

Lanark, on Thursday 12th January 2017, the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *pro re nata* at Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church to ordain and induct Miss Louise Elizabeth Mackay BSc, BD to the charge of Lanark: St. Nicholas and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Helen Jamieson, Moderator, and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 6 ministers and 8 Elders. There were also 8 visitors associating with Presbytery, including the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt. Rev. Dr. G Russell Barr.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Revs E Clelland, H Findlay, G Shand Ministers; A Lyall Deacon; T Chalmers, A Cochrane, E McLachlan, R Mitchell, Elders; V Chalmers, M McGillivray and D Wiseman, Corresponding Members, Rev Susan Durham, Minister from Lanark Congregational Church and Fr Jim Thompson, Priest from St Mary's RC Parish, Lanark

Induction of Miss Louise Elizabeth Mackay BSC, BD

The appropriate papers being laid before the court and no one having appeared to object to the life or doctrine of Miss Louise E Mackay, the Presbytery resolved to proceed. Rev Helen Jamieson, Moderator, conducted worship alongside Rt. Rev. Dr G Russell Barr, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and Rev Elspeth MacLean preached the sermon. After answering the appropriate questions and signing the formula, Miss Louise E Mackay was ordained and inducted to the charge of Lanark: St. Nicholas by Mrs Jamieson, Moderator, who then delivered charges to both minister and members of the congregations.

After the service the call was presented to Rev Louise E Mackay. The Clerk was instructed to add the name of Rev Louise E Mackay to the Roll of Presbytery and to send certification of the Induction of Rev Louise E Mackay to the Session Clerk of Lanark: St. Nicholas and the Ministries Council.

Thanks were recorded to Rev Jim Cutler for his service as Interim Moderator and Mr Cutler was discharged. Thanks were also expressed to Mr Bill Love who has acted as locum tenens throughout the vacancy.

Mr Alan Grant expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Mrs MacLