



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Carlisle: St. John's Parish Church on Tuesday 5 September 2017 at 7pm for the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and thereafter, the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Order of Business – 5 September 2017

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Decisions under Summer Powers
6. Decisions under Delegated Powers
7. Roll of Presbytery
8. Presbytery Review Process
9. Correspondence
10. Good News Stories
11. Report of the Business Committee
12. Matters relating to the union of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old (Order of the Day 8:30pm)
13. Report of the visiting team to Biggar (Order of the Day 8:40pm)
14. Report of the Congregational Support Committee
15. Report of the Property Committee
16. Report of the World and Community Issues Committee
17. Report of the Congregational Development Committee
18. Intimations
19. Adjournment:
The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 October 2017 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Intimations

2018 Ministry and Mission Allocations

Members of Presbytery should note the initial proposed figures for Ministry and Mission in 2018 (Appendix 2). Any appeals from financial courts should be in the hands of the finance committee convenor no later than Monday 16th October 2017

Youth Praise Night

There will be a Youth Praise Night at St. John's Church, Carluke, which is suitable for SI and above on Saturday 16th September from 6pm until 9.30pm, featuring Rise Worship Band, Found Church, Larbert, and followed by supper.

Decisions under summer powers

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

Deliverance

Ministries Committee (12th July 2017)

The Presbytery:

1. In respect of Kirkmuirhill, to approve the application from the Congregational Board of Kirkmuirhill to the General Trustees for financial assistance to fund the carrying out of a feasibility study into the issues surrounding manse provision and glebe use within Kirkmuirhill, and instruct the congregational board to proceed with this matter with all due haste in the knowledge that for a call to a minister to be sustained Presbytery must be satisfied that there is appropriate manse provision in place.
2. Appoint the Clerk to attend the Council of Assembly/ Ministries Council Conference in November 2017 and seek additional places for the Ministries Convenor and Depute Clerk.
3. Appoint Rev Bryan Kerr to the Presbyterial Panel for 2017-2018

Decisions under delegated powers

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

Deliverance

Ministries Committee (12th July 2017)

The Presbytery:

1. Note that Miss Ann Lyall DCS represented Presbytery at the initial course meeting of Kaye Gardiner, candidate in training and that a course of study has been approved.

Presbytery Review Process

As part of the review process answers and thoughts are requested from Presbyters on the following questions. There will be time to discuss them in small groups at Presbytery meeting, however written responses can also be submitted to the Clerk at lanark@churchofscotland.org.uk

Taking the best of the past forward... and moving in to a changed future...

1. Think of a time when Presbytery positively impacted the life of your congregation.
 - a. Describe the situation, who was involved, what happened, how did you feel?
 - b. What did you value about Presbytery's involvement?

2. You've fallen in to a magical sleep and awakened to a Presbytery celebration in 2025. Presbytery and its congregations are being recognised for the enormous impact they are making for all in the community. Presbytery and all its congregations are thriving, and everything you ever prayed for has been realised!
 - a. Describe how you feel participating in this celebration of success...
 - b. What was the original goal set (back in 2017) that set the wheels in motion for the outcomes now being celebrated?
 - c. What were some of the things you had been praying for in the life of your congregation and Presbytery?

3. Back in the present. As you look to the future for Presbytery and its congregations, what images or possibilities most excite you? How does that excitement inspire you to action?

Report of the Business Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that a meeting on the implications for ministry of recent General Assembly decisions was held on Thursday 17th August at Lanark: Greyfriars.
3. Note that Lanark Presbytery will be part of a pilot scheme to review all Presbyteries and that the Clerk and Convenor of Congregational Support are currently attending meetings to develop the necessary framework.
4. Note that at the September meeting of Presbytery time will be given for a workshop exploring the nature, purpose and future of Presbytery.
5. Agree that a survey exploring congregation's experiences of Presbytery will be devised and sent to Session Clerks.
6. Note that there have been no expressions of interest in the post of Presbytery Treasurer.

Report

Ministry Gathering

A meeting on the implications for ministry of recent General Assembly decisions, was held on Thursday morning, 17th August at Greyfriars Church. Attendance from ministers was very good and ministers are thanked for taking the time to attend. Part of the morning was given over to Claire Milrine, project officer with the Ministries Council to give information on the Ascend initiative for ministerial support of the General Assembly.

Presbytery Review

The General Assembly of 2017 agreed that Presbyteries should undertake a process similar to Local Church Review. This is currently being devised by the Principal Clerk, and Lanark Presbytery is a pilot Presbytery. The Clerk and the Convenor of the Congregational Support are currently attending meetings on developing the Framework. Our initial responses will be:

1. To timetable an opportunity in the September meeting of Presbytery for a small group workshop exploring questions on the nature, purpose and future of Presbytery.
2. A similar survey, exploring congregations experience of Presbytery, and where Presbytery can best assist them, will be sent out to all Session Clerks.
3. A meeting will be held for Committee Convenors and Business Committee to discuss the future of Presbytery in late September/ early October.
4. Throughout November and December a review of Presbytery will take place with accompaniers from other Presbyteries and a development plan agreed by Presbytery by February 2018 at the latest.

Presbytery Treasurer

There has still been no expression of interest in this post. Presbyters are urged to give serious consideration to who might be able to fill this vital post. Our current treasurer has indicated she will resign on 31 October 2017. The treasurer need not be an Elder of a member of Presbytery.

Report into matters relating to Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old *(should concurrence regarding proposed union be forthcoming)*

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Appoint Mr Alan Grant as Interim Moderator as of 18 September 2017
3. *Should concurrence be forthcoming* ... Note that the Presbytery Planning Task Group concur with the decision of the Presbytery of 20 June 2017 to unite the congregations of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old.
4. Approve the Basis of Union (Appendix 3), amend the Presbytery Plan accordingly, and remove the suspension of the Presbytery Plan in the Lesmahagow area.
5. Agree a service of union be held on Thursday 28 September 2017 at 7pm in Lesmahagow Old Parish Church.
6. Agree that as of the date of the Union, permission to call a minister without restriction and in line with the Presbytery Plan be granted.
7. Agree a nominating committee of 9 persons be formed.
8. Appoint an Advisory Committee comprising Mr Willie MacSween (Convenor), Rev. Ian Cunningham and Mrs Mabel Morris be appointed.
9. Remind the Interim Moderator, Kirk Session, Congregation and Advisory Committee that this is a new vacancy process and that all relevant Acts of the General Assembly should be followed.
10. Thank Rev Harry Findlay for the unfailing support and care he has offered to the congregations during his term as Interim Moderator.

Report

The Law Department have completed the application to OSCR to transfer the congregation's charity number and effect the union and this has been approved. Presbytery await a response from the Presbytery Planning Task Group. Should the task group concur with the decision of Presbytery to unite the congregations the committee recommend the following:

1. Mr Alan Grant be appointed as Interim Moderator as of 18 September 2017
2. A service of union be held on Thursday 28 September 2017 at 7pm in Lesmahagow Old Parish Church.
3. As of the date of the Union, permission to call a minister without restriction and in line with the Presbytery Plan be granted.
4. A nominating committee of 9 persons be formed.
5. An Advisory Committee comprising Mr Willie MacSween (Convenor), Rev. Ian Cunningham and Mrs Mabel Morris be appointed.
6. Remind the Interim Moderator, Kirk Session, Congregation and Advisory Committee that this is a new vacancy process and that all relevant Acts of the General Assembly should be followed.
7. Thank Rev Harry Findlay for the unfailing support and care he has offered to the congregations during his term as Interim Moderator.

Report of the Visiting Team to Biggar Parish Church in respect of Gillespie Centre

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Commend the Kirk Session of Biggar Parish Church for the vision they have shown in seeking to take over and continue the operation of the Gillespie Centre as an outreach project from the Gillespie Centre Association.
3. Note that OSCR have approved the transfer of assets from the Gillespie Centre Association to Biggar Parish Church.
4. Note that there will be an allocation of £19,000 from the assets transferred from the Gillespie Centre Association to Biggar Parish Church for work to be completed prior to the handback of the building and instruct the Kirk Session, in accordance with Regulation 1, 1998 to seek the approval of Presbytery for any works within the building.
5. Welcome the production, and approval, of a Business Plan by the Kirk Session for the operation of the Gillespie Centre.
6. Note with concern that at the point of approval of the Business Plan the charity trustees of Biggar Parish Church did not have information regarding the proposed financial operation of the Gillespie Centre and how it may, or may not, affect congregational funds.
7. Instruct the Kirk Session of Biggar Parish Church to hold urgent talks with the Finance Department of The Church of Scotland to clarify the financial position of running a venture such as the Gillespie Centre, inform and seek approval of the Kirk Session of said arrangements, and issue an extract minute to the Presbytery Clerk no later than 22nd October 2017.
8. Urge members to hold the minister, Kirk Session and steering group in prayer as they seek to serve the community of Biggar through the running of the Gillespie Centre.

Report

Following the June 2017 meeting of Presbytery where an instruction was given to "instruct the Property Committee, in collaboration with the Finance and Congregational Support Committees, to call a meeting to meet with the Biggar Kirk Session and Strategy Group in the near future to discuss matters to provide support advice and assistance" in respect of the Gillespie Centre, a visit to the Kirk Session was made on

24th August 2017. The team comprised of Ewan Easton, Scott Paget, David Waters and the Clerk. Due to the short time frame of 24 hours' notice of a Kirk Session meeting it was not possible to have a member of the finance committee present, nor were the visiting team able to meet with the Steering Group prior to the Kirk Session meeting.

In September 2005 the Presbytery of Lanark agreed that the "Agree that Presbytery Property Committee help monitor the congregation's interests, particularly with regard to funding considerations, in any future developments." The visiting team feel that this issue is an extension of the deliverance of Presbytery and seek to monitor the interests of the congregation, as well as provide support to the congregational charity trustees in what is a very complex situation.

The visiting team commend the Kirk Session of Biggar to the Presbytery for the vision they have shown in seeking to take over the running of the Gillespie Centre following the imminent dissolution of the Gillespie Centre Association (GCA). The GCA have made a request to OSCR to pass their assets (finance and equipment) to Biggar Parish Church following the dissolution, to which OSCR have given their assent. The building will automatically revert to Biggar Parish Church as the legal owners of the property.

As part of the lease agreement the GCA must hand back the building in a proper condition and it has been identified that around £19,000 of work is required. As Presbytery agreed the lease of the building, so Presbytery will be required to approve the list of proposed work. This is in addition to the standing regulation 1, 1998 of the General Assembly, which instruct financial courts to seek permission of Presbytery if work exceeds a financial limit. With recent works at St. Mary's Hall, any work in the Gillespie Centre will require the formal permission of Presbytery.

The Kirk Session have approved a draft business plan, which sets out a vision for the future of the Gillespie Centre. The visiting team were impressed by the efforts of the Steering Group, particularly the work of Caz Alcorn, which are evident in the document. With the operation of the Gillespie Centres as an Outreach Project of Biggar Parish Church, as well as a community centre facility there may be some tensions between these two elements of the vision, particularly within the community where some residents may not understand the mutual benefit and compatibility of both.

One aspect of the Business Plan, which causes some concern, relates to the financial arrangements of the Gillespie Centre. The Centre will be run as a church project and, as a result, will be incorporated into the main congregational accounts. The income from the Gillespie Centre, even at modest projections, could equal the amount given by members of the congregation to the church funds presently. There will also be increased expenditure, however as a result of the income increasing there will almost certainly be an increased liability for the congregation in respect of Ministry and Mission payments. At this stage the financial arrangements are not known by the Kirk Session and, as a result, the members of the Kirk Session need to address this issue with real urgency. As charity trustees, members of the Kirk Session must act in the best interests of the charity (Biggar Parish Church) and, with not knowing what the increased liability on congregational expenditure will be, it could be argued that the Business Plan has been adopted prematurely. The visiting team recommend to Presbytery that the Kirk Session be instructed to ensure that clarity is sought on the financial arrangements as soon as possible.

The visiting team are of the unanimous view that the desire of the Kirk Session to keep the Gillespie Centre open will, not only strengthen their outreach, but will also bring a great benefit to the community of Biggar. The minister, Kirk Session and steering group need to be commended for their vision and remembered in prayer as they navigate the challenging road to taking over operation of the Gillespie Centre.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Mr David Watters has been appointed as Vice Convenor of the Congregational Support Committee
3. Note that Mrs Mabel Morris has been appointed as Minutes Secretary of the Congregational Support Committee.

4. Commend the ongoing LCR's at Carluke: Kirkton and Upper Clyde Parish
5. Note the developments towards the presbytery instructed meeting about the Carluke Parish Grouping.

Report

Appointments

Mr David Watters and Mrs Mabel Morris have agreed to continue as Vice Convenor and Minutes Secretary respectively.

Local Church Review (LCR)

The LCRs for Upper Clyde and Carluke: Kirkton are in progress aiming to report in November

Carluke Parish Grouping meeting

At time of publication, contact has been made with Place for Hope in order to facilitate the meeting instructed by Presbytery (June 2017) It is anticipated that the process will have moved forward by the time of the September presbytery meeting.

Braehead House has been identified as a suitable venue for this meeting.

Report of the Property Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Bobby Mitchell has been reappointed Vice-Convenor for the current session.
3. Instruct the United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction to provide available dates for a discussion to be held in regard to upgrade works to the Village Church.
4. Instruct the relevant members of St Andrews and St John's to provide available dates to the Property and Ministries Committees to allow further discussions to be facilitated.
5. Instruct Kirkmuirhill to provide an update with regard to any plans and timescales of future manse provision and development.
6. Reiterate that Biggar Kirk requires permission of Presbytery for the expenditure of £19,000.00 being made available from the Gillespie Association.
7. Note that the improvements to the Sanctuary of Lanark: Greyfriars have been undertaken over the summer months and completed in accordance with the developed and agreed programme.
8. Note that Ewan Easton has agreed to undertake the role of Presbytery Health and Safety Co-ordinator for this session of Presbytery.

Report

Appointments

Bobby Mitchell has agreed to continue as Vice-Convenor of the Property Committee for this coming session

Carstairs

The United Parish of Carstairs and Carstairs Junction were given permission to unite on the basis that the Village Church was fully upgraded. Whilst the Property Committee are aware that a Heritage Lottery Funding Application is in progress they require a written and regular update of progress. To assist in this matter, the Committee suggest a meeting in the form of a round table discussion with Carstairs and Carstairs Junction in the near future. Cameron Murray has indicated that he is available at a date to be mutually agreed.

Carluke - St Andrews and St John's

In respect of the Presbytery Planning Building Categorisation, the Property Committee remain committed to meeting with the relevant members of the Ministries Committee and appointed members of St Andrews and St John's to discuss the future use of the buildings in regard to the deferred union at a date to be mutually agreed.

Kirkmuirhill

Following the previous Presbytery meeting and deliverance, a meeting on site was held with the General Trustees, Bobby Mitchell of the Property Committee and members of Kirkmuirhill. To date no further information or feedback has been provided. The Property Committee request an indication as to what options are being considered and timescales for future manse provision, in light of the upcoming leaving date for Ann Lyall.

The Property Committee have been made aware of an adjacent Planning Application for building works near the current grounds of Kirkmuirhill Church and any implications that this might have in any deliberations being undertaken by Kirkmuirhill at this time.

Biggar Kirk - Gillespie Centre

In order to provide further clarity to a previous deliverance of the Property Committee and agreed by Presbytery regarding funds, it is noted that £19,000.00 is to be made available from the funds of the Gillespie Centre to undertake repairs of the building before the formal handover of assets to Biggar Kirk.

Due to the level of expenditure being above the current Presbytery limit and previous expenditures from Biggar Kirk permission of the Presbytery will be required.

Health and Safety

All congregations should have received a folder from the General Trustees, and Presbytery is no different, regarding the appointment of a Health and Safety Co-ordinator. Forms were to be returned to the General Trustees by the 25th August 2017.

For information Ewan Easton has agreed to undertake the role of Presbytery Health and Safety Co-ordinator for the current session and the relevant form has been returned.

Report of the World and Community Issues Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note arrangements for the Big Question Rally 2017 to be held in Forth: St Paul's Church Hall on the 28 November at 7:30pm and advertise the event in congregations and communities
3. Approve a budget of up to £500 for the Big Question Rally 2017.

Report

The Big Question Rally 2017

This year's rally will be held in Forth: St Paul's Church Hall on the 28 November at 7:30pm.

The theme this year is: 'Understanding Mental Health Issues amongst Young People'.

Dr Murdo MacDonald of the Society, Religion and Technology Project of the Church of Scotland is presently helping us to find a suitable speaker to give a general overview of the issues and how churches, parents and grandparents might help young people in this area.

The Committee is also hoping to have other practitioners in the field on hand to help facilitate discussion and field questions.

We are delighted to have Dr Elizabeth McNaught and Nick Pollard to share their personal journeys concerning mental health issues and young people.

Elizabeth (Lizzie) was diagnosed with Anorexia Nervosa from the age of 14. She is very honest about her journey and is committed to helping others understand the devastating effect that eating disorders have on the lives of young people. She works as a GP and is also working together with the charity B-eat which has recently launched a campaign in schools called 'Spot the Signs' helping young people to help each other with regards to eating disorders. In light of this, Lizzie will also be visiting some of the High Schools in our Presbytery to meet and speak with young people about her experiences.

Nick is Lizzie's father and offers a parent's perspective on living with young people who suffer from mental health issues. He has worked in student ministry and presently heads up an organisation called Ethos Education which uses current cinema releases to help young people engage with ethical and spiritual issues. Nick, it is hoped will also speak at an event on the evening of the 27th in Biggar (probably in the High School, but yet to be confirmed) to which we will invite parents of young people from the high schools.

Please encourage folks in your communities and congregations to come along to what will be a stimulating and thought-provoking evening on the 28th. There will be a time for questions and a cup of tea and home baking afterwards. Flyers will be made available for distribution.

Lizzie and Nick require no remuneration for their ministry with us, but they have requested that transportation be reimbursed and a donation to a new project currently being launched by Ethos Education called 'A Spiritual Path to Mental Health'. To this end we propose a retiring offering at both evening events for the project.

The committee seek a budget of £500 from Presbytery to cover air fares, publicity and ancillary costs. As the visitors will stay with the convenor there will be no cost for accommodation.

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Kirk Session Safeguarding Training took place at Lesmahagow and Coalburn churches on 11th May 2017
3. Note that Kirk Session Safeguarding Training took place for Upper Clyde and Douglas Valley on 29th August 2017
4. Note that a Safeguarding Coordinators meeting was held on 31st August.
5. Note that all worship leading observations have been completed.

Report

Kirk Session Safeguarding Training

All of the Kirk Session training sessions have taken place with the exception of the Lanark Churches with Crossford and Kirkfieldbank. It is hoped that these will be completed before the end of the year.

Safeguarding Co-ordinators Meeting

A Safeguarding Coordinators meeting was held on 31st August in Law manse.

Leading worship course

All the observations have now been completed for those who have been through the course. Those leading worship and those observing found the experience very positive.

Points worthy of note should the course be repeated:

- Choice of venue –ensure adequate heating
- Time of year

- Length of sessions
- Timely distribution of material needed for sessions
- Ensure participants are made fully aware of work load and possibility of the use of videoing

Looking ahead

As 2018 is to be “The Year of The Young Person” it is hoped that Presbytery could be involved in this initiative. Early discussions have taken place as to how Presbytery can engage with young people and details will be brought to a future meeting,

Initial Register of Ministries

Presbytery of Lanark

Name	Address	Telephone numbers	Email address	Ministry [Minister (as defined) OR OLM OR Auxiliary Minister OR Deacon]	Category of Registration	Effective date of Registration	For category O: If applicable, registration lapses on date noted below*
Rev David S Carmichael	Abbegreen Manse, Lesmahagow, ML11 0DB	01555 893384	david.carmichael@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O	1 January 2018	
Rev Elizabeth Clelland BD	Braehead House, Christian Healing and Retreat Centre, Crossford, ML8 5NQ	01555 860716	liz_clelland@yahoo.co.uk	Minister	E	1 January 2018	
Rev Susan G Cowell BA, BD	3 Gavel Lane, Regency Gardens, Lanark, ML11 9FB	01555 665509	scowell223@btinternet.com	Minister	R	1 January 2018	
Rev Roy Cowieson BD	R2160-15 Hawk Drive, Courtenay B.C. V1N9 9B2 Canada		arjay1232@gmail.com	Minister	R	1 January 2018	

Rev James Cutler BD, CEng, MStructE	12 Kittlegairy Place, Peebles, EH45 9LW	01721 723950	revjimc@outlook.com	Minister	R	1 January 2018	
Rev Iain D Cunningham MA, BD	Kirkton Manse, 9 Station Road, Carluke, ML8 5AA	01555 771262	icunningham@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O	1 January 2018	
Rev Harry J W Findlay MA, BD	2 Alba Gardens, Carluke, ML8 5US	01555 759995	henryfindlay@btinternet.com	Minister	R	1 January 2018	
Rev Mike D Fucella BD, MTh	Candlemas, 6c Leafield Road, Biggar, ML12 6AY	01899 229221	mfucella@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O	1 January 2018	
Rev Beverly Gauld MA, BD	7 Rowan View, Lanark, ML11 9FQ	01555 665765		Minister	R	1 January 2018	
Rev Dr Graham R Houston BSc, BD, MTh, PhD	3 Alder Lane, Beechtrees, Lanark, ML11 9FT	01555 678004	gandih6156@btinternet.com	Minister	R	1 January 2018	
Rev Helen E Jamieson BD, DipEd	St. Andrew's Manse, 120 Clyde St, Carluke, ML8 5BG	01555 771218	hjamieson@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O	1 January 2018	
Rev Bryan Kerr BA, BD	Greyfriars Manse, 3 Bellefield Way, Lanark, ML11 7NW	01555 663363	bkerr@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O	1 January 2018	
Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald	31 Carlisle Road,	01864 502139	nmacdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O	1 January 2018	

BD, MTh, PhD	Crawford, ML12 6TP									
Rev Maudeen I MacDougall BA, BD, MTh	11 Range View, Kames, Carstairs, Lanark, ML11 8TF	01555 871258	maudeen.macdougall@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O				1 January 2018	
Rev Louise E Mackay BSC, BD	2 Kairnhill Court, Lanark, ML11 9HU	01555 661936	lmackay@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O				1 January 2018	
Rev Elspeth J MacLean BVMS, BD	22 Lea Rig, Forth, Lanark, ML11 8EA	01555 728837	emaclean@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O				1 January 2018	
Rev Dr D Cameron McPherson BSc, BD, DMin	6 Moa Court, Blackwood, Lanark, ML11 9GF	01555 893099	revcam@btinternet.com	Minister	O				1 January 2018	25 June 2018
Rev Dr Elijah O Obinna BA, MTh, PhD	18 Old Brigend, Carluke, ML8 4HN	01555 752389	eobinna@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O				1 January 2018	
Rev Steven Reid Bacc, CA, BD	The Manse, Crossford, Carluke, ML8 5RE	01555 860415	sreid@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O				1 January 2018	
Rev Thomas J G (Jim) Seath	Flat 11, Wallace Court, South Vennel, Lanark, ML11 7LL	01555 665399		Minister	R				1 January 2018	
Rev George C Shand MA, BD	16 Abington Road, Symington, Biggar, ML12 6JX	01899 309400	George.Shand@churchofscotland.org.uk	Minister	O				1 January 2018	

Rev John Turnbull LTh	4 Rathmor Road, Biggar, ML12 6QG	01899 221502	john.moiraturnbull62@btinternet.com	Minister	R	1 January 2018	
Rev David A Young	110 Carlisle Road, Blackwood, Lanark, ML11 9RT	01555 893357	youngdavid@aol.com	Minister	R	1 January 2018	

* If an individual ceases to hold an appointment requiring category O registration, then he or she may retain category O registration for up to 3 years thereafter, with certain exceptions. If a category O appointment is not taken up within 3 years, then category O registration shall lapse [section 19]. Also, if an individual is newly granted category O registration but does not take up a category O appointment within 3 years, then category O registration shall lapse [section 20].

Proposed Ministry and Mission Contributions 2018

Congregation	2018 Proposed Contribution
Biggar	59,131
Carluke Kirkton	80,638
Carluke St Andrew's	32,588
Carluke St John's	56,631
Carnwath	11,528
Coalburn	10,212
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	33,112
Crossford	21,462
Douglas Valley	35,708
Black Mount	11,832
Forth St Pauls	37,222
Kirkfieldbank	10,398
Kirkmuirhill	46,926
Lanark St Nicholas	68,188
Law	28,009
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	39,810
Lesmahagow Old	46,136
Libberton And Quothquan	11,249
Symington	22,946
Greyfriars	54,234
Cairngryffe	21,032
Upper Clyde	22,926

Presbytery of Lanark

Basis of Union between Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old

The Congregation of Coalburn Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC016493) and the Congregation of Lesmahagow Old Parish Church (Church of Scotland) (SC017014) shall be united as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery of Lanark, and that on the following Terms and Conditions

1. **Name of Congregation:** The name of the United Congregation shall be 'The Parish of Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old (Church of Scotland). The Scottish Charity Number SC017014 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:** Both Churches at present used and occupied by the Congregations shall be the places of worship of United Congregation. Services shall be conducted in Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church and in Coalburn Parish Church each Sunday at times to be decided by the Minister and Kirk Session subject to the approval of Presbytery. Should a decision be taken in the future to close or dispose of one or both of the church buildings in use, the united congregation will ensure that a regular worshipping presence is maintained in both communities, subject to the provisions of section 10 of this Basis of Union.
4. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be those presently designated as the bounds of the Parishes of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old, 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 current manse of Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church shall be the manse of the united congregation.
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 Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 3 October 2017 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:30pm as members of Presbytery arrive.

Order of Business – 3 October 2017

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

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

Intimations

2018 Ministry and Mission Allocations

Members of Presbytery should be aware that the initial proposed figures for Ministry and Mission in 2018 have been sent to Treasurers directly. Any appeals from financial courts should be in the hands of the finance committee convenor no later than Monday 16th October 2017

Decisions under delegated powers

The Clerk has not been informed of any decisions have been made under Delegated Powers.

Report of the Business Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the request from Upper Clyde to hold a Session Meeting on the 28th of September at a time when Presbytery were meeting in hunc effectum and that this request was refused.
3. Remind congregations that meetings which ordinarily would involve members of Presbytery should not be held when a Presbytery meeting is called, except with the express permission of Presbytery.
4. Note that the Moderator of Lanark Presbytery has been invited to become Honorary Vice President for Clyde Scouts and has accepted their invitation.
5. Note that there will be a meeting for all Committee Convenors to meet with the Business Committee to discuss the future shape of Presbytery on Tuesday 10th October 2017 at 7pm in the halls of Lanark St Nicholas.
6. Agree that the congregations of Lanark St Nicholas and Lanark Greyfriars should worship together on Sundays the 12th and 19th of November for a joint town service of remembrance and the rededication of Greyfriars Parish Church respectively.

Report

Kirk Session meeting during Presbytery

A request from Upper Clyde was received by the Clerk asking permission to hold a Session meeting on the 28th September 2107 at the same time as Presbytery were meeting.

As a swift decision was required the Clerk sought the views of the Moderator, Depute Presbytery Clerk and Business Committee Convenor. It was agreed that as both the minister and Presbytery Elder were involved in the Presbytery meeting on the 28th, permission could not be granted. This decision was later homologated by the Business Committee at their meeting on the 19th September 2017.

Congregations are reminded that meetings which ordinarily would involve members of Presbytery should not be held when a Presbytery meeting is called, except with the express permission of Presbytery.

Clyde Scouts

An invitation from Clyde Scouts has been received asking that the Moderator of Lanark presbytery become one of their Honorary Vice Presidents. A similar invitation has been extended to the Moderators of the Presbyteries of Hamilton and Glasgow. The Moderator has indicated his willingness to serve in this capacity. As the invitation is to the moderator it is anticipated that this role will become part of the duties of the moderator in future years.

Future of Presbytery

A meeting for all Committee Convenors to meet with members of the Business Committee to discuss the future shape of our Presbytery will take place on Tuesday 10th October 2017, 7pm in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas.

Requests for joint worship

A request from the congregations of Lanark St Nicholas and Lanark Greyfriars has been received for joint worship on Sundays 12th and 19th November 2017 for a joint town service of remembrance and the rededication of Greyfriars Parish Church respectively.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report
2. Approve the paper outlining the role of Presbytery Representatives as part of the Local Church Review process (appendix 1) and instruct the committee to issue these as guidelines for all visiting teams.
3. Approve the template for visiting teams providing a report in accordance with section 4 of Act 1, 2011 (appendix 2) and instruct the committee to ensure that this report is utilised by all visiting teams.
4. Note the development of joint projects between the congregational support committee and congregational development committee in relation to the year of Young Person and Elders moderating Kirk Sessions.

Report

Local Church Review process

As we embark on Local Church Reviews (LCR) in partnership with our consultants, Catch the Light, the LCR process will undergo a process of refining and improvement across the years of the partnership. This natural change will require documentation on various areas to be approved by presbytery in order to meet our goal, that in 5 years the presbytery of Lanark will have a LCR process that is bespoke, robust, and practicable for a team of trained presbytery representatives to continue facilitating.

The first documentation to emerge from this process are a paper on the role of the Presbytery Representatives (Appendix 1) and a template report for the first part of the LCR (Appendix 2). These documents divide the roles of the presbytery representatives and of the consultants quite firmly, into two parts of the LCR. The first part ensures the supervision aspect of the LCR is tackled early within the process. The second part develops an ongoing action plan for the congregation.

While these two roles are well defined within these papers, this is only a starting point. The role of presbytery representatives will change and be adapted as more work is undertaken within the developing LCR process. This starting point will allow for clarity in initial roles and responsibilities in the process. The Congregational Support committee unanimously invite presbytery to approve the attached papers and instruct their use within the LCR process of Lanark presbytery.

Resourcing local congregations

The Committee will formally meet with the Congregational Development committee to consider joint work on two projects. First, Elders moderating Kirk session meetings, and second, the response from presbytery to the Year of Young Person initiative. It is anticipated that these two areas of work will have areas that will benefit from a joined up approach.

Report of the Property Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that a meeting has been arranged with Carstairs to discuss future building proposals on the 9th October 2017
3. Note that the date of the separate meetings with Carluke St John's and Carluke St Andrew's will be confirmed in due course once agreed with all parties.

Report

Carstairs

Following the previous Property Committee report, a meeting has been arranged with the Session Clerk and Subsequently the Kirk Session to discuss any proposed works. This has been arranged for Monday 9th October 2017.

St John's - Carluke

Following previous correspondence a date has been proposed to meet with the Kirk Session of St John's for discussion regarding future building provision. This is to be a joint meeting with the Ministries Committee. The date has been unable to be confirmed at the time of writing and it is anticipated that a suitable date will be agreed in the very near future following consultation with the Ministries Convenor. Note that this will be a separate meeting and date from the meeting with St Andrew's

St Andrews - Carluke

Following previous correspondence a date has been proposed to meet with the Kirk Session of St Andrew's for discussion regarding future building provision. This is to be a joint meeting with the Ministries Committee. The date has been unable to be confirmed at the time of writing and it is anticipated that a suitable date will be agreed in the very near future following consultation with the Ministries Convenor. Note that this will be a separate meeting and date from the meeting with St John's

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that introductory Safeguarding courses have been organised at Carluke St John's on Thursday 26th October from 7pm and at Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow on Thursday 23rd November also at 7pm
3. Agree to a reminder being sent out to minsters who have people within their congregations who have completed the training that they are there as a resource and to encourage them
4. Agree to the planning of a training event for the conducting of funerals and pastoral bereavement care.
5. Note the development of joint projects between the congregational support committee and congregational development committee in relation to the year of Young Person and Elders moderating Kirk Sessions.

Report

Kirk Session Safeguarding Training

An Introductory Safeguarding course has been organised at Carluke St John's on Thursday 26th October from 7pm till 10pm. St John's will have first call on the 15 places and the remaining 15 will be open to other churches.

Another Introductory Safeguarding course has also been organised at Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow on Thursday 23rd November at 7pm.

Statistics

The safeguarding department are now reviewing statistics of referrals that are passed onto them. In the first six months of 2016, 150 referrals were received. 65% related to Adult Protection and 35% to Child Protection. 48% of referrals came from Crossreach Adults with 32% coming from congregations.

Leading worship course

Discussions were had around how well those who have completed the course were being used. Examples were given of those who are being used very regularly and in different worship contexts including Sunday worship, nursing homes and other places. It was felt perhaps a reminder to go out to ministers who have people within their congregations who have completed the training that they are there as a resource and to encourage them

Funeral Training

It was noted the summer period there was a very high number of funerals within the presbytery. It was discussed that having more people trained in both conduct funerals and to help with follow up bereavement care. It was thought that this could be aimed at both those who had completed the leading worship course and other elders who felt this would be something they could do. It was thought that the course could be for those who were willing to conduct funerals as well as those who wanted to be involved in the pastoral side of bereavement.

Elders as Moderators of their own Kirk Session Training

Congregational Support Committee intimated their desire to join with the committee to look at organising a training event on this subject. Discussions were positive. It was felt that having elders who were able to moderate Kirk sessions would be an invaluable resource to ministers. It is hoped that the 2 committees can meet in the near future to discuss how and when this can happen.

Local Church Review Process

The Role of the Presbytery Representatives

The General Assembly has instructed each Presbytery to conduct a review of every congregation on a five yearly programme. The object of the review is to give encouragement and counsel to the congregation; to facilitate the congregation in setting out their priorities and plans for at least the next five years; and where anything unsatisfactory is found in the state of the congregation or not in accord with church law and order they shall give advice or take supportive or remedial action.

Act I, 2011 (as amended) states that there are two clear parts to the review ... a legal process and a planning process. Within the Presbytery of Lanark, whilst we have professional consultants taking the lead on the planning side of the review, it is necessary for Presbytery to appoint individuals who can provide expertise on the legal part of the review. It is of course the case that both the consultants and the Presbytery representatives will have a part to play in the other part of the review. Indeed, each may provide illumination for the other.

Legal Review

The Act states that, through the Local Church Review, the Presbytery requires to satisfy itself that certain matters are being followed and implemented in terms of church law. These include (but are not necessarily limited to)

- the administration of the Sacrament of Baptism to infants in accordance with Act V, 2000;
- whether office-bearers are representative of the congregation's life, for example in terms of age and gender;
- whether the congregation's current form of constitution serves its future mission;
- whether the employment status of members of staff, the formal relationships among them and the prioritisation of work amongst them serves the congregation's mission effectively;
- compliance by the Kirk Session with the church law and civil law relating to Safeguarding;
- compliance with those provisions of Act XII 2007 regarding the provision and maintenance of manses;
- implementation of the findings of the most recent property surveys.

It is the role of the Presbytery members of the review team to ensure, through studying the answers supplied by the Kirk Session in Pack I of the LCR paperwork that all matters above are being adhered to. It may be that at the first meeting of the Review team and the Kirk Session some time is spent teasing out answers to questions where more information is required. It should be stated that, as most of these issues are factual, there should not necessarily be a great deal of time spent questioning the Kirk Session on them.

The Presbytery members of the team should, at the end of this early part of the process, complete a report form and submit it to the Congregational Support Committee for approval by Presbytery. The representatives may wish to note any other relevant information at this stage of which the committee ought to be aware ... this could include any concerns the representatives might have about financial problems, property issues etc.

Planning Review

Perhaps the most important element of the planning review is that the process is tailored to the congregation being reviewed and meets their needs. This part of the review allows the Kirk Session and congregation to look at their life together and set goals for the future.

Within the Presbytery of Lanark our consultants from Catch the Light have been engaged for this specific purpose and it is important that they are given the space and freedom to create a positive process for the congregation. The role of the Presbytery Representatives in this part of the review is to listen and facilitate, under the direction of the consultants. It is important that the Presbytery representatives are present and

aware of the planning review in order that they can help the consultant understand some of the culture of the Church of Scotland in relation to mission planning, worship, and pastoral care.

During the congregational meetings for this part of the review it is important that one of the Presbytery representatives opens and closes the meeting in prayer, and that all Presbytery Representatives make themselves available to the consultants for facilitating groups, taking notes and helping to listen to voices and stories from the congregation.

At the end of the planning section of the review the congregation will agree an action plan with strategic goals. This will be developed in consultation between the consultants and the congregation. The Presbytery Representatives may have some input into this process if it is thought useful.

Final Report

After the planning review is complete a final report will be prepared. The report should include

- a narrative of the current circumstances of the congregation,
- the intention and plans of the minister and Kirk Session,
- the action plan and a timetable for superintendence (most likely a review) and congregational action
- make any recommendations for action and support by Presbytery.

All those involved ought to keep in mind that the report must be factual and accurately represent the findings of the Review Team. The Local Church Review is a process which provides support and encouragement and is led by the congregation, and any report must reflect this. The writing of this part of the report will be led by the consultants with input from the Presbytery Representatives. At no point should anything in the report be a surprise to the Kirk Session concerned.

The Depute Clerk of the Presbytery will ensure that each final report follows a similar style in order that consistency can be achieved. Reports require to be sent to the Kirk Session to be agreed, and if agreement cannot be reached then an indication of where areas of disagreement remain must be submitted to the Presbytery. The final report and action plan should be a basis for the Presbytery to be able to express satisfaction with the state of the congregation. If Presbytery cannot express such satisfaction then the report ought to highlight areas into which Presbytery may look and investigate further, as well as possible support structures that can be put in place for the congregation.

Timescales

The Presbytery will agree a programme of visits in November for the following calendar year. The process for congregations will begin in late January/ early February and action plans with final reports should be written by September in order that they can be agreed by the Kirk Session and presented to the October meeting of the Congregational Support Committee.

Follow Up

It is likely that in the November of the year following the adoption of the action plan and report, a follow up visit to the congregation will be undertaken. This will be chaired by a Presbytery Representative and will be able to investigate whether the congregation has made progress on the agreed goals. Much of the meeting, although chaired by a Presbytery Representative will be led by the consultants who will support the Kirk Session through a process of guided reflection and evaluation.

Rev. Bryan Kerr
Clerk to the Presbytery of Lanark
September 2017

Local Church Review

Report in accordance with section 4 of Act 1, 2011

Name of Congregation:

Names of Presbytery Representatives

Please type your answers to the following questions in the boxes on the right hand side ... boxes will expand when you type.

Did the Kirk Session complete Section 1 of the Local Church Review Paperwork in advance of a meeting?	
Is the approach of the congregation to the baptism of children in line with the Act V, 2000?	
What constitution does the congregation operate and do members feel it serves its future mission?	
Is the church in compliance with Act XII 2007 re provision and maintenance of manses? Is there an annual manse inspection and follow up	
Have recent property survey ("quinquennial") findings and recommendations been implemented? Please confirm the date of the last inspection of Sanctuary halls and manse.	
Are any Trustees or connected persons in receipt of payments and have correct legal processes been followed?	
Has the financial court adopted the General Assembly approved Bribery and Procurement Policy?	
Does the congregation have a Data Protection Policy? How is it implemented and how often is it reviewed?	
Is the Kirk Session fully compliant with church and civil law in regard to Safeguarding? If not, in what areas are there deficiencies?	
Are the finances of the congregation in good order and good health? If not, what concerns exist?	
Do the congregation support the Parish Minister and other members of staff adequately? In what ways?	

Are the Office bearers representative of the life of the congregation (e.g. age and gender)? If not, in what ways do they not?	
Does the Kirk Session and financial court have enough skilled individuals to operate satisfactorily as a congregation of the Church of Scotland? Are there any 'gaps'?	

Are there any matters of particular concern within the congregation you wish to raise within this report?	
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Date

Signed by Presbytery Representatives:

This report should be submitted to the Depute Presbytery Clerk as soon as possible after the first meeting with the Kirk Session and Congregation.



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:30pm as members of Presbytery arrive.

Order of Business – 7 November 2017

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Decisions under Delegated Powers
6. Roll of Presbytery
7. Correspondence
8. Good News Stories
9. Report of the Business Committee
10. Report of the Property Committee
11. Joint Report of the Congregational Support & Congregational Development Committees
12. Report of the Finance Committee
13. Report of World & Community Issues Committee
14. Presbytery Review Process
15. Intimations
16. Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 December 2017 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Decisions under delegated powers

The Clerk has not been informed of any decisions have been made under Delegated Powers.

Report of the Business Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree that a gift to the value of £50 per person should be made to Mr J McGuinness and Mrs E McGuinness as a token of appreciation for all they do for Presbytery.
3. Agree to appoint Mr A Boyd to the role of Presbytery AV Technician. This post will carry an annual honorarium payment of £210. Agree that Mr Boyd should receive a pro rata payment this year of £90.
4. Agree an honorarium payment to Rev G Shand for his work as Depute Presbytery Clerk. The annual honorarium will be £750 of which the Rev G Shand should receive a pro rata payment for this year.
5. Agree that Convenors of Presbytery Committees should inform the Presbytery Clerk if a member of their Committee fails to attend three consecutive committee meetings. Absence from a meeting will be deemed to be non-attendance even if apologies are received. After discussion with the Convenor the Clerk may write to the committee member, asking that they be more regular in their attendance.

Report

Lanark St Nicholas: Hall Keepers

The fee charged for the hire of St Nicholas halls for Presbytery use includes the work of the Hall Keepers. As a way of showing presbytery's appreciation for the work that John and Eileen McGuinness have done for Presbytery, gift tokens to the value of £50 per person should be given.

Presbytery AV Technician

With the move of Presbytery to Lanark Greyfriars it is likely that there will be an increasing use of technology within the meetings. Business Committee believe that there is a need to appoint someone to be an AV Technician for the meetings. Mr A Boyd has been approached and would be willing to undertake the duties.

The post would not attract a salary but should receive an annual honorarium. For the current year this should be £210 and a pro rata payment should be made to the appointed Technician for this year.

Presbytery Clerk: Honorarium

Prior to the appointment of Rev G Shand as Depute Presbytery Clerk, Presbytery agreed that this post would attract an annual honorarium. The honorarium for this year should be £750 and Rev G Shand should receive a pro rata payment.

Attendance at Presbytery Committees

Over the past few years Presbyters have been reminded of the importance of regular attendance at Presbytery and at Committee Meetings. In general attendance at both meetings are good. However to reinforce the importance of regular attendance at Committee meetings it is proposed that Committee Convenors should inform the Presbytery Clerk of any committee member who fails to attend three consecutive meetings. Absence from a meeting will be non-attendance, even if apologies have been submitted.

After discussion between the Convenor and the Clerk the absent committee member may be written to by the Clerk and reminded of the importance of regular attendance at committee.

Report of the Property Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. In respect of Carstairs
 - a. Note the award of a first round pass from the Heritage Lottery Fund including a development grant allowing the project as provided to be developed to Tender Stage.
 - b. Note that plans/documents etc. can be prepared for Tender but statutory approvals (planning/building warrant) and ecclesiastical (Presbytery/CARTA/General Trustees) permissions require to be obtained
 - c. Encourage Carstairs in their endeavours with this project as they seek to obtain further grant funding to close the shortfall and advise that further information may be sought if not already done so from the Church of Scotland website and the Stewardship Consultants.
 - d. Instruct the provision of regular reports to the Presbytery Property Committee and receipt of any communication from the HLF.
 - e. Recognise that this first pass award is a positive step for Carstairs Parish in providing a building for 21st Century worship and that whilst the final decision on plans etc rest with Carstairs Parish they would welcome receipt of any practical advice and support from the wider community of Lanark Presbytery.
3. In respect of St Andrews and St Johns Carluke note that initial meetings have taken place and a further joint report with the Ministries Committee will be provided in due course.
4. In respect of Kirkmuirhill and Crossford instruct the outstanding paperwork including extract minutes to be forwarded as soon as possible.
5. Note that information was provided to Forth St Pauls regarding ramps and that further information may be available from South Lanarkshire Planning Department.
6. Note that Law have appointed a Health and Safety Co-ordinator.

Report

Carstairs Parish Church

Further to previous correspondence a meeting was held on the 9th October 2017 with the Minister, Property Committee of Carstairs and members of the Presbytery Property Committee.

A walk round of the building was undertaken followed by a discussion on the planned works and the current status and proposed next steps.

The background to the Project was reiterated: September 2014 an extract minute from the Congregational Board and Kirk Session was received agreeing to carry out work externally and subsequently internally further to an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF); further funding to close the shortfall on selling the Junction Church with the realised funds being made available to be put to the refurbishment of the Village Church. This was presented to, and agreed, by Presbytery at its meeting in October that year.

Subsequently during inspection by the General Trustees as part of the planning for their refurbishment project, the stairs to the upper level were condemned and a contingency plan put in place to restrict access. Refurbishment of the stairs and development of an area of the upper floor were then added. An architect was appointed and prepared outline drawings which were issued to the Presbytery Property Committee in February 2017 and further information was requested to be provided to the Presbytery Property Committee.

The Carstairs Property Committee group advised that they had been successful in receiving a 'first round pass' grant award from the HLF and would appreciate guidance from Lanark Presbytery on the next steps.

For information a 'first round pass' from the HLF is very good news. This means that the Project (as presented to the HLF) meets the criteria for funding and the HLF believes the project has potential to deliver high quality benefits and value for lottery money. Applications are in competition with other supportable projects, so a first round pass is an endorsement of outline proposals (as submitted in the application). Having

been awarded a first round pass the Project now has to submit fully developed proposals for consideration for a firm award.

The first round pass includes a development grant which states: *You will develop your project in line with the proposals set out in your application and the key points to be addressed are set out in the HLF letter. The HLF will be in contact to agree a timescale for progress reporting.*

The HLF report goes on to state that the next steps are to develop the proposals previously submitted in the HLF application inter alia: undertake investigations etc., to apply for any relevant statutory (planning/building warrant) and ecclesiastical (Presbytery/CARTA/General Trustees) permissions and:

To develop tender documentation and submit for review by HLF prior to going out to tender.

Therefore the logical next step is to, on receipt of the development grant and other resources indicated in the report, advise the Architect previously appointed to develop the outline proposals for an agreed fee to tender stage i.e. building warrant drawings, detailed sections, bills of quantities for pricing. It should be noted that any radical changes to the original proposal at this stage may result in the HLF bid being withdrawn or failing to be awarded.

It is recognised that there is still a shortfall in the funding for this project and it is suggested that possible sources of funding can be found on the Church of Scotland website [http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/3014/Sources-of-Finance-for-Repair-and-Improvement.pdf] and by seeking the assistance of the Stewardship Consultants who can access grant finder software to assist.

The Presbytery Property Committee requested a report be provided summarising progress to date and this was subsequently received and considered.

It is recognised that the Property Committee of Carstairs should be encouraged that the project has been recognised by the HLF as having the potential to deliver high quality benefits and value for lottery money. This however means that there is still a lot of work to be done and many decisions require to be made by the Property Committee of Carstairs as they seek to improve their building for 21st Century worship. These are decisions for the Property Committee to make but should be based on the plans previously agreed by the Congregation back in 2014 and as provided in the application to the HLF. To change things now would risk the potential of the majority of the funding being withdrawn by the HLF.

With regard to reporting, the HLF have advised that they will be in contact to agree a timetable for progress reporting and that the development activities and documents must be complete by September 2018. The Presbytery Property Committee should be copied in to any correspondence from the HLF in the first instance. Otherwise a report updating progress should be provided by the end of the year and three monthly thereafter except when approvals (plans etc.) are required sooner.

Carlisle: St. Andrew's & Carlisle: St. John's

Further to previous correspondence a meeting has taken place individually with the Kirk Session of St Andrews (26th October) and St Johns (3rd November). This was a joint meeting with the Ministries Committee. A detailed report will be provided in due course.

Kirkmuirhill

Correspondence received relating to the alteration of the Screen within the Church. Whilst information in the first place was received additional information in the way of quotations, a completed form for CARTA (to allow the Presbytery to complete) and an extract minute from the Kirk Session or Congregational Board agreeing to the work and acceptance of the preferred quotation is required and should be provided as soon as possible.

Crossford

Correspondence received including quotations relating to the provision of an AV system in the Church. Whilst the Property Committee have no issues in principle likewise an extract minute and the form completed for CARTA should be provided as soon as possible.

Forth: St Pauls

Correspondence was received requesting information on DDA access and ramps. This was provided based in information available on the Government website (relating to England) which suggests that ramps should be level at the top and bottom and at a gradient of 1:12 to 1:20 and a width of 1.5m. As an example a gradient of 1:20 to cover two typical steps of 150 to 180mm would require a ramp of some 7.2 to 9m long. Further information may be available from South Lanarkshire Planning Department.

Law Parish

Law have appointed a Health and Safety Co-ordinator.

Joint Report of the Congregational Support & Congregational Development Committees

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report
2. Note the appointment of a small group to consider the implementation of the Eldered as moderators of their own kirk session for Lanark presbytery.
3. Note the appointment of a small group to consider the Presbytery of Lanark's response to 2018 Year of the Young Person

Report

Elders as Moderators of their own Kirk Sessions

Earlier this year the Legal Questions Committee create a training resource for Presbyteries to carry out their own training of elders as moderators of their own kirk session, this followed reviews of practice by Mission and Discipleship Council, and consideration of the issue by the Legal Questions Committee. The Congregational Development and Congregational Support Committees of Lanark Presbytery have held an initial meeting to discuss how this training pack could be used within the presbytery. During this discussion several Elders revealed they had been trained for this task around 14 years ago, at a national (121 run) training scheme, but that the training had never been used, nor was it easily remembered.

It was agreed that a small group should be drawn from across both committees to look at the training pack, consider its implementation within the presbytery and report back to both committees on the best way forward. 3 volunteers have agreed to serve in this capacity.

Please note this training is different to the training that interim moderators receive and is for a completely different role.

2018 Year of Young Person

2018 Year of Young Person is a Scottish Government run initiative. The Church of Scotland primarily through the Mission and Discipleship Council is encouraging churches and presbyteries to use 2018 as a time to consider and engage with young people on behalf of the Church of Scotland.

To this end a Toolkit has been developed and will be made available to every Church, MDC will provide 4 training events to support using this Toolkit in early 2018. The Congregational Development and Congregational Support committee of the Presbytery of Lanark has held an initial discussion around how the Presbytery can help support churches in this effort. In discussion the group discussed examples of good practice within eh presbytery and what role presbytery can have First, in listening and working with young people. Second, in supporting and encouraging existing work.

It was agreed that a small group should be drawn from across both committees to look at the possible responses, consider a plan of how to take this forward within the presbytery and report back to both committees. 3 volunteers have agreed to serve in this capacity.

Report of the Finance Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report
2. Note that one letter of appeal against the 2018 Ministry and Mission allocations was received but did not meet suitable grounds for such an appeal.
3. Approve the figures for the 2018 Ministry and Mission allocations (Appendix 1)
4. Note the attestation of congregation accounts for 2017 has been completed by IA Stewart and generally the accounts were found to be in a healthier state than in previous years.
5. Thanks to congregational treasurers for their efforts in keeping records and producing accounts and to Jack Lumsden for offering support to the committee and congregations.
6. Approve the budget for 2018 (Appendix 2).
7. Thank Mary McGillivray for her work in preparing the budget and for her years of service, friendship and support as Presbytery Treasurer.
8. Agree that the per capita fee per member for 2018 be set at £3.25 and instruct congregational treasurers to remit the appropriate amount (appendix 3) to the Presbytery treasurer no later than Friday 8th December 2018
9. Agree a release of £8250 from the Ministry and Mission Allowance Variance to fund the Local Church Review Process for 2018.

Report

Ministry and Mission Allocations 2018

The committee received one appeal against the figure suggested for a congregation, however the request did not meet the grounds for an appeal and therefore the committee are not in a position to recommend a reduction in the amount to Presbytery. As a result the committee present the final figures for approval as the congregational allocation for 2018.

Attestation of Congregational Accounts 2017

The committee are pleased to inform Presbytery that the work undertaken by IA Stewart to attest each set of congregational accounts for the year ended 31st December 2017 has been completed. The committee will continue to work with IA Stewart and congregational treasurers to ensure that the process is as streamlined as possible in future years. The committee express thanks to Mr Jack Lumsden who has provided ongoing support to both the committee and congregational treasurers in respect of queries surrounding the attestation.

Presbytery Budget 2018

The Presbytery Treasurer presents the budget for 2018 (Appendix 2). A reduction of 444 members across the Presbytery in 2017 has meant it necessary to recommend a levy of £3.25 per member as indicated to congregational treasurers in December 2016. The amounts due by congregation are outlined in appendix 3 and these should be remitted to the Presbytery Treasurer no later than Friday 8 December 2017.

The committee feel it prudent that Presbytery hold reserves of approximately one year's operating costs which allows for fluctuations in membership figures and therefore income to Presbytery. As such it is suggested that congregational treasurers budget for a levy of £3.50 per member payable in November 2018. With an ever reducing membership across the congregations of Presbytery it is likely that the current trend of raising the levy each year will continue into the future.

Presbytery Treasurer

Mary McGillivray has served for a number of years as the Presbytery Treasurer and has become a great and trusted support to both the committee and congregations of Presbytery. Mary is seeking to step down as Treasurer and the committee express their grateful thanks for all of the years of friendship and support she has given to Presbytery.

Ministry and Mission Variance 2018

As agreed earlier in 2017 part of the 5% variance allowance is used for funding the programme of Local Church Review visits. The committee have been informed that five congregations will be visited in 2018 and therefore recommend to Presbytery that a request is made to Stewardship and Finance Department for a figure of £8,250 to be released to Presbytery to fund the work.

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

- I. Receive the report.

