on the worship that was held amongst the youth delegates as well as the evening discussions held to help the youth delegates understand the reports and possible decisions that would be taken during the Assembly. Highlights for Miss Fyffe included the World Mission Council report, the Heart and Soul event in Princes Street Gardens and meeting the Moderator at a special reception at the Palace of Holyrood House. Miss Fyffe spoke of her faith being strengthened through her attendance at the General Assembly. Since the Assembly she has been able to attend the National Youth Assembly and also, through World Mission Council, spend three weeks in Taiwan teaching English to children. Presbytery was pleased to learn that Miss Fyffe is about to commence theology studies at the University of the Highlands and Islands. The Moderator thanked Miss Fyffe for her inspiring address and wished her well in her studies.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who submitted the following report and moved the following deliverance:

“The committee took up consideration of the extract minute received from the Ministries Council’s Presbytery Planning Task Group concerning the concurrence of the part of the Presbytery Plan agreed by Presbytery in June 2012. It was noted that the Task Group did not concur with the section of plan submitted and as such the Presbytery cannot proceed under Act VII, 2003 to issue permissions to call to the readjusted charges. The extract minute further:

- a) noted receipt of some sections of the Plan from the Presbytery of Lanark
- b) highlighted that the Mission Principles should be accompanied by a full description
- c) agreed that the remainder of the Plan should be submitted as soon as possible
- d) sought to clarify that if the Presbytery wished to proceed under Act IV 1984 no changes to the two new proposed charges of Biggar linked with Black Mount and Libberton & Quothquan linked with

Cairngryffe and Symington could be made later when the full Plan was submitted and the linked congregations would have to be included in that Plan

- e) highlighted that details of the proposed severance of Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan would be required.”

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Ministries Council has not accepted the section of the Presbytery Plan as presented to and agreed by Lanark Presbytery in June 2012.
3. In light of the decision of Ministries Council PPTG not to accept the partial plan agreed by Presbytery in June 2012, agree to deal with the charges of Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan and Cairngryffe linked with Symington under Act IV 1984 on the understanding that no changes to the two new proposed charges of Biggar linked with Black Mount and Libberton & Quothquan linked with Cairngryffe linked with Symington will be made when the full Presbytery Plan is presented and the linked congregations will be included in that Plan.
4. Agree to dissolve the linkage between Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan at a date to be determined by Presbytery.
5. Agree to link the congregations of Biggar and Black Mount and the congregations of Libberton & Quothquan and Cairngryffe and Symington and to dissolve the congregation of Culter at a date to be determined by Presbytery
6. Instruct the Presbytery Ministries Committee in consultation with the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Libberton & Quothquan, Cairngryffe and Symington to draw up a basis of linkage between Biggar and Black Mount, a basis of linkage between Libberton & Quothquan and Cairngryffe & Symington and a basis of dissolution for the congregation of Culter and present these to Presbytery for approval as soon as possible for submission to and concurrence by the Ministries Council.
7. Following the approval of a basis of linkage by Presbytery and concurrence by the Ministries Council, grant to the readjusted charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount and to the readjusted charge of Libberton & Quothquan linked with Cairngryffe linked with Symington, permission to call a minister without restriction as agreed in the section of the Plan approved by Presbytery in June 2012.
8. Note that Act IV 1984 will be used for the charges of Biggar linked with Black Mount linked with Culter, linked with Libberton & Quothquan and Cairngryffe linked with Symington and that all other vacant charges in Presbytery will be dealt with under Act VII 2003 following agreement of the Presbytery Plan and concurrence by the Ministries Council.
9. Instruct the Presbytery Planning Group to submit the remainder of the Plan to Presbytery as soon as possible and to ensure that the Mission Principles are accompanied by a full description.

Parties were called.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations. Mr Ross Russell from Symington spoke and asked a question as to what happens next for the congregations. Mr Melvyn Stobo from Libberton and Quothquan asked why Act IV, 1984 process had not been followed before this point. Answers to both questions were offered.

Parties were removed.

The Deliverance was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them, including the decision of the Ministries Council not to accept the partial plan as agreed by Presbytery in June 2012 and Presbytery's decision to now proceed under Act IV, 1984 in respect of the vacant congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process under Act IV, 1984 was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

Good News Stories

- Mr Ewan Easton from Lesmahagow: Old spoke of his daughter Catriona Easton returning as a delegate to the National Youth Assembly in 2012. During the event Catriona was nominated as a Youth Representative and has attended a conference with the Moderator of the General Assembly.
- Rev Roy Cowieson from Caluke: St. John's spoke of the annual holiday club which takes place in St. John's Church organised by the local churches in the area. 107 children took part with 47 children who have no church connection in attendance.
- Rev Russell McLarty, Interim Moderator, Carnwath, spoke of the worship over the summer months and in particular of trying worship outwith the church buildings in the village hall. More seats had to be brought into the hall used and people were asking when they could go back again. The congregation is beginning to think of how other spaces could be used within the village to have an effective worshipping and missional presence within the area.
- Mrs Allison Plenderleith from the Guild Presbyterian Council spoke of the forthcoming 125th Anniversary celebrations for the Guild and invited members of Presbytery to the Songs of Praise on 12th October in St. Nicholas Church.
- Mr Robert Boag from Kirkmuirhill spoke of the very successful holiday club and the number of children who came along as well as the adult mission which had a full hall every night of the week during their recent community outreach.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Presbytery yearbook for 2013 is available for uplift by Presbyters and thank the Depute Clerk for his hard work in producing it.
3. Note that the dates of the General Assembly are 18 to 24 May 2013.
4. Thank Rev Alison Meikle, Mrs Helen Chekansky and their team for organising and serving a most enjoyable Fellowship Meal

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Andrew Brown, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Mr Ross Blackman will begin his theological training at Glasgow University in September 2012.
3. Note that Mr Ross Blackman will be attached to the charge of Carluke: St Andrew's for his first placement.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

6. Receive the report
7. Note that the 2011 Accounts of Congregations within the bounds have been attested by the Chartered Accountants appointed by Presbytery, and that Presbytery's Interim Attestation Report was submitted to the Stewardship & Finance Department by the 30 June, deadline
8. Note that the Accountants presented the findings of their Attestation in a brochure entitled "Review Points", and that all congregational treasurers within the bounds have been sent a copy of the "Review Points" as they apply to their respective congregations
9. Note that Mrs McGillivray, Presbytery Treasurer, will respond to any questions concerning the "Review Points" that apply to Receipts and Payments Accounts, while the Rev. Steven Reid will respond regarding SORP (Fully Accrued) Accounts

10. Encourage Congregational Treasurers to consult with Mrs McGillivray and the Rev. Steven Reid concerning this year's Attestation of their Accounts
11. Instruct congregations that have already submitted accounts to OSCR before gaining authorization from Presbytery, to make changes to their accounts as listed in the examiner's report but to submit the amended version of the accounts only to Presbytery who will ensure that a copy is held on record should any questions be raised by OSCR.
12. Record our appreciation to all Treasurers for their work, recognizing that the new system of attestation has, in many cases, brought additional work to those who voluntarily give of their time
13. Note the serious and significant changes to the finances of Carnwath Parish Church and agree to reduce its 2012 Ministries and Mission Allocation by £2,000 instructing the Clerk to notify the Stewardship and Finance Department of Presbytery's decision to reduce Carnwath's current M&M by applying some of this year's remaining 2% Variance Allowance
14. Note that the Rev. Nigel Robb, Secretary of the General Assembly's Committee on Church Art and Architecture has written to warn that there will be serious consequences for the Church of Scotland if congregations and presbyteries do not follow due process when making interior alterations to ecclesiastical buildings.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Thank Dr Murdo McDonald and the committee for organising the informative and interesting *It wasnae me, it was my neurons* event in June 2012 and invite Dr McDonald to make a presentation about the work of the Society, Religion and Technology Project to Presbytery at a future Presbytery meeting.
3. Commend the Kirk Session of Lanark St Nicholas for the setting up of the Hear For You Suicide Prevention and Support Project and offer our prayers and support to the staff and users of this projects.
4. Encourage all Presbyters to promote the work of Hear For You in their congregations by advertising its availability and seeking volunteers and funding.
5. Note the report from the Education Resources representative and note that it is forwarded to Church and Society Council as well as Hamilton and Glasgow Presbytery.
6. Encourage Presbyters to make Kirk Sessions aware of the cost involved in funerals and the possible bereavement issues that might incur.
7. Remind Presbyters to take away a See Me Pledge board if they haven't already and encourage all congregations to hang their boards in a suitable, visible location.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

Rev Iain Cunningham intimated a concert by the Ballinger Family Band from Tennessee on 1 October 2012 in Kirkton Church, Carluke.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 2 October 2012 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 2 October 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers; 23 Elders, 4 Corresponding Members and 10 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael, S Cowell, R Cowieson, A Meikle and I Watson Ministers; Miss A Lyall Deacon, Messrs A Brown, C Morton, S Scott and Mrs H Chekansky and Mrs L Nicol Elders.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors from Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther and Symington congregations. The Moderator welcomed Rev Una Stewart and Mr Tom Chalmers back to the Presbytery following periods of ill health.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 4 September 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 September 2012 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 informed the Presbytery that Rev Bev Gauld has had a period of ill health and was in hospital but is now home and recovering.

The Clerk referred to a letter received from the Ministries Council intimating that a training course for elders to act as Interim Moderators will take place on 5 November 2012. The Clerk informed Presbytery that Ann Lyall DCS, Mr Bill Love and Mr Alan Grant will all be attending this course.

The Clerk also referred to a letter received from the Ministries Council regarding a consultation to change the terms and conditions of contracts of PPW's.

The Clerk read two letters received from the Kirk Sessions of Glencaple and Lowther Parish Churches seeking permission to unite and close the Lowther church building. A Draft Basis of Union was presented (appendix 1). The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Note the letters received from Glencaple Parish Church Kirk Session regarding a Draft Basis of Union with Lowther Parish Church dated 13 September and 1 October 2012
2. Agree the Draft Basis of Union between Glencaple Parish Church and Lowther Parish Church to take effect on 1 January 2013
3. Agree to the closure of the Lowther church building in Leadhills from the date of Union of Glencaple Parish Church and Lowther Parish Church.
4. Instruct the Clerk to send the relevant extracts to the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council inviting concurrence on the Draft Basis of Union between Glencaple Parish Church and Lowther Parish Church

Parties were called.

Representatives from the cited congregations of Glencaple and Lowther were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Deliverance was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

The Clerk also read a letter received from Mr David Alexander, Convener of Hamilton Presbytery Implementation Committee seeking further consideration of a transfer of the congregation and parish of Dalsersf from Hamilton Presbytery to Lanark Presbytery. The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Remit the request from Hamilton Presbytery Implementation Committee seeking further consideration of a transfer of the congregation and parish of Dalsersf from Hamilton Presbytery to Lanark Presbytery to the Planning Group for consideration and direct consultation with Hamilton Presbytery Implementation Committee and thereafter the Kirk Session of Dalsersf.
2. Instruct the Planning Group to report on progress made to the next meeting of Presbytery

The Deliverance was approved

'Hear For You'

The Presbytery welcomed Mrs Margo Murdoch and Mrs Pauline Henderson from St. Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark's Hear for You project. The project has been set up as a support to those affected by suicide or thinking about suicide. It is a professional counselling service and has received support from the Go For It Fund of the Church of Scotland. Mrs Murdoch and Mrs Henderson invited members of Presbytery and congregations to support their work financially, practically and prayerfully. The Moderator thanked Mrs Murdoch and Mrs Henderson for their presentation and wished them well as they developed the project further.

Good News Stories

- Rev Alan Gibson, Interim Moderator at Cairngryffe and Symington spoke of the Back to Church Sunday on 30th September when Very Rev David Arnott led worship. The church was very busy and lots of people came back to church and Mr Arnott commended the congregations for the warmth of their welcome and the work in which they are engaged.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

10. Receive the report
11. Note that Rev Alan Gibson will demit the charge of United Parish of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction on 21st October 2012.
12. Thank and discharge Rev Alan Gibson as Interim Moderator in the charge of Cairngryffe and Symington.
13. Following Rev Una Stewart's return to work, thank and discharge Rev Roy Cowieson as Interim Moderator in the charge of Law.
14. Thank and discharge the Advisory Committees in the charges of Biggar lw Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan; Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan; Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old; and Glencaple and Lowther.
15. Note that in the charge of Biggar lw Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan the Interim Moderator will remain Rev David Easton.
16. Note that in the charge of Cairngryffe lw Symington the Interim Moderator will be Rev Roy Cowieson.
17. Note that in the charge of Carnwath the Interim Moderator will remain Rev Russell McLarty and the Transition Support Group (also acting as the Advisory Committee) will comprise Rev Alison Meikle (Convenor) with Rev Ian Watson and Mr Ewan Easton.
18. Note that in the charge of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction the Interim Moderator will be Rev Sarah Ross and the Advisory Committee will comprise Mr Jim Watt (Convenor) with Rev Margaret Muir and Mr Jim Johnstone.
19. Note that in the charge of Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old the Interim Moderator will remain Rev Robert Cleland and the Advisory Committee will comprise Mr Willie Macsween (Convenor) with Rev Steven Reid and Mrs Alexandra Muir.
20. Note that in the charge of Glencaple lw Lowther the Interim Moderator will remain Rev Bryan Kerr and the Advisory Committee will comprise Mrs Anna Lumsden (Convenor) with Rev Sarah Ross and Mrs Mary McGillivray.

21. Note that following the readjustment process under Act VIII, 1984 (as amended) the Interim Moderator in the charge of Biggar lw Black Mount will be Rev David Easton and the Advisory Committee will comprise Rev Harry Findlay (Convenor) with Mr David Whitefield and Mrs Frances Henderson.
22. Note that following the readjustment process under Act VIII, 1984 (as amended) the Interim Moderator in the charge of Cairngryffe lw Libberton & Quothquan lw Symington will be Rev Roy Cowieson (to 6th February 2013) and Mr Bill Love (from 6th February 2013) and the Advisory Committee will comprise Dr Sinclair Scott (Convenor) with Mrs Irene Williams and Rev Robert Cleland.
23. In light of difficulties in establishing a sub-committee from the Ministries Committee to progress the linkages in Biggar & Black Mount and Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington and the dissolution at Culter, agree that these duties be undertaken by a new committee comprising of Rev Sarah Ross, convenor, Mr Andrew Brown and Mrs Irene Williams with the Depute Clerk acting as an advisor.

Joint Report of Vacancy Procedure Committee and Planning Group

The Joint Report of Vacancy Procedure Committee and Planning Group was presented by the Convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee, Mrs Anna Lumsden, moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that permission to call a minister to the charge of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction will not be granted until the Presbytery Plan has been presented and agreed by all parties.

The Deliverance was approved

Demission of Rev Alan Gibson

In the absence of Mr Keith Whitton, Session Clerk at The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, the Presbytery Elder Mrs Mabel Morris read out a tribute to Mr Gibson's ministry which spoke warmly of the different activities and opportunities that Mr Gibson has helped the church realise since his induction in 2008. Mr Whitton commented on the outreach that has taken place within the community and the efforts to get people involved in the life of the church. Mr Gibson has, in Mr Whitton's words, 'been a tower of strength and also a real pillar and ambassador for the community in his time as minister in Carstairs and Carstairs Junction'.

Rev Sarah Ross, spoke on behalf of the Presbytery and talked of the ministry in which Mr Gibson has been involved in Carstairs. Mrs Ross spoke of the wealth of experience that Alan brought with him and his developing reputation as a networker and go-getter. There have been many developments in Carstairs during his time as minister and he has been generous with his time and talents within the Presbytery.

Rev Alan Gibson expressed his thanks for the kinds words and the support and friendship of members of Presbytery during his ministry in Carstairs. Mr Gibson spoke of his enjoyment in leading worship, getting to know people in the area and cementing the union that was in infancy when he arrived. He spoke of a congregation who now embrace new forms of worship, mission and new members, having admitted twelve new members last year.

On behalf of Presbytery the Moderator wished Alan every blessing in this new chapter of his ministry as Head of Stewardship for the Church of Scotland.

Report on progress under Act IV 1984

The Report on progress under Act IV 1984 was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who submitted the following report and moved the following deliverance:

"Following the decision of the Presbytery in September 2012 to progress the decisions in the part Presbytery Plan agreed in June 2012 conference has taken place with the charity trustees of the affected congregations. Meetings have been held with the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington and a draft basis for each has been agreed with the Kirk Session (and where necessary the Congregational Board). These draft bases have also been discussed with the Law Department, Ministries Council, and the General Trustees and have been found to be acceptable and in order. The Committee is indebted to the staff members in the church offices and the Depute Principal Clerk for their wise counsel and advice.

Biggar lw Black Mount

Notice calling a meeting on 17 September 2012 was issued on 5 September and copies of a draft basis of linking were made and given to the Session Clerk or Interim Moderator to distribute to each Trustee invited to attend the meeting. These were distributed to congregations with at least two clear Sundays notice of the meetings. 8 members of Black Mount Kirk Session and 2 members of the Congregational Board and 21 members of Biggar Kirk Session were present at the meeting along with the Interim Moderator, Rev. David Easton. Following a full discussion of the draft basis of linking and some minor alterations being made agreement was reached on the final version to be distributed to the congregation and Presbytery, which is attached in Appendix 2. At the end of the meeting each set of Trustees present was invited to vote for or against the draft basis of linking agreed during the meeting. The votes were cast as follows: Black Mount – 10 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions; Biggar – 21 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions.

Culter

Notice calling a meeting on 19 September 2012 was issued on 5 September and copies of a draft basis of dissolution were made and given to the Locum to distribute to each trustee invited to attend the meeting. These were distributed to the congregation with at least two clear Sundays notice of the meetings. The Committee agreed to change the date of the meeting to 26 September due to a high number of Trustees not being available on the original date. 5 members of Culter Kirk Session and 1 observer of Culter congregation along with 1 whose name is on the supplementary roll were present at the meeting along with the Interim Moderator, Rev. David Easton. Following a full discussion of the draft basis of dissolution, unanimous agreement was reached on the final version to be distributed to the congregation and Presbytery, which is attached in Appendix 3. At the end of the meeting the Trustees present were invited to vote for or against the draft basis of dissolution agreed during the meeting. The votes were cast as follows: 5 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions.

Cairngryffe lw Libberton & Quothquan lw Symington

Notice calling a meeting on 1 October 2012 was issued on 5 September and copies of a draft basis of linking were made and given to the Session Clerk or Interim Moderator to distribute to each Trustee invited to attend the meeting. These were distributed to congregations with at least two clear Sundays notice of the meetings. 11 members of Cairngryffe Kirk Session, 6 members of Libberton & Quothquan Kirk Session, 15 members of Symington Kirk Session and 6 members of the Congregational Board were present at the meeting along with the Interim Moderator of Cairngryffe and Symington Rev Alan Gibson. Mr Bill Love was also present at the meeting. Following a full discussion of the draft basis of linking and some minor alterations being made agreement was reached on the final version to be distributed to the congregation and Presbytery, which is attached in Appendix 4. At the end of the meeting each set of Trustees present was invited to vote for or against the draft basis of linking agreed during the meeting. The votes were cast as follows: Cairngryffe – 11 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions; Libberton & Quothquan – 6 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions; Symington – 21 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions.

Culter Committee

The draft basis of dissolution makes reference to a Special Committee that will act to ensure that all moveable property and funds are dispersed following the date of dissolution. Presbytery representation is expected on that committee and it is recommended that, if all necessary permissions are granted for the dissolution to go ahead, the Depute Clerk, Rev Harry Findlay, Resources Convener and Mr Jim Watt, Congregational Support Convener be the Presbytery representatives.

Culter Kirk Session

The committee is aware that some of the members of the Kirk Session at Culter may resign as elders within the congregation prior to all their final responsibilities being discharged in relation to the charity and OSCR. The Basis and Plan of Union, 1929 allows Presbytery to appoint Assessor elders to the congregation “if there be not a sufficient number of Elders available to make a quorum, or in cases of difficulty at the discretion of the Presbytery.” The committee recommends to Presbytery that should two or more elders resign from the Kirk Session, or Presbytery become aware of difficulties within the Kirk Session at Culter Parish Church the Presbytery appoint Mr Ewan Easton (Lesmahagow: Old), Mr Jack Lumsden (Lanark: Greyfriars), Mrs Libby Muir (Carluke: St. Andrew’s), Mr Jim Johnstone (Symington) and Mrs Irene Williams (United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction) as Assessor Elders and charity trustees with full voting privileges within the Kirk Session.

Culter Church Building

At the date of dissolution the responsibility for the church building immediately reverts to the General Trustees. However, it should be noted that the Presbytery, through local parties, has a responsibility to ensure that the building is visually inspected once a week to ensure that it is secure and remains wind and watertight.

17 Mercat Loan Manse

Discussion has taken place with the General Trustees and agreement has been reached that the manse will remain in use as the Manse for Miss Ann Lyall for as long as she is in post in the Biggar area. Following Miss Lyall's post ending the Manse will be sold, let or otherwise disposed of.

Timetable

The Depute Clerk has issued a detailed timetable (Appendix 5) to all Session Clerks in these congregations outlining edicts to be read and actions to be taken at appropriate points in the process. Congregational meetings will take place on Sunday 21st October in all six congregations. Members of Presbytery who will oversee the procedure and count the votes will attend these meetings. Votes will not be counted until all of the congregations in a specific linking have been cast and the results will be read at a central location for each charge (e.g. Biggar and Symington). It is anticipated that if Presbytery agree the draft basis documents, they will be submitted to Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group (PPTG) for concurrence and reported back to the Presbytery meeting on 6 November 2012. The likely date for the adjustment to take place is Monday 3 December 2012 with a service of thanksgiving to take place in Culter Church on Sunday 2 December 2012."

Deliverance

Presbytery:-

1. Receive the report
2. In accordance with Act IV, 1984, after negotiation with congregational office bearers and in anticipation of congregational meetings scheduled to take place on 21 October 2012, agree the draft basis of linking for the congregations of Biggar and Black Mount and agree to transmit the same to Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group for concurrence.
3. In accordance with Act IV, 1984, after negotiation with congregational office bearers and in anticipation of congregational meetings scheduled to take place on 21 October 2012, agree the draft basis of linking for the congregations of Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington and agree to transmit the same to Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group for concurrence.
4. In accordance with Act IV, 1984, after negotiation with congregational office bearers and in anticipation of a congregational meeting scheduled to take place on 21 October 2012, agree the draft basis of dissolution for the congregation of Culter and agree to transmit the same to Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group for concurrence.
5. Instruct Kirk Sessions of the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington to strictly follow the timetable issued by the Depute Clerk on 24 September 2012 to ensure that all necessary procedures are carried out at the appropriate juncture.
6. Remit to the Depute Clerk to make the necessary arrangements to have appropriate Presbytery representation for congregational meetings to take place on 21 October in the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington.
7. Subject to all necessary permissions being granted for the dissolution at Culter to take place, appoint the Depute Clerk, Rev Harry Findlay, Resources Convener and Mr Jim Watt, Congregational Support Convener as the Presbytery representatives on the committee to dispose of the congregational moveable property and funds.
8. Appoint Mr Ewan Easton (Lesmahagow: Old), Mr Jim Johnstone (Symington), Mr Jack Lumsden (Lanark: Greyfriars), Mrs Libby Muir (Carluke: St. Andrew's) and Mrs Irene Williams (United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction) as Assessor Elders and charity trustees for Culter Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC018252) with full voting privileges within the Kirk Session should two or more elders resign from the Kirk Session, or Presbytery become aware of difficulties within the Kirk Session at Culter Parish Church.
9. Thank the staff of the Law Department, General Trustees, Ministries Council, the Office of the Principal Clerk and the Depute Principal Clerk for their wise counsel and advice during the drafting of the basis of linkings and dissolution.
10. Instruct the Clerk to issue extracts to appropriate Councils, Committees and Departments of the Church

Parties were called.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Clerk proposed an addendum to the deliverance, to add a new section 11, 'Thank the Depute Clerk for all his efforts during the last month to ensure progress under Act IV.'

The addendum was agreed.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process under Act IV 1984 was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

Report of the Planning Group

The Convener of the Planning Group, Rev Iain Cunningham indicated to Presbytery that no report would be made at this meeting. Time was allowed for questions.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the Clerk is progressing Data Protection Registration for Presbytery
3. Urge all Presbyters with musical talent to offer their services to accompany worship.
4. Approve a Bursary of £250 per annum for the current candidate in training for Ministry of Word and Sacrament.
5. Note that a meeting of new Presbytery Elders will be held in Lanark on Wednesday 3 October 2012 at 7.30pm.
6. Approve the allocation of Remits from the General Assembly as detailed in the Report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Special Committee

The Report of the Special Committee constituted by Presbytery at the meeting of 6 March 2012 was presented by the Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson, Presbytery Clerk, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

4. Receive the Report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the team to carry out the Local Church Review Visit to The Douglas Valley Churches will be Rev Ian Watson (Team Leader), Mrs. Irene Williams and an elder of the team leader's choosing.
3. Note that the team to carry out the Local Church Review Visit to Carluke: St Andrews will be Rev Sarah Ross (Team Leader), Rev Robert Cleland and an elder of the team leader's choosing.
4. Note that reports are to be in the hands of the Convenor of the Congregational Support Committee by 30th April 2013

The Deliverance was approved

Joint Report of the Congregational Support Committee and Resources Committee

The Joint Report of the Congregational Support Committee and Resources Committee was presented by the Congregational Support Committee Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note the minute from a Congregational meeting held at Carnwath Church on Sunday 16th September at which the congregation

- a) unanimously agreed to relinquish all attachment to the Church building and hand responsibility for the marketing of the Church building to the General Trustees , who if unsuccessful in marketing will seek permission to demolish and meet the costs incurred
 - b) unanimously agreed to relinquish all attachment of the Church Hall building and hand responsibility for the marketing and if unsuccessful, the demolition and costs incurred to the General Trustees.
 - c) agreed that the last service in the church should be on Sunday 28th October 2012 which would specially mark its closing and that a safe space for storage would be found for items which are to be removed.
 - d) agreed that it would stop using the hall from Sunday 28th October 2012 and that arrangements for appropriate insurances and security would be put in hand for the church and hall until such times as the General Trustees take over responsibility.
 - e) agreed to hold a public meeting in the village in order to explain the situation and see if there is any interest in the village in taking any village initiative to secure a future for the hall if it is needed
3. Approve the actions agreed at the congregational meeting in Carnwath on 16 September 2012 and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute from Presbytery and a copy of the minute of the congregational meeting to the General Trustees.
 4. Acknowledge and thank the General Trustees for their support for the charge of Carnwath over many years and seek their assistance with regards to the disposal of buildings at Carnwath.
 5. Commend the congregation of Carnwath for their vision, for the progress made and seek the prayerful support of the Presbytery for the new beginnings in worship and outreach now being established.
 6. Thank Rev Russell McLarty Interim Moderator for his efforts.
 7. Thank the Transitional Support Group for their report and urge them to continue to provide support and encouragement to the congregation of Carnwath and to report to the Congregational Support Committee in January 2013.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note details of the Mind, Body, Heart and Soul Conference on the 28th November 2012 at Banqueting Hall, Almada Street, Hamilton have been sent out.
3. Note details of the online resource for people dealing with depression, anxiety or low mood has been emailed out to all congregations to be shared in an appropriate manner.
4. Note the report of the Education Resources Committee meeting and that it will be forwarded to Hamilton and Glasgow Presbyteries and Church and Society Council.
5. Agree that South Lanarkshire Council's policy of locking down heating in schools should be revised in light of the fact not all schools have been refurbished.
6. Encourage Rev Sarah Ross to follow up issues of poverty and homelessness in the area of education with South Lanarkshire Council.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Alan Gibson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Gratefully acknowledge the ministry of Ann Lyall, Deacon in the Biggar area over the past 12 months and note that Ann's ministry has brought support to an area of Presbytery where ministry resources have been depleted.
3. Instruct the Clerk to write to the Ministries Council, seeking an extension to Ann Lyall's involvement with the Presbytery of Lanark for an additional 12 months beyond the summer of 2013.

The convener, Mr Gibson proposed an addendum to the deliverance, to add a new section 4, 'Presbytery approve the appointment of Ann Lyall as Vice Convener of Congregational Development Committee'

The addendum was agreed.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Presbytery still awaits 10 Initial Feed Back Forms which the National Stewardship Programme instructed to be sent to the Presbytery Clerk and to the Stewardship and Finance Committee by 29 February 2012
3. Agree to the request of Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark, to use £1,000 of Presbytery's remaining 2012 3% Variance Allowance to finance a joint pilot Christmas Project for the pupils of Robert Owen Primary School
4. Note the proposed Congregational Allocations to the Ministries and Mission Fund for 2013 (Appendix 6)
5. Instruct Congregational Treasurers to lodge any appeals against the proposed Congregational Allocations for 2013 with the Convener of the Resources Committee not later than the 22 October 2012
6. Note that those congregations who benefited from this year's 3% Variance Allowance for summer schools and other missionary activities have been given the same reduction in the Ministries and Mission Proposal for 2013
7. Instruct those congregations who have received a reduction in next year's Allocation but who do not intend to continue the work for which the reductions were intended, to inform the Convener of the Resources Committee not later than 22 October 2012
8. Noting that the General Assembly has instructed congregations to pay their Ministries and Mission Allocations by ten Standing Orders, remind Congregations who cannot pay by that method, that they require Presbytery to grant them Dispensation and that application should be made, in the first instance, to the Resources Convener not later than the 22 October 2012
9. Remind Congregations that the use and keeping of the new Property Register is not optional but mandatory
10. Agree to appoint Mr Michael Nisbet, Chartered Architect, to carry out the Quinquennial Property Surveys of all of the ecclesiastical buildings of the Parish Churches of Glencaple, Lowther, Kirkmuirhill, Carstairs, and Douglas Valley.

The convener, Mr Findlay proposed an addendum to the deliverance, to add a new section 11, 'Approve an application from Forth: St. Paul's Church, asking for a grant to help meet the cost of an Option Study to investigate possibilities for refurbishing the buildings at a cost of £2,600 plus VAT, and instruct the Clerk to complete and forward the application to the General Trustees'

The addendum was agreed.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

- The Guild Presbyterial Council is organising a Songs of Praise to take place in St Nicholas Church Lanark on Friday 12 October at 7.30pm to mark the 125th Anniversary of the Guild to which all are welcome.
- Mabel Morris from The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction intimated that the African Children's Choir would be performing on Sunday 14th October at Carstairs

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 6 November 2012 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

The Presbytery of Lanark
Draft Basis of Union
Between
Glencaple and Lowther

The Congregation of Glencaple Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC017506) and the Congregation of Lowther Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC034654) shall be united as from the First day of January Two Thousand and Thirteen, and that on the following Terms and Conditions

1. **Name of Congregation:** The name of the United Congregation shall be 'The Upper Clyde Church of Scotland'. The Scottish Charity Number SC017506 shall be retained as the Scottish Charity Number of the united congregation.
2. **Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.
3. **Places of Worship:** The existing Glencaple Church shall be the place of worship of the united congregation. The existing Lowther Church shall be closed on a date to be agreed and thereafter the building along with any surrounding land shall be sold subject to the titles on which they are held, subject to the approval of Presbytery, and if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation. Services of Worship will continue to be held on a regular basis in the village of Leadhills in a venue and on a day and time agreed by the Kirk Session. Further services of worship shall be conducted in the surrounding villages served by the united congregation in venues and on days and times agreed by the Kirk Session.
4. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be those presently designated as the bounds of the Parishes of Glencaple and Lowther, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
5. **Kirk Session:** The elders of the two Kirk Sessions shall form with the minister the Kirk Session of the United Congregation.
6. **Congregational Management:** The financial or temporal affairs of the United Congregation shall be administered as, or in accordance with, the Unitary Constitution, the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the said congregation.
7. **Minister:** The united congregation, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act VIII, 2003 and subsequent to the approval of the Presbytery Plan and all necessary permissions being granted.
8. **Manse:** The Manse at 66 Carlisle Road, Crawford ML8 6TW currently serving the linked charge shall be the manse of the united congregation but within six months from the date of union the Kirk Session, in liaison with the Presbytery of Lanark and the Church of Scotland General Trustees, shall have considered the future of the manse and shall make a decision as to its retention or replacement.
9. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
10. **Power to re-adjust:** While these articles and terms shall form a Basis of Union for the two Congregations now uniting, the united Congregation shall be free, like other Congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

The Presbytery of Lanark
Draft Basis of Linking
Between
Biggar and Black Mount

The congregation of Biggar Parish Church of Scotland (SC000333) shall be linked with the congregation of Black Mount Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC000603) as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery and that on the following terms and conditions

1. **Name:** The name of each parish will remain the same with the full name of the linked charge being Biggar Parish Church linked with Black Mount Parish Church.
2. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the bounds presently served by the existing congregations, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
3. **Places of Worship:** The two churches presently used by the congregations shall be the Places of Worship of the linked congregations. Services shall be held each Sunday at times to be decided by the Kirk Sessions.
4. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to, or held on behalf of, each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.

For maintenance and listed expenses contributions from each congregation to be on the following percentage basis: 82% by Biggar and 18% by Black Mount. The Kirk Session of Biggar shall pay all joint expenses and reclaim them from the Congregational Board at Black Mount at regular intervals. The arrangements will stay in place until they are superseded. The financial arrangements will be reviewed annually. The amounts will be agreed jointly by the financial courts of each congregation and, where necessary, the Presbytery of Lanark will arbitrate.

Any buildings determined by the Kirk Sessions to be surplus to the requirements of the charge shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the titles on which they are held and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sales or lets shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995 be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, to be held and applied for Fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.

5. **Ministry:** The linked charge, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act IV, 1984 subsequent to all necessary permissions being granted and as agreed in the section of the Presbytery Plan approved by the Presbytery of Lanark in June 2012.
6. **Nominating Committee:** The numerical composition of the Nominating Committee shall be determined by the Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark in terms of Act VII, 2003 section 14, as amended.
7. **Kirk Sessions:** The minister of the linked charge shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session. The two Kirk Sessions may meet together as they deem it desirable.

The Kirk Sessions will meet in joint conference at least twice a year. Business considered at joint Kirk Session conferences will, in accordance with the General Assembly legislation, become the subject of formal decisions at the next meeting of each Kirk Session separately.

8. **Congregational Management:** The congregation of Biggar shall continue with the Unitary Constitution whilst Black Mount will retain the model constitution. Presbytery can be asked to review the percentage of joint costs paid by each of the congregations, should there be a material change in the circumstances of one or both, of the congregations.
9. **Manses:** The manse of Biggar Parish shall be the manse of the linked charge. The manse of Black Mount (17 Mercat Loan, Biggar) will remain in use as a manse for the deacon attached to the Biggar area appointed by the Ministries Council. Following the end of the deacon's appointment the manse will be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the approval of Presbytery and of the General Trustees or General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation. For the avoidance of doubt, the shares in the value of the manse at 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar are 40% by Black Mount, 32.5% by Culter and 27.5% by Libberton & Quothquan.
10. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
11. **Power to Adjust:** While these articles shall form a Basis of Linking for the two congregations now linking, the linked congregations shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

The Presbytery of Lanark

Draft Basis of Dissolution of the Congregation of
Culter Parish Church (Church of Scotland) SC018252

- 1 **Act of Dissolution:** The congregation of Culter Parish Church (Church of Scotland), SC018252 shall be dissolved as at a date to be appointed by the Presbytery of Lanark.
- 2 **Territorial Responsibility:** The area of the parish shall be transferred to the parish of Biggar, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
- 3 **Pastoral Oversight:** Prior to dissolution the Kirk Session shall provide the Presbytery Clerk with a list of the names and addresses of communicant members and shall issue to each such member a Certificate of Transference. Notices of Removal shall then be served by the Presbytery Clerk to the Ministers of the parishes of residence of the said members, with an instruction to provide due pastoral care.
- 4 **Heritable Property:** The titles of the Church at Culter, ML12 6PZ and the Manse at 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar, ML11 6DG are vested in the General Trustees, who are authorised and empowered:
 - (a) to sell, let or otherwise dispose of the said Church and Hall, Halls and Manse, all at such prices or considerations and on such terms as may be approved by the General Trustees in consultation with the Presbytery of Lanark; and
 - (b) to transfer the free proceeds of such sale or let, subject to the meeting of any shortfalls of contributions to central funds which the Presbytery has determined to be unjustified (so far as these are not met from the funds referred to in Section 5 hereof) into the Central Fabric Fund.
- 5 **Moveable property:** A Committee consisting of 3 members of the Congregation nominated by the Kirk Session prior to the date of dissolution, together with 3 members nominated by Presbytery, is hereby appointed and vested with the power to deal with the whole furniture, furnishings and corporeal moveable property effecting to the congregation. The Kirk Session will nominate 2 further members of the congregation to replace any of the original 3 nominees should they be unable to continue as members of the Committee.
 - (a) The said Committee shall have power to make over, in terms appearing appropriate to them (including by way of gift), any moveable property to other congregations or agencies of the Church of Scotland, any surplus items being sold and the proceeds being dealt with as in paragraph 5(b).
 - (b) The said Committee is also hereby vested with the power to settle any debts due by the Congregation, including the meeting of any shortfalls of contributions to central funds, and to deal with the whole cash, funds in bank and marketable securities belonging to or effecting to the Congregation.

All such property will be realised and the net proceeds, under deduction of any debts, shall be applied in the following ways:

70% of the total amount will be gifted to the congregation of Biggar Parish Church of Scotland (SC000333) and designated as a new Fund to be entitled 'The Culter Christian Education Fund'. The said Fund will be administered by the Kirk Session of Biggar Church with the capital being invested and only the revenue expended to support Christian education within the area comprising the former parish of Culter; and

30% of the total amount will be split proportionately and gifted to the Church of Scotland congregations where members of Culter Church indicate they will be lodging their certificates of transference, the indication to be made by members by a date agreed by the Kirk Session prior to the date of dissolution.
 - (c) The said Committee shall also be responsible for depositing all records relating to Culter with the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly for onward transmission to the National Archives of Scotland.
- 6 **Endowments:** The endowments of the charge shall be transferred to the National Stipend Fund.
- 7 **Congregational Trusts:** The Bertram Endowment Trust and the Sommerville Bequest Fund shall be transferred to the Presbytery of Lanark with the Moderator, Clerk, Depute-Clerk and Treasurer acting as trustees of the funds until such times that a permanent transfer of the funds and trusteeship to appropriate bodies or persons can be realised.

The Presbytery of Lanark
Draft Basis of Linking
Between
Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington

The congregations of Cairngryffe Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC017001), Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC016304) and Symington Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC009095) will be linked as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery and that on the following terms and conditions

1. **Name:** The name of each parish will remain the same with the full name of the linked charge being Cairngryffe Parish Church linked with Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church linked with Symington Parish Church.
2. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the bounds presently served by the existing congregations, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
3. **Places of Worship:** The three churches presently used by the congregations shall be the Places of Worship of the linked congregations. Services shall be held each Sunday at times to be decided by the Kirk Sessions. A pattern of worship will be agreed upon by the Kirk Sessions to enable the minister of the charge to lead only two services of worship on any given Sunday.
4. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to, or held on behalf of, each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
For maintenance and listed expenses contributions from each congregation to be on the following percentage basis: 40% by Cairngryffe, 20% by Libberton & Quothquan and 40% by Symington. The Kirk Session of Cairngryffe shall pay all joint expenses and reclaim them from the Kirk Sessions at Libberton & Quothquan and Symington at regular intervals. The arrangements will stay in place until they are superseded. The financial arrangements will be reviewed annually. The amounts will be agreed jointly by the financial courts of each congregation and, where necessary, the Presbytery of Lanark will arbitrate.
Any buildings determined by the Kirk Sessions to be surplus to the requirements of the charge shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the titles on which they are held and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sales or lets shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995 be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, to be held and applied for Fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.
5. **Ministry:** The linked charge, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act IV, 1984 and subsequent all necessary permissions being granted and as agreed in the section of the presbytery Plan approved by the Presbytery of Lanark in June 2012.
6. **Nominating Committee:** The numerical composition of the Nominating Committee shall be determined by the Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark in terms of Act VII, 2003 section 14, as amended.
7. **Kirk Sessions:** The minister of the linked charge shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session. The three Kirk Sessions may meet together as they deem it desirable.
The Kirk Sessions will meet in joint conference at least twice a year. Business considered at joint Kirk Session conferences will, in accordance with the General Assembly legislation, become the subject of formal decisions at the next meeting of each Kirk Session separately.
8. **Congregational Management:** The congregations of Cairngryffe and Libberton & Quothquan shall continue with the Unitary Constitution and the congregation of Symington with the Model Constitution. Presbytery can be asked to review the percentage of joint costs paid by each of the congregations, should there be a material change in the circumstances of one or both, of the congregations.
9. **Manses:** The manse of Cairngryffe Parish Church and Symington Parish Church shall be the manse of the linked charge. The manse of Libberton & Quothquan (17 Mercat Loan, Biggar) will remain in use as a manse for the deacon attached to the Biggar area appointed by the Ministries Council. Following the end of the deacon's appointment the manse will be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the approval of Presbytery and of the General Trustees or General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation. For the avoidance of doubt, the shares in the value of the manse at 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar are 40% by Black Mount, 32.5% by Culter and 27.5% by Libberton & Quothquan.
10. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
11. **Power to Adjust:** While these articles shall form a Basis of Linking for the three congregations now linking, the linked congregations shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

**The Presbytery of Lanark
Timetable for Vacancy Procedure/ Act IV, 1984 Procedure**

23 rd September	Edict from presbytery informing of being cited for interest read
30 th September	Edict from presbytery informing of being cited for interest read
2 nd October	Congregation cited to appear for their interest at Presbytery as Basis of linkage/ Dissolution is discussed and agreed or otherwise subject to congregational approval
7 th October	Edict re congregational meeting to agree the Basis of linkage/ Dissolution read and roll available for inspection
14 th October	Edict re congregational meeting to agree the Basis of linkage/ Dissolution read and roll available for inspection
17 th October	Final date for roll amendments to be alerted to session clerk
18 th October	Roll amendments made
21 st October	Congregational meeting to agree Basis of linkage/ Dissolution and result announced to congregation
22 nd October	Decision of congregational meeting transmitted to Presbytery and Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group
28 th October	Edict from presbytery informing of being cited for interest read
4 th November	Edict from presbytery informing of being cited for interest read Edict Read to congregation informing of the preparation of the Electoral Register (Act VIII, 2003, Schedule C)
6 th November	Congregation cited to appear for their interest at Presbytery to hear the concurrence or otherwise of the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group in respect of the Basis of linkage/ Dissolution. Following the intimation of concurrence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Presbytery clerk will intimate a 21 day window for people appealing the decision of Presbytery is opened. • The Presbytery will set a date for the linkage/ dissolution to take effect (most likely to be 3rd December 2012) • The Vacancy Procedure Committee will grant permission to call and inform Presbytery of the numerical make-up of the nominating committees
11 th November	Edict Read to congregation informing of the preparation of the Electoral Register (Act VIII, 2003, Schedule C)
prior to 17 th November	Kirk Session meet to prepare Electoral register and hear claims from those who wish to add their names by Certificate of Transference or become a registered adherent of the congregation. (Date must be agreed and inserted into Edict read on 4 th and 11 th November)
18 th November	Edict Read to congregation informing of the dates and times for inspecting Electoral Register (Act VIII, 2003, Schedule E)
25 th November	Kirk Session Meeting to revise and attest Electoral Register (Date must be agreed and inserted into Edict read on 18 th November) Edict Read to congregation informing of the dates and times for inspecting Electoral Register (Act VIII, 2003, Schedule G)
26 th November	Two attested copies of Electoral Register transmitted to Presbytery Clerk
2 nd December	Edict Read to congregation informing of the dates and times for inspecting Electoral Register (Act VIII, 2003, Schedule G) Assuming there is no appeal a final service of thanksgiving will take place in Culter Church to mark the closure of the building.
3 rd December	Assuming there is no appeal The Basis of linkage/ Dissolution come into effect.
10 th December	Assuming there is no appeal Congregational Meetings take place to elect nominating committees

Appendix 6

THE PRESBYTERY OF LANARK
PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS TO THE MINISTRIES AND MISSION FUND FOR 2013
 (Maximum Increase allowed to Stewardship Finance Department for 2013 is +12%)

CONGREGATION	AVERAGE INCOME BASE				PROPOSALS FOR 2013				INCREASE/ DECREASE		VARIANCE FROM SCALE	
	2008 to 2010	2009 to 2011	INCREASE DECREASE CASH %		M&M Fund EDIN	Deacon Project PRESB	Local Mission CONG	Total Allocation	%	CASH	CASH	%
BIGGAR	91,440	85,768	-5,672	-6.20%	49,885	2,318		52,203	-5.50%	-3,059	0	0.00%
C: KIRKTON	112,677	108,159	-4,518	-4.00%	65,005			65,005	-3.60%	-2,440	0	0.00%
C: ST ANDREW'S	55,686	57,378	1,692	3.00%	34,321			34,321	3.30%	1,083	0	0.00%
C: ST JOHN'S	92,489	91,844	-645	-0.70%	55,787			55,787	-0.50%	-283	0	0.00%
CARNWATH	48,366	45,322	-3,044	-6.30%	26,605			26,605	-6.80%	-1,949	0	0.00%
COALBURN	21,054	21,304	250	1.20%	10,959			10,959	12.00%	1,174	275	2.40%
CARSTAIRS	53,141	55,190	2,049	3.90%	30,991		1,000	31,991	12.00%	3,428	930	2.80%
CROSSFORD	37,064	35,451	-1,613	-4.40%	20,288			20,288	-0.20%	-49	0	0.00%
CULTER	14,001	11,872	-2,129	-15.20%	5,449	399		5848	-5.90%	-364	0	0.00%
DOUGLAS VALLEY	59,389	60,017	628	1.10%	35,886			35,886	12.00%	3,845	124	0.30%
BLACK MOUNT	19,641	18,824	-817	-4.20%	9,203	538		9,741	-4.50%	-457	0	0.00%
GLENCAPLE	32,882	31,450	-1,432	-4.40%	16,840	887		17,727	-4.90%	-917	0	0.00%
FORTH ST PAUL'S	65,123	65,800	677	1.00%	39,711			39,711	2.90%	1,113	0	0.00%
KIRKFIELD BANK	20,345	19,460	-885	-4.30%	10,097			10,097	-4.90%	-523	0	0.00%
KIRKMUIRHILL	120,594	112,086	-8,508	-7.10%	66,626		500	67,126	-6.40%	-4,571	0	0.00%
L: ST NICHOLAS	117,849	112,246	-5,603	-4.80%	67,212			67,212	2.10%	1,378	0	0.00%
LAW	42,101	45,999	3,898	9.30%	26,052			26,052	12.00%	2,791	987	3.70%
ABBEYGREEN	89,158	90,014	856	1.00%	54,708			54,708	4.10%	2,159	0	0.00%
LSMHGW: OLD	83,607	84,423	816	1.00%	51,409			51,409	11.10%	5,144	0	0.00%
LIBB & QU'QUAN	19,247	18,561	-686	-3.60%	5,853	530		6,383	12.00%	684	3,211	33.50%
SYMINGTON	37,741	37,390	-351	-0.90%	20,421	1,108		21,529	-1.00%	-225	0	0.00%
LOWTHER	6,589	6,260	-329	-5.00%	2,809	196		3,005	-0.10%	-4	0	0.00%
L: GREYFRIARS	90,870	89,465	-1,405	-1.50%	53,884		500	54,384	-1.50%	-829	0	0.00%
CAIRNGRYFFE	36,928	35,706	-1,222	-3.30%	19,427	1,024		20,451	-3.70%	-782	0	0.00%
					779,428	7,000	2,000	788,428				

Lanark, on, Tuesday 6 November 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 22 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 15 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev U Stewart Minister; Messrs M Barclay, A Grant D Hodgson, P McLeish, C Morton, S Scott and Mrs M Morris and Mrs I Williams Elders and Rev M McLarty and Mrs A Muir, Corresponding Members.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors from Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther and Symington congregations.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 2 October 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2012 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- An e-mail from the Nomination Committee seeking nominations for appointments by the General Assembly to its Councils and Standing Committees. The Clerk urged Presbyters to give consideration to identifying people with appropriate skills.
- Information from Rev M Scott, Convener of Ministries Council regarding changes to terms and conditions for PPWs and information from a PPW expressing disquiet about the situation and asking that Presbyteries be informed. The Clerk informed Presbytery that the matter had been remitted to Presbytery Ministries Committee and would be reported on this evening.
- Information from the Law Department regarding Treasurers Accounts with the Bank of Scotland This had been forwarded to all Presbyters.
- An e-mail from Ministries to ascertain if our Presbytery Plan was likely to be submitted for the additional meeting of PPTG on December 11th.
- An e-mail from Rev M Scott Ministries Council regarding the deficit in the Ministers and Missionaries Pension Fund and indicating that there will be a consultation with Ministers on the future provision of pensions.
- An e-mail from Rev R McLarty stating his intention to transfer to Lanark Presbytery
- A Practising Certificate for Rev R McLarty received from Edinburgh Presbytery.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

Note the Practising certificate from the Presbytery of Edinburgh for Rev R McLarty and agree to add Rev R McLarty to the Roll of Lanark Presbytery.

- An e-mail from Ministries Council with a letter from the Principal Clerk indicating that Miss A Lyall DCs, Mr Alan Grant and Mr Bill Love had completed the required training to act in the capacity as Interim Moderator

The Clerk moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

Note that Miss A Lyall DCs, Mr Alan Grant and Mr Bill Love have completed the required training to act in the capacity as Interim Moderator.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an Extract Minute had been received from the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group regarding the proposed union of Glencaple and Lowther.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the Ministries Council PPTG did not concur with the decision of Presbytery of 2 October 2012 to allow a union of Glencaple and Lowther congregations and wish clarification on whether the proposed ministry would be a full time or part time post, and if a part time post, then the FTE percentage to be allocated.

Representatives from the cited congregations of Glencaple and Lowther were invited to make representations. No representations were made.

Parties were removed.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Note that the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group did not concur with the draft basis of Union of Glencaple Parish Church and Lowther Parish Church and wish clarification on whether the proposed ministry would be a full time or part time post, and if a part time post, then the FTE percentage to be allocated.

Rev Bryan Kerr moved an addendum to the deliverance:

2. Express regret that the Ministries Council presbytery Planning Task Group did not concur with the Draft Basis of Union of Glencaple Parish Church and Lowther Parish Church despite overwhelming support from the congregations and Presbytery.
3. Urge the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group to concur with the Draft Basis of Union of Glencaple and Lowther at its December 2012 meeting, prior to knowing the exact nature of ministry to be provided in the Presbytery Plan to allow the congregations to unite as is their wish and desire. (Appendix 3)
4. Note that it is hoped that the proposed date of union of Glencaple Parish Church and Lowther Parish Church of 1st January 2013 will still be possible.
5. Remit the matter of a service of thanksgiving for Lowther Church to the Business Committee in consultation with the Kirk Session and Interim Moderator of the charge

The addendum was approved

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

Good News Stories

Mr Bill Love conveyed information to Presbytery from Libberton & Quothquan as they celebrate 200 years of Christian witness from the current building. Over the past year they have had visits from all living ex ministers as well as the Moderator of the General Assembly. They also held a number of events to raise money for the flower festival held in August as well as a very successful songs of praise service, A new history of the Church was commissioned as well as a number of commercially produced items for sale. This all comes from a small rural congregation that is keen to ensure that the church is there to serve its community now and for the future.

Report on progress under Act IV 1984

The Report on progress under Act IV 1984 was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

11. Receive the report
12. Thank those who made arrangements and attended the congregational meetings in the Biggar area on 21 October 2012.

13. Note that in respect of the vote for Biggar linked with Black Mount; in Biggar Parish Church there voted 59 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions and in Black Mount Parish Church there voted 19 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions.
14. Note that in respect of the vote for Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington; in Cairngryffe Parish Church there voted 32 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions; in Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church there voted 27 for the linking, 2 against and there were 0 abstentions and in Symington Parish Church there voted 32 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions.
15. Note that in respect of the vote for the dissolution of Culter Parish Church there voted 8 for the dissolution, 11 against and there were 0 abstentions.
16. Thank and discharge the committee set up to progress decisions made under Act IV, 1984

The Deliverance was approved

The Depute Clerk was invited to inform Presbytery of the status of the congregational votes held on 21st October 2012 and the way forward for Presbytery.

Presbytery resolved to deal with each area of readjustment separately.

Dissolution of Culter Parish Church

Parties were called.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

An adherent of Culter Church addressed Presbytery.

Parties were removed.

The Depute Clerk reminded the Presbytery of the results of the congregational vote held on 21st October 2012.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Note that in respect of the vote for the dissolution of Culter Parish Church there voted 8 for the dissolution, 11 against and there were 0 abstentions at the congregational meeting held on 21st October 2012.
2. Agree the draft basis of dissolution of Culter Parish Church in terms of Act IV, 1984 and instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the draft basis with an extract minute to the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group for concurrence. (Appendix 5)
3. Note that following concerns regarding the Kirk Session in Culter Parish Church subsequent to the congregation's vote on the draft basis of dissolution on 21st October 2012, Assessor Elders with full voting rights are in post in line with the decision taken by the Presbytery of Lanark on 6th October 2012 and remind Culter Kirk Session of the requirement to appoint Office Bearers and a Presbytery Elder.

The Deliverance was approved

The Depute Clerk informed the Presbytery that in terms of Act IV, 1984 a minute of the case up to the point of decision should be adjusted and agreed. The Depute Clerk read out the minute of the case.

The minute of the case of the Dissolution of Culter was approved

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process under Act IV 1984 was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 1984 parties have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged at the meeting of Presbytery where concurrence from the Ministries Council is intimated. There will then be a period of seven days for the text of the appeal to be lodged with the Presbytery Clerk

Linking of Biggar Parish Church and Black Mount Parish Church

Parties were called.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

No representations were made.

Parties were removed.

The Depute Clerk reminded the Presbytery of the results of the congregational vote held on 21st October 2012.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Note that in respect of the vote for Biggar linked with Black Mount; in Biggar Parish Church there voted 59 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions and in Black Mount Parish Church there voted 19 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions at the congregational meetings held on 21st October 2012.
2. Agree the draft basis of linking of Biggar Parish Church and Black Mount Parish Church in terms of Act IV, 1984 and instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the draft basis with an extract minute to the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group for concurrence. (appendix 4)

The Deliverance was approved

The Depute Clerk informed the Presbytery that in terms of Act IV, 1984 a minute of the case up to the point of decision should be adjusted and agreed. The Depute Clerk read out the minute of the case.

The minute of the case of the Linking of Biggar Parish Church and Black Mount Parish Church was approved

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process under Act IV 1984 was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 1984 parties have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged at the meeting of Presbytery where concurrence from the Ministries Council is intimated. There will then be a period of seven days for the text of the appeal to be lodged with the Presbytery Clerk

Linking of Cairngryffe Parish Church, Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church and Symington Parish Church

Parties were called.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

No representations were made.

Parties were removed.

The Depute Clerk reminded the Presbytery of the results of the congregational vote held on 21st October 2012.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*:-

1. Note that in respect of the vote for Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington; in Cairngryffe Parish Church there voted 32 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions; in Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church there voted 27 for the linking, 2 against and there were 0 abstentions and in Symington Parish Church there voted 32 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions at the congregational meetings held on 21st October 2012.
2. Agree the draft basis of linking of Cairngryffe Parish Church, Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church and Symington Parish Church in terms of Act IV, 1984 and instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the draft

basis with an extract minute to the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group for concurrence. (Appendix 6)

The Deliverance was approved

The Depute Clerk informed the Presbytery that in terms of Act IV, 1984 a minute of the case up to the point of decision should be adjusted and agreed. The Depute Clerk read out the minute of the case.

The minute of the case of the Linking of Linking of Cairngryffe Parish Church, Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church and Symington Parish Church was approved

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the process under Act IV 1984 was sisted and Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the relevant parties.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 1984 parties have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged at the meeting of Presbytery where concurrence from the Ministries Council is intimated. There will then be a period of seven days for the text of the appeal to be lodged with the Presbytery Clerk

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that all of the decisions taken regarding readjustment will be discussed by the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group on 11th December 2012. The Depute Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery:-

1. Resolve to meet in *hunc effectum* on Tuesday 11 December 2012 at 7.00pm in St. Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark to discuss the decision of the Ministries Council in relation to readjustment in the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther and Symington.

The deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

7. Receive the Report
8. Note that a meeting with the new Presbytery Elders was held on 3 October 2012 in Lanark and was voted a useful and enjoyable evening.
9. Agree that the Depute Clerk should receive an honorarium recognising the extra work he has undertaken particularly in relation to readjustment.
10. Agree that the Business Committee reviews the workload each year so that the honorarium is commensurate with the work undertaken.
11. Grant permission to the congregations of Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow: Old to hold joint services on 23 and 30 December 2012.
12. Grant permission to the congregations of Lanark: St. Nicholas and Lanark Greyfriars to hold joint services on 30 December 2012 and 6 January 2013.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

24. Receive the report
25. Note that the congregations of the charge of Glencaple I/w Lowther have appointed the Rev. Nancy Norman as Locum in the charge with effect from 28 October 2012.
26. Note that the charge of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction became vacant on 22 October 2012.

27. Note that the charge of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction has appointed the Rev Susan Cowell as Locum.

Report of the Planning Group

The Report of the Planning Group was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

11. Receive the Report
12. Approve the Presbytery Budget maintaining the Presbytery Levy at £2.25 *per capita* (*Appendix 2*)
13. Agree to the request of St. Andrew's Parish Church, Carluke, to use £500 of Presbytery's 2013 3% Variance Allowance to help finance a monthly support group for dementia sufferers and their carers, and instruct the Clerk to forward this decision to the Stewardship and Finance Department
14. Note that none of the congregations who have received a reduction in their 2013 Ministries and Mission Allocation to fund missionary outreach have indicated that they do not intend to continue this activity next year
15. Approve the Ministries and Mission Allocations proposed for 2013 (*Appendix 1*) and instruct the Clerk to forward these figures to the Stewardship and Finance Department
16. Approve the application of the Congregations of Carnwath and Forth: St. Paul's for Dispensation from paying their 2013 Ministries and Mission Allocation by Standing Order and instruct the Clerk to forward this decision to the Stewardship and Finance Department
17. Note that the General Trustees have made a grant of £3,000 available to Forth: St. Paul's to help fund that congregation's Options Study with regard to the possible development and integration of its church and halls.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

5. Receive the report.
6. Note that the team to carry out the Local Church Review Visit to Lesmahagow Abbeygreen will comprise Rev Steven Reid (team Leader), Willie Macsween and an elder of the team leader's choosing.
7. Note that the report is to be in the hands of the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee by 30 April 2013.
8. Instruct Kirk Sessions to comply with all guidance issued by the Safeguarding Service in relation to the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
9. Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all formally recruited Congregational Pastoral Care Visiting Group members who support 'protected adults,' as defined in the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007, have the opportunity to attend safeguarding training in their congregations and are strongly encouraged to do so.
10. Instruct Ministers to co-operate fully with the Safeguarding Service and Ministries Council in complying with the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme as introduced by the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.
11. Instruct Kirk Sessions to ensure that all volunteers and paid staff have a copy of the new 'pocket guide' to safeguarding: *Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk: Key Information for Volunteers and Staff*.
12. Encourage congregations to make full use of the new Safeguarding Handbooks.
13. Instruct the Clerk to convey Deliverances 4-8 to Kirk Sessions and/or ministers as appropriate.
14. Agree to the Legal Proceedings Committee's proposals and to their continuing with this work as in Paragraph 4.1.9 of their report.
15. Agree to be part of any further consultations on the review of judicial proceedings.

16. Instruct the Clerk to convey our agreement to the proposals as contained in the 2012 Remits Booklet pages 19-21 to the Legal Questions Committee by 30 November 2012.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Miss Ann Lyall DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note the demission of Andrew Brown from the post of Presbytery Safeguarding Coordinator and thank Mr Brown for his commitment and work in that post.
3. Endorse the application of Mr Jim Reid (Lesmahagow Old) for the post of Presbytery Safeguarding Trainer.
4. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the Safeguarding Office at the Church of Scotland, stating the endorsement of Mr Jim Reid for the post of Presbytery Safeguarding Trainer.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct Kirk Sessions to discuss potential involvement in the Foodbank project and where appropriate contact Liz Barthram and invite Kirk Sessions to report back to the World and Community Issues Committee with their decisions.
3. Invite Presbytery Elders to promote the Out of Africa...Into Malta World Mission Rally on Wednesday 21st November at 7:30pm in Lanark St Nicholas Church.
4. Invite congregations to mark World Aids Day and use resources provided by the World Mission Council.
5. Remind congregations that there is still time to hold a Souper Sunday in 2012 and material is available at http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/speak_out/hiv_programme/articles/souper_sunday

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by Mrs Helen Chekansky, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Ministries Committee has diligently carried out discussion and completed a return on The Future of Continuing Ministerial Development on behalf of Presbytery. (*Appendix 7*)
3. Instruct the Clerk to forward the response to the CMD consultation document to Ministries Council.
4. Instruct the Clerk to write to Ministries Council regarding the Review of Terms and Conditions of PPWs, expressing concern for all involved in the process which has the potential to create further fractures in relationships at an already difficult time in respect of issues around the Special Commission and Presbytery Planning.
5. Instruct the Clerk to write to other Presbyteries raising their awareness of this Review of PPWs term and conditions.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

- The Clerk drew attention to the intimations printed on the Papers and invited members to take a poster with details of an Information Evening for anyone concerned about their memory or worried about someone they know to take place on 21 November in Carluke: St Andrew's at 7pm.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 4 December 2012 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business, and *in hunc effectum* on Tuesday 11 December 2012 at 7.00pm in St. Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark to discuss the decision of the Ministries Council in relation to readjustment in the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther and Symington.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1

THE PRESBYTERY OF LANARK
ALLOCATIONS TO THE MINISTRIES AND MISSION FUND FOR 2013
(Maximum Increase allowed to Stewardship Finance Department for 2013 is +12%)

CONGREGATION	AVERAGE INCOME BASE				PROPOSALS FOR 2013				INCREASE/ DECREASE		VARIANCE FROM SCALE	
	2008 to 2010	2009 to 2011	INCREASE DECREASE		M&M Fund EDIN	Deacon Project PRESB	Local Mission CONG	Total Allocation	FROM 2012 %	CASH	CASH	%
			CASH	%								
BIGGAR	91,440	85,768	-5,672	-6.20%	49,885	2,318		52,203	-5.50%	-3,059	0	0.00%
C: KIRKTON	112,677	108,159	-4,518	-4.00%	65,005			65,005	-3.60%	-2,440	0	0.00%
C: ST ANDREW'S	55,686	57,378	1,692	3.00%	34,321			34,321	3.30%	1,083	0	0.00%
C: ST JOHN'S	92,489	91,844	-645	-0.70%	55,787			55,787	-0.50%	-283	0	0.00%
CARNWATH	48,366	45,322	-3,044	-6.30%	26,605			26,605	-6.80%	-1,949	0	0.00%
COALBURN	21,054	21,304	250	1.20%	10,959			10,959	12.00%	1,174	275	2.40%
CARSTAIRS	53,141	55,190	2,049	3.90%	30,991		1,000	31,991	12.00%	3,428	930	2.80%
CROSSFORD	37,064	35,451	-1,613	-4.40%	20,288			20,288	-0.20%	-49	0	0.00%
CULTER	14,001	11,872	-2,129	-15.20%	5,449	399		5,848	-5.90%	-364	0	0.00%
DOUGLAS VALLEY	59,389	60,017	628	1.10%	35,886			35,886	12.00%	3,845	124	0.30%
BLACK MOUNT	19,641	18,824	-817	-4.20%	9,203	538		9,741	-4.50%	-457	0	0.00%
GLENCAPLE	32,882	31,450	-1,432	-4.40%	16,840	887		17,727	-4.90%	-917	0	0.00%
FORTH ST PAUL'S	65,123	65,800	677	1.00%	39,711			39,711	2.90%	1,113	0	0.00%
KIRKFIELD BANK	20,345	19,460	-885	-4.30%	10,097			10,097	-4.90%	-523	0	0.00%
KIRKMUIRHILL	120,594	112,086	-8,508	-7.10%	66,626		500	67,126	-6.40%	-4,571	0	0.00%
L: ST NICHOLAS	117,849	112,246	-5,603	-4.80%	67,212			67,212	2.10%	1,378	0	0.00%
LAW	42,101	45,999	3,898	9.30%	26,052			26,052	12.00%	2,791	987	3.70%
ABBEYGREEN	89,158	90,014	856	1.00%	54,708			54,708	4.10%	2,159	0	0.00%
LSMHGW: OLD	83,607	84,423	816	1.00%	51,409			51,409	11.10%	5,144	0	0.00%
LIBB & QU'QUAN	19,247	18,561	-686	-3.60%	5,853	530		6,383	12.00%	684	3,211	33.50%
SYMINGTON	37,741	37,390	-351	-0.90%	20,421	1,108		21,529	-1.00%	-225	0	0.00%
LOWTHER	6,589	6,260	-329	-5.00%	2,809	196		3,005	-0.10%	-4	0	0.00%
L: GREYFRIARS	90,870	89,465	-1,405	-1.50%	53,884		500	54,384	-1.50%	-829	0	0.00%
CAIRNGRYFFE	36,928	35,706	-1,222	-3.30%	19,427	1,024		20,451	-3.70%	-782	0	0.00%
					779,428	7,000	2,000	788,428				

Appendix 2

PRESBYTERY BUDGET 2013

Opening balance	<u>12407</u>
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Income:-

Interest	302
2013 Dues (7232 @ £2.25)	16272
IT replacement levy	0
Diaconate Project	7000

Total	23574
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Expenditure

Clerk's salary & NI	4977
Clerk's expenses	550
Clerk's office	600
Printing & postage	50
Insurance & copyright	300
Honoraria	700
Congregational Development	150
Congregational Support	100
Ministry Committee	100
Resources Committee	100
World & Community Issues	100
Business Committee	250
Surveys	6000
Surveys - additional reserve	2000
Pulpit Supply	500
Attestation Fees	2800
Travel	50
Hall rent	900
Grants & Bursaries	250
Sundry	300
Diaconate Project	7000
Data Protection	45

Total	27822
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Reduction in general reserve	-4248
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Projected closing balance	8159
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Closing balance - general	8159
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IT	IT	22051
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Surveys	Surveys	2000
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	Diaconate Project	0
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Total Reserves	32210
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The Presbytery of Lanark
Draft Basis of Union
Between
Glencaple and Lowther

The Congregation of Glencaple Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC017506) and the Congregation of Lowther Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC034654) shall be united as from the First day of January Two Thousand and Thirteen, and that on the following Terms and Conditions

11. **Name of Congregation:** The name of the United Congregation shall be 'The Upper Clyde Church of Scotland'. The Scottish Charity Number SC017506 shall be retained as the Scottish Charity Number of the united congregation.
12. **Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.
13. **Places of Worship:** The existing Glencaple Church shall be the place of worship of the united congregation. The existing Lowther Church shall be closed on a date to be agreed and thereafter the building along with any surrounding land shall be sold subject to the titles on which they are held, subject to the approval of Presbytery, and if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation. Services of Worship will continue to be held on a regular basis in the village of Leadhills in a venue and on a day and time agreed by the Kirk Session. Further services of worship shall be conducted in the surrounding villages served by the united congregation in venues and on days and times agreed by the Kirk Session.
14. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be those presently designated as the bounds of the Parishes of Glencaple and Lowther, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
15. **Kirk Session:** The elders of the two Kirk Sessions shall form with the minister the Kirk Session of the United Congregation.
16. **Congregational Management:** The financial or temporal affairs of the United Congregation shall be administered as, or in accordance with, the Unitary Constitution, the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the said congregation.
17. **Minister:** The united congregation, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act VIII, 2003 and subsequent to the approval of the Presbytery Plan and all necessary permissions being granted.
18. **Manse:** The Manse at 66 Carlisle Road, Crawford ML8 6TW currently serving the linked charge shall be the manse of the united congregation but within six months from the date of union the Kirk Session, in liaison with the Presbytery of Lanark and the Church of Scotland General Trustees, shall have considered the future of the manse and shall make a decision as to its retention or replacement.
19. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
20. **Power to re-adjust:** While these articles and terms shall form a Basis of Union for the two Congregations now uniting, the united Congregation shall be free, like other Congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

The Presbytery of Lanark
Draft Basis of Linking
Between
Biggar and Black Mount

The congregation of Biggar Parish Church of Scotland (SC000333) shall be linked with the congregation of Black Mount Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC000603) as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery and that on the following terms and conditions

1. **Name:** The name of each parish will remain the same with the full name of the linked charge being Biggar Parish Church linked with Black Mount Parish Church.
2. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the bounds presently served by the existing congregations, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
3. **Places of Worship:** The two churches presently used by the congregations shall be the Places of Worship of the linked congregations. Services shall be held each Sunday at times to be decided by the Kirk Sessions.
4. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to, or held on behalf of, each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.

For maintenance and listed expenses contributions from each congregation to be on the following percentage basis: 82% by Biggar and 18% by Black Mount. The Kirk Session of Biggar shall pay all joint expenses and reclaim them from the Congregational Board at Black Mount at regular intervals. The arrangements will stay in place until they are superseded. The financial arrangements will be reviewed annually. The amounts will be agreed jointly by the financial courts of each congregation and, where necessary, the Presbytery of Lanark will arbitrate.

Any buildings determined by the Kirk Sessions to be surplus to the requirements of the charge shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the titles on which they are held and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sales or lets shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995 be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, to be held and applied for Fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.

5. **Ministry:** The linked charge, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act IV, 1984 subsequent to all necessary permissions being granted and as agreed in the section of the Presbytery Plan approved by the Presbytery of Lanark in June 2012.
6. **Nominating Committee:** The numerical composition of the Nominating Committee shall be determined by the Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark in terms of Act VII, 2003 section 14, as amended.
7. **Kirk Sessions:** The minister of the linked charge shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session. The two Kirk Sessions may meet together as they deem it desirable.

The Kirk Sessions will meet in joint conference at least twice a year. Business considered at joint Kirk Session conferences will, in accordance with the General Assembly legislation, become the subject of formal decisions at the next meeting of each Kirk Session separately.

8. **Congregational Management:** The congregation of Biggar shall continue with the Unitary Constitution whilst Black Mount will retain the model constitution. Presbytery can be asked to review the percentage of joint costs paid by each of the congregations, should there be a material change in the circumstances of one or both, of the congregations.
9. **Manses:** The manse of Biggar Parish shall be the manse of the linked charge. The manse of Black Mount (17 Mercat Loan, Biggar) will remain in use as a manse for the deacon attached to the Biggar area appointed by the Ministries Council. Following the end of the deacon's appointment the manse will be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the approval of Presbytery and of the General Trustees or General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation. For the avoidance of doubt, the shares in the value of the manse at 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar are 40% by Black Mount, 32.5% by Culter and 27.5% by Libberton & Quothquan.
10. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
11. **Power to Adjust:** While these articles shall form a Basis of Linking for the two congregations now linking, the linked congregations shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

The Presbytery of Lanark

Draft Basis of Dissolution of the Congregation of
Culter Parish Church (Church of Scotland) SC018252

- 1 **Act of Dissolution:** The congregation of Culter Parish Church (Church of Scotland), SC018252 shall be dissolved as at a date to be appointed by the Presbytery of Lanark.
- 2 **Territorial Responsibility:** The area of the parish shall be transferred to the parish of Biggar, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
- 3 **Pastoral Oversight:** Prior to dissolution the Kirk Session shall provide the Presbytery Clerk with a list of the names and addresses of communicant members and shall issue to each such member a Certificate of Transference. Notices of Removal shall then be served by the Presbytery Clerk to the Ministers of the parishes of residence of the said members, with an instruction to provide due pastoral care.
- 4 **Heritable Property:** The titles of the Church at Culter, ML12 6PZ and the Manse at 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar, ML11 6DG are vested in the General Trustees, who are authorised and empowered:
- (a) to sell, let or otherwise dispose of the said Church and Hall, Halls and Manse, all at such prices or considerations and on such terms as may be approved by the General Trustees in consultation with the Presbytery of Lanark; and
- (b) to transfer the free proceeds of such sale or let, subject to the meeting of any shortfalls of contributions to central funds which the Presbytery has determined to be unjustified (so far as these are not met from the funds referred to in Section 5 hereof) into the Central Fabric Fund.
- 5 **Moveable property:** A Committee consisting of 3 members of the Congregation nominated by the Kirk Session prior to the date of dissolution, together with 3 members nominated by Presbytery, is hereby appointed and vested with the power to deal with the whole furniture, furnishings and corporeal moveable property effecting to the congregation. The Kirk Session will nominate 2 further members of the congregation to replace any of the original 3 nominees should they be unable to continue as members of the Committee.
- (a) The said Committee shall have power to make over, in terms appearing appropriate to them (including by way of gift), any moveable property to other congregations or agencies of the Church of Scotland, any surplus items being sold and the proceeds being dealt with as in paragraph 5(b).
- (b) The said Committee is also hereby vested with the power to settle any debts due by the Congregation, including the meeting of any shortfalls of contributions to central funds, and to deal with the whole cash, funds in bank and marketable securities belonging to or effecting to the Congregation.
- All such property will be realised and the net proceeds, under deduction of any debts, shall be applied in the following ways:
- 70% of the total amount will be gifted to the congregation of Biggar Parish Church of Scotland (SC000333) and designated as a new Fund to be entitled 'The Culter Christian Education Fund'. The said Fund will be administered by the Kirk Session of Biggar Church with the capital being invested and only the revenue expended to support Christian education within the area comprising the former parish of Culter; and
- 30% of the total amount will be split proportionately and gifted to the Church of Scotland congregations where members of Culter Church indicate they will be lodging their certificates of transference, the indication to be made by members by a date agreed by the Kirk Session prior to the date of dissolution.
- (c) The said Committee shall also be responsible for depositing all records relating to Culter with the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly for onward transmission to the National Archives of Scotland.
- 6 **Endowments:** The endowments of the charge shall be transferred to the National Stipend Fund.
- 7 **Congregational Trusts:** The Bertram Endowment Trust and the Sommerville Bequest Fund shall be transferred to the Presbytery of Lanark with the Moderator, Clerk, Depute-Clerk and Treasurer acting as trustees of the funds until such times that a permanent transfer of the funds and trusteeship to appropriate bodies or persons can be realised.

The Presbytery of Lanark
Draft Basis of Linking
Between
Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington

The congregations of Cairngryffe Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC017001), Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC016304) and Symington Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC009095) will be linked as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery and that on the following terms and conditions

1. **Name:** The name of each parish will remain the same with the full name of the linked charge being Cairngryffe Parish Church linked with Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church linked with Symington Parish Church.
2. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the bounds presently served by the existing congregations, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
3. **Places of Worship:** The three churches presently used by the congregations shall be the Places of Worship of the linked congregations. Services shall be held each Sunday at times to be decided by the Kirk Sessions. A pattern of worship will be agreed upon by the Kirk Sessions to enable the minister of the charge to lead only two services of worship on any given Sunday.
4. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to, or held on behalf of, each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
For maintenance and listed expenses contributions from each congregation to be on the following percentage basis: 40% by Cairngryffe, 20% by Libberton & Quothquan and 40% by Symington. The Kirk Session of Cairngryffe shall pay all joint expenses and reclaim them from the Kirk Sessions at Libberton & Quothquan and Symington at regular intervals. The arrangements will stay in place until they are superseded. The financial arrangements will be reviewed annually. The amounts will be agreed jointly by the financial courts of each congregation and, where necessary, the Presbytery of Lanark will arbitrate.
Any buildings determined by the Kirk Sessions to be surplus to the requirements of the charge shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the titles on which they are held and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sales or lets shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995 be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, to be held and applied for Fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation.
5. **Ministry:** The linked charge, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act IV, 1984 and subsequent all necessary permissions being granted and as agreed in the section of the presbytery Plan approved by the Presbytery of Lanark in June 2012.
6. **Nominating Committee:** The numerical composition of the Nominating Committee shall be determined by the Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark in terms of Act VII, 2003 section 14, as amended.
7. **Kirk Sessions:** The minister of the linked charge shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session. The three Kirk Sessions may meet together as they deem it desirable.
The Kirk Sessions will meet in joint conference at least twice a year. Business considered at joint Kirk Session conferences will, in accordance with the General Assembly legislation, become the subject of formal decisions at the next meeting of each Kirk Session separately.
8. **Congregational Management:** The congregations of Cairngryffe and Libberton & Quothquan shall continue with the Unitary Constitution and the congregation of Symington with the Model Constitution. Presbytery can be asked to review the percentage of joint costs paid by each of the congregations, should there be a material change in the circumstances of one or both, of the congregations.
9. **Manses:** The manse of Cairngryffe Parish Church and Symington Parish Church shall be the manse of the linked charge. The manse of Libberton & Quothquan (17 Mercat Loan, Biggar) will remain in use as a manse for the deacon attached to the Biggar area appointed by the Ministries Council. Following the end of the deacon's appointment the manse will be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the approval of Presbytery and of the General Trustees or General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation. For the avoidance of doubt, the shares in the value of the manse at 17 Mercat Loan, Biggar are 40% by Black Mount, 32.5% by Culter and 27.5% by Libberton & Quothquan.
10. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
11. **Power to Adjust:** While these articles shall form a Basis of Linking for the three congregations now linking, the linked congregations shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

Church of Scotland – Ministries Council

The Future of Continuing Ministerial Development**A Consultation Document Prepared by the
Ministries Council for Response by Presbyteries¹****1. Introduction**

Affirm the value of continuing ministerial development, instruct the Council to consult with Presbyteries on options for the future of post-ordination training and support, and instruct Presbyteries to respond by 30 Nov 2012. (GA Reports 2012, Deliverance 6, p 4/1)

- 1.1 In 2008, the Council began a review of all its training responsibilities. The 2012 Ministries report delivered plans for an evolution of the training process for Parish ministry which were approved by the Assembly. Built into those plans was the assumption that training for ministry does not end at the point of ordination. In the vows taken at ordination there is a commitment to a life of learning and development which enables the minister to sustain leading worship, preaching, caring and engagement with the wider community.
- 1.2 It is simply not possible to fit into a finite period of initial training time to equip ministers for every situation which they might encounter. Indeed, the commitment to continuing ministerial development (CMD) implies that it is not desirable to attempt to do so. This means that plans for CMD need to be carefully integrated with initial training both to avoid duplication and to ensure that ministers receive the support for learning which they need throughout ministry.
- 1.3 This document aims to consult Presbyteries regarding the key elements needed for effective support of CMD. The options outlined here are drawn from ideas put forward by Presbyteries and the Council over several years. In addition to formal responses from Presbyteries the Council will be pleased to receive individual submissions from Presbyters who wish to make their own contribution.

Please indicate as appropriate:

Presbytery Response (Name of Presbytery) Lanark (prepared by Ministries Committee)

Individual Response (role: eg, Minister; Elder; Deacon; etc.) _____

2. Continuing Ministerial Development**2.1 What key elements should comprise Continuing Ministerial Development?**

Please indicate which of the following main elements you think should be included in an overall pattern of CMD. If you had to prioritise any or all of them, which would be the most important? Please rank them in order of significance (1 most important through to 7 least important). More detailed options and questions about each of these elements can be found in the following sections of this document and you may wish to complete the prioritisation exercise in this section of the consultation after considering the more detailed sections on each.

- Leave Study
YES / NO Priority _____
- Academic Study Further
YES / NO Priority _____
- Conference Programme A
YES / NO Priority _____

¹ An electronic version of this document can be found on the Church of Scotland website at:
http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/10926/Remits_2012_Final.pdf

- Direction / Mentoring / Retreats Spiritual
YES / NO Priority ____
- Coaching YES / NO Priority ____
- Management Support YES / NO Priority ____
- (please specify) _____ Other
YES / NO Priority ____

No numbers were allocated to each subject since we thought all should be included in Continuing Ministerial Development

2.2 Should CMD be compulsory for Parish Ministers? YES / NO

If YES, how would Presbyteries go about ensuring that ministers were engaging in a regular pattern of CMD?

Difficulty in ensuring engagement by ministers other than by some process of monitoring. Who would monitor unless it could be carried out in some format similar to ministerial review done by superintendence.

If NO, how would Presbyteries ensure that those ministers who were not engaging in CMD in a formal way were fulfilling their ordination commitment to equip themselves for ministry?

2.3 Should CMD be linked to a regular cycle of reflective self-appraisal?² YES / NO

If YES, who should accompany ministers in the process of self-appraisal?

Not sure, but seems to be a logical link

If NO, how would Presbyteries ensure ministers are engaging in CMD which is relevant to their ministry and worthwhile?

3. Study Leave

The current Study Leave scheme entitles each serving Parish minister to an annual provision of two weeks of time plus £275 (current rate) financial support towards an agreed study leave project. This entitlement can be carried forward for up to seven years. Study leave projects have to be approved by the Ministries Council and the Presbytery is responsible for ensuring the appointment of an Interim Moderator for a period of absence on study leave of more than 1 month.

² It is worth noting here that in the Ministers of the Gospel report (GA Reports, 2000 pp 17/1 – 17/25) there is already a commitment to appraisal: “There is a need for effective methods of appraisal, which encourage ministers to identify areas for personal and intellectual development, and which go on to offer support and guidance on how in-service and study leave opportunities may best address issues raised” (p 17/15).

In the past, some have indicated that the provisions of the Study Leave Scheme are too restrictive. For example, some would like to see a freer availability of retreat-type activity (guided or otherwise) as being a proper use of the scheme. Others have sought spiritual direction, or broader vocational direction and not always found this compatible with the regulations. Still others would like to use this time and financial support towards a pattern of mentoring (more organisational than spiritual in focus).

Occasionally it has been argued that the Study Leave Scheme is too broad in scope and that the money and time would be better spent on more focussed input, primarily related to intellectual development (for example, in paying fees and freeing up time towards completion of a postgraduate degree).

Please respond to the following questions relating to Study Leave:

3.1 Should Study Leave continue in its present form, be further extended, or further limited?

CURRENT / EXTENDED / LIMITED?

If **EXTENDED** in scope, what new elements would you want to see brought into the scope of study leave (eg. Spiritual / Vocational Direction; Retreats; Mentoring; other)?

If **LIMITED** in scope, to what areas of study would you restrict the scheme?

Group did not like term limited and would prefer to use **TARGETTED**.

We thought that 7 years was too long a period for carry forward – instead 3 was perhaps more realistic.

3.2 Should Study Leave be extended to those in the first five years? YES / **NO**

The Council currently provides a series of conferences for ministers in the first five years of ministry. This follows a pattern of a day event one year followed by an overnight event the next. It is aimed at carrying forward patterns of regular meeting for support, reflection and study and to encourage ministers through the early days of adjusting to ministry.

The General Assembly instructed the Council to explore whether Study Leave should be extended to include those in the first five years. This raises the question as to whether such provision would replace the current programme or supplement it. An alternative might be to develop the first five years programme in a more varied pattern, including an element of Study Leave in some of those initial years.

If you have answered **YES** above, please circle appropriately below:

3.1.1 Should Study Leave replace the Five Years programme or supplement it?

REPLACE / SUPPLEMENT

3.1.2 Should the Five Years programme be developed in a different direction to include an element of Study Leave in some years?

YES / NO

3.1.3 Should the Five Years programme be compulsory?

YES / NO

If you have any further comments on Study Leave, please make them in the space provided below:

4. Further Accredited Study

Engaging in further accredited study is a more formal route of CMD which a number of ministers have chosen over the years. The 2012 report on training for Parish ministry committed the Council to exploring further ways in which the most academically gifted candidates for ministry can be encouraged to complete doctoral and post-doctoral studies, not least to ensure that our academic partners in training will in future have a group of suitably qualified ministers who may become lecturers or professors in the theological disciplines. That is a separate piece of work which the Council is already undertaking: this consultation relates to further accredited study within the context of Parish ministry.

Various suggestions have been made as to the kind of accredited study in which ministers might be encouraged to participate. One possibility is the creation of a Post-Graduate Certificate (or Diploma) in Ministry Studies (PGCMs; or PGDMs). Any course of accredited study undertaken in the course of ministry should be consistent with the aim of helping ministers to develop as 'reflective practitioners' (GA Reports 2000, pp 17/22 – 17/23). This means that it should engage the individual in reflection on the practice of ministry. This raises a questions about when it is best to begin such study: immediately after induction to the first charge (in an effort to continue the reflective process of learning beyond initial training); or only after a period of time, say 5 – 7 years, has elapsed in which the minister has gained experience upon which to reflect.

- 4.1 Should some form of further accredited study be expected of all ministers following initial training?
 YES / **NO**

Please comment on the reasons for your answer:

Important that a wide range of development opportunities through further accredited study are available for all, but not expected of all. Personal/professional development takes a different form for each individual.

If **YES**, at what stage of ministry should this be expected (please circle):

First year of Ministry **After 5 years** **After 10 Years** **Other**

- 4.2 Should a PGCMs (or PGDMs) be developed as a means of encouraging ministers to develop ongoing reflective skills and strengthen intellectual development? **YES / NO**

Please comment on the reasons for your answer:

Don't like the term intellectual development! If accredited study is to be a considered option for ministers as part of their continuing development, then that opportunity requires to have an organised structure with guidance/support to assist choice and work.

If you have any additional comments on accredited study, please make them in the space provided below:

5. Conference Programme

At various points over the last 20 years, efforts have been made to offer conference programmes for Parish ministers. At times these have focussed on the stage of ministry which people have reached, thus a 5, 8 or 15 years-in-ministry conference. Such conferences sought to address issues which experience suggested might be facing participants at that stage of ministry: they also had the potential to bring together folks who had trained together initially, but may or may not have kept up with one another over the years. There has been an annual Pre-Retirement Conference for many years now. At other times, conferences have been arranged topically, on a theme currently relevant to ministers (eg. Conflict Resolution; Team-Building; Appreciative Enquiry).

There could be options for a more focussed and regular conference programme for ministers and other models might be developed around peer group reflection or 'top up' subjects (eg. Current Trends in Theology / Biblical Studies / Preaching; etc.). There are a number of questions around how this would relate, for example, to the Study Leave scheme and not least about how such conferences would be financed.

- 5.1 Should the Council be responsible in principle for developing a regular conference programme for Parish ministers? **YES** / NO

If **YES**, please comment on the following:

- What would be the best pattern for a conference programme (please indicate priority for these, (1) most important through to (5) least important):

Stages in Ministry (eg 5; 8; 15 years) **YES** / NO Priority ____

Topical Issues **YES** / NO Priority ____

Peer Group Reflection **YES** / NO Priority ____

'Top Up' Subjects **YES** / NO Priority ____

A mixture of the above **YES** / NO Priority ____

- Should such conferences be eligible for Study Leave funding or sit outside the scheme? **Decision was split on this ELIGIBLE / OUTSIDE**
- Should ministers be expected to contribute towards the cost? **Partly if necessary YES** / NO

If you have any further comments on conferences as part of CMD, please make them in the space provided below:

Thought that a conference programme should/could include all/most of the above over the course of 12-18 months.

Not sure that we were able to prioritise as topics may increase/decrease in priority depending on topical issues of the time or matters arising at General Assembly.

6. Spiritual Direction / Mentoring / Retrrreats / Pastoral Supervision

An increasing number of ministers regularly seek collegial support in the form of spiritual direction, one-to-one mentoring, pastoral supervision or participation in retreats of one kind or another. Far from being seen as self-indulgent, these forms of support can be highly significant for ministers as they seek ways forward in ministry and to discern God's will and call for the future. They can also provide space for reflection and deep learning about ministry, allowing ministers to develop in emotional and spiritual ways which may complement other more rational forms of learning and development.

- 6.1 Should such forms of reflective engagement be seen as elements of regular CMD or as something to be resourced separately? **REGULAR CMD** / SEPARATE FROM CMD

If you have any further comments on spiritual direction, mentoring and retreats as part of CMD, please make them in the space below:

7. Coaching

For several years now the Priority Areas team within the Ministries Council has been resourcing a coaching programme which aims to build resilience in ministers working in some of the most challenging situations in

Scotland. Coaching aims to engage both the individual in a one-to-one mentoring process and to develop support through a peer group relationship. Participants in the scheme have described it as the most significant learning and development experience they have engaged in whilst in ministry. Coaching aims to develop the individual both in terms of skills and in emotional / spiritual ways.

Amongst its current plans, the Council is seeking to widen out the availability of coaching through a pilot scheme. While this is true of all CMD elements, it is particularly important in relation to coaching to note that it is directed towards development and not seen as a means of either offering pastoral care or crisis intervention to ministers who may be struggling at a particular point in ministry.

- 7.1 How might Presbyteries help the Council in identifying suitable candidates for a coaching peer group?
Did not come up with any ideas.

If you have any further comments on coaching as part of CMD, please make them in the space below:

8. Management Support

There is an increasing requirement for Parish ministers to act as line managers for members of teams. Such teams may include paid employees (Presbytery / Parish Workers), or unpaid members such as Ordained Local Ministers or Readers. There are also many circumstances in which ministers are called upon to exercise good management skills, working with volunteers of many kinds, from Elders through leaders of voluntary organisations to those who give time freely to work in local projects.

Where employees are involved, ministers are required to undergo specific management training before conducting appraisals for staff and need to know enough about employment law and good practice to ensure that processes and procedures are properly followed through. In relation to volunteers, there is the need for knowledge of boundaries and best practice in supporting folks in their work. Some have questioned if this should be treated separately from the regular patterns of CMD or included within an overall scheme in terms of time and money.

- 8.1 Should ongoing management **support** for ministers be viewed as part of CMD or as an additional provision?
CMD / ADDITIONAL

If part of CMD, what balance should there be over a 5-year period between management requirements and other forms of CMD?

Is management support not dependent on some period of training? Again this type of training could be included in the wider ranging opportunities on offer to all.

If **ADDITIONAL**, how often should such additional management support be given and what reduction (if any) needs to be made in the time available for CMD work in a calendar year.

- 8.2 Should management support be provided for all ministers as a matter of course, or only to those whom Presbyteries indicate require additional support/**training**?

ALL / THOSE DESIGNATED

If you have any further comments on management support as part of CMD, please make them in the space below:

Today, this aspect of managing is an important part of a minister's duties, therefore it has to be included in any programme of continuing development on offer.

9. Regional Study Opportunities

A number of the options outlined in this document raise issues about resourcing. Often the best way of resourcing a programme of continuing development is to make it as local as possible.

Given the number of Presbyteries and the variety of size, it would not be practical to deliver many of the forms of CMD outlined here simply to local Presbytery groups. It may, however, be more effective to consider grouping Presbyteries on a regional basis to generate numbers large enough to make effective delivery of resources viable.

- 9.1 Would your Presbytery be open to working with other Presbyteries on a regional basis to help the Council to deliver more effective CMD opportunities for ministers? **YES / NO**

If **YES**, with what other Presbyteries would you envisage joint working as possible? (please think as widely as possible)

If development topics were appropriate then it seems a practical option to offer to a larger, broader group but it would have to be within reasonable travelling distance.

If **NO**, what other mechanism can you suggest which might make it more effective to deliver CMD opportunities in your area?

10. Final Comments

Thank you for taking the time to complete this consultation. Your responses on the whole subject are very important in helping us to shape something for the future which is both worthwhile and effective. If you have any final comments you would like to make, please do so below or attach them separately.

Responses should be sent no later than 30 November 2012 to the Council Secretary:
Rev Dr Martin Scott, Ministries Council, 121 George St, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN

Lanark, on, Tuesday 4 December 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Moderator: In the absence of the Moderator, Rev Sarah Ross was invited to take the chair.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 18 Elders and 2 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael and I Watson, Ministers,; Messrs A Grant, C Murray, D Hodgson, W Love and Mrs H Chekansky, L Nicol, A Reid and M White, Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6 November 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2012 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 communication from

- Ministries Council – seeking feedback regarding the enquiry and assessment process
- PPW – information received from other Presbyteries regarding the changes to PPW terms and conditions
- Law Department – circulars on VAT, storage of wood pellets and Gift Aid changes which had all be passed on via e-mail.
- World Mission – Israel/Palestine tour in May 2013
- Principal Clerk – Information about Heart & Soul 2013

Return of Congregational Office Bearer Forms - the Clerk drew attention to the fact that she was still waiting for the return of a number of Congregational Office Bearer forms which ought to have been returned by the end of October.

Congregational Statistical Return Forms were distributed by the Clerk. The return date for these is 16th January 2013 and the Clerk asked for the co-operation of Presbyters in ensuring their timeous return.

Good News Stories

United charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction – Mrs Irene Williams reported on the first Messy Church held in the community centre which had attracted many families and was a positive and encouraging step to reach out to families who have no church connection

Forth: St Paul's – Rev Sarah Ross reported on the Messy Nativity Sheep Trail organised there with sheep being 'lost' in local shops and the children enjoying searching for the sheep

Carluke: St Andrew's – Rev Helen Jamieson spoke of the Messy Nativity Sheep trail organised in Carluke with the support of local shopkeepers and the involvement of skills from the congregation in knitting the sheep.

Lanark: Greyfriars – Rev Bryan Kerr spoke of a joint project with Christ Church, Lanark to take a whole morning of activity focussed on the Nativity into Robert Owen Primary.

Report of the Planning Group

The Report of the Planning Group was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

2. Receive the report

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report

2. Note that no response has been received from the Ministries Council following the Clerk expressing the concern of the Presbytery of Lanark regarding the consultation on PPW terms and conditions
3. Agree to offer support to the Presbytery of Falkirk to submit a Petition to the Commission of Assembly to instruct the Ministries Council to take no steps beyond consultation for proposals on changes to terms and conditions of employment for PPWs prior to the General Assembly 2013 and thereafter only to do so following approval of such changes by the General Assembly and agree to pray for the Presbytery of Falkirk as they seek to petition the Commission of Assembly on the matter of PPW terms and conditions.
4. Agree the Presbytery Boundaries and the boundaries of the parishes produced in conjunction with the Statistics for Mission group of the national church; note that there have been no significant changes made to them since the Presbytery last formally agreed them in May 1999; and instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute of this decision to the Statistics for Mission Group.
5. Agree to the requests from Carluke: St. Andrews and Carluke: St. John's to hold a united service in St. John's on Sunday 30th December 2012 and from the Carluke Parish Grouping to hold a united service in Kirkton Church on 6th January 2013.
6. Grant powers to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Business Convenor during the Christmas recess on the understanding that all decisions will be reported to Presbytery for homologation.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Mr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Encourage Kirk Sessions and congregations to read the World Mission China report, pray for the Chinese Christians and get involved in supporting them.
3. Invite Presbyters to remember the family of Natasha Paton and all concerned with the Fatal Accident Inquiry in their prayers.
4. Encourage Kirk Sessions to bring the Welfare Reform changes to the attention of their congregations and discuss how they will respond to requests for help.

The Deliverance was approved

The Presbytery broke for a time of fellowship.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

17. Receive the report.
18. Note that the annual Attestation of Congregational Records will take place on Wednesday 27th February 2013 in St Nicholas Church Hall at 13:00hrs.
19. Instruct the Clerk to communicate this information to all Session Clerks and to refer them to the Congregational Records Guidance Notes on pages 41-44 of the Presbytery Yearbook.
20. Urge all Presbyters to ensure that Congregation Property Convenors are made aware of the mandatory requirement to use the new Property Register.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.

2. Note that the situation with regard to non-compliance of congregations with regard to their return to the Clerk of Initial Feed Back Forms has been reported to the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee
3. Note that the Final Attestation Report has been submitted to the Stewardship and Finance Department two months after its final submission date, that despite delaying submission, a number of congregations have failed to submit their amended accounts to Presbytery, and that this non-compliance has been reported to the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee
4. Note that the Clerk has acquired a limited supply of Manse Condition Folders complete with inserts, and that these may be obtained from her on a first come first served basis
5. Remind Congregations that all Property Registers and Manse Condition Schedules will be attested early next year, and that all Property Registers should be presented in its recently revised form.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Miss Ann Lyall DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Endorse the application of Lorraine Gray for the post of Presbytery Safeguarding Trainer, and instruct the Clerk to write to the Safeguarding Office at 121 with an extract minute indicating Presbytery's approval of the above.
3. Invite applications for the Presbytery's Youth Representative at the 2013 General Assembly.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew attention to intimations printed on the Presbytery Papers

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet *in hunc effectum* on Tuesday 11 December 2012 at 7.00pm in St. Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark to discuss the decision of the Ministries Council in relation to readjustment in the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther and Symington and will meet on Tuesday 5 February 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 11 December 2012 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* in the sanctuary of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 16 Elders, 3 Corresponding Members and 11 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Easton, S Ross and U Stewart Ministers and Messrs M Barclay, A Grant, P McLeish, S Scott, D Whitefield and Mrs L Nicol, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

The Moderator reminded Presbytery that the purpose of the meeting was to hear the response of the Presbytery Planning Task Group in relation to readjustment in the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Lowther, Libberton and Quothquan & Symington.

Union of Glencaple lw Lowther

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an extract had been received from the Ministries Council PPTG concurring with the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark in October 2012 to allow the union of Glencaple and Lowther Parish Churches to take place but withholding leave to call until the Plan was agreed by Presbytery and concurred by the Task Group. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the Presbytery must now proceed to implement the decision to allow the union of Glencaple and Lowther Parish Churches.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Note the concurrence of the Presbytery Planning Task Group in relation to the Union of Glencaple linked with Lowther
2. Note that the date of union shall be 1st January 2013

The Deliverance was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the congregations have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged before the end of the meeting following which there would be a period of seven days for the text of the appeal to be lodged with the Presbytery Clerk.

Dissolution of Culter

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an extract had been received from the Ministries Council PPTG that concurs with the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark in November 2012 to allow the Dissolution of Culter Parish Church to take place and that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the Presbytery must now proceed to implement the decision.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

An adherent from Culter Parish Church spoke.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Note the concurrence of the Presbytery Planning Task Group in relation to the Dissolution of Culter Parish Church
2. Agree that the date of dissolution shall be 31st December 2012
3. Assure the members of Culter Parish Church the prayers of Presbytery at this difficult time.

The Deliverance was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the congregations have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged before the end of the meeting following which there would be a period of seven days for the text of the appeal to be lodged with the Presbytery Clerk.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

Linking of Biggar and Black Mount

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an extract had been received from the Ministries Council PPTG that concurs with the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark in November 2012 to allow the Linking of Biggar Parish Church and Black Mount Parish Church to take place and that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the Presbytery must now proceed to implement the decision. It was also noted in the extract that all adjustments and calls determined before Presbytery Plans are agreed should be included in new Presbytery Plans.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Note the concurrence of the Presbytery Planning Task Group in relation to the linking of Biggar Parish Church and Black Mount Parish Church
2. Note that the date of linking of Biggar Parish Church and Black Mount Parish Church shall be 1st January 2013

The Convenor of the Vacancy Procedure Committee moved the following addendum to the deliverance:

3. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has granted permission to call a minister without restriction to Biggar linked with Black Mount.
4. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has agreed that a Nominating Committee of 11 people be allowed in the charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount, with 8 members coming from Biggar and 3 members coming from Black Mount.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the congregations have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged before the end of the meeting following which there would be a period of seven days for the text of the appeal to be lodged with the Presbytery Clerk. The Clerk further informed Presbytery that If an appeal was lodged by any of the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton and Quothquan or Symington the process of implementing the linkage would be sisted until the appeal could be heard by the Commission of Assembly and that no Nominating Committee would be able to be formed until after that time.

Linking of Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an extract had been received from the Ministries Council PPTG that concurs with the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark in November 2012 to allow the Linking of Cairngryffe Parish Church, Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church and Symington Parish Church to take place and that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the Presbytery must now proceed to implement the decision. It was also noted in the extract that all adjustments and calls determined before Presbytery Plans are agreed should be included in new Presbytery Plans.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Note the concurrence of the Presbytery Planning Task Group in relation to the linking of Cairngryffe Parish Church, Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church and Symington Parish Church
2. Note that the date of linking of Cairngryffe Parish Church, Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church and Symington Parish Church shall be 1st January 2013

The Convenor of the Vacancy Procedure Committee moved the following addendum to the deliverance:

3. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has granted permission to call a minister without restriction to Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington
4. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has agreed that a Nominating Committee of 11 people be allowed in the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington, with 4 members coming from Cairngryffe, 3 members coming from Libberton & Quothquan and 4 members from Symington.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 1984 the congregations have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged before the end of the meeting following which there would be a period of seven days for the text of the appeal to be lodged with the Presbytery Clerk. The Clerk further informed Presbytery that If an appeal was lodged by any of the congregations of Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Libberton and Quothquan or Symington the process of implementing the linkage would be sisted until the appeal could be heard by the Commission of Assembly and that no Nominating Committee would be able to be formed until after that time.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 5 February 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator informed Presbytery that no appeals had been lodged and that all matters of readjustment agreed during the meeting would take place as planned. The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 5 February 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 25 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 2 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev R Cleland, A Meikle, U Stewart, Ministers, Messrs A Brown, W Coulter, C Murray, A McPhee, D Whitefield and Mrs M White, Elders and Mrs M McGillivray, Corresponding Member.

The Clerk invited Presbytery to welcome Rev Elizabeth (Liz) Cleland to her first presbytery meeting. Ms Cleland has assumed the role of Assistant Chaplain to Braehead Christian House in Crossford following a 10 year ministry in Alloa. Ms Cleland will become a member of the Presbytery of Lanark when a practicing certificate is received from the Presbytery of Stirling.

The Clerk also informed Presbytery of the death of Rev. Jack Stewart, the ill health of Rev Alison Meikle and Rev George Fox and the recent death of Rev Robert Cleland's father.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of '10a - Report of the Presbytery Planning Group'.

Tribute to Rev Jack Stewart

The Rev David Easton paid tribute to Rev Jack Stewart, who passed away on 24th January 2013. Jack's funeral service took place in Biggar Kirk on Thursday 31st January 2013.

Growing up in Kirkliston the Boys' Brigade played a large part in Jack's faith development. Along with his wife, Maureen, Jack served in Selkirk and in St. Stephen's Church in Glasgow which was then united to become Renfield St. Stephen's Church. During the years of Jack's dedicated ministry to parish and city, the Renfield St Stephens Church centre was developed. With the congregation being a gathered congregation Jack was known by many people throughout the city. After 12 years in Glasgow, Jack moved to Johnstone linked with Kirkpatrick Juxta from where he retired to Biggar. While his health permitted, Jack was active in the Presbytery of Lanark, serving as Moderator and as Interim Moderator and Locum in a number of congregations and when not elsewhere Jack was a regular worshipper in Biggar Kirk. Jack Stewart was a great man of faith who engaged in discussion of the world around him as well as politics and matters ecclesiastical. He made many friends through his interest in Bowling and membership of a Reading Group. Jack is survived by his wife Maureen, daughter Christine and son Cameron and we extend our sympathy to them and promise them our prayers and our care.

Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send a copy of the tribute and the condolences of Presbytery to Mrs Maureen Stewart.

Minutes of meeting on 4 & 11 December 2012

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 & 11 December 2012 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 communication from

- Rev Roy Cowieson intimating the date of his retirement as 30 June 2013.
- Falkirk Presbytery regarding the support Presbytery offered to their petition to the Commission of Assembly in respect of the changes to PPW contracts. Representatives of the Presbytery of Falkirk met with representatives of the Ministries Council and following answers received Falkirk Presbytery has agreed to depart from the petition.
- McCosh Brothers Culter informing the Presbytery of a lease in respect of a soakaway, septic tank and water supply on land owned by the McCosh estate. The lease states that as the church has ceased to be a place of worship, land should be restored at the lease holders expense. The letter has been acknowledged and the matter remitted to the General Trustees.

- Ministries Council agreeing in principle to the request for an extension to the Diaconate Project for a further 12 months with the proviso that the Ministries Council and/or Miss Lyall can request an early exit from the extension should the situation change.
- Principal Clerk with an updated Certificate of Transference in electronic form which has been passed to Ministers and Session Clerks.

Good News Stories

Mr Jim Watt, Cairngryffe – Mr Watt reported on the first joint service of the new charge held on 6 January 2013 which was a wonderful occasion for members of all three congregations. Mr Watt further reported that three joint Kirk Session meetings have been held to advance the ministry of the charge and the vacancy.

Rev Iain Cunningham, Carlisle: Kirkton – Mr Cunningham commended a support cafe for those suffering from Dementia held in St. Andrew's Church and the value the cafe is providing to those who come along.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Lanark Greyfriars – Mr Kerr spoke of the funding received from Go For It Fund and Border's Biscuits Community Support Fund to the amount of £12,500 to establish a community cinema to work with families, teenagers, adults and those who need support through a partnership with the Blue Triangle Housing Association and the establishment of a Job Club with cinema.

Rev David Easton, Biggar I/w Black Mount – Mr Easton spoke of a joint service and joint conference in the charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount which have been well received.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Mr & Mrs W Love and Rev & Mrs D Easton will attend the Royal Garden Party in July 2013.
3. Note that there has been no interest from ministers in Presbytery in providing Chaplaincy at the State Hospital.
4. Approve the Policy for Services following Readjustment as outlined in the Report
5. Note that Presbytery has been allocated commissions to the General Assembly 2013 for 5 Ministers, 5 Elders and 1 Deacon which will be filled as per the Presbytery Rota.
6. Note that there is 1 spare Ministerial place available. The names of ministers interested in taking up this place should be sent to the Presbytery Clerk by 17th February 2013.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Rev. Alan Gibson has been appointed Interim Moderator from 23rd January 2013 for the duration of Rev. Alison Meikle's sick leave.

The Deliverance was approved

Special Services – Culter and Lowther

The Clerk gave a report of special services held in Culter to mark the dissolution and Lowther to mark the closure of the building.

Dissolution of Culter and closure of Culter Church

The congregation of Culter was dissolved on 31 December 2013. On Sunday 20 January at 3pm a service of thanksgiving was held in Culter Church. This service which included the Sacrament of Holy Communion was led by Mr Bill Love Moderator of Presbytery and Rev D Easton Former Interim Moderator of Culter Church. During the service which had two former ministers of the Church in attendance, Mrs Anna McCosh gave an outline history of Culter Church. Although the sadness of the closure of the Church building was acknowledged the service looked forward to the continued movement of the Holy Spirit inspiring and encouraging continued

witness and service in the area. Perhaps this is best summed up in the words of the Leave Taking – *We leave this place where for centuries God's people in this community have met to worship him. We know he dwells not only in temples made with human hands but also in the hearts of those who give him room.* During the final hymn the congregation made its way out of the building for the pronouncement of the benediction outside, Each person present was gifted a small communion token.

Service of closure of Lowther Church.

The congregations of Glencaple and Lowther were united on 1 Jan 2013 to form The Upper Clyde Church of Scotland.

On Sunday 3 Feb 2013 at 3pm a service of thanksgiving and closure of the church at Lowther was held. The service which included the Sacrament of Holy Communion was led by Mr Bill Love, Moderator of Presbytery and Rev B Kerr, Interim Moderator of the charge.

During the service two members were interviewed by Mr Kerr and shared some of the history of the Church and also their hopes for the future of worship mission and service in the area. The children present also participated in the service.

Having reflected on the Christian worship in the building over many years the sadness at the leave taking was acknowledged but the service was also marked by a sense of hope and a vision of new beginnings possible under God's guidance.

During the final hymn the congregation made its way out of the building for the pronouncement of the benediction outside.

Everyone present was invited to gather in the (appropriately named) Hopetoun Arms for refreshments and fellowship after worship. Presbytery I am sure would wish to acknowledge its gratitude to the Kirk Session of the charge for their warm welcome and generous hospitality.

The Clerk then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Note that Culter Parish Church dissolved on 31st December 2012 and that a special service of dissolution was held on Sunday 20th January 2013 to which all members and friends were invited to attend.
2. Note that Lowther Parish Church closed on 30th December 2012 and that a service of thanksgiving for the building was held on Sunday 3rd February 2013 with many members of the congregation and members of the community attending.
3. Thank the Office Bearers of the Upper Clyde Church for their hospitality following the service of thanksgiving for Lowther Church.

Rev Susan Cowell moved an amendment to section 3 of the deliverance to read "Thank those who organised the services and participated in them, as well as the office bearers of the Upper Clyde Church for their hospitality following the service of thanksgiving for Lowther Church." The amendment was seconded.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Ministries Conference 2012/2013

The Clerk and Rev Sarah Ross reported on their attendance at recent Ministries Council Conferences.

Mrs Ross spoke of the dwindling number of ministers within the Church of Scotland and in particular the lack of ministers in younger generations. At the conference, generational characteristics were talked about at great length and challenges issued that the Church of Scotland will need to grapple with over the coming years to ensure that people of all generations found relevance and a home within the kirk.

The Clerk spoke of a discussion the church beyond 2020, PPW posts in Presbytery, continuing ministerial development, the review into the enquiry and assessment process and the issue of pensions.

The Depute Clerk then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Planning Group

The Report of the Presbytery Planning Group was presented by the Convener, Rev Iain Cunningham, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Miss Ann Lyall DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that Ailsa Fyfe of Biggar Church be Lanark Presbytery's Youth Representative to the General Assembly of 2013
3. Commend the Training for Youth Leaders to those working with teenagers in our congregations.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the annual Attestation of Congregational Records will take place on Wednesday 27 February 2013 in St Nicholas Church Hall at 13:00hrs.
3. Instruct the Clerk to remind all Session Clerks of this and to refer them to the Congregational Records Guidance Notes on pages 41-44 of the Presbytery Yearbook.
4. Amend the Guidance Notes for Session Clerks Etc. to add the requirement for the Financial Board (or its equivalent) to attest Manse and Property Schedules to the list of items of business to be dealt with annually and record this in the appropriate minutes.
5. Amend the Guidance Notes for Session Clerks Etc. to add the annual attestation of Manse and Property Schedules to the list of items which should be flagged when presenting the minutes for inspection.
6. Instruct the Clerk to advise all Session Clerks of these amendments for future years and issue them with a copy of the amended Guidance Notes.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note the report of the Education Resources Committee meeting attended by Rev Sarah Ross which was also sent to Church and Society Council and the presbyteries of Glasgow and Hamilton.
3. Encourage all congregations to collect food donations for the Clydesdale Food bank at least once a month and deliver to New Beginnings, Kilmory Lodge, Wilton Road, Carluke.
4. Encourage congregations to consider becoming a satellite distribution point and indicate their interest to Liz Barthram.
5. Encourage congregations to make a financial donation to the Clydesdale Food bank to help with running costs.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.

2. Note that only those congregations whose gross annual income exceeds £500,000, need to prepare their accounts in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities 2005 (SORP) format
3. Note that a few congregations are finding it difficult to obtain the services of suitably qualified persons to act as Independent Examiners of Receipts and Payments Accounts , and invite anyone able to help in that task to contact the Resources Convener
4. Note that the Church of Scotland Insurance Company Ltd. have given notice that they have secured “significant enhancements” to their Insurance Scheme, that these improvements can be downloaded at www.cosic.co.uk and that the new covers and rating will become effective as each policy renews starting on 28 February, this year
5. Note the attestation of Property Registers and Manse Condition Schedules will take place in St. Nicholas’ Church Hall on 27th. February from 12noon till 4pm

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

Mabel Morris from Carstairs intimated that Stonehouse Male Voice Choir will be holding a concert at Carstairs on 8 March 2013.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 5 March 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 5 March 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 24 Elders; 2 Corresponding Members and 1 Visitor.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev S Cowell, A Gibson and I Watson Ministers; Messrs W Love, D Hodgson W Macsween, A McPhee and Mrs M Morris and Mrs M Sommerville Elders and Mrs A Muir Corresponding Member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 5 February 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2013 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 communication from

- Ministries Council regarding sponsorship of ministers from outside the EEC area and Switzerland, including summer pulpit swap's
- Housing and Loan Fund seeking responses from ministers
- Law Department - a circular regarding minibuses
- General Trustees informing that determination has been made for the sale of the former Culter Parish Church and that credit will be made to the Central Fabric Fund of the Church of Scotland.
- Partnership Development Committee, Ministries Council - an extract minute informing Presbytery that an extra 0.5 ministry will be allocated to the Presbytery for planning purposes.

Following the receipt of a practising certificate from the Presbytery of Stirling in the name of Rev Elizabeth Clelland BD, Assistant Chaplain at Braehead House, Christian Healing Centre, Crossford the Moderator invited Ms Clelland to reaffirm her ordination vows. After answering the appropriate question and signing the formula, Ms Clelland was welcomed into the Presbytery and offered the right hand of fellowship. The Clerk proposed and it was agreed that the name of Ms Elizabeth Clelland be added to the membership of the Presbytery.

Good News Stories

Rev Roy Cowieson, Carluke: St. John's – Mr Cowieson reported that the Choices charity shop run by the congregation has been in operation for 20 years and has raised over £400,000 for local charities, including youth work in Carluke. This milestone was marked by a special service on 3rd March 2013.

Presbytery Clerks Forum

The Clerk gave a report on her attendance at the recent Presbytery Clerks Forum in Crieff and made the following observations:

- A session for new Clerks took place and this proved to be very supportive and worthwhile
- A number of topics were discussed including vacancies, pastoral care, how complaints are handled and Clerks were encouraged to continue communication via e-mail.
- The Legal Questions Committee is considering ministerial status and the issue of practising certificates with a view to bringing a report and amending legislation to the General Assembly of 2014. Current legislation was clarified and ministers who retired before 20 May 2006 do not require to be asked annually to apply for a practising certificate. It was suggested that it is helpful if ministers who wish to retain their certificate but not participate in the work of Presbytery and therefore do not wish to take up their seat in Presbytery indicate this when they make application for a certificate.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Depute Clerk Rev Bryan Kerr, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Invite ministers of Word and Sacrament to put their names to the convener of the Business Committee no later than 22nd March 2013 if they wish to attend the Elder Consultation evening on 24th April 2013 in St. George's Tron, Glasgow
3. Note the doctors note received in respect of Rev Alison Meikle for a further period of 8 weeks from 8th February 2013 and invite members of Presbytery to remember Mrs Meikle and the congregation of Lanark: St. Nicholas in their prayers
4. Grant permission for Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St. Nicholas Churches to hold monthly joint services of worship during the period of absence of Rev. Alison Meikle and commend the Kirk Sessions for their vision in offering support to the congregations during the period of absence.
5. Agree that the spare ministerial commission for the General Assembly of 2013 be taken up by Rev Sarah Ross.
6. Agree that in future serving ministers should be given first opportunity for spare commissions to the General Assembly and thereafter offered to interested retired ministers if the spare commissions are not taken up. Where a commissioned charge is vacant and has a retired minister acting as Interim Moderator they will be given first refusal on the commission for that year.
7. Invite applications for Depute Treasurer of the Presbytery to be submitted to the Business Convener as soon as possible.
8. Note that the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington will be known collectively as 'The Tinto Parishes' and congratulate the congregations for their vision as they embark on the new linkage.
9. Agree to meet in hunc effectum on Thursday 14th March 2013 to hear the report of the Presbytery Planning Group and deal with the Proposed Plan.
10. Grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Business Convener in respect of any urgent decisions that are required to be made between the March and May meetings of Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Depute Clerk Rev Bryan Kerr, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note the appointment of Rev Sarah Ross as Interim Moderator in Carluke: St. Johns with effect from 11th March 2013.
3. Note the appointment of Rev Harry Findlay as Interim Moderator in The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction with effect from 11th March 2013

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

6. Receive the Report
7. Approve the Application to the General Trustees of St. Paul's Parish Church, Forth for a grant of £1,000 toward the installation of a steel security door to the boiler house of the halls
8. Note that Aviva acting for the Church of Scotland Insurance Company Limited will not pay the full claims for metal theft where the *Smart Water System* has not been applied, and that this application must be made to copper tanks and pipes within a building as well as to the external lead on roof-tops.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to amend number 3 to read "Note that Aviva acting for the Church of Scotland Insurance Company Limited will not pay the full claims for metal theft where the *Smart Water System* has not been applied, and that this application must be made to all metal (e.g. copper tanks and pipes) within a building as well as to the external lead on roof-tops"

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

6. Receive the report
7. Commend the congregations of Carluke St Andrews, Lanark: St Nicholas and Forth St Pauls for their engagement with mental health issues.
8. Invite congregations to let World and Community Issues Committee know how they are working with mental health issues.
9. Encourage Presbytery Elders to share the information about benefit changes with Kirk Sessions and Congregations and use the booklet provided.
10. Note the report of South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources Committee which is copied to Church and Society Council and Glasgow and Hamilton Presbyteries.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

7. Receive the report.
8. Note that the annual Attestation of Congregational Records took place on Wednesday 27th February 2013 in St Nicholas Church Hall at 13:00hrs.
9. Thank the Depute Clerk, the members of the Congregational Support Committee for carrying out the inspection and the Presbytery Officer for his assistance.
10. Instruct all Kirk Sessions to ensure that the points regarding the keeping of records which the Congregational Support Committee has indicated need attention are acted upon.
11. Instruct Session Clerks to submit one copy of the 2011 attested safeguarding register, 2 copies of the approved 2012 Safeguarding Register and the Kirk Session minutes for 2012 to the Congregational Support Committee on Tuesday 19th March 2013.
12. Approve the Guidance Notes for Office Bearers.(Appendix 1)
13. Instruct the Clerk to forward the Guidance Notes for Office Bearers to all Session Clerks with instructions that all Office Bearers be made aware of them and that a copy be given to all prospective Office Bearers prior to their agreement to take on that role.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to amend section 2 to read "Note that the annual Attestation of Congregational Records took place on Wednesday 27th February 2013 in St Nicholas Church Hall at 13:00hrs and with a few minor exceptions were found to be in order."

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to amend section 5 to read "Note that Safeguarding registers have not yet been attested and instruct Session Clerks to submit one copy of the 2011 attested safeguarding register, 2 copies of the approved 2012 Safeguarding Register and the Kirk Session minutes for 2012 to the Congregational Support Committee on Tuesday 19th March 2013."

The convener proposed an addendum to the deliverance to Add a new section 8 "Note that the Presbytery minutes for 2012 have been inspected and have been found to be in order". This addendum was seconded and approved.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Miss Ann Lyall DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Encourage all Presbyters to publicise the Youth Training event on 9th May in Greyfriars Church at 7.30pm.
3. Encourage Presbyters to publicise the Leading Worship Course.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Andrew Brown, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.

The clerk proposed an addendum to the deliverance to add a new section 2 "Note that to date 6 out of 11 ministerial travel log books for 2012 have been inspected and found to be in order and instruct ministers who have not yet submitted them to present them to the Ministries Committee on 14 or 19 March 2013". This addendum was seconded and approved.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

The cCerk drew attention to intimations outlined in the Presbytery papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet *in hunc effectum* on Thursday 14 March 2013 at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church to hear the report of the Presbytery Planning Group and deal with the Proposed Plan and on Tuesday 7 May 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1

Guidance notes for Office Bearers regarding Church and Charity Law.

The following notes are provided in order to advise office bearers of their responsibilities and duties, both in respect of Church Law and, in the case of Financial Matters and Charity Law. They also set out the role of Presbytery in exercising governance and superintendence in these matters as it is required to do by The General Assembly.

As members of a Presbyterian System all members of the Church of Scotland are subject to the Laws of the Church as laid down by the General Assembly through its various Acts of Assembly. Office Bearers in particular are required to ensure that Congregational Records relating to meetings, the Congregational Roll, maintenance of property, finance etc. are held in the proper format and are submitted for annual attestation by Presbytery as part of its superintendence role. Guidance on this has already been circulated to Session Clerks and can be found in the Presbytery Yearbook.

Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards are also required to follow and carry out any instructions passed down to them, via Presbytery, from The General Assembly, or emanating from Presbytery itself.

