



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Lanark

The Presbytery will meet online on Zoom on Tuesday 1 December 2020 at 7pm for the following and other competent business.

Rev Bryan Kerr, Presbytery Clerk

To join the meeting click on the following link

Order of Business – 1 December 2020

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

The Presbytery adjourns to meet in hunc effectum for the Induction of Reverend Sumit Harrison to the charge of Carnwath and Carstairs in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark (and online) at 6:45pm on Wednesday 16 December 2020; in hunc effectum for a conference session with Hamilton Presbytery on Wednesday 13 January 2020 at 7pm online; and for Ordinary Business Tuesday 2 February 2020 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark or online as permissions dictate.

Decisions under delegated powers

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

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

Deliverance

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of Salaries and Honoraria
 - a. The Clerks Salary for 2021 continue to be 1/7th of the maximum stipend.
 - b. The Depute Clerks receive an honorarium totalling £1,500 for the duties undertaken during 2020, split £750 to Rev George Shand and £750 to Rev Paul Grant
 - c. Kaye Gardiner & George Sneddon (Candidates for Full time Ministry of Word and Sacrament) receive a bursary of £250 each for the current year of study.
3. In respect of Presbytery Finance
 - a. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2021 (appendix 1)
 - b. Set congregational dues at a levy of £2.00 per member and instruct congregational treasurers to remit payment to the Presbytery no later than Friday 18 December 2020
 - c. Encourage congregational treasurers to budget for a levy of £3.00 for payment in December 2021.
4. In respect of Insurance Revaluations:
 - a. Agree to work with COSIC and General Trustees to undertake a project to revalue all church buildings at an approximate cost of £5,000 with COSIC paying a contribution with the rest to be taken from the Variance Fund.

Report

Presbytery Budget

The budget for 2021 is contained in Appendix 1. In recognition of the difficult circumstances in which churches find themselves, it is recommended to reduce the dues from the intimated £3.75 per member to £2.00. This will mean using some reserves in 2021 however due to a relatively strong financial position this should not affect the position greatly.

Salaries & Honoraria

Due to the support committee membership comprising a majority of individuals in receipt of a salary or honorarium this section of the report is presented by the Convener. It is recommended:

- The Clerks Salary for 2021 continue to be 1/7th of the maximum stipend in line with the contract of employment which will mean no rise for 2021.
- The Depute Clerk receive an honorarium of £1,500 for the duties undertaken during 2020, split £750 to Rev George Shand and £750 to Rev Paul Grant.
- Kaye Gardiner & George Sneddon (Candidates for Full time Ministry of Word and Sacrament) receive a bursary of £250 each for the current year of study.

Building Revaluation Project

It is well over 10 years since the buildings within Presbytery were valued for insurance purposes. The Church of Scotland Insurance Company are developing a project with the General Trustees to revalue all buildings in the Church of Scotland using a company, Rebuild Cost Assessment Ltd. Where a building is not an A-listed building this will be done remotely in the vast majority of cases. It is likely the cost will be around £85

+VAT for each building carried out remotely and £300 + VAT for each site visit. With the number of churches, halls and manses within the Presbytery this will cost around £5,000. COSIC are willing to pay a portion of this cost with the rest able to be utilised from the variance allowance. A project such as this will mean the Presbytery are ahead of the need for this revaluation and will result in more accurate insurance premiums for congregations.

Presbytery Reform

Interim Report - November 2020

The general understanding is that people think that merging the Presbyteries is inevitable; not a chronically bad thing; and we could probably just get on with it. It was acknowledged that we have a good history of working together and share a Council and Health Board area.

There was quite a bit of common ground:

- The need to change, given the realities of how we have had to work under Covid.
- The reality of online/mixed meeting that has brought us all closer geographically, which is unlikely to change in the near future, if ever.
- The desire to build a presbytery that is relational and supportive
- The need to build a structure focussed on mission and encouragement with less emphasis on business reports (it would be useful to learn more about the Lanark model).
- The need for a presbytery that is nimble in structure and responsive to changing needs in the area.
- The need to ensure real engagement and not lose the 'local'.
- The potential to devolve discussion and decision to local groupings (e.g. to determine missional priorities for the area).
- The distinguishable types of ministry that could help group congregations (e.g. rural, small town, priority/deprivation areas, urban, suburban).
- The potential for more team ministries to cover a larger area but with less reliance on numerous Ministers of Word and Sacrament.
- Economies of scale with Presbytery administration and business "stuff" such as property, finance, Ministerial training.
- The potential for coordinating short-life groups for set projects/conferences.

However, there are some potential challenges:

- Creating a new presbytery together, without feeling that one presbytery was taking over the other, which is exacerbated by the difference in size of the Presbyteries.
- Merging a fairly static committee structure with a more fluid structure
- Navigating a joint history which includes both radical change as well as historic hurt around change, while recognising that history is something which is a part of us, with its incumbent yet mutable feelings.
- The fear of concentration of power, balanced against accountability, exacerbated in the current climate of uncertainty.

Consequently, there are some immediate questions that we might ask:

1. Do the points of commonality resonant with what the committee imagine a new presbytery shape should be built on?
2. Do people recognize these areas of tension?
3. What excites, intrigues or scares people around this report?

Presbytery Budget 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Total
Opening Balance as at 1/1/21				
General Fund*	24,533	0	0	24,533
Designated Survey Fund	0	0	10,137	10,137
Designated LCR Fund	0	0	10,530	10,530
Designated Youth Work Fund	0	0	3,720	3,720
Designated Roof Drone Inspections	0	0	1,000	1,000
Restricted Bertram & Somerville	0	6,007	0	6,007
Totals	24,533	6,007	25,387	55,927
<i>* Includes dues for Dec 2020 of £9,824 - 4,912 @ 2.00</i>				
Income				
Interest	118	0	0	118
Dec 2021 Dues (4400 @ £3.00) Decrease of 500	13,200	0	0	13,200
Valuation Process (M&M Variance)	0	0	4,500	4,000
Local Church Review (M&M Variance)	0	0	2,000	7,000
Total	13,318	0	6,500	24,318
Expenditure				
Clerk's salary	5,700	0	0	5,700
Clerk's expenses	600	0	0	600
Clerk's office	750	0	0	750
Printing & postage	250	0	0	250
Insurance & copyright	350	0	0	350
Honoraria	1,300	0	0	1,300
Surveys	0	0	9,000	9,000
Local Church Reviews	0	0	6,500	6,500
Pulpit Supply	220	0	0	220
Attestation Fees	2,750	0	0	2,750
Hall rent	1,000	0	0	1,000
Grants & Bursaries	750	0	0	750
Sundry	250	0	0	250
Travel Expenses	800	0	0	800
Data Protection	35	0	0	35
Governance	300	0	0	300
Valuations	0	0	4500	400
Moderator's Visit	0	0	0	0
Total	15,055	0	20000	30,955
Transfers	-3,500	0	3,500	0
Surplus/ Deficit	-5,237	0	-10,000	-6,637
Closing Balances as at 31/12/21				
General Fund	19,296	0	0	19,296
Designated Survey Fund	0	0	4,637	4,637
Designated LCR Fund	0	0	6,030	6,030
Designated Youth Work Fund	0	0	3,720	3,720
Designated Roof Drone Inspection	0	0	1,000	1,000
Restricted Bertram & Somerville	0	6,007	0	6,007
Totals	19,296	6,007	15,387	40,690