Report

Big Question Rally

The upcoming Big Question Rally on the 28th of November at 7:30 in Forth: St Paul's Church Hall. Some arrangements are still on the go, but much has been done.

- a. Speakers and praise band have been arranged
- b. Flyers have been designed and distributed to churches in the Presbytery
- c. Arrangements have been made for two coinciding High School events
- d. Programme is as follows:
 - i. **Welcome and introductions** (2 minutes) by the convenor, Mike Fucella
 - ii. **Worship-** (10 minutes) Led by the Presbytery Moderator, Alan Grant, consisting of singing (accompaniment by the Biggar Praise Band) reading, brief reflection and prayer
 - iii. **Introduction to the issues-** (10-15 minutes) A representative from CrossReach, the Church of Scotland's Social Care Council will speak about the issues facing us today concerning young people and mental health (what the challenges are, what provision there is for assistance and care and what we as individuals and churches can be doing to make a positive difference.)
 - iv. **Keynote speaker** (15-20 minutes) – Dr Elizabeth McNaught and her dad, Nick Pollard, lived through some turbulent times when from the age of 14 Lizzie struggled with Anorexia Nervosa.

Lizzie brings a unique perspective as both a sufferer from mental health issues and as a medical professional. She has written a moving and insightful account of her experiences in the book, 'Life Hurts – A doctor's personal journey through anorexia' which will be for sale on the night.

It is rare that a young person suffers alone from mental health problems. The family and friends too are affected. The way they approach situations can, however, play a big part for either hurt or healing. Nick speaks as a father who was there with his daughter at a time when life was hurting.
 - v. **Question and Response and next steps?** (10 -15 minutes) Ask anything of the speakers or other resource people who will be on hand. Think about how you might engage or engage your church with the issues that have been raised.
 - vi. Response from the Minister for Public Health and Sport – Aileen Campbell MSP
 - vii. **Vote of thanks, final prayer and benediction** (5 minutes) Rev Dr Elijah Obina, Minister at St John's, Carluke

Retiring offering to Ethos Education for a new project called 'A Spiritual Path to Mental Health'
Forth: St Paul's Church will provide refreshments following the event.

- e. The following budget has been spent (this is not a final reckoning)

Plane tickets 'Fly-be' for keynote speakers: Dr Elizabeth McNaught and Nick Pollard	231.92
Printing of flyers (Vistaprint)	43.63
Postage of flyers to congregations of Lanark Presbytery	26.00
TOTAL to date	301.55

World Mission Presbytery Conveners Conference - 14.9.17

The Convener was not able to attend but the Reverend Elijah Obinna kindly attended. With the permission of the Moderator, he will give a brief verbal report during the convenors speech.

Ministry and Mission Contributions 2018

Congregation	2018 Proposed Contribution
Biggar	59,131
Carluke Kirkton	80,638
Carluke St Andrew's	32,588
Carluke St John's	56,631
Carnwath	11,528
Coalburn	10,212
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	33,112
Crossford	21,462
Douglas Valley	35,708
Black Mount	11,832
Forth St Pauls	37,222
Kirkfieldbank	10,398
Kirkmuirhill	46,926
Lanark St Nicholas	68,188
Law	28,009
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	39,810
Lesmahagow Old	46,136
Libberton And Quothquan	11,249
Symington	22,946
Greyfriars	54,234
Cairngryffe	21,032
Upper Clyde	22,926

Presbytery Budget 2018

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total
Opening Balance as at 1/1/18				
General Fund	20,996	0	0	20,996
Designated Survey Fund	0	0	7,447	7,447
Designated LCR Fund	0	0	0	0
Restricted Bertram & Somerville	0	6,007	0	6,007
Totals	20,996	6,007	7,447	34,450
Income				
Interest	118	0	0	118
2018 Dues (5577 @ £3.25) Decrease of 444	18,125	0	0	18,125
Local Church Review (M&R Variance)	0	0	8,250	8,250
Total	18,243	0	8,250	26,493
Expenditure				
Clerk's salary	5,325	0	0	5,325
Clerk's expenses	300	0	0	300
Clerk's office	450	0	0	450
Printing & postage	100	0	0	100
Insurance & copyright	320	0	0	320
Honoraria	1,000	0	0	1,000
Surveys	0	0	5,500	5,500
Local Church Reviews	0	0	8,250	8,250
Pulpit Supply	220	0	0	220
Attestation Fees	2,700	0	0	2,700
Youth Assembly	170	0	0	170
Hall rent	1,000	0	0	1,000
Grants & Bursaries	500	0	0	500
Sundry	500	0	0	500
Travel Expenses	300	0	0	300
Data Protection	35	0	0	35
Governance	290	0	0	290
Valuations	1,200	0	0	1,200
Total	14,410	0	13,750	28,160
Transfers	-5,000	0	5,000	
Surplus/ Deficit	-1,167	0	-500	-1,667
Closing Balances as at 31/12/18				
General Fund	19,829	0	0	19,829
Designated Survey Fund	0	0	6,947	6,947
Designated LCR Fund	0	0	0	0
Restricted Bertram & Somerville	0	6,007	0	6,007
Totals	19,829	6,007	6,947	32,783

Congregations Presbytery Contributions

The following contributions should be remitted to the Presbytery Treasurer by Friday 8 December 2017.

Congregational Treasurers should budget a levy of £3.50 per member for the 2018 levy.

Congregation	MEMBERSHIP at 31/12/2016	RATE	DUES
		£	£
Biggar	291	3.25	945.75
Blackmount	67	3.25	217.75
Caringryffe	147	3.25	477.75
Carluke - Kirkton	739	3.25	2401.75
Carluke - St Andrew's	195	3.25	633.75
Carluke - St John's	601	3.25	1953.25
Carnwath	122	3.25	396.50
Carstairs & Carstairs Junction	183	3.25	594.75
Coalburn & Lesmahagow Old	474	3.25	1540.50
Crossford	142	3.25	461.50
Douglas Valley	290	3.25	942.50
Forth, St Paul's	325	3.25	1056.25
Kirkfieldbank	74	3.25	240.50
Kirkmuirhill	139	3.25	451.75
Lanark - Greyfriars	529	3.25	1719.25
Lanark - St Nicholas	485	3.25	1576.25
Law	179	3.25	581.75
Lesmahagow - Abbey Green	175	3.25	568.75
Libberton & Quothquan	81	3.25	263.25
Symington	158	3.25	513.50
Upper Clyde	181	3.25	588.25
TOTAL	5577		18125.25



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 5 December 2017 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:30pm as members of Presbytery arrive.

Order of Business – 5 December 2017

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Decisions under Delegated Powers
6. Roll of Presbytery
7. Correspondence
8. Good News Stories
9. Report of the Business Committee
10. Report of the Congregational Development Committee
11. Report of the Congregational Support Committee
12. Review of the structure of the Presbytery of Lanark
13. Intimations
14. Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet, subject to the call to Rev Paul Grant being issued and sustained, pro re nata on Tuesday 16 January 2018 at 6:45pm for the induction of Rev Paul Grant in Law Parish Church and then for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 6 February 2018 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Decisions under delegated powers

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

Property Committee

Sale of Land at Libberton Glebe

Presbytery, under delegated powers, concur with local parties at Libberton and Quothquan in their decision to sell a small area of glebe land measuring 23m by 4m to South Lanarkshire Council for an extension to the cemetery and instruct the clerk to forward agreement to the General Trustees.

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Douglas Valley

The Vacancy Procedure Committee of the Presbytery of Lanark, in respect of The Douglas Valley Church, and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), release Rev George Shand as Interim Moderator of the charge as of 31 December 2017 and appoint Mr Bill Love as Interim Moderator of the charge as of 1 January 2018.

Report of the Business Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree that the Presbytery Clerk's salary should rise in line with the National Stipend payment with the increase to take effect from 1 January 2018.
3. Agree that in the Lanark area: Lanark: St Nicholas and Lanark: Greyfriars be allowed to hold joint services over the Christmas and New year period and that similar arrangements be agreed for Carluke: Kirkton, Carluke: St Andrews and Carluke: St Johns in the Carluke area.
4. In respect of Candidates in training
 - a. Agree to make an annual bursary payment to Kaye Gardiner, candidate in training for ministry, with the amount of the payment to be in line 2016-17 payment.
 - b. Agree to set up a fund to make annual grant to recognised candidates, in active study, for Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate.
 - c. Agree that all monies raised via an annual retiring offering in all congregations be distributed equally between all recognised candidates, in active study, for Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate and in the event of there being no eligible individuals the money to be held as an identifiable amount for use in future years towards candidate support, on the understanding that should there be an extended period without any candidates the Presbytery can suspend the instruction for an annual retiring offering.
 - d. Instruct all congregations to publicise and hold a retiring offering on the first Sunday of March each year to provide financial support to recognised candidates, in active study, for Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate, and remit monies collected, in the form of a cheque of bank transfer to the Presbytery Treasurer no later than 31st March.
5. Agree that Presbytery should take a stall at next year's Heart and Soul event with Presbytery to pay the costs for the hire of the tent, and urge all congregations to send two representatives to a planning meeting in Greyfriars Church on Thursday 18 January at 7:30pm.
6. Note, for an initial period of six months, that as from the 1 January 2018 Mr Bill Love has been appointed as Locum in the vacancy at Douglas Valley on the basis of 2 days per week plus the Sunday services, and instruct the Kirk Session to review the post after the initial period.

Report

Presbytery Clerk's Salary

As previously agreed by Presbytery, the Clerk's salary is to be reviewed annually in November and is to rise proportionately in line with any increase in the National Stipend scale. This increase payment will come into force as from the 1 January 2018.

Joint Services over the Festive Period

Requests for joint services during the Christmas/New Year period have been received from the churches in the Lanark area. A similar request has been received from the churches in the Carluke area.

Bursaries to Ministry Students

In previous years a bursary has been made to students undertaking ministry studies. It is recommended that Presbytery do similarly in this academic year. It is recommended that the bursary be in line with the amount given in 2016-17. This means that this year a payment will be made to Mrs Kay Gardiner.

Bursary payments will come from the general presbytery account. The Business Committee feel that it would be sensible to set up a recognised bursary fund that all congregations might contribute to. It is therefore recommended that an annual retiring collection for this purpose should be held on the first Sunday in March in all churches within the bounds, with all monies raised being equally distributed to all recognised candidates, in active study, for Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate within the Presbytery that year. In the event of there being no suitable students the monies raised will be held over for future candidate support, on the understanding that should there be an extended period without any candidates the Presbytery can suspend the instruction for an annual retiring offering.

Heart and Soul 2018

A few years ago Presbytery took a stall at the Heart and Soul event. The primary purpose was to encourage ministers to consider applying for the vacancies we had at that time. It was felt to have been a successful event and it is proposed that we do something similar next year. Presbytery are asked to cover the cost for the hire of the stall, and all congregations are urged to send two representatives to a planning meeting in Greyfriars Church on Thursday 18 January at 7:30pm.

Locum at Douglas Valley

Mr Bill Love has been appointed as Locum in the vacancy at Douglas Valley as from the 1 January 2018 on the basis of 2 days per week plus the Sunday services. Presbytery are asked to note the appointment for an initial period of six months and instruct the Kirk Session to review the post after the initial period.

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that introductory Safeguarding courses took place at Carluke St John's and at Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow.
3. Instruct the Business committee to find an appropriate time to formally recognise those who successfully completed the worship leading training course.
4. Note that Plans for funeral training are moving forward with the help of Hamilton Presbytery.
5. Agree to the planning of a training event for the conducting of funerals and pastoral bereavement care.

Report

Safeguarding

Two Introductory Safeguarding courses have taken place at Carluke St John's on Thursday 26 October and at Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow on Thursday 23 November. Both courses went well and a number of people from around the presbytery came to them.

Leading worship course

It was discussed that nearly a year has passed since this course was completed by those involved and no formal recognition by Presbytery has occurred. It is hoped that this could happen at a Presbytery meeting early in the new year of 2018.

Funeral Training

Discussion took place around what form the funeral training would take. It was thought that having a general training event for elders on bereavement care would be a good way to begin with. This would allow elders to feel more confident when visiting bereaved families. This would then allow elders to decide if they wanted to take the training further and go on to train to conduct funerals. It is hoped that meetings will take place soon with those involved in funeral training with Hamilton Presbytery

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report
2. Agree that teams for Local Church Reviews in 2018 comprise one minister, the consultants from Catch the Light and a number of elders equal to the number of congregations within the charge being reviewed.
3. Agree that the congregations to be reviewed under the Local Church Review Process in 2018 are Cairngryffe, Carstairs, Carnwath, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington.
4. Grant powers to Convenor and Vice Convenor of Congregational Support along with the Presbytery Clerk to appoint suitable individuals to form visiting teams for the 2018 Local Church Reviews and report back to the February 2018 meeting.

Report

Local Church Reviews

The Committee continue to monitor the implementation of the Local Church Reviews and look forward to receiving reports and forward plans in due course. In 2018 the congregations to be reviewed are Cairngryffe, Carstairs, Carnwath, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington. Due to the fact that the process currently being used by the Presbytery is relatively new the committee have not been able to appoint individuals for these teams prior to the December 2017 meeting of Presbytery. As a result the committee seek the approval of Presbytery to grant powers to Convenor and Vice Convenor of Congregational Support along with the Presbytery Clerk to appoint suitable individuals to form visiting teams for the 2018 Local Church Reviews in order that the process for these congregations is not delayed and can get underway in January. The committee invite Presbytery to agree that these teams comprise one minister, the consultants from Catch the Light and a number of elders equal to the number of congregations within the charge being reviewed.

Review of the Structure of the Presbytery of Lanark

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Approve the changes in the Structural Review of Presbytery and approve the following as the committees of Presbytery with appropriate remits and delegated powers
 - a. **Worship and Discipleship Committee.** Remit - in consultation with congregations, will seek to investigate, develop and resource the worship life and opportunities for faith development across the Presbytery.
 - b. **Relationships and Context Committee.** Remit - in consultation with congregations, will seek to investigate, develop and resource the missional life of congregations within the diverse communities that exist across the Presbytery, and across the world.
 - c. **Presbytery Support Committee.** Remit - provide support for ministers as well as the congregations across the Presbytery in relation to local church reviews, vacancy process and safeguarding and in collaboration with appropriate office bearers, and other committees where necessary, provide support to Presbytery in the areas of property, finance and planning and, in consultation with the Clerks, would propose the agenda for the forthcoming Presbytery meeting.
 - i. Delegated Powers:
 1. to dispose of all applications in respect of fabric and furnishings, unless in the opinion of the Committee the nature or cost of the work to be done, or considerations of forward planning, requires the judgement of Presbytery;
 2. to dispense with matters relating to the discernment and training for candidates for all ministries of the Church, other than in cases of difficulty, as allowed for in the relevant training Acts of the General Assembly;
 3. full powers to examine, and also attest, except where a Court may be held to be censurable in respect of any of its Records;
 4. to act in routine matters not the business of other Committees in accordance with the accepted practice and procedure of the Church and to advise the Moderator to call a meeting in the event of business arising which, in the opinion of the Committee, requires to be considered by the Presbytery and which cannot be held over until the next ordinary meeting.
 - d. **Vacancy Procedure Committee.** Remit - to act as the Vacancy Procedure Committee in terms of Act 8, 2003 (as amended) with all members of Presbytery with the exception of the Moderator, Clerk and Depute Clerk appointed as being available to serve on a Vacancy Procedure Committee.
 - i. Delegated Powers:
 1. to act as the Vacancy Procedure Committee in terms of Act 8, 2003 (as amended)
 - e. **Complaints Committee.** Remit - to deal with matters that fall under the Complaints Procedure as agreed by the General Assembly.
 - i. Delegated Powers:
 1. to deal with matters that fall under the Complaints Procedure as agreed by the General Assembly.
3. Agree to appoint a Presbytery Property Convener, with the role of providing support and assistance to Presbytery and its congregations in all property matters. The Property Convener who need not be a member of Presbytery, shall hold office during the pleasure of the Presbytery.
4. Agree the membership of the Presbytery Support Committee comprise a Convener (four year term) and 8 members representing a mix of four elders and ministers from each of the four main geographical areas of Presbytery (East, West, North & South) who serve for a one year term, an additional minister, representative elder or additional elder to provide balance, the Moderator, the Presbytery Clerk and the Depute Presbytery Clerk with the Presbytery Treasurer, Property Convener and Safeguarding Co-ordinator serving in advisory roles as required.
5. Instruct Business Committee to bring forward names for Conveners of Worship & Discipleship, Relationships & Context and Presbytery Support Committees, alongside proposed membership of the committees to the ordinary meeting of Presbytery on 6th February 2018.

6. Agree that the new structure of committees takes effect as of 7th February 2018.
7. Instruct convenors to provide the Clerk with a list of ongoing and current areas of work for their committee along with a brief progress report indicating the status of the work no later than 8th January 2018.
8. Instruct the Clerk to make consequential amendments to Standing Orders and report them to the ordinary meeting of Presbytery on 6th February 2018.

Report

For a number of years there has been a growing awareness within the Presbytery of Lanark that the present structure may allow for the fulfilment of remits sent to Presbytery by either the General Assembly or congregations, but this structure is not often conducive to developing the mission of the congregations within the bounds.

Over a number of months the Presbytery has spoken with ministers, presbytery elders and session clerks on the effectiveness of the Presbytery; the ways in which Presbytery makes an impact on congregational life; and a vision for the Presbytery in the years to come. Often it is when congregations are facing significant challenge (for example vacancy or crisis) that the presence of Presbytery is often seen and felt. The positive or negative experience of Presbytery equates strongly to the nature of the congregational issue.

The Presbytery is seen as friendly, supportive (of congregations and ministers) and efficient by many, however many see a lack of missional thinking, a lack of quality debates and a lack of participation from members as key challenges moving forward.

If Presbytery is to be a motivator, providing inspiration for congregations, then it is clear that a change to encourage more engagement between Presbytery and congregations is required.