In matters relating to property the Financial Court of the Congregation (the Congregational Board under the Model Constitution; Kirk Session under Unitary or Quod Omnia Constitutions or Deacons' Court etc– see appendix) are required to ensure that a schedule of all property inspection and maintenance is kept in the format laid down by the Assembly. They are also required to ensure that insurance values are appropriate and are kept up to date. To this end these must be attested annually by the Financial Court.

When it comes to financial matters the requirements of Charity Law, as laid down by the Scottish Parliament and monitored and enforced through the Office of The Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), come into play and all members of Kirk Sessions, Congregational Boards etc. are Charity Trustees. The Church of Scotland is recognised as a Designated Religious Charity which exempts it from various requirements of Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, however, in order to maintain that status it is required to exercise governance to ensure that trustees do not breach these requirements. This it does through Presbytery at the first instance.

Any difficulty that Trustees might find themselves in concerning charity law issues may require to be dealt with in terms of Church law, Civil law or a mixture of both, depending on the nature of the issue. Given the complex nature of charity legislation and the fact that Lanark Presbytery has no-one qualified to attest Congregational accounts, it has been necessary to employ a firm of accountants to do this.

Further information on this, along with other guidance for Elders and Office Bearers can be found on the Church of Scotland website at :-

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/2837/law_congregational_officebearers.pdf. All office bearers are advised to make themselves acquaint with this document.

Where Presbytery has identified failings in respect of the keeping of any records these are intimated to congregations who are obliged to implement the changes recommended. Likewise congregations are required to submit such returns to Presbytery as are requested from time to time, within the deadlines set down. These deadlines are in place because Presbytery in turn is required to forward collated returns to Edinburgh by a set date.

Failure of a congregation to comply with any of the foregoing could result in them being answerable before the Bar of Presbytery which, in a similar way, could find itself summoned to a Commission of Assembly if it were not seen to be exercising its governance and superintendence role effectively.

Any Congregation or anyone involved in record keeping who is having difficulty with the task is advised to contact the Convenor of either the Congregational Support Committee or, in the case of Property or Finance, the Resources Committee, of Presbytery who will be only too happy to provide advice and support.

Appendix

Notes on forms of constitutions:

In the Kirk, the kind of Financial Board operating in any given congregation often depends upon that fellowship's origins:

- a) if the congregation's origin dates back to the Reformation, unless it has since opted to change its constitution, its Financial Board is the **Kirk Session operating as a *Quoad Omnia* parish** or, more colloquially **an Old Parish**; **The Unitary Constitution is the declaratory form of the Quoad Omnia Constitution, which is unwritten.**
- b) where, in order to deal with the population migration prevalent at that time, a new congregation grew from an Old Parish as outlined above, that new congregation was given a ***Quoad Sacra* Parish**, and its church building was labelled a ***Chapel of Ease***, while its temporal affairs are regulated by special permission of the General Assembly in accordance with a constitution adopted and approved prior to the Union of 1928;
- c) if the congregation began as part of the United Free Church of Scotland and, prior to that was part of the Free Church of Scotland, its Financial Board is a **Deacons' Court**;
- d) If the congregation began as part of the United Free Church of Scotland but was not part of the Free Church of Scotland, its Financial Board is a **Congregational Board** which is **not to be confused with the Congregational Board operating under the Model Deed of Constitution**;
- e) if the congregation started as a former United Presbyterian Church, its temporal affairs are handled by a Committee of Management in accordance with a special constitution particular to that congregation itself;
- f) if the congregation began as a Church Extension Charge sometime after May 1965, its Financial Board is a Congregational Board under the Model Deed of Constitution, 1965, XXI;
- g) If a congregation has taken recourse to recent legislation with regard to its temporal affairs, its Financial Board may be a Kirk Session operating under the new Unitary Constitution.

Lanark, on Thursday 14 March 2013, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* to hear the Report of the Presbytery Planning Group, and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 14 Ministers; 20 Elders; 4 Corresponding Members along with 54 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev L Clelland , R McLarty and A Meikle, Ministers and Dr S Scott Elder.

The Moderator welcomed visitors and explained that the sole purpose of the meeting was to hear the report of the Presbytery Planning Group.

Report of the Presbytery Planning Group

The report was presented by Rev Iain Cunningham, Convener.

Parties were called.

Members of cited congregations represented were invited to speak.

Mr J Hamelink spoke for The Upper Clyde Parishes. Mrs E Muir spoke for Carluke: St Andrew's Parish Church.

Parties were removed.

Presbytery took up consideration of the report.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener moved the following deliverance

Deliverance: *Presbytery*

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Presbytery Plan for Lanark Presbytery.
3. Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the Presbytery Plan and an extract minute to Ministries Council PPTG.

The Deliverance was approved.

Parties were recalled and the decision was intimated. The Clerk informed Presbytery that the process was now sisted and that Presbytery would return to the matter at the meeting for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 7 May 2013 when Presbytery would hear the concurrence or otherwise of the Ministries Council PPTG. At that point the Plan will become final and a 21 day window for any appeals will open.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 7 May 2013 at 7.00 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas Church Halls for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator thanked all those who had attended and closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

The Presbytery of Lanark

Report of the Presbytery Plan Review Group

**incorporating a revised
Draft Presbytery Plan**

(Plan agreed by Presbytery on 14 March 2013)

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PROCESS OF THE SECOND REVIEW

After the Presbytery's failure to reach agreement on the initial draft plan, presented in June 2011, and the subsequent resignation of the Review Group, a new Review Group was set up in December 2011, consisting of Rev Robert Cleland, Mrs Anne Cochrane, Rev Iain Cunningham (Convener), Rev David Easton, Mr David Hodgson, Mrs Anne Reid, Rev Ian Watson and (*ex officio*) Rev Helen Jamieson (Presbytery Clerk.)

Given the previous difficulties experienced in reaching agreement, and aware of the compressed timescale in which a new Plan had to be developed, the new Review Group decided to build on the work of the previous group rather than attempt to start from scratch, and therefore some elements of the previous Plan reappear in the current proposals.

The original Review Group had visited all congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery and engaged with members on at least three occasions throughout the process of the review. The current Review Group decided not to repeat this exercise but, along with the original Draft Plan, took as its starting point the findings of The Special Commission on the Third Article Declaratory, which suggested that the church has 'a commitment to maintain worshipping, witnessing and serving Christian congregations throughout Scotland.' (Reports to the General Assembly 2010; 25; Section 9.3.5).

The current Review Group proceeded on the understanding that the main focus of this particular round of Presbytery Planning, nationally, is the strategic deployment of reduced ministry resources. It is important to remember this fact. It is the responsibility of the Presbytery, with all its local knowledge, to attempt to deploy those limited resources in a way that is fair, strategic and beneficial for the whole Church within the bounds of the Presbytery, and which enables the Church to pursue its mission in the most effective way, which includes the maintenance and development of "worshipping, witnessing and serving Christian congregations."

During the debate on the previous plan it was conceded that, almost without exception, any readjustment of a congregation is likely to have a negative effect on total church membership. In other words, some people will leave the church—and sometimes quite a lot of people will leave the church. This does not seem to the Review Group to be a very effective strategy for mission.

Even though the mission of the Church has to do with so much more than church membership, or even church attendance, the existence of viable worshipping, witnessing and serving congregations based in local communities is still very important in helping to provide an effective ministry of presence, proclamation and practical action.

A 'ministry of Presence' is not the same as the presence of a Minister, but it does mean the presence of a viable, worshipping, witnessing and serving Christian community.

None of this is meant to imply that all readjustment is bad, or even inappropriate. Sometimes congregations become no longer viable, and even completely ineffective in their current state, and something must be done for the long-term mission in which the Church is engaged.

Nevertheless, given the particular nature of Lanark Presbytery, which is composed of many small villages and a few small towns, and given that over the last 30 years extensive readjustment has already brought about the closure of a very large number of congregations, the Planning Group came to the conclusion very early in its deliberations that it was in the best interests of the Presbytery, and its responsibility for mission within the bounds, to limit as far as possible the disruption to *congregations* and to focus instead on how best to retain the maximum possible number of viable, 'worshipping, witnessing and serving Christian communities' around the Presbytery. Of course, this does not necessarily mean that each such community will exist as a separate congregation, or have its own minister or church building.

Already, perhaps as a consequence of ideas initially put forward by the previous Planning Group and further explored by the current Group, imaginative alternatives are beginning to emerge in some locations.

But there remains a need for skilled and visionary congregational leadership, which the current Planning Group believes is best provided by those who have been called to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament as long as they are trained to work collaboratively with a variety of other ministries, paid and unpaid.

To summarize—the fundamental question that the Planning Group felt it had to address on behalf of the Presbytery was this:

How can we deploy our reduced ministerial resources strategically, and in a way that is fair and equitable (in relation to all the charges within the Presbytery and in relation to the Church nationally) and in a way that will cause disruption to the minimum number of congregations?

ADDRESSING THE PLANNING PRINCIPLES

Within the guidelines for Presbytery Planning issued by the Ministries Council in July 2010 there were nine principles with which each Presbytery had to engage throughout the process of the presbytery plan review.

The Primary Principle—Mission

In the guidelines for Presbytery Planning issued by the Ministries Council it is stated that the *primary* principle that must inform and shape all the planning decisions must be MISSION. However, the concept of mission is not defined in the guidelines.

The Presbytery Planning Review Group would like to offer the following understanding of mission.

Mission begins in the heart of God who so loves the world that he sent his only Son. It is essential, therefore, to understand mission as primarily *God's* mission, not the Church's mission. This has been neatly summed up in the saying "*it is not that the Church of God has a mission but that the God of mission has a Church.*"

However, God invites the participation of the Church in this mission.

The Mission of God, in which the Church is invited to participate, is the same mission in which Jesus Christ was engaged. The whole of his life, his teaching, his caring and healing ministry, together with his self-giving death and resurrection belong to that mission and provide the church with a template for mission that is integrated and holistic, and which contains *all* of the following elements:

- **PRESENCE** (*Being*)
- **PROCLAMATION** (*Saying*)
- **PRACTICAL ACTION** (*Doing*)

PRESENCE:

When St Francis of Assisi is reputed to have said, "*Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words*" it was not to deny the importance of words but to declare that the Word must be 'made flesh and dwell among people.' Given our belief in the Incarnation we have no alternative but to adopt an *incarnational* approach to mission, in which a *ministry of presence* is fundamental, and in which *relationships* of mutual respect are central to our whole way of working. *Who* we are will then shape *what* we do and *how* we do it. Both self-understanding and cultural sensitivity are necessary in order to ensure authenticity and integrity.

PROCLAMATION:

It was God's Word that brought the Universe into being and it was his Word that was made flesh in Jesus Christ. Participation in the mission of God therefore will mean that words *are* necessary. At times this will mean the explicit proclamation of the good news: at times it will mean being a prophetic voice for the voiceless and exercising advocacy on behalf of the powerless.

PRACTICAL ACTION:

"My children, our love should not be just words and talk; it must be true love, which shows itself in action." 1 John 3:18 [Good News Bible]

As the ministry of Jesus Christ involved reaching out to the marginalised and excluded, bringing good news to the poor, liberty to the captives, healing to the sick, and freedom to the oppressed, so the Church's participation in that mission must involve love that similarly shows itself in transformative action.

When such integrated Mission is engaged in authentically and with sensitivity to culture and context it results in transformation, reconciliation and empowerment.

The Planning Review Group believes that this threefold approach to mission should be applied to the business of Presbytery Planning.

Congregations (*Presence*)

In the Planning Group's discussions with Kirk Sessions it was clear that in each instance the view was held that in all but the very smallest of population-centres the presence of a local worshipping Christian community was an essential element for effective local mission. This does not necessarily mean the physical presence of a church building and one Kirk Session made clear to the Planning Group that the building currently used by their congregation was a hindrance rather than a help to its mission.

Ministers of Word and Sacrament (*Proclamation*)

Conversations with each of the Kirk Sessions visited also revealed a very strong desire in every case to have available to congregations and communities the services of a Minister of Word and Sacrament. Other ministries, including that of the diaconate, are highly valued by the congregations in the southern part of Lanark Presbytery (who have enjoyed first-hand experience of such ministry) but are seen as complementary to that of the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and not as a direct replacement.

Clearly, if the required reduction in number of ministries is to be achieved, more congregations may have to learn to share Ministers of Word and Sacrament and find ways to complement their work through additional forms of ministry and through developing the gifts of the 'whole people of God' in local areas.

Diakonia (*Practical Action*)

In particular, diaconal service (that is the ministry of practical loving action) may be provided not only by deacons set apart by the Church and offering full-time service, but also by members of congregations whose gifts and skills have been recognized, affirmed and developed. All congregations need to learn to develop the gifts of the whole people of God for the work of Christian service.

Secondary Principles

Communities

The Presbytery of Lanark ministers to the geographical area of Clydesdale, a 511 square mile area within South Lanarkshire. Currently 24 congregations offer the services of a parish church to around 61,000 parishioners living in approximately 40 communities ranging from towns of around 18,000 residents to small villages with only a few hundred people. It is recognized that two of the biggest challenges facing the Presbytery of Lanark are distance and isolation of communities.

Extensive parish readjustment in the past has meant the closure of many small rural churches. While this has sometimes been in response to rural depopulation, several small but significant, and distinct, communities remain. It is the view of the Planning Review Group that even where it is not possible to maintain a physical church building in such communities, every attempt should be made to maintain local worshipping 'congregations', making use of villages halls and even the homes of members. Already attempts to develop such ideas are being explored in areas such as Leadhills (where the congregation of Lowther has agreed to unite with Glencaple and dispose of the church building at Leadhills but maintain a worshipping presence using a community building at Leadhills) and also in Carnwath (where the decision has been taken to dispose of church buildings and to worship meantime in a community hall.)

In some areas, Douglas Valley and Biggar, for example, church premises are provided for the benefit of the entire village. These buildings have all secured external funding ensuring that they can provide benefit to the community for many years to come where the local authority may not have enough, or any, hall accommodation for community groups in the area. In other areas community, such as Carluke, community groups make extensive use of church premises that are maintained wholly by the congregations. In the course of the review it has been discovered that the local authority is inviting some communities to purchase local village halls and run them, as the authority can no longer sustain the level of community space it once provided. It may not be possible for communities to find the funding for the ongoing running costs of such buildings and if the local authority pulls out it may mean that in some areas the Church of Scotland will provide the only gathering space and focal point for the community.

Ecumenically

Within the area that the Presbytery of Lanark serves there are limited opportunities for ecumenical work, particularly outside the main population centres of Carluke, Lanark, Biggar and Kirkmuirhill/ Blackwood. Within these towns there are four Roman Catholic Churches, one Scottish Episcopal Church, one Baptist Church, one United Reformed Church, one Congregational Church and several independent fellowships. The Review Group was pleased to discover that in almost all areas where other denominations are present there are good working relationships with the Church of Scotland.

Within Carluke, 'Street Level', an ecumenical project in partnership with the local authority, was set up many years ago to reach young people who would traditionally not engage with the church. In Lanark there are good working relationships between the denominations with joint worship, joint publicity and joint initiatives regularly a focus for all the churches in the town. St. Nicholas Church in Lanark also organizes an ecumenical visitation group, working in partnership with the local GPs to ensure that those in the community who require support and friendship receive it from the churches.

The Review Group would encourage links to be developed in the future which continue to allow the churches, in areas where ecumenical engagement is possible, to be a common witness to the communities they serve.

The poor

Within the Presbytery there are no parishes which fall under the remit of the Priority Areas team, however the Douglas Valley Church, serving Douglas, Douglas Water, Glespin and Rigside features on the supplementary list

of Priority Area Parishes and has areas of the parish (most notably Douglas Water and Rigside) falling within the poorest 5% of communities in Scotland. In other parishes there are pockets of deprivation.

Whilst there may not be significant and widespread areas of economic deprivation there are areas, which, in this regard, provide challenges to many of the parishes within the Presbytery. It is true however that poverty should not be measured in purely economic terms. In an area such as the Presbytery of Lanark serves, poverty comes in many different forms from access to public transport to access to essential services, from the expensive cost of living to the varied issues that isolation presents.

There are particular difficulties in the current economic climate and the Parish Grouping in Carluke, with the support of the Presbytery as a whole, is in the process of setting up a Food Bank to serve the Clydesdale area. In addition some churches (e.g. in Kirkmuirhill and Carluke) run nearly-new shops which help to serve the poorer people in the community.

The General Assembly has repeatedly affirmed that the gospel imperative is priority to the poor. In the case of the Presbytery of Lanark poverty exists in many and varied forms within our parishes. In the process of the review The Review Group has been mindful of these issues when determining levels of resources within the Presbytery Plan.

Whole people of God

Already within the Presbytery there are examples of good practice where congregations have sought to develop the skills and gifts of their members within the life and ministry of the church.

In Cairngryffe, for example, there is a committed group of worship leaders, who after undertaking a training course provided by Presbytery, have the confidence once a month, during the vacancy, to lead worship on their own.

In St. John's Church, Carluke there is weekly worship led by Ministers of the town and members of the congregations as well as a committed group of people who undertake a varied pastoral ministry. Similarly in Symington Church there is a co-ordinated team of visitors who each have responsibility for maintaining contact and providing support to a group of elderly and housebound members of the congregation.

In Kirkfieldbank it is members of the congregation who run the J-Team, a midweek children's ministry event, reaching around 40 children in an area where the entire school role is only 55. Members of the congregation at Libberton and Quothquan have established new links with the local school and are running a midweek Scripture Union group to help build links between the children, church and community.

In Kirkton Church, Carluke, there are eight separate workgroups comprised of elders and members of the congregation, overseeing every aspect of the congregation's life and witness, and engaged in practical service such as visiting the bereaved and developing adult Christian education.

In the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction a new "Messy Church" programme held in Carstairs Junction and led by members of the congregation has attracted 75 people at its first meeting.

From all of the evidence gathered by the original Review Group, and the additional insights gained by the current Review Group through its meetings with Kirk Sessions, it is felt that much could be gained by all congregations through more effective sharing of examples of good practice.

Congregations

As already stated above, the current Review Group committed itself to devising a Plan that would involve the minimum of disruption to congregations. However, it was clear that in some instances difficult decisions would have to be taken in order to ensure the existence of viable 'worshipping, witnessing and serving Christian congregations.' For example, in both Carnwath and Lowther it was recognised that existing church buildings were a hindrance rather than an asset to both worship and mission, and in the case of Culter the congregation had declined to such an extent that it could no longer function as a congregation.

It is the hope of the Review Group that after this current planning process has been concluded the Presbytery might explore new ways of enabling congregations within the bounds to learn from one another and, where possible, to share ideas and resources.

Mixed Economy

The Review Group is aware of the different possibilities for churches to offer a fresh experience, or expression, of church in the modern world. Within a semi rural area like Lanark Presbytery, congregations may be nervous about looking at new ways of being the church. The Review Group is again encouraged that fresh shoots of new life are already being planted around the area. For example, a weekly lunch with worship and prayer in Carstairs Junction is reaching more people than the traditional Sunday service in the church building did. The Review Group would like to encourage new expressions of church within the Presbytery Plan, whilst removing some of the barriers that, for some congregations, have been stopping them being as creative as they could be, such as buildings that are no longer fit for purpose. The Review Group would also like to encourage more sharing of ideas between congregations in the Presbytery.

Financial responsibility

Throughout the period of the Review, the original Review Group heard the repeated call from congregations of the need to increase the giving of the church in order that more ministries can be provided. The Review Group can only endorse such sentiments and urge congregations, and Presbytery, to take seriously the need for Stewardship and strong teaching on sacrificial giving.

The original Review Group heard stories of hope throughout the Presbytery. For example in Lesmahagow: Old a significant deficit was turned around over a few years to put the congregation on a much healthier financial footing. Similar stories are told throughout the Presbytery. However, where a strong message of stewardship is taught in the congregation the financial response is evident.

All congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery of Lanark contribute to the central staffing fund to help pay for ministries throughout the country. The amount paid is calculated and based upon the income of each congregation and whilst each congregation pays what is asked, at the beginning of the planning process only 8 charges (out of 18) were paying more than the full cost of a minister in their contributions.

The Presbytery Plan, as recommended by the Review Group, moves the Presbytery to a point of net contributing to the church (on 2010 figures) with all areas making a contribution over the cost of their ministry allocation.

Buildings

In recent memory for many living within the Presbytery of Lanark a number of buildings, which were seen as surplus, have been closed. The Review Group has undertaken to look at the issue of buildings with fresh eyes, asking whether the building is enabling the people of God to be effective witnesses for Christ.

The Presbytery of Lanark is blessed with many fine buildings, many of which have been redeveloped for the modern age. For example, in Black Mount a complete redevelopment of the sanctuary has allowed a modern worship space with areas for fellowship and meetings. This has given the congregation new confidence for the future. Similarly in Cairngryffe, Carluke: Kirkton and Coalburn a redevelopment of the worship space has provided new possibilities for worship and mission.

In some situations around the Presbytery there are buildings that are not fit for purpose. The previous Review Group was encouraged, during a visit to Lowther Church, with the honesty of the congregation in their appraisal of the building as being a drain on resources, both financial and human and the need to perhaps leave it behind. Where difficult decisions have been taken within the Presbytery Plan these have been taken to help free the worshipping congregation from the burden of a costly, ineffective buildings.

The Planning Group has endeavoured to take account of all of these principles in presenting the proposals.

ADDITIONAL FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION

Population Data

The data gathered by the previous Planning Review Group revealed that Lanark Presbytery had a population of approximately 61,690, although with recent population growth in a number of communities, particularly Carluke, this is likely to be a *significant underestimate*. The current population of Carluke for example is certainly greater than 15,248. Other population centres in the Presbytery have also grown in recent years. In addition there is a planned development of 500 new homes on the site of the previous Law Hospital and the proposed construction of a whole new community of 3200 homes in the Douglas Valley to be known as Owenstown.

The number of FTE ministries allocated to the Presbytery is 15.2. Assuming the original population estimate of 61,690, and if all else were equal, and this would amount to one ministry for each 4,113 people. However, in a predominantly rural situation, with many small and scattered communities, such 'parity' would be both impractical and undesirable. *(It would mean, for example, that the town of Carluke, with its population of 15,248 would be 'entitled' to 3.7 ministries in place of the current 3 and the whole of the Biggar area, covering the existing parishes of Biggar, Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan, Cairngryffe, Symington, Glencaple and Lowther, with its total population of 8,174 would be 'entitled' to less than 2 ministries.)*

Clearly the Planning Group has had to take account of local situations and exercise judgment, balance and wisdom (as the guidelines suggest) if it is to ensure a genuinely equitable distribution of ministerial resources.

Presbytery Parish Workers

This Plan takes no account of the excellent existing Diaconal Project, which is an entirely separate arrangement between the Presbytery and the Ministries Council. The southeast area of Lanark Presbytery has had a very positive experience recently of the ministry offered by the Diaconate and so ways of financing such ministries locally or Presbytery-wide should be explored by the Presbytery.

If the Draft Plan is agreed by the Presbytery, and the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group concurs, then there will be two members of staff that would previously be referred to as Presbytery Parish Workers—namely the 0.7 member of staff for the deferred Union at Carluke: St Andrew's and Carluke: St John's (*see page 15*), and the 0.2 member of staff to be appointed as a rural church facilitator. (*see page 19*)

Appeal for Additional Resources

On 5th December 2012 representatives of the Planning Review Group met in Edinburgh with representatives of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council. In the course of the meeting the Review Group indicated that they wished to request an additional 0.5FTE ministry resource for Lanark Presbytery from the contingency available to the Partnership Development Committee.

On 22nd January 2013 representatives of the Presbytery's Planning Review Group met with members of the Partnership Development Committee of the Ministries Council on in Carluke to put the case for additional resources.

On 29th January 2013 the Partnership Development Committee of the Ministries Council met to hear the report from their representatives and the requested additional 0.5FTE ministry resource was approved.

PROPOSED PRESBYTERY PLAN

BIGGAR AREA

Area Introduction

Congregations:	Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Culter, Glencaple, Libberton & Quothquan, Lowther and Symington.		
Financial Situation:	Currently only Biggar pays the full costs of a minister (112%). Cairngryffe and Symington pay approximately 95%, Glencaple lw Lowther approximately 46% and Black Mount lw Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan approximately 43%.		
Population:	Whilst it has proven difficult to get accurate population figures the best data available to the Presbytery with the mid year estimates at 2009 suggest the following Parish populations: Biggar (2614), Black Mount (761), Cairngryffe (1240), Culter (262), Glencaple (1565), Libberton & Quothquan (349), Lowther (443) and Symington (940). This represents a total population of 8,174 or 13% of the total population of the Presbytery area.		
Congregation:	The size of membership (as at 31/12/2010) and size of worshipping congregation (as noted in the congregational audit forms issued in Nov 2010) are as follows:		
	Congregation	Membership	Worship
	Biggar	598	85 (monthly eve – 20)
	Black Mount	68	24
	Cairngryffe	171	45
	Culter	29	10
	Glencaple	192	30
	Libberton & Quothquan	86	30 (occasional songs of praise–40)
	Lowther	36	18
	Symington	210	35
Current situation:	Currently there exists a four-way linkage between Biggar, Black Mount, Culter and Libberton & Quothquan that was to have been served by a team ministry. <i>(This linkage exists in name only since the sisting of processes meant it was never properly put into effect.)</i> There is also a linkage between Cairngryffe and Symington and a linkage between Glencaple and Lowther. All the charges are currently vacant.		

Future Plans

Culter:

Within the past year the roll at Culter Church has been reviewed and reassessed and whereas the previous plan indicated a membership of 87, with a regular worshipping congregation of 12, the current reality is that there are only 29 members on the roll with an average of 9 or 10 attending worship.

The majority of the Kirk Session now recognise that the current situation is no longer sustainable.

Lowther:

The situation at Lowther is somewhat different to that of Culter, in that out of an accurate roll of 36 there is an average weekly attendance of 18. However, the church building is totally unsuitable and a hindrance to the congregation's mission. An enthusiastic Kirk Session is keen to retain a vibrant worshipping community in the village of Leadhills and has identified Leadhills Miners' Library as a suitable and available alternative worship space. However, the Kirk Session at Lowther believes that the most workable administrative solution is to enter into a union with Glencaple, rather than a linkage, and to dispose of the building in Leadhills. Discussions on ministry requirements for such a united parish have led the Review Group to believe that an 80% part-time ministry would be appropriate.

Glencaple:

The Kirk Session at Glencaple has indicated a willingness to enter into a union with Lowther on the basis of an 80% part time ministry.

Biggar, Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan:

Technically there exists a four-way linkage among the above congregations that, it was intended, would be served by two ministries. However, the linkage has never been put into effect and all four congregations are currently vacant.

The Planning Group therefore make the following recommendations for the Biggar area:

1. That the four-way linkage between Biggar, Black Mount, Culter and Libberton & Quothquan be formally severed.
2. That Biggar be linked with Black Mount
3. That the congregation of Culter be dissolved, and its parish added on to the parish of Biggar, and that the building at Culter be closed and disposed of.
4. That Cairngryffe be linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington
5. That the congregations of Glencaple and Lowther be united and the building at Lowther be closed and disposed of.
6. That the united parish of Glencaple and Lowther explore the option of using the Leadhills Miners' Library, or some other community resource, to maintain a regular worshipping community in the village of Leadhills.

The Planning Group therefore recommends the following allocation of resources to the Biggar area:

Biggar linked with Black Mount — 1 Full-time Minister of Word & Sacrament

Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington— 1 Full-time Minister of Word & Sacrament

Glencaple united with Lowther — 1 Part Time (80%) Minister of Word & Sacrament

The establishment of this staffing allocation will mean that the Biggar area will meet around 106% of staffing costs.

NOTE: The plans for this area have already been approved by the Presbytery and are being pursued under previous planning legislation, on the understanding that this Plan would not alter anything already agreed.

Carluke Area

Area Introduction

Congregations:	Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Carluke: St. John's and Law.		
Financial Situation:	Currently two charges pay the full costs of a minister – Carluke: Kirkton (144%) and Carluke: St. John's (114%). Carluke: St. Andrew's pay approximately 71% and Law 47%.		
Population:	Whilst it has proven difficult to get accurate population figures the best data available to the Presbytery with the mid year estimates at 2009 suggested the following Parish populations: Carluke: Kirkton (5677), Carluke: St. Andrew's (3547), Carluke: St. John's (6024) and Law (3549). This represents a total population of 18,797 or 30% of the total population of the Presbytery area. <i>(However, more recent estimates put the population of Carluke itself at between 18,600 and 19,500).</i>		
Congregation:	The size of membership (as at 31/12/2010) and size of worshipping congregation (as noted in the congregational audit forms issued in Nov 2010) are as follows:		
	Congregation	Membership	Worship
	St. Andrew's	301	65
	St. John's	762	180 (eve – 30, midweek – 60)
	Kirkton	813	275 (fortnightly eve – 15)
	Law	194	80 (eve – 40, midweek – 20)
Current situation:	Currently there are 4 charges in this area each with a full time minister of word and sacrament. The minister at St. John's is due to retire at the end of June 2013.		

Parish Grouping

In early 2006 the congregations within the town of Carluke formally committed to the principles of collaborative ministry within the format of a parish grouping sharing in worship, pastoral care, Christian education, parish mission, social events, communication and administration. This was a bold and imaginative step, which built on many years of solid co-operation between the churches.

The Review group recommends that the Parish Grouping be extended to include the parish of Law.

Population Growth

Since the last available census figures there has been considerable (and continuing) population growth in Carluke and Law and there is currently a plan to build 500 new homes on the site of the former Law Hospital, which is within the parish of Law.

Future Plans

The Review Group recommends that a Deferred Union between the congregations of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's should come into effect upon the demission of the current minister at St. John's. At that time a joint nominating committee from the two congregations should be appointed to seek a minister for St. John's who will become the minister of the united charge when the union takes place, unless he or she were to demit before Carluke: St. Andrew's became vacant, in which case the process would be repeated.

The united charge will be allocated 1.7 Full-Time Equivalent ministries, which would include at least one ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament. The united charge could, at its own cost, increase the 0.7 to 1 FTE if so desired and if the financial situation allowed.

The allocation of resources to the Carluke area would therefore be as follows:

United Parish of St Andrew's and St John's (1.7 FT)

Kirkton (FT)

Law (FT)

The establishment of this staffing allocation will mean that the Carluke area will meet around 102% of staffing costs.

Lanark Area

Area Introduction

Congregations:	Carnwath, The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, Forth St Paul's, Lanark Greyfriars and Lanark St. Nicholas.		
Financial Situation:	Currently two charges pay the full costs of a minister – Lanark St. Nicholas (134%) and Lanark Greyfriars (117%). Forth St. Paul's pay approximately 79%, Carnwath approximately 61% and Carstairs approximately 58%.		
Population:	Whilst it has proven difficult to get accurate population figures the best data available to the Presbytery with the mid year estimates at 2009 suggest the following Parish populations: Carnwath (2636), Carstairs (2999), Forth St Paul's (3056), Lanark Greyfriars (4403) and Lanark St. Nicholas (4655). This represents a total population of 17,749 or 29% of the total population of the Presbytery area.		
Congregation:	The size of membership (as at 31/12/2010) and size of worshipping congregation (as noted in the congregational audit forms issued in Nov 2010) are as follows:		
	Congregation	Membership	Worship
	Carnwath	286	47 (eve – 15)
	Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	296	80 (evening – 50, midweek 11)
	Forth	368	90 (midweek – 12)
	Greyfriars	610	140 (monthly trad – 50, eve – 50)
	St. Nicholas	546	200 (quart eve – 45, midweek 40)
Current situation:	Currently there are 5 charges in this area: Carnwath, Carstairs & Carstairs Junction, Forth: St Paul's, Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St. Nicholas. At present each charge has one full time minister of Word and Sacrament although Carnwath is currently vacant.		

Carnwath

This congregation has endured a difficult period in their history. Presently, at the end of a period of interim ministry they state that they feel in better health for the future. The buildings within the parish need a great deal of attention. For many years the people of Carnwath have struggled with financial and building related issues and the Review Group feels that this has contributed to the difficulties of being a missionary congregation.

None of the buildings within the village of Carnwath (manse, church and hall) is in a suitable state of repair (either decoration or structurally) and two mission stations in Auchengray and Tarbrax continue to call on resources. At present the church in Auchengray is used monthly for worship and is cost neutral to the congregation as rent is paid by the local authority for education use. However it is unlikely that this will continue once the school has been modernized in the next 5 years. The church at Tarbrax is now closed. In Auchengray there is no other community space whilst in Tarbrax there is a village hall.

Although the Kirk Session of Forth St Paul's still have some reservations as to how in practice they might take on the challenge of an enlarged parish, the Review Group recommends a redrawing of parish bounds to move responsibility for the Auchengray and Tarbrax areas to Forth: St. Paul's. This would ensure a fairer balance of

parish responsibilities between Forth and Carnwath/Carstairs/Carstairs Junction. The total parish population of Forth would increase to around 3,700 while the total parish population of Carnwath/Carstairs/Carstairs Junction would reduce to less than 5000. In addition it would also make the parish boundaries more closely in line with existing Local Authority electoral wards.

Should the Plan to appoint a part-time Rural Church Facilitator be approved the Review Group would also recommend that Forth St Paul's be encouraged to seek the assistance of the person appointed to that post to explore together ways of developing work in the Auchengray and Tarbrax areas.

The Review Group further recommends that Carnwath link with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.

The Review Group further recommends the immediate disposal of all buildings in Carnwath. For the avoidance of doubt the proceeds from the sale of the buildings at Auchengray and Tarbrax will be credited to the congregation of Carnwath.

It is hoped that by removing the burden of buildings from the worshipping community at Carnwath a new model of church may be explored to best meet the needs of the local community and parish. Already the congregation of Carnwath has shown commendable initiative in pursuing the option of worshipping in alternative premises to the existing church buildings.

Future Plans

The Review Group suggests the following allocation of resources to the Lanark area.

Carnwath linked with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction (FT)

Forth: St Paul's (FT)

Lanark: Greyfriars (FT)

Lanark: St. Nicholas (FT)

The Review Group is aware of the present efforts of the Kirk Sessions and ministers within the town to overcome generations of differences and work together where possible to be a united witness in Lanark.

The Review Group recommend that a Parish Grouping be formed between the congregations of Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St. Nicholas. This should be worked upon locally, with input from the Presbytery if required.

The establishment of this staffing allocation will mean that the Lanark area will meet around 112% of staffing costs.

Lesmahagow Area

Area Introduction

Congregations:	Coalburn, Crossford, Douglas Valley, Kirkfieldbank, Kirkmuirhill, Lesmahagow Abbeygreen and Lesmahagow Old.		
Financial Situation:	Currently three charges pay the full costs of a minister – Kirkmuirhill (161%), Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old (114%) and Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (107%). Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank and The Douglas Valley Church pay approximately 65%.		
Population:	Whilst it has proven difficult to get accurate population figures the best data available to the Presbytery with the mid year estimates at 2009 suggest the following Parish populations: Coalburn (1520), Crossford (780), Douglas Valley (3165), Kirkfieldbank (1377), Kirkmuirhill (4607), Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (2878), and Lesmahagow Old (2643). This represents a total population of 16,970 or 28% of the total population of the Presbytery area.		
Congregation:	The size of membership (as at 31/12/2010) and size of worshipping congregation (as noted in the congregational audit forms issued in Nov 2010) are as follows:		
	Congregation	Membership	Worship
	Coalburn	144	35
	Crossford	182	40 (joint evening–20, midweek–15)
	Douglas Valley	368	100
	Kirkfieldbank	89	28 (joint evening–20, midweek–15)
	Kirkmuirhill	314	200 (evening–70, midweek–30)
	Lesmahagow: Old	462	60-180
	Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen	227	150 (evening–60, midweek–50)
Current situation:	Currently there are 5 charges in this area: Coalburn lw Lesmahagow Old; Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank; Douglas Valley, Kirkmuirhill; and Lesmahagow Abbeygreen. At present each charge has one full time minister of Word and Sacrament although Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old is currently vacant.		

Dalserf

The Presbytery Plan implementation committee of the Presbytery of Hamilton entered into discussions with the original Review Group in April 2011 to explore the possibility of transferring the congregation of Dalserf from Hamilton Presbytery to Lanark Presbytery. The congregation (as at the 31st December 2010) had 229 members with a parish population of 2096.

The current Review Group resumed those negotiations in October 2012. At that time the Convener of Hamilton Presbytery's committee was in possession of a written assurance from the Ministries Council that if such a transfer were agreed it would be worth 1 Full-Time Equivalent ministry to Lanark Presbytery and initially this seemed a potentially attractive option. However, the Review Group was later informed by the Ministries Council that *"The additional allocation for Lanark will be 0.5FTE making the total 15.7FTE. The previous advice of 1.0 FTE was incorrect."*

On that basis the Review Group decided not to pursue the matter any further.

With this decision not to pursue the transfer of Dalsersf Parish from Hamilton Presbytery to Lanark Presbytery and the potential prospect of an additional 3200 homes being constructed in the Douglas Valley, the Review Group recommends no change to the current situation in the Lesmahagow area *at the present time*, but the situation will be kept under review by the Presbytery.

Future Plans

The allocation of resources to the Lesmahagow area would therefore be as follows:

- Coalburn lw Lesmahagow: Old (FT)
- Douglas Valley Church (FT)
- Kirkmuirhill (FT)
- Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank (FT)
- Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen (FT)

There are strong and vibrant churches within the Lesmahagow area and the Review Group feels that these have a great deal to offer the communities they serve in a united witness. The Review Group unanimously felt that it was important to foster positive relationships between churches to set the best example of Christian witness and love within their parishes, and recommend that the congregations explore locally ways of working more closely together.

The establishment of this staffing allocation will mean that the Lesmahagow area will meet around 102% of staffing costs.

ADDITIONAL NEW PRESBYTERY POST—RURAL CHURCH FACILITATOR

The Review Group recommend the appointment of a **Rural Church Facilitator** who will work one day per week. (i.e. 0.2FTE ministry) to establish new forms of church presence and congregational life in small, scattered rural communities, perhaps including the establishing of 'house churches.' The immediate focus of this work would be in the new Upper Clyde parish but would extend to other rural areas of the Presbytery in due course. The Facilitator would work in conjunction with the Congregational Development Committee.

Total Staff Costs for the Presbytery as a whole

Based on the 2010 income data, and including the 0.2 Rural Church Facilitator, the Presbytery as a whole would be contributing approximately 104% of total staffing costs and would therefore be a net contributor

Continuing Review

The Plan presented to the Presbytery is a starting point and not a goal and it will have to be reviewed regularly by the Presbytery in the light of changing circumstances. However, the Review Group humbly presents it as our best effort at meeting the demands of the diminished resources of the Church at this present time while ensuring the ongoing life and witness of congregations as a fundamental and strategic agent for the Church's participation in the Mission of God within our area.

In the name of the Review Group
IAIN D. CUNNINGHAM (Convener)

The Presbytery of Lanark

Report of the Presbytery Plan Review Group

Table of the Presbytery Plan

		Presbytery of Lanark Draft Presbytery Plan (as at 1 February 2013)			Key <i>UT : Unrestricted tenure; RT : Reviewable Tenure; PG : Parish Grouping (refers to XX area only); DL : Deferred linkage; LEP Local Ecumenical Project; Buildings: a) expected to remain in use beyond lifetime of plan; b) expected to be closed during plan period; c) expected to be disposed of under an adjustment; d) Presbytery unable to make a determination at this time.</i>			
Congregation Name and Roll	Gross Population	Congregational membership	Current Status	Plan for Congregation(s) by end of Plan	Implementation or Interim Steps required (if any or if necessary)	Structure of Staffing required	Other staffing - locally provided	Building designatio
Biggar	2614	598	Linked with Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan	Link with Black Mount	Sever four-way linkage, between Biggar, Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Biggar lw Black Mount (UT)		a
Black Mount	761	68	Linked with Biggar, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan	Link with Biggar	Sever four-way linkage, between Biggar, Black Mount, Culter, Libberton & Quothquan	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Biggar lw Black Mount (UT)		a

Cairngryffe	1240	171	Linked with Symington	Link with Libberton & Quothquan link with Symington		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington (UT)		σ
Carluke: Kirkton	5677	813	In Parish Grouping with Carluke: St Andrew's & Carluke: St John's	In Parish Grouping with United Parish of Carluke: St Andrew's & Carluke: St John's, and Law		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)	P/T Parish Grouping Administrator For Carluke & Law Parish Grouping	σ
Carluke: St Andrews	3547	301	In Parish Grouping with Carluke: Kirkton & Carluke: St John's	United with Carluke: St John's and in Parish Grouping with Carluke: Kirkton and Law	Deferred Union with Carluke: St John's	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT) and 0.7 FTE for united congregation	P/T Parish Grouping Administrator For Carluke & Law Parish Grouping	σ
Carluke: St John's	6024	762	In Parish Grouping with Carluke: Kirkton & Carluke: St Andrew's	United with Carluke: St Andrew's and in Parish Grouping with Carluke: Kirkton and Law	Deferred Union with Carluke: St Andrews	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT) and 0.7 FTE for united congregation	P/T Parish Grouping Administrator For Carluke & Law Parish Grouping	σ

Carnwath	2636	286	Unrestricted Tenure	Link with United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction	Re-draw Parish boundaries of Carnwath to transfer Auchengray & Tarbrax to Forth St Paul's	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT) for linked congregation		0
United Parish of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	2999	296	Unrestricted Tenure	Link with Carnwath	Re-draw Parish boundaries of Carnwath to transfer Auchengray & Tarbrax to Forth St Paul's	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT) for linked congregation		0
Coalburn	1520	144	Linked with Lesmahagow: Old	Linked with Lesmahagow: Old		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT) for linked congregation		0
Crossford	780	182	Linked with Kirkfieldbank			1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT) for linked congregation		0
Culter	262	29	Linked with Biggar, Black Mount, Libberton & Quothquan	Dissolve congregation	Close and dispose of building Transfer parish responsibility to Biggar	N/A		0

The Douglas Valley Church	3165	368	Unrestricted Tenure	No change		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)		α
Forth: St Paul's	3056	368	Unrestricted Tenure	Parish Boundaries redrawn	Re-draw Parish boundaries of Carnwath to transfer Auchengray & Tarbrax to Forth St Paul's	1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)		α
Glencaple	1565	192	Linked with Lowther	Unite with Lowther		80% P/T Minister of Word & Sacrament Glencaple & Lowther (RT)		α
Kirkfieldbank	1377	89	Linked with Crossford	Linked with Crossford		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT) for linked congregation		α
Kirkmuirhill	4607	314	Unrestricted Tenure	No change		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)		α

Lanark: Greyfriars	4403	610	Unrestricted Tenure	In Parish Grouping with Lanark: St Nicholas		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)		⊞
Lanark: St Nicholas	4655	546	Unrestricted Tenure	In Parish Grouping with Lanark: Greyfriars		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)		⊞
Law	3549	194	Unrestricted Tenure	In Parish Grouping with United Parish of Carluke: St Andrew's & Carluke: St John's, and Carluke: Kirkton		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)	P/T Parish Grouping Administrator For Carluke & Law Parish Grouping	⊞
Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen	2878	227	Unrestricted Tenure			1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (UT)		⊞
Lesmahagow: Old	2643	462	Linked with Coalburn	Linked with Coalburn		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament (RT)		⊞

Libberton & Quothquan	349	86	Linked with Biggar, Black Mount, Culter	Link with Cairngryffe, Symington		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington (UT)		α
Lowther	443	36	Linked with Glencaple	Unite with Glencaple	Close and dispose of building Secure use of alternative worship space (e.g. Leadhills Miners' Library)	80% P/T Minister of Word & Sacrament for Glencaple & Lowther (RT)		β
Symington	940	210	Linked with Cairngryffe	Link with Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan		1 FT Minister of Word & Sacrament for Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington (UT)		α

Rural Church Facilitator – 20% P/T post

Lanark, on, Tuesday 7 May 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 25 Elders; 2 Corresponding Members and 21 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael, A Gibson, A Meikle, S Reid and I Watson Ministers, Messrs A Grant and J Watt, Elders and Mrs A Muir, Corresponding Member

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of 'Guild Presbyterian Council Report.'

Minutes of meeting on 5 March and 14 March 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2013 and 14 March 2013 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 communication from

- Law Department regarding Data Protection with updated information for congregations. The Clerk informed Presbytery that the Presbytery of Lanark is now registered with the Data Protection scheme.
- Information from the General Trustees regarding the sale of Auchengray Church stating that the formal determination to sell has been granted.
- Information from the General Trustees regarding wind turbine opportunities on Glebe Land asking any congregations who may be interested to make contact.

Presbytery Plan

Parties were called.

The Presbytery took up consideration of the Presbytery Plan. The Clerk read out correspondence and an extract minute from Ministries Council PPTG intimating concurrence with the Presbytery Plan approved by Presbytery on 14 March 2013.

Opportunity was given for parties to make statements to the Presbytery. No statement was made.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Clerk then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Note that the Ministries Council PPTG has concurred with the Presbytery Plan submitted.
2. Note that population figures requested by PPTG have been submitted
3. Note that The Partnership Development Committee will deal with the referral from PPTG in respect of the exact use of the agreed contingency at its next meeting on 14th May.
4. Remit the matter of drawing up the Draft Basis of linking of the congregations of Carnwath and the United Parish of Carstairs linked with Carstairs Junction to the Ministries Committee
5. Remit the matter of drawing up the Draft Basis of Deferred Union for Carluke: St John's and Carluke: St Andrew's and the matter of the new Basis of Parish Grouping between Carluke: Kirkton, Law and the deferred Union of Carluke: St Andrew's and Carluke: St John's to the Ministries Committee
6. Remit to the Ministries Committee to enter into discussions with the charges of Forth and Carnwath in respect of proposed boundary changes in the Presbytery Plan
7. Remit jointly to Congregational Development Committee and Presbytery Ministries Committee to bring forward proposals for the 0.2 FTE rural church facilitator
8. Thank and discharge the Presbytery Planning Group

The Deliverance was approved

Parties were recalled and the decision intimated to them.

Parties were recalled and the decision of Presbytery intimated to them. Parties were informed that in terms of Act IV, 2003 the congregations have the right to appeal the decision of the Presbytery with intimation of the intent to appeal to be lodged with Mr John Thomson, Ministries Council, before the 28th May 2013.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that permission to proceed to call a minister to the charge of Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow: Old on the basis of unrestricted tenure is granted.
3. Note that the Presbytery Advisory Committee appointed for Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow: Old is Rev S Reid, Mrs M. Morris, and Mr W Macsween (Convener)
4. Note that permission to proceed to call a 0.8 FTE minister to the charge of Upper Clyde on the basis of unrestricted tenure is granted.
5. Note that the Presbytery Advisory Committee appointed for Upper Clyde is Rev S Ross, Mrs M McGillivray and Mrs A Lumsden (Convener)
6. Note that the charge of Carnwath requires to have a Basis of Linkage agreed by all parties before permission to proceed to call can be granted.
7. Note that the charge of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction requires to have a Basis of Linkage agreed by all parties before permission to proceed to call can be granted.
8. Note that the charge of Carluke St. John's requires to have a Basis of Deferred Union agreed by all parties before permission to proceed to call a minister can be granted.

The Deliverance was approved

Report on Carluke Parish Grouping Discussions

The Report on the Carluke Parish Grouping Discussions was presented by Depute Clerk Rev Bryan Kerr, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Recognise the commitment of all three congregations in Carluke to the work of the Parish Grouping.
3. Thank the Kirk Session of Carluke: St. Andrews for its courage in raising the matter of the ongoing work of the Parish Grouping in Carluke whilst negotiating a Basis of Deferred Union.
4. Thank all the Kirk Sessions of the Carluke congregations for their honesty and vision whilst meeting with representatives of Presbytery to discuss the Parish Grouping in Carluke.
5. Agree that initiatives already in operation within the Carluke Parish Grouping should continue in their present form, but that no further initiatives should be developed until such time as the Basis of Deferred Union between Carluke: St Andrew's and Carluke: St John's has been agreed by all parties concerned, and that for the avoidance of doubt the Basis of Parish Grouping as agreed by the congregations of Carluke, Presbytery and Ministries Council remains in force throughout this period.
6. Agree that the Parish Grouping in Carluke completes the initial work of forming the legal entity of a SCIO for the 'touching place' and thereafter a period of further reflection be entered into to allow space for all three congregations to be involved in the discussions regarding this important work.
7. Instruct the Parish Grouping in Carluke, prior to any buildings being acquired by the SCIO, that discussion takes place between the Kirk Sessions and the Resources Committee of Presbytery.
8. Agree that discussions on the new proposed Parish Grouping as approved in the Presbytery Plan between the three congregations in Carluke and Law do not begin until at least a year after the Induction of the minister of the Deferred Union of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's.
9. Instruct the Ministries Committee to ensure that in any future Basis of Parish Grouping, there be opportunity for a formal appraisal or review of the Grouping by the Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Good News Stories

Rev Bryan Kerr – Lanark: Greyfriars reported on the recent Holiday Club run in the church with 120 children attending each day. A community cinema ran each afternoon and during the week 1089 people attended a church event run by a team of around 36 volunteers. Mr Kerr reported that for the past five years the team at Greyfriars have written their own material.

Miss Ann Lyall DCS – Biggar area Deacon reported on the recent visit from Bible World to the area with around 500 people visiting the exhibition from every school in the Biggar Area. Comments were very favourable from pupils and teachers and those involved in organising were pleased with how the visit had gone.

Rev Russell McLarty – Carnwath reported on an initiative within the community to revitalise the village. A new community organisation has been formed with the aim of bringing people in the community together. The congregation moving out of the church building has provoked a genuine desire to regenerate the local community.

Rev Una Stewart – Law reported on the 2 year old football team with 30 young men who have signed up to the team. Many of the team are not part of the church but now insist that a prayer is said prior to kick off at each match. The young men are so grateful for the support of the church that they are each giving a day of work to the church to help in its work.

Society, Religion & Technology Project – Dr Murdo Macdonald

Dr Murdo Macdonald, Policy Officer with SRT project spoke on the work of the project over the last 40 years. Dr Macdonald spoke of the interface between science and religion that the Church of Scotland is engaged with. A large focus of the work of SRT has been Neuroethics, the ethics of the internet and economics in recent years. Dr Macdonald invited members of Presbytery to take info sheets to their congregations to stimulate debate and discussion on some of the issues facing society today. The Moderator thanked Dr Macdonald for his presentation to Presbytery and the time spent in schools within the Presbytery area during the day.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Homologate the decision taken under delegated powers to grant Compassionate Leave to Rev Ian Watson
3. Homologate the decision taken under delegated powers to grant permission to the United Parish of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction to let the manse on a six month short assured tenancy.
4. Homologate the decision taken under delegated powers to note that Mrs Anna Lumsden was offered and accepted the spare elder commission to the General Assembly.
5. Note that Rev. Alison Meikle began a phased return to work on 22nd April 2013.
6. Approve the recommendation that, in future, pastoral and practical support will be provided by the Interim Moderator for two months to any minister making a phased return to work.
7. Note that Business Committee supports the Congregational Development Committee in its formal complaint against the Safeguarding Office as detailed in the Report.
8. Note that the Lanark Presbytery Commissioners to the 2013 General Assembly are: Revs. David Carmichael, Helen Jamieson, Bryan Kerr, Russell McLarty and Sarah Ross and elders, Graham Chapman, Allan Macpherson, Bill Love, Rita Sleight and Anna Lumsden.
9. Agree that an ad hoc committee to report, in the first instance, to the August meeting of the Business Committee, be set up to explore and review the Presbytery committee structure and how it currently functions comprising, the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Bill Love, Fiona Hannah and Anna Lumsden, with powers to co-opt members and elect a convener.
10. Amend section 1 of the Policy on Stewardship of Cyberspace to read "The Presbytery has decided to conduct its correspondence, wherever possible, by email. The Clerk sends out the papers for monthly meetings as email attachments to those who are able and willing to participate. As computers are now a necessary tool for ministry, each charge will provide, as a matter of policy, a computer, printer,

software, broadband internet access, paper and ink/toner (as well as maintenance of equipment) to the Minister of the charge and congregations are instructed to provide, as part of their annual budget, an adequate sum to ensure funds are available to replace equipment when necessary. Congregations are urged to ensure that full internet security software is operative on their systems, whether purchased or downloaded free of charge."

11. Instruct the Presbytery Treasurer to return funds held for the provision and replacement of IT equipment to congregational treasurers on a per capita basis, based on congregational communion rolls as at 31st December 2012.
12. Agree to nominate Rev. Harry Findlay as Moderator of Lanark Presbytery for 2013- 2014.

The convener proposed an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 5 and 6 and renumber.

5. Homologate the decision taken under designated powers to write to Ian Brown Carstairs, Henry Dorricott, Lanark, Funeralcare Lanark and Andrew Ironside Biggar informing them of arrangements for the conduct of funerals of those within the parish of Carnwath and reminding them of the undertaking made by Rev B Gauld on his retirement.
6. Note that the matter of the breaches of the agreement made by Rev B Gauld will be referred to the Congregational Support Committee.

The amendment was approved.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Guild Presbyterial Council

Mrs Allison Plenderleith, Guild Presbyterial Council Convener reported on various events within the Presbytery for the 125th anniversary year, including a garden party and songs of praise. Mrs Plenderleith shared some of the work of the guild locally, nationally and internationally with the visionary projects the members support. The Moderator thanked Mrs Plenderleith for her report.

Report of the Place for Hope Liaison Group

The Report of the Place for Hope Liaison Group was presented by the Convener, Rev Robert Cleland, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Acknowledge that Place for Hope and the Liaison Group have made it possible for people to move on.
3. Agree that while there is still room for ongoing personal reconciliation, the Presbytery engagement with Place for Hope should now be concluded
4. Agree that no disciplinary action should be taken against Rev Ian Watson
5. Thank the Place for Hope Liaison Group and discharge them.
6. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Hugh Donald and the Place for Hope team.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Andrew Brown, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the annual inspection of log books was completed and all found to be in order.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Miss Ann Lyall DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

4. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the proposed new arrangements for the annual Attestation of Records. (Appendix 1)
3. Amend the Congregational Records Guidance Notes in the Presbytery Yearbook to reflect these new arrangements.
4. Instruct the Clerk to send details of these new arrangements to all Session Clerks with instructions to make the relevant office bearers in their congregations aware of them.
5. Thank the Depute Clerk for his assistance in drawing up these proposals.
6. Note that 11 Safeguarding registers were inspected on 23rd April and found generally to be in order.
7. Thank members of the Congregational Support Committee and the Congregational Development Committee for their assistance in examining these Registers

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that, owing to the loss of its Hall and other bases of operation, the congregation of Carnwath Parish Church suffered a significant loss of Income in 2012 amounting to approximately £11,000;
3. Agree to write-off a £1,500 shortfall in Carnwath's 2012 Ministries and Mission Allocation using the Presbytery's current 2% Variance Allowance and instruct the Clerk to notify the Stewardship and Finance Department of Presbytery's Decision regarding the 2012 Shortfall;
4. Note that the central heating system of St. Andrew's Parish Church, Carluke, has been turned off for safety reasons and that the boiler and its controls are beyond repair;
5. Noting that (a) the church and halls of St, Andrew's Parish, Carluke, are still being used, (b) the future of these properties has not yet been decided, (c) there is an ongoing obligation to maintain them, and (d) that the Church's Heating Specialist has, and is, being consulted, agree to permit the congregation to make repairs costing no more than £25,000 excluding VAT granting it permission in principle to seek funding including that of applying to the General Trustees for a grant and loan and instruct the Clerk to notify the General Trustees of the decision;
6. Note that the General Trustees have awarded a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of repairing the damage caused by the recent series of metal thefts at St. Paul's Parish Church, Forth;
7. Note that the Options Plan for the renovation of the buildings at St. Paul's Parish Church, Forth, which was funded by the General Trustees, is now submitted to that Department for its consideration.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Sarah Ross, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Commend the Committee's review of the See Me...Action Plan and encourage them to continue bringing Mental Health issues to the attention of Presbytery and congregations.
3. Encourage all congregations to appoint a Mental Health Issues Contact who can be added to the local See Me... faith communities database, receiving local mental health information and passing on as appropriate.

4. Note the dates for Mental Health Awareness week as 13th-19th May, with a theme of promoting physical exercise and encourage congregations to engage with this as appropriate.
5. Encourage all congregations to advertise the Stress Control Classes being held in Carluke from 21st May-25th June.
6. Encourage congregations to engage with the new See Me...campaign called "Just Listen".
7. Agree to promote the World Mission Stamp Appeal 2013 to all congregations, and invite them to send their used stamps to World Mission Stamp Project, PO Box 9191, Wishaw, Lanarkshire, ML2 0YB or hand deliver to Keith Scott, 143 Netherton Road, Wishaw, ML2 0AR.
8. Instruct the World and Community Issues Committee to respond to the letter regarding burial costs, contact all Local Councillors and continue to challenge South Lanarkshire Council regarding the costs associated with burials.
9. Thank the World and Community Issues Committee for their role in supporting the establishment of the Clydesdale Food Bank, and instruct them to send a report to Church and Society Council in response to their General Assembly instruction instructing Presbyteries to investigate issues of food insecurity within their bounds with a view to acting ecumenically to establish food banks in appropriate locations.
10. Thank all congregations who are currently involved in the Clydesdale Food Bank and welcome any further interest from other congregations to get involved as collectors or as distribution points.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew attention to intimations outlined in the Presbytery papers, paying particular attention to the search for National Assessors for future ministry candidates.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet on Tuesday 18 June 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for the Sacrament of Holy Communion and thereafter for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Inspection of Records – A Proposal for Change

For a number of years the burdens placed on the Presbytery inspection of records have increased whilst the number of people available to perform this task, in the name of Presbytery, has decreased. It is clear that there are a number of problems with the current system.

1. Storage of records in St. Nicholas Office for a few weeks is an imposition on the secretary and the congregation.
2. The longer Presbytery hold onto records (where someone is not at the March meeting to collect) the more chance there is of records going missing. Where would the blame lie?
3. Many people who serve on Presbytery committees work during the day and find it impossible to be in attendance.
4. When records are returned a slip of paper highlighting issues is placed in each box but there is no conversation able to take place with the record keepers to share good practice for the following year.

It is therefore suggested that an overhaul of the current system of inspection is put in place to ensure that Presbytery can fulfill the regulatory functions given by the General Assembly.

Four committees are now required to attest documents held by congregations or ministers – Resources (Property Registers and Accounts), Congregational Development (Safeguarding Registers), Ministries (Minister's Log Books) and Congregational Support (Minutes Books, Congregational Rolls and Baptismal Registers). Whilst the accounts cannot be attested quickly the other matters can be disposed of in the one session.

On the traditional February committee night, the committees would meet to examine records prior to meeting for ordinary business (should they wish to meet for ordinary business). Instead of the Presbytery elder bringing records, congregational office bearers (or Kirk Session appointed deputies) should bring the records to St. Nicholas Hall at a specified time. Those expected to be in attendance would be the Session Clerk, Property Convener and Safeguarding Co-ordinator from each congregation. They would be able to travel together and have contact with the Presbytery committee responsible for their work.

Each committee would need up to 6 people (with the exception of Ministries Committee who would need up to 5) to inspect the records. This would allow sufficient time for records to be adequately checked. Each office bearer would sit with the committee member inspecting the records they had responsibility for. This would have the advantage that each office bearer could speak with members of the committee to clarify any points they may have and receive feedback on good practice for future record keeping. Once the records had been inspected the member of the committee would stamp the records and pass them to the Moderator, Clerk or Depute Clerk for signing. Records would then be returned immediately to the congregation.

Tea and Coffee would be available in the hall for those who were attesting and the office bearers who were in attendance.

Congregations would be grouped in areas to ensure a fair split of those arriving with records to be attested. It is proposed that the following groupings be instigated.

- Area 1: Carnwath, Forth: St. Paul's, Lanark: Greyfriars, Lanark: St. Nicholas, United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
 - Area 2: Coalburn, Douglas Valley, Kirkmuirhill, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow: Old
 - Area 3: Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan, Symington, Upper Clyde
 - Area 4: Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. John's, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Crossford, Kirkfieldbank, Law
- Area 1 would report at 6:30pm, Area 2 at 7pm, Area 3 at 7:30pm and Area 4 at 8pm.