Looking Forward

The Council of Assembly of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland are in the process of formulating a Strategic Plan for the Church as instructed by the Assembly of 2016. Many members of Presbytery have been involved in shaping this through conferences and the 'On the Road' Roadshows. It is likely that the strategic goal of the Church of Scotland will be to 'Love God and Love our Neighbours'. The General Assembly of 2018 will likely hear that the three Key Strategic Objectives in achieving this goal will be through Worship, Active Discipleship and Connecting with Communities.

The draft Strategic Plan presents a number of outcomes -

- Confident people serving flourishing communities,
- Thriving intergenerational churches,
- Growing congregations,
- Well-supported ministry teams,
- Fewer, but better-equipped spaces,
- Sustainable financial planning (incl. balanced budgets),
- People engaged with local and global concerns,
- Interdependence among Local, Regional and National structures.

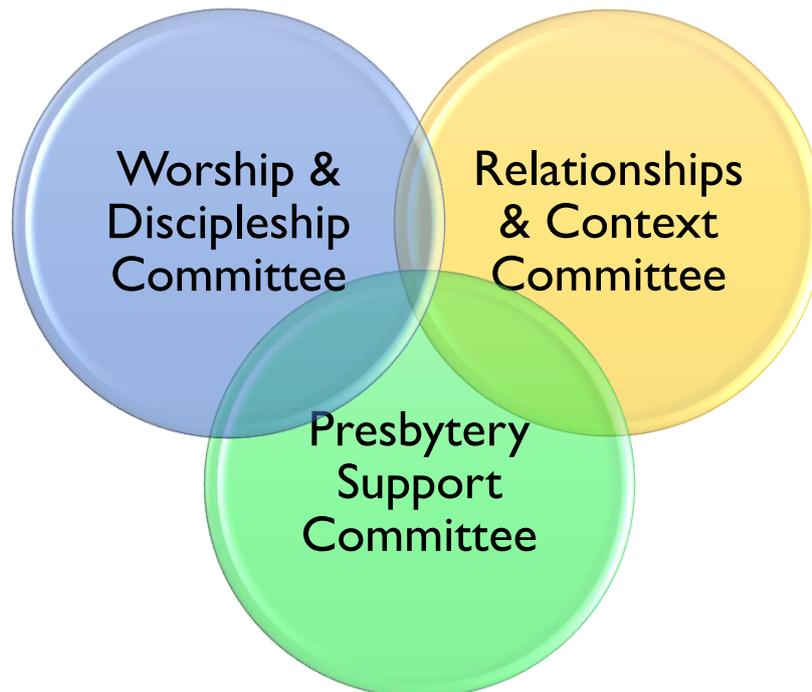
While the Council of Assembly's draft Strategic Plan has not been approved by General Assembly, it would be sensible for the Presbytery of Lanark to bear the principles, aims and outcomes of this strategy in mind as Presbytery reviews its local structures.

It is proposed that the Presbytery of Lanark moves to a much more focussed, and yet freeing, committee model. The proposed structure will allow the easy identification with, and, placement of the key Strategic Objectives outlined above.

It is proposed that two main committees will be formed namely, **Worship & Discipleship** and **Relationships and Context** with a smaller, representative **Presbytery Support Committee** underpinning and supporting the administrative and functionary tasks of the Presbytery.

The two main committees in Presbytery will allow critical thinking on both 'what we do' (Worship & Discipleship) along with 'where we do it' (Relationships and Context). It should be stated that, of course, congregations think of mission and outreach as a 'what we do' process, and this structure allows for significant overlaps between the committees. This will require collaborative working across committees. This structure will provide a suitable process on which Presbytery and congregations may site and develop thinking and action in their life together.

During the process of the review of structure one member of Presbytery commented that the Presbytery of Lanark was 'big enough to cope yet small enough to care.' It is the prayerful hope of those involved in the review that this process will allow that care and support to grow and develop, alongside a healthy engagement with members of Kirk Sessions and congregations. This will allow the Presbytery to cope more easily and effectively with its remit.



In order that the structure can truly engage with congregations, the Presbytery must make appropriate time to hear from congregations. It is anticipated that the June meeting of Presbytery will be devoted to a period of listening together (congregations and Presbytery). Representatives of Kirk Sessions and congregations will come to a discussion evening at which congregational priorities are shared and heard with the expectation that they would feed into the remit of the committees for the forthcoming session. Whilst it will not be possible to include all ideas and priorities, it may be possible to 'group' some together into the working theme of a project group.

Committees will be encouraged to have smaller 'project' groups taking up the majority of the time and effort of the committee. In recent years, the Heart and Soul Planning Group for the Presbytery 'tent' may be seen as a successful example of this project based approach. For example, Worship & Discipleship may meet for a short time with all members together looking at areas of work affecting the whole remit, but then split into the project groups for specific pieces of work, for example funeral training, messy church or small group resourcing. The project groups would be time limited and their membership could also include individuals from beyond the current members of Presbytery. This would allow individuals to contribute to an area of work with which they felt their gifts could be utilised, without necessarily becoming a member of Presbytery.

It is hoped that the committees and their project groups might draw down some money from the Mission and Renewal Variance Allowance to develop work across the churches of Presbytery. For example, the 'Messy Church' project group might be able to look at developing a number of new groups across the Presbytery and congregations involved with this project could be allocated £250 each to help aid development and resourcing.

A closer look at a proposed structure

It is hoped that this structure might be one that frees creative thinking and ministry across the church rather than impede it. With committees seeking to listen to congregations more intentionally, Presbytery would be seeking to move to a process of facilitating congregations to develop mission, worship, discipleship and service within their members and their communities.

The following remits of committees are proposed:

Worship and Discipleship Committee – in consultation with congregations, will seek to investigate, develop and resource the worship life and opportunities for faith development across the Presbytery.

Relationships and Context Committee – in consultation with congregations, will seek to investigate, develop and resource the missional life of congregations within the diverse communities that exist across the Presbytery, and across the world.

Presbytery Support Committee – provide support for ministers as well as the congregations across the Presbytery in relation to local church reviews, records and safeguarding and in collaboration with appropriate office bearers, and other committees where necessary, provide support to Presbytery in the areas of property, finance and planning.

The Presbytery Support Committee, in consultation with the Clerks, would propose the agenda for the forthcoming Presbytery meeting.

The Presbytery Support Committee would work in collaboration with the other committees in much of its work. Some examples of this might include:

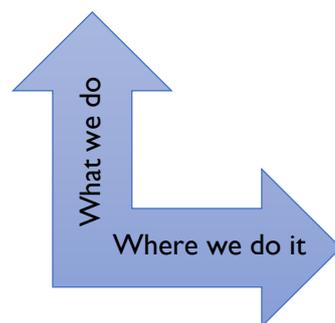
- A church wishes to undertake a major refurbishment of the church **property** within the sanctuary. A small group is formed with the Presbytery Property Convenor, a member of Worship & Discipleship Committee and a member of Relationships & Context Committee to ascertain the suitability of the project, taking into account the life and activity of the congregations within the local community.
- A remit is handed down by the General Assembly to reimagine the **Presbytery Plan** with two less ministries being offered to Presbytery. A group is convened with members of all three committees who seek to look at the context in which the congregations of Presbytery operate, the missional needs of those communities and the long term plans of the congregations in terms of worship, discipleship, financial sustainability and mission.

However, it might be that uncontentious issues can be dealt with under delegated powers as is currently the practice of Presbytery. Some examples of this might include:

- A congregation wishes to design and install a banner marking the 100th anniversary of the local Boys' Brigade Company. The application is submitted to the Presbytery Property Convenor who recommends approval to the Presbytery Support Committee via email.
- A Kirk Session seek dispensation to pay their Mission and Renewal in two instalments by cheque rather than by standing order due to the seasonal nature of the congregational income. The Treasurer recommends to the Presbytery Support Committee that permission should be granted.

The aim of this structural review is to free Presbytery to discuss, debate and engage with meaningful topics and issues and not be focussed on discussing routine matters that might best be dealt with by committees. To that end the following delegated powers, which Presbytery has already granted, are proposed for the Presbytery Support Committee:

- to dispose of all applications in respect of fabric and furnishings, unless in the opinion of the Committee the nature or cost of the work to be done, or considerations of forward planning, requires the judgement of Presbytery.
- to dispense with matters relating to the discernment and training for candidates for all ministries of the Church, other than in cases of difficulty, as allowed for in the relevant training Acts of the General Assembly.



- full powers to examine, and also attest, except where a Court may be held to be censurable in respect of any of its Records.
- to act in routine matters not the business of other Committees in accordance with the accepted practice and procedure of the Church and to advise the Moderator to call a meeting in the event of business arising which, in the opinion of the Committee, requires to be considered by the Presbytery and which cannot be held over until the next ordinary meeting.

In line with Standing Order 7(q) all decisions made under delegated powers must be intimated to Presbytery at the next ordinary meeting and that any contentious matters relating of property, vacancy process, training or superintendence would not be permitted under delegated powers but would be referred to an ordinary or pro re nata meeting of Presbytery for consideration and decision.

It is proposed that Presbytery bring the **Vacancy Procedure Committee** into line with Act 8, 2003 (as amended). This would mean that Presbytery agree that all members of Presbytery other than the Moderator, Clerk and Depute Clerk be available to be called upon as members of a committee, and when a committee is required the Moderator and Clerk appoint five members in accordance with the act. Members of Presbytery need not be concerned about workload as the vast majority of every Vacancy Procedure Committee make all decisions via email. The Presbytery would receive training at the future Presbytery meeting to ensure that all members were aware of their role.

The **Complaints Committee** of Presbytery would remain unchanged and operate in the same manner as allowed for in Standing Orders.

Committee Membership

It is important that, in order to have a more engaged Presbytery, the correct make up of committees is achieved. For each committee a convener would be appointed by Presbytery for a period of four years. Membership of committees would take effect from 1st July each year in line with the appointment of Presbytery elders.

The membership of the Worship & Discipleship Committee and Relationships & Context Committee would comprise of approximately 15 members each, with the Presbytery Clerk and Depute Presbytery Clerk serving as ex-officio members of both committees to provide support and advice where necessary. This would allow each member of Presbytery the chance to be a member of one of the two committees seeking to listen to and resource our congregations. Members would serve for a maximum of four years on a committee. The Worship & Discipleship Committee and Relationships & Context Committee would also be able to co-opt individuals onto their 'project groups' as necessary, on the understanding that each group was convened by a member of Presbytery.

It is proposed that the Presbytery Support Committee comprise of a convener, four members who serve for a period of one year and come from different charges within the four broad geographical areas across the Presbytery (a mix of ministers and elders, the 'mix' being agreed by the Presbytery at the ordinary meeting in March each year), one other minister, representative elder or an additional elder (to achieve balance on the committee), the Moderator, the Presbytery Clerk and the Depute Presbytery Clerk with the Presbytery Treasurer, Presbytery Property Convenor and Presbytery Safeguarding Co-ordinator serving in advisory roles when required. The four areas for representation will be:

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

In seeking representation from across the Presbytery for a one year term, every charge will be represented on the Presbytery Support Committee every fourth year, providing a real engagement with the work of Presbytery.

It is proposed that alongside the Presbytery Treasurer and Safeguarding Co-ordinator who provide expert assistance and advice to Presbytery, a new 'Presbytery Property Convener' be appointed with the role of providing support and assistance to Presbytery and its congregations in all property matters.

Timescales

Should Presbytery approve the proposals for structural review, it is proposed the new structure will take effect from 7th February 2018. This will allow the Business Committee to bring forward names for Convenors and membership lists for the committees to the next meeting on 6th February. Some might ask the wisdom of reshaping Presbytery in the middle of a session. This is certainly a question that was fully discussed by the group. In response, a change in February will allow three meetings of the committees prior to the first discussion meeting with congregations in June 2018. It is hoped that these few months will help committees understand and unpack their roles and responsibilities.

The group wish to assure Presbytery that existing work undertaken by committees will not be lost and that every issue looked at by the group could be located in a new committee. The group invite Presbytery to instruct convenors to provide a list of current tasks, along with the progress of the tasks to the Clerk no later than 8th January to achieve a smooth transition between the old and new structure.

Concluding Thoughts

This Structural Review is offered with the prayer that it offers an opportunity to intentionally and carefully listen to congregations across the area. No structure will ever be perfect, nor will it engage everyone in the work of Presbytery, however it is hoped that this structure may provide a way forward to allow the Presbytery of Lanark to meaningfully engage, support, inspire and resource the congregations for which we have responsibility.

Presbytery will only function well if a critical evaluation of its structure, effectiveness, aims and objectives takes place at regular intervals. This review, and indeed the proposed structure should not be viewed by members of Presbytery as the final word, rather it should be seen as a stop on the journey towards engagement. There will be changes required in the months and years that lie ahead, however the Review Group feel that the Presbytery need to take a bold step forward in how it engages with congregations to enable all of members within those congregations to 'Love God and Love our Neighbours.'



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 6 February 2018 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:30pm as members of Presbytery arrive.

Order of Business – 6 February 2018

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Decisions under Delegated Powers
6. Roll of Presbytery
7. Correspondence
8. Good News Stories
9. Report of the Business Committee
10. Presentation of Certificates to Presbytery trained Worship Leaders
11. Rev Dr John McCulloch, Mission Partner
12. Discussions on Committee Remits in Committee Groupings
13. Intimations
14. Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 6 March 2018 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Decisions under delegated powers

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

Property Committee

Douglas Valley Church (23 January 2018)

Presbytery, under delegated powers, agree to the expenditure of the sum of £1215.00 for the redecoration of the Manse at Douglas Valley Church.

Ministries Committee

Candidate in Training, Ministry of Word and Sacrament (1 December 2017)

Presbytery, under delegated powers, agree to nominate Mr George Sneddon, member of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) as a candidate in Training for the full time ministry of Word and Sacrament and assure him of the ongoing support of Presbytery throughout the period of training.

Report of the Business Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the Clerk has, in accordance with Standing Order 11(c), amended Standing Orders 1(d), 2(a), 4, 5(c) and 5(e) in response to decisions made by Presbytery in December 2017, with changes to take effect from 7 February 2018.
3. Agree to amend Standing Orders 7(a), 7(c), 7(e), 7(h), 7(m), 7(r), 9(a), 9(e), 9(g), 9(h), 9(i), 9(j), 11(a) and add a new 7(g) and 7(h), and renumber, with changes to take effect from 7 February 2018.
4. Agree to appoint Rev Elspeth MacLean as convenor of Worship and Discipleship Committee for a period of 2 years (to 30 June 2020); Rev Dr Elijah Obinna as convenor of Relationships and Context Committee for a period of 4 years (to 30 June 2022); and Mr Scott Paget as Convenor Designate of Presbytery Support Committee for a period of 4 years from commencement of appointment, following his return to active duties.
5. Agree to appoint Mr Bill Love as Convenor (pro tem) of Presbytery Support Committee for a period of up to one year (to 30 June 2019)
6. Agree to appoint Mr Ewan Easton as Presbytery Property Convenor, Mrs Caroline Deerin as Presbytery Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Mrs Mary McGillivray as Presbytery Treasurer.
7. Agree the rota for annual charge representation within the membership of the Presbytery Support Committee.
8. Agree the membership of Presbytery Committees as contained in Appendix 2.
9. Instruct all committees to appoint a Vice Convenor, and report the name to Presbytery at the next ordinary meeting.
10. Instruct all committees to keep accurate records and minutes expected of all church courts and committees and to have them available for inspection on an annual basis on a date to be intimated.
11. Thank the Clerk for his work in amending Standing Orders and establishing membership of the new committees of Presbytery.
12. Thank the Presbytery Treasurer, Mrs Mary McGillivray, for graciously continuing in the role whilst Presbytery seek a suitable successor.
13. Note that the charges of Upper Clyde, Carluke: St. Andrew's (following a swap with Crossford l/w Kirkfieldbank in 2017), Carluke: St. Johns, Carnwath l/w Carstairs, will be invited to send an elder to the General Assembly of 2018, along with the minister of each charge listed above, and the Presbytery Clerk, and instruct Kirk Sessions to forward names of those seeking nomination to the Clerk no later than 20 February 2018.
14. Note that any Kirk Session may submit names of elders, and any minister of the Presbytery may submit their name personally if, interested in any spare places to the General Assembly to the Clerk no later than 20 February 2018.

15. Agree that Mrs Mary and Mr Alistair McGillivray and Rev Paul and Mrs Allison Grant should be recommended to the Lord Lieutenant, for invitation to the Royal Garden Party in the Palace of Holyroodhouse as representatives of the Presbytery of Lanark.
16. Remind all congregations of the decision of Presbytery that each congregation send two representatives to an initial planning meeting for the Heart and Soul event on 15 February 2018 at 7:30pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.
17. Remind all congregations of the recommendation to publicise and hold a retiring offering on the first Sunday of March each year to provide financial support to recognised candidates, in active study, for Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate within the Presbytery of Lanark.
18. Agree that Douglas Valley Church be granted dispensation for 2018 to pay their Ministry and Mission Contribution in a manner other than regular Standing Order and instruct the Kirk Session to inform the Clerk on a regular basis of progress made in making payments.

Report

Changes to Standing Orders

The Clerk has, in accordance with Standing Order 11(c), made amendments to Standing Orders 1(d), 2(a), 4, 5(c) and 5(e) in light of decision taken by Presbytery in December 2017. Presbytery are invited to note these changes which take effect on 7 February 2018.

The Presbytery are invited to vote and make changes to Standing Orders 7(a), 7(c), 7(e), 7(h), 7(m), 7(r), 9(a), 9(e), 9(g), 9(h), 9(i), 9(j), 11(a) and add a new 7(g) and a new 7(h). Most of these changes are due to changes in the names of Presbytery Committees and changes will take effect on 7 February 2018. All changes to Standing Orders can be found in Appendix I.