The Ministers of the charges should also attend at the appropriate time to allow their mileage log books to be inspected by the Ministries Committee

There are a number of advantages to this system that allows records to be brought and returned on the same evening, members of committees who would normally be in attendance at the meeting to attest records and face to face conversations between congregational office bearers and Presbytery representatives on the records and any issues that may arise. This would also have the added advantage of providing support for those who keep the records.

The annual inspection of records is a vital part of the regulatory function that a Presbytery has. In order to inspect and attest the records properly time must be taken and due care paid to the contents of the records. To achieve this more people are required to be involved. It is hoped that this proposal goes some way to deal with these issues.

Lanark, on Tuesday 4th June 2013, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *pro re nata* to consider business in terms of Act III 2001 (as amended)

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 13 Ministers; 25 Elders; 2 Corresponding Members and 1 visitor.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev D Carmichael, and D Easton, Ministers, Miss A Lyall, Deacon and Messrs R Boag, E Easton D Whitefield and Mrs L Nicol, Elders.

The Moderator explained that the meeting had been called to deal with business in terms of Act III 2001(as amended).

The Moderator invited the Clerk to speak.

The Clerk read a statement informing Presbytery that circumstances indicated that a disciplinary offence may have been committed by a minister, and following consultation with the Office of the Principal Clerk, the Moderator had called a *pro re nata* meeting of Presbytery for this evening.

The Clerk stated that the Minister concerned was informed of the action taken and had been 'administratively suspended' from all ministerial functions. Ministries Council had also been informed and will provide pastoral support for the minister.

The Clerk asked Presbytery to commence proceedings under Act III 2001 and to grant powers to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Business Convener to appoint from the Judicial Proceedings Panel a Special Committee to consider the circumstances and if appropriate to investigate and prosecute the case and drew attention to the fact that, in terms of Act III 2001 (as amended). In the exercise of any of its functions in terms of this Act the Special Committee shall have all the powers of Presbytery.

Presbyters were also asked to note that In terms of Act III 2001 (as amended) "it shall be a disciplinary offence for any member of the Presbytery to issue press statements or otherwise talk to the media about and alleged disciplinary offence until the conclusion of any disciplinary proceedings and any appeals relating thereto".

The Clerk moved the following Deliverance

Deliverance: Presbytery

1. Homologate the Moderator's action in calling a *pro re nata* meeting
2. Note that circumstances indicate that a disciplinary offence may have been committed by a minister and following advice taken from the office of the Principal Clerk, commence proceedings in terms of Act III 2001(as amended) and 'appoint from the Judicial Proceedings Panel a Special Committee to consider the circumstances and, if appropriate, to investigate and prosecute the case. In the exercise of any of its functions in terms of this Act, the Special Committee shall have all the powers of Presbytery'.
3. Remit with powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Convener of the Business Committee, in consultation with the Office of the Principal Clerk, to appoint the Special Committee from the Judicial Proceedings Panel.
4. Homologate the actions of the Moderator, Clerk and Depute Clerk in imposing an administrative suspension on the respondent.
5. Note that in terms of Act III 2001(as amended), 'it shall be a disciplinary offence for any member of Presbytery to issue press statements or otherwise talk to the media about an alleged disciplinary offence until the conclusion of any disciplinary proceedings and any appeals relating thereto'.

Procedural questions in terms of Act III 2001 (as amended) were asked and responses given

The Deliverance was approved.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 18 June 2013 at 7.00 pm in Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church for the Sacrament of Holy Communion and thereafter in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator thanked all those who had attended and closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 18 June 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Sarah Ross, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers, 23 Elders, 3 Corresponding Members and 12 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev E Clelland, S Cowell, S Reid and I Watson, Ministers; Miss A Lyall, Deacon; Mr A Grant, Mrs A Cochrane, and Mrs M Morris, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the agreement of moving intimations to number 5 and item 10 move to number 15 and item 11 to number 14.

Minutes of meeting on 7 May and 4 June 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2013 and 4 June 2013 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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.

Intimations

The Clerk drew attention to intimations outlined in the Presbytery papers, and mentioned elder training to take place in the autumn of the year from the Congregational Development Committee for members to pass on to Kirk Session's. Information on an evaluation in Youthwork day from Go For It Fund was made available.

The Moderator thanked the Presbytery elders who are retiring on 30 June 2013, and made special mention of Robert Tweedie who has been a Presbytery Elder from the Douglas Valley Church who completed his 20th year as a Presbytery elder before retiring. The Moderator also welcomed new elders visiting for the evening.

Farewell to Rev Roy Cowieson

The Moderator invited Janice Webster from Carluke: St. John's Parish Church to address Presbytery. Mrs Webster paid tribute to Mr Cowieson's ministry within Carluke and in particular the growth of the congregation and fellowship within as well as the faith of those who worship within the congregation. The congregation particularly appreciated Mr Cowieson's preaching, humour and pastoral concern for all. 'Pastor Roy' is particularly appreciated by the children and young people of the congregation as well as those in the wider community of Carluke and makes people feel at ease and welcome. Mrs Webster thanked Mr Cowieson for his faith, his witness and his ministry and stated that Mr and Mrs Cowieson will be greatly missed by the congregation of St. John's and the community around it and wished them well in their retirement and return to Canada.

The Moderator invited Rev. Helen Jamieson to address the Presbytery and pay tribute to Mr Cowieson. Mrs Jamieson spoke of Mr Cowieson's involvement in the Church locally – in the community of Carluke where he was well known and respected for his caring ministry, in the church regionally; serving in Presbytery on different committees and as Interim Moderator in two charges and also nationally; serving on Ministries Council. She commented on Mr Cowieson's sense of humour, expressed gratitude for his friendship as a colleague and wished Roy and his wife, Christine, God's richest blessings as they returned to Canada to enjoy time with their family.

The Moderator invited Mr Cowieson to respond. Mr Cowieson spoke appreciatively of the support of Presbytery, of his colleagues in Carluke and of his congregation during the last six years; of how much he and Christine had enjoyed being a part of the Church of Scotland and of his sadness at leaving Carluke and Scotland. Returning to Canada and leaving behind friends made here was not easy, but it meant that he and Christine would be closer to their family.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer, offered thanks for the ministry of Mr and Mrs Cowieson and asked God's blessing on them as they embarked on this new chapter of their lives and ministry.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

13. Receive the Report
14. Note that Additional Elders and Presbytery Committees for 2013/14 will be agreed under powers and sent out as soon as possible.
15. Note the intimation of the intention to amend Standing Orders in October 2013
16. Note the appointment of John Lumsden CA ACMA as Depute Treasurer during the Treasurer's absence overseas.
17. Note that the Presbytery Yearbook will be available for collection at the September Meeting.
18. Approve the proposal to hold a Fellowship Meal at 6pm on Tuesday 3 September 2013 in St. Nicholas Church Hall prior to the Presbytery Meeting.
19. Note that Presbyters are requested to order their meals from Helen Chekansky by 27th August.
20. Grant approval for delegated powers for the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and convener of the Business Committee to act on behalf of Presbytery until Presbytery should next meet; on the understanding that, at the next meeting Presbytery shall be notified of any decisions taken and homologation sought.
21. Thank Rev. Sarah Ross for celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Moderating the meeting this evening and also the Kirk Session and members of St. Nicholas Church for their fellowship and hospitality.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the Report
10. Note that the Nominating Committee for the charge of Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old will consist of 3 members from Coalburn and 8 from Lesmahagow Old.
11. Note that the Rev. S. Reid has withdrawn from the Advisory Committee of Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old and the Rev. Sarah Ross has been appointed in his place.
12. Note that the Nominating Committee for the Upper Clyde Parish will consist of 9 members.
13. Note that the Rev. John Turnbull has been appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Upper Clyde Parish to replace the Rev. Sarah Ross.

The Deliverance was approved

Good News Stories

Mrs Anne Reid – Carluke: St. John's spoke of £117,661 raised for Christian Aid through the work of an ecumenical partnership of the churches within Carluke.

Rev David Easton – Biggar linked with Black Mount, intimated that a nominee will be preaching on 30 June 2013 within the charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount.

General Assembly Reflection

Rev Russell McLarty offered his reflections on the recent General Assembly. Mr McLarty spoke of the great concern and prayer surrounding the work of the Assembly in May 2013. Following the Heart and Soul event on the Sunday the Assembly turned its attention to the issue of same sex relationships and the ministry with a report of a theological commission that could not agree on a single way forward. Following a motion by Very Rev Albert Bogle the matter will be remitted to Presbyteries following the 2014 Assembly. For many the issue had far too much prominence within the life of the church due to many other items needing addressed in the communities we serve. Mr McLarty spoke of the report of the Panel on review and Reform encouraging the church to look at new ways of reaching communities, the Stewardship report stating that whilst other charities

incomes has reduced in recent years, congregational giving has increased by 2%, and the World Mission Council with particular thanks expressed for the Steel Band who played throughout the week. Mr McLarty spoke of the many qualities that Right Rev Lorna Hood brought to the role of Moderator including her inspiring messages on the theme of 'hope' throughout the week.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that a further three Safeguarding Registers were examined on 4th June 2013 and found generally to be in order.
3. Approve the issuing of Practising Certificates for 2013-2014 to Rev. Beverly Gauld, Rev. Graham Houston, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev. John Turnbull.
4. Note that none of these applicants have indicated that they do not wish to take up their seat in Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Harry Findlay, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve Presbytery Accounts for 2012
3. Instruct the Clerk to submit a signed copy of Presbytery's 2012 Accounts to the Church of Scotland's Stewardship and Finance Department, and to write to Mr Tom Anderson and M. David Clarkson of Messrs. I. A. Stewart & Co, Chartered Accountants, expressing appreciation of their service to Presbytery
4. Noting that congregations were required to submit their Second National Stewardship Feed-back Forms to Presbytery by 30th March this year, and that a substantial number of these Forms remain outstanding, urge the defaulting congregations to submit their Forms to Presbytery and the Department with all haste
5. Approve the application of Lesmahagow Old Parish Church to re-wire the Church and replace the building's present inefficient heating system at a total cost of £115,315.49p. inclusive of VAT, and grant the congregation permission to apply to the General Trustees for a grant and loan
6. Noting that no grants or loans are required, approve the application of Abbeygreen Parish Church, Lesmahagow, to replace the windows of the manse with double-glazed and draught-proofed sash and casement windows similar in style to those they replace at a cost of £18,700 inclusive of VAT
7. Instruct the Clerk to transmit the application of Lesmahagow Old to the General Trustees
8. Note that the ecclesiastical buildings of the Parish Churches of Upper Clyde and Douglas Valley have been inspected on behalf of Presbytery by Mr Michael Nesbit, Chartered Architect.
9. Note that the dwelling place at 6c, Leafield Road, Biggar, the manse of the Biggar Parish Church lw Black Mount has been inspected and approved as fit for habitation, but urge the congregation to carry out the repairs and replacements as agreed by their representatives who attended the inspection.
10. Note that the dwelling place at 16, Abington Road, Symington, Biggar, presently the manse of the Tinto Parishes (Cairngryffe linked with Libberton and Quothquan linked with Symington) has been inspected and approved as fit for habitation, but urges the congregation to carry out the repairs and replacements as agreed by their representatives who attended the inspection.
11. Remind all vacant congregations that in accordance with Section 11 of the Act anent Vacancy Procedure (VIII, 2003, as amended), no date may be fixed for the induction of a minister to a vacant charge until the Presbytery Resources Committee has inspected and found that the manse is suitable for a new incumbent.

The convener proposed an amendment, to add a new section 4 and renumber: "Agree to provide the Presbytery Clerks with secretarial assistance amounting to four hours per week at £10 per hour for a period of six months with a review into the need for secretarial assistance after three months."

The amendment was approved

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Welcome the media coverage of the costs of burial in South Lanarkshire and encourage the committee to keep this on their agenda.
3. Encourage congregations to appoint a congregational contact for Mental Health Issues.
4. Note the report of the Education Resources Committee meeting and its dissemination to Glasgow and Hamilton Presbyteries and to the Church and Society Council.

The Deliverance was approved

The Presbytery moved to meet in PRIVATE

Notification of Members of Special Committee in terms of Act III 2001 - Act anent discipline of Ministers, Licentiates, Graduate Candidates and Deacons (as amended)

This item was taken in private and a minute is held in a record apart.

The Presbytery returned to OPEN COURT

Report of Presbytery Special Committee in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the Special Committee had acted, under powers, to investigate a situation within Kirkmuirhill Parish Church. The Special Committee had been instructed by Presbytery to report any such actions to the next meeting of Presbytery. The Clerk informed Presbytery that no representative from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church was present, despite intimation to the representatives attending a meeting called by the Special Committee on 12 June 2013 that a report would be made to the Presbytery on 18 June 2013. The Clerk explained that if a congregation is to be discussed at a meeting of Presbytery due citation should be given on two Sundays, but as the situation at Kirkmuirhill had moved very swiftly there had been no appropriate time to cite the congregation. Since no representatives were present, the Special Committee did not offer a full report on the matter. The Clerk moved the following deliverance.

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Instruct the Special Committee to liaise with representatives of the congregations, to seek further advice where necessary and to represent the interests of the Church of Scotland.
3. Grant further powers to the Special Committee in respect of
 - Instructing the submission of extract minutes and sederunt lists.
 - Instructing the submission of congregational records; these records being defined as those that are included in the annual inspection of congregational records which is undertaken by Presbytery.
 - Arranging informal consultation meetings with individual members and with groups of members
 - Ensuring that appropriate steps are taken to manage the situations in the event of ministers demitting, office-bearers resigning and members leaving
4. Meantime, remind the Kirk Session of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) of their obligations in terms of their vows of ordination and of church and charity law and instruct them to cooperate fully with its Special Committee.

The Deliverance was approved

Adjournment:

The Presbytery will meet *in hunc effectum* on Monday 1 July 2013 at 7.00pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church to hear the Report of Presbytery's Special Committee in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry and on Tuesday 3 September 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Monday 1 July 2013, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* to hear the report of Presbytery's Special Committee in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 11 Ministers; 21 Elders; 2 Corresponding Members and 100 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev I Cunningham, R McLarty, S Ross, Ministers, Miss A Lyall, Deacon and Messrs R Boag, R Carson, I Thomson and Mrs H Chekansky and Mrs A Lumsden, Elders.

The Moderator welcomed new Presbytery elders who had taken up their commission for the first time at this meeting and all visitors including Rev John Chalmers, Principal Clerk to the General Assembly. The Moderator explained that the meeting had been called to hear the report of the Presbytery Special Committee in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the congregation of Kirkmuirhill had been cited to appear for their interest at this meeting.

Parties were called.

The Clerk presented the report of Presbytery's Special Committee in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry and moved section 1 and 2 of the Deliverance.

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the Report
2. Homologate the actions of the Special Committee in relation to the situation at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church

Representatives from Kirkmuirhill were invited to speak and addressed Presbytery.

Parties were removed.

Presbytery took up consideration of the report.
The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener on behalf of the Special Committee amended section 1 of the deliverance to read 'Receive the report and note the actions of the Special Committee in relation to the situation at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church.'

Presbytery agreed.

The Convener on behalf of the Special Committee sought the permission of Presbytery to withdraw section 2 of the deliverance.

Presbytery agreed.

It was moved and seconded:

2. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the report to members of Presbytery and an extract minute and copy of the report to the Kirk Session of Kirkmuirhill.

The amendment was agreed

The Deliverance as amended was agreed.

Parties were recalled and the decision intimated.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 September 2013 at 7.00 pm in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church

Closure

The Moderator thanked all those who had attended and closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Biggar, on Thursday 22 August 2013, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *pro re nata* at Biggar Parish Church to induct Rev Michael Fucella to the charge of Biggar linked with Black Mount, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 ministers; 10 Elders and 1 Deacon. There were also 14 visitors associating with Presbytery: Rev S McKenna, S Torrens and S Fraser and Mr J Lingham, Elder(Edinburgh), Rev M Bicket and J Blackley (Angus), Rev G Palmer (Hamilton), Rev R Milne, J Howitt and M Cashman (Melrose and Peebles), Rev I McEwan (Glasgow) Rev B Hunter (St Andrew's) Rev K Van Staveren (Protestant Church of the Netherlands) and Rev G Elliott (Ministries Council)

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev E Clelland Minister and Mrs M McGillivray, Corresponding Member.

Induction of Rev Michael David Fucella

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Rev Michael D Fucella, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Russell McLarty conducted worship and preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula, Rev Michael D Fucella was inducted to the Congregations and Parishes of Biggar and Black Mount by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service the call was presented to Rev Michael D Fucella.

The Clerk was instructed to add Mr Fucella's name to the roll of Presbytery, to send certification of the induction of Rev M Fucella to the Session Clerks of Biggar and Black Mount and to send an extract minute to Ministries Council and to the Presbytery of Angus.

Rev D Easton was thanked for his service as Interim Moderator and Locum during the vacancy at Biggar and then Biggar linked with Black Mount and was discharged.

Mrs Anna Lumsden expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk and Depute Clerk and to Rev R McLarty for their conduct of the service of induction.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business in the halls of Lanark; St Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 3 September 2013

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 3 September 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr William Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 Ministers; 1 Deacon; 23 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and 1 visitor.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael and E Clelland, Ministers; Messrs J Austin, M Barclay, R Carson, A Grant, I Thomson, Elders and Mrs M McGillivray, Corresponding Member.

Welcome to New Members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed those who were attending their first meeting as commissioned elders and Rev Mike Fucella, minister at Biggar linked with Black Mount. Mr Fucella was presented with a book from the Presbytery to assist him in his ministry.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved with the addition of '11'. Report of the Congregational Support Committee and renumber.

Election and Installation of New Moderator

The Presbytery elected Rev Harry Findlay as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2013/14. Mr Love welcomed Mr Findlay, installed him as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited him to take the chair. The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Mr Love for his service during his term as Moderator.

Minutes of meeting on 18 June, 1 July and 22 August 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June, 1 July and 22 August 2013 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 letter from the General Trustees advising that a determination has been made to sell the former Lowther church building in Leadhills.
- information from the Ministries Council outlining the process for PVG Scheme checks for ministers.
- notification from Ministries Council informing of sick leave of Rev Steven Reid and Rev Una Stewart during the summer months.
- letter from the Guild informing that the annual meeting will be held on 7th September in Dundee and that the event will be webcast on the the Church of Scotland website.

Intimations

Rev Alison Meikle intimated that as part of Lanark churches 'Come to Church' fortnight, a praise band, Sons of Thunder, will be attending a pizza and praise night on Friday 13th September 2013.

Rev Alison Meikle intimated a forthcoming pilgrimage in November 2014 to the Holy Land. Anyone interested should speak to Mrs Meikle.

Good News Stories

Rev Alison Meikle spoke of a new working relationship between the Carluke listening project and the Hear for You project

Mabel Morris from the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction spoke of a new Girls' Brigade company starting in Carstairs.

Jim Watt from Cairngryffe informed Presbytery that Rev George Shand has been called as minister to The Tinto Parishes.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Grant permission to Carluke: St Andrews, St John's and Kirkton to hold united services from 7th July until 11th August 2013.
3. Grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars and St Nicholas to hold united services from 7th July until 11th August 2013.
4. Grant permission to Carnwath Parish Church to hold a united service with the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction on 11th August at Carnwath and on 18th August at Carstairs Village.
5. Note that all Elders Commission Forms have now been received and the Roll of Presbytery for 2013/14 has been completed.
6. Note that Rev Bryan Kerr will replace Andrew Brown on the Committee to Nominate the Moderator this year.
7. Approve the Presbytery Committees and Conveners for 2013/14.
8. Grant permission for exterior works and landscaping, at a cost of approximately £31,000 + VAT, to begin at Carluke: Kirkton Manse as part of the renovation programme for which Presbytery has already granted permission.
9. Grant an extension to the Special Committee, in terms of Act III 2001, for a period of 28 days from Monday 12th August 2013 to allow the Special Committee to conclude interviewing people and carry out the duties conferred upon them with due diligence.
10. Approve expenditure of £23,400 value of works including VAT on Biggar manse; to be met by accrued revenue from rental of this property held by the General Trustees in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.
11. Grant permission to the charges of Carnwath and the United Parishes of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to hold united services on Sunday 13th October at Carstairs Village Church and on Sunday 20th at Carnwath Town Hall and note the joint Harvest Praise to be held at Carstairs Junction Church on Sunday evening 22nd September 7pm.
12. Thank Helen Chekansky, Robin & Margo Murdoch and their team for organising and providing the Presbytery Fellowship Meal.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that a strong history of evangelical preaching exists in Abbeygreen Church of Scotland and that the Minister spends much time in preparation for leading worship and preaching
3. Note that the fabric of the Church Halls and Manse is well maintained
4. Note that Christian nurture of all ages and building a sense of family are important to the Minister and Kirk Session.
5. Note that great support is given to the missionary organization UFM, as well as nine different missionaries serving the cause of the Gospel all over the world.
6. Note that although there is no Church of Scotland Guild, there is a strong Women's Fellowship and Bible Study Groups for women
7. Commend the Kirk Session and Congregation of the charge of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen for their ongoing support of their minister.

8. Commend to the prayers of Presbytery the Minister and Kirk Session and congregation for their commitment and generous giving of time talents and money in the service of the Gospel.
9. Advise the members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Local Church Review Report on the charge of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen can be provided on request.
10. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant section of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerk of the charge of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Russell McLarty, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Grant permission for Biggar Parish Church to cover the cost of Architect's fees of £16,900.56 (inclusive of VAT) in respect of work carried out in St. Mary's Halls from capital held on the congregation's behalf in the Consolidated Fabric Fund.
3. Grant permission to St. Nicholas Church to carry out repointing to external stonework of the church hall as identified in the Property report of April 2010, at a cost of £19,791 (including VAT), subject to the approval from all parties of the specification for the re-pointing.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Miss Ann Lyall DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Approve Caroline Deerin as a third Safeguarding Trainer for Lanark Presbytery and instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the Safeguarding Department in Edinburgh.
3. Encourage all Kirk Sessions to promote the next Safeguarding Training Course for Volunteers to be held on Monday 21st October in St Andrews Church Hall, Carluke, and transmit names of those who wish to attend to Ann Lyall no later than Friday 11th October.
4. Encourage Kirk Sessions to advertise the Youth Leaders Training Evening on Wednesday 30th October in Greyfriars Church Hall at 7.30pm

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Thank all congregations for their continuing support for the Food Bank initiative.
3. Note the recent communications from the East Seoul Presbytery, PROK, and encourage the committee to explore this link with our fellow Christians in South Korea.
4. Encourage the committee to examine ways in which Congregations might stimulate debate and encourage voters to take part in the forthcoming referendum on Independence.
5. Note the report of the Education Resources Committee meeting and its dissemination to Glasgow and Hamilton Presbyteries and to the Church and Society Council.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Special Committee (in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry)

The Report of the Presbytery Special Committee was presented by the Presbytery Clerk, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Act III, 2001 Special Committee of Presbytery (IN PRIVATE)

A minute of the Record Apart, 18 June 2013, was read and approved.

A minute of this item, (3 September 2013) held in a Record Apart, was read and approved.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 1 October 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 1 October 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer. In the absence of the Clerk the Depute Clerk acted as Clerk.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers; 20 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and 4 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs R Cleland and H Jamieson, Ministers; Miss A Lyall DCS; R Boag, A Grant, A McPhee, C Murray and Mrs L Nicol, M Somerville, Elders and Mrs M McGillivray, Corresponding Member.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 3 September 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2013 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Depute Clerk intimated 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 Depute Clerk referred to

- A list of new candidates from the ministry from ministries Council
- A note of an individual from Korea interested in locum work
- A letter from Hamilton Presbytery seeking support for a letter to South Lanarkshire Council regarding Religious Observance
- An email from Safeguarding indicating the application forms will soon be issued to ministers within the Presbytery.
- An invitation for individuals to make nominations to central councils and committees
- An acknowledgement of application form From Caroline Deerin to be a safeguarding trainer from Safeguarding
- An email indicating the placement for Ross Blackman, candidate for the coming year
- Notification of a building deputation from the general Trustees to Carstairs on 30th October
- Extract Minutes from Ministries Council PPTG indicating that concerns over the 0.2 contingency staffing that they had have been answered and that the contingency is being used in an appropriate manner as per the guidelines.
- A letter informing that the moratorium on external recruitment of Ministries Development Staff has been lifted.

Act III, 2001 Special Committee of Presbytery (IN PRIVATE)

A minute of this item, (1 October 2013) is held in a Record Apart.

Good News Stories

Rev Una Stewart, Law Parish Church spoke of the congregation at Law celebrating as 4 baptisms and 2 professions of faith were experienced as a whole family became a part of the congregation.

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden,

Parties were called.

The Depute Clerk informed Presbytery that edicts had been served to both Carnwath Parish Church and Forth: St. Paul's Parish Church.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

13. Receive the report
14. Agree that parish boundaries of Forth: St. Paul's and Carnwath be altered to encompass Auchengray, Tarbrax and Cobbinshaw within the parish of Forth: St. Pauls, with the A70 being a dividing line between the parishes from the edge of the Presbytery boundary to its junction with Calla/ Auchengray Road from which point the boundary travels in a straight line to where the B7016 crosses the small river beyond Clydesdale Wood and meets the current boundary between Forth: St. Paul's and Carstairs.
15. Agree that a letter be prepared, signed by the Moderator of Presbytery and the Moderator of the Kirk Session, informing residents in affected areas of the boundary change and that production costs will be underwritten by the Presbytery.
16. Agree that, as all conditions placed on the charge of Forth: St. Pauls in the Presbytery Plan agreed in May 2013 have been met, it be recommended to the Vacancy Procedure Committee that the charge of Forth: St. Paul's be allowed to call a minister without restriction upon the demission of the current minister.
17. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the Ministries Council, Statistics for Mission group and the Kirk Sessions of Forth: St. Paul's and Carnwath regarding the boundary changes.

The Deliverance was approved

Demission of Rev Sarah Ross

The Moderator invited Mrs Margaret Neilson, Session Clerk at Forth: St. Pauls to address the Presbytery, Mrs Neilson spoke of the inspiration that Mrs Ross had been to the church and parish over the period of her ministry, guiding the congregation through building discussions, websites, breakfast clubs, storymakers, an alpha course and more. Mrs Neilson commented on how much Mrs Ross' ministry had been appreciated and how much she will be missed by those who had contact with her.

The Moderator invited Rev. Bryan Kerr to share thoughts on Sarah's ministry. Mr Kerr spoke of a long friendship with Mrs Ross stretching back to University days and how she had played her full part in the life of Lanark Presbytery. Mr Kerr spoke of Mrs Ross' work within local schools, in particular Lanark Grammar where she was a member of the ecumenical chaplaincy team. Mr Kerr wishes Mrs Ross every blessing as she moved to Hamilton presbytery.

Mrs Ross addressed the Presbytery and offered her thanks for the support of members throughout the years. She spoke of her time in Presbytery being a robust learning cycle and how every member must learn from the past and look forward to be missional families and communities as we move into the future.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree, subject to the approval of the Presbytery of Hamilton, to the demission of Rev Sarah Ross from Forth: St. Pauls Parish Church to take up the charge of Blantyre: Old on 29th October 2013
3. Note the appointment of Rev Iain Cunningham as Interim Moderator in Forth: St. Pauls Parish Church as of 29th October 2013.
4. Note that Rev Sarah Ross will be discharged as Interim Moderator in Carluke: St. John's Parish Church as of 6th October 2013.
5. Note the appointment of Rev Ian McKenzie from Hamilton Presbytery as Interim Moderator in Carluke: St. John's Parish Church as of 7th October 2013.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the year book is available this evening and thank Rev Bryan Kerr for his work in producing the book.
3. Continue the suspension of the necessary Standing Orders to allow the Business Committee to consider further the issue of Powers with a full report to be brought to the December meeting of Presbytery for discussion and agreement.
4. Instruct Committees to consider the items remitted from the General Assembly and report to Presbytery as necessary
5. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee to report to Presbytery in respect of the Overture regarding the Appeals Act by the December meeting of Presbytery.
6. Endorse the letter offering support to South Lanarkshire Council on matters of chaplaincy
7. Note that initial discussions have been held regarding the provision of ministry support to Presbytery.

The Convener, with the permission of Presbytery withdrew section 3.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to insert a new section 3

Depart from the consideration of amendments to Standing Orders with respect to delegated powers as indicated in the minutes of the meeting of 18 June 2013.

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Minister, Office bearers and congregation of Carluke St Andrew's find themselves in a difficult and uncertain situation as a result of the forthcoming union with Carluke St John's, but that they are committed to bringing this to a successful conclusion.
3. Acknowledge the heavy workload currently experienced by the Minister of Carluke St Andrew's in her role as Presbytery Clerk and continue to provide paid for secretarial support for this.
4. Note the visiting team's recommendation that the Minister should be offered, and encouraged to accept, additional confidential ministerial support during this time of deferred union until such time as it takes place and ask the Ministries Committee to look into this.
5. Note the congregation's involvement in the community, their work with young people and their commitment to the Parish Grouping.
6. Commend the congregation for setting up the dementia support group.
7. Note the difficulties which the congregation are experiencing with the size of the sanctuary and the recent failure of the heating system.
8. Note the visiting team's recommendation that better communication be established between the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board.
9. Note that the upcoming union makes it difficult for the visiting group to put together a viable 5 year plan.
10. Note the visiting group's recommendation that a follow up visit be carried out in 2015.
11. Commend the Kirk Session and Congregation of the charge of Carluke: St Andrew's for their ongoing support of their minister.
12. Commend the Minister, her family, the Kirk Session and the congregation of the charge of Carluke: St Andrew's to the ongoing prayers of Presbytery.
13. Advise the members of Presbytery that a full copy of the Local Church Review Report on the charge of Carluke: St Andrew's can be provided on request.
14. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant section of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerk of the charge of Carluke: St Andrew's

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

6. Receive the report.
7. Encourage the committee to continue to explore ways in which to further develop our links with our fellow Christians in Seoul, South Korea.
8. Note the report from the World Mission Presbytery Conveners Conference.
9. Thank congregations for their past contributions through Souper Sunday services and encourage them to consider continuing with this valuable support for the Church of Scotland's HIV Programme.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Russell McLarty, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note the proposed figures for 2014 Ministries & Mission Allocations (appendix C) and invite financial courts of congregations to lodge any appeals with the Resources Convener before 22nd October 2013.
3. Agree to award £1,000 of the 2013 Ministries & Mission Allocation Variance to the congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars for the Christmas Story project in local primary schools and instruct the clerk to issue an extract minute to the Stewardship & Finance Department.
4. Recognises the extra pressures on the charges undergoing readjustment and the resulting difficulties in maintaining levels of giving, and agree to apply the remaining 2013 Ministries & Mission allocation variance to those congregations readjusted in the current year, with each charge receiving an equal sum to be split between the component congregations.
5. Agree the following applications of the 2013 Ministries & Mission allocation variance in light of significant readjustment - Biggar - £971; Black Mount - £971; Cairngryffe - £647; Carluke: St. Andrew's - £971; Carluke: St. John's - £971; Carnwath - £971; The United Parish of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction - £971; Forth: St. Paul's - £1,942; Libberton & Quothquan - £647; Symington - £647; Upper Clyde - £1,942.
6. Note that members of the Resources Committee propose to visit the Fabric committee of each congregation within the bounds over the course of the year to offer advice and support on proposed work on congregational buildings.
7. Instruct the Clerk to issue relevant extract minutes.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Special Committee (in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry)

The Report of the Presbytery Special Committee was presented by the Depute Clerk, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

2. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Depute Clerk drew members attention to Intimations in the papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 5 November 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 5 November 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers; 22 Elders, 1 Deacon, and 89 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev R McLarty Minister, Messrs W Coulter, A McPhee, R Mitchell and Mrs A Reid, Elders and Mrs A Plenderleith and Mrs M McGillivray Corresponding Members.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Tribute to the late Rev Andrew Lambie

The Rev David Easton led Presbytery in paying tribute to the life and ministry of the late Rev Andrew Lambie, formerly minister at Covington linked with Pettinain linked with Carmichael. Mr Lambie died on 5 October 2013.

The Clerk was instructed to send a copy of the tribute to Mrs Lambie.

Minutes of meeting on 1 October 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2013 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- information from The Panel on Review and Reform intimating a consultation on the future of the church.
- information from Go For It Fund with information on the fund.
- intimation from Statistics for Mission intimating that the Parish Boundaries project is now frozen until the new census data is released on 14th November 2013.
- an email Solicitor of the Church with updated information on elder liabilities and OSCR.
- an email from Hamilton Presbytery regarding Religious Observance in Schools that will be dealt with under Business Committee.
- intimation from Ministries Council that Ann Lyall's last day in post will be 8th December 2013.

Good News Stories

There were no Good News Stories reported.

Report of the Presbytery Special Committee (in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry)

The Report of the Presbytery Special Committee was presented by Mr Jim Watt.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church. Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

A member of the congregation spoke on the summary of points from a congregational meeting on 19th September 2013.

A member of the congregation spoke of the fact that she feels the leadership of the church is responding to concerns of the members of the congregation.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

3. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Farewell to Miss A Lyall, Deacon

The Moderator invited Mrs Moira White, Session Clerk at the Upper Clyde Parish Church to speak on Miss Lyall's ministry within the Biggar area. Mrs White spoke of the work that Miss Lyall has undertaken in the area with congregations facing change. Mrs White spoke of Miss Lyall's gentle but firm direction in encouraging the congregations to look at new ways of worship and service within the parishes they serve. Miss Lyall has started worship groups, discussion groups, school chaplaincy, youth groups, pastoral visiting and has brought Bible World to the area. Mrs White commented that the congregations involved within the project have appreciated the opportunity to work together and share ideas in a new way and expressed the hope that following a meeting last week further collaboration between congregations might be encouraged.

Miss Lyall addressed the Presbytery and spoke of the link with her father who was a member of the Presbytery of Lanark over 40 years ago. Miss Lyall has worked with 10 ministers and Interim Moderators in the four charges over the two years she has been involved in the Presbytery. Miss Lyall spoke of the joy of sharing the journey with the congregations who now find themselves on a stronger footing. Miss Lyall thanked members for their support and prayers throughout her time in Presbytery.

The Moderator wished Miss Lyall every blessing as she moved to Muirhouse and Pilton in the Presbytery of Edinburgh.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that another meeting of new presbyters will be arranged.
3. Note the intimation from the Ministries Committee that the Diaconate project will conclude by early December 2013.
4. Agree that Mr Alan Grant be appointed Convener of the Congregational Development Committee from 19 November.
5. Encourage Committee Convenors to make contact with their committee members before the start of a new session to remind and invite them to attend the first meeting of their committee in August..
6. Note that all Presbytery committees should be minuted and have a Sederunt list.
7. Agree that Rev Mike Fucella serve on the Business Committee until 30 June 2014.
8. Note that discussions are on-going with Ministries Council regarding assistance for the Clerk and Depute Clerk as well as the future provision of Transition Ministry.

The Convener moved a new section 9, 'Appoint a Joint Presbytery Committee of the Presbyteries of Glasgow, Hamilton & Lanark, in terms of Act X (2012), to liaise with the Education Resources Committee of South Lanarkshire Council with respect to matters relating to Religious Observance and School Chaplaincy, and appoint the Rev. Sarah Ross as Convener, with two members to be appointed by each Presbytery.'

The new section 9 was seconded and approved.

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden,

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that edicts had been served to both Carnwath Parish Church and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Parish Church.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

18. Receive the report
19. Note that in respect of the vote for Carnwath linked with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction; in Carnwath Parish Church there voted 26 for the linking, 0 against and there were 0 abstentions and in The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Parish Church there voted 55 for the linking, 3 against and there were 0 abstentions.
20. Approve the basis of linking of Carnwath Parish Church and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Parish Church as outlined in Appendix 1.
21. Agree that the linking between Carnwath Parish Church and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Parish Church take place on 1 December 2013.
22. Thank the trustees of both Carnwath Parish Church and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Parish Church for their willingness in discussing and drafting the basis of linking between the congregations.
23. Thank those who made arrangements and attended the congregational meetings in Carnwath and Carstairs on 27 October 2013.
24. Invite the Vacancy Procedure Committee to take up consideration of the vacancy in the linked charge of Carnwath Parish Church and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Parish Church.
25. Instruct the Clerk to issue extract minutes to the Ministries Council, Law Department, Stewardship and Finance Department and Kirk Sessions affected.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Following the the agreement of the basis of linking for Carnwath linked with the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
 - a) Grant permission to proceed to call a minister to the charge of Carnwath linked with the united parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction on the basis of unrestricted tenure.
 - b) Note that the Nominating Committee for Carnwath linked with the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, will be 9 (5 people from Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and 4 from Carnwath)
 - c) Note the appointment of Rev Russell McLarty as Interim Moderator for Carnwath linked with the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.
 - d) Thank and discharge the Transition Support Group for the charge of Carnwath.
3. Note that the call to Rev George Shand from the Tinto Parishes has been sustained; the Service of Induction to take place on Thursday 16 January 2014 with the location to be advised.
4. Note that Rev B Kerr has intimated his intention to resign as Interim Moderator at Upper Clyde as soon as a replacement Interim Moderator can be appointed.
5. Subject to the necessary paperwork being submitted by Hamilton Presbytery grant permission to call permission to call a minister on unrestricted tenure to Forth: St Paul's.
6. Note that the Interim Moderator for Forth: St Paul's is Rev Iain Cunningham and the Presbytery Advisory Committee Rev R Cleland (Convenor) Mr G Chapman and Mrs M Somerville; the nominating Committee to be 9 people.

The convener moved a new section 2(e), 'Note that a service of linking for the congregations of Carnwath and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction will take place on Wednesday 4th December 2013 at 7pm in Carstairs Village Church.'

The new section 2(e) was seconded and approved.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

In the absence of the Convener of the Resources Committee the report was presented by the Clerk, Rev Helen Jamieson, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Ministry and Mission Allocations proposed for 2014 and instruct the Clerk to forward the figures to the Stewardship and Finance Department (appendix 2)
3. Agree to use £500 of Presbytery's 3% Variance Allowance to help Lanark St Nicholas which has carried out major building repairs and is supporting the Hear For You Project and instruct the Clerk to forward this decision to the Stewardship and Finance Department
4. Agree to use £500 of Presbytery's 3% Variance Allowance to help the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction continue to develop the Messy Church initiative in 2014 and instruct the Clerk to forward this decision to the Stewardship and Finance Department
5. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2014 and the Presbytery levy of £2.75 per capita. (appendix 3)

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the Overture Regarding the Appeals Act (passed by the General Assembly 2013 as an Interim Act), noting that 37 voted for, 0 voted against and instruct the Clerk to forward the return form to the Office of the General Assembly.
3. Note that the LCRV to The Douglas Valley Churches, scheduled for last session, did not take place
4. Note that the team carrying out the LCRV to Lesmahagow Old I/w Coalburn will be Rev Alison Meikle (team leader), Mrs Irene Williams and an elder of the team leader's choosing.
5. Note that the team carrying out the LCRV to Lanark; Greyfriars will be Rev Elizabeth Clelland (team leader), Mrs Mairi Somerville and Mr Jim Johnstone.
6. Note that the team carrying out the LCRV to The Douglas Valley Church will be Rev Iain Cunningham (team leader), Mr Willie Macsween and an elder of the team leader's choosing.
7. Note that reports are to be in the hands of the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee by 12th April 2014.

The Deliverance was approved

Joint Report from Ministries Committee and Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Ministries Committee Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Ministries Council has agreed to provide additional 3 days locum cover to assist the Clerk and Depute Clerk.
3. Agree to appoint Mr Bill Love to Lanark: Greyfriars and Mrs Irene Williams and Mr Alan Grant to Carluke: St Andrew's and instruct Ministries Committee and Congregational Support Committee to provide necessary supervision and to review these posts at the end of January 2014.
4. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to Ministries Council.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Miss Ann Lyall, DCS, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Encourage Presbyters to make known to local Co-ordinators details of the Safeguarding Training on 23rd November in Airdrie
3. Agree that those who undertook the six module Worship Leaders Training Course in May and June 2013, may now assist in leading worship in their own congregation at the discretion of the Minister or Interim Moderator
4. Instruct the Clerk to write to the Kirk Sessions where those who had undertaken training currently serve; giving names of those who have completed the Worship Leaders Training Course
5. Invite the Congregational Development Committee to ascertain if any of the participants in the Worship Leaders training Course wish to undertake further training which, following assessment, may enable them to lead worship out with their own congregation
6. Note that a meeting took place with members of the Sessions in the Biggar area to review the Diaconate Project and a further meeting will take place in February 2014

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the report from the Church and Society Conveners' Conference.
3. Encourage congregations to share success stories concerning improvements in energy efficiency.
4. Note the forthcoming World Mission Rally on 20 November 2013 at 7.30pm in the church of St Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark.

The Deliverance was approved

Act III, 2001 Special Committee of Presbytery (IN PRIVATE)

A minute of the Record Apart, 1 October 2013, was read and approved.

A minute of this item, (5 November 2013) held in a Record Apart, was read and approved.

Intimations

The Clerk drew members attention to Intimations in the papers.

Rev Alison Meikle invited members to attend a cheese and wine evening for those interested in helping with the Hear For You Project on Wednesday 13th November 2013 at 7:30pm in St. Nicholas Manse.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 3 December 2013 at 7.00 pm at the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

The Presbytery of Lanark

Basis of Linking

Between

Carnwath and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction

The congregation of Carnwath Parish Church of Scotland (SC016360) shall be linked with the congregation of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction Parish Church of Scotland (SC028124) as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery and that on the following terms and conditions

1. **Name:** The name of each parish will remain the same with the full name of the linked charge being Carnwath linked with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction.
2. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the bounds presently served by the existing congregations, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
3. **Places of Worship:** The buildings presently used by the congregations shall be the Places of Worship of the linked congregations. The congregation of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction shall worship in Carstairs Village Church, utilising Carstairs Junction Church when desired. The congregation of Carnwath shall worship in Carnwath Town Hall, or in another suitable community space. Alternative arrangements may be made for holding services of worship in alternative buildings. Services shall be held each Sunday at times to be decided by the Kirk Sessions.
4. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to, or held on behalf of, each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
Contributions to maintenance, joint expenses and listed expenses relating to the ministry and joint initiatives of the congregations shall be on the following percentage basis: 55% by The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and 45% by Carnwath. The Kirk Session of The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction shall pay all joint expenses and reclaim them from the Kirk Session at Carnwath at regular intervals. The arrangements will stay in place until they are superseded. The financial arrangements will be reviewed annually. The amounts will be agreed jointly by the financial courts of each congregation and, where necessary, the Presbytery of Lanark will arbitrate. Any buildings determined by the Kirk Sessions to be surplus to the requirements of the charge shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the titles on which they are held and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sales or lets shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act V11 1995 be credited to the benefit of the Congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, to be held and applied for Fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the Congregation.
5. **Ministry:** The linked charge, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act VII, 2003 in terms of the current Presbytery Plan.
6. **Nominating Committee:** The numerical composition of the Nominating Committee shall be determined by the Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark in terms of Act VII, 2003 section 14, as amended.
7. **Kirk Sessions:** The minister of the linked charge shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session. The two Kirk Sessions may meet together as they deem it desirable.
The Kirk Sessions will meet in joint conference at least twice a year. Business considered at joint Kirk Session conferences will, in accordance with the General Assembly legislation, become the subject of formal decisions at the next meeting of each Kirk Session separately.
8. **Congregational Management:** The affairs of the both congregations shall be administered in line with the Model Deed of Constitution. The trustees of both congregations shall fully discuss the future constitution of the congregations within six months of the agreement of the basis of linking. Presbytery can be asked to review the percentage of joint costs paid by each of the congregations, should there be a material change in the circumstances of one or both, of the congregations.
9. **Manses:** The manse of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction shall be the manse of the linked charge.
10. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
11. **Power to Adjust:** While these articles shall form a Basis of Linking for the two congregations now linking, the linked congregations shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

Proposed Ministries & Mission Contributions

Congregation	Average Income 2009- 2011	Average Income 2010- 2012	Proposed 2013 M&M	2014 Scale M&M	2014 Proposed Contribution
Biggar	85,768	83,827	52,203	51,057	51,057
Carluke Kirkton	108,159	116,226	65,005	69,362	69,362
Carluke St Andrew's	57,378	55,298	34,321	32,990	32,990
Carluke St John's	91,844	94,182	55,787	57,167	57,167
Carnwath	45,322	41,314	26,605	24,040	24,040
Coalburn	21,304	21,359	10,959	11,269	11,269
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	55,190	56,465	31,991	33,737	33,737
Crossford	35,451	28,790	20,288	16,025	16,025
Douglas Valley	60,017	60,841	35,886	36,538	36,538
Black Mount	18,824	18,895	9,741	9,781	9,781
Forth St Pauls	65,800	62,032	39,711	37,300	37,300
Kirkfieldbank	19,460	17,905	10,097	9,226	9,226
Kirkmuirhill	112,086	113,042	67,126	67,642	67,642
Lanark St Nicholas	112,246	112,481	67,212	67,339	67,339
Law	45,999	50,543	26,052	29,947	29,178
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	90,014	90,952	54,708	55,261	55,261
Lesmahagow Old	84,423	81,531	51,409	49,703	49,703
Libberton And Quothquan	18,561	18,871	6,383	9,767	7,149
Symington	37,390	34,517	21,529	19,690	19,690
Greyfriars	89,465	88,538	54,384	53,837	53,837
Cairngryffe	35,706	35,925	20,451	20,591	20,591
The Upper Clyde	34,110	35,824	20,732	20,527	20,527
					<u>779,409</u>

PRESBYTERY BUDGET 2014**Income:-**

Interest	150
2014 Dues (6994 @ £2.75)	19233

Total	<u>19383</u>
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Expenditure

Clerk's salary & NI	4977
Clerk's expenses	700
Clerk's office	1200)
Presbytery Office	2000)
Printing & postage	50
Insurance & copyright	300
Honoraria	1000
Congregational Development	50
Congregational Support	50
Ministry Committee	50
Resources Committee	50
World & Community Issues	50
Business Committee	300
Surveys	4000
Pulpit Supply	275
Attestation Fees	3000
Youth Assembly	125
Hall rent	950
Grants & Bursaries	0
Sundry	1800
Travel Expenses	800
Data Protection	40

Total	<u>21767</u>
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Reduction in general reserve	<u>-2384</u>
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Opening Balance	<u>5238</u>
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Projected closing balance	<u>2854</u>
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Closing balance - general	2854
Surveys	2000

Total Reserves	<u>4854</u>
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Lanark, on, Tuesday 3 December 2013 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 Ministers; 27 Elders, and 68 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael, Re E Clelland and rev R McLarty, Ministers; Mrs A Cochrane and Mrs P Saulnier, Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 2 November 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2013 were held as read and approve

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- An e-mail recording thanks from Rev Alan Reid Convener of the Investigating Committee in terms of Act III 2001
- An e-mail received from the Principal Clerk's Office in respect of the proposed overture regarding same sex relationships and the ministry; to be dealt with under the Business Committee report

It was agreed, subject to the Clerk receiving the appropriate extract minute from the Kirk Session of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church, to add the name of Mr David Waters to the roll of Presbytery as Presbytery Elder following the resignation of Mr Robert Boag.

It was agreed, that following training for Presbytery Assessors for ministry enquiry and training, that Dr Sinclair Scott, Mrs Anna Lumsden and Mr Bill Love be approved as Presbytery Assessors.

Good News Stories

Rev Bryan Kerr, Lanark: Greyfriars, spoke of an online Advent Calendar being produced by the congregation for anyone who wishes to follow the Advent Journey and a Christmas Activity Day taking place in Robert Owen Primary School for pupils of both Robert Owen and New Lanark Primary Schools on Monday 9th December 2013.

Rev Helen Jamieson, Carlisle: St. Andrew's, spoke of the first anniversary of the dementia drop in running the church hall, including taking some of those who attend on a Seagull Trust Canal trip.

Report of the Presbytery Special Committee (in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry)

The Report of the Presbytery Special Committee was presented by Mr Jim Watt.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church. Representatives from Kirkmuirhill were invited to speak and addressed Presbytery.

Parties were removed.

Presbytery took up consideration of the report.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

4. Receive the report

5. Note that a meeting of the Congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) took place on 13 November 2013 at which a presentation was made by ministers from the Free Church of Scotland.
6. Note that at the congregational meeting held on 13 November 2013, Rev Ian Watson indicated his intention to apply to become a minister of the Free Church of Scotland.
7. Note the actions of the Special Committee in conducting an indicative poll of the members of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland).
8. In view of the clear declaration by the Minister & Elders of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) of their intention to leave the Church of Scotland and of the level of concern and unrest in the congregation and parish, give the Minister and members of the Kirk Session of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland), who have declared as opposed to the Church of Scotland the deadline of no later than Wednesday 15 January 2014 to send written notice of their resignation of membership of the Church of Scotland to the Presbytery Clerk.

It was proposed and seconded that section 5 be amended to delete 'Wednesday 15 January 2014' and to insert 'Easter Day 20 April 2014'.

Upon a vote, 23 voted for the amended motion and 12 voted against the amended motion

The Deliverance as amended was approved

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

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden,

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that edicts had been served to both Carluke: St. Andrew's Parish Church and Carluke: St. John's Parish Church.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council has noted receipt of the extract minute of October 2013 regarding the agreement of the basis of linking of Carnwath and the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction at their meeting on 12 November 2013.
3. Note that the Presbytery Planning Task Group has acted ultra vires in terms of Act VII, 2007 by asking for amendments to be made to an agreed basis of readjustment agreed in line with the Presbytery Plan approved by Ministries Council, the said basis of linking having been agreed by the congregations and Presbytery in terms of Act VII, 2007.
4. Instruct the Clerk to forward a copy of the report and the relevant extract minute to the Secretary of the Presbytery Planning Task Group for discussion by the Task Group and invite a suitable response from the Task Group.
5. Note that in respect of the vote for Carluke : St. Andrew's and Carluke : St. John's, in Carluke : St. Andrew's there voted 39 for the Deferred Union, 1 against and there were no abstentions and in Carluke ; St. John's there voted 123 for the Deferred Union, 7 against and there were no abstentions.
6. Approve the Basis of Deferred Union of Carluke; St. Andrew's in Deferred Union with Carluke : St. John's as outlined in Appendix 1.
7. Thank the Trustees of both Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's for their willingness in discussing and drafting the Basis of Deferred Union between the congregations.
8. Thank those who made arrangements and attended the Congregational Meetings in Carluke on 1st December 2013.

9. Invite the Vacancy Procedure Committee to take up consideration of the vacancy in Carluke: St. John's in Deferred Union with Carluke: St. Andrew's.
10. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to issue extract minutes to the Ministries Council, Law Department, Stewardship and Finance Department and the Kirk Sessions affected.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Advisory Committee for Carnwath linked with The United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction will be Rev E Clelland (Convener) Mr J Johnstone, Mr J Watt.
3. Following the approval of the Basis of Deferred Union by the congregations of Carluke: St Andrews, Carluke: St Johns
 - a) grant to Carluke: St Andrews and Carluke: St Johns permission to call a Minister on an unrestricted tenure as per the Basis of Deferred Union;
 - b) note that the nominating committee will consist of 13 people: 5 from Carluke: St Andrews, 8 from Carluke: St Johns and with 2 observers from Carluke: Kirkton as per the Basis of Parish Grouping
 - c) note that the Advisory Committee will be Rev A Meikle (Convener) Rev M Fucella and Mr E Easton.
4. Note that the Induction Service for Rev George Shand will take place in Symington Church on Thursday 16 January 2014 at 7pm; Presbytery to meet in the hall at 6.45pm.
5. Note the appointment of Rev A MacKichan as Interim Moderator at Upper Clyde from 11 November 2013.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the report
10. Note the Advisory Visit of the Information Commissioners Office on 16 December 2013
11. Note that comments in respect of the practical outworking of the proposed overture regarding Ministers and Deacons in same Sex partnerships should be made directly to the Legal Questions Committee by 16 December.
12. Note that a meeting with Ministries Council regarding Transition ministry has taken place.
13. Note that Lanark Presbytery will be represented on the Joint Presbytery Committee on School Chaplaincy by Rev A Meikle and Rev U Stewart and instruct the Clerk to inform Rev S Ross Convener.
14. Grant powers to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Business Convener during the Christmas/ New Year recess on the understanding that all decisions will be reported to Presbytery for homologation.
15. Note that due to changes in Presbytery, the current rota for commissions to the General Assembly as printed in the Presbytery handbook is no longer workable and the Business Committee will bring to the February meeting of Presbytery new proposals in respect of commissions to the General Assembly.
16. Grant permission to Carluke: St Andrews, St John's and Kirkton churches to hold a joint service on Sunday 5th January 2014 and for Lanark: St Nicholas and Lanark: Greyfriars to hold joint services on 29th December 2013 and 5th January 2014.

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

In the absence of Rev Russell McLarty, the Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Clerk, , who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that the 5-Yearly surveys should be commissioned for Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church with Halls attached and Manse) Lesmahagow Old/Coalburn (Two Churches with Halls attached), Lanark Greyfriars (Church with Halls attached) and Lanark St Nicholas (Church with Halls detached) at a cost of £3,840
3. Grant the United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction permission to apply to The General Trustees for a grant to carry out a Feasibility Study setting out options for future buildings at a cost of £3,440.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that section 2 be amended to read 'Lanark St Nicholas (Church with halls attached and Manse)'

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Appoint Rev Elizabeth Clelland as Vice Convener of the Congregational Support Committee
3. Note that the Attestation of Congregational Records will take place on Tuesday 18 February 2014 in Lanark: St Nicholas Church Hall and remind all Presbyters to convey information to their congregations regarding the new arrangements in place for the inspection.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

5. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to Intimations in the papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Wednesday 4 December 2013 at 6:45pm at Carstairs Village Church for the service of linking of Carnwath linked the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, on Thursday 16 January 2014 at 6:45pm in Symington Parish Church for the service of Induction of Rev George Shand to the Tinto Parishes and on Tuesday 4 February 2014 at 7:00pm at the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Basis of Deferred Union

Carluke: St. Andrew's in Deferred Union with Carluke: St. John's

The congregations of St. Andrews Parish Church of Scotland: Carluke (SC013968) and St. Johns Church of Scotland: Carluke (SC004066) shall be united following the demission of Rev. Helen E. Jamieson as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery and that on the following terms and conditions:-

1. **Name:** The name of the united congregation shall be decided by the congregations within a year of the agreement of the deferred union by all parties.
2. **Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.
3. **Buildings and Land:** The buildings and land used and occupied by Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's, comprising the respective church buildings (including organs) and surrounding grounds, halls, manses and any glebe lands shall be the buildings and land of the united congregation.

A survey and evaluation of the assets as defined in the previous paragraph shall be carried out and completed within eighteen months of the agreement of the basis of Deferred Union by all parties. The said survey and evaluation shall be carried out by an independent team of professionals to be agreed by a joint committee comprising of three representatives from Carluke: St. Andrew's, three representatives from Carluke: St. John's and two representatives from the Presbytery of Lanark's Resources Committee. Costs incurred in the said survey and evaluation shall be borne by the congregations of Carluke: St. Andrew's (35%) and Carluke: St. John's (65%) with the possibility of financial assistance, upon application, from the General Trustees. The said independent team of professionals thereafter will make a recommendation to the joint committee as to the future use of the said assets. This recommendation will be presented to the Kirk Sessions and congregations of both Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's for their acceptance.

In the event that the Kirk Sessions and congregations of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's are unable to reach agreement on the recommendation, the final decision shall be referred to arbitration- A Panel of Arbiters will be selected from the list of potential arbiters appointed by the General Assembly. The Arbitration will be managed and administered by the Central Properties Dept, 121, George Street, Edinburgh. The decision of the tribunal shall be final and binding on both congregations.

The assets being retained by the united congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.

Thereafter any buildings which are not considered necessary shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the titles under which they are held, subject to the approval of the Presbytery, and, if necessary, the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995, be credited to the benefit of the united congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act, be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the united congregation.

4. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be those of the existing charges or as the Presbytery shall determine.
5. **Kirk Session:** The elders of each of the Kirk Sessions shall form with the minister the Kirk Session of the united congregation. A joint meeting of the Kirk Sessions of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's shall take place at least annually prior to the date of union with the inducted minister of Carluke: St. Andrew's in deferred union with Carluke: St. John's presiding at said meetings.
6. **Congregational Management:** The affairs of the united congregation shall be administered by a deed of constitution as agreed by the trustees prior to the date of the union being effected.
7. **Vacancy & Nominating Committee:** After approval is granted by Presbytery, a nominating committee will be elected with representatives from both Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's congregations. The numerical composition of the Nominating Committee shall be determined by the Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark in terms of Act VIII, 2003 section 14, as amended. In the event that the present incumbent of Carluke: St. Andrew's is still in post, the newly elected minister will be inducted in the first instance to Carluke: St. John's and once the two congregations are united, the same individual shall be the minister of the united charge in terms of Section 11(1)(b) of Act VII, 2003. In the event that Carluke: St. Andrew's is already vacant, the minister shall be inducted to the united charge. The minister shall be inducted in line with the agreed Presbytery Plan.
8. **Parish Worker:** An additional member of staff (0.7FTE, or as allowed for in the Presbytery Plan at the time of recruiting) shall be recruited for the Ministry Team following the Union, with duties and responsibilities agreed by the charity trustees, Presbytery and Ministries Council in terms of Act VII, 2011 section 16 as amended. This person shall work under the line management of the parish minister and their salary shall be met from the Parish Staffing Fund.
8. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the minister shall be payable in terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
9. **Power to Adjust:** While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Union for the two congregations now uniting, the united congregation shall be free like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.

Inspection of Records – A Proposal for Change

For a number of years the burdens placed on the Presbytery inspection of records have increased whilst the number of people available to perform this task, in the name of Presbytery, has decreased. It is clear that there are a number of problems with the current system.

5. Storage of records in St. Nicholas Office for a few weeks is an imposition on the secretary and the congregation.
6. The longer Presbytery hold onto records (where someone is not at the March meeting to collect) the more chance there is of records going missing. Where would the blame lie?
7. Many people who serve on Presbytery committees work during the day and find it impossible to be in attendance.
8. When records are returned a slip of paper highlighting issues is placed in each box but there is no conversation able to take place with the record keepers to share good practice for the following year.

It is therefore suggested that an overhaul of the current system of inspection is put in place to ensure that Presbytery can fulfill the regulatory functions given by the General Assembly.

Four committees are now required to attest documents held by congregations or ministers – Resources (Property Registers and Accounts), Congregational Development (Safeguarding Registers), Ministries (Minister's Log Books) and Congregational Support (Minutes Books, Congregational Rolls and Baptismal Registers). Whilst the accounts cannot be attested quickly the other matters can be disposed of in the one session.

On the traditional February committee night, the committees would meet to examine records prior to meeting for ordinary business (should they wish to meet for ordinary business). Instead of the Presbytery elder bringing records, congregational office bearers (or Kirk Session appointed deputies) should bring the records to St. Nicholas Hall at a specified time. Those expected to be in attendance would be the Session Clerk, Property Convener and Safeguarding Co-ordinator from each congregation. They would be able to travel together and have contact with the Presbytery committee responsible for their work.

Each committee would need up to 6 people (with the exception of Ministries Committee who would need up to 5) to inspect the records. This would allow sufficient time for records to be adequately checked. Each office bearer would sit with the committee member inspecting the records they had responsibility for. This would have the advantage that each office bearer could speak with members of the committee to clarify any points they may have and receive feedback on good practice for future record keeping. Once the records had been inspected the member of the committee would stamp the records and pass them to the Moderator, Clerk or Depute Clerk for signing. Records would then be returned immediately to the congregation.

Tea and Coffee would be available in the hall for those who were attesting and the office bearers who were in attendance.

Congregations would be grouped in areas to ensure a fair split of those arriving with records to be attested. It is proposed that the following groupings be instigated.