Presbytery Review of Structures

As instructed in December 2017, the Business Committee recommend the following Convenors of Committees:

Worship & Discipleship Committee	Rev Elspeth MacLean (to 30 June 2020)
Relationship & Context Committee	Rev Dr Elijah Obinna (to 30 June 2022)
Presbytery Support Committee	Mr Scott Paget (Convenor Designate for 4 year term following return to active duties) Mr Bill Love (Convenor Pro Tem for up to 1 year to 30 June 2019)

The Presbytery is also invited to appoint the following office holders:

Presbytery Property Convenor	Mr Ewan Easton
Presbytery Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Mrs Caroline Deerin
Presbytery Treasurer	Mrs Mary McGillivray

The committee have also sought to devise a rota for ensuring that charges are represented on the Presbytery Support Committee, and present it to Presbytery for approval:

	2018-2019 2022-2023	2019-2020 2023-2024	2020-2021 2024-2025	2021-2022 2025-2026
Clydesdale East	Carnwath I/w Carstairs	Tinto Parishes	Biggar I/w Black Mount	Upper Clyde
Clydesdale West	Carluke: St. Andrew's	Law	Carluke: St. John's	Carluke: Kirkton
Clydesdale North	Forth: St. Paul's	Lanark: St. Nicholas	Crossford I/w Kirkfieldbank	Lanark: Greyfriars
Clydesdale South	Kirkmuirhill	Douglas Valley	Coalburn & Lesmahagow Old	Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

The committee discussed the matter of membership of the new committees and, have tried to ensure that numbers balances have been achieved including minister/elder ratio, gender and geographical spread.

The committee are pleased to report to Presbytery that the proposed committee membership offers the following statistics

	Worship & Discipleship	Relationships & Context
Members	22 (with 5 support)	19 (with 1 support)
Elder/Minister	14 Elders/ 8 Ministers	12 Elders/ 7 Ministers
Gender	F - 36% (8)/ M - 64% (14) *	F - 36% (7)/ M - 64% (12)*
Location	North 5, South 6, East 5, West 6**	North 4, South 4, East 6, West 5**

* Gender Split - Available to serve on two committees F - 36% (15)/ M - 64% (26) - Gender Split of total Presbytery full members F - 33% (16)/ M - 66% (32)

** Interim Moderators (where not a Parish Minister) have been counted in the congregation they have been appointed to serve by Presbytery

Membership lists of the committees are found in an appendix to the papers.

The committee recommend that those members who sit on the Presbytery Support Committee for a year are also appointed to one of the other two main committees. The Support Committee should be the first committee to attend in terms of availability, however, should the member wish to serve on the other committee during that year they are free so to do. Members in that situation are asked to discuss attendance directly with the relevant convenor.

It is clear that there will be a great deal of discussion and debate around the role and remit of the new Presbytery Committees. It is the hope and prayer of all involved in the review of structures that members of Presbytery, and congregations who feed into discussions, will enter the new process with enthusiasm and an openness to discover the ways in which God is leading the Presbytery into new ways of working and serving the congregations and communities of Clydesdale.

General Assembly Representation

The charges due to attend the General Assembly of 2018 are Upper Clyde, Carlisle: St. Andrew's (following a swap with Crossford l/w Kirkfieldbank in 2017), Carlisle: St. Johns, Carnwath l/w Carstairs. The Clerk has already informed the relevant congregations and Presbytery are invited to instruct charges to return the name of the elder appointed to the Clerk no later than 20 February 2018. Linked congregations are reminded that only one Kirk Session can send an elder and that the Kirk Sessions should work out some sort of system to allow proper representation over the years, for example, one congregation on 2015 and the other in 2019.

The Presbytery Clerk is also due to attend, along with the ministers of the charges listed above. All Kirk Sessions have been advised that they can nominate elders to accept 'spare' commissions should they be available, with names to be with the Clerk by 20 February 2018.

Royal Garden Party

The Lord Lieutenant of Lanarkshire, Lady Haughey CBE has graciously invited the Presbytery to, once again, submit the names of four individuals who might be recommended to receive an invitation to the Royal Garden party on 4 July 2018. Presbytery are invited to recommend the outgoing Treasurer and newest minister, along with their spouses, Mrs Mary and Mr Alistair McGillivray and Rev Paul and Mrs Allison Grant.

Heart & Soul 2018

The Presbytery have now booked a space at this year's Heart and Soul event and congregations are reminded of the decision of Presbytery that all charges send two representatives to a planning meeting. The planning meeting will take place on 15 February 2018 at 7:30pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Student Sunday

Congregations are reminded of the decision of Presbytery in December 2017 to 'Recommend all congregations to publicise and hold a retiring offering on the first Sunday of March each year to provide financial support to recognised candidates, in active study, for Ministry of Word and Sacrament and the Diaconate, and remit monies collected, in the form of a cheque or bank transfer to the Presbytery Treasurer no later than 31st March.' Further details will be sent to Kirk Sessions and Treasurers in due course. Members of Presbytery are asked to ensure that such a recommendation is put to the Kirk Session for decision, with the hope and prayer of Presbytery that they will take up the recommendation.

Changes to Standing Orders as a result of new Structure

Changes made by Clerk in accordance with Standing Order 11(c)

- 1 (d) In the event of business or an issue arising which in the opinion of the Presbytery Support Committee requires to be considered by the Presbytery prior to the next statutory meeting for ordinary business, the Moderator shall be advised to call a meeting pro re nata.
- 2 (a) The Moderator for the following year shall be elected at the ordinary meeting in June, a nomination having been made by the Presbytery Support Committee, and installed at the September meeting. Following the installation, The Moderator shall lead the Presbytery in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.
4. Presbytery Officials
 - i. Treasurer - The Presbytery shall appoint a Treasurer to take charge of its funds. The Treasurer, who need not be a member of Presbytery, shall hold office during the pleasure of the Presbytery.
 - ii. Property Convenor - The Presbytery shall appoint a Property Convenor to provide support and assistance to Presbytery and its congregations in all property matters. The Property Convenor who need not be a member of Presbytery, shall hold office during the pleasure of the Presbytery.
 - iii. Safeguarding Co-ordinator - The Presbytery shall appoint a Safeguarding Co-ordinator to provide support and assistance to Presbytery and its congregations in all safeguarding matters. The Safeguarding Co-ordinator who need not be a member of Presbytery, shall hold office during the pleasure of the Presbytery.
- 5 (c) The Order of Business, as prepared by the Presbytery Support Committee and as circulated to members by the Clerk, shall be submitted for approval and shall be followed in the order approved.
- 5 (e) Notices of motion shall be handed in writing to the Clerk either at the Presbytery meeting at which notice is given or, at the latest, one week before the meeting of the Presbytery Support Committee preceding the meeting of Presbytery at which they shall be considered, and, if not recorded in the Presbytery minutes, shall be printed in the mailing calling the meeting at which they are to be considered. Any material to be sent out in support of a Notice of Motion must be lodged with the Clerk one week before the appropriate meeting of Presbytery Support Committee, and the Clerk shall inform the Convener of the Presbytery Support Committee and the Moderator of its receipt.

Changes to be agreed by Presbytery.

- 7 (a) The following shall be the Standing Committees of the Presbytery:
 - i. Complaints
 - ii. Presbytery Support
 - iii. Relationships & Context
 - iv. Vacancy Procedure
 - v. Worship & Discipleship
- 7 (c) The appointment of Conveners and members of all Standing and Ad Hoc Committees shall be made by the Presbytery Support Committee. In addition, at the request of a Standing Committee, the Presbytery Support Committee may appoint to a Standing Committee members of the Church of Scotland who are not presbyters but who belong to congregations within the Presbytery's bounds. The number of such appointments to a Committee shall not exceed one third of the number of Committee members.

- 7 (e) All members of Standing Committees, with the exception of annual appointees to the Presbytery Support Committee taken from an agreed rota of charges, shall retire after four years. No member shall normally serve for more than two consecutive terms of office.
- NEW 7 (g) The Presbytery Support Committee shall comprise a Convener (four year term) and 8 members represented by as mix of four elders or ministers, one from each of the four main geographical areas of Presbytery (East, West, North & South) who serve for a one year term, an additional minister, representative elder or additional elder to provide balance, the Moderator, the Presbytery Clerk and the Depute Presbytery Clerk with the Presbytery Treasurer, Property Convenor and Safeguarding Co-ordinator serving in advisory roles as required.
- NEW 7 (h) all members of Presbytery with the exception of the Moderator, Clerk and Depute Clerk, are deemed to be appointed as being available to serve on a Vacancy Procedure Committee.
- 7 (h) All casual vacancies shall be filled by the Presbytery Support Committee and shall take immediate effect. Where the casual vacancy is in a Convenership, the person appointed shall take office from the date of appointment and shall serve until 30 June following and thereafter for a period of four years. Any appointments made shall be reported to the next Ordinary meeting of Presbytery.
- 7 (m) The Moderator, Clerk and Depute-Clerk, in addition to being members of the Presbytery Support Committee shall be ex-officio members of all other standing committees and ad hoc committees.
- 7 (r) The remits and delegated powers of Committees and Teams are as follows: –
- i. Complaints Committee – The remit of the Complaints Committee is to deal with matters that fall under the Complaints Procedure as agreed by the General Assembly.
Delegated Powers:
 1. to deal with matters that fall under the Complaints Procedure as agreed by the General Assembly; deal with matters that fall under the Complaints Procedure as agreed by the General Assembly;
 - ii. Presbytery Support Committee - The remit of the Presbytery Support Committee is to provide support for ministers as well as the congregations across the Presbytery in relation to local church reviews, vacancy process and safeguarding and in collaboration with appropriate office bearers, and other committees where necessary, provide support to Presbytery in the areas of property, finance and planning and, in consultation with the Clerks, would propose the agenda for the forthcoming Presbytery meeting.
Delegated Powers:
 1. to dispose of all applications in respect of fabric and furnishings, unless in the opinion of the Committee the nature or cost of the work to be done, or considerations of forward planning, requires the judgement of Presbytery;
 2. to dispense with matters relating to the discernment and training for candidates for all ministries of the Church, other than in cases of difficulty, as allowed for in the relevant training Acts of the General Assembly;
 3. full powers to examine, and also attest, except where a Court may be held to be censurable in respect of any of its Records;
 4. to oversee Safeguarding Procedures within the Presbytery.
 5. to act in routine matters not the business of other Committees in accordance with the accepted practice and procedure of the Church and to advise the Moderator to call a meeting in the event of business arising which, in the opinion of the Committee, requires to be considered by the Presbytery and which cannot be held over until the next ordinary meeting.
 - iii. Worship & Discipleship Committee - The remit of the Worship & Discipleship Committee is, in consultation with congregations, to seek to investigate, develop and resource the worship life and opportunities for faith development across the Presbytery.
 - iv. Relationship & Context Committee – The remit of the Relationship & Context Committee is, in consultation with congregations, to seek to investigate, develop and resource the missional life of congregations within the diverse communities that exist across the Presbytery, and across the world.

- v. Vacancy Procedure Committee - The remit of the Vacancy Procedure Committee is to act as the Vacancy Procedure Committee in terms of Act 8, 2003 (as amended) with all members of Presbytery with the exception of the Moderator, Clerk and Depute Clerk appointed as being available to serve on a Vacancy Procedure Committee.

Delegated Powers:

- I. to act as the Vacancy Procedure Committee in terms of Act 8, 2003 (as amended)

- 9 (a) At the November meeting of the Presbytery Support Committee, the Presbytery Clerk shall give notice of the number of commissions, which the Presbytery may make (subject to confirmation from the office of the Principal Clerk), and the charges from which the ministerial and elder commissions shall be sought.
- 9 (e) Applications for spare ministerial commissions should be received by the Presbytery Clerk prior to the February Presbytery Support Committee meeting. Presbytery Support Committee shall agree on nominations to fill spare Ministerial commissions and present names for approval to the March meeting of Presbytery.
- 9 (g) In the event of a Kirk Session (or Kirk Sessions in the case of a linked charge) not being able to provide a commissioned elder from their number, the Session Clerk should inform the Presbytery Clerk no later than January meeting of Presbytery Support Committee. The Presbytery Support Committee shall seek to fill the spare elder commission from the additional elders of Presbytery. In the event of no additional elder being able to accept the commission the Presbytery Support Committee shall
 - i. Determine that if a charge had previously not been able to commission an elder whether they are able to commission an elder for nomination, and if not,
 - ii. At the February meeting of Presbytery invite Kirk Sessions to inform the Presbytery Clerk individual elders who would be willing, and able, to accept a commission prior to the February Presbytery Support Committee. Presbytery Support Committee shall agree on nominations to fill spare Elder commissions and present names for approval to the March meeting of Presbytery.
- 9 (h) Ministers, Deacons and Additional Presbytery Elders who have not attended at least four ordinary meetings of Presbytery in the previous calendar year shall be ineligible to receive a commission, but may write to the Presbytery Support Committee asking to be allowed to attend, giving reasons.
- 9 (i) The Roll of Commissioners shall be made up at the February meeting of the Presbytery Support Committee and presented for approval to the March meeting of Presbytery.
- 9 (j) Any vacancy occurring subsequently in the Roll of Commissioners shall be filled by the Presbytery Support Committee who shall have a discretionary power to take steps appropriate in the circumstances to fill the vacancies.
- 11 (a) Any proposal for the alteration of Standing Orders shall be either (a) on the report of the Presbytery Support Committee and intimated to Presbytery or (b) by notice of motion handed in writing to the Clerk in time to be circulated in advance to all members of Presbytery.

Proposed Committee Membership Feb 2018

Mrs	Elizabeth	Bradley	Worship & Discipleship	Support
Mr	Robert	Carson	Worship & Discipleship	
Rev	Elizabeth	Clelland	Worship & Discipleship	
Mrs	Lynn	Cochrane	Worship & Discipleship	
Rev	Iain	Cunningham	Worship & Discipleship	
Rev	James	Cutler	Worship & Discipleship	
Mr	George	Forbes	Worship & Discipleship	
Mr	Alan	Grant	Worship & Discipleship	Support*
Rev	Paul	Grant	Worship & Discipleship	
Mr	William	Love	Worship & Discipleship	Support
Rev	Louise	Mackay	Worship & Discipleship	
Rev	Elspeth	MacLean	Worship & Discipleship	
Mrs	Elizabeth	McLachlan	Worship & Discipleship	
Mr	Alex	McPhee	Worship & Discipleship	
Mrs	Mabel	Morris	Worship & Discipleship	
Mrs	Anne	Reid	Worship & Discipleship	
Rev	Steven	Reid	Worship & Discipleship	
Mr	Jim	Sinclair	Worship & Discipleship	Support
Mr	David	Waters	Worship & Discipleship	Support
Mr	Kenneth	Watson	Worship & Discipleship	
Mr	James	Watt	Worship & Discipleship	
Rev	David	Young	Worship & Discipleship	
Mr	John	Austin	Relationships & Context	
Rev	David	Carmichael	Relationships & Context	
Mr	Tom	Chalmers	Relationships & Context	
Mr	Graham	Chapman	Relationships & Context	
Mrs	Helen	Chekansky	Relationships & Context	
Mrs	Anne	Cochrane	Relationships & Context	
Mr	William	Coulter	Relationships & Context	
Rev	Henry	Findlay	Relationships & Context	
Rev	Michael	Fucella	Relationships & Context	
Rev	Helen	Jamieson	Relationships & Context	
Rev Dr	Nikki	Macdonald	Relationships & Context	
Rev	Maudeen	MacDougall	Relationships & Context	Support
Mr	Willie	MacSween	Relationships & Context	
Mr	Robert	Mitchell	Relationships & Context	
Mrs	Libby	Muir	Relationships & Context	
Mr	Cameron	Murray	Relationships & Context	
Mrs	Lillias	Nicol	Relationships & Context	
Rev Dr	Elijah	Obinna	Relationships & Context	
Mr	Hugh	Stewart	Relationships & Context	
Mrs	Caroline	Deerin	Presbytery Support (advisor)	Support
Mr	Ewan	Easton	Presbytery Support (advisor)	Support
Mrs	Mary	McGillivray	Presbytery Support (advisor)	Support
Mr	Scott	Paget	Presbytery Support	Support
Rev	Bryan	Kerr	Ex Offico W&D and R&C	Support
Rev	George	Shand	Ex Offico W&D and R&C	Support

* Mr Alan Grant will retire as a member of Presbytery Support Committee on 4 September 2018



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:30pm as members of Presbytery arrive.

Order of Business – 13 March 2018

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

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

Decisions under delegated powers

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

Presbytery Support Committee

Candidate in Training, Ministry of Word and Sacrament (1 December 2017)

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

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of Presbytery Accounts
 - a. Approve the Annual Report and Accounts of the Presbytery of Lanark for the year ended 31 December 2017.
 - b. Thank Mrs Mary McGillivray for her work in preparing the accounts and for all the work she undertakes as treasurer.
3. In respect of Congregational Accounts
 - a. Remind all congregational treasurers of the instruction of the General Assembly to provide a hard copy of the approved, examined and signed accounts and annual report for year ended 31 December 2017 to the Presbytery Clerk no later than 31 March 2018
 - b. Appoint IA Stewart to conduct the attestation of congregational accounts year ended 31 December 2017
 - c. Instruct all Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards to not send their accounts to OSCR until they are informed by the Presbytery Clerk that either their accounts are approved to be submitted or changes are made and accounts resubmitted where errors are found during the attestation process.
4. In respect of the Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance
 - a. Grant an award of £240 (4 Sundays out of possible 18) for Cairngryffe, £480 (8 Sundays out of possible 16) for Symington and £360 (6 Sundays out of possible 11) for Libberton & Quothquan to meet the costs of Pulpit Supply to cover the third Sunday Service.
 - b. Grant an award to both Coalburn & Lesmahagow: Old and Douglas Valley Church of £1,560 each to meet the costs of Pulpit Supply to cover the second services held in locations agreed in the Basis of Union of both charges.
 - c. Grant an award of £610 to Carluke: St. John's for the purchase of the computer, electrical and musical equipment for Grace Notes, and encourage the Kirk Session or the group to fund the purchase of the Hoodies through other specific fundraising efforts, such as a retiring offering.
 - d. Grant an award of £1,000 to Lanark: Greyfriars to help meet the costs of the Holiday Club in 2018.
 - e. Encourage congregations to apply to the committee for grants from the Variance Fund to help with costs of special mission projects and note that the deadline for accepting applications for 2018 is Monday 13 August 2018.
5. After discussion with the Presbytery Planning Task Group and Principal Clerk, note with disappointment that it has not been possible to present a report on the reclassification of buildings within Carluke: St. Andrew's and Carluke: St. John's at this time and assure the congregations of the determination of Presbytery to continue to seek a resolution in this matter.
6. Approve the pilot of community consultation within the Local Church Review Process and agree to utilise £1,000 from the 2018 Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance to cover costs of the pilot.
7. Note that the annual attestation of records will take place on Tuesday 17 April and congregations are instructed to follow the procedure as laid out in the Year Book on pages 41-42.

8. In respect of the General Assembly 2018
 - a. Agree that the ministers attending this year's Assembly from Lanark Presbytery will be Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Dr Nikki MacDonald, Rev Maudeen MacDougal and Rev Dr Elijah Obinna.
 - b. Agree that the elders attending this year's Assembly from Lanark Presbytery will be Lynn Cochrane (Upper Clyde), Ross Hyslop (Lanark Greyfriars), Betty McLeod (Carnwath) Glenn Walker (Carluke St Johns) and Pamela Watt (Carluke St Andrew's)
 - c. Note that, following a request from the Principal Clerk and the Assembly Arrangements Committee, the Presbytery Clerk will be holding a briefing meeting for all commissioners on Wednesday 25 April 2018 at 7:30pm in Greyfriars Church.
 - d. Invite all commissioners to attend the Presbytery meeting on 1 May 2018 at 7pm for an act of commissioning prior to the General Assembly.
 - e. Appoint Mr Glenn Walker and Rev Bryan Kerr to the Commission of Assembly in 2018-2019
9. Appoint Mr Jim Watt, Presbytery elder from Cairngryffe Parish Church, as Moderator of Presbytery for 2018-2019.

Report

Finance

Presbytery Accounts and Annual Report for year Ended 31 December 2017

The accounts for year ended 31 December 2017 are presented (Appendix 1) for approval. Thanks are expressed to the Treasurer, Mary McGillivray and the Presbytery Clerk for their work in ensuring the accounts have been prepared and presented in such good time. The accounts have been independently examined by IA Stewart and have been found to be in order.

Congregational Accounts and Annual Report for year Ended 31 December 2017

The deadline for submission of all congregational accounts and annual reports is 31 March 2018. A hard copy should be posted to the Presbytery Clerk as soon as possible. This copy should include both the annual report and accounts, should be approved signed by the office bearers and should be fully examined and signed by the independent examiner. It is not necessary to have the accounts presented to the congregation in a Stated Annual Meeting before they are sent to Presbytery and the Church Offices. The deadline for holding a Stated Annual Meeting is 30 June each year.

The committee recommend that IA Stewart be engaged once again for conducting the annual attestation of accounts. This ensures a high degree of compliance prior to congregational accounts being sent to OSCR. IA Stewart have conducted this attestation for five years and have held the fee at £100 per congregation since 2012. IA Stewart willing to undertake work again on same basis at same cost with estimated completion date of 30 June. Congregations should note that if their accounts are not in the hands of the Presbytery Clerk by 31 March 2018 then there is no guarantee their set will be attested by 30 June 2018. All Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards are reminded of the instruction to not send their accounts to OSCR until the Presbytery Clerk informs them that either their accounts are approved to be submitted or changes are made and accounts resubmitted where errors are found during the attestation process.

Ministry & Mission Variance Allowance

Available Allowance

In 2017 the Presbytery had £38,094 available to allocate. Throughout the year it allocated a total of £16,870 (£5,500 LCR Process; £955 to each of three Tinto Parishes for third service cover; £1,145 Tinto Parishes Bubblegum and Fluff; £1,500 Carluke: St. Andrew's Drop In & Alzheimers Project; £1,200 Forth: St. Paul's Project Costs; £1,000 Kirkmuirhill Holiday Club; £2,000 Lanark: Greyfriars Cinema & Christmas Activity Day;

£1,600 Carstairs & Carnwath Night Kirk and Open Book). This left a balance of £21,224 to be carried over to 2018.

2017 5% carryover	£21,224
2018 5%	£38,096
Total Available at 1/1/18	£59,320
Previously Allocated	£8,250 for LCR Process in 2018
Total Available at 1/9/2/18	£51,070

Tinto Parishes Third Service Sunday Cover

In 2016 Presbytery agreed to award the Tinto Parish with an award from the variance allowance to cover the third Sunday Service supply costs. At the time of agreeing the Basis of Linkage it was the desire of Presbytery that local congregations might develop local patterns of worship that meant they did not have to rely on supply, but could provide contextually authentic worship from within the congregation. Presbytery are pleased that a number of individuals have undergone training and have been commissioned as local worship leaders.

If Presbytery were to simply give an equitable amount to each congregation to cover all Sundays then it would mean the money was potentially not being spent for the purpose given, but more importantly, a reliance on the supply costs being met by Presbytery might inhibit the continuing development of local worship leaders.

When Presbytery makes an award from the variance allowance it is for that specific use and cannot be used for any other purpose without the express permission of Presbytery, following a request from a Kirk Session. In order to be good stewards of the funds of the Church of Scotland the three congregations of the Tinto Parishes were asked for the actual amount of the variance spent of pulpit supply in 2017 (outwith normal holiday supply costs).

The three congregations spent varying amounts, reflecting the good use of local worship leaders. The Presbytery is aware of the desire of both Symington and Cairngryffe to cover most, if not all of the Sundays required with their own leaders, whereas Libberton and Quothquan, due to the smaller congregation, attempt to cover as many as they are able in any one year. In 2017 Cairngryffe spent £110, Symington £537 and Libberton & Quothquan £550, representing 2 (from 10 possible Sundays needing supply), 9 (from 18 possible) and 9 (from 16 possible) weeks supply respectively.

It is therefore recommended that the variance allowance award made for 2018 reflect these same figures, with an understanding that should the amount spent be significantly less or more then it may be adjusted in the award the following year to reflect this.

It is recommended that in 2018 awards of £240 (4 Sundays out of possible 18) for Cairngryffe, £480 (8 Sundays out of possible 16) for Symington and £360 (6 Sundays out of possible 11) for Libberton & Quothquan be made from the Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance to meet the costs of Pulpit Supply to cover the third Sunday Service.

Vacant Congregations Allowances

When a congregation is in vacancy an allowance is received by them which is equivalent to two days locum cover plus Sunday pulpit supply fee for one service (in a single charge) or two or more services (in a linked charge). An anomaly has come to light with two charges within the Presbytery. Both Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and The Douglas Valley Church are united charges but have more than one place of worship on a Sunday as formally agreed in the Basis of Union for both charges. This means that the congregations require to fund the second service from their own reserves. With the increase of the second service fee from £15 to £30 per week this means an outlay of £1,560 per charge.

It is therefore recommended that for the duration of the vacancy these two charges receive an award from the Ministry & Mission Variance Allowance to cover such costs. As it is difficult to quantify the length of a

vacancy, the award will be paid at the start of the year to cover the entire year. Should a charge be filled within the year, the Kirk Session should apply to Presbytery to have permission to vary the use of the remainder of the money for mission projects.

It is recommended that for 2018 both Coalburn & Lesmahagow: Old and Douglas Valley Church be granted an award of £1,560 each from the Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance to meet the costs of Pulpit Supply to cover the second services held in locations agreed in the Basis of Union of both charges.

Carlisle: St. John's

An application for an award from the Ministry & Mission Variance Allowance has been received from Carlisle: St. John's Kirk Session to help fund the Grace Notes Youth Singing Group. The group have limited funds but provide a service not only to St. John's Church but also to churches and groups across the area. The Kirk Session outline an estimate of costs to fund musical equipment (stands, microphones, amplifiers, computer tablet, speakers) and Hoodies for the participants. The total cost is approximately £890 of which £270 is allocated to the Hoodies for the young people to wear. As Hoodies are 'personal items' which would not necessarily 'belong' to the group and be used by others, **it is recommended to grant an award of £610 to Carlisle: St. John's for the purchase of the computer, electrical and musical equipment for Grace Notes, and encourage the Kirk Session or the group to fund the purchase of the Hoodies through other specific fundraising efforts, such as a retiring offering.**

Lanark: Greyfriars

An application for an award from the Ministry & Mission Variance Allowance has been received from Lanark: Greyfriars Kirk Session to help fund the annual Holiday Club for primary school aged children. The Holiday Club attracts around 120 children and is appreciated throughout the community. The Kirk Session receive funding from Border Biscuits Community Support Fund to offset some of the costs to provide the Holiday Club free of charge to all children who attend. The Holiday Club costs around £1,200 which covers the costs of craft material, refreshments, drama equipment, banners etc. Border Biscuits contribute around £550 each year and parents are invited, where they are able, to make donations to assist with costs. **It is recommended to grant an award of £1,000 to Lanark: Greyfriars to help meet the costs of the Holiday Club in 2018.**

Planning & Deployment

Carlisle: St. Andrew's in deferred union with Carlisle: St. John's

The Committee had anticipated bringing forward a report outlining possible ways to move forward with the reclassification of the buildings of Carlisle: St. Andrew's and Carlisle: St. John's. Disappointingly, after taking advice from the Presbytery Planning Task Group and the Principal Clerk the committee have found it necessary to not present the report at this time. The committee will continue to work with the congregations and other interested parties to reach a solution that allows the congregations to move forward.

Support and Guidance

Local Church Review Community Consultation

In the ongoing process of developing a new model of Local Church Review, one issue that has been identified at Upper Clyde and at Tinto Parishes is to do with community consultation. It is planned that a Survey will go out to Congregational members through Church Newsletters, and Upper Clyde will be circulating a

postcard Community Survey. Church members will have ways to return the survey – at church, through friends who are members, through elders, etc. But in Community Consultation, no such mechanisms exist.

The committee recommend that one way to do so would be for Presbytery to establish a FREEPOST address so that it costs nothing of the respondent to reply, and the recipient picks up the cost. To facilitate this, the committee recommend using the variance fund. Costs would be in the region of £96 per annum, plus an initial set up cost for the printing of envelopes. The ongoing cost would be the price of return postage.

It is recommended that for 2018 a sum of £1000 be allocated to this idea which would allow for the set up costs and around 1000 returns across the parishes involved in Local Church Review this year. Costs for return postage in the Local Church Review would be met from the Variance Allowance (for the first 500 per charge). The address would also be available for other congregations should they wish to undertake a survey in anticipation of a grant application, or survey all members for a roll review and Data Protection etc. This is a pilot idea to engage community consultation and conversation that will be monitored by the Depute Clerk who will report to the committee.

Attestation of records

The annual attestation of records will take place on Tuesday 17th April 2018. In the church halls of Lanark St Nicholas beginning at 6.30pm. Details s printed in the Presbytery Year Book pages 41-42. All congregations are reminded to present all records marked as per the guidelines. Session Clerks, Clerks to Board, Property Convenors, Safeguarding Co-ordinators and Roll Keepers should all be encouraged to attend at the correct time to discuss the records and any issues arising from the attestation. Ministers should also present log books for attestation on that evening.

Presbytery Business

General Assembly 2018

Ministers attending this year's General Assembly will be: Helen Jamieson, Bryan Kerr, Nikki MacDonald, Maudeen McDougall and Elijah Obinna.

Elders attending this year's General Assembly will be: Lynn Cochrane (Upper Clyde) Betty McLeod (Carnwath) Glenn Walker (Carluke St Johns), Pamela Watt (Carluke St Andrews). The committee received two nominations for spare elder places, of which one was able to be granted. As has been custom in previous years a name was randomly drawn by the Convenor. The spare elder place will be taken up by Ross Hyslop (Lanark Greyfriars).

The committee recommend that Mr Glenn Walker and Rev Bryan Kerr be appointed as members of the Commission of the General Assembly.

Moderator of Presbytery 2018-19

The committee recommend the nomination at Mr Jim Watt as Moderator of the Presbytery of Lanark for the 2018-19 Session. Mr Watt will be installed at the Presbytery meeting on 4 September 2018 in Cairngryffe Church.

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Rev Mike Fucella has been appointed Vice Convenor and Helen Chekansky appointed Secretary of the Relationship and Context Committee.

3. Note that the use of a Facebook page to support communication is to be explored.
4. Encourage the Presbytery Support Committee to reconsider setting up a functional website for the Presbytery as a means of outreach and communication.
5. Encourage congregations and individuals to continue their support of international aid agencies but to also scrutinise agencies they support in the light of recent events as to whether they have introduced policies and procedures to safeguard the most vulnerable

Report

Appointments

The committee has made the following appointments:

Rev Mike Fucella	Vice Convenor
Helen Chekansky	Secretary

Communication

The committee discussed the possible use of a Presbytery website to enhance external communication and facilitate communication around Presbytery. It was noted that there may be an existing website that has become disused over the years. It was acknowledged that upkeep of a website can be time consuming. After some discussion on alternatives, the committee has agreed to explore the use of a Facebook community page as a means of enhancing communication within Presbytery but also as a means of linking similar organisations in Churches. Additional uses may be considered in due course. It is recognised that a significant proportion of committee members do not currently access this social media site, however it was agreed that this should not deter us from considering at this route improving communication. The importance of person-to-person sharing of experiences is noted and meantime that, together with written communications, will remain the primary sources of information.

Working groups

It was agreed that there should be two working groups for the committee:

1. Local Mission and Local Issues
2. World Mission and International Issues

The membership for these groups has been agreed.

Concern about the current situation in World Aid organisations

Grave concern was expressed about the situation in Oxfam and several other major international aid agencies in the light of recent negative publicity. Whereas the publicity has uncovered some very worrying practices on the part of a minority of aid workers, it is clear that the vast majority are doing vital and life-saving work. The committee feel that continued giving to international aid agencies must be encouraged to ensure the essential work they do is not curtailed.

The committee also recognises that any abuse or exploitation of persons made vulnerable by war, natural or economic disaster by agents of the organisations whose very purpose is to bring relief and empowerment is reprehensible and intolerable.

The committee applauds and encourages new policies and procedures that are being implemented by agencies to safeguard the most vulnerable from any further or future abuse. One scheme suggested by Save the

Children UK and to be encouraged is a 'humanitarian passport' that would serve as a background check for all workers (serving in much the same way as our PVG scheme).

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

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

Report

Appointments

The committee appointed Louise Mackay as Vice convenor, and Mabel Morris and Anne Reid as joint minute secretaries.

Remit and ongoing work

Remits carried on from the Congregation Development Committee were listed

Training for elders in conducting funeral services and pastoral bereavement care. This training was to be in conjunction with Hamilton Presbytery but so far attempts to contact Linda Walker had not been successful. A meeting has been agreed for moving this initiative forward.

Training for elders to moderate their own sessions in the absence of their minister. It was decided, after some discussion, that this would not be an immediate priority at this time for action by the committee.

Year of the Young Person. Since this is a Church of Scotland priority it was decided to action this initiative as one of the committee's first projects. A subcommittee comprising Louise Mackay (convenor) and Paul Grant agreed to form a subcommittee and others from churches across the Presbytery will be asked to be involved. It was suggested that an initial approach to congregations across the Presbytery to query what their young people want and need would be a sensible approach.

Prayer

The General Assembly last year called for Saturday 25th November to be a national day of prayer for Scotland, and asked us to focus on prayer. As a committee we think this fits within our remit.

The committee discussed approaches to prayer experienced in congregations. Prayer cards used to identify individuals requesting prayers on their behalf, prayers requested for healing, prayer meetings, annual day of prayer, prayer diary giving specific topics for specific days. The committee noted that prayer should be expanded beyond intercessory, e.g. contemplative prayer where the emphasis is on listening for what God has to say.

The committee will explore opportunities for discussion with the Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow and the World Community of Christian Meditators, (WCCM). The committee are also thinking of opportunities for prayer across the Presbytery and learning from the work undertaken in local schools. Elizabeth Clelland is Presbytery's prayer coordinator and will be consulted about promoting prayer, in all its varied forms, across the Presbytery.

Music

Music in all its varied forms can be used to enhance worship. Music can be in its traditional form, praise band, singing groups. The committee are considering a Presbytery Praise Night, utilising the talents of individuals within Presbytery, as well as groups such as school choirs to enhance our use of music.



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 1 May 2018 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:30pm as members of Presbytery arrive.

Order of Business – 1 May 2018

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Roll of Presbytery
6. Correspondence
7. Good News Stories
8. Report of the Presbytery Support Committee
9. Report on Attestation of Records
10. Report of the Relationships and Context Committee
11. Report of Worship and Discipleship Committee
12. Vacancy Advisory Committees
13. Intimations
14. Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 19 June 2018 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Homologate Mr Ian Conn (Forth: St Paul's) replacing Mrs Lynn Cochrane (Upper Clyde) as an elder commissioner at this year's General Assembly following Mrs Cochrane's work commitments stopping her attending and Mr Conn's previous expression of interest to attend.
3. Instruct all Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards to discuss topics sent out by the Presbytery Clerk to inform future planning for the session 2018-2019 and to send representatives to the June meeting of Presbytery.
4. Note that the clerk has begun the process of annual review of Registration of Ministries as laid out in Act 2, 2017 and that a report will be brought to the June meeting.

Report

General Assembly: Elder Commissioner

Due to work commitments Mrs Lynn Cochrane (Upper Clyde) is unable to take up her place as a commissioner at this General Assembly. Mr Ian Conn (Forth: St Paul's) had previously indicated his willingness to attend the Assembly but had failed to secure one of the spare elder spaces. It was felt that if he was still able to attend he should be offered Mrs Cochranes place. Mr Conn is willing to attend.

Future Planning

As part of the restructuring of Presbytery it was agreed that congregations would be asked to send representatives to the June meeting of Presbytery to help inform work during the forthcoming session. To that end the committee invite Presbytery to instruct Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards to discuss topics to be sent out by the Presbytery Clerk to help inform planning of the work of Presbytery. Congregations are asked to consider what developments they would like to see in worship, education of children and young people, education of adults, prayer, mission and outreach within the parish, community work and engagement, political and social engagement and mission to, and learning from, the wider world. It is hoped that by having congregations discuss these issues at a Kirk Session meeting and make tentative plans for the coming year (in, for example, developing an area of ministry or service within the congregation) Presbytery will be able to look at where best to deploy resources and support.

Registration of Ministries

Presbytery will be pleased to note that the clerk has begun the process of annual review of Registration of Ministries as laid out in Act 2, 2017 and that a report will be brought to the June meeting.

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the plans for Praise Services for Year of Young Person within the Presbytery and encourage congregations to get involved.
3. Welcome the work of the subgroup on Prayer and encourage congregations to begin to consider appointing a Prayer Co-ordinator in due course.
4. Note that a meeting has taken place to develop plans in the joint initiative of training elders in conducting funerals with the Presbytery of Hamilton and that a report will be brought to a future meeting.

Report

Year of Young Person

The committee discussed YOYP, and Rev Elijah Obinna is already arranging a Youth Praise night on Saturday 15th September and he is happy for this to be a Presbytery YOYP event. The committee would ask that when a mailing goes out to congregations, a request for any congregations with a praise band be included, with an invitation to them to be involved on 15th September. Forth St Paul's are planning a service on 31st December 2018 with the group "Grace Notes". All congregations are very welcome to attend.

Prayer

Rev Elizabeth Clelland is leading a sub group looking at prayer. This group intend to bring a report to the September Presbytery meeting encouraging all congregations to appoint a prayer promoter if they do not already have one, and invite them to attend the regular meetings for prayer promoters at Braehead House.

The group also plan to organise a "Quiet Day" a day of prayer and contemplation for all of Lanark Presbytery, to be held in Braehead House at a suitable date.

Information will be given at General Assembly for a National Prayer day to be held on 2nd November.

The group have also made contact with the Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow and they will send out someone to speak to Presbytery if Presbytery so desires.

Training for Funeral Leaders

A meeting was held with Hamilton Presbytery on Thursday 26th April, and plans were made to progress training for those prepared to take funerals within both Lanark and Hamilton Presbyteries, as well as looking at educating congregations and undertakers to encourage them to use these people once they have completed their training. A further report will be brought to a future meeting where the item will be fully discussed.



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark on Tuesday 19 June 2018 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

Tea and coffee will be available from 6:30pm as members of Presbytery arrive.

Order of Business – 19 June 2018

1. Constitution
2. Welcome to Visitors
3. Approval of the Order of Business
4. Minutes
5. Roll of Presbytery
6. Correspondence
7. Catch the Light Presentation
8. Table Discussion with congregations on Future Planning
9. Report of the Presbytery Support Committee
10. Report of Worship and Discipleship Committee
11. Report of the Relationships and Context Committee
12. Intimations
13. Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourns to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 19 June 2018 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree the guidelines for Ministry and Mission Presbytery Discretionary Allowance.
3. Agree to make a Ministry and Mission Discretionary Variance Allowance of £4000 towards the Rainforest Cafe/ Self Help Sessions project at Forth: St Paul's.
4. Agree the appointment of the following as additional Elders for 2018-19: Mr Ewan Easton (Lanark: Greyfriars), Mr George Forbes (Kirkmuirhill), Mr Alan Grant (Carluke: St John's), Mr Bill Love (Lanark: St Nicholas) Mr Willie Macsween (Carluke: Kirkton), Mr Scott Paget (Lanark: Greyfriars, and thank Mrs Libby Muir for her service as an Additional Elder.
5. Thank Mr Bill Love for his term as Convener (pro tem) of the Presbytery Support Committee and appoint Mr Scott Paget as Convener from 20 June 2018 in line with the decision of Presbytery in February 2018.
6. Agree the appointment of four people to serve as Additional Elders at Upper Clyde and instruct the Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener to make the relevant appointments and report them to the September Presbytery meeting.
7. In respect of the Registration of Ministries Act
 - a. following requests from Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Jim Cutler, Rev Harry Findlay, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Dr Graham Houston, Rev Jim Seath, Rev John Turnbull, Rev David Young to retain Category R status, agree that Category R Status be granted from 1st July 2018 to 30 June 2019.
 - b. Note that, having reached the three year anniversary of his demission and due to the fact he does not wish to become a communicant member of a Church of Scotland congregation, Rev Dr Cameron McPherson, has chosen not to request Category R or I status and instruct the Ministries Council to place Dr McPherson's name on Supplementary List G of the Register of Ministries with effect from 26 June 2018.
8. Note that separate meetings have been held between members of the Presbytery Support Committee and the Sessions of Carluke: St Andrew's and Carluke: St John's. In addition meetings have also taken place with Rev Elijah Obinna (Carluke: St John's and Rev Helen Jamieson (Carluke: St Andrew's). The Presbytery Support Committee will bring a full report to Presbytery as soon as it is able to do so.
9. In respect of meeting dates for 2018/2019
 - a. Agree that the Presbytery will meet for ordinary business on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2018/2019 session: 4 September (in Cairngryffe Church), 2 October, 6 November, 4 December, 5 February, 5 March, 7 May, 18 June.
 - b. Agree that the Worship & Discipleship and Relationship & Context committees will meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2018/2019 session: 21 August, 18 September, 23 October, 20 November, 22 January, 19 February, 19 March, 23 April, 4 June.
 - c. Agree that the Presbytery Support Committee will meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2018/2019 session: 22 August, 19 September, 24 October, 21 November, 23 January, 20 February, 20 March, 24 April, 5 June.
10. Grant powers during the summer recess to the Convener, Moderator, Clerk and Depute Clerk.

Report

Guidelines for Ministry and Mission Presbytery Discretionary Allowance

Following a request from Presbytery for guidelines regarding applications for variations from the Ministry and Mission Discretionary Allowance, the Presbytery Support Committee have produced these to help congregations (Appendix 1). If approved by Presbytery the guidelines set out what will and will not be

considered as part of any application. They also tighten up the time scales for making applications. Congregations are invited to make applications to the Discretionary Allowance in advance of the deadline of 14 August 2018.

Application for Ministry and Mission Discretionary Allowance

An application from For: St Paul's has been received in respect of a project to establish a Rainforest Café/ Self-help Sessions. This project is aimed at young people. The Presbytery Support Committee believe that Presbytery should support this project and would recommend that an award of £4000 be made towards this.

Additional Elders

The following have expressed their willingness to serve as Additional Presbytery Elders for the 2018-19 session: Mr Ewan Easton (Lanark: Greyfriars), Mr George Forbes (Kirkmuirhill), Mr Alan Grant (Carluke: St John's), Mr Bill Love (Lanark: St Nicholas), Mr Willie Macsween (Carluke: Kirkton), and Mr Scott Paget (Lanark: Greyfriars). It is recommended that Presbytery appoint these individuals and express their thanks to Mrs Libby Muir who steps down as an additional elder on 30 June.

Assessor Elders: Upper Clyde

Following the attestation of records it was felt that Upper Clyde were struggling to meet some of the necessary administrative standards required of them as a congregation of the Church of Scotland. After discussion with the minister of the charge it was felt that it would be helpful to appoint four Assessor elders. Presbytery are invited to approve the appointment of Assessor Elders and instruct the Clerk, Depute Clerk and Convener to appoint relevant individuals over the summer recess.

Carluke St Andrew's and Carluke: St John's

After receipt of the letter from the Session of Carluke: St John's expressing their misgivings regarding the lack of progress regarding the union between themselves and Carluke: St Andrew's, as a first step, the Presbytery Support Committee have held meetings with the two sessions. These meetings were held without the presence of the ministers. Further meetings were then held between the Committee and the ministers. The Committee are quite clear that the situation existing in Carluke is complex and that further meetings will be required before a way forward can be brought to Presbytery. They will bring such a report to Presbytery as soon as they are in a position to do so. It is currently impossible to give a time scale for this report but the Committee are aware of the need for urgency in this matter.

Registration of Ministries

The committee recommend that all ministers who have requested a continuation of Category R status be award this for the year 1st July 2018 – 30th June 2019. Those ministers who will be entered as Category R in the register will be Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Jim Cutler, Rev Harry Findlay, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Dr Graham Houston, Rev Jim Seath, Rev John Turnbull and Rev David Young.

Rev Dr Cameron McPherson reaches the three year anniversary of his demission on 25 June 2018. The Act states that a minister retains category O status during that initial period before choosing either Category R or I going forward. In order to be a minister of the Church of Scotland it is necessary to be a communicant member of the Kirk. Dr McPherson has stated that he does not wish to become a communicant member of a Church of Scotland congregation and therefore has chosen not to request Category R or I status and demit his status as a Church of Scotland minister. The Clerk has conferred with Dr McPherson and ensured that he understood the implications of this decision, especially in respect of the Marriage (Scotland) Act and his ability to solemnise marriages. It is therefore necessary to instruct the Ministries Council to place Dr McPherson's name on Supplementary List G of the Register of Ministries with effect from 26 June 2018.

Presbytery Meeting Dates

The Presbytery is due to meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2018/2019 session: 4 September (in Cairngryffe Church), 2 October, 6 November, 4 December, 5 February, 5 March, 7 May, 18 June.

Worship & Discipleship and Relationship & Context committees are due to meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2018/2019 session: 21 August, 18 September, 23 October, 20 November, 22 January, 19 February, 19 March, 23 April, 4 June.

Presbytery Support Committee is due to meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2018/2019 session: 22 August, 19 September, 24 October, 21 November, 23 January, 20 February, 20 March, 24 April, 5 June.

Convener

The committee is delighted to propose that Mr Scott Paget resumes duties as Convener as of 20 June 2018 in line with the deliverance of February 2018. The Presbytery owe a debt of gratitude to Mr Bill Love who stepped in and convened the committee following Scott's illness and subsequent return to health.

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Invite all congregations to participate in the National Prayer Day on 2nd November 2018 between 9am and 9pm.
3. Instruct all members of Presbytery to note in their diaries Saturday 2nd March, and prayerfully consider attending the Presbytery Retreat on that date in Braehead House.
4. Instruct all congregations to prayerfully consider appointing a prayer promoter if they do not already have one.
5. Invite all prayer promoters to the next meeting on Saturday 1st September 2018 10.30-12 at Braehead House.

Report

Prayer

The committee have discussed the **National Prayer Day** which is to be held on 2nd November 2018.

“Together We Pray is a national prayer initiative, set in motion at the General Assembly in 2017. It is a call to the Church to join together in prayer. This year, the General Assembly is asked to support a **National Day of Prayer, to be held on 3 November 2018** with a particular focus on the life and missional work of the Church of Scotland.

Together we Pray grew out of the *On the Road* initiative in 2016 when meetings were held around the country to listen to the hopes and concerns of church members and to explore solutions to the challenges of ministry and discipleship in the 21st century.

Resources for the National Day of Prayer will be available through the Church website. Our hope is that through *Together We Pray*, people will join together in bringing all of life before God in prayer.”

It was discussed as to how we could include all of Presbytery to celebrate this Day of Prayer.

It was decided to split the Presbytery into groups – Clydesdale East, West, North and South.

The day would be split into 3 hour periods for each area and be held between 9.00am and 9.00pm.

Clydesdale East 9-12, Clydesdale West 12-3, Clydesdale North 3-6pm & Clydesdale South 6-9pm.

These divisions are not intended to be prescriptive, but simply a way of ensuring that every church is involved and every period of time is covered with prayer.

Guidance would be taken from the Church of Scotland Literature, which will be sent to each Church in due course. And the group aim to work with and encourage the prayer promoters in each congregation to achieve 12 hours of continuous prayer within Lanark Presbytery. Many suggestions were shared, from a labyrinth to prayer stations, to including a space for silent prayer, music, Bible readings, video clips, photos, and much more.

Those leading Worship would be asked to prepare the way for the Prayer Day during the month of October.

It was also decided to further encourage each Congregation to appoint a Prayer Promoter.

Prayer Promoters meet once every 6 weeks with Rev Elizabeth Clelland at Braehead House.

The next meeting is on 1st September between 10.30am and 12 noon.

Presbytery Retreat

The committee has discussed holding a **Presbytery Retreat**. The proposed date is Saturday, 2nd March 2019 from 10.00 am to 4.00pm at Braehead House.

It was hoped to have a speaker from Ignation Spirituality Centre.

Christian Meditation Group

Rev Elspeth MacLean hopes to set up a **Christian Meditation** group and hold regular meetings. Anyone who is interested please contact Elspeth.

Report of the Relationships & Context Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Commend the ongoing exploration on Farming ministry by the committee and instruct the committee to present a detailed report in a future Presbytery meeting.
3. Encourage members and congregations to engage with the World Mission Council: Special Report on Lessons for Scotland from Christian Faith in Africa.
4. Note and encourage congregations to participate in the Presbytery Mission conference proposed for Saturday, 6th October 2018.

Report

Farming Ministry

The committee discussed the outcome of an initial meeting with the Pioneer minister for the Farming Community (Rev. Chris Blackshaw) and Mrs Isabell Montgomerie, who devised the project on behalf of the Presbytery of Ayr. This is a service of care for the Agricultural Community – outreach from the Churches. The committee was reminded that the modern agricultural community is under many pressures including:

- Suicide – farmers are three times more likely to take their own life than the average person.
- Isolation – modern farming methods lead to working in isolation.
- Farming is a 24/7 occupation, and very often farmers put their own needs – especially their own health – behind the demands of the farm and their families.

- Mental health - farming is an area of occupation where people are at higher risk of encountering depression.

After much discussion, it was agreed that many of these issues exist within many of the congregations within Lanark Presbytery. It was felt that a small working group could be set up to look into possibilities of finding ways to support our farming community, perhaps enlisting known retired farmers who are also elders within our Presbytery. This group will initially consist of Rev George Shand, Rev Elspeth Maclean, Rev Nikki Macdonald and Rev Maudeen MacDougall.

World Mission Council: Special Report on Lessons for Scotland from Christian Faith in Africa

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/50200/World_Mission_Council-Special_Report_on_Lessons_for_Scotland_from_Christian_Faith_in_Africa.pdf

According to the report “Christianity is now rooted in the global south. Twenty-six percent of the global Christian population lives in Sub-Saharan Africa, which has 15% of the world’s population. The Pew Research Centre expects this proportion to grow to more than 40% by 2060, driven by a combination of demographic factors, including fertility, age and migration”. While recognising differing contexts and challenges and varying levels of growth in churches in Sub-Saharan Africa, there is a challenge for the Church of Scotland to re-examine some of its established practices in light of the African experience of growth. These lessons from Africa can add to and enhance the many good initiatives within the Church of and in Scotland.

This report which was presented to the 2018 General Assembly highlighted six key pointers for growth of churches in Sub-Saharan Africa including: Bible Study; Prayer and Testimony; Discipleship, Evangelism and Commitment; Repentance and Reconciliation; Faith in Social Action; and Worship and Lay Participation. As a committee we discussed the report and noted how the information given by the report is relevant to us in Lanark Presbytery, not only in our churches on Sundays but in all other events/people throughout the week. The committee commend the report to congregations.

Presbytery Mission Conference

In collaboration with the Worship and Discipleship committee, the committee discussed the possibility of hosting a Presbytery Mission Conference on Saturday, 6th October 2018 from 10:00am to 3:30pm. It is hoped that the Committee will present a more detailed report on this during the next Presbytery meeting.

Guidelines for Ministry and Mission Presbytery Discretionary Allowance

Regulation 1, 2012 (as amended) allows Presbytery to allocate a sum for Presbytery and/or congregational purposes from a percentage of the total Ministry and Mission Contributions of congregations within the bounds. The percentage is determined annually by the Council of Assembly and any use of the fund is subject to the agreement of Presbytery.

In respect of the Ministry and Mission Presbytery Discretionary Allowance, the Presbytery of Lanark agree the following guidelines:

1. The Presbytery Support Committee shall recommend an amount to Presbytery at the meeting following the approval of the proposed contributions (normally December) to cover any Presbytery staffing appointments or committed expenditure for ongoing Presbytery Projects.
2. At the December meeting of Presbytery the Presbytery Support Committee shall determine the amount of money to be available for congregational or Presbytery projects for the forthcoming year. This amount shall be split into two application periods (1st January – 30th April and 1st May – 31st August) with the amount available in the second period reviewable at the May meeting of Presbytery. Any underspend in the first period may be carried forward.
3. Kirk Sessions of Congregations and Committees of Presbytery may submit applications for funding to the Presbytery Support Committee between 1st January – 14th April and 1st May – 14th August.
4. Funding shall normally be for projects that
 - a. Develop Mission within a community
 - b. Develop gifts and skills of individuals within a congregational setting
 - c. Provide meaningful support to a parish or community
 - d. Explore and/or develop new forms of worship and/or church
5. Applications should include a description of the project, agreed aims and objectives, a budget, (in the case of a congregational application) details of the commitment of the congregation involved both in terms of people and finance.
6. Funding from the Discretionary Allowance will not normally be made available for congregational staffing or basic infrastructure (for example, fabric repairs, phone lines and internet access, office equipment)
7. Funding from the Discretionary Allowance will not normally meet 100% of costs for congregational projects and there is an expectation that the congregation will contribute financially.
8. Other sources of external funding can be sought for projects and is encouraged.
9. The Presbytery Support Committee will recommend the level of support for each project to Presbytery at meetings between February and September (inclusive)
10. A congregation will not be eligible to receive funding if a monthly standing order to pay Ministry and Mission Contributions is not in operation (unless permission to vary the payment method has been approved by Presbytery prior to 31 December in the preceding year).
11. Should a congregation not spend the sum awarded within one calendar year of the award a report outlining the reasons why must be submitted to Presbytery Support Committee along with proposals for how the remaining money will be used.
12. Every congregation receiving an award shall submit a written report on the project to Presbytery Support Committee as soon as possible after the project has been completed, or no later than 12 months following the award being made whichever date is sooner.
13. The Presbytery Support Committee shall recommend any other use of the remaining Discretionary Allowance to the September meeting of Presbytery, for example contributing to congregational shortfalls, funding for Presbytery projects or responding to changes in congregational circumstances.
14. These guidelines shall reviewed not less than once every three years.