- Area 1: Carnwath, Forth: St. Paul's, Lanark: Greyfriars, Lanark: St. Nicholas, United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
 - Area 2: Coalburn, Douglas Valley, Kirkmuirhill, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow: Old
 - Area 3: Biggar, Black Mount, Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan, Symington, Upper Clyde
 - Area 4: Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St. John's, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Crossford, Kirkfieldbank, Law
- Area 1 would report at 6:30pm, Area 2 at 7pm, Area 3 at 7:30pm and Area 4 at 8pm.

The Ministers of the charges should also attend at the appropriate time to allow their mileage log books to be inspected by the Ministries Committee

There are a number of advantages to this system that allows records to be brought and returned on the same evening, members of committees who would normally be in attendance at the meeting to attest records and face to face conversations between congregational office bearers and Presbytery representatives on the records and any issues that may arise. This would also have the added advantage of providing support for those who keep the records.

The annual inspection of records is a vital part of the regulatory function that a Presbytery has. In order to inspect and attest the records properly time must be taken and due care paid to the contents of the records. To achieve this more people are required to be involved. It is hoped that this proposal goes some way to deal with these issues.

At **Carstairs** on Wednesday 4 December 2013, the Presbytery of Lanark met *in hunc effectum* at Carstairs Village Church, for the service of linking between Carnwath and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book—in all 7 Ministers and 3 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev I Cunningham, Minister, and from Mr A McPhee, Elder and Mrs M McGillivray, Corresponding Member

Narrative

Following the retirement of Rev I McKenzie as Interim Minister in the charge of Carnwath, permission to call a minister was not granted by Presbytery until agreement of the Presbytery Plan by all parties.

On 21 Oct 2012 Rev Alan Gibson Minister of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction demitted his charge to take up an appointment as Head of Stewardship in the Church of Scotland.

On 7 May 2013 Presbytery received from the Ministries Council, concurrence of the Presbytery Plan as agreed by Presbytery on 14 March 2013, and it was noted that in accordance with the Presbytery Plan a Basis of linking for the charges of Carnwath and the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction would require to be agreed by all parties.

On 5 November 2013 Presbytery approved the Basis of Linking of Carnwath Parish Church and the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and appointed this day for a service of linking.

Rev Russell McLarty was appointed Interim Moderator of the linked charge of Carnwath and the United Parish of Carstairs Junction and the charge was given permission to call a minister without restriction.

Service of Linking

The Presbytery proceeded to the Church, where the Sermon was preached by Rev Elizabeth Clelland. The Moderator presided over the Act of Linking between the congregations of Carnwath and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction. After the service Mrs Lumsden expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator and Rev Elizabeth Clelland for their conduct of the service and to the Clerk and Depute Clerk for arrangements.

Next Meeting

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Thursday 16 January 2014 at 6:45pm in Symington Parish Church for the Service of Induction of Rev George Shand to the Tinto Parishes and on Tuesday 4 February 2014 at 7:00pm at the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Moderator

Clerk

Symington, on Thursday 16 January 2014, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Symington Parish Church to induct Rev George C Shand MA BD to the charge of Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington (The Tinto Parishes) and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 ministers and 5 Elders. There were also 3 visitors associating with Presbytery.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev R McLarty and Rev U Stewart Ministers; Messrs G Chapman, A Grant, R Mitchell, S Scott, D Waters and Mrs I Williams, Elders and Mrs M McGillivray, Corresponding Member

Induction of Rev George C Shand

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Rev George C Shand, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator conducted worship and Rev Michael Fucella preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula, Rev George C Shand was inducted to the Congregations and Parishes of Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington by the Moderator, who delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation. After the service the call was presented to Rev George C Shand.

The Clerk was instructed to add Mr Shand's name to the Roll of Presbytery and to send certification of the Induction of Rev George C Shand to the Session Clerks of Cairngryffe linked with Libberton & Quothquan linked with Symington.

Mr Bill Love was thanked for his services as Interim Moderator and Locum during the vacancy and discharged.

Mr Jim Watt expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator and to Rev M Fucella for their conduct of the service of Induction, to the Clerk and Depute Clerk for arrangements and to Mr Bill Love for his support to the Tinto Parishes which had been greatly appreciated by the congregations.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 4 February 2014.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting Presbytery to say the grace.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 4 February 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 16 Ministers; 25 Elders, and 2 corresponding members and 47 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Dr S Scott, Mrs A Reid and Mrs I Williams, Elders.

Welcome to Rev George Shand

The Moderator welcomed Rev George Shand, newly inducted minister of the Tinto Parishes to his first meeting and presented him with a book to assist in his ministry. The Moderator assured Mr Shand of the thoughts, prayers and support of Presbytery.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was amended with an insertion of '8a. Ministries Committee' and was then approved.

Minutes of meeting on 3 December 2013, 4 December 2013 and 16 January 2014

The Clerk intimated an amendment to the minute of 3 December page 47; delete 'Parties were removed. The Moderator invited discussion and questions'.

And an amendment to the minute of Wednesday 4 December 2013 page 53 line two delete the word 'Junction'.

With these amendments, the Minutes of the meetings held on 3 December 2013, 4 December 2013 and 16 January 2014 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 letter to the Moderator and the Clerk from the Law Department asking them to sign required documentation for the transfer of Auchengray Church and Hall (part of the parish of Carnwath) to the Auchengray Church Centre Trust as a community facility for Auchengray
- A sick note received from Ministries Council on 10 January noting that Rev Una Stewart was on sick leave for 3 weeks
- Information from the Law Department in respect of Real Time reporting passed to Ministers and Session Clerks and a request for information from the Law Department in respect of water and sewerage charges which was forwarded to Congregational Treasurers with a request to respond directly to the Law Department.
- A draft minute from Presbytery Planning Task Group noting the extract minute in respect of the deferred union of Carluke: St Andrew's with Carluke: St John's Parish Church noting the extract minute in respect of the linking of Carnwath and The United parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and responding "whilst noting that Presbytery had incorrectly quoted the year in which the Act was passed the Task Group accepted that it did not have a role in any renegotiation of the Basis of Linkage after it has been approved by Presbytery".
- A letter from Rev Ian Watson giving notice of his demission of the charge of Kirkmuirhill and his status as a Minister of Word and Sacrament within the Church of Scotland from 28 Feb 2014 (to be dealt with under the Report of the Special Committee)
- An e-mail from Mr Crawford Whitefield regarding his complaint (to be taken following the report of the Special Committee)

Good News Stories

Mr Malcolm Barclay, Carluke: St. Andrew's spoke of an initiative where the congregation visited Dobbies Garden Centre, following morning worship on 15th December 2013, to have a breakfast and sing Christmas carols and songs for the festive shoppers.

Report of the Presbytery Special Committee (in respect of issues regarding same sex relationships and the ministry)

The Report of the Presbytery Special Committee was presented by Mr Jim Watt.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church.

Representatives from Kirkmuirhill were invited to speak and addressed Presbytery.

Parties were removed.

Presbytery took up consideration of the report.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that in an indicative poll carried out by the Special Committee in December 2013 that 104 stated that it was their intention to remain members of the Church of Scotland and 114 intended to resign membership from a communicant roll of 282
3. Note that the Kirk Session and Minister of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church held two congregational meetings on 15th January 2014 at which each member was issued with a declaration to return by 31st January 2014 stating 'I hereby resign my membership of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and of the Church of Scotland in order to associate myself with a new congregation whose members will initially be former members of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and with the intention that the new congregation becomes part of the Free Church of Scotland'.
4. Note that, whilst the legal opinion obtained by the Minister and Kirk Session states that should 75% of members of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church opt to leave the Church of Scotland and associate together for worship in a new congregation then they would be able to take possession of the buildings, that this is disputed by the legal opinion of the Church of Scotland which suggests that the buildings remain in trust for the use of the continuing Church of Scotland congregation.
5. Expresses disappointment that at the congregational meetings held on 15th January 2014 misinformation was given regarding the ongoing congregation of the Church of Scotland by the minister, Rev Ian Watson.
6. Expresses further disappointment that, despite assurances from the Session Clerk that a copy of the opinion of the QC on the buildings would be given to the Presbytery that no copy had been made available as Rev Ian Watson stated that the opinion had been paid for by an outside body and could not be handed over and that the Session Clerk was wrong in stating it would be provided.
7. Agree to the request from Rev Ian Watson to demit the charge of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) and also his status as a Minister of Word and Sacrament within the Church of Scotland on 28th February 2014 and note that he intends to be presented as a candidate for the Ministry of the Free Church of Scotland at their commission on 5th March 2014.
8. Remit the matter of the vacancy in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) to the Vacancy Procedure Committee.
9. Approve the actions of the Special Committee, acting under powers, to appoint Alan Grant (Carluke: St. John's), Bill Love (Lanark: St. Nicholas), John Lumsden (Lanark: Greyfriars), Denham McDougall (Cairngryffe), Mabel Morris (United Parish of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction), Libby Muir (Carluke: St. Andrew's), Ross Russell (Symington) and Jim Sinclair (Forth: St. Paul's) as assessor elders with full voting rights and as charity trustees of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of

Scotland) SC014451 and who have become members of both the Kirk Session and Congregational Board from 22nd January 2014.

10. Approve the actions of the Special Committee, acting under powers, to appoint Mr Jim Watt (Cairngryffe) and Rev Russell McLarty as Presbytery assessors in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland)

As a result of concerns raised by members of the Presbytery about the veracity of a statement attributed to the Rev Ian Watson, it was moved, seconded and agreed to amend the deliverance by adding a new section 2 'Note that Mr Watson categorically deened that he described those who intended remaining as members of the Church of Scotland as 'second class Christians'.

Mr Jim Watt moved an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 11 'Note that 134 of the 280 members of the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) have resigned their membership of the Church of Scotland.' The amendment was seconded and agreed.

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

Following the agreement of the Presbytery to approve to demission of Rev Ian Watson, the Moderator invited Mr Alan Court, Session Clerk to address the Presbytery. Mr Court spoke of the tireless work that Mr Watson has undertaken within the congregation and parish of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church with his expository preaching and mission focus seeking to bring people to Christ. Mr Court spoke of his hope and prayer for continued work within the communities characterised by love and finished by offering his ongoing prayers for the continuing Church of Scotland congregation.

The Moderator invited Rev Steven Reid to address the Presbytery. Mr Reid spoke of Mr Watson's expository preaching; working through books of scripture to open God's word to the congregation, his faithful pastoral ministry, often being seen on foot around the parish and his desire to develop youth ministry and mission, especially through his work in the annual holiday club. Mr Reid spoke of Mr Watson's service to the Presbtery, acting as Depute Clerk for some years. Mr Reid assured Mr Watson of his continuing prayers in his future ministry.

The Moderator invited Mr Watson to address the Presbytery. Mr Watson spoke of the difficult last year within the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and offered thanks to those who offered him support and friendship over the years, especially those who supported the Chillli Children project.

The Moderator offered Mr Watson his prayer and blessing as he moved to become a Minister of the Free Church of Scotland.

The Clerk read correspondence to Presbytery received from Mr Crawford Whiteford, member of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) expressing disquiet at the way in which his complaint had been handled, stating that he had resigned his membership of the Church of Scotland and that he "no longer wanted any rights to complain, address Lanark Presbytery, or expect any redress from members of Presbytery and as such ... will not be attending the Presbytery meeting to ask or answer any questions." In light of the email, Mr Jim Watt, proposed an amendment to delete section 11 of the deliverance. This was seconded and agreed by the Presbytery.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church.

Representatives from Kirkmuirhill were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the appointment of Rev David Easton as Locum at Forth St Pauls, from 1 January 2014.
3. Note the appointment of Mr B Love as Interim Moderator at St Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St Johns on 27 January 2014 and his appointment as Locum at Carluke: St Johns on the basis of two days a week plus a Sunday with effect from 2 February 2014.
4. Note the resignation of Rev R Cleland as Interim Moderator at Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow Old from 1 April 2014 and thank him for his work in this charge.
5. Appoint Rev Alan Greig as Interim Moderator at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church from 5 February 2014 for vacancy business and from 1 March 2014 for all other matters.
6. Note that the Clerk has been instructed to continue discussions with Ministries Council regarding the provision of a Transition Minister as a matter of urgency.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note the planned information sharing exercise regarding The Information Commissioners Office visit; all Kirk Sessions will be instructed to send representatives to this session.
3. Note that there were no matters taken under powers during the Christmas/ New Year recess.
4. Approve the change to Unitary Constitution for Carnwath Church.
5. Note that Rev and Mrs M Fucella and Rev and Mrs G Shand will attend the Royal Garden Party on 1 July 2014.
6. Note that Presbytery will send 5 sets of commissioners to the General Assembly in 2014
7. Approve the revised rota for General Assembly attendance.(Appendix 1)
8. Note that Rev George Shand has been appointed to the Ministries Committee.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to amend the deliverance to add a new section 7 and re-number 'agree to appoint Rev Elizabeth Clelland as a Commissioner to the General Assembly of 2014 and seek nominations for the other spare ministerial commissions to be in the Clerk's hands by Friday 14th February 2014.'

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Grant approval to Rev. Helen Jamieson's request for Study Leave from 6th March to 13th March 2014 to enable her to undertake a course entitled "Seasons for Growth" with time thereafter for follow up reflection.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

3. Receive the Report
4. Note that a meeting of the 'Upper Clyde Churches Group' is to be held at Symington on 11 February 2014

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

In the absence of the Convener the Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Clerk, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Convenor, Rev Russell McLarty, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Commend the Kirk Session of the Upper Clyde Church for their concern for the provision of a suitable manse for a future minister
3. Approve the disposal of the current manse for the Upper Clyde Church at 66 Carlisle Road, Crawford, ML12 6TW.
4. Agree that the Kirk Session of the Upper Clyde Church should employ a suitable consultant to investigate the possibility of the provision of a 'new build' manse in the Glebe at Robertson subject to the 'Guidelines for Manses' as agreed by the General Assembly.
5. Agree that final approval of a 'new build' manse for the Upper Clyde Church will only be given once the existing manse is sold and a full funding plan for the 'new build' is in place.
6. Grant permission to the charge of Upper Clyde to rent a suitable property as a manse if a sole nominee is agreed before the 'new build' completed or other approved permanent alternative is obtained.
7. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the General Trustees and Ministries Council.
8. Instruct the charge of Upper Clyde to attend to the rainwater gutters, pipes and drainage system of the Church at Lowther and to keep an eye on the structural condition of the building with support of the Resources Committee as required.
9. Encourage the charge of Upper Clyde to make urgent approach to any organisation in the village of Leadhills which might have an interest in taking ownership with a view to repairing, maintaining and developing the former Lowther church as a community facility.
10. Instruct the charge of Upper Clyde to explore the necessary processes to allow demolition of the former Lowther Church building at Leadhills and agree that Lowther Church be placed on the market as soon as possible if that is part of the requirement for any permission to demolish.
11. Instruct the charge of Upper Clyde to report progress on the provision of a new manse and the former Lowther Church to the Resources Committee.
12. Agree to the sale of the former manse attached to the church at Rigside in conjunction with the site available for a detached dwelling house.
13. Agree that the sum of approximately £2,800 which is left over from the Diaconate Project should be used to carry out any decoration or minor repairs to the former manse at 17 Mercat Loan Biggar
14. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the General Trustees
15. Instruct all congregations to ensure that their Property Convener attends and submits to the Inspection of Records on Tuesday 18 February 2014 the Property Register (containing details of Insurance Cover) and the Manse Condition Schedule.
16. Instruct all congregations to ensure that an audited copy of Congregational Accounts for 2013 is submitted to the Presbytery Clerk no later than 31 March for onward transmission to the Accounts Inspection Committee.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Attestation of Congregational Records will take place on Tuesday 18 February 2014 in St Nicholas Church Hall and remind all Presbyters to convey information to their congregations regarding the new arrangements in place for the inspection.
3. Instruct the Clerk to communicate a reminder of the arrangements for attestation to all Session Clerks.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to Intimations in the papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 4 March 2014 at 7:00pm at the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

General Assembly Rota

2014 2018	Upper Clyde	Carstairs & Carstairs Jct I/w Carnwath	Crossford I/w Kirkfieldbank	Carluke: St. John's	Depute Clerk
2015 2019	Biggar I/w Black Mount	Lanark: St. Nicholas	Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow: Old	Law	Clerk
2016 2020	Douglas Valley	Lanark: Greyfriars	Kirkmuirhill	Carluke: Kirkton	Spare
2017 2021	Tinto Parishes	Forth: St. Paul's	Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen	Carluke: St. Andrews	Spare

Lanark, on, Tuesday 4 March 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 Ministers; 25 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 11 visitors.

The Moderator paid tribute to, and invited the Presbytery to remember the family of, Mr Cameron Morton, former Presbytery Elder from Crossford, who had recently passed away.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev M Fucella and Rev R McLarty, Ministers, Messrs A McPhee, J Austin and Mrs A Reid, Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 4 February 2014

The Clerk intimated an amendment to the minute of 4 February 2014 page 4; delete 'second class citizens' and replace with 'second class Christians'.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the minute of 4 February 2014 page 4 that the paragraph following deliverance 10 be amended to read 'As a result of concerns raised by members of the Presbytery about the veracity of a statement attributed to the Rev Ian Watson' and continue 'it was moved ...' With these amendments, the Minutes of the meetings held on 4 February 2014 were held as read and approved.

Council of Assembly Representatives (see Appendix 1)

The Moderator welcomed Rev Dr Grant Barclay Convener of the Council of Assembly and Miss Catherine Coull from the Council of Assembly Governance Group and invited them to address the Presbytery on the matter of governance within the Presbytery and the wider church.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- An email from the Law Department regarding small bus permits

Good News Stories

Mr David Waters from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church spoke of the first service to take place following the demission of the minister Rev Ian Watson on Sunday 2nd March 2014 which, whilst tinged with sadness, was a service filled with hope, attended by over 100 in the morning and 30 in the evening. Mr Waters expressed the gratitude of the congregation to Rev H Findlay, Moderator, for his conduct of worship on Sunday morning and thanked the Presbytery, the Clerk, Depute Clerk and the members of the Special Committee for their support in recent months.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr, Depute Clerk

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church.

Representatives from Kirkmuirhill were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Vice Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the appointment of Mr Alan Grant as pastoral Locum, for two days per week at Carnwath l/w The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction with effect from 10th March 2014.
3. Note that the Vacancy Procedure Committee has responded to the Kirk Session of Carluke: St John's regarding the process of appointing a nominating committee and the numbers from each congregation to serve on the Nominating Committee.
4. Note the appointment of Rev Harry Findlay as Interim Moderator at Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow Old from 1st April 2014 until 31 December 2014; this appointment to be reviewed in August 2014.
5. Note that a congregational meeting of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church held on 3rd March 2014 voted to forego their right to call a minister in order to proceed to the appointment of a transition minister, and that 67 voted for, 0 against and 1 member abstained.
6. Following the decision of the Congregational Meeting of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church held on 3rd March 2014 grant permission to apply to Ministries Council for the appointment of a Transition Minister for the charge of Kirkmuirhill for a period of 5 years.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr, Depute Clerk who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the report.
10. Note that the commissioners for 2014 General Assembly will be Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Mrs Jennifer Worthington, Elder from Upper Clyde, Rev Russell McLarty and an elder from the charge of Carstairs l/w Carnwath, Rev Steven Reid and Mr C Murray elder from Crossford, an elder from Carluke St John's, Rev Bryan Kerr, Depute Presbytery Clerk and Mr Jim Watt, Elder with the spare Ministerial place being taken up by Rev George Shand.
11. Note that a representative from the Council of Assembly's governance group will be invited to make a presentation to Presbytery at a future date. *(Note that this presentation was made at the beginning of the meeting)*
12. Note that outstanding financial matters regarding Culter church have been concluded and with the building in the possession of the General Trustees congregations are invited to express interest in the furniture and fittings to the Presbytery Clerk.
13. Agree to write to the Greyfriars Project, Edinburgh, to ascertain if they would be interested in the wood from the pews etc and should that be the case ask the Project to make a wooden item for Biggar Church and a small table lectern for Presbytery use.
14. Note that Kathleen Wood is providing Administrative Assistance to the Clerk, that she will be self-employed and invoice the Treasurer on a monthly basis.
15. Agree to make a financial donation for the recent use of St Andrew's church buildings for meetings and for the storage of records and remit the matter to the Presbytery Treasurer.
16. Note that Rev Alan Greig and Rev Alistair McKichan have been appointed as Presbytery Assessors in Lanark Presbytery under the terms of Act V, 2001.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Presbytery Clerk's Forum

The Clerk offered a short report on her recent attendance at the annual Presbytery Clerk's forum which included discussion on Data Protection, a new service of ordination, dealing with complaints, as well as

forthcoming matters to be raised by councils and committees at the General Assembly. The Clerk expressed her thanks to the Presbytery for offering ongoing support.

Report of the Resources Committee

In the absence of the Convener, the Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Rev Helen Jamieson, Presbytery Clerk, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to write to MSPs expressing concern about proposed changes to exemptions on Water & Sewerage Charges for churches.
3. Recommend that affected congregations write to MSPs expressing concern about proposed changes to exemptions on Water & Sewerage Charges for churches

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Attestation of Congregational Records took place on Tuesday 18 February 2013 in St Nicholas Church Hall.
3. Note that the standard of record keeping is generally very good, but there are still some issues which some congregations need to address.
4. Note that the new arrangements worked well for all concerned and were well received by congregational office bearers.
5. Thank and commend those congregational office bearers who brought records for attestation.
6. Thank those who carried out the attestation and the Business Committee for overseeing the new arrangements.
7. Note that the Presbytery minutes for 2013 have been attested and have been found to be in order.

The Deliverance was approved

Joint Report of the Congregational Support Committee & Ministries Committee

The Joint Report of the Congregational Support Committee & Ministries Committee was presented by the Ministries Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Congregational Support and Ministries Committee members expedited the three months review of Ministry Support for the Presbytery Clerk and Depute Clerk as directed by Presbytery.
3. Approve the joint recommendation of the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee to continue the current arrangement for the remaining three months of the funded programme.
4. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to send an extract minute to the Ministries Council.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

5. Receive the Report
6. Note that the Ministries Committee members inspected the log books of the relevant Parish Ministers and found them all to be most satisfactory.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that a 'Safeguarding Training for Volunteers' course will take place in Law Parish Church Hall on Saturday 22nd March 2014 from 10am to 1pm.
3. Approve the nomination of Laura-Jane Sinclair of Forth St Paul's Church to represent the Presbytery of Lanark as Youth Representative at this year's General Assembly.
4. Note that most Safeguarding Registers have been inspected and the inspection of those outstanding is in hand
5. Commend the congregations which were involved in the Biggar Area Diaconate Project for their efforts to continue building good relationships established during the project through the formation of the Upper Clyde Churches Group which met for the first time on 11 February 2014.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to Intimations in the papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 6 May 2014 at 7:00pm at the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting Presbytery to say the Grace.

Moderator

Clerk

Council of Assembly Governance Group

Presentation by Catherine Coull to Lanark Presbytery

March 2014

Why is governance important?

Because it's about the proper way to do things – every organisation, private, public or charity sector, needs to have good governance – appropriate to that organisation. Became a buzz word in past 20 years, since Cadbury Report in early 90s that followed collapse of Polly Peck – but it's nothing new, it's about the right way to do things. Appropriate to organisation – what's needed for RBS isn't the same as is needed for Lanark Presbytery – but principles are the same

Because it stops people challenging your decisions on the grounds of bad process or procedures

Because there are legalities to be observed – we all need to ensure that we comply with law

Because it's important that the church is seen to carry out its administrative and financial functions in accordance with high standards of probity and propriety

Because of OSCR - church is a complicated structure in terms of charity law, so each constituent part needs to act appropriately, so the charitable status of the church as a whole is not compromised. It's because of our charitable status that we get our nice recovered tax on Gift Aid, so important! But don't blame OSCR – there's nothing new, it's all stuff we should always have been doing.

Important, but.....

Think of it like the infrastructure. Put systems and proper procedures in place, ensure everyone knows to play their proper part, then just keep an eye on it working OK and get on with the exciting stuff of the Kingdom. None of this is particularly difficult!

What do you need to do?

1 Take decisions in accordance with law and procedure. If a decision is ever challenged, you need to be able to show that it was properly taken. So need -

Standing orders – need to include quorum

Remits for committees - if any powers are delegated to a committee, rather than just referred, the delegation must be minuted (probably unusual?)

Any ad hoc committees should be properly established, with a minute of Presbytery to that effect, and should report appropriately to Presbytery

Minutes of committee meetings, including sederunts

Recommendations to Presbytery should usually be by written report so presbyters have time to see and consider. Appreciate there will be some stuff reported orally, but should not be the norm

Need for efficient administration – so records can be easily accessed when necessary and everyone is confident the organisation is running smoothly

There should not be a culture of secrecy. Decisions should be taken as transparently as possible; but when confidentiality is necessary, it should be scrupulously observed

2 Ensure proper financial arrangements are in place. Should approve a budget; if individuals or committees have authority to spend money, there should be a minute to that effect; proper receipts; accounts audited and submitted to OSCR within required timescale

3 Ensure compliance with church law. There are people you can ask when unsure! Janette Wilson, John Chalmers. Always encourage you to ask. Easier to answer a question than sort out a mess!

4 Ensure compliance with civil law. Probably more relevant to churches, but Presbytery has oversight. Some things particularly important – especially Protection of Vulnerable Groups, also health and safety issues. Think about the risk areas

Who is responsible?

Everybody! Presbytery Clerk, conveners of committees have particular responsibilities, but all members of an organisation are corporately responsible for its decisions. Can't evade responsibility by not turning up. In most codes of corporate governance for Boards of organisations and charities, there would be a requirement to attend a minimum number of meetings and a requirement of due diligence by reading papers, taking an active part in the work of the organisation.

Good governance includes leadership. The Council of Assembly has adopted a Code of Conduct, which other Councils and committees are also being asked to adopt. The general principles in the Code are relevant for all decision making bodies in the church, such as Presbyteries, and for all of you in your role as charity trustees in your own local churches. These general principles are –

- Service- acting in accordance with the interests of the church or particular committee and devoting an appropriate amount of time to its work
- Selflessness – a duty to take decisions solely in terms of the interest of the church
- Integrity and honesty – includes a need to consider any conflicts of interest which may arise
- Accountability and stewardship
- Openness and confidentiality
- Leadership

Lanark, on, Tuesday 6 May 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers; 26 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and four visitors from Church AIDS Ministry, Thailand.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev A Meikle and U Stewart, Ministers , Messrs R Carson, A McPhee and Mrs H Chekansky Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 4 March 2014

The Minutes of the meetings held on 4 March 2014 were held as read and approved.

Guild Report

The Moderator welcomed Mrs Allison Plenderleith, Convener of Lanark Presbyterial Guild Council and invited her to give her annual report, which is appended to the minutes in Appendix 1.

Church AIDS Ministry, Thailand

The Moderator welcomed four visitors from the Church AIDS Ministry, Thailand who spoke of their work within Thailand showing the love of Christ to those suffering with HIV/ AIDS, a disease that, since 1984, has affected over one million people living in the country. The group aims to challenge the stigma and prejudice that exists within society regarding the problem of HIV/ AIDS and seeks to support those who are carrying the disease and those who have lost parents to the disease. Those involved in the ministry dedicate themselves to live out John 10:10 and offer life in all its fullness to those they encounter. The project offered thanks to the Church of Scotland which has supported the work of the ministry for many years. Rev Mike Fucella, who hosted the group, translated the presentation from Rev Sanan Wutti for members of Presbytery. The Moderator assured the visitors of the ongoing prayers of Presbytery.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- renewal of renewal of the Data protection registration
- Delegation of Assembly informing that the unitary constitution has been issued to Carnwath
- Review and Reform seeking members to respond to the consultation on the future shape of the Church of Scotland
- Water & Sewerage Rates - reply from Aileen Campbell MSP copying a response from Nicola Sturgeon MSP.

Good News Stories

The Moderator, Rev Harry Findlay, welcomed Alan Greig, Interim Moderator at Kirkmuirhill to the Presbytery and offered the best wishes of Presbytery to Mr Greig.

Mr David Waters, Elder at Kirkmuirhill, spoke to the privilege of having Rev John Chalmers lead worship on 27th April 2014. Mr Chalmers asked that his supply fee went to Help for Heroes and the congregation raised over £300 for the charity in an impromptu collection.

Rev Bryan Kerr, minister at Lanark: Greyfriars, spoke of the union of Cairns and St. Kentigerns Church of 28th May 1993 to form Greyfriars Church. On 1st June 2014, the Moderator of the General Assembly, will lead worship in Greyfriars to mark the beginning of a year of celebration of the congregation 'coming of age'.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

17. Receive the report.
18. Appoint Rev S Reid, E Clelland, B Kerr, R McLarty and G Shand and Mrs E Muir, Miss I Nelson, Mrs J Worthington and Messrs C Murray and J Watt, Elders as Commissioners to the General Assembly 2014 and Rev E Clelland and Mr J Watt to the Commission of Assembly.
19. Note that Rev Iain Cunningham was on sick leave from 7th March to 20th April 2014 and that he has now returned to work.
20. Appoint Rev E Clelland as Presbytery Prayer Coordinator.
21. Invite a representative of the Citizens Advice Bureau to address the October meeting of Presbytery and to attend the June meeting of the World and Community Issues Committee.
22. Grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark St Nicholas and Carluke: St Andrew's, St John's and Kirkton to hold united services as noted: Lanark Area: 1st June: Joint worship in Greyfriars Church, 22nd June: Ecumenical Service Cleghorn Mains (Greyfriars only), 28th June: Ecumenical Service in St Nicholas Church, 6th and 13th July Joint worship in St Nicholas Church, 20th and 27th July: Joint worship in Greyfriars Church; Carluke Area : 18th May: Joint worship for all three churches in Carluke in St Johns Church, 1st June: Joint communion service for St Andrews and St Johns in St Andrews Church
23. Note that the Business Committee will meet on 14th May 2014 to consider the shape of Presbytery Committees.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that permission to call was granted to Upper Clyde and Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old on 7th May 2013 and that an extension of six months will be granted to the congregations subject to an application being made by each Kirk Session by 31st May 2014; failure to do so will result in permission to call lapsing in terms of Section 26, Act VIII, 2003 as amended.
3. Note that the advert for a transitional minister for Kirkmuirhill has been circulated with a closing date for applications in mid May 2014.
4. Appoint Mrs Anna Lumsden (Ministries Convener) and Mr Jim Watt (Congregational Support Convener) as Presbytery representatives on the interview panel for the post of Transition Minister in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church.
5. Note that a letter was received from a member of Carluke: St John's regarding the procedure for appointing the nominating committee and that the letter has been responded to thanking the member for the letter and noting the comments.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that Lanark Presbytery has been grouped with Hamilton Presbytery to select a Regional Vocations Champion to promote ministry across both Presbyteries.
3. Agree to promote the role of Vocations Champion (*appendix 2*) via all congregations within the bounds of Presbytery.
4. Note that the Ministries Council will cover the costs of Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Membership for all who need to be checked except Locums and that those Ministers who have already paid will receive a refund through the payroll system.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Russell McLarty, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve a £500 reduction in the Ministries and Mission Contribution for Carluke: St Andrew's and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract Minute to the Stewardship and Finance Department.
3. Agree exemption from monthly standing order payments for Ministries and Mission contributions for the congregation of Carnwath and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the Stewardship and Finance Department .
4. Instruct the congregation of Carnwath to supply a six month set of accounts to the Presbytery Clerk by the end of July 2014 in order that a request for review of the Ministries and Mission contribution may be made to the Stewardship and Finance Department.
5. Instruct the congregation of Kirkmuirhill to supply a six month set of accounts to the Presbytery Clerk by the end of July 2014 in order that a request for review of the Ministries and Mission contribution may be made to the Stewardship and Finance Department.
6. Invite IA Stewart to undertake the Attestation of Congregational Accounts for 2013.
7. Note that the Resources Committee will undertake a review of the process of attesting congregational accounts for 2014 onwards.
8. Encourage Presbyters to submit names of anyone with the necessary skills willing to assist as Independent Examiners to the Presbytery Treasurer.
9. Approve the sale of the former manse at 17 Mercat Loan Biggar and instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the General Trustee.
10. Subject to receipt of the necessary paperwork for transmission to and approval by the General Trustees approve in principle the replacement of two boilers (£26k), the rewiring of the sanctuary, the provision of new LED lighting in the sanctuary and the upgrading of the multimedia system (approx. £19k) at Carluke: Kirkton Church for which funds are available locally and instruct the Clerk to transmit an extract minute to the General Trustee.
11. Note that a new simplified form for approval of property matters has been made available by the General Trustees and that the form is available from the Presbytery Clerk.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Commend the Clydesdale Food Bank on their continuing work.
3. Invite Presbytery to share stories of new initiatives to assist in fund raising for Christian Aid.
4. Welcome the group from Church Aids Ministry from Thailand and commend their invaluable work in that country.
5. Note the report from the SLC Education Resources Committee. (*Appendix 3*)

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that all congregational records have now been examined and attested and any deficiencies brought to the attention of the relevant Session Clerks and/or office bearers.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Tuesday 17 June 2014 at 7.00pm in Carluke: St Andrew's Church and thereafter for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting Presbytery to say the Grace.

Moderator

Clerk

Guild Report to Lanark Presbytery – Tuesday 6th May 2014

Moderator, as Convener of the Presbyterian Guild Council of Lanark, I bring the report of the Guild and the greetings of Guild members to the Presbytery.

It is with sadness that I have to advise of the disbanding of Kirkfieldbank Guild and St John's Young Woman's Group and with membership continuing to decline and looking forward the Guild took steps to form a Focus Group:

The Focus Group – comprising of members of the Guild National Executive, Guild members, and from outwith the Guild, Very Rev John Christie, two ministers, NHS Chaplain, an elder and a member of the National Youth Assembly, who are now Honorary members of the Guild, will look at our strengths and weaknesses, our opportunities and our threats. Iain Whyte, General Secretary recently wrote “we are a strong organisation and much of the decline in numbers we have seen, mirrors the change that the church, political parties, trade unions, uniformed organisations, golf clubs and many others have shared. The questions we need to ask, are “Why the Guild?” and “How do we meet the future?”

These are easily asked and hard to answer. The answers will need to take into account the expectations of the current membership and the views of those outside the Guild who might become members in the future. They need also to reflect the ways in which the Guild can operate as part of the church, both locally and nationally. The Guild is an organisation which needs to have its own agenda, but it also needs to see itself as one piece in a jigsaw, connecting firmly with other pieces to make the bigger picture. The things we need as we look ahead are:

Vision, courage, hope, fellowship and maybe even a little bit of sacrifice. The great thing is that these are exactly the qualities that have made the Guild the success it has been for 127 years.”

In order to encourage and build a closer relationship with groups within Lanark Presbytery Guild Council, the Council invited a representative from each Guild to attend Council meetings, I am glad to report that this was well received and a fair representation have attended. Whether this will be fruitful in establishing a closer link between the Council and groups remains to be seen.

The current Guild strategy is based upon our motto – ‘Whose we are and Whom we serve’. During the last session we explored the theme ‘A Fellowship to Build’ and during our next session we shall explore the theme ‘A World to Serve’. Since its formation in 1887 as the Woman's Guild, now the Guild, work has been undertaken by Guild folk to benefit many within and without the Church at home and overseas. Raising funds to build a Girl's School in Kalimpong, India, raising awareness through our projects in addressing prostitution, human trafficking, HIV Aids, domestic abuse, post-natal depression, prison visiting centres and much more. It was with sadness we learnt of the death of Rev Clarence Musgrave who in partnership with the Guild headed the Inter-Faith project in the Holy Land bringing together Christian, Muslim and Jewish projects.

“A World to Serve” - this theme is really a re-statement of what has gone before, a re-affirmation of the very essence of the Guild at its best.

Through the Project Partnering Scheme the Guild is supporting, financially and prayerfully,

- ❖ A Heart for Art, with CrossReach and looking at the use of art therapy in the care of those with dementia
- ❖ A Passage from India, in partnership with the Priority Areas Committee and dealing with micro-financing of enterprise within Urban Areas in Scotland.
- ❖ Mary's Meals, working in Liberia, one of the poorest countries in the world, to provide food and resources for school children
- ❖ Out of Africa into Malta, run by the World Mission Council in co-operation with the Presbytery of Europe and addressing issues faced by refugees escaping from a range of tragic circumstances and coming to Malta to seek hope – we heard of this project at the last World Mission Rally.
- ❖ Comfort Rwanda, our partner, The Healing and Reconciliation Ministry of Rwanda whose work is to extend a project in which those who were responsible for the terrors of genocide in that country are building new homes for their victims
- ❖ The Julius Project, an initiative of Scottish Churches' Housing Action recognising the problems faced and support required by people entering social housing tenancies following a period of homelessness

I could relay many harrowing accounts and positive accounts from each of the Projects however let's look at two which were delivered at the Project Co-ordinators Meeting last Thursday.

Heart for Art – Peter had worked as a draughtsman since he was 19 years old. Drawing is a talent Peter has always had and shared. A few years ago Peter was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, both he and his wife were devastated. On his final visit to the psychiatrist Peter was 'given a test' to draw a hexagon – he couldn't manage to copy the drawing, he had lost his drawing skill. Peter felt a failure. In 2013 Peter joined a Heart for Art Group and at the sessions as well as creating pictures, he met new friends. His confidence began to build and his stress was relieved

Peter is still unable to draw a 'hexagon' but he does not worry anymore as he is producing art work like this one.

A Passage from India, now re-named WEvolution – Self Reliant Groups – established in Glasgow to encourage and develop talents within Priority Areas. You may have seen and heard Jake, a member of Provanmill SRG on STV, prior to the conference Jake and some of the team visited Wester Hailes and met with women and men whose circumstances mirrored those in Glasgow, Jake relayed their remarkable stories of establishing a lunch club, a laundrette, dressmaking, craft skills. Greenock, Maryhill and Provanmill SRGs have sought their own market linkages through local contacts and networks. The SRG model is the first of its kind in Scotland, indeed, in the whole of the UK.

Noel Mathias, project co-ordinator writes "We live in times of great hardship for people living at the bottom rungs of the economic ladder. The time calls for both innovation and optimism. The SRGs have shown the way already; it's a matter of time before others follow or even better still, walk a path made all of their own. And that alone will be the measure of WEvolution's success and sustainability."

From September 2012 to April 2014 the sum given by Guilds

• Comfort Rwanda:	£69,068.29
• Crossreach – Heart for art:	£105,010.46
• Mary's Meals:	£78,434.36
• Ministries Council – Passage from India:	£52,606.67
• Scottish Churches Housing- Julius Project:	£68,706.10
• World Mission Council – Out of Africa into Malta:	£66,700.69
• Total:	£440,526.57

The Guild has a voice on Church Councils: Church and Society, Mission and Discipleship, World Mission And is involved in other organisations:

- ❖ World Day of Prayer
- ❖ Network of Ecumenical Women in Scotland
- ❖ Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women
- ❖ Scottish Churches Housing Agency
- ❖ Scottish Bible Society
- ❖ Scottish Women's Convention
- ❖ Interfaith Group on Domestic Abuse
- ❖ Prison Visitor Centre Group
- ❖ ACTS Anti-human Trafficking Group

The road to Dundee beckoned last September when members from all over Scotland and beyond attended the Guild Rally in the Caird Hall.

Following introductions our Moderator, Lorna Hood delivered a message based on the incoming theme "a Fellowship to Build" and also entertained us with her stories:

She commented that it is thought that the hymn singing at the Assembly was great but having shared with us that morning she now knew that the singing in the Caird Hall was much better, indeed excellent.

1979, Lorna began her ministry in Renfrew and following her nomination, voices were raised throughout the town, the bank, the post office, the bookies, the bakers, the hairdressers – *A Womun Minister!!!!!!!!!!!!!!*

She was invited to speak at many Guilds and women's groups and she recalled how at one meeting she asked if the members would be happy to take part in a discussion – **no we don't do that. What about questions - no we don't do that** – however Lorna was not put off and gave the ladies a point to discuss - she noticed two ladies sitting chatting away, she went over to them and asked if they would like to share their discussion – **well.....we know that you dye your hair but wondered if you had false teeth!!!!**

Lorna's message – "Keep taking risks, that is in fact the very essence of the Gospel." The Guild have brought many disturbing and harrowing issues to the fore and she encourage the Guild to continue to identify and bring forth issues e.g. Human Trafficking, HIV Aids, the commercialisation and sexualisation of children. "You have been great risk takers through the years. Keep being risk takers and let us all keep taking the risk of being one church and live out that calling."

Musical interludes during the day were provided by Celtic Carillon, the Scottish Handbell ensemble.

Later we were challenged by the story of Olivia Giles and the charity she founded, "500 miles". Olivia was a successful Edinburgh lawyer until she lost her lower legs and lower arms after contracting blood poisoning from meningitis in 2002. She compared the sophisticated prosthetic limbs she had been given with the makeshift limbs created and used by amputees in Africa. She movingly described how she had founded the charity after being challenged by the sight of an amputee crawling through the dirt on a visit to Malawi. The charity has helped thousands through the support to those in need of prostheses, orthoses, limb supports, all of which are constructed in the clinics established through the charity.

The final guest speaker was Lorimer Gray who made us aware of "More than Gold" an interdenominational organisation mobilising the Churches in Scotland to serve the Commonwealth Games during the summer – being in situ at the Games in various locations, offering support to visitors and much more.

In June 2013, and on a superb summer evening, the Summer Rally was held in Forth St Paul's. Following devotions led by Rev Sarah Ross, we welcomed our guest speaker Rev Iain Cunningham from Kirkton Church Carlisle. Through many photos taken by Iain we travelled not only in Scotland but throughout many parts of the world. As we travelled Iain commented on each photo

"God is the maker of all things near and far, the art of photography can teach us the art of discipleship."

Worship Praise Fellowship Action

The cornerstone of the Guild

Earlier in 2013 we became aware of the Prayer Shawl Ministry.....and so our part in this ministry began, the original idea came from the United States, taken up by Buckhaven and Wemyss Guilds. Shawls are knitted by people at home or in groups, praying silently as they work. Following a service of dedication the shawls are given to those, whom it is felt are most in need of them. Prayer squares for troops, wedding and baby shawls, as well as those who are ill, bereaved or in pain.

I take this opportunity to present a prayer square to our Moderator.

At the General Assembly the Guild will present a revised constitution and also the resources which have emerged from the Golden Age Project and ask that these findings and resources be shared across the whole church and beyond. This piece of work commissioned as part of the 125th Anniversary of the Guild looks at the place of older people in the church. The intention, to look at how we work with older people rather than seeing them as people for whom and to whom we do things. Involved in the project, the charity, Faith in Older People and the University of Aberdeen along with colleagues from the Church and Society Council, also taking part in practical ways congregations and local groups. The findings from the project have been well received by parties within and without the church.

I take this opportunity to thank Rev Bryan Kerr for his continued support at the Guild Spring Rally and AGM – unfortunately Bryan was unable to be with us on this occasion and arranged for the Rev George Shand to lead our time of worship and to share in communion and I extend our thanks to George. We look forward to this year's Summer Rally to be held on Friday, 6th June in Carnwath Town Hall.

Moderator, I am grateful to you for inviting me to speak and I now present this report to the Presbytery.

Vocations Champion: Promote a Flourishing Future!

Introduction

The Church of Scotland is facing a challenging future with regard to patterns of ministry, with the number of people entering parish ministry at its lowest point for a generation. Rather than see this as a matter for despair, the Church recognises that this is an opportunity to grow and flourish, for when we are at our weakest, we are at our greatest point of strength. (2 Cor 12:10). In order to achieve growth, the Church has recognised the importance of an enthusiastic and proactive approach to vocations work as a way forward to a flourishing future!

National Vocations Strategy:

To raise awareness of the call to service and bring the challenge to those whom God may be calling, thus increasing the numbers considering a vocation to serve the Church of Scotland.

Vocations Champion Role

Presbyteries are looking for enthusiastic and forward thinking volunteers to head up the Vocations initiative across a Presbytery grouping, implementing the national strategy in order to promote and develop vocations in a local context.

Who will they be?

- A communicant member of the Church of Scotland, with
- an infectious energy and enthusiasm for encouraging vocations,
- a well-developed personal and spiritual life, and
- an awareness of their own vocational development

What will they do?

- Develop and motivate a vocations promotions team locally to implement a vocations strategy within the region
- Arrange Local Vocations Conferences, and attend promotional/careers events as a champion for vocations
- Discover where young people gather in the region and promote Vocations there, encouraging their attendance at vocations events
- Identify congregations and chaplaincies which nurture vocations, and share good practice with others through workshops, preaching etc.
- Respond to enquiries from the Vocations website

This would suit someone with:

- understanding and experience of ministry in the Church of Scotland
- confident public speaking and presentation skills
- relevant experience of vocational discernment
- good organisational skills, who is attentive to detail and able to balance competing priorities
- an awareness of the importance of good group dynamics and excellent teamwork skills
- communication skills and the ability to network across the region and beyond
- enthusiasm for, and commitment to, vocations work, with all age groups
- understanding of youth culture
- understanding of faith development and specifically of spiritual development and nurture

Location and Time Commitment

It is envisaged that Champions will offer approximately 3 – 4 hours per week to the promotion of Vocations across the Presbytery/Presbytery grouping (time demands will vary across the year). Champions will be based locally, in the region they serve.

Support and Team Work

Champions will be supported by the **National Vocations Promotions Officer**, who is responsible for implementing the National vocations strategy. The **National Vocations Team** will resource Champions with printed and web-based material for the promotion of vocations. Vocations Champions will develop and motivate local Vocations Promotions Teams, and will resource and support each other by providing material for the Vocations' Blog and monthly Vocations Champions' newsletter. Reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

Training

Champions will attend an annual conference to keep up to date with new initiatives and share good practice and experience.

Make Contact:

If you are interested in applying to be a **Vocations Champion**, please email vocation@cofscotland.org.uk for an application form.

Closing Date: Completed application forms should be forwarded to your Presbytery Clerk by the **31st July 2014** at the latest. Interviews will take place throughout August and September – dates to be arranged by Presbytery. An initial Vocations Champions' Conference will take place in October/November 2014 (date and venue tba).

World and Community Issues Committee

South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources Committee – 4th March 2014

- 1. Revenue Budget Monitoring** – breakeven position and forecast to continue as breakeven, although due to an increase in demand for ASN services £1million has been moved from reserves.
- 2. Capital Budget Monitoring** – Anticipated overspend due to being ahead of schedule with schools modernisation projects. Budgets from 2014/5 will be adjusted appropriately.
- 3. Workforce Monitoring** – Nothing unusual to report.
- 4. Policy Statement on Inclusion and Equality** – A revised policy statement has been drafted for endorsement and sending onto the Executive Committee for approval. It was revised to take into account changes in legislation and national practice relating to inclusion and equality. Consultation took place and modifications were made in light of consultation. Staff are expected to be aware of this policy and to adhere to it, and reference is made to the protected characteristics.
- 5. Review of Admissions Policy for Early Years Establishments** – This has to be reviewed every two years and is therefore due for review. In addition the hours increase from 475 to 600 takes place in August, and the Scottish Government have increased the ratio of 2 years who qualify for nursery care by adding new categories over the next two years. Early years places are to be provided for families seeking work.
- 6. Expansion of Free Nursery Provision from Autumn 2014** – Sessions will increase from 2 hours 30 mins to 3 hours 10 mins and there will be increased staff with promotion opportunities, more support assistants and therefore more salary to pay. There will also be a loss of income from parents paying extra to keep their child(ren) in longer so a knock on effect from the increased hours. The need for increased capacity may also have implications for the design and size of nurseries.
- 7. Education ICT Managed Service Contract – progress update.** Significant progress has been made regarding the initial deliverables of this contract. It is intended to try to keep the Council at the cutting edge of educational developments involving ICT and encourage and inspire staff to make use of ICT to support imaginative and innovative learning amongst “digital natives.” The ultimate goal is that, through the use of modern technology, children will grow to be effective learners and responsible citizens.
- 8. University of Glasgow, Widening Participation – 2014 Entry.** It is a project that has been running from many years under different names but is basically to provide an access route for pupils from low progression schools to HE via progression agreements with HEIs, and to prepare pupils for the transition to HE from school and enhance their chances of continuation beyond 1st year in HE. Research shows that pupils using Top Up have benefited and excelled compared to their counterparts. Calderside Academy, Blantyre, Cathkin High, Cambuslang, Larkhall Academy and Lesmahagow High are schools from South Lanarkshire who are included in this project. Glasgow University Summer School may be a requirement for gaining entry etc. Multi-deprivational postcodes also play a factor in gaining a place. It has proven beneficial to pupils from the 4 SL schools and these 4 schools are working with Glasgow University to develop further the programme for pupils in S1-S3. All schools in SL will be informed of the changes in entry level requirements for pupils in the multi-deprivation 40 places scheme for pupils from 0-40% most disadvantaged postcodes by the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.
- 9. Micro-Tyco Enterprise Challenge** – Micro-Tyco enterprise projects have taken place in Universal Connections, and the young people are to be commended for completing the business challenge, as well as recognition given for skills acquired leading to employment possibilities. It is brilliantly encouraging report that has seen businesses partner with young people, new enterprise happening and young people excelling because of the experience.

Carluke, on, Tuesday 17 June 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met, after the administration of the Sacrament of Communion in Carluke: St. Andrew's Church, in the church hall, and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers, 20 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 4 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael, S Cowell, A Greig, R McLarty, A Meikle, and U Stewart, Ministers; Messrs G Chapman, J Johnstone, C Murray, S Scott, D Watters, Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6 May 2014

The Minutes of the meetings held on 6 May 2014 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- Citizens Advice confirming attendance at October Presbytery meeting.
- PMR GCA - highlighting medical condition and inviting congregations to highlight the issue
- Ministries Council - regarding dementia training
- Law Department - further guidance in HMRC real time reporting and information on change in process for processing repayments from the Listed Places of Worship scheme.

Good News Stories

Rev Iain Cunningham from Carluke: Kirkton who informed Presbytery that Ross Blackman, candidate in training has gained a first class honours degree as part of his training.

Rev Bryan Kerr from Lanark: Greyfriars, spoke of the recent visit of The Right Reverend John Chalmers, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to celebrate the 21st anniversary of the union of Cairns Church and St. Kentigern's Church. Mr Chalmers preached and celebrated Communion with a very healthy congregation from Greyfriars and St. Nicholas Churches. Following the service Mr Chalmers was presented with a gift of three golf pin markers for his putting green adorned with the Moderatorial Coat of Arms, and a congregational lunch was held.

Farewell to Rev Robert Cleland

The Moderator invited Bobby Mitchell from The Douglas Valley Church to address Presbytery. Mr Mitchell paid tribute to Mr Cleland's ministry within the Douglas Valley and in particular his ministry which was carried out in a time of pressure and challenge within the area. Mr Mitchell spoke of Mr Cleland's dedication, genuine spirit and positivity, as well as his many conversations and visits carried out during his cycling around the village and wished the Cleland family God's blessing in their future ministry.

The Moderator invited Rev. Steven Reid to address the Presbytery and pay tribute to Mr Cleland. Mr Reid spoke of Mr Cleland's clear call of God when returning to his home village to take up the role as minister in the Douglas Valley, his ambition to start home study groups and his dedicated ministry over the five years within the Presbytery.

The Moderator invited Mr Cleland to offer a response. Mr Cleland spoke of the journey that both he and the Presbytery have been on during his years of ministry, and the blessings that he has received during his ministry within the area. Mr Cleland spoke of his appreciation of the parishioners and the support that they offered him and his family, and of his appreciation of the support of members of Presbytery throughout his ministry.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer, offered thanks for the ministry of Mr Cleland and offered a blessing to the Cleland family as they embarked on the new chapter of their lives and ministry as they moved to Ardersier linked with Petty in the Presbytery of Inverness.

Appreciation of the ministry of Rev Helen Jamieson

The Moderator spoke of the ministry of Rev Helen Jamieson who recently celebrated 25 years of ministry in Carluke: St Andrew's and the Presbytery of Lanark and offered the congratulations and thanks of the Presbytery.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

6. Receive the report.
7. Note that an extract minute seeking extension to the vacancy at Upper Clyde has been received and an extension has been agreed for six months from 7th May 2014.
8. Note that an extract minute seeking extension to the vacancy at Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old has been received and an extension has been agreed for six months from 7th May 2014.
9. Note that the Advisory Committee has been instructed to revisit the Nominating Committee for Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old.
10. Note that the post of Transition Minister at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church has been re-advertised.
11. Note that following the Presbytery of Inverness sustaining the call to Rev Robert Cleland, Mr Cleland will be released to the charge of Ardersier linked with Petty at a date to be determined.
12. Note the appointment of Rev George Shand as Interim Moderator for vacancy business with immediate effect.
13. Suspend the implementation of the Presbytery Plan for Douglas Valley and instruct the Congregational Support Committee in consultation with Ministries Committee, Property Committee and Finance Committee to review the situation at Douglas Valley and report with recommendations to the September Presbytery meeting.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to The Douglas Valley Church.

Representatives from Douglas Valley were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the sick notes for Rev Una Stewart for a four week period from 12th May and for a further period of one month from 9 June 2014 and that an Interim Moderator will now require to be appointed.
3. Note the invitation for the Moderator to attend the Installation of Bishop Toal on 23rd June.
4. Appoint Rev Elizabeth Clelland as Moderator Designate of Lanark Presbytery for 2014/15
5. Agree to dispense with Standing Orders 1 and 17.
6. Agree that the Standing Committees of Presbytery for 2014/15 will be Business Committee, Congregational Development Committee, Congregational Support Committee, Ministries Committee, World and Community Issues Committee, Property Committee and Finance Committee with Committee membership to be notified by the Clerk as soon as possible when all commissions have been received.

7. Instruct the Clerk and Depute Clerk to redraft Standing Orders to ensure compliance with General Assembly instructions and bring proposals to the September meeting of Presbytery through the Business Committee.
8. Agree to appoint Mr Robert Carson, Mr Ewan Easton, Mr Alan Grant, Mr Bill Love, Mrs Anna Lumsden, Mr William Macsween, Dr Sinclair Scott and Mrs Mairi Somerville as Additional Elders for 2014/15.
9. Agree the request for joint worship received from the Carluke Parish Grouping for united services from 2nd July until 10th August and for Lanark: Greyfriars and Lanark: St Nicholas to hold an ecumenical service in the Congregational Church on 3rd August.
10. Grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Business Convenor during the summer recess with any decisions made to be brought to Presbytery for homologation in September.
11. Note the new Complaints Procedure and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Processes Act (Act VI 2014) as agreed by the General Assembly and appoint a Complaints Committee consisting of three members of Presbytery: Mrs Mairi Somerville, Mr Frank Mitchell, Rev Harry Findlay.
12. Agree to hold a Presbytery Dinner in Shawlands Hotel in September and encourage all Presbyters to attend.
13. Note that the Episcopal Church in Lanark may be interested in taking on the building at Culter and conversations with the General Trustees have been initiated.
14. Note that a service of recognition for a graduate candidate (Ross Blackman) will be held on Thursday 14th August; the location to be advised nearer the time.
15. Agree to seek financial assistance from the Council of Assembly for all identifiable expenses incurred by Presbytery in respect of the difficulties experienced in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church.

On a vote taken to approve section 5 of the deliverance, there voted 28 for and 0 against. In terms of Standing Order 24(A) the section carried and Standing Orders 1 and 17 were dispensed with.

The Deliverance was approved

Mr Love offered thanks to the Moderator for his conduct of worship and communion and to the congregation of Carluke: St Andrew's for the hospitality shown to Presbytery.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of Presbytery to Mrs Irene Williams, additional elder, who retired after giving 15 years of service to the Presbytery of Lanark.

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was, in the absence of the Convener, presented by Rev Mike Fucella, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Commend the work of the Citizens' Advice Bureau
3. Commend current efforts to alleviate the distress caused by the escalation in funeral costs throughout the country

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Commend the worship teams of both Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old for continuing leadership of worship and the involvement of members of the congregations.
3. Note the difficulty that both Kirk Sessions have in producing a forward plan due to the on-going vacancy.
4. Note the desire of both Kirk Sessions to receive some support from Presbytery during this time of vacancy.
5. Encourage both Kirk Sessions to establish better communications between themselves, in particular ensuring that a member of each Session attends the meetings of the other and that the Kirk Session of

- Coalburn are kept fully informed of matters regarding the Manse.
6. Commend and thank Mr I White for his work as locum, both in leading worship and for his pastoral care of both congregations.
 7. Thank Rev R Cleland for his guidance and support to both Kirk Sessions during his time as Interim Moderator.
 8. Note that a full copy of the Local Church Review Report on the charge of Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow Old can be provided on request.
 9. Instruct the Clerk to transmit a copy of the relevant sections of this report and the deliverance to the Session Clerks of the charge of Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow Old.
 10. Grant Practising Certificates for 2014/15 to Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Graham Houston, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev John Turnbull.
 11. Note that Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Margaret Muir, and Rev John Turnbull have indicated that they will not be taking up their seat in Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

The Moderator expressed the thanks of Presbytery to Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Margaret Muir, and Rev John Turnbull for their years of service to the Presbytery of Lanark.

Report of the Resources Committee

The Report of the Resources Committee was presented by Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the Presbytery Accounts for 2013
3. Records appreciation to Mrs Mary McGillivray for her work as Presbytery Treasurer and to Mr Jack Lumsden for serving as Treasurer during Mrs McGillivray's absence.
4. Note that those congregations wishing to make an application for a reduction on Ministry and Mission from the 3% Presbytery Variance Allowance should submit applications via the Presbytery Clerk before the August Committee meeting.
5. Agree exemption from monthly standing order payments for Ministries and Mission contributions for the congregation of Douglas Valley and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the Stewardship and Finance Department.
6. Instruct the congregation of Douglas Valley to supply a six month set of accounts to the Presbytery Clerk by the end of July 2014 in order that a request for review of the Ministries and Mission contribution may be made to the Stewardship and Finance Department.
7. Note that the proceeds of endowments for Culter are held as restricted funds by Presbytery until disposal according to entitlement.
8. Approve the work to replace boilers at Carluke: St John's at a cost of £15,177.03 for which funds are available locally and instruct the Clerk to transmit an extract minute to the General Trustees.
9. Approve the increased specification and costs of £90,120 for work at Carluke Kirkton which includes replacement of two boilers, the rewiring of the sanctuary, the provision of new LED lighting in the sanctuary and the upgrading of the multimedia system at Carluke: Kirkton Church for which funds are available locally and instruct the Clerk to transmit an extract minute to the General Trustees.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Agree to the proposal to hold a Presbytery Gathering in the new session and invite the Ministries Committee to bring a detailed proposal to the September meeting.
3. Note with great pleasure the news that Ross Blackman's second placement in his ministry training has been sustained.
4. Thank Pat Saulnier for her service to the Ministries Committee and wish her well on her retreat.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

3. Receive the Report
4. Encourage Presbyters to identify and make known to young people of appropriate age details of the proposed National Youth Assembly to be held at Gartmore House, Stirling from 5pm on Friday 15th to 5pm Monday 18th August 2014.
5. Note the proposed Session Clerks & Elders Conference to be held at Tulliallan Castle, Kincardine from 5pm on Friday, 24 October to mid afternoon on Sunday, 26 October 2014
6. Commend and acknowledge the efforts of Caroline Deerin and Lorraine Grey as Presbytery's Trainers in Training and congratulate the achievement of Jim Reid in obtaining Trainer Accreditation.
7. Note that a 'Safeguarding Training for Volunteers' course will take place in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church Hall at a date in July to be confirmed.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to delete section 2 of the deliverance and insert a new section 2 'agree to appoint Miss Laura Jane Sinclair, Forth St. Paul's as the presbytery representative to the National Youth Assembly in August 2014 and agree to pay the £85 fee on her behalf.'

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 2 September 2014 at 7.00 pm in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church, for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting Presbytery to say the Grace.

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1

World and Community Issues Committee

South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources Committee – 20th May 2014

1. **Revenue Budget Monitoring** – breakeven position and forecast to continue as breakeven.
2. **Capital Budget Monitoring** – Anticipated overspend due to being ahead of schedule with schools modernisation projects. Budgets from 2014/5 will be adjusted appropriately.
3. **Workforce Monitoring** – Nothing unusual to report.
4. **Numeracy Strategy** – a educational strategy that will be launched in October 2014.
10. **Curriculum for Excellence – Progress update.** Dealing mainly with the move towards the new qualifications. Preparation for the implementation of the new Higher in August 2014 is the main focus of the report and there is recognition that it isn't appropriate to implement new Highers everywhere. Based on current information 75% of establishments will implement the new Higher from August 2014. Teachers were thanked for their hard work and commitment to Curriculum for Excellence. An additional secondary in-service day of 19th September 2014 has been requested, as per Scottish Government invitation and this is in the process of being agreed in the area.
11. **General Teaching Council for Scotland – Professional Update for Teachers** – All teachers are required to register with the GTC Scotland and the purpose of the Update is to maintain and improve the quality of our teachers and to support, maintain and enhance teachers continued professionalism and reputation of the teaching profession in Scotland. This includes annual follow ups and 5 yearly portfolio of evidence of professional learning and development.
12. **Engagement with Stakeholders – Self-Evaluation Resource** – Self-evaluation resource booklet entitled 'basket of strategies' has been produced to support schools, establishments and services to reflect on their practice in terms of engagement with stakeholders. It contains good practice and a set of case studies so users can see what has worked and how.
13. **Introduction of a Concessionary Charging Scheme for Instrumental Music Tuition.** From August 2014 a concessionary scheme in relation to charging for instrumental music tuition, based on the current eligibility criteria relating to free school meals, will be introduced. Cost in 2010 was £60 per block, 3 blocks per year. Then in 2013 it went to £120 for S3 between August and March with exemptions in the third term for those taking SQA Music in S4. For people studying SQA music in S4-S6 there was no charge. The Scottish Government reviewed Music Tuition and came up with 17 recommendations and Recommendation 3 says that a pupil's personal circumstances shouldn't be a barrier. There is a noticeable drop off of uptake since the charges were introduced, but the charges help to fund the staff required.
14. **Getting it Right for Every Child** – an update was given about the GIRFEC approach. They have worked on getting information out about what GIRFEC is and how it affects children, carers and parents. Embedding language, thinking and practice across education, NHS Lanarkshire, Social Work and partners.

N.B. This was a very quiet meeting. No-one contributed from the floor with the exception of a trade union representative to acknowledge the hard work of teachers in the development of the Curriculum for Excellence.

School Chaplaincy Guidelines – The Guidelines are almost finished but they are on hold until the investigation at Kirktonholme Primary School are completed. Once the investigation is passed then I will forward to the final copies that will be going before Education Resources for approval.

Once these are approved then the work of the procedures for Critical Incidents will be followed up and completed. This has been agreed with Tony McDaid.

Lanark, on, Tuesday 2 September 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 16 Ministers; 24 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 6 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev E Clelland, I Cunningham, A Greig, R McLarty, A Meikle and U Stewart, Ministers; Messrs M Barclay, B Love, S Scott and D Waters, and L Nicol, Elders.

Welcome to new members and visitors

The Moderator welcomed new Presbytery elders attending their first meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 17 June 2014

The Minutes of the meetings held on 17 June 2014 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- information from the Law Department on HMRC outreach team, Real time HMRC reporting, health and safety prosecution and risk assessments, changes in Government legislation on ultra long leases.
- General Trustees with confirmation of determination of sale of 17 Mercat Loan
- Rev Rosie Addies, Ministry to Deaf within the church offices.
- SRT project - information on Good Money conference in October
- Jen Robertson inviting congregations to send young people to breathe activity weekend
- Rev John Sharp expressing unhappiness at the process undertaken in Kirkmuirhill. The clerk responded noting the contents and Presbytery declined to hear the letter. There was no dissent.
- Water rate exemptions - new scheme appears to continue the exemption form most congregations
- Respectful dialogue on independence on 3rd Sept with a live webcast in Lanark Greyfriars at 7pm.

Good News Stories

Jim Watt, Assesor elder at Kirkmuirhill, spoke to the summer holiday club that had over 130 children attending with over 40 volunteers playing their part.

Briefing on Israel/ Palestine – Rev George Shand

The Moderator invited Mr Shand to present a briefing on the situation in Israel & Palestine. Mr Shand ministered in St Andrew's Church in Jerusalem for 5 years and he spoke of the interactions and conversations he had met from many different backgrounds and communities. Mr Shand addressed the questions of who is really to blame and how should we respond to the situation; offering a timeline of events and conflicts and encouraging members of Presbytery to think of whether things had moved forward in the region following the war in 2014. Mr Shand suggested that the current conflicts will be repeated time and time again due to the two different stories and peoples living together. Mr Shand suggested that members of Presbytery and Christians everywhere can respond with tears, prayers, action, personal support of initiatives and by making contact with the Christian community in the area. Members of Presbytery were encouraged to think of, and pray for, the peacemakers working within the area. Mr Shand closed by saying the Christian Aid prayer for the conflict.

The Moderator thanked Mr Shand for his briefing and his insight into the situation.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee (Douglas Valley)

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee (Douglas Valley) was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that on Wednesday 6th August the conveners of the Congregational Support, Ministries, Finance and Property Committees met with the Kirk Session of The Douglas Valley Church.
3. Note that the congregation intends making a further contribution to their Ministries and Mission allocation on receipt of their Gift Aid tax claim.
4. Note that the Conveners of the Congregational Support Committee and the Ministries Committee will meet with the Kirk Session of The Douglas Valley Church on 10th September and will report on that meeting to the Presbytery meeting in October

Parties were called

The clerk informed the Presbytery that an edict had been served to The Douglas Valley Church.

Representatives from Douglas Valley were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that under powers Rev Helen Jamieson was appointed as temporary Interim Moderator at Law Parish Church.
3. Note that remits and deadlines for reporting on these will be drawn up by the Business Convener, Clerk and Depute Clerk and issued to Committee Convenors.
4. Agree that at the October 2014 meeting of Presbytery, a vote will be taken to dispense with Standing Orders in accordance with standing order 24(a) so that new standing orders, should they be so agreed, can be immediately effective.
5. Note that the new edition of the Presbytery Year Book will be delayed to allow the inclusion of the agreed Standing Orders but a quick directory will be made available in the meantime.
6. Note that the service for Ross Blackman, postponed from August will now take place in Kirkton Church on Tuesday 9th September at 7.30pm, Presbytery to meet at 7.15pm.
7. Appoint Mr Alan Grant as Interim Moderator at Law Parish Church from 2 September 2014.
8. Note that travel expense forms for those undertaking legitimate Presbytery work will be available to Presbyters at meetings of Presbytery and also from Committee Convenors with a three month time limit to make such claims.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note the appointment of Mr David Waters as Vice Convener of the Congregational Support Committee.

3. Note the appointment of Mrs Mabel Morris as Minute Secretary of the Congregational Support Committee
4. Note that the LCRV to Lanark: Greyfriars will now be carried out by a team comprising Rev George Shand (team leader), Mr Frank Mitchell and Mrs Mairi Somerville with their report to be in the convenor's hands by 30th November 2014.
5. Note that the LCRV to The Douglas Valley Churches has been suspended meantime.
6. Note that a LCRV to Biggar l/w Blackmount will be carried out by a team comprising Rev Bryan Kerr (team leader), Mr Malcolm Barclay and an elder of the team leader's choosing, with their report to be in the convenor's hands by 31st December 2014.
7. Instruct the Congregational Development Committee to investigate training for elders and other office bearers in the preparation of a 5 year plan, and arrange said training if so necessary.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that plans for a Presbytery Gathering are currently in preparation and it is proposed that they will be reported to the October Presbytery Meeting.
3. Note that the Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener of the Congregational Support Committee joined the meeting of the Ministries Committee to discuss the Douglas Valley Charge - the outcome of the discussion is reported by the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee.
4. Note that discussions continue with Hamilton Presbytery to plan to promote Vocations.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that whilst discussions are ongoing between the committee and the Kirk Session of Upper Clyde to undertake roof works at Abington Church, The General Trustees may wish to review the specification for lime/cement mortar to ensure that the correct material is used and no work may be carried out until all permissions are given.
3. Note that funding for the works at Upper Clyde, identified as being in place are subject to grant approval and instruct that the Upper Clyde Church pursue this without delay, including an assessment of professional fees and contingency as a matter of urgency.
4. Note that the Property Committee will be undertaking joint inspections with members of vacant charges; dates are to be agreed with individual Property Convenors.
5. Note that the members of the Property Committee will provide assistance to the joint committee of St Andrew's and St John's in undertaking their buildings audit.
6. Note that where works are being carried out on Church Premises either by Contractors or Members of the Congregation. a written Risk Assessment and Method Statement must be available, the work must be carried out in accordance with the RAMS and that further guidance will be issued by the October Presbytery Meeting.
7. Note the intention to hold a meeting of all Property Convenors in an open forum at a date to be arranged.
8. Remind Presbytery of the financial resolution limit for Property repairs before seeking Presbytery approval is £12,000 subject to additional conditions as set down in Assembly Regulation 1, 1988.

The Deliverance was approved

Supplementary Report of the Property Committee

The Supplementary Report of the Property Committee (Appendix 1) was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the supplementary report
2. Note that the General Trustees are continuing to work with the Kirk Session of The Upper Clyde Church to identify a suitable specification for the mortar in order that repairs can be affected in sympathy with the existing church fabric.
3. Note that the Manse inspection for Douglas Valley Manse was undertaken and the building found to be in good order to allow a Minister to be called at the appropriate time.
4. In light of progress made in filling the current vacancy and a suitable property for use as a manse being identified, grant permission to Upper Clyde to make an application for loan assistance to the General Trustees and grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Business Convenor to advance the issue should this be required prior to the next Presbytery meeting.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree the following applications of the Ministries and Missions allocation variance - Carluke St Andrews - £1,000; Carstairs & Carstairs Junction - £640; Douglas Valley - £5,000; Kirkmuirhill - £10,000; Lanark: Greyfriars - £3,000; Lanark: St Nicholas - £400; Symington - £400, Carluke: Kirkton - £200.
3. Instruct the Clerk to issue the relevant extract minute.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

6. Receive the Report
7. Approve the appointment of Caroline Deerin as Presbytery Safeguarding Contact and agree to Mrs Deerin becoming a corresponding member of Presbytery.
8. Note that a meeting of Safeguarding Co-ordinators and Trainers will take place at 7.30pm on Monday 6th October at St Andrew's Parish Church, Carluke.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was, in the absence of the Convener, presented by Rev Mike Fucella, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

4. Receive the report
5. Record thanks to Rev George Shand for presenting a briefing in respect of the situation in Israel/ Palestine.
6. Commend the involvement of the Biggar congregation on taking up the Dementia Training opportunity.
7. Note the initiative of the Church of Scotland in hosting a dialogue on the coming referendum on 3rd September and the live streaming of the event at Greyfriars Church, Lanark.
8. Receive the South Lanarkshire Council Education Resources report from Rev Sarah Ross

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

The Depute Clerk intimated a Christian Aid and World Mission Event on peace in Israel/ Palestine being held on 24th September in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark. All welcome to attend.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet in hunc effectum on Tuesday 9 September 2014 in Carluke: Kirkton Church at 7:15pm for the Graduate Candidate Reception Service for Ross Blackman and for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 7 October 2014 at 7.00pm in the halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by leading members in saying the grace together.

Moderator

Clerk

Supplementary Property Committee Report 2nd September 2014

Roof Repairs at Upper Clyde

Following receipt of additional information from the Builder, which did not provide sufficient information on the Specification of the Lime: cement mortar the General Trustees are continuing to work alongside the Kirk Session. Some sampling and testing of the existing mortar is to be carried out to identify a suitable specification to provide a mortar that is in keeping with the existing stonework and strength characteristics that will not cause further damage to the stone.

Douglas Valley Manse Inspection

Further to the previous meeting held with the Kirk Session at Douglas Valley on the 6th August it was advised that the manse would require to be inspected in the very near future. Subsequently on the 21st August 2014 the Property Convenor along with Mrs Anna Lumsden and Mr Bobby Mitchell undertook an inspection of the Manse. There were a couple of minor issues identified that the Kirk Session are aware of and are addressing in the near future. A full report will be provided to the relevant Committee Convenor and the Presbytery Clerk but in summary the manse was found to be in good order and able to be utilised at the present time should a Minister be called.

Manse at Upper Clyde

The charge had been granted permission to sell the manse in Crawford and was looking to build a new manse on the glebe in Robertson.

There is now a potential nominee for the charge of Upper Clyde and so the matter of the provision of a manse requires to be addressed.

A potentially suitable property has been identified in Abington and it would be helpful if Presbytery would support the congregation making an application to the General Trustees for loan assistance.

Until a suitable manse can be provided, the congregation will explore other options for the rental of accommodation.

Deliverance:

Presbytery:

1. Receive the supplementary report
2. Note that the General Trustees are continuing to work with the Kirk Session of The Upper Clyde Churches to identify a suitable specification for the mortar in order that repairs can be affected in sympathy with the existing church fabric.
3. Note that the Manse inspection for Douglas Valley Manse was undertaken and the building found to be in good order to allow a Minister to be called at the appropriate time.
4. In light of progress made in filling the current vacancy and a suitable property for use as a manse being identified, grant permission to Upper Clyde to make an application for loan assistance to the General Trustees and grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Business Convenor to advance the issue should this be required prior to the next Presbytery meeting.

Carl Luke, on Tuesday 9th September 2014, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Kirkton Parish Church for the Service of Reception for Graduate Candidate, Mr Ross Blackman and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator, and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 4 Ministers and 4 Elders. There was also 1 visitor associating with Presbytery.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev E Clelland, A Meikle and U Stewart Ministers; Messrs A Grant B Love, A McPhee and J Watt, Elders.

Service of Reception of Graduate Candidate

Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator, conducted worship, Rev Iain Cunningham preached the sermon and Graduate Candidate, Mr Ross Blackman shared his testimony. Rev Harry Findlay Moderator spoke of the support offered to Mr Blackman by the Presbytery of Lanark to this point in his training and then invited Rev Joanne Hood, Minister of St John's Church Hamilton and Supervising Minister for Mr Blackman's probationary period to assume responsibility on behalf of Hamilton Presbytery for offering continuing support and supervision to Mr Blackman. Miss Hood spoke of the impact Mr Blackman had already made since beginning his probationary period in Hamilton: St John's and accepted the responsibility for continued supervision within the Presbytery of Hamilton.

Following the service, the Clerk expressed sincere thanks to the Moderator for his conduct of worship to Rev Iain Cunningham for preaching as well as to Mr Ross Blackman and to Rev Joanne Hood for their participation in the service.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 7 October 2014.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting Presbytery to say the grace.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on, Tuesday 7 October 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Harry Findlay, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 Ministers; 20 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 2 visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev M Fucella and U Stewart Ministers, Messrs J Austin, G Chapman, W Macsween, C Murray, I Thomson and Mrs F Hannah, Elders.

Welcome to visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Installation of Moderator

The Presbytery, having previously elected Rev Elizabeth Clelland to be Moderator, moved to install her as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2014/15. Mr Findlay welcomed Ms Clelland, installed her as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited her to take the chair. The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing her, and also thanked Mr Findlay for his service during his term as Moderator.

Minutes of meeting on 2 & 9 September 2014

The Minutes of the meetings held on 2 & 9 September 2014 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- Law Department - Further guidance on Health and Safety.
- Law Department - Further information on Data Protection
- Ministries Council - Information stating they are now moving towards appointing regional interim ministers and inviting representatives to an information meeting on the subject.
- Ministries Council - Information regarding a Pastoral Advisors meeting in 2015
- Ministries Council - list of new ministry candidates calling for any objections by 28th February 2015. The Clerk read the list of names to the Presbytery
- Worship Development and Mission Statistics Officer with information on 121 Prayer Diary
- General Trustees - Determination of sale for Carnwath Church Hall
- Nathan Sparling - assistant to Aileen Campbell MSP - regarding changes to Water and Sewerage scheme.
- CAB Lanark seeking an alternative date to address Presbytery.

Rev Iain Cunningham, Carluke Kirkton, spoke on a post referendum meeting that he attended as World Mission Convener. It was made clear to those at the meeting that individuals and churches can make contributions to the Smith Commission by the end of October.

Good News Stories

Rev Alison Meikle, Lanark: St. Nicholas, reported that a 26.88% increase was realised during a recent Stewardship Programme.

Report of the Joint Congregational Support, Ministries and Property Committee (Douglas Valley)

The Joint Report was presented by the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the congregation of the Douglas Valley Church has agreed to close the church building at Rigside and worship in the village hall and that this has caused some concern in the community of Rigside.
3. Following the receipt of extract minutes from the Kirk Session of The Douglas Valley Church, agree to the closure and sale of the church and attached manse property at Rigside at a date to be determined and instruct the Clerk to issue an extract minute to relevant parties.
4. Note that the Kirk Session of the Douglas Valley Church is agreeable to a change to the Presbytery Plan for Douglas Valley and to being given permission to call on the basis of a 5 year Reviewable Charge, but that permission to call should be delayed until the property issues have been resolved.
5. Agree to amend the Presbytery Plan for Douglas Valley to a Five Year Reviewable Charge and instruct the Clerk to transmit this decision to Ministries Council PPTG for approval.
6. Agree to sist permission to call to the charge of Douglas Valley until
 - a. approval of the change to the Presbytery Plan by Ministries Council
 - b. further discussions with the Congregational Support Committee have taken place to ensure that property issues have been dealt with.

Parties were called

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that an edict had been served to The Douglas Valley Church.

Representatives from Douglas Valley were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 6 b) "a basis of Reviewable Charge has been agreed by all parties" and renumber.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

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

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree that the Depute Clerk will act as Convener of the Vacancy Procedure Committee for the duration of Bill Love acting as Interim Moderator at Carluke: St Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St Johns.
3. In relation to Upper Clyde
 - a. Agree that until a manse can be purchased for Upper Clyde the manse of Douglas Valley shall be designated as the manse for Upper Clyde.
 - b. Agree to sustain the call to Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald, on the basis of a 0.8 FTE basis.
 - c. Agree that the induction of Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald will take place on Wednesday 29th October 2014, with the Moderator conducting worship and Rev George Shand preaching.
 - d. Instruct the Clerk to issue extract minutes to all relevant parties.

Parties were called

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that an edict had been served to The Upper Clyde Parish Church.

Representatives from Upper Clyde were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the new Standing Orders and agree to implement them with immediate effect.
3. Note the success of the Presbytery meal and agree that any financial shortfall should be met by Presbytery and that further opportunities for similar gatherings should be explored.
4. Note that there will be a follow up training Session on the ICO visit to Lanark Presbytery on 13th November at Carluke St Andrews church halls, 7.30pm and instruct all sessions to send up to two representatives to this meeting.
5. Note the meeting for new Presbyters on 14th October at 7.30pm.
6. Agree that the Special Committee on Same Sex relationships and the ministry will now consist of the Clerk, Depute Clerk and the Convener of Congregational Support with the Committee having the powers to co-opt individuals to serve as necessary.
7. In relation to the Complaints Committee,
 - a. Agree to appoint Mrs Anne Reid and Dr Sinclair Scott to the Complaints Committee.
 - b. Agree the appointment of Mr Frank Mitchell as the Convener of this committee and instruct committee to appoint a vice Convener from their number and intimate this name to the Clerk.
 - c. In terms of Act X, 2012, agree that members of the Complaints Committee of Hamilton Presbytery should be appointed as members of Lanark Presbytery Complaints Committee, and instruct the Clerk to issue an extract minute to the Presbytery of Hamilton.
 - d. Agree that the Presbytery Clerk and the Depute Presbytery Clerk be the two points of contact for the office of Principal Clerk in all matters relating to the complaints procedure.
8. Note that the Business Committee will now meet on the Tuesday morning, on the same day as Presbytery committees.

It was moved and seconded as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 2 'in line with Standing Order 24 (a), agree to dispense with Standing Order'. On a vote being taken, 26 voted for and 0 voted against. With more than 2/3 of those present voting 'for' the motion Standing Orders were declared to be dispensed with.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that section 2 be amended to insert the words after 'Standing Orders' ', including existing standing order 9(e) inserted in the appropriate place,'

On a vote being taken for section 2 as amended 27 voted for and 0 voted against. Section 2 as amended was therefore carried.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the report

10. Following the receipt of extract minutes from the Kirk Session of The Douglas Valley Church, agree to the closure and sale or disposal of the church and attached manse property at Rigside at a date to be determined and instruct the Clerk to issue an extract minute to relevant parties.
11. Note that the General Trustees have recommended that the work at Upper Clyde is undertaken by Forth Construction and BCM Steeplejacks and are to write directly to the local parties at Upper Clyde with their recommendations.
12. In relation to the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction
 - a. Note that signed extract minutes have been received from the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Church from meetings held to approve the buildings strategy of the congregation.
 - b. Grant permission in principle for the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Church to seek funding to pursue the building strategy outlined in points 1 to 3 in the report
(extract from Report
The Board and Kirk Session having considered the report put the following proposal to the Congregation:
 1. To carry out external repairs to the Village Church along with installation of a new stair to the gallery and a disabled toilet in the entrance foyer. This is estimated to cost £288,300 including fees and because the Village Church is Grade B Listed it can attract grants from the heritage lottery fund of £217,000 with zero VAT on all of the work.
 2. To find further funding to allow the ground floor of the Village Church to be made multi-purpose with the removal of pews and redesign of the front area. This is estimated to cost £188,450 where the actual cost would depend on whatever design was agreed at a later date.
 3. To sell the Junction building with a commitment to develop activities in the Junction using other public spaces. The estimated sum which might be realised from the sale of the Junction building is £70,000 and this amount might reasonably be put towards the adaptation of the Village building to make it a more flexible space for worship where this was one of the ambitions for the Junction Building.
The Congregation accepted the above and signed extract minutes have been received)
 - c. Grant permission for the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Church to approach the General Trustees for advice and grant to employ a conservation architect to progress the proposals.
 - d. Grant permission for the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Church to sell the Junction building after a closing service at a date to be agreed by the Congregation.
 - e. Instruct the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Church to provide regular interim reports of meetings and progress in regard of the building strategy.
13. Grant approval in principal to Carluke Kirkton to carry out work to decorate the sanctuary, seal and reline the hall floor and install insulation to the loft area. Subject to a full health and safety procedure being carried out, risk assessments and method statements being received from external contractors for all three work elements and provided to members of the Property Committee.
14. Approve the Guidance Document on Risk Assessments and Method Statements (appendix 2) and instruct all financial boards within the bounds to ensure compliance in completing relevant forms and agree that completed RAMS for individual tasks will be inspected as part of the Property Records at the annual attestation.
15. Instruct the Clerk to send a copy of the Guidance Document on Risk Assessments and Method Statements to the General Trustees and Law Department for their information.

With the permission of Presbytery the Convener withdrew section 2 of the deliverance.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that in relation to the appointment of members of ministry teams as governed by section 16 of Act VII 2003 (as amended)
 - a. It is not possible, in accordance with natural justice, for Presbytery to agree whether or not to grant permission for member of staff already in post.

- b. Express disappointment that Kirk Sessions have appointed members of ministry teams without seeking the approval of Presbytery in terms of the act.
- c. For members of staff already in post in appointments that are governed by section 16 of Act VII, 2003 (as amended) and where these appointments have been formally agreed and minuted by the Kirk Session prior to 7th October 2014, Presbytery will seek to note that the appointments have been made
- d. In order to satisfy the terms of the Act, and to ensure that congregations have followed due process, prior to Presbytery noting an appointment the Kirk Session must provide the committee with a copy of the remit and job description of the post, an explanation of how the post is being funded, as well as an extract minute from the records of the Kirk Session noting the appointment of the post holder, and that a contract of employment has been agreed and signed by both parties.
- e. Instruct all Kirk Sessions within the bounds who have made appointments to ministry teams to provide the required information as outlined in (d) no later than 7th November 2014.
- f. Remind all Kirk Sessions that when there is a desire to create a post that falls within the terms of section 16 of Act VII, 2003 (as amended) that an approach should be made to the Ministries Committee at an early opportunity prior to advertising to ascertain whether permission will be granted.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr. Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the speaker at the World Mission Rally will be Diane Green from Christian Aid.
3. Encourage congregations to continue supporting the valuable work of the HIV Programme.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

12. Receive the report
13. Remove the name of Rev George Fox from the roll of Presbytery as it has not been possible to verify his contact details.
14. Note that Rev George Shand and Rev Bryan Kerr will pilot the use of one of the templates on the Resourcing Mission website when carrying out the Local Church Review Visits to Lanark: Greyfriars and Biggar I/w Blackmount respectively.
15. Note that a LCRV to The Tinto Parishes will be carried out by a team comprising Mr Bill Love (team leader), Rev Mike Fucella and Mr David Watters, with their report to be submitted to the Convener by 31st March 2015.
16. Note that a LCRV to Crossford I/w Kirkfieldbank will be carried out by a team comprising Rev David Carmichael (team leader), Mr Alex McPhee and an elder of the team leader's choosing, with their report to be submitted to the Convener by 30th May 2015.

With the permission of Presbytery the Convener withdrew sections 4 and 5 of the deliverance.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 4 "Instruct the Clerk to initiate discussion with Hamilton Presbytery on the subject of Local Church Reviews and report to the Congregational Support Committee in order that the Committee may reflect on the trial of the new template and possible working with Hamilton Presbytery before any further Local Church Reviews are undertaken"

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the Proposed Allocations for the Ministries and Missions fund and instruct financial boards to notify the Convener of the Finance Committee of any appeals prior to the October Presbytery Committee night.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

Ian White will be performing a concert in Biggar Kirk on Sunday 19th October at 6:30pm. All are invited.

The Church and Society Council will be holding another national event following the referendum, Scotland's Future Now, on 5th November at 7pm. There will be a local event in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark. Ministers and Presbytery elders are asked to ensure that all people in churches throughout the bounds are invited to attend.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet in hunc effectum on Wednesday 29th October 2014 at 6:45pm in the Upper Clyde Church (Abington) for the Ordination and Induction of Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald and on Tuesday 4th November 2014 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Proposed Ministry & Mission Allocations 2015

Congregation	Average Income 2010- 2012	Average Income 2011- 2013	Proposed 2014 M&M	2015 Scale M&M	2015 Contribution
Biggar	83,827	90,736	51,057	55,134	55,134
Carluke Kirkton	116,226	119,031	69,362	70,876	70,876
Carluke St Andrew's	55,298	54,760	32,990	32,646	32,646
Carluke St John's	94,182	94,032	57,167	57,078	57,078
Carnwath	41,314	37,252	24,040	21,441	21,441
Coalburn	21,359	22,495	11,269	11,996	11,996
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	56,465	53,740	33,737	31,993	31,993
Crossford	28,790	31,459	16,025	17,733	17,733
Douglas Valley	60,841	60,787	36,538	36,503	36,503
Black Mount	18,895	19,795	9,781	10,285	10,285
Forth St Pauls	62,032	59,839	37,300	35,896	35,896
Kirkfieldbank	17,905	17,656	9,226	9,087	9,087
Kirkmuirhill	113,042	113,740	67,642	68,019	68,019
Lanark St Nicholas	112,481	107,028	67,339	64,395	64,395
Law	50,543	54,034	29,178	32,181	32,181
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	90,952	87,211	55,261	53,054	53,054
Lesmahagow Old	81,531	89,375	49,703	54,331	54,331
Libberton And Quothquan	18,871	21,180	7,149	11,155	8,007
Symington	34,517	38,224	19,690	22,063	22,053
Greyfriars	88,538	88,921	53,837	54,063	54,063
Cairngryffe	35,925	36,472	20,591	20,941	20,941
The Upper Clyde	35,824	37,008	20,527	21,284	21,284
					788,996



The Presbytery of Lanark

RAMs – A Guide

Risk Assessments and Method Statements – Some Useful information in the requirement and preparation for those who may undertake work on our buildings.

Produced by	Ammendments	Date	Version
Property Committee	First draft	23 rd September 2014	Discussion
Property Committee	Minor revisions following review by external H&S Manager, page order changed	28 th September 2014	First Issue

The Presbytery of Lanark

RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

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The Presbytery of Lanark RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

Disclaimer

This document has been provided a guide to give information and practical advice on undertaking a Risk Assessment and Method Statement for repair work that may be carried out by individuals of a congregation of Lanark Presbytery. It also suggests what information that should be provided by outside contractors carrying out repair work on our buildings. This document in no way replaces the requirement to carry out a written risk assessment and method statement for the task to be carried out and ensure that everyone who is to carry out the work knows what is to be done so as to carry out the work safely.

It also incorporates advice received recently from the Law Department of the Church of Scotland in September 2014 who can also be contacted for further information and circulars relating to specific issues including Asbestos.

The Presbytery of Lanark

RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

Introduction

Usually when Health and Safety is mentioned there is heard a groan – Not Elfin Safety again, what has it to do with us? Whilst it's true that some reporting in the papers seems to be about the silly issues – the ones that seem to stop people having fun, there are every bit as many reports about the serious ones, the accidents that could have been avoided, the ones where for some reason or another someone – usually well meaning, carries out a job and ends up having an accident or worse.

We think that in Church it might not apply to us, but that's wrong. Everyone has a responsibility to carry out their duties safely and to be provided with all the information and assistance to undertake this work. In addition it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that the work they are doing is safe and that others won't be affected by their work.

Persons with control of premises have a general duty of care under the common law towards people on these premises. The nature of the obligations will vary according to the size, type and use of the premises concerned, but in general terms the responsibility is to ensure the safety of these people so far as reasonably practicable.

Numerous sets of regulations have been made under the 1974 Health and Safety at Work Act but comparatively few of these will have direct relevance to Congregations or to activities carried on in their premises. There are, however, specific regulations with regard to Asbestos Management and Gas Safety, and reference is made to the separate Law Department of the Church of Scotland circulars on these topics.

Some tasks that are of a short duration, are of a simple nature, and that do not require specialist equipment to carry them out, can be done quite readily without too much intervention. However tasks that are significant, may take a while and require more complex equipment and methods of access or other things, will require to be planned to ensure that a safe system of work is provided, everyone knows what is to be done, how it is being done and what equipment is being used and any training that may be required to use the equipment.

In many cases all that is required is the application of "common sense": if there is a safety risk then it is likely that it will be obvious to the layman, and the solution (removing hazards from accesses, replacing frayed electrical cable etc.) should be equally self-evident; potential hazards should be dealt with and checks should be carried out at appropriate intervals.

However, certain specialties may arise and if there is any doubt then the Law Department of the Church of Scotland should be consulted.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The Charity Trustees of a congregation (ie members of the Kirk Session and Financial Board, if any) are responsible for ensuring that all premises under their control, whether or not they are workplaces, are kept as safe as is reasonably practicable and that employees, the Minister, members of the Congregation and members of the public generally are not exposed to avoidable risks. This responsibility exists irrespective of any requirement arising out of the 1974 Act or regulations made under it.

The Presbytery of Lanark

RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

It is possible to delegate the practicalities to one person or to a small group of persons such as a Fabric Convenor or Fabric Committee, but they should have the support of, and report back regularly to, the Charity Trustees, so they do not feel they are solely responsible for health and safety.

In many cases complex repair work on our buildings will be carried out by outside Contractors or Builders, but we still have a duty to ensure that they are competent to carry out the task, they have planned the work to undertake it safely and that they are actually carrying out the work the way they said it would be done.

Risk management is about taking practical steps to protect people from real harm and suffering - not bureaucratic back covering. Taking a sensible approach to risk management is about:

- ensuring that workers and the public are properly protected
- ensuring that those who create risks manage them responsibly and understand that failure to manage significant risks responsibly is likely to lead to robust action
- providing overall benefit to society by balancing benefits and risks, with a focus on reducing significant risks - both those which arise more often and those with serious consequences
- enabling individuals to understand that as well as the right to protection, they also have to exercise responsibility

It is not about:

- reducing protection of people from risks that cause real harm
- scaring people by exaggerating or publicising trivial risks
- stopping important recreational and learning activities for individuals where the risks are managed
- creating a totally risk-free society
- generating useless paperwork mountains

The Presbytery of Lanark

RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

Case Studies

Breach by religious charity found to be substantial cause of death in roof fall

Love & Joy Ministries was prosecuted after works to install insulation in the roof void of the Liverpool Lighthouse church and arts venue led to the death of a churchgoer who had volunteered to assist. The charity had received a grant of £1,988 for the work but instead paid builder and churchgoer Keith Tyson £588 on a labour-only basis, despite not checking whether he was competent to complete this work and notwithstanding that two other builders (one of which had quoted £1,980 for the task in question) had highlighted the risks associated with working in the roof space.

Mr Tyson was assisted by fellow churchgoer, Lee Bourn, who was provided with a harness by the charity. However, Mr Tyson, who had not worked with harnesses previously, extended the length using a lightweight nylon rope bought from B & Q. Not only was the rope not strong enough to support the weight of a person, but without a suitable anchor point, Mr Bourn had no protection from falling. On 12 February 2010, Mr Bourn fell 7.6m through the fragile suspended ceiling and was killed.

The subsequent investigation by Liverpool City Council found the charity's risk assessment to be very poor and, in particular, no review had been conducted despite a bale of insulation having fallen through the ceiling the week before Mr Bourn's death. Three prohibition notices were issued during the investigation to prevent access to the ceiling and roof space, and to prevent the use of defective ladders.

Following a trial at Liverpool Crown Court, Love & Joy Ministries was found guilty of breaching s.3(1) HSWA. Mr Tyson admitted an offence under s.3(2) HSWA (the same offence as s.3(1) although on the basis that Mr Tyson was self-employed).

The charity's breach was found to be a significant cause of death and was therefore sentenced in accordance with the Sentencing Council's 2010 Guidelines. A fine of £65,000 was imposed together with costs of £135,000. The sentencing Judge commented that had the charity been a commercial organisation with means to pay a significant penalty, he would have had no hesitation in imposing a fine of £250,000. Aggravating factors included the fact it was clear the charity had wanted the work completed "on the cheap". The judge also added that the charity's director, Pastor Tani Omideyi, had deliberately lied during the course of the trial. However, the Judge also took into account the charity's good work in the community when considering its financial circumstances.

Mr Tyson was imprisoned for 33 weeks, suspended for one year, ordered to complete 125 hours of unpaid work and to pay £1,500 towards the prosecution costs.

The owner of a Kent scaffolding business has been jailed for 15 months for safety failings after a worker fell 14 metres to his death at a site in London.

After a three-day trial at Southwark Crown Court, which concluded on Wednesday (3rd September), Mr Hayes was found guilty of a breach of the Work at Height Regulations 2005 for failing to properly plan, supervise and carry out the work at height in a safe manner at the Notting Hill site.

Accidents don't just happen

The Presbytery of Lanark RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

What is the work and who carries out the work?

Generally it is fairly straightforward about who can undertake which task. It is a matter of common sense that the tasks that are undertaken by members of the congregation are those that they are comfortable with doing. Undertaking the Risk Assessment and Method Statement process just formalises the work which has been carried out previously and is familiar to those that carry out these tasks.

Some examples include but are not limited to:

- General Cleaning, including the annual Spring Clean
- Painting
- Changing lightbulbs
- Washing windows
- Replacing fuses

However due to the height of some of our buildings some of the above operations may require some careful thought as to how these tasks are carried out.

What was always done in the past may not be acceptable now. This applies to even simple tasks like changing a light bulb if the fitting is some 30 feet (10m) above the ground as is the case in some of our churches.

It may be that if the risks are just too great then a specialist contractor or builder will need to be appointed.

Some examples of work are readily explanatory and include:

- Roofing repairs
- External masonry repairs
- Internal plastering
- Painting and decorating
- Electrical works
- Works involving gas fitting alterations
- Works involving confined spaces or where asbestos is present.

These tasks included in the list above are not exhaustive and it is for the individual congregation to determine those that they are comfortable with and those that should be done by an external builder or Contractor.

Where tasks are undertaken by the Congregation the Congregation undertake the Risk Assessment and Method Statement

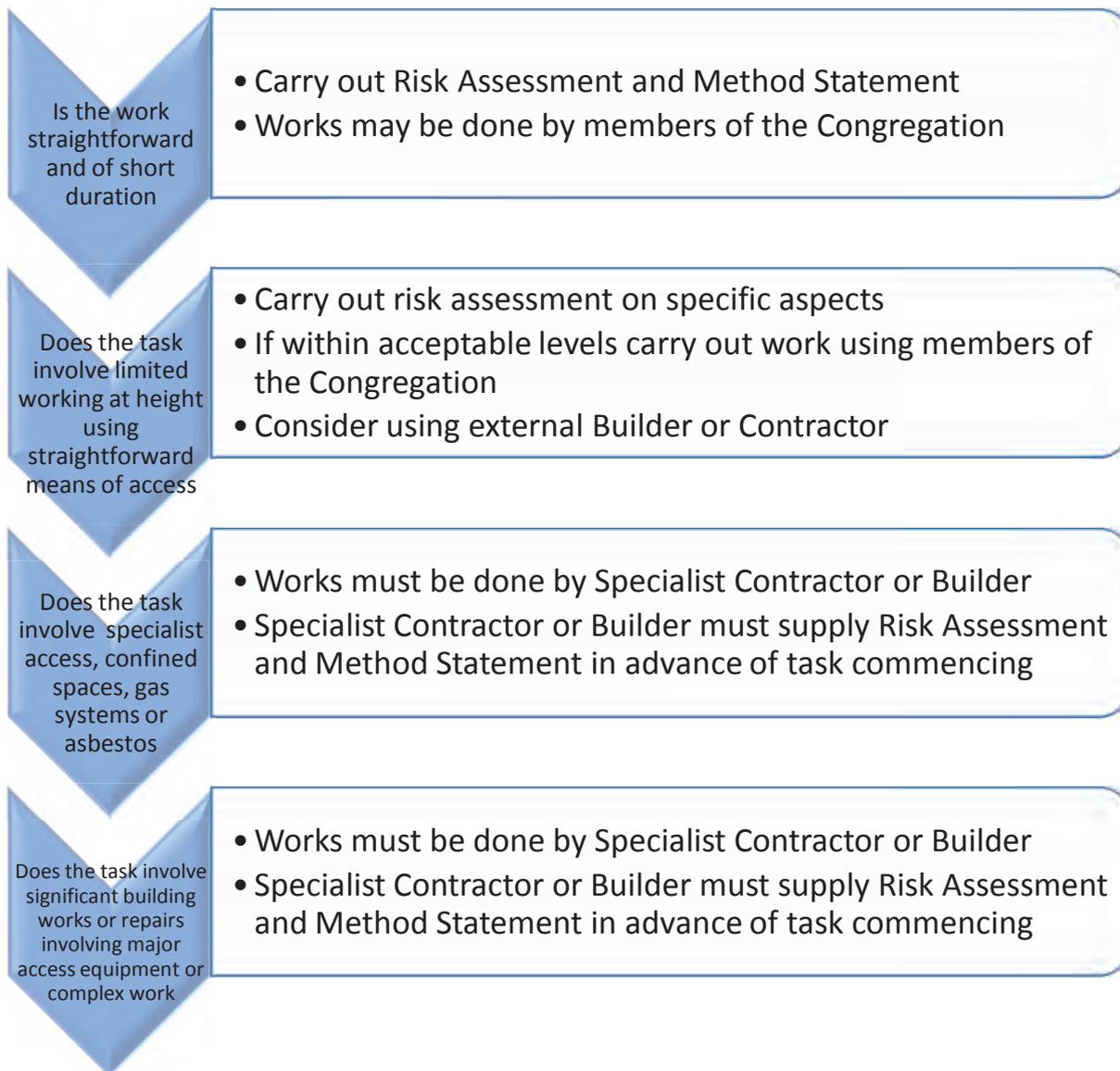
Where however the work is carried out by an External Builder or Contractor **they** produce the Risk Assessment and Method Statement and provide a copy to the Congregation in advance of the work commencing

This is summarised in the step guide on the following page

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Step Guide



This is a guide and it is for the individual Congregation to determine the approach to the works being carried out following an initial assessment of the risk and the persons involved in carrying out the task

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Works by outside contractors – What you should look for?

When it comes to larger works or major items of building repairs or renovations it is likely that these will be done by external Contractors or Building Firms. That is not to say that that is always the case as some of our congregations no doubt have members that are more than capable of tackling larger works but for the purposes of this section this considers works being undertaken by external parties.

For minor repairs of a technical or specialist nature and of short duration than it might not be necessary to get a method statement or a risk assessment carried out. An example of this could be painting the ground floor doors. However major works or those involving working at height, the use of scaffolding, specialist equipment and materials will certainly require a Method Statement and Risk Assessment to be provided. **If in doubt – Ask!**

Undertaking some simple procedures can ensure that problems do not occur later. These procedures are not exhaustive but include:

Obtain Quotes – Within a quotation for the work there may be a description of how the work that has been priced is going to be carried out. This can show that the Contractor or Builder has considered their approach to undertaking the works. Try to ensure that the quotation provides details of the specification of materials as there may be health and safety risks to be considered in their use. Be wary of quotations providing limited details. For major works professional advice from an Architect or Building Surveyor should be sought. Depending on costs then permission from Presbytery or the General Trustees may be required and they will require sight of all the relevant information.

Ask for Risk Assessments and Method Statements – Many Contractor and Building Firms will be used to providing these for clients. If they are hesitant to do so or continually do not provide the information asked then ask yourself, are they the right person to carry out this work?

Review the RAMS and ask questions if necessary – Do you understand what they are telling you? Does it comply with the work that you have asked them to quote for? Does the document seem comprehensive and have considered the key areas? If necessary ask the Contractor or Builder to expand on any areas that you are unsure of, they will probably only be happy to assist.

Are there any major risks that cannot be eliminated? – Sometimes dependant on the work being carried out there are risks that cannot be eliminated. An example would be placing hot bitumen to a roof – working at height with hot materials. Has this been addressed? Certain works such as these may need to be notified to your buildings insurer in advance.

Once the work starts, is it in accordance with the RAMS? – This does not mean that someone needs to stand over the Builder at all times that the work is being done but a general look in occasionally will not go wrong. If the method statement detailed that access was by a scaffold and an inspection revealed that someone was perched off an unsupported ladder then that clearly isn't in accordance with the agreed safe system of work. Don't be afraid to challenge.

Changes to the workscope – Sometimes things change, works are uncovered that require a different approach. Ensure that if this is the case that the RAMS are updated to take this information into account.

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Is the site secure? – When the works are being done is everything being done to ensure that the working area is secure at night and at weekends? Can the congregation access the building safely or will other means be required? This may require a risk assessment to be carried out by the congregation for this and any other tasks they wish to carry out while the main works are being carried out to ensure that the impacts on each other are considered.

For Method Statements and Risk Assessments provided by a builder or Contractor there is a pro-forma check list provided (**Safety Form 4 – Method Statement Review**) that can be used to ensure that key issues and risks have been considered and addressed.

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Works carried out by members of the congregation

How many times has something technical gone wrong on a Sunday? Only to seem to have fixed itself by the following week. Invariably that's because someone has taken upon themselves to come down to the church during the week, probably without letting anyone know and carried out the repair or some other work.

Usually but not necessarily always, one of the older members, someone who's retired or has time on their hands, just nips down with the keys and sets about fixing it. It probably invariably involves working at height, or requires manhandling something heavy into position somewhere not easily reachable!

Invariably the work goes without a hitch but what happens the one time that something goes wrong – Where would the blame lie? That is the question that we hope never to answer and that can be addressed by putting in place safe systems of work for all the tasks that are invariably carried out by members of the congregation.

Employers must ensure that there are safe systems of work in place. Normally the duties of such employees as organists or church officers will not involve "systems of work" as such. However, specific tasks which carry higher risk may require that particular attention be paid to the health and safety of the employee. This for example would include working with poisons to kill weeds. In certain cases it may be necessary to call on specialist outside assistance to carry out particular tasks. Specific reference is made to the section on Working at Height.

What are these tasks? There are many and if not for the assistance provided voluntarily by members of the congregation our churches would be a dull place. There are however some tasks that are carried out where a bit more thought has to be put in before the work is carried out and this is where having a Risk Assessment and Method Statement can provide documented evidence that the works are planned safely.

This would include, but not limited to:

- Working at height
- Using plant and equipment (power tools and the like)
- Working in confined spaces
- Lone working

No work at height should be attempted without a proper risk assessment. For their own good, well-meaning office bearers must be deterred from attempting unplanned climbs into roof spaces, onto roofs etc. where appropriate safety procedures have not been put in place. This in particular applies to anyone with health issues which could for example cause a dizzy spell.

Additional details on these topics for consideration are provided on the following pages

Much of the information has kindly been provided by a Civil Engineering Contractor relating to works on a Construction Site. It has however been rewritten slightly to make it relevant to building repair works, or other works being undertaken on Church premises.

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Working at Height

Falls from height are the largest single cause of accidental death in the construction industry, accounting for approximately 50% of those killed. There are numerous types of work activity which are carried out at height, and all must be considered to be high risk, both to the persons working at height and possibly also persons located below

It should be noted that there is no “safe” fall height, and all falls need to be prevented.

A fall from height may be defined as a fall from any height which constitutes a risk to a person or persons. A risk assessment is therefore required to determine the safe system of work to be implemented.

The duty is to do all that is reasonably practicable to prevent persons falling. Points that must be considered include:

- All work at height must be properly planned, organised and supervised.
- All work must be carried out in a manner that is safe.
- All those who are to be involved in work at height must be competent.
- All risks must be assessed, and the appropriate work equipment selected and used.
- Prevent all risks of objects falling from height. Where necessary, ensure that areas below are adequately protected, or that access is restricted.
- Avoid all risks that may arise from fragile surfaces, through which persons may fall. Avoid working on or near such surfaces. If this is not reasonably practicable, apply effective control measures to ensure that all risks are properly controlled.
- All equipment for work at height must be properly inspected and maintained.
- **In considering the persons likely to undertake this work, no work at height should be undertaken by someone working alone**

Hierarchy for Managing and Selecting Equipment for Work at Height

1. Avoid work at height if at all possible. E.g. by design: by carrying out work at ground level before assembly.
2. Use work equipment or other measures to prevent falls where work is necessary.
3. Where the risk of a fall cannot be eliminated, suitable work equipment must be used to minimise the distance and severity of the consequences of a fall.
4. Where harnesses are used as a last resort, the harness must be inspected to ensure fitness for purpose, the user must be trained in inspection and use of the equipment, a suitable anchorage point must be chosen to ensure adequate strength, to limit the height of fall and to minimise difficulties in any subsequent rescue operation. An emergency rescue plan must be in place, and a first aider specifically trained in dealing with suspension trauma must be available.
5. **In circumstances where harnesses are likely to be required this work should be carried out by an external specialist contractor.**

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Legal requirements

Competence – the legal requirement is that - no person shall engage in any activity, including the organisation, planning, and supervision of any work at height activity or the use work equipment to enable work at height unless that person is competent to do so or, if being trained, is supervised by a competent person.

Avoidance of work at height – the legal requirement is that – every employer shall ensure that work is not carried out at height where it is reasonably practicable to carry out the work otherwise than at height.

Fragile surfaces – no person is to pass across or near, or work on, from or near a fragile surface where it is reasonably practicable to carry out the work safely and under appropriate ergonomic conditions without his doing so.

- Where work of this type is required, platforms, coverings and guardrails should be used to prevent falls. Warning notices must be clearly displayed, and similar precautionary measures taken to inform workers of the risks.

Falling objects and danger areas – every person shall take suitable and sufficient steps so far as is reasonably practicable to prevent the falls of objects or materials. Where this cannot be achieved, steps must be taken to ensure that persons cannot be struck by falling objects and materials. All danger areas must be clearly marked and all persons excluded.

Use of Ladders – Every person shall ensure that a ladder is used for work at height only if a risk assessment has demonstrated that the use of a more suitable type of work equipment is not reasonably practicable because of the low risk **and** either of the following:-

- Short duration of use, or,
- Existing features on the site that he cannot change.

Every ladder must always be used in such a way that a secure handhold and support is always available.

All ladders on the premises must be periodically inspected, and those involved should check ladders before each use. Good practise dictates that - A register should be kept of all ladders and step ladders on the premises.

Step ladders – The presumption is that step ladders may still be used on Church premises however these have their own risks being potentially unstable for one person to use and the alternative methods such as Small portable tower scaffolds, pulpit working platforms, podium steps or similar should be used.

Every use of a step ladder must be justified by a risk assessment, as with ladders above. It should always be possible to maintain a handhold when using a stepladder; any circumstances where this is not possible become a higher risk, and must be risk assessed specifically to see if the proposal is as safe as is reasonably practicable.

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Using electrical plant and equipment (power tools and similar)

The issue of using electrical power tools in a Church environment cannot be ignored. What sometimes seems natural and familiar is not necessarily the correct approach. This includes the well meaning DIY enthusiast using power tools in a work environment without consideration of the risks that brings. To reduce the risks, lessons from the construction industry suggest that 110v tools and equipment should be used.

Electricity and electrical equipment must always be treated with the utmost care and be under the control and supervision of experienced competent persons. Hazards arise through faulty installation, lack of maintenance and abuse of equipment.

Electric shock is a major hazard, and can kill. The severity of the shock will depend on the level of electric current, and the duration of the contact.

At low current levels the effect may only be an unpleasant tingle, but this may be enough to cause the loss of balance or a fall; medium levels can cause muscular tension so that anything grasped can hardly be released. High levels of electric shock cause fibrillation of the heart, which can be lethal. Electric shock also causes burning of the skin at the point of contact. It is worth noting that over 90% of all electrocutions occur where the system voltage, or the voltage to earth, is no more than 250 volts. Much lower voltages can be fatal.

Portable appliances require to be tested regularly under the PAT Regulations. See separate Law Department circular.

Electrical equipment is normally supplied by the manufacturer with a short length of cable to connect it to the mains outlet socket. Use of longer conductor's results in a voltage drop experienced at the appliance, and the current passing will rise to compensate. This can easily result in overloading of the connectors and plugs, with the risk of electrocution and fire. A single extension lead may be used with care for low powered appliances (computers, a desk light, a printer), but may not be used for kettles, fires, tea urns and the like. Fixed wiring (of ring-main quality) should be used instead, and an electrician should be consulted to provide an additional power outlet if this is required.

Extension leads must not be ganged together, as additional resistance arises at each plug interface, and the additional length will also cause problems as above.

Reel cable extensions must be fully unwound, even if the additional length is not required. Leaving the cable partially unwound causes localise overheating, and results in a fire risk.

Physically overloading the multi-socket type (plug adaptor) that plugs into a wall socket can cause physical damage as well as electrical problems. Mechanical damage is caused to the wall plug, as well as to the adaptor and the blades of the individual plugs. Mechanical damage can be a precursor to electrical short circuits. In addition, localised overheating can be caused as hot-spots are created within the plug bodies.

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A safer alternative is to use a flat block-type of multi-plug adaptor, resting on the floor, and connected to the wall socket by a short length of cable. Care is still required to control usage so that the arrangement is not electrically overloaded, and that it does not present a tripping risk.

Only use a power tool if you have been trained to use it correctly. Follow the manufacturer's guidelines and instructions. Inspect it before use and ensure it is still in good working order when the work is finished. **Report any and all faults**

Manual Handling

The Manual Handling Regulations require us to:

- Avoid manual handling (MH) operations so far as is reasonably practicable,
- Assess any hazardous MHs that cannot be avoided,
- Reduce the risk of injury, so far as is reasonably practicable, and,
- Provide information regarding the load to be handled.

Examples of control measures include:

- Mechanising all or part of the task
- Use of lifting aids to provide assistance – If heavy items need to be moved (e.g. stacks of chairs), a trolley or other means of assistance should be provided.
- Reducing the need for stooping and twisting when handling
- Decrease the length of vertical lift by arrangement of the work.
- Removing obstructions from the lifting/carrying area – making the work surface level etc.
- Specification of lighter components
- Training requirements

Information regarding the task and the load should be provided for any factor that is likely to be significant, taking into account the task to be done, and the HSE guidance on “reasonable” limits for weights to be moved. Provision of adequate information is also important when team lifting is involved, particularly as regards co-ordination of the lifting activity.

Supervision must be careful to ensure that an individual is not asked to undertake work that is beyond their individual capacity.

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Lone working

There is no general reason why persons should not work alone. However, there may be risks that require two or more persons to be present

In general, the risks to a lone worker should not be any higher than would be acceptable for two or more persons carrying out the work; a lone worker must not be placed at a higher risk than other workers.

A specific risk assessment must be carried out for lone working to make sure that all necessary control measures have been identified and put in place.

The main consideration is whether the risks can be adequately managed and controlled by one person. Other considerations include:

- Whether the particular workplace has special risks to someone who is working alone,
- Whether there is safe access and egress to the workplace at all times,
- Are there good communications with all parts of the remote worksite, and how communications can be established and maintained,
- The nature and extent of the arrangements required if an emergency arises, and how an emergency will be notified to others who will be required to assist,
- All equipment can be safely handled by one person,
- The medical fitness and condition of the person involved
- Any special training, supervision or equipment required.

Additional control measures to be considered include:

- Periodic visits from supervision, and their frequency,
- Regular voice contact with the person, (by telephone, radio or similar means),
- Checks that a lone worker has left site and returned to his base or home,
- Arrangements for dealing with first aid injuries, such as training and mobile first aid kits,
- Arrangements for dealing with emergencies – these should be covered in the emergency plan.
- Arrangements for the particular activity must be always discussed with the individual concerned.

There will be occasions when someone might be alone in the Church premises. Where possible, they should be encouraged to carry a mobile phone, and to let someone know where they are and their expected time of return.

Assess the risks you can reasonably expect to find. When you take on work or go to a new site, cover any new or different risks with a specific assessment.

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Work that should never be carried out by members of the Congregation

There are a number of tasks that by their nature make it unlawful for members of the congregation to undertake. This includes the following:

- Works where asbestos may be present or disturbed during the task
- Work on gas systems
- Work on mains electricity including major rewiring
- Work in confined spaces

Other work where it is considered that members are not competent to undertake the task including:

- Erection, alteration or dismantling of scaffolding
- Alterations to structural components of a building
- Work requiring the use of equipment for which they have not been trained

Again this list is not exhaustive and further information is provided for consideration on the following pages.

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Asbestos

The Trustees must have in place an Asbestos Management Plan. See separate Law Department circular.

A premises survey (or Type 2 or 3 Asbestos Report) should be available and referred to in the first instance. Key areas of risk would include boiler houses, heating systems, ancillary roofs, organ lofts, towers and older systems. The report should indicate areas where asbestos is present and this should be referenced at the point of incidence. The Congregation Property Convenor or Session Clerk should always be consulted in the first instance before any works are carried out to confirm the presence or otherwise of asbestos being encountered in the works to be undertaken. **NO work by members of the congregation should be undertaken on any part of the building where asbestos has been identified.**

Asbestos has been widely used in the past in the construction and building industries, in the manufacture of building materials and in sprayed coatings, lagging and insulating board.

Breathing in asbestos dust can kill by causing irreversible lung damage and cancer. There is no known cure for asbestos-related diseases. The more asbestos dust breathed in, the greater is the risk to health.

If previously unsuspected asbestos is encountered during the course of the works, all work in that area **must cease immediately** and the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland must be advised.

Work involving asbestos must not commence unless the type of asbestos has been identified and a thorough assessment of the likely exposure of personnel has been carried out. A trained and competent person (who must take all necessary precautions against personal exposure) must carry out this sampling.

Without exception, a specialist and licensed contractor will be employed to undertake asbestos removal work on any of our Church premises

As required by the Asbestos (Licensing) Regulation 1983, it is essential that companies requested to tender for removal work have a valid licence. A copy of the licence must be submitted to Presbytery and the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland for approval before the specialist contractor starts work.

The Regulations controlling asbestos works require at least 14 days prior notice of commencement of work with asbestos to be sent to the enforcing authority, usually the Health and Safety Executive.

This notification has to be undertaken by the employer of those liable to be exposed to the asbestos, which in effect means it has to be done by the specialist contractor. Special conditions included on the licence of the specialist contractor may vary the 14 day period of notification. The Contractor's Licence must be checked for the specific details.

Work **must not** be allowed to start until a fully detailed Method Statement and Risk Assessment have been produced and submitted to the Presbytery Property Committee and the General Trustees

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of the Church of Scotland. The Method Statement and specified precautions must be rigidly adhered to throughout the duration of the work.

Control of Asbestos Regulations 2012

The changes made in this recent legislation have tightened up the framework for what work is permitted. In essence, fewer types of lower-risk work with asbestos are exempt from the full requirements of the legislation. As a result, some non-licensed work will now no longer benefit from certain exemptions, and will now carry additional requirements such as notification of work, medical surveillance and record keeping.

Confined spaces

Every entry into a confined space is potentially hazardous and must proceed only in accordance with a carefully devised and properly implemented safe system of work. It is essential to be able to identify confined spaces and the hazards associated with entering and working in them.

For the purposes of safety in construction, a confined space is any enclosed space, above or below ground, where by virtue of its enclosed nature there arises a reasonable foreseeable specified risk. A hazard to health may exist due to lack of oxygen, the presence of a suffocating, toxic or inflammable atmosphere, or an actually or potentially hostile environment.

Places coming within this definition include manholes, sewers, tunnels, cellars, drains, boreholes, ducts, pipes, shafts, chambers and some roof void spaces. This is by no means an exhaustive list, but it does give an indication of the variety of potentially hazardous confined spaces and the range of locations in which they may be found.

Whenever work involves entry into a confined space, it should **never** be undertaken by volunteers or members of the congregation. Any work involving confined spaces **must** be carried out by specialist firms with a trained and competent workforce. Only once a fully detailed Risk Assessment and Method Statement have been provided as well as evidence of training and emergency procedures should the work be undertaken.

Where works involving confined spaces are envisaged No work should be carried out by members of the Congregations and specialist advice should be sought

Gas Systems

By law no work can be carried out on Gas Systems unless they are a Registered Gas-safe Engineer.

Works to Gas Systems to church buildings and this includes Manses must be carried out by a Registered Firm and confirmation should be provided before any work commences.

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RAMS a co-ordinated approach

As part of managing the health and safety of your business you must control the risks in your workplace. To do this you need to think about what might cause harm to people and decide whether you are taking reasonable steps to prevent that harm. This is known as risk assessment and it is something you are required by law to carry out. **If you have fewer than five employees you don't have to write anything down.**

Whilst it is noted above from the advice available on the Health and Safety Executive Website that risk assessments need not be written down it is considered good practice to undertake the task of writing risk assessments and method statements. This is recommended by the Law Department of the Church of Scotland following the issue of information which is reproduced verbatim below:

There is no requirement for Congregations which have less than five employees to keep these assessments in writing, but it is strongly recommended that a written record is kept of inspections carried out, noting possible hazards and steps taken to deal with them. For Congregations with no employees, it is still strongly recommended that they carry out regular risk assessments and keep records. Assessments should be carried out at least once a year, and preferably more frequently. In the event of an incident occurring, it is clearly important to be able to show that assessments were carried out, and appropriate precautions were considered and taken.

In most cases it will be possible to carry out a perfectly adequate health and safety assessment by a number of office bearers inspecting the premises, noting potential hazards and thereafter by the application of common sense, devising means of removing/minimising any problems. A safety risk such as a frayed wire or a trip hazard is likely to be obvious to anyone and the solution, such as removing the trip hazard, should be fairly easy to deal with. Once risks have been identified, it is obviously essential to ensure that appropriate steps are in fact taken within an appropriate time scale.

Writing down risks and producing a step guide to undertake the work can allow for areas or items that have been overlooked to be added. Simple bulleted lists are effective and get the key points across

A risk assessment is not about creating huge amounts of paperwork , but rather about identifying sensible measures to control the risks in your workplace. You are probably already taking steps to protect those carrying out the tasks, but your risk assessment will help you decide whether you have covered all you need to.

Think about how accidents and ill health could happen and concentrate on real risks – those that are most likely and which will cause the most harm.

For some risks, other regulations require particular control measures. Your assessment can help you identify where you need to look at certain risks and these particular control measures in more detail. These control measures do not have to be assessed separately but can be considered as part of, or an extension of, your overall risk assessment.

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How to assess the risks in your workplace

- Identify the hazards
- Decide who might be harmed and how
- Evaluate the risks and decide on precautions
- Record your significant findings
- Review your assessment and update if necessary

Many organisations, where you are confident you understand what's involved, can do the assessment themselves. You don't have to be a health and safety expert.

When thinking about your risk assessment, remember:

- a **hazard** is anything that may cause harm, such as chemicals, electricity, working from ladders, an open drawer etc
- the **risk** is the chance, high or low, that somebody could be harmed by these and other hazards, together with an indication of how serious the harm could be

A leaflet *Five Steps to Risk Assessment* is available from the Health and Safety Executive website www.hse.gov.uk (In the Search box for Health and Safety topics on the right, select "Risk management"). There are various examples of such assessments to be found on this website.

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Risk Assessments

The term risk assessment is used to describe the overall process of hazard identification, assessment of the risk, and identification of management controls so as to control the risk to within acceptable (or tolerable) levels.

Definitions

HAZARD: The **potential** for harm, including ill health, physical injury, damage to plant or equipment which may arise as a consequence of the operation. **Consider to whom the harm may occur** - Employees, sub-contractors, third parties and members of the public must all be considered.

RISK: The **likelihood** of that harm actually occurring and the severity of its consequences.

A Risk Assessment is a process of identifying the hazards associated with an activity and then evaluating the extent of the risks involved in carrying-out the activity. The degree of risk (the risk rating) is dependent of the likelihood of an accident/incident occurring and the potential severity of the consequences if that accident/incident is realised. It is also dependant on the control measures that are used to avoid, mitigate or otherwise control the risk. **(Safety Form 1 – Risk Assessment Schedule)**

All activities must be assessed to identify the hazards involved, and the risks that are therefore associated with carrying out the work. This process must be proactive, and lead to the identification, prioritisation and documentation of all significant risks. It must be done before work starts, and it must be reviewed from time to time as is appropriate. This procedure describes the way that this process should be carried out. **(Safety Form 1a – Risk Assessment Evaluation Matrix)**

The procedure should take into account the following:

1. All routine and non-routine activities
2. Activities of all persons who have access to the workplace, including visitors, other members of the public, and all other relevant third parties
3. Human behaviour, capabilities and other human factors that may have an effect on how people are liable to behave.
4. Identify hazards that originate from external factors that are capable of adversely affecting the health and safety of persons concerned.
5. Hazards and risks created in the vicinity of the workplace by our work-related activities.
6. Infrastructure, equipment and materials at the workplace, whether existing, provided for the task or by others.
7. Any applicable legal obligations relating to risk assessment and the implementation of necessary controls.
8. The layout and design of the work area.
9. Other factors, such as the impact of weather.

When hazards have been identified, the associated risks should be assessed to determine their significance, taking into account existing control measures. Significant risks must be recorded and prioritised. If individual risks are not within acceptable limits, further control measures should be

The Presbytery of Lanark

RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

implemented and recorded until the risk becomes either within these limits, or an alternative means of working is adopted. Changes in management structure and the like must also be assessed, prior to any proposed changes, so as to ensure that these do not adversely affect the management risk.

When considering controls, consideration must always be given to reducing the risks in accordance with the following hierarchy:

- Elimination
- Substitution
- Controls
- Signage/warnings and/or administrative controls
- Personal protective equipment

All risk assessments must be periodically reviewed.

Some examples of common hazards include the following

- Slippery or uneven ground
- Working at height
- Objects falling from height
- Confined spaces
- Inadequate work space
- Manual handling
- Occasions where lone working or out-of-hours work is carried out.

Hazard identification must also consider the classes of person who may be liable to be exposed to a hazard. Such groups include Minsters, the congregation, and volunteers, people who use our buildings, other builders and contractors, members of the public, delivery drivers, or even the emergency services. Other significant groups that must be considered include pregnant workers, those with certain medical conditions or disabilities, and young or inexperienced workers.

Additional factors that can arise when looking at “third-party” risks include:

- The hazards and risks arising from their own activities
- Supply chain hazards from what they provide – products and services
- The degree of their familiarity with the workplace
- Their behaviour

The work activity should first be assessed and the significant hazards recorded on the Risk Assessment Template. The identified hazards should then be risk-rated, using the matrix provided.

Dependent on the initial rating, appropriate control measures should be adopted to enable elimination/reduction of the identified risks. Once the necessary control measures have been established the activity should then be re-assessed to establish a revised risk rating, which must indicate that a reduced and acceptable level of risk has been achieved.

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The completed Risk Assessments must be used as the basis for briefing the personnel who will be carrying out the work, in association with any method statements or similar instructions as to how the work is to be carried out. When work is carried out by members of individual congregations, these briefings should be conducted by the Team Leader or other such Supervisory person who has carried out the assessment of the hazards and the risks. For works carried out by external builders or contractors then they will carry out briefings to members of their workforce who are employed to carry out the work on the congregations behalf. **(Safety Form 2 – Record of RAMS Briefing)**

The implementation of the required control measures must be monitored at all times, as a part of effective supervision. Particular care must be paid to looking at the work to see if the initial risk assessment is still valid, or if circumstances have changed. A crude example is that the severity of the consequences of a fall from a height increases disproportionately as the height increases. Similarly, changes to access can lead to other hazards becoming accessible and new risks being created.

Where a risk assessment is no longer valid because of changes in the circumstances, in the plant available for use, changes in the weather conditions or other significant factor, the risk assessment must be revised. Risk assessments must also be reviewed periodically to ensure that they are still valid. Activities or operations must always be adequately supervised to ensure that the specified control measures are actually being adhered to.

The hierarchy mentioned above works by taking the risk that has been identified, and then seeing if it can be eliminated. If this is not reasonably practicable, then the next step is to see if it can be replaced by a lower risk (substitution), and then so on down the hierarchy. Often, a number of control measures will have to be applied until the risk is reduced to one that is as low as is reasonably practicable.

Together, all of these elements make up the safe system of work; we do this every day

However, there are a number of points that should be noted.

1. When looking at ways to reduce the risk, the starting point always has to be the top of the hierarchy. The basic question is “does the operation have to be done in this way?”, or is there a safer method?
2. When looking at the control measures that are can be used, always bear in mind that risk must be reduced to a tolerable or acceptable level; if risk cannot be controlled such that it is “acceptable”, then the operation cannot go ahead.
3. “Acceptable level of risk” is not the same as “we have done as much as is possible”.

SUMMARY

The legal view is that humans are liable to make mistakes or make omissions etc.; the “tolerance” of this decreases as the individual becomes more technical and professionally trained and competent, and also as they become more senior within the organisation. Choosing the safe system of work has to reflect these human factors, normally by making the work process as resilient to the effects of human error as is possible. The hierarchy of risk control measures is used to do this.

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RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

Method Statements

The purpose of a work method statement is:

- to outline a safe method of work for a specific job
- to provide an induction document that workers must read and understand before starting a job
- to meet legal requirements, that is, hazard identification and control
- to program work, materials, time, staff, and to anticipate possible problems

A risk assessment is simply a careful examination of what, in your work, could cause harm to people, so that you can weigh up whether you have enough precautions or whether you should do more.

A safety method statement describes in a logical sequence exactly how a job is to be carried out in a safe manner and without risks to health. It includes all the risks identified in the risk assessment and the measures needed to control those risks. This allows the job to be properly planned and resourced. **(Safety Form 3 – Method Statement Template)**

Safety method statements are most often found in the construction sector. They are particularly helpful for:

- higher-risk, complex or unusual work (eg working at height, steel and formwork erection, demolition or the use of hazardous substances)
- providing information to employees about how the work should be done and the precautions to be taken

It is from this approach that using these as a tool can provide a considered method of undertaking a task that shows that the work has been properly planned and carried out with safety in mind.

Whether safety method statements are used or not, it is essential to make sure that **risks are controlled.**

The Presbytery of Lanark

RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

Summary

Persons with control of premises have a general duty of care under the common law towards people on these premises. The nature of the obligations will vary according to the size, type and use of the premises concerned, but in general terms the responsibility is to ensure the safety of these people so far as reasonably practicable.

Undertaking a risk assessment or method statement doesn't need to be a daunting or time consuming exercise and it is there as a tool to ensure that the work process is planned, executed and completed safely.

Risk Assessment is not a theoretical exercise. Tour the area or place where the work is to be carried out to confirm, amend or add detail to your preliminary risk findings.

In many cases all that is required is the application of "common sense": if there is a safety risk then it is likely that it will be obvious to the layman, and the solution (removing hazards from accesses, replacing frayed electrical cable etc.) should be equally self-evident; potential hazards should be dealt with and checks should be carried out at appropriate intervals.

You should always consider first whether you can get rid of the hazard altogether or replace it with something safer. Then consider whether the control measures are enough or are more needed.

Once the risk assessment has been undertaken, then provide a logical sequence of the approach to the task by the preparation of a Method Statement.

Make sure you pass on the significant findings of your Risk Assessment to those undertaking the task and a briefing of the approach to the task through the method statement including any significant issues involved.

Finally remember that the Risk Assessment is a means and not an end. If your Risk Assessment shows that you have to do more to control the risk – then do it!

Risk assessments require to be kept on file and reviewed on a regular basis.

Our aim is to ensure that everyone who worships in our buildings; uses our facilities or carries out repairs, modifications or maintenance in our buildings can do so safely and go home safely at the end of the day.

The Presbytery of Lanark RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

Further information and Contact Details

Further information can be obtained from:

The Presbytery of Lanark*:

Clerk – Reverend Helen Jamieson BD, DipEd
St Andrew’s Manse, 120 Clyde Street, Carluke, ML8 5BG
01555 771218

Depute Clerk – Reverend Bryan Kerr BA, BD
Greyfriars Manse, 3 Bellefield Way, Lanark, ML11 7NW
01555 663363

Property Committee Convenor – Mr Ewan Easton IEng MICE AIEMA
7 Gilchrist Loan, Lesmahagow, ML11 0NB
01555 895278

The Church of Scotland

Law Department, 121 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 4YN
0131 225 5722
www.churchofscotland.org.uk
email – webenquiries@cofscotland.org.uk

The Health and Safety Executive

Regional Office – 1st Floor, Mercantile Chambers, 53 Bothwell Street, Glasgow, G2 6TS
0300 003 1747
www.hse.gov.uk

**Details for the Office bearers of Lanark Presbytery correct at September 2014. Consult yearbook for up to date details.*

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RAMs – A guide to Risk Assessments and Method Statements

Appendix

- **Safety Form 1 – Risk Assessment Schedule**
- **Safety Form 1a – Risk Assessment Evaluation Matrix**
- **Safety Form 2 – Record of RAMS Briefing**
- **Safety Form 3 – Method Statement Template**
- **Safety Form 4 – Method Statement Review**

The Presbytery of Lanark	RISK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE
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Safety Form
1

Congregation:	Location:	ACTIVITY:	RA NO:
Assessor:	Date of Assessment:	Date of Reassessment:	Revision no:

OPERATION/ EQUIPMENT	Hazard	Risk	Current Risk			ACTION TO BE TAKEN / CONTROL MEASURES	Residual Risk		
			L	S	Risk		L	S	Risk

Likelihood (L)	Severity (S)
1=Improbable	1=Minor injury
2=Possible	2=First Aid or lost time
3=Probable	3=3-Day injury or ill health
4=Highly likely	4=Long term absence, major injury or death

- 1) Action to be taken/control measures:
Indicators can be obtained from the Risk Assessment Guidance
- 2) Likelihood and Severity
See Risk Evaluation Matrix (Safety Form 1a) for further information

Worship Safe - Work Safe - Home Safe

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RISK EVALUATION MATRIX

		Severity			
		1 Minor injury	2 First Aid	3 3-Day injury or ill health	4 Fatality, major injury chronic ill health
Likelihood	4 Highly likely	Tolerable Risk 4	Moderate Risk 8	Substantial Risk 12	Intolerable Risk 16
	3 Probable	Tolerable Risk 3	Moderate Risk 6	Substantial Risk 9	Substantial Risk 12
	2 Possible	Tolerable Risk 2	Tolerable Risk 4	Moderate Risk 6	Moderate Risk 8
	1 Improbable	Tolerable Risk 1	Tolerable Risk 2	Tolerable Risk 3	Tolerable Risk 4

- Intolerable Risk** Activity should be suspended immediately.
- Substantial Risk** Substantial risk means that the activity should not be carried out until significant action has been taken to reduce the risk.
- Moderate Risk** Significant action should be planned in accordance with overall risk action plan to reduce risk.
- Tolerable Risk** Risk level is tolerable as long as reasonably practicable controls are in place. No significant further action required.

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**The Presbytery
of Lanark**

METHOD STATEMENT

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Congregation

MS Number:

Activity:

Revision:

Record of Review						
Revision	Prepared by	Checked by	Status	Date Issued	Reviewed By	Date of Review
0						
1						
2						
3						

Amendment Record		
Previous Rev.	New Rev.	Details of amendment
0	1	
1	2	
2	3	

The Presbytery of
Lanark

METHOD STATEMENT

Page 2 of 4

Congregation Name

Activity

MS Number

Item No.	Method Statement Details	Inspection Code
1.	<p><u>Summary of Tasks to be undertaken</u></p> <p><i>Insert a brief outline of work to be carried out</i></p>	
2.	<p><u>Resources to be Used In Operation (People, Tools, Equipment, Access Arrangements)</u></p> <p><i>List those involved including any tools and specialist equipment including means of access to work areas</i></p>	

Notes	<p>a. Describe each significant work activity associated with this operation in section 3.</p> <p>b. Identify plant/equipment required, in particular any specialist items or subcontractors in section 2.</p> <p>c. Identify specific hazards and any hazardous materials relevant to this activity. Consider HS&E issues by inserting Safety Issue or Enviro Issue in the inspection column.</p> <p>d. Insert Inspection Code H - Hold point (100%) - 100% Inspection ® - Random Inspection</p> <p>e. Inspection by: - Insert Representative accordingly</p>
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METHOD STATEMENT

Congregation Name

Activity

MS Number

Item No.	Method Statement Details	Inspection Code
3.	<p><u>Method of Construction (Work Instruction)</u></p> <p><i>Provide details in a methodological sequence of how the task is to be carried out. Include details of who does what when and how the works are finished including removal of any access arrangements and final tidying.</i></p>	<p><i>This column can be used to tick off tasks as they are completed. Or used as a hold point to allow someone to check that access arrangements are in place before continuing.</i></p>

Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Describe each significant work activity associated with this operation in section 3. b. Identify plant/equipment required, in particular any specialist items or subcontractors in section 2. c. Identify specific hazards and any hazardous materials relevant to this activity. Consider HS&E issues by inserting Safety Issue or Enviro Issue in the inspection column. d. Insert Inspection Code H - Hold point (100%) - 100% Inspection ® - Random Inspection e. Inspection by: - Insert Representative accordingly
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The Presbytery of
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METHOD STATEMENT

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Congregation Name

Activity

MS Number

Item No.	Method Statement Details	Inspection Code
4.	<p><u>Health & Safety Risks Involved in Operation</u></p> <p>Please reference below any Risk Assessment, COSHH Assessment etc that are relevant to this operation.</p> <p><i>This should link to a completed Safety Form 1 for the task and a copy should be attached to the Method Statement and held on site when the work is being carried out</i></p>	
5.	<p><u>Any other Relevant information</u></p> <p><i>Details to be inserted as necessary. This may include details of any chemical cleaners and directions for use including the use of protective clothing or gloves etc.</i></p>	

Notes	<p>a. Describe each significant work activity associated with this operation in section 3.</p> <p>b. Identify plant/equipment required, in particular any specialist items or subcontractors in section 2.</p> <p>c. Identify specific hazards and any hazardous materials relevant to this activity. Consider HS&E issues by inserting Safety Issue or Enviro Issue in the inspection column.</p> <p>d. Insert Inspection Code H - Hold point † (100%) - 100% Inspection ‡ ® - Random Inspection</p> <p>e. Inspection by: - Insert Representative accordingly</p>
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The Presbytery of Lanark	External Method Statement Review	Safety Form 4
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Congregation:

Contractor/Builder:	Date received:
Project:	Date issued:
Reference of MS being reviewed:	

	Y/N N/A		Y/N N/A
1 Work Instruction/Method Statement Is the method statement site specific, dated with name and signature of person producing the method statement and a means of communicating the details to all Operatives affected?		11 Personal Protective Equipment Have details of the personal protective equipment (PPE) being provided.	
2 Description / scope of work Are all work activities clearly defined and take into account site changes?		12 Supervision Who will be supervising the work activities and are they trained/competent? Who will cover in the event of absence?	
3 Sequence of operations Is there a sequence of works detailed and has it covered the coordination with other contractors?		13 Plant and equipment used Has the documentation accounted for all plant and equipment to be used on site	
4 Risk Assessments Have all hazards been identified in the risk assessment?		14 Operators' and Operatives' training Have details of all plant operators and operatives' training qualifications and competency i.e. CTA, CSCS, CPCS etc. been provided?	
5 Health Hazards Have details and precautions being taken for health hazards such as noise, hazardous substances, vibration, manual handling, dust and fumes that may be involved or created by the work activity been provided?		15 Tools and equipment Have electrical equipment/hand tools been covered to include portable appliance testing and competency?	
6 Welfare Are adequate welfare facilities available, who is to supply and maintain?		16 Inspections and Records Have details of frequency of inspections, thorough examinations for all plant, equipment and portable tools, working platforms etc.	
7 Manual Handling If MH is involved, is there a separate RA? Are there enough specific details about how to control risks arising from MH?		17 Scaffolding Is scaffolding to be used? Does the method statement cover installation, working at height, ground conditions, cover all works, changes in levels, scaftag system, toe boards and hand rails? Design of scaffold?	
8 Emergency Procedure Have details been given of any emergency procedures such as site fire evacuation procedures and safety rules: and details of any rescue plans necessary for the work activities		18 Working at height Has work at height been covered adequately for the work activities being carried out?	
9 First aid Are details of first aiders on site available, locations of first aid kit: and details of accident reporting procedure clearly defined?		19 Traffic management Has due consideration been provided to vehicle numbers, movement and waiting on site and have adequate arrangements been included?	
10 Interface with others Have details of control measures being taken to protect others who may be affected by the work activity been provided?		20 Overhead/Underground Services Has adequate detail covered safe working systems to prevent damage/injury/electrocution of services?	

The Presbytery of Lanark	External Method Statement Review	Safety Form 4
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21	Lifting operations Have details of the type of lifting contract i.e. crane hire or contract lift been given? Is there a copy of the lifting plan? Have details of the Appointed Person, Lift Supervisor, Slings and Signallers been given? Thorough examinations covered? Equipment to be used is CE/SWL marked? Exclusion zones detailed?		27	Waste Are details of the arrangements made for the collection and disposal of waste materials created by the work activity been given?	
	28			Quality Are systems in place by the contractor to monitor delivery of quality:	
22	Permits to work Is a permit to work required, if so is the persons issuing and receiving the permit authorised and competent?		29	Materials Have details of the arrangements for deliveries, off-loading, handling and storage arrangements been covered?	
23	Hot Works Are hot works to be carried out, what equipment is to be used, fire precautions taken including use of 'hot works permits' been provided?		30	Control of substances hazardous to health Is there a suitable and sufficient assessment and material safety data sheet available? Has the correct PPE been clearly identified?	
24	Environmental controls Are environmental impacts covered; emergency procedures, spill procedures, training and equipment covered. Have they covered all environmental planning conditions		31	Weather conditions Have weather conditions been considered, i.e. wind strengths, snow etc?	
25	Confined Spaces Are any confined spaces identified. Are there suitable procedures in place including permit to work and trained employees.		32	Vibration Have vibrating tools been identified. Are vibration levels known and suitable controls to limit exposure been put in place	
26	Noise Have noise sources been identified and have suitable control measures been put in place.				

Method statement comments (Details below)

Reviewed by:	Signed:
Date:	Reviewed sufficient for work to start: YES/NO

Abington, on Wednesday 29 October 2014, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Upper Clyde Church to ordain and induct Rev Nikki M Macdonald BD MTh PhD to the charge of Upper Clyde and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 6 ministers and 6 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member. There were also 17 visitors associating with Presbytery.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Rev I Cunningham and U Stewart Ministers; Messrs F Mitchell and Dr S Scott and Mrs M Morris, Elders.

Ordination and Induction of Rev Dr Nikki M Macdonald

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Rev Dr Nikki M Macdonald, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator, conducted worship and Rev George Shand preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula, Rev Dr Nikki M Macdonald was ordained and inducted to the Parish of Upper Clyde by the Moderator, who then delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregation.

After the service the call was presented to Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald. The Clerk was instructed to add the name of Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald to the Roll of Presbytery and to send certification of the Ordination and Induction of Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald to the Session Clerk of Upper Clyde.

Thanks were recorded to Rev Nancy Norman for her service as Locum and also to Rev Bryan Kerr and Rev Alistair Mackichan from the Presbytery of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright for their service as Interim Moderator. Rev A MacKichan was presented with a token of appreciation from Lanark Presbytery and the Clerk was instructed to write to the Clerk of Dumfries and Kirkcudbright Presbytery to extend the thanks of Lanark Presbytery for the support provided by Mr MacKichan. Rev A MacKichan was discharged.

The Clerk expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator and to Rev G Shand for their conduct of the service of Ordination and Induction. Thanks were also expressed to the Clerk and Depute Clerk for arrangements.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 4 November 2014.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by inviting Presbytery to say the grace.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 4 November 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers, 23 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 3 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev I Cunningham, A Greig, R McLarty and U Stewart, Ministers, Messrs E Easton, McLeish, A McPhee and Mrs M Morris and L Nicol, Elders

Welcome to visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The clerk informed Presbytery of the following changes to the roll of presbytery

- The Moderator welcomed Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald to her first Presbytery meeting following her ordination and induction to the Upper Clyde Parish Church. Dr Macdonald was presented with a book from Presbytery and thanked the Presbytery for their welcome and good wishes.
- Rev Alan W Gibson has requested a practicing certificate and to move his membership of Presbytery to the Presbytery of Edinburgh. As the request was made following committee meetings the Congregational Support Committee Convener consulted members of the committee who agreed to this request. The Practicing Certificate has been sent and Presbytery agreed to transfer his membership to Edinburgh.

Minutes of meeting on 7 & 29 October 2014

The Minutes of the meetings held on 7 & 29 October 2014 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following decisions taken under delegated powers following the last ordinary meeting of Presbytery, in accordance with Standing Order 7x:

In respect of **Forth: St Paul's** the Vacancy Procedure Committee agreed that, following the request of the Kirk Session of Forth: St. Paul's and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), a six month extension to the permission to call a minister be granted from 2 November 2014.

In respect of **Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow:Old** the Vacancy Procedure Committee agreed that, following the request of the Kirk Sessions of Coalburn and Lesmahagow:Old, and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), a further six month extension to the permission to call a minister be granted from 5 December 2014.

In respect of **Carnwath linked with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction** the Vacancy Procedure Committee agreed that, following the request of the Kirk Sessions of Carnwath and The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), a six month extension to the permission to call a minister be granted from 5 December 2014.

In respect of the **Upper Clyde Parish Church** the Vacancy Procedure Committee agreed:

- that, due to the property at 66 Carlisle Road, Crawford not yet being marketed by the Church of Scotland Law Department, a delay of marketing the property be in place until at least mid-November 2014, the exact date to be agreed by the Law Department, General Trustees and the Presbytery of Lanark, in consultation with the minister of the charge;
- that the former manse at 66 Carlisle Road, Crawford shall be designated as the manse of Upper Clyde Parish;

- that the Property Committee of Presbytery be instructed to conduct a manse inspection of the property at 66 Carlisle Road, Crawford with a degree of urgency;
- that Rev. Dr Nikki Macdonald shall move into the manse in Crawford as a temporary arrangement, on the understanding that the property shall begin to be marketed around mid-November 2014;
- that the Kirk Session of Upper Clyde Parish Church should ensure that the basic manse requirements (concerning flooring, decoration, white goods etc) are adhered to within the property
- that the Kirk Session of Upper Clyde Parish Church, the Property Committee of Lanark Presbytery and the General Trustees to secure a permanent Manse for the Upper Clyde Parish Church with all due haste.

Also in respect of the **Upper Clyde Parish Church** the Property Committee agreed:

1. Note that the former manse at 66 Carlisle Road, Crawford, as designated by the Vacancy Procedure Committee as the temporary Manse of Upper Clyde has been inspected by Presbytery and agree that the building was found to be in good order and suitable for occupation by the incoming minister.
2. Agree that the property at 31 Carlisle Road, Crawford, as identified by the Upper Clyde Church is suitable as a potential manse; agree to the purchase of the property subject to the agreement of the General Trustees; offers support to the Kirk Session in its endeavours to secure the purchase of the property.
3. Subsequent to permission granted in September 2014 to Upper Clyde to seek financial assistance from the General Trustees to secure a new manse for the charge of Upper Clyde, urge the General Trustees to support the congregation by granting financial assistance to purchase the suitable property for use as a manse at 31 Carlisle Road, Crawford.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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

- Law Department - information on OSCR consultation on regulation, expressing thanks for the Risk Assessment Document approved in October 2014, information on the Data Protection Webinar on the Church of Scotland Website.
- Panel on Review and Reform inviting to a meeting in December.
- Mission & Discipleship Council - inviting youth representation to the General Assembly in 2015.
- Ministries Council - sick note for Rev Una Stewart, Law from 29th September to 24th November 2014
- Mr Bill Love - resigning as Interim Moderator in Carluke St. Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St. John's.

Good News Stories

Rev Mike Fucella, Biggar I/w Black Mount reported that 67 people came along to Messy Church in Biggar and 45 in Black Mount in recent weeks.

Presentation of Presbytery Safeguarding Trainers

Mr Alan Grant, Convener of Congregational Development presented three new safeguarding trainers to the Moderator of Presbytery. Jim Reid and Lorraine Gray have completed training and Caroline Deerin is in process of completing training. Mr Reid was in attendance and the Moderator presented him with his certificate. The Convener thanked the trainers for their commitment and willingness to serve the church in this way.

Report of General Assembly Youth Representative

The Moderator invited Ms Laura Jane Sinclair to address the Presbytery on her recent attendance as a youth representative to the General Assembly. Ms Sinclair informed the Presbytery of the programme the youth representatives undertake during the week of the Assembly. Ms Sinclair commented on the disappointment of youth representatives being unable to vote during the Assembly, but spoke positively of the ongoing

discussions on the role of young people in decision making throughout the whole church. Ms Sinclair also spoke on her attendance at the National Youth Assembly in September at Gartmore House. The NYA discussed money and funding within the Church of Scotland, intergenerational work in churches, and the Middle East. NYA supported the Perth Prison Visitors Centre to the amount of almost £1,700 at a gala dinner. The Moderator thanked Ms Sinclair for her report and wished her God's blessing in her forthcoming service within the Church of Scotland.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee, Ministries Committee and Vacancy Procedure Committee in respect of the vacancy at Douglas Valley

The Reports of Congregational Support Committee, Ministries Committee and Vacancy Procedure Committee in respect of the vacancy at Douglas Valley were presented by the respective Conveners. The Clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report from the Congregational Support Committee, Ministries Committee and Vacancy Procedure Committee in respect of issues regarding the charge of the Douglas Valley
2. Note that all issues within the congregation of the Douglas Valley Church and the community of Rigside have now been resolved.
3. Agree the Basis of Reviewable Charge for the Douglas Valley Church (*Appendix 1*)
4. Note that the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group concurs with the change to the Presbytery Plan concerning the Charge of Douglas Valley.
5. Grant permission to the charge of Douglas Valley to call a minister on the basis of a five year reviewable charge.

Parties were called

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that an edict had been served to The Douglas Valley Church.

Representatives from Douglas Valley were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 3 "Note that on 22 October 2014 the Kirk Session of the Douglas Valley Church unanimously approved the basis of Reviewable Charge, and that a congregational meeting called and convened on 2 November 2014 approved the basis of Reviewable Charge with 50 votes for and 0 against" and renumber.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

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

The Moderator offered best wishes and blessings as they move forward in their vacancy to find a new minister.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree that a service of Holy Communion be celebrated at the June 2015 meeting of Presbytery at Baehead House, Crossford.
3. Note that Rev Una Stewart is seeking retirement on the grounds of ill health, agree to her vacating the manse at 3 Shawgill Court, Law ML8 5SJ and instruct the Clerk to issue an extract minute to Ministries Council and the Session Clerk of Law Parish Church.

The Deliverance was approved

Overture Under Barrier Act – Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships Overture

The Overture was presented by the Business Convener, Mr Bill Love.

After discussion the Moderator called for a vote.

A secret ballot was held in accordance with the instructions from the General Assembly.

The Presbytery Clerk, as returning officer, declared that the Presbytery of Lanark voted 22 for and 11 against the overture. The Presbytery of Lanark approved the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships Overture. It was agreed that Presbytery attach comment to the return in the following terms:

- In section 3(2)(a) what would the role of the Advisory Committee be in instigating the discussion at a Kirk Session?

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr. Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Encourage members of Presbytery to publicise the forthcoming World Mission Rally within their congregations.
3. Note that the Committee is preparing a questionnaire relating to instructions and recommendations from General Assembly 2014.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree the Basis of Reviewable Charge for the Douglas Valley Church
3. Note that the Presbytery Planning Task Group concurs with the change to the Presbytery Plan concerning the Charge of Douglas Valley.
4. Note that there are no instructions this year from the General Assembly for the Ministries Committee.
5. Agree to hold a Presbytery Gathering at Braehead House, Braidwood on Tuesday, 24 February 2015.

With the permission of Presbytery the Convener withdrew sections 2 & 3 of the deliverance.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Depute Clerk in the absence of the Convener, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report
2. Note the change to the Architects Property Inspection Schedule removing the blank year in 2017 and spreading the workload and the budget more evenly across the 5 year rolling schedules of Inspections.
3. Commend the Minister at Biggar Church for undertaking a meeting with CARTA before any work is carried out and remind Biggar Church that any alterations to the Church building which may include the works to install a screen may require to be submitted to Presbytery for approval.
4. Note that Property inspections of vacant manses are still to be carried out.
5. Note that the General Trustees have received the report from Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and will contact the Office Bearers directly following their meeting on the 4th November.

6. Note the information received from CARTA regarding advice available regarding organs, that CARTA must be consulted in this regard and instruct the Clerk to forward the received to Fabric or Property Conveners of the charges within Lanark Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by Convener, Rev Steven Reid, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the Ministry and Mission Allocations proposed for 2015 (Appendix 2) and instruct the Clerk to forward the figures to the Stewardship and Finance Department.
3. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2015 (Appendix 3) and the Presbytery levy of £2.50 per capita

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Acknowledge the commitment and effort of Jim Reid (Lesmahagow Old) and Lorraine Gray and congratulate them in obtaining accreditation as Safeguarding Trainers.
3. Note that a meeting has been arranged with Representatives of Mission and Discipleship Council and members of the Congregational Support and Congregational Development Committees at 7.00pm at St Nicholas Church Halls, Lanark on Tuesday 18 November.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

The Clerk reminded members of the 'Scotland's Future Now' event organised by the Church of Scotland taking place in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Wednesday 5th November at 6:45pm. All are welcome to attend.

Rev Alison Meikle intimated that the Hear for You project is looking for person centred counsellors and invited members of Presbytery to intimate to congregations and approach individuals who may be interested and qualified to assist.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet on Tuesday 2 December 2014 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church for Ordinary Business

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

BASIS OF REVIEWABLE CHARGE THE DOUGLAS VALLEY CHURCH

By decision of the Presbytery of Lanark the congregation of The Douglas Valley Church (Church of Scotland) (SC001718) shall continue on a Basis of Reviewable Charge, and that on the following conditions:

- 1) Permission to call a minister shall be on the basis of a reviewable charge;
- 2) The Presbytery shall review the position five years following the date of induction of the new minister of the charge;
- 3) At the review the Presbytery shall consider with the Kirk Session:
 - a) whether the life of the congregation exhibits the five purposes of the church, i.e. worship, service, discipleship, fellowship and evangelism and whether these are in a healthy balance;
 - b) the extent to which the Douglas Valley Church has been able to develop and deliver a strategy for establishing links with the local communities, encouraging their involvement in the life of the church; developing worship using community space in Rigside and encouraging more community engagement with the life of the Church throughout the parish.
 - c) the success or otherwise of a focussed programme of Stewardship to encourage the time, talents, money and commitment of members of the congregation in relation to the work of the Church;
 - d) the extent to which the societal trends in the Douglas Valley are having an impact on the life, witness, ministry and health of the Douglas Valley Church;
 - e) such other matters as may be relevant by that time.
- 4) Following such review, the Presbytery shall take a further decision on the future arrangements for ministry to the congregation and parish of the Douglas Valley Church recognising that one of the options available to it is the termination of the tenure of the minister on giving him or her six months' notice in writing.

Appendix 2

MINISTRIES AND MISSION ALLOCATIONS PROPOSED FOR 2015

Congregation	Average Income 2010- 2012	Average Income 2011- 2013	Proposed 2014 M&M	2015 Scale M&M	2015 Contribution
Biggar	83,827	90,736	51,057	55,134	55,134
Carluke Kirkton	116,226	119,031	69,362	70,876	70,876
Carluke St Andrew's	55,298	54,760	32,990	32,646	32,646
Carluke St John's	94,182	94,032	57,167	57,078	57,078
Carnwath	41,314	37,252	24,040	21,441	21,441
Coalburn	21,359	22,495	11,269	11,996	11,996
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	56,465	53,740	33,737	31,993	31,993
Crossford	28,790	31,459	16,025	17,733	17,733
Douglas Valley	60,841	60,787	36,538	36,503	36,503
Black Mount	18,895	19,795	9,781	10,285	10,285
Forth St Pauls	62,032	59,839	37,300	35,896	35,896
Kirkfieldbank	17,905	17,656	9,226	9,087	9,087
Kirkmuirhill	113,042	113,740	67,642	68,019	68,019
Lanark St Nicholas	112,481	107,028	67,339	64,395	64,395
Law	50,543	54,034	29,178	32,181	32,181
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	90,952	87,211	55,261	53,054	53,054
Lesmahagow Old	81,531	89,375	49,703	54,331	54,331
Libberton And Quothquan	18,871	21,180	7,149	11,155	8,007
Symington	34,517	38,224	19,690	22,063	22,053
Greyfriars	88,538	88,921	53,837	54,063	54,063
Cairngryffe	35,925	36,472	20,591	20,941	20,941
The Upper Clyde	35,824	37,008	20,527	21,284	21,284
					788,996

Appendix 3**PRESBYTERY BUDGET FOR 2015**

Opening Balance 14,222

Income:-

Interest 110

2015 Dues (6694 @ £2.50) 16,735

Total 31,067

Expenditure 2015

Clerk's salary & NI 5020

Clerk's expenses 500

Clerk's office 1500

Printing & postage 100

Insurance & copyright 310

Honoraria 1000

Congregational Development 50

Congregational Support 50

Ministry Committee 50

Resources Committee 50

World & Community Issues 50

Business Committee 300

Surveys 5000

Surveys - additional reserve 4000

Pulpit Supply 275

Attestation Fees 3000

Youth Assembly 125

Hall rent 1200

Grants & Bursaries 0

Sundry 500

Travel Expenses 800

Data Protection 35

Governance 270

Total 24185

Projected Closing Balance 6882

Closing Balance 6882

Restricted

Funds 5628

Maturity of Endowments - Beetram & Somerville - Coulter
Await contact from South Lanarkshire Council

Diaconate

Project 2852

Surveys 2000

Total Reserves 17362

Lanark, on Tuesday 2 December 2014 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers, 24 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and 2 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev S Cowell, I Cunningham, D Easton, A Greig and U Stewart, Ministers, Messrs T Chalmers, A McPhee, D Waters and Mrs A Reid, Elders and Mrs M McGillivray, Corresponding Member.

Welcome to visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the meeting.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 4 November 2014

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 November 2014 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following decisions taken under delegated powers following the last ordinary meeting of Presbytery, in accordance with Standing Order 7x:

Decisions taken under delegated powers (for 2 Dec Presbytery meeting)

in terms of Act VIII, 2003 Vacancy Procedure Committee agreed in terms of

Lanark: St Nicholas

- that the congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas be granted permission to call a minister on unrestricted tenure as of 30th November 2014;
- that Rev James Cutler be appointed Interim Moderator for the charge of Lanark : St Nicholas from the date of the translation of Rev Alison Meikle to Grangemouth: Zetland and with immediate effect for vacancy business; that an Advisory Committee comprising Dr Sinclair Scott (Convenor), Mrs Anne Reid and Rev George Shand be appointed from 8th December 2014;
- that the congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas is given permission to form a nominating committee of 11 people.

Douglas Valley

- that the congregation of The Douglas Valley be granted permission to form a nominating committee of 9 people;
- that an Advisory Committee comprising Mr Ross Russell (Convenor), Rev Mike Fucella and Mrs Jenny Worthington be appointed with immediate effect.

Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old

- that an Advisory Committee comprising Mr Willie Macsween (Convenor), Rev Iain Cunningham and Mrs Mabel Morris be appointed with immediate effect.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following changes to the Roll of Presbytery

Rev Iain Cunningham, Minister of Carluke: Kirkton, has been on World Mission business and is in hospital in Israel. Mr Cunningham has had eye surgery which means he cannot fly home at present. The Presbytery was invited to remember the Cunningham family and the congregation in prayer.

Rev Alan Greig, interim Moderator of Kirkmuirhill, will be moving his Interim Ministry post from 15th January. The grateful thanks of Presbytery were expressed for his work and ministry in Kirkmuirhill over the previous months. The Presbytery instructed the Clerk to write and express thanks.

Farewell to Rev Alison Meikle

The Moderator invited Robin Murdoch from Lanark: St. Nicholas to address Presbytery. Mr Murdoch paid tribute to Mrs Meikle's ministry within Lanark and in particular her care, her comfort and her support. Mrs Meikle challenged and inspired the congregation, and has been instrumental in establishing the Good 2 Talk

group and Hear for You project, as well as overseeing the repair of the exterior of the building. Mr Murdoch wished Mrs Meikle, her husband Hugh and son Euan, God's richest blessing in their move to serve God in Grangemouth.

The Moderator invited Rev. Bryan Kerr to address the Presbytery and pay tribute to Mrs Meikle.

Mr Kerr spoke of Mrs Meikle's ministry amongst the ecumenical team in Lanark, her organisational skills and the challenges faced within the town. Mr Kerr spoke of the closer links between all the churches in the town, (not only between Greyfriars and St. Nicholas) and the part Mrs Meikle played in helping to progress these links as well as Mrs Meikle's significant pastoral ministry and community presence including her involvement in School chaplaincy which had also been important and challenging. Mr Kerr wished the Meikle family every blessing as they moved to Falkirk Presbytery and assured the congregation of St. Nicholas that the joint working and close links will continue to develop in the months and years that lay ahead.

The Moderator invited Mrs Meikle to offer a response.

Mrs Meikle spoke of the new challenge that faced the Meikle family and of the changes that have occurred within the Presbytery over the last 12 years. She also spoke of the opportunities that were afforded to her as minister in St Nicholas, of her eagerness to serve the community and of the establishment of the Hear for You project that has currently helped 45 people. Mrs Meikle thanked members of Presbytery for the memories shared over the last 12 years.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of Presbytery to Mr Hugh Meikle for his work as Presbytery Officer and presented to him a token of appreciation. The Moderator then led the Presbytery in prayer and offered a blessing to Alison, Hugh and Euan as they move to serve God within the Presbytery of Falkirk.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 correspondence received from

- **Church of Scotland Insurance Company**
At a meeting of the members of the Company on the 4th November a resolution was passed to change its name to Church of Scotland Insurance Services Limited.
- **General Trustees**
24 November - noting that the Trustees after discussion agreed that the Church and Manse buildings should be offered for sale as a unit and providing a Determination of sale of Rigsid Church and Manse
28 November - Letter re visit to Carstairs remitted to Property Convener
- **Presbytery of Hamilton** -
Extract Minute
 - a. agreeing to transfer of Ross Blackman's supervision to Hamilton Presbytery
 - b. agreeing that members of Lanark Presbytery Complaints Committee have been appointed as members of the Hamilton Presbytery Complaints Committee.

Presbytery noted that the sick note for Rev Una Stewart had now expired and that no further sick note had been received. In light of Ms Stewart's continued absence from her charge, Presbytery agreed to remit the matter to the Ministries Council for a resolution, with urgency, and to invite the Ministries Council to provide a report on the current and future situation within 14 days.

The Clerk intimated that she was still awaiting Office Bearer Returns from Biggar, Crossford, Kirkmuirhill, Lanark Greyfriars and Law and that Annual Statistical Return forms have been issued by email to Session Clerks with a return date of no later than Thursday, 22 January 2015.

Good News Stories

Rev Bryan Kerr, minister of Lanark: Greyfriars, spoke of the joy in the congregation at ordaining 9 new elders and admitting 3 more on Sunday 30th November 2014. One elder was under the age of 25, and another 4 in their early 40's or younger.

The Presbytery then suspended business for coffee and mince pies.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Members of Lanark Presbytery Complaints Committee are now members of the same committee in Hamilton Presbytery.
3. Note that the congregations of Carluke St Andrews and Carluke: St Johns have chosen to be called Carluke: Forest Kirk when the union takes place.
4. Note that the Clerk and Depute Clerk will attend the Clerks Forum 17-18 February 2015.
5. Approve the 2014 honorarium of £1000 for the Depute Clerk, £250 for the Presbytery Officer and the gift of £100 to record appreciation of Mr Meikle's work as Presbytery Officer as he moves to Grangemouth.
6. Agree that when Lanark: St Nicholas Church appoints a new Church Officer that person will be invited to become Presbytery Officer.
7. Appoint Rev Bryan Kerr and Rev George Shand to represent Presbytery on the Chaplaincy Guidelines Committee.
8. Note the discussions on joint working between Lanark and Hamilton Presbytery are ongoing with a possible course on leading worship taking place before or just after Easter 2015.
9. Grant powers to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Business Convener during the Christmas recess with the proviso that any decisions made be reported to the February meeting of Presbytery.
10. Agree that churches in deferred union or in parish groupings should not have to seek Presbytery approval for joint services of worship.
11. Agree dates for joint worship for Lanark: St Nicholas and Lanark: Greyfriars on December 14th and 28th (St Nicholas) and January 4th 2015 (Greyfriars).
12. Appoint Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald to the Ministries Committee of Presbytery.
13. Recommend to Kirk Sessions that an appropriate contract be put in place when a Locum is employed and that a review of the appointment should take place on a rolling six month programme, with the Ministries Committee providing assistance for these reviews as required.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Kirk Sessions of Carluke: St Andrews and Carluke St Johns (deferred union) have been invited to apply for an extension of the vacancy and it is anticipated this will be granted for a 9 month period.

The Deliverance was approved

Notice of Motion in name of Rev. Bryan Kerr regarding Registration Services.

Rev Bryan Kerr spoke of the proposed closure of the full time registration office in Lanark and a move to make it open only on two days per week. Mr Kerr moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Express deep disappointment and anger at the proposed decision of South Lanarkshire Council to alter the full time registration office in Lanark to a part time office.
2. Urge local elected members to lobby officials and other elected members to change the proposal to alter the full time registration office in Lanark to a part time office due to the fact that
 - a. the move will affect the poorest and most vulnerable members of rural communities;
 - b. the part time nature of the registration office will cause unnecessary delays for families who wish to have a cremation service for loved ones;
 - c. the Lanark registration office is the only office covering some 500 square miles of the local authority area, and;

- d. that this situation will cause unnecessary stress and upset to those already grieving for the loss of a loved one.
3. Invite the Presbytery of Hamilton to discuss the matter of registration offices and make similar representations on the matter, due to the East Kilbride registration office moving to a part-time office.
4. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to all Clydesdale elected Councillors, the leader of South Lanarkshire Council, the Chief Executive of South Lanarkshire Council and the Presbytery of Hamilton.

The Motion was seconded by Dr Sinclair Scott.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to amend the deliverance to add a new section 2 to read "Recognise that South Lanarkshire Council have a difficult task to balance the council budget, and invite the local authority to look at all options open to them in keeping the registration office in Lanark open, for example to open for a significant period of time each weekday, and look at other options for cuts, for example a more efficient system of administration for elderly Christmas lunch grants to local groups."

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

4. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Grant permission for the Kirk Session to rent the Manse of Forth St Paul's subject to all appropriate proposals being agreed with the General Trustees before any rental commences.
3. Note that a return report from Kirk Sessions is to be provided to the Property Committee of Lanark Presbytery within 3 months of receipt of the Architects written report, detailing timescales for addressing any points of note raised in the report.
4. Note that a meeting was held with Trustee Dr Jim Jack at Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to further explore the use of the buildings and following receipt of a letter dated 28 November 2014 from the General Trustees the matter will be dealt with under the supplementary report.
5. Instruct the Clerk to forward relevant paperwork in respect of repairs to be undertaken at Carluke Kirkton to The General Trustees.
6. Note that the property inspection of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Manse has taken place and some decoration is to be undertaken on the appointment of a Minister.
7. Note that the Trustees offer for the purchase of property for use as Manse for the charge of Upper Clyde has not yet been formally accepted and there is no agreed date of entry.

Supplementary Report of the Property Committee

The Supplementary Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Supplementary Report
2. Note that the General Trustees have issued a letter to the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction confirming the congregation are proceeding with option 2a (retain Carstairs Village Church and dispose of Carstairs Junction Church)
3. Note that the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction is to employ a conservation accredited architect and a list of suitable firms have been provided though no appointment is to be undertaken until the brief is finalised
4. Instruct the congregation of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to take immediate steps to close the upper level of the Village Church forthwith and provide a report to Presbytery within

seven days of the Presbytery meeting of the course of action to repair the stair underwritten by a Certified Structural Engineer.

5. Note that any contravention of Deliverance No 4 may leave the Trustees of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction liable for any breaches of Health and Safety in this regard.
6. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the Congregation of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction requesting the report within seven days of the Presbytery meeting held on the 2nd December 2014 in regard to the stair closure.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as a counter motion to section 4, 5 & 6 of the deliverance

4. Note that, following discussions with the architect who has carried out the previous two property surveys on Carstairs Village Church, the congregation of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction has closed the upper level of the church to the public and are investigating the possibility of limited access for storage, repairs and the operation of sound and projection desk.

5. Instruct the Property committee, in conjunction with the congregation of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to consult further with the architect and the General Trustees on the condition of the stair in Carstairs Village Church and report to the meeting of Presbytery on 3 February 2015, unless there is an urgent need to address the matter prior to that date, in which case the Convener of the Presbytery property committee should inform the clerk at the earliest opportunity.

The Deliverance of the report and supplementary report as amended was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree that the Presbytery Gathering to be held in Braehead House, Crossford on Tuesday, 24th February 2015 will take the form of a retreat led by the Moderator.
3. Note that Bill Love and Anna Lumsden are qualified to represent Presbytery as Assessors in the Candidate Review Process.
4. Note that, in terms of section 16 of Act VII, 2003 (as amended), Carluke : Kirkton Church has appointed a full time Youth and Children's Ministry worker on a three year contract prior to seeking the approval of Presbytery.
5. Note that Presbytery cannot determine from the documents provided whether or not the post of Youth and Children's Ministry worker at Carluke: Kirkton was advertised openly and recruited fairly.
6. Remind all Kirk Sessions that when there is a desire to create a post that falls within the terms of section 16 of Act VII, 2003 (as amended) that an approach should be made to the Ministries Committee at an early opportunity prior to advertising to ascertain whether permission will be granted.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that a joint meeting was held with the Congregational Development Committee which was attended by two representatives of the Mission and Discipleship Council and that proposals for carrying out future LCRVs will be brought forward at a later date.
3. Agree the following amendments to the Congregational Records Guidance Notes in the Presbytery Yearbook:
 - a. P42 under Property and Financial Records; replace with 'Guidance for Property Convenors and Treasurers is available from the Presbytery Property and Finance Committees respectively'.
 - b. P42/3 under 'Please submit for inspection', make the following amendments
 - i. after 'Baptismal Register' add 'Risk Assessment - DATA/IT Security Policy'

- ii. replace 'Property Information as required by the Resources Committee.' with 'Property Information as required by the Property Committee including an up-to-date RAMS document.'
- iii. In 'Accounts –' replace 'Resources Convenor' with 'Finance Convenor'
4. Instruct the Clerk to communicate these amendments to all Session Clerks with instruction that they be passed on to the relevant Office Bearers.
5. Note that the Annual Attestation of Congregational Records will take place in St Nicholas Halls, Lanark on the evening of 17th February 2015 and that congregational representatives are asked to attend with their records at the times detailed on p42 of the Presbytery Yearbook.
6. Request all Presbyters convey information to their Congregational Office bearers regarding the arrangements in place for the inspection.
7. Instruct the Clerk to communicate the arrangements for attestation to all Session Clerks.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

- Receive the report.
- Note that a meeting of Congregational Development and Support Committees, attended by the Depute Clerk took place with two representatives of the Mission and Discipleship Council. Training proposals will be brought before Presbytery at a later date.
- Encourage Presbyters to publicise and make known to young adults that nominations are sought to represent the Presbytery of Lanark at the 2015 General assembly as the Youth Rep.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Complaints Committee

The Report of the Complaints Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Frank Mitchell, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note the appointment of Rev. Harry Findlay as Vice Convenor.
3. Agree that superintendence of the Complaints Committee be effected by the Congregational Support Committee on behalf of Presbytery.
4. Agree that there is no need for the Presbytery Clerk (or Depute Clerk) or any other presbyter to report a Complaint to Presbytery when it is being handled under the Complaints Process.
5. Agree that dialogue and co-operation between the Complaints Committee and Hamilton Presbytery Complaints Committee should be instigated when appropriate.
6. Note that the Complaints Committee is now in a position to process complaints within its remit.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 February 2015 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church .

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 February 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 7 Ministers, 23 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev S Cowell, I Cunningham, R McLarty, S Reid, Ministers, and Messrs A McPhee and S Scott and Mrs A Reid and Mrs M Somerville, Elders.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following changes to the Roll of Presbytery:-

- i. Rev Russell McLarty was thanked for his period of service at Interim Moderator in the charge of Carnwath linked with the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction and the Moderator wished him every blessing as he takes up his role as Regional Interim Minister with the Ministries Council. Mr McLarty has served as Interim Moderator since 2011 and the thanks of Presbytery were extended to him.
- ii. The appointments of Rev Iain McKenzie, Interim Moderator of Carluke: St. Andrew's in deferred union Carluke: St. John's, Rev Jim Cutler, Interim Moderator of Lanark: St. Nicholas and Rev Gordon Jamieson, Interim Moderator of Carnwath linked the United parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, have been agreed by the Office of the Principal Clerk and permission given to appoint Messrs McKenzie, Cutler and Jamieson as a Presbytery Assessors in terms of Act V, 2001.
- iii. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the brother of Dr Sinclair Scott has passed away suddenly in Cayman. Presbytery extended sincere sympathy to the family.
- iv. Rev Iain Cunningham has returned from Israel and is now back at work but will require further eye surgery. The prayers of the Presbytery were with Mr Cunningham and his family.

Minutes of meeting on 2 December 2014

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2014 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the following decision were taken under powers as agreed at the December 2014 ordinary meeting of Presbytery:

Kirkmuirhill

- It was agreed to appoint Rev Elizabeth Clelland as Interim Moderator pro tem in the charge of Kirkmuirhill from 19th – 26th January 2015

Carnwath linked with the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction

- It was agreed to appoint Rev Gordon Jamieson as Interim Moderator pro tem in the charge of Carnwath linked with the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction from 6th February 2015 until the decision of Vacancy Procedure Committee to appoint Mr Jamieson as Interim Moderator is finalised.

Douglas Valley Church Locum

- It was noted that Rev Nancy Norman has been appointed as locum in Douglas Valley as of 15th December 2014 on the basis of a Sunday and two days per week. It was agreed to note the appointment of Rev Nancy Norman for an initial six month term subject to review from the Kirk Session with the assistance of Presbytery.

Lanark: St. Nicholas Locum

- It was noted that Bill Love has been appointed as locum in Lanark: St. Nicholas as of 12th January 2015 on the basis of a Sunday and two days per week. It was agreed to note the appointment of Bill Love for an initial six month term subject to review from the Kirk Session with the assistance of Presbytery.

Interim Moderator Training

- Following an invitation from Ministries Council to approve names of elders to train as Interim Moderators it was agreed to submit the names of Mrs Libby Muir (Carluke: St. Andrew's) and Mr

Denham McDougall (Cairngryffe).

Heart and Soul

- It was agreed that Lanark Presbytery make application to purchase an exhibition stand at Heart and Soul 2015 to showcase the work of the congregations of the Presbytery and highlight vacant charges.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following decisions taken under delegated powers following the last ordinary meeting of Presbytery, in accordance with Standing Order 7x:

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Carlisle: St Andrew's and St John's

- In terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended) appoint Rev Iain McKenzie (Hamilton presbytery) as Interim Moderator in Carlisle St. Andrew's in deferred union with Carlisle: St. John's with effect from 6th January 2015.
- Appoint an Advisory Committee comprising Anna Lumsden (Convenor), Rev Mike Fucella and Ewan Easton with effect from 17th December 2014.

Carnwath linked with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction

- In terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended) appoint an Advisory Committee comprising Rev Elizabeth Cleland (Convenor), Cameron Sutherland and Jim Watt with effect from 17th December 2014.

Law

- In terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), and upon the written request of Rev Una Stewart, minister of Law Parish Church, Vacancy Procedure Committee agree to accept the demission of Rev Una Stewart from Law Parish Church with effect from 3rd December 2014.
- In accordance with the Presbytery Plan agreed by the Presbytery of Lanark in May 2012, remit the matter of the expansion of the existing Carlisle Parish Grouping to incorporate Law Parish Church to the Ministries Committee and instruct the committee to report to the March 2015 meeting of Presbytery on the matter.
- Agree to not grant permission to call a minister until either a basis of parish grouping is agreed, or a report from Ministries Committee indicating progress is agreed by Presbytery.
- Appoint Mr Alan Grant as Interim Moderator in the vacancy of Law Parish Church

Kirkmuirhill

- In respect of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church, and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), appoint Rev Elizabeth Clelland as Interim Moderator with effect from 26 January 2015.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 correspondence received from

- Law Department - circulars on food safety and pensions auto enrolment
- Hamilton Presbytery - two extract minutes – one agreeing with the stance taken on registration services and one on co-operation between Lanark and Hamilton Presbyteries.
- Ministries Council - sick note from 15th December 2014 for one week for Rev Iain Cunningham.
- Rev Una Stewart - letter intimating her demission due to ill health with immediate effect from 3rd December 2014.
- St. Nicholas - Extract minute appointing Bill Love as locum.
- Douglas Valley - Extract minute appointing Rev Nancy Norman as locum.

Presbytery noted that, as a letter of demission was received from Rev Una Stewart the day following the Presbytery meeting in December 2014, the Clerk did not write to Ministries Council as instructed by the Presbytery.

Good News Stories

Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald, Upper Clyde Parish Church, informed the Presbytery that Upper Clyde will be broadcasting worship services throughout March on BBC Radio Scotland.

Mabel Morris, United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction reported on the success of the recent Fischy Music concert and thanked the Presbytery for their assistance in the event.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree that Downie Alison Downie be asked to bind Presbytery minutes and that congregations with Session/Board minutes to be bound should let the Business Convener know before the March Meeting of that Committee.
3. Agree to seek a volunteer to become Communications person for Presbytery.
4. Agree that Rev E Clelland and Rev Dr N MacDonald with one guest each should attend this year's Royal Garden Party on 1 July 2015.
5. Agree that Kirk Sessions be invited to nominate the names of elders that if asked, might be prepared to accept a commission at this year's General Assembly.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Rev Russell McLarty will complete his term as Interim Moderator for Carnwath I/w the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction on 6 February.
3. Grant a nine month extension of vacancy to Carluke St Andrews and St Johns covering the period 3 January to 2 October 2015.
4. Note that Douglas Valley has approved its Electoral Roll and this has been attested by the Clerk.

The Convener withdrew section 3 of the deliverance in light of this being dealt with under delegated powers.

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Instruct the Clerk to issue a Qualified Practising Certificate to Rev Una Stewart in terms of Act XV 2002 (as amended).
3. Note that the Annual Attestation of Congregational Records will take place in St Nicholas Halls, Lanark on the evening of 17 February 2015 and that congregational representatives are asked to attend with their records at the times detailed on p42 of the Presbytery Yearbook.
4. Request all Presbyters to convey information to their Congregational Office bearers regarding the arrangements in place for the inspection.
5. Instruct the Clerk to communicate a further reminder regarding the arrangements for attestation to all Session Clerks.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report

2. Request that the Clerk issues a reminder to applicable church office bearers regarding the grant aid availability for roof repairs to listed buildings before the expiry date.
3. Noting the recent issue of lead theft within the bounds of Presbytery encourage congregations to be vigilant, to use 'smart water' and where necessary investigate the use of alternative products that are less attractive to thieves.
4. Note that Carluke St Andrews have consulted with CARTA regarding the upgrade to their PA system.
5. Agree to the fee proposal of £3090.00 for the inspection of three charges within the bounds of Presbytery during 2015 by Michael Nisbet Architects.
6. Encourage all congregations to uphold the charge of Douglas Valley in prayer as the Rigside Church building is put up for sale and the congregation look to develop new ways of worshipping within the local community.
7. Note the annual attestation of records will take place on the 17 February 2015 and property schedules, manse inspection records and other records which now include RAMS will be inspected at this time.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. In terms of section 16 of Act VII, 2003 (as amended), grant permission to the Kirk Session of Forth: St. Paul's Parish Church to employ a 20 hour per week Parish Co-ordinator for a fixed term of three years.
3. Instruct the Kirk Session of Forth: St. Paul's Church that, prior to taking any steps to advertise the post of Parish Co-ordinator, they must ensure that the following areas are addressed and supply extract minutes to the Presbytery Clerk stating the same;
 - a. That the post will be advertised openly and that the Kirk Session has in place a process for recruitment and interview;
 - b. That a draft contract of employment be supplied;
 - c. That, as the post holder will be contracted and not self-employed, the Kirk Session will ensure that appropriate tax and National Insurance are paid and that they are registered with HMRC for such matters;
 - d. That, as the post holder is likely to earn more than £10,000 per annum, the Kirk Session have made appropriate arrangements for an auto enrolment pension scheme;and grant powers to the Presbytery Clerk, Depute Presbytery Clerk and Ministries Committee Convenor to authorise permission to advertise only after the extract minutes have been submitted and that there is agreement between all parties that all necessary areas in a-d above have been satisfactorily addressed.
4. Instruct all ministers to produce their completed travel log books for 2014 to the Ministries Committee for attestation on the evening of 17th February 2015.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that a joint Presbytery Worship Leader Training initiative is to be developed and encourage Presbyters to make known that expressions of interest are welcomed from any who may wish to participate in such training.
3. Note that a meeting of Safeguarding Co-ordinators will take place at 7.30pm, 23 March in Lanark: Greyfriars.
4. Note that a Prospective Elder/Pre Ordination Elder training course was held at Carluke St. Andrew's from 25 January to 1 February.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

In the absence of the Convener the Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by Rev Bryan Kerr, Depute Clerk, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Encourage the Committee to continue their efforts to engage with South Lanarkshire Council over the proposed reduction in Registry services at local council offices, and to work together with the Presbytery of Hamilton towards this end.
3. Note that work on a Presbytery Questionnaire continues.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

- Cathcart Church is willing to run a Jesus the Evidence course in local churches.
- Expenses claims for 2014 should be in the hands of the Presbytery Treasurer by Friday 6th February.
- Scripture Union holiday clubs training event
- Fresh expression vision days in March and May.
- Data Protection webinar - speak to Clerk If congregations would like a dvd copy
- Accounts for 2014 should be in the hands of Steven Reid, Finance Convenor as soon as possible and no later than 31st March 2015
- Revised guidance notes for accounting for year end 31/12/2014 are available for treasurers on Church of Scotland website.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 March 2015 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 March 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 Ministers, 26 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev S Cowell, J Cutler, I Cunningham and I McKenzie Ministers, Messrs M Barclay and J Watt, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following changes to the Roll of Presbytery:-

- i. Rev George Fox, formerly of Coalsnaughton and of Braehead House, passed away on 9 February 2015. Mr Fox was no longer on the Roll of Presbytery but the Clerk has informed Ministries Council of his death.
- ii. Mrs Annis Cutler, wife of Rev Jim Cutler, former Presbytery Clerk and current Interim Moderator of Lanark: St. Nicholas passed away in the early hours of 3 March 2015
- iii. Rev Iain Cunningham has informed the Clerk that following eye surgery he has been signed off for a period of two weeks, as of Monday 2 March.

Due to the recent passing of Mrs Annis Cutler, it was moved, seconded and agreed “Appoint Rev Bryan Kerr as Interim Moderator Pro-tem in the charge of Lanark: St Nicholas until the May meeting of Presbytery or until the Vacancy Procedure Committee knows that Mr Cutler is fit to resume duties. For the avoidance of doubt Mr Cutler will remain an Assessor member of Presbytery during this period.”

Minutes of meeting on 3 February 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2015 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following decisions taken under delegated powers following the last ordinary meeting of Presbytery, in accordance with Standing Order 7x:

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Carlisle: St Andrew's and St John's

- Grant a nine month extension to permission to call in respect of Carlisle: St. Andrew's in deferred union with Carlisle: St. John's with effect from 3rd January 2015 to 2nd October 2015.

Carnwath linked with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction

- Appoint Rev Gordon Jamieson as Interim Moderator in the charge of Carnwath linked with The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction with effect from 9th February 2015.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 correspondence received from

- SLC response to Presbytery representation in respect of registration services stating they were of the view a meeting was not required.
- IA Stewart – a special delivery first class letter was received asking for terms of business to be signed - this has been remitted to members of the Finance Committee.
- Learn eldership training material - the Clerk has a copy of the publication for people to review.

Good News Stories

Mr David Waters, elder at Kirkmuirhill reported on the work of the Second Chance charity shop which continues unabated despite some challenging conditions and the debt of gratitude owed to Jack Lumsden and Libby Muir, assessor elders, for the support they have given the congregation in the transition period.

Mrs Anne Cochrane, elder at Carnwath reported on the last Kirk session meeting with Rev Russell McLarty in the local hotel with a meal prior to retreating to a comfortable lounge with a roaring fire and coffee for the session meeting. Mrs Cochrane encouraged other Kirk sessions to meet together in a similar manner.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Clerk will update our Data Protection Registration details by April 1st 2015.
3. Note that the Commissioners at this year's General Assembly will be Rev Mike Fucella, Rev Helen Jamieson (Clerk) Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald, and Rev George Shand, Ministers and Messrs Ross Hyslop (Lanark: Greyfriars), Alan Grant (Carluke: St Johns), Bill Love (Lanark: St Nicholas) and Mrs Libby Muir (Carluke: St Andrews) and Kathleen Roger (Biggar), Elders.
4. Note that Rev George Shand and the Clerk will seek to develop a strategy for engagement to allow the Presbytery to discuss meaningfully, how we build and develop our future.
5. Agree that the role and remuneration of the Clerk and Depute Clerk be considered by a small sub group of the Business Committee: Mr B Love (Convener) Rev E Clelland (Moderator) and Mrs M McGillivray (Treasurer).
6. Note that Rev H Jamieson attended the Presbytery Chaplains conference in place of Dr S Scott.
7. Note that the next Presbytery meal will be held in the Radstone Hotel on 12th May 2015.
8. Grant powers to the Moderator, Business Convener, the Clerk and the Depute Clerk between the March and May meetings of Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Agree a £1500 reduction in Ministries and Missions allocation for Carluke: St Andrew's.
3. Agree to write off the Ministries and Missions shortfalls of £11558 for the charge of Carnwath with the caveat that vigorous attention is given to the matter of Stewardship in Carnwath.
4. Instruct the Clerk to issue the relevant extract minute to Stewardship & Finance.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by Mr David Waters, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Attestation of Congregational Records took place on Tuesday 18 February 2013 in St Nicholas Church Hall.
3. Note that the standard of record keeping is generally very good, but there are still some issues which some congregations need to address.
4. Note that, once again, the arrangements worked well for all concerned and were well received by congregational office bearers.
5. Thank those congregational office bearers who brought records for attestation and commend them for their diligence.

6. Thank those who carried out, and assisted at, the attestation and the Session Clerk of Lanark: St Nicholas for his assistance in arranging the hall.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as a new section 7 "Note that the Presbytery minutes for 2014 have been inspected and found to be in order."

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

8. Receive the report
9. Note the annual attestation of records took place on the 17th February 2015 and instruct those Congregations whose records were not attested to present their property records at the next Committee meeting (24th March 2015).

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the application of Rev. George Shand for Study Leave from 8-21 June 2015 to attend a conference on "Managing Effective Change in Church". The application has been agreed by the Ministries Training Task Group which is funding his costs.
3. Sincerely thank Rev. Elizabeth Clelland for her greatly appreciated leadership of the Presbytery Retreat.
4. Note that the Committee is giving due consideration to the matter of the expansion of the Carluke Parish Grouping and will report to Presbytery in May.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

5. Receive the Report
6. Approve the nomination of Laura-Jane Sinclair of Forth: St Paul's Church to represent the Presbytery of Lanark as Youth Representative at the 2015 General Assembly.
7. Note that 'Safeguarding Training for Volunteers' and 'Safeguarding Co-ordinators' courses will take place at Lanark: St Nicholas Church Halls on Saturday 28 March and Saturday 16 May at Carluke: Kirkton Church.
8. Note that most Safeguarding Registers have been inspected and the inspection of those outstanding is in hand.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

- All ministers were informed that due to a change in legislation they should present their travel log books from 1st January 2015 - 31st March 2015 to the Ministries Committee for attestation at the April committee night or May Presbytery meeting.
- Ministers were reminded to activate their churchofscotland.org.uk email address as soon as possible as this will be the main way central councils and committees will communicate with ministers in the coming weeks
- A concert by Jonathan Veira will take place in Kirkton Church on 21st March at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 May 2015 at 7.00 pm at the Halls of Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 May 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Bill Love, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 7 Ministers, 26 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members, 5 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev E Clelland, S Cowell, J Cutler, H Findlay, G Jamieson, I McKenzie, Ministers and Mrs L Nicol, Elder

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following changes to the Roll of Presbytery:-

- iv. A sick note for Iain Cunningham from 2 March 2015 for 2 weeks and from 16th March 2015 for two weeks was received from Ministries Council
- v. A practicing certificate was issued to Rev Russell McLarty now serving as Interim Minister in Edinburgh.

Minutes of meeting on 3 February 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2015 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the following decisions taken under delegated powers following the last ordinary meeting of Presbytery, in accordance with Standing Order 7x:

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Lanark: St. Nicholas

- In respect of St. Nicholas Parish Church, Lanark, and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended) it was agreed that the Rev Bryan Kerr continue to serve as Interim Moderator until at least 31st May 2015, or until such times as Rev Jim Cutler agrees with the Vacancy Procedure Committee that he can resume his duties.

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 correspondence received from

- Ministries Council - Angus Mathieson – pioneer ministry post bid process. It was agreed that this was not suitable for Lanark Presbytery at this time.
- Ministries Council - Pilot project – information circulated to all ministers currently serving in charges – those interested must apply to Clerk by end of May using form sent – info also sent to all members of Presbytery for information
- Review and Reform – seeking congregations for a pilot on renewal. It was agreed to issue the invitation to all congregation currently with a minister and invite nominations by end May 2015.
- SLC licensing and registration – invitation to attend a meeting to discuss the implementation of the change of service.
- Rev Gordon Jamieson Interim Moderator at United Charge of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to inform Presbytery that a closing service for the Junction building took place on 19 April 2015. Rev Elizabeth Clelland Moderator represented Presbytery

Good News Stories

Mrs Mabel Morris, The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, two leaders from the Girls Brigade have been chosen to represent the company at the Royal Garden Party

Report of the Guild Presbyterial Council

The Report of the Guild Presbyterial Council was presented by the Convener, Mrs Allison Plenderleith. Mrs Plenderleith brought the greetings of Guild members to the Presbytery. The theme for the next three years is Be Bold, Be Strong with six different projects representing a breadth of work across Scotland and beyond. At a national level the Guild will be producing an action plan at the General Assembly to ensure the future of the Guild. Thanks were expressed to those within Presbytery and congregations who support the work of the Guild. Mrs Plenderleith paid an emotional tribute to, and gave thanks for the work of, the Guild Associate Secretary, Fiona Punton, who passed away in the days leading to the meeting and indicated that the new Convenor of the Presbyterial Council will be Mrs Dorothy Wiseman from Kirkmuirhill Guild. The Moderator thanked Mrs Plenderleith for her report and her service.

Report of the Heart & Soul Planning Group

The Report of the Heart & Soul Planning Group was presented by the Presbytery Clerk. The clerk outlined the plans for the Lanark Presbytery tent and encouraged members to visit the tent on 17th May. A planning group of 15 people from congregations across the Presbytery has met to plan the Presbytery tent. The Clerk urged all congregations to pass on the information for the display, as requested by the Planning Group, as soon as possible.

Report on Carluke & Law (Joint Report from Ministries, Vacancy Procedure and Congregational Support Committees)

The Report on Carluke and Law was presented by the Convener of Vacancy Procedure Committee, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report from the Ministries, Vacancy Procedure and Congregational Support Committee in respect of Carluke and Law.
2. Agree that the matter of the expansion of the Carluke Parish Grouping to include Law Parish Church cannot be progressed until at least a year after a Minister has been inducted to the charge of Carluke : St. Andrew's in Deferred Union with Carluke: St. John's
3. Agree to suspend the Presbytery Plan in Carluke and Law, with the exception of the vacancy in Carluke: St. Andrews in deferred Union with Carluke: St. John's.
4. Appoint a joint team of five persons; two from Congregational Support and two from Ministries Committee, convened by Rev George Shand from Congregational Support Committee, to conduct a Local Church Review in Law Parish Church and review the provision of ministry in the Carluke area in light of the situation within Law parish, including the planned housing in Law hospital not yet materialising, and instruct the team to report back to Presbytery in December 2015.
5. Encourage all members of Presbytery to uphold the congregation and parish of Law in prayer at this time.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregations of Law, Carluke: St. Andrew's, Carluke: Kirkton and Carluke: St. John's.

Representatives from the congregations cited were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Vice Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Mrs Libby Muir has completed her training to be an Interim Moderator and agree her appointment at Kirkmuirhill shadowing the work of the Interim Moderator for a period of six months.
3. Grant approval to the charge of Carluke St Andrews to change from the Model to the Unitary Constitution and instruct the Clerk to send an Extract Minute and the relevant papers to the Church Solicitor.
4. Note that the Presbytery meal will take place on Tuesday 12th May 2015 at the Radstone Hotel.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Grant permission to the Congregation of Lanark: St Nicholas to postpone their Stated Annual Meeting to 10th May 2015 and remind them that their accounts must be submitted for attestation as soon as they are approved by the trustees.
3. Commend the Minister, Office Bearers and Congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars for their outreach and involvement with the community and their innovative use of information technology.
4. Commend the dedicated and thoughtful work of the congregation, its office bearers and its minister in their efforts to be a local model of good practice in innovation and in relevance to the community.
5. Note that the Office Bearers have been asked to prepare a 5 Year Action Plan for discussion with the visiting team at a date to be arranged in late August.
6. Commend the Minister, Office Bearers and Congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars to the prayers of Presbytery.
7. Note that a copy of the full report on the LCRV to Lanark; Greyfriars can be obtained from the Convenor or request.
8. Note that the report on the LCRV to Biggar I/w Blackmount has now to be in the Convenor's hands by 31st August 2015.
9. Note that a report on the usefulness and effectiveness of the documentation and process used in the visit will be presented following receipt of the report on the LCRV to Biggar I/w Blackmount.
10. Agree that the Attestation of Congregational Records take place in future on the March Committee evening.
11. Instruct the Depute Clerk to make the necessary amendments to the yearbook regarding the date of the Attestation of Congregational Records.
12. Instruct the Clerk to advise all Session Clerks of the change of date for the Attestation of Congregational Records.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance section to amend to read "Agree that the Attestation of Congregational Records take place in future on the April Committee evening."

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the Report
10. Note that 'Safeguarding Training for Volunteers' and 'Safeguarding Co-ordinators' courses will take place at Carluke: Kirkton Church on Saturday 16 May.
11. Note that a Safeguarding Co-ordinators planning meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 28th May at Carluke: St Andrew's
12. Commend to Presbytery the use of the 'Learn: Eldership' resource.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Kirk Session of Forth: St. Paul's Church has been granted permission to appoint a Parish co-ordinator.
3. Encourage anyone interested in receiving information regarding the role of Vocations Champion to speak to the Presbytery Clerk or the Ministries Convener.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Approve the Presbytery Accounts for 2014 and extend thanks to Mrs Mary McGillivray for her work as Presbytery Treasurer.
3. Appoint the Clerk and Depute Clerk as signatories for I&A Stewart's appointment as Presbytery's Auditors.
4. Agree exemption from monthly standing order payments for Ministries and Mission contributions for the congregation of Carnwath and instruct the Clerk to forward an extract minute to the Stewardship and Finance Department.
5. Note that those Congregations wishing to make an application for a reduction on Ministry and Mission from 4% Presbytery Variance Allowance should submit applications before the August committee meeting at the latest.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

10. Receive the report
11. Note that the Manse of St Nicholas Parish Church has been inspected and that the property was found to be satisfactory for occupation at this time.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as a new section 7 " Note that a closing service for Carstairs Junction building was held on 19th April 2015 and, in accordance with the Presbytery deliverance of October 2014 granting permission for the sale to take place following a closing service, instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute to the General Trustees in order that the sale of the building can proceed"

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

- Heart and Soul – Sunday 17 May 2015 1-6pm in Princes Street Gardens Edinburgh.
- World Mission Rally – Wednesday 18 November 2015 7pm in St Nicholas Parish Church Hall.
- Crossreach Information Sheets
- Scottish Federation of Organists 2015 recommended salary scales
- Music Events in St Andrew's Carlisle

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Tuesday 16 June 2015 at 7.00pm Braehead House Christian Healing and Retreat Centre, Crossford and thereafter for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 16 June 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met after the administration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion in Braehead House Christian Healing and Retreat Centre, Crossford and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 5 Ministers, 21 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members, and 1 Visitor.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev I Cunningham, D Easton, H Findlay, M Fucella and G Shand, Ministers and Messrs M Barclay, T Chalmers P McLeish, A McPhee, F Mitchell, I Thomson and Mrs M Morris, Elders

Approval of the Agenda

With the additional item of Roll of Presbytery, the Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the Rev Iain Cunningham was on sick leave for two weeks and due notification would follow from Ministries Council.

Minutes of meeting on 5 May 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2015 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

No decisions had been taken under delegated powers

Correspondence

The Clerk intimated 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 correspondence received from

- Ministries Council – information regarding services of Introduction for MDS posts, Going for Growth Summer School in June and revised guidelines for Interim Moderators
- Solicitor – information sent to Ministers to be passed on to Treasurers regarding water and waste water scheme

Good News Stories

Dr Sinclair Scott, Session Clerk for Douglas Valley, informed Presbytery that looking towards the closure of the Rigside Church building, a service of worship had been held in the community centre at Rigside for the first time and that it had been encouragingly well attended.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Nominate Tinto Parishes for the Path of Renewal pilot programme and instruct the Clerk in consultation with the Business Convener to submit the application to the Panel on Review and Reform.
3. Note the Scottish Government legislation regarding water and waste water and advise all congregations, and in particular those who run cafes and charity shops from Church buildings to check the legislation.
4. Agree to pay the Depute Clerk two thirds of that paid to the Clerk; payments to be made monthly, using the same method as that of the Clerk.
5. Appoint Mrs Anna Lumsden as Moderator Designate of Lanark Presbytery for 2015/16

6. Grant powers to the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Moderator and Business Convenor during the summer recess with any decisions made to be brought to Presbytery for homologation in September

It was moved seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add new sections

7. Thank and discharge Rev B Kerr and re-appoint Rev Jim Cutler (Melrose & Peebles Presbytery) as Interim Moderator for the charge of Lanark: St Nicholas from 17 June 2015
8. Record sincere thanks to all who assisted with organising and staffing the Presbytery tent at Heart and Soul 2015
9. Thank those who have served as Presbytery Elders during 2014.15 but who are now retiring.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Bryan Kerr who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report.
2. Remind Interim Moderators that procedures in Act 8 2003 (as amended) require to be followed
3. In terms of Section 25 (A) of Act 8, 2003 (as amended), agree that should a vacant charge within the Presbytery that was granted permission to call prior to 31st December 2013, make application to Presbytery prior to 16th August 2015 to be listed in terms of the above section, permission to be listed shall be deemed to have been granted.
4. Note that Rev Gordon Jamieson will cease to be Interim Moderator of Carnwath linked with the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction after the 31st October 2015.
5. Note that an urgent meeting of the office bearers of Carnwath Church and members of the Vacancy Procedure Committee will be held in order that the Vacancy Schedule might be completed.
6. Note that as permission to call for the charges of Carnwath I/wThe United Parish of Carstairs & Carstairs Junction and Forth: St Paul's has lapsed, the Vacancy Procedure Committee has written to the charges and asked that they provide information regarding progress in the vacancy by the end of June 2015.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Ruth Donaldson of Christian Solidarity Worldwide has been invited to speak at this year's World Mission Rally.
3. Encourage congregations to consider promoting the national Donor Organ scheme in view of the current shortage of organs available for transplantation.
4. Urge Presbytery to continue efforts to meet with officials of SLC regarding the ongoing concerns over rising funeral costs in our area and the effects of the reduction in Registrars' hours of availability

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

6. Receive the report
7. Agree to issue a Practising Certificate for 2015/16 to Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Graham Houston, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev John Turnbull and a Qualified Practising Certificate to Rev Una Stewart.
8. Note that Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Margaret Muir, and Rev John Turnbull have indicated that they will not be taking up their seat in Presbytery.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the report
2. Note that following information received regarding the refurbishment of St Mary's hall, Biggar, some issues require clarification and a meeting with representatives of Presbytery Property Committee, General Trustees and Biggar Kirk will be held as soon as possible.
3. Instruct Biggar Kirk not to commence work on the refurbishment to St Mary's halls until further discussions have taken place and approval of the works has been given by the Presbytery and General Trustees.
4. Inform Biggar and Blackmount Kirk Sessions that if they wish to proceed to share the manse cost, a valuation requires to be done (with the cost shared between the two congregations), that any agreement requires to be minuted in both Kirk Sessions and extract minutes forwarded to the Presbytery Clerk for transmission to the General Trustees.
5. Note that the Manse inspection of Carluke St John's took place and the manse is suitable for habitation at this time.
6. Commend Carluke St John's property convener and his team for the ongoing work that has been carried out in the upkeep of the property.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the Report
2. Encourage Presbyters to identify and make known to young people of appropriate age, details of the proposed National Assembly to be held at Gartmore House, Stirling from 5pm on Friday, 14 August to 5pm on Monday, 17 August 2015.

It was moved seconded and agreed as an amendment to the Deliverance to add new sections

3. Approve the funding of up to three places at a cost of £85 per person for young people to attend the NYA 2015
4. Approve the name of Laura Jane Sinclair, Forth: St Paul's Parish Church as a representative to NYA 2015

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

6. Receive the Report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Mrs Anna Lumsden, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

4. Receive the Report
5. Note that all ministers log books have been attested up to April 2015.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

- Newsletters from Clyde and Avon Valley Landscape Partnership
- A Music Event in St Andrew's Carluke on 21 June

The Clerk recorded the thanks of Presbytery to Braehead Christian Healing and Retreat Centre for their welcome and hospitality and to the Moderator for her conduct of the Communion Service

The Clerk intimated that as she anticipated being on sick leave for surgery in August, the Depute Clerk would take over as Acting Clerk until she was able to resume duties

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer for the Clerk and for Mrs Lumsden Moderator Designate whose mother had recently passed away.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for the Sacrament of Holy Communion on Tuesday 1 September 2015 at 7.00pm in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and thereafter for Ordinary Business.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 September 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met after the administration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 6 Ministers, 26 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member, and 39 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Easton, H Jamieson and B Kerr, Ministers and Mr J Austin, Elder

Installation of Moderator

The Presbytery, having previously elected Mrs Anna Lumsden to be Moderator, moved to install her as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2015/16, during the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Ms Clelland welcomed Mrs Lumsden, installed her as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited her to take the chair.

Welcome to new Members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed new Presbytery Elders to their first meeting.

Acting Clerk, Oath de fideli

Due to the Absence of the Presbytery Clerk and Acting Presbytery Clerk through illness, the Presbytery elected to appoint Rev Harry Findlay as Acting Clerk for the duration of the meeting. Mr Findlay took the oath de fideli.

Thanks to retiring Moderator

The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing her, and also thanked Ms Clelland for her service during her term as Moderator.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved, with the addition of a new Section 14, Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee.

Roll of Presbytery

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that the Rev Helen Jamieson was currently on sick leave and was home recuperating following her operation. The Acting Clerk also informed Presbytery that the Rev Bryan Kerr was currently on sick leave and was home resting after a stay in hospital.

Minutes of meeting on 16 June 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2015 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Acting Clerk intimated 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 Acting Clerk referred to correspondence received from

- **Ministries Council** - good practice guidelines in terms of Act 1 2015 Civil Partnerships
- **Ministries Council** - Re-imagining the Regional Church Ministries Council Conference 30 Sept – 2 Oct – Rev Bryan Kerr & Rev George Shand to attend as Presbytery Representatives
- **Ministries Council** - Sick note for Iain Cunningham from 5-19 June 2015
- **John Thomson – Ministries** – listing under Section 25(A), Act 8, 2003 (as amended) approved for St Andrew's in deferred union with St Johns and Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow Old
- **Presbytery Planning Task Group, Ministries Council** – suspension of Plan in Carluke/Law concurrence received
- **Derek Browning, Convener of Assembly Arrangements Committee** - Statement in respect of Voting and attendance at GA

- **Information Commissioner's Office – Data Protection confirmation of change to register** – e-mailed to Session Clerks and Ministers with copy of Lanark Presbytery Registration entry and information from Church Solicitor
- **General Trustees** – Determination received for the sale of Carstairs Junction Church
- **Principal Clerk's Office** – information in respect of returns to Overture amending Act 1 2015
- **Gordon Jamieson** – working with Carstairs & Carstairs Junction Parish Church and Law Dept to change legal name to Carstairs Parish Church
- **Review and reform Path of Renewal** - Acknowledgment of nomination of Tinto Parishes and outlining procedure and conference dates. – Bill Love will attend conference as Presbytery link person.
- **Stewardship Presbytery Reps day** – Glasgow - 23 September 2015
- **Solicitor** – Data Protection – to ensure Presbytery registration is up to date and accurate.
- **Solicitor** - Pensions auto enrolment information
- **Pamela Strachan OLM in Melrose and Peebles Presbytery** – notified Presbytery and Gordon Jamieson IM at Carnwath/Carstairs of her appointment as Chaplain to State Hospital Carstairs
- **Archie McDowall, Stewardship & Finance** – re Ministries and mission outstanding payments for 2015
- **Ministries Council** - Sick note for Bryan Kerr from 26 August 2015 for 1 month

Decisions taken under powers (Summer Recess)

Presbytery noted that the following decision had been taken under powers agreed at the meeting on 16 June 2015:

Carluke: St. Andrew's in Deferred Union with Carluke: St. John's (31 July 2015)

Following requests from the Kirk Sessions of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's to the Presbytery of Lanark to be listed in terms of section 25(A) of Act 8, 2003 (as amended);

and following the Advisory Committee meeting with the Kirk Sessions of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's where no issues of concern were raised that would make such listing under section 25 (A) of Acts 8, 2003 (as amended) inappropriate as well as appropriate consultation with the Ministries Council on the matter having taken place;

and following the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark on 16th June 2015 which stated 'In terms of Section 25 (A) of Act 8, 2003 (as amended), agree that should a vacant charge within the Presbytery that was granted permission to call prior to 31st December 2013, make application to Presbytery prior to 16th August 2015 to be listed in terms of the above section, permission to be listed shall be deemed to have been granted'

It is agreed, under powers, in the case of the vacancy in Carluke: St. Andrew's in Deferred Union with Carluke: St. John's that the Kirk Sessions of the charge be granted permission of be listed under section 25(A) of Act 8, 2003 (as amended) and receive applications from eligible candidates from outwith the EEA and Switzerland and to issue an extract minute of the decision to the Ministries Council.

Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old (13 August 2015)

Following requests from the Kirk Sessions of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old to the Presbytery of Lanark to be listed in terms of section 25(A) of Act 8, 2003 (as amended);

and following the Advisory Committee Convenor meeting with the Kirk Sessions of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old where no issues of concern were raised that would make such listing under section 25 (A) of Acts 8, 2003 (as amended) inappropriate as well as appropriate consultation with the Ministries Council on the matter having taken place;

and following the decision of the Presbytery of Lanark on 16th June 2015 which stated 'In terms of Section 25 (A) of Act 8, 2003 (as amended), agree that should a vacant charge within the Presbytery that was granted permission to call prior to 31st December 2013, make application to Presbytery prior to 16th August 2015 to be listed in terms of the above section, permission to be listed shall be deemed to have been granted'

It is agreed, under powers, in the case of the vacancy in Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old that the Kirk Sessions of the charge be granted permission of be listed under section 25(A) of Act 8, 2003 (as amended) and receive applications from eligible candidates from outwith the EEA and Switzerland and to issue an extract minute of the decision to the Ministries Council.

Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old (13 August 2015)

It is agreed, under powers, to note the appointment of Mrs Elizabeth Leckie, Reader in the Presbytery of Hamilton, as locum for a Sunday plus one day a week in the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow Old for an initial period of 6 months, subject to a review, from 19th August 2015; and encourage the Kirk Sessions to consider appointing Mrs Leckie for a Sunday plus 2 days per week

Carlisle: St. Andrew's (18 August 2015)

It is agreed, under powers, to appoint Mr Bill Love as Interim Moderator during the period of absence of the minister, Rev Helen Jamieson

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that the Clerk has been duly informed that the Presbytery Property Committee agreed under delegated powers:

Biggar Parish Church – Refurbishment of St Mary's Church Hall

Presbytery-

1. Noting that all finance is in place locally to fund the refurbishment of St. Mary's Church Hall, Biggar at a cost of around £150,000; and that a number of meetings have taken place between the congregation, Presbytery and the General Trustees; and that a number of points made previously to the congregation have been adopted; and that there the Presbytery Plan indicates no further readjustment in the buildings or congregation of Biggar Kirk; agree the plans for the Refurbishment of St. Mary's Church Hall, Biggar and transmit the decision to the General Trustees.
2. Agree that the congregation of Biggar Kirk should not submit a formal planning application for the refurbishment of St. Mary's Church Hall until permission to do so is granted by the General Trustees.

Good News Stories

Mr David Waters, Kirkmuirhill, spoke of the successful Summer Club run by Kirkmuirhill Church. Each day of the club saw attendance of 60 young people. He also outlined details of the 8 week, Christianity Explored Course starting on 2nd September, that over 40 people have expressed an interest in attending.

Report of the Prayer Co-ordinator

The Prayer Co-ordinator, Rev Elizabeth Clelland, offered a short verbal report to the Presbytery.

Deliverance: Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the delay in producing the Presbytery year book.
3. Note the use of Locum Contracts and the review at six monthly intervals.
4. Agree to the appointment of Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald as convener of the Ministries Committee.
5. Approve the final listing of Presbyters to Committees for 2015-2016 (Appendix 1).
6. Approve an honorarium of £500 to the Depute Clerk, covering the period January-June 2015

The Deliverance was approved

The Convener recorded the thanks of Presbytery to Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark for their welcome and hospitality and to the Retiring Moderator for her conduct of the Communion Service, and wished the Moderator God's blessing in the year ahead.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Business Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that edicts had been served to the congregations of Forth: St. Paul's, Coalburn, Leshahagow: Old, Carnwath, Carstairs & Carstairs Junction and Kirkmuirhill.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations. Representatives from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church spoke positively about the change from Transition to Interim Ministry.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the second Extensions to Call granted to Forth St Paul's, Coalburn I/w Lesmahagow: Old and Carnwath I/w Carstairs and Carstairs junction covering the period until 31st January 2016.
3. Approve the change from seeking a Transition minister to seeking an Interim Minister in the charge of Kirkmuirhill; strongly urge the Ministries Council to see such an appointment as a priority for their resources; express the strong feeling that an Interim minister be in post prior to the end of 2015; and instruct the clerk to issue an extract minute to the Ministries Council.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Mr. David Waters and Mrs. Mabel Morris have agreed to continue as Vice Convenor and Minutes Secretary respectively for a further year.
3. Note that the congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars have been given until nearer the end of 2015 to present their 5 year plan.
4. Note that the LCRV to Biggar I/w Blackmount has been postponed until 2016.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald.

Parties were called.

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregation of Upper Clyde.

Representatives from Upper Clyde were invited to make representations. No party made a representation.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree to invite a current Vocations Champion, or small group, to address Presbytery and talk about their role.
3. Agree to increase the 0.8 FTE ministry provided to the charge of Upper Clyde to 1.0 FTE, utilising the 0.2 FTE allowance granted by the Ministries Council and to seek the concurrence of the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton.

Parties were called.

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that edicts had been served to the congregations of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations. Representation was made from Carluke: St. John's Parish Church expressing some concern about making decisions regarding manse provision prior to other church buildings.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

1. Receive the report
2. Note that a meeting and discussions were held regarding the refurbishment of St Mary's Church Hall and that the presentation addresses the points previously raised therefore the committee have approved that the proposal is to be submitted to the General Trustees.
3. Note that the existing War Memorial within the grounds of Carstairs Junction will require to be relocated.
4. Noting that the Basis of Deferred Union between Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke St. John's agreed in December 2013 states that a survey and evaluation of buildings and assets be 'carried out and completed within eighteen months of the agreement of the basis of Deferred Union', and that this timescale has passed without resolution;
 - a. instruct the Kirk Sessions, financial courts and congregations of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's to work together following the induction of the new minister to Carluke: St Andrew's in deferred union with Carluke: St John's to establish the mission priorities for Carluke: Forest Kirk following the union and make decisions on the future use of buildings (with the exception of manse provision) as a result of the said mission discussions; with a final recommendation and decision to be taken within 18 months of the date of induction of the said minister;
 - b. instruct the Kirk Sessions, financial courts and congregations of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's to seek the assistance of the Mission and Discipleship Council Church Without Walls Team alongside CARTA to establish the mission principles within the discussion over future use of buildings;
 - c. instruct the Kirk Sessions and financial courts of Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's to work with relevant professionals, including an approved architect, and make a decision on manse provision within the united congregation prior to 31st October 2015 and report to the Presbytery;

- d. agree that for the avoidance of doubt all other clauses within the Basis of Deferred Union between Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke St. John's remain, with the only change being the timescale for decisions on future use of buildings and assets of the united congregation.
5. Appoint Ewan Easton and Bobby Mitchell to serve on the on the joint group looking at Property Matters in Carluke St. Andrew's in deferred Union with Carluke: St. John's.
6. Note that a service of closure of the church building in Rigside took place on 30th August 2015; gives thanks for the many generations of worship and witness that took place from the building; and prays for a fruitful continuation of ministry and mission within the community of Rigside from The Douglas Valley Church.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 4(c) to remove '31st October 2015' and insert '30th November 2015'.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

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

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree a reduction of £1000 of the Ministries and Mission allocation of Carluke St Andrews.
3. Agree a reduction of a total of £5300 of the Ministries and Mission allocation of Lanark Greyfriars.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that 31 October is the deadline for volunteers undertaking Regulated Work with children and protected adults to be PVG Scheme members.
3. Note that Safeguarding Training events are proposed for September, October and November at dates and locations to be announced.
4. Note that Kirk Sessions are at liberty to appoint more than one Safeguarding Co-ordinator.
5. Note that efforts to arrange training in leading worship in conjunction with Hamilton Presbytery are ongoing.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Ruth Donaldson of Christian Solidarity Worldwide has been invited to speak at this year's World Mission Rally.
3. Note the forthcoming World Mission Council's Resources day on 12th September.
4. Note St Andrew's Hospice appeal for help with funding for their planned major refurbishment and encourage congregations to consider their request for assistance in the form of a one off collection.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Acting Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

The Presbytery expressed thanks to Rev Harry Findlay, Acting Clerk, for his willingness to carry out the duties during the meeting.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 6 October 2015 at 7 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Presbytery of Lanark Committee Membership 2015-2016

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CONVENOR – ALAN GRANT)				
<i>Fifth+ Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Second Year</i>	<i>First Year</i>
Robert Carson	Lilias Nicol Fiona Hannah	John Austin	Anne Reid Tom Chalmers	Kathleen Wood
		David Carmichael		

CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT (CONVENOR – JIM WATT)				
<i>Fifth+ Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Second Year</i>	<i>First Year</i>
Alex McPhee			David Watters Mabel Morris Frank Mitchell	Jenny Worthington
			George Shand	

MINISTRIES (CONVENOR – NIKKI MACDONALD)				
<i>Fifth+ Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Second Year</i>	<i>First Year</i>
Helen Chekansky Anne Cochrane Bill Love				
		Susan Cowell		

PROPERTY (CONVENOR – EWAN EASTON)				
<i>Fifth+ Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Second Year</i>	<i>First Year</i>
William Coulter		Bobby Mitchell	Cameron Murray	Peter McLeish

WORLD & COMMUNITY ISSUES (CONVENOR – SINCLAIR SCOTT)				
<i>Fifth+ Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Second Year</i>	<i>First Year</i>
Mairi Somerville Hugh Stewart			Willie Macsween Cameron Sutherland	Elizabeth McLachlan
Iain Cunningham		Mike Fucella		

FINANCE (CONVENOR – STEVEN REID)				
<i>Fifth+ Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Second Year</i>	<i>First Year</i>
			Mary McGillivray Graham Chapman Jack Lumsden (co-opted)	
			Harry Findlay	

BUSINESS (CONVENOR – BILL LOVE)				
<i>Fifth+ Year</i>	<i>Fourth Year</i>	<i>Third Year</i>	<i>Second Year</i>	<i>First Year</i>
Sinclair Scott	Mary McGillivray	Mairi Somerville		Anna Lumsden
			Elizabeth Clelland George Shand	

Clerk and Depute Ex-officio members of all committees

Lanark, on Tuesday 6 October 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mrs Anna Lumsden, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 6 Ministers, 26 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member, and 5 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael, E Clelland, H Jamieson, B Kerr and S Reid, Ministers.

Welcome to new Members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed new Presbytery Elders to their first meeting.

Acting Clerk, Oath de fideli

Due to the Absence of the Presbytery Clerk and Acting Presbytery Clerk through illness, the Presbytery elected to appoint Rev Harry Findlay as Acting Clerk for the duration of the meeting. Mr Findlay took the oath de fideli.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that both the Rev Helen Jamieson and the Rev Bryan Kerr were still on sick leave.

Minutes of meeting on 1 September 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2015 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Acting Clerk intimated 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 Acting Clerk referred to correspondence received from

- Carstairs and Carstairs Junction Church - Request on legal name change for Carstairs & Extract Minutes from Kirk Session and Congregational Meeting
- General Trustees – Correspondence to say Carnwath Church is needing urgent repairs to building due to neglect
- Ministries Council – Concurrence on decision to move Upper Clyde Ministry from 0.8 FTE to 1.0 FTE
- Ministries Council – Interim ministry Task Group have approved the use of an Interim minister at Kirkmuirhill and will arrange for a congregational meeting to be held to vote on accepting an interim minister.
- Ministries Council - Sick Note for Rev Bryan Kerr, Lanark: Greyfriars from 23rd September for one month
- Christian Aid – invitation for all to attend a special thanksgiving service to mark the 70th Anniversary in St. Giles on 10th November.
- Council of Assembly – seeking ministers to apply to become members of the Council of Assembly

Good News Stories

Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald, Upper Clyde Parish Church, informed the Presbytery that the old manse in Crawford had sold for above the asking price, and also that a community choir 'Junction 13' had been set up in the parish, holding a successful concert in Crawfordjohn on 3rd October.

Mr Cameron Sutherland, Biggar Parish Church, spoke of the successful fete and fun day held by the church. This was followed by an open air service and was an example of the congregation pulling together and reaching out to the community. He also spoke of the last Messy Church that had attracted 86 participants. This represented a significant number of people with tenuous church connections or no church connections at all.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregations of Upper Clyde.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note receipt of the sick note from Rev Helen Jamieson for the period 20th August 2015-1st October 2015.
3. Agree that the Church and Society Council be invited to speak on "Speak Out: 10,000 voices for change" at the November 2015 meeting of Presbytery.
4. following receipt of extract minutes from the Kirk Session (19th August 2015) and a Congregational Meeting (13th September 2015) of the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction, agree that the legal, and known names of the charity SC028124 be amended to 'Carstairs Parish Church of Scotland' and instruct the Acting Presbytery Clerk to issue the appropriate extract minutes.
5. Note with concern that further urgent repairs are required to be undertaken by the General Trustees in Carnwath Parish Church and instruct the Kirk Session of Carnwath Parish Church to co-operate fully with the General Trustees in their regular inspections of, and notification process for damage to, the former church buildings.
6. Note that the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council issued concurrence with the Presbytery decision of 1 September 2015 to increase the ministry in Upper Clyde from 0.8FTE to 1.0FTE and agree to this taking effect from 21st October 2015.
7. Note that the Tinto Parishes and Presbytery were represented at the Panel of Review and Reform conference to outline the procedure for all applications for the Path of Renewal project on Saturday 19th September 2015
8. Agree to the appointment of Mrs Libby Muir as Interim Moderator at Lanark Greyfriars from Tuesday 22nd September 2015.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 3, after the words 'Kirk Session of Carnwath Parish Church' insert 'to continue'.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

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

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Business Convener, Mr Bill Love, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the Depute Clerk will write to Coalburn l/w Lesmahagow: Old to outline possible avenues they might wish to explore as their vacancy continues.
3. Note that an application for Interim Ministry had been made to Ministries committee for Kirkmuirhill.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

The report of the World and Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery* -

5. Receive the report.
6. Commend the World Mission Council's appeal for Nepal and urge congregations to engage with this project.
7. Thank congregations for their continuing support for the HIV Programme and encourage them to continue to work for this vital initiative.
8. Welcome the offer of a speaker from Church and Society Council to address Presbytery at the November meeting.
9. Urge Presbyters to publicise the forthcoming World Mission Rally to their congregations at this time of increased threat to minority Christian communities worldwide.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that 'Safeguarding Training for Volunteers' courses are to be held on 11 October St Mary's Church Hall, Biggar: 29 October Carluke: St Andrew's and 12 November at a venue to be confirmed
3. Note that a Safeguarding Co-ordinators Training Course will be held on 26 November at Carluke: St Andrew's

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*-

12. Receive the report
13. Approve the repairs to the organ at St Nicolas Parish Church, Lanark at a cost of £2,750 +VAT.
14. Note that a meeting and discussions were held regarding the manse provision for St Andrews and St John's in deferred union and that further meetings are to be held in forthcoming weeks.
15. Note that interest in Rigside Church and manse buildings has been shown though no formal offers have been received.
16. Note the application from Carluke: Kirkton for repairs on the pipe organ at a cost of £25,200 +VAT and instruct the congregation to i) make application to CARTA and the General Trustees to have an independent organ adviser appointed to inspect the organ and provide an independent report for the congregation; ii) the Kirk Session to seek competitive tenders from three firms for whatever scope of work is recommended by the independent adviser and iii) submit the independent report and tenders to Presbytery for approval.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Treasurer, Mrs Mary McGillivray in the absence of the convener. The acting clerk moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery*-

1. Receive the report
2. Note the Proposed Allocations for the Ministries and Missions fund and instruct financial boards to notify the Convener of the Finance Committee of any appeals prior to the October Presbytery Committee night (appendix 1).

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Acting Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

The Presbytery expressed thanks to Rev Harry Findlay, Acting Clerk, for his willingness to carry out the duties during the meeting.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 November 2015 at 7 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Proposed Ministries & Mission Allocations 2016

Congregation	Average Income 2011-2013	Average Income 2012-2014	Proposed 2015 M&M	2016 Scale M&M	2016 Contribution
Biggar	90,736	99,390	55,134	60,240	60,240
Carluke Kirkton	119,031	125,322	70,876	74,061	74,061
Carluke St Andrew's	54,760	54,849	32,646	32,703	32,703
Carluke St John's	94,032	95,363	57,078	57,864	57,864
Carnwath	37,252	32,410	21,441	18,342	18,342
Coalburn	22,495	22,199	11,996	11,807	11,807
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	53,740	52,942	31,993	31,482	31,482
Crossford	31,459	34,252	17,733	19,521	19,521
Douglas Valley	60,787	61,305	36,503	36,835	36,835
Black Mount	19,795	20,280	10,285	10,579	10,579
Forth St Pauls	59,839	55,946	35,896	33,405	33,405
Kirkfieldbank	17,656	17,798	9,087	9,166	9,166
Kirkmuirhill	113,740	109,640	68,019	65,805	65,805
Lanark St Nicholas	107,028	108,217	64,395	65,037	65,037
Law	54,034	47,564	32,181	28,040	28,040
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	87,211	82,901	53,054	50,511	50,511
Lesmahagow Old	89,375	89,220	54,331	54,239	54,239
Libberton And Quothquan	21,180	22,012	8,007	11,687	8,968
Symington	38,224	36,441	22,053	20,922	20,922
Greyfriars	88,921	86,855	54,063	52,844	52,844
Cairngryffe	36,472	36,493	20,941	20,955	20,955
The Upper Clyde	37,008	37,436	21,284	21,558	21,558
					784,884

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 November 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mrs Anna Lumsden, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 Ministers, 24 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member, and 12 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs S Cowell, H Jamieson and B Kerr Ministers, Messers R Mitchell, A McPhee and S Scott, Elders.

Welcome to new Members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors to the meeting, along with representatives from cited congregations.

Acting Clerk, Oath de fideli

Due to the Absence of the Presbytery Clerk and Acting Presbytery Clerk through illness, the Presbytery elected to appoint Rev Harry Findlay as Acting Clerk for the duration of the meeting. Mr Findlay took the oath de fideli.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that both the Rev Helen Jamieson and the Rev Bryan Kerr were still on sick leave. The Presbytery were also informed that Ross Blackman, former student with the Presbytery of Lanark had accepted a call and would be ordained and inducted to the charge of Hamilton: Old on 19th November 2015

Minutes of meeting on 6 October 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2015 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Acting Clerk intimated 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 Acting Clerk referred to correspondence received from

- IT – presbytery laptop will be encrypted for security reasons
- Council of Assembly – seeking applicants for membership
- Review and reform – intimation of blog on path of renewal on web
- Nomination committee – seeking nominations for central councils and committees
- Principal Clerk – informing that the Rev Dr Russell Barr, minister of Cramond Kirk, Edinburgh has been chosen as Moderator Designate of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, 2016
- Ministries Council – Report on recent conference that was attended by Rev George Shand.

Decisions made under delegated powers

The Acting Clerk informed the Presbytery that the following decision had been made under delegated powers

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

The Vacancy Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark, having received all relevant papers relating to the vacancy in Carluke: St Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St. John's including

- voting papers and a signed declaration of election result whereby 209 members voted for and 25 voted against electing Rev Dr Elijah Obinna as minister of Carluke: St Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St John's;
- a call to Rev Dr Elijah Obinna subscribed by 101 members of Carluke: St. Andrew's and 434 members of Carluke St. John's;
- a certificate of eligibility from Ministries Council in respect of Rev Dr Elijah Obinna;

agreed that, in respect of Carluke: St Andrews in deferred union with Carluke: St John's, and in terms of Act

VIII, 2003 (as amended), that the call to Rev Dr Elijah Obinna be sustained and a date for the induction be set for 11th February 2016 at 7pm in Carluke: St. John's Parish Church and notes that Dr Obinna will be sponsored for work by The Church of Scotland and will be required to apply for a Tier 2 Minister of Religion Visa which the Home Office Visas and Immigration Service will issue this for 3 years in the first instance which can be renewed for a further 2 years, with Dr Obinna deciding after the period of 5 years to either apply for Indefinite Leave to Remain in the UK or return to Nigeria.

The Acting Clerk informed the presbytery that the appropriate schedule was sent to members of the Presbytery and the congregations and as no objections were forthcoming the decision was finalised on 26th October 2015.

Good News Stories

Rev George Shand, The Tinto Parishes, spoke about the work of New Beginnings and spoke about their Christmas Appeal and urged congregations to support the appeal.

10,000 Voices for Change – David Bradwell, Church and Society Council

The Presbytery received a presentation from David Bradwell, Church and Society Council on the 10,000 Voices for Change project. Mr Bradwell outlined the project and spoke of the desire of the Council to hear from as many people as possible on the concept of a fairer Scotland. He urged congregations to take time over the next few months to have a place within their worship to encourage members to fill in the postcards provided for feedback. Members of Presbytery were invited, and took time, to fill in the cards. The moderator thanks Mr Bradwell for his presentation.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregations of Carluke: St Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the receipt of the sick notes on behalf of Rev H Jamieson covering the period 1st October for a further 3 months.
3. Note the receipt of the sick note on behalf of Rev B Kerr for the period 23rd September for a four week period and a further sick note covering the period to 15th January 2016.
4. Note that the Law department advise that OSCR has approved the change of name for Carstairs Parish Church of Scotland (SCO28124). This change to take effect from November 20th 2015.
5. Note that office bearer details should be in the hands of the acting Presbytery Clerk no later than Monday 9th November 2015.
6. Agree the extension to complete the report on manse provision for the new charge of Carluke: Forest Kirk, with the report to be approved by local parties by January 18th 2016.
7. Agree the appointment Mr Bill Love as Interim Moderator in Lanark Greyfriars from 24th October 2015, and note that he will also provide two days a week pastoral locum cover.
8. Note that Mr Denham MacDougall has completed training to enable him to act as Interim Moderator and that he will shadow Rev George Shand to gain experience for a period of six months.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 9 'Note that, in terms of Act 1, 2015, and after following due process, the Kirk Session of Lanark: St. Nicholas on 8th September 2015 voted to depart from the Church's practice in relation to human sexuality in order for applications for the current vacancy to be considered from, amongst others, individuals who are in a civil partnership.'

It was moved, seconded, and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 10 'Note that, in terms of Act 1, 2015, and after following due process, the Kirk Session of The Douglas Valley Church on 7th October 2015 voted to depart from the Church's practice in relation to human sexuality in order for applications for the current vacancy to be considered from, amongst others, individuals who are in a civil partnership.'

The Deliverance as amended was approved

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

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee

The report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Business Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregations of Carnwath, Carstairs, Kirkmuirhill and Law.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

4. Receive the report
5. Agree to invite the Legal Questions Committee to consider the complex matter of Ministers from outwith Scotland and permission to work, in respect of the understanding of congregations during the call process.
6. Note that the congregation and office bearers of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church have agreed to accept the appointment of an Interim Minister.
7. Agree that Mrs Libby Muir be appointed as Interim Moderator at Law Parish Church as from 3rd November 2015.
8. Agree that Rev Elizabeth Clelland be appointed as Interim Moderator at Carnwath lw Carstairs as from 3rd November 2015.
9. Agree that Rev Dr John McPake from Hamilton Presbytery be appointed as a Presbytery Assessor in terms of Act V, 2001 and as Interim Moderator at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church as from 3rd November 2015.
10. Expresses thanks to Mr Alan Grant for his period of service in Law Parish Church and Rev Gordon Jamieson for his service in Carnwath lw Carstairs, and instruct the clerk to inform the Principal Clerk that Mr Jamieson will no longer serve as a Presbytery Assessor in terms of Act V, 2001.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the Finance Committee

The report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that none of the appeals received against Ministries and Mission Allocations for 2016 were successful at this point in time.
3. Approve the Ministries and Mission Allocations for 2016 as set out in appendix 1
4. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2016 as set out in appendix 2
5. Agree the arrangements for the winding up of the funds for the Diaconate Project to redistribute the sum of £1162.14 to the participating congregations on a proportional basis.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the installation of a projector system in Biggar Parish Church at a cost of £9,720.
3. Approve the request from Black Mount Parish Church to release £10,400 from their holdings in the consolidated fabric fund for replacement windows in the church hall.
4. Approve the request from Carluke: St. John's Parish Church to install a new kitchen in the manse.
5. Note that D M Hall Chartered Surveyors have valued the manse of Carluke St Andrew's at £210,000 and the manse of Carluke St. John's at £185,000.
6. Instruct all Financial Courts to pay close attention to the financial limits for fabric works and the process of approval of works by Presbytery prior to the commencement of projects, and to encourage congregations to seek the advice of the Presbytery Property Committee at an early stage; and instruct the Presbytery Clerk to issue the extracted report and section of deliverance to all financial courts within the bounds.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Encourage Presbyters to publicise and make known to young adults that nominations are sought to represent the Presbytery of Lanark at the 2016 General assembly as the Youth Rep.
3. Agree that a Sunday afternoon is an appropriate time to conduct Safeguarding Training.
4. Note that 'Safeguarding Training for Volunteers' courses are to be held on 29 October Carluke: St Andrew's and 12 November at Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen.
5. Note that a Safeguarding Co-ordinators Training Course will be held on 26 November at Carluke: St Andrew's.
6. Note that Safeguarding Co-ordinators meet on 08 December at Lanark: St Nicholas Church Halls.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convenor, Rev Dr Nikki who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree to hold an annual Presbytery Gathering and that
 - a. the Gathering be held in February in place of committee meetings;
 - b. the said Gathering be in the form of a retreat.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Acting Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

Jim Watt intimated that further copies of the booklet Transforming Lives were available for uplift after the meeting.

The Presbytery expressed thanks to Rev Harry Findlay, Acting Clerk, for his willingness to carry out the duties during the meeting.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 1 December 2015 at 7 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Ministries & Mission Allocations 2016

Congregation	Average Income 2011-2013	Average Income 2012-2014	Proposed 2015 M&M	2016 Scale M&M	2016 Contribution
Biggar	90,736	99,390	55,134	60,240	60,240
Carluke Kirkton	119,031	125,322	70,876	74,061	74,061
Carluke St Andrew's	54,760	54,849	32,646	32,703	32,703
Carluke St John's	94,032	95,363	57,078	57,864	57,864
Carnwath	37,252	32,410	21,441	18,342	18,342
Coalburn	22,495	22,199	11,996	11,807	11,807
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	53,740	52,942	31,993	31,482	31,482
Crossford	31,459	34,252	17,733	19,521	19,521
Douglas Valley	60,787	61,305	36,503	36,835	36,835
Black Mount	19,795	20,280	10,285	10,579	10,579
Forth St Pauls	59,839	55,946	35,896	33,405	33,405
Kirkfieldbank	17,656	17,798	9,087	9,166	9,166
Kirkmuirhill	113,740	109,640	68,019	65,805	65,805
Lanark St Nicholas	107,028	108,217	64,395	65,037	65,037
Law	54,034	47,564	32,181	28,040	28,040
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	87,211	82,901	53,054	50,511	50,511
Lesmahagow Old	89,375	89,220	54,331	54,239	54,239
Libberton And Quothquan	21,180	22,012	8,007	11,687	8,968
Symington	38,224	36,441	22,053	20,922	20,922
Greyfriars	88,921	86,855	54,063	52,844	52,844
Cairngryffe	36,472	36,493	20,941	20,955	20,955
The Upper Clyde	37,008	37,436	21,284	21,558	21,558
					784,884

Presbytery of Lanark Budget 2016

Opening Balance	17,594
Income:-	
Interest	120
2016 Dues (6249 @ £2.50)	15,622
Total	<u>33,336</u>
Expenditure 2016	
Clerk's salary & NI	5,020
Depute Clerk's salary & NI	3,360
Clerk's expenses	800
Clerk's office	600
Clerical Assistance	300
Printing & postage	90
Insurance & copyright	310
Honoraria	250
Business Committee	100
Congregational Development	50
Congregational Support	50
Finance Committee	50
Ministry Committee	50
Property Committee	50
World & Community Issues	50
Surveys	3,500
Pulpit Supply	220
Attestation Fees	2,800
Youth Assembly	125
Hall rent	1,400
Grants & Bursaries	0
Sundry	500
Travel Expenses	500
Data Protection	35
Governance	270
Total	<u>20,480</u>
Projected Closing Balance	<u>12,856</u>

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 December 2015 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mrs Anna Lumsden, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 Ministers, 21 Elders, and 7 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs H Jamieson, Minister, and Anne Cochrane, Tom Chalmers, William Coulter, Alex McPhee, Mairi Somerville David Waters, elders.

Welcome to new Members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors to the meeting, along with representatives from cited congregations.

Acting Clerk, Oath de fideli

Due to the Absence of the Presbytery Clerk and Acting Presbytery Clerk through illness, the Presbytery elected to appoint Rev Harry Findlay as Acting Clerk for the duration of the meeting. Mr Findlay took the oath de fideli.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Roll of Presbytery

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that both the Rev Helen Jamieson and the Rev Bryan Kerr were still on sick leave. The Presbytery were also informed that the Rev Una Stewart has now transferred her membership of Presbytery to Jedburgh Presbytery and that they have been informed that Ms Stewart holds a qualified practising certificate

Minutes of meeting on 3 November 2015

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2015 were held as read and approved.

Correspondence

The Acting Clerk intimated 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 Acting Clerk referred to correspondence received from

- PPTG, Ministries Council – Draft minute stating that Upper Clyde is restored to full time ministry
- Ministries Council – Member of a congregation within the bounds entering discernment process with Shaw Patterson and looking for Presbytery Assessor
- General Trustees – Seeking authorisation to sell some land at Culter
- Jedburgh presbytery – Una Stewart seeking to move to Jedburgh and seeking assurances that there are no reasons for this not to take place.
- Council of Assembly – Security advice to congregations

Decisions made under delegated powers

The Acting Clerk informed the Presbytery that no decisions had been made under delegated powers

Good News Stories

Sinclair Scott gave an update for the St Andrews Hospice appeal. £1000 pounds has been raised to date. George Shand told of a fund raising event at Libberton and Quothquan where a ceilidh was held to raise money for Place at the Table charity.

Nikki McDonald told of an Inter-school drawing competition held among all 5 primary schools in her parish. 80 entries were received and the winner will feature on the front cover of the church magazine.

Report of the Presbytery Youth Representative

The Presbytery received a report from Ms Laura Jane Sinclair, Member of Forth St Paul's Parish Church who represented the Presbytery at the General Assembly in May and the National Youth Assembly in August. Ms Sinclair thanked Presbytery for allowing her to attend. She indicated her willingness to speak to any young person who might be thinking of putting their name forward for next year's assembly.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the report.
10. Appoint Mr Jim Watt (Convener), Mr Cameron Sutherland and Mrs Anna Lumsden as the Advisory Committee in the vacancy in Carnwath linked with Carstairs.
11. Approve the request for joint services in Lanark and Carluke covering the Christmas and New Year period; 27th December 2015: Carluke St Johns and Lanark Greyfriars and 3rd January 2016: Carluke St Andrews and Lanark St Nicholas

The Deliverance was approved

Joint Report of Congregational Support & Ministries Committee regarding Law Parish Church

The Joint Report of Congregational Support & Ministries Committee regarding Law Parish Church was presented by the Congregational Support Convener, Mr Jim Watt.

Parties were called.

The Acting Clerk informed Presbytery that an edict had been served to the congregation of Law.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery -

1. Receive the report
2. Note that Law Parish Church has been subject to long periods of vacancy.
3. Commend the office bearers and congregation of Law Parish Church for their enthusiastic engagement with the visiting team.
4. Commend the office bearers and congregation of Law Parish Church for their high level of commitment towards their church and its future.
5. Commend the office bearers and congregation of Law Parish Church for their desire to engage with their local community.
6. Commend the work of Alan Grant as Interim Moderator in helping them to remain positive and continue to develop ideas and initiatives.
7. Thank Rev George Shand and the visiting team for their report.
8. Instruct Law Parish Church to develop a five year development plan for the congregation, addressing areas such as worship, service, discipleship, fellowship, evangelism and resources, with the said plan to be agreed by local parties by 31st May 2016 and presented thereafter to the Congregational Support Committee; and appoint Rev George Shand, Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald and Mrs Anna Lumsden to assist the congregation in the development of the plan.
9. Agree that Law Parish Church should be permitted to call a full time minister on the basis of a five year reviewable charge, and instruct the Ministries Committee to meet with the congregation in terms of Act VII, 2003 (as amended) to negotiate a draft basis of reviewable charge to be presented to the February 2016 meeting of Presbytery.

10. Agree, that for the avoidance of doubt, the suspension of the Presbytery Plan in Carluke and Law, with the exception of the vacancy in Carluke: St. Andrews in deferred Union with Carluke: St. John's, agreed on 5 May 2015, remains in place until a draft basis of Reviewable Charge for Law Parish Church has been agreed by all parties.
11. Note that a copy of the full report is available on request from the convener of the Congregational Support Committee.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Overture amending the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnership Act (Act 1, 2015)

The Overture was presented by the Business Convener, Mr Bill Love.

After a period of discussion, voting by secret ballot took place.

The Acting Clerk, as returning officer, declared the results of the vote; of the members of Presbytery 19 voted FOR the overture and 11 voted AGAINST the overture.

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Dr Nikki who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Agree to Rev Elizabeth Clelland's facilitation of the upcoming Presbytery Gathering and express thanks to her for doing this work.
3. Note that a member of one of the congregations within Presbytery has entered into a period of discernment exploring a possible vocation to ministry and appoint Dr Sinclair Scott as the Presbytery Representative during this period of discernment.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Encourage Presbyters to publicise and make known to young adults that nominations are sought to represent the Presbytery of Lanark at the 2016 General assembly as the Youth Rep.
3. Acknowledge the commitment and effort of Caroline Deerin, and congratulate her in obtaining accreditation as a Safeguarding Trainer.
4. Note that Safeguarding Co-ordinators meet on 08 December at Lanark: St Nicholas Church Halls.
5. Instruct Kirk Sessions to liaise with their Safeguarding Co-ordinator to determine the PVG status of those engaged in regulated work with children and/or vulnerable adults.
6. Note that Kirk Sessions are permitted to appoint more than one Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the sale of the small section of land at the Glebe at Culter and instruct the Clerk to advise the General Trustees of same.
3. Commend the Kirk Session of Lanark St Nicolas for bringing the matter of electrical inspections to the committee.
4. Note the advice given from the General Trustees in light of the request for information on Periodic Inspections of Electrical Installations.

5. Agree to issue a copy of the summarised section of the report on Periodic Inspections of Electrical Installations to financial courts of churches within the bounds and instruct financial courts to note the content and action accordingly.
6. Approve the upgrade of the sound system in Lanark Greyfriars.
7. Approve 'in principal' phase 1 and phase 2 of the heating upgrade project in Lanark Greyfriars subject to the receipt and inspection of quotations by the Property Committee once available.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Dr Sinclair Scott, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Thank those who attended the World Mission Rally and who gave towards the work of Christian Solidarity Worldwide.
3. Request Business Committee to allow an opportunity for a short presentation on the current situation with Donor Organ legislation in Scotland.
4. Recommend to Congregations support for the St Andrew's Hospice Appeal.
5. Note the forthcoming lecture on Faith and Wisdom in Science at Biggar Corn Exchange.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Note that the congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars have been given until June 2016 to present their 5 year plan.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Acting Clerk drew member's attention to intimations in the papers.

The Presbytery expressed thanks to Rev Harry Findlay, Acting Clerk, for his willingness to carry out the duties during the meeting.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 2 February 2016 at 7 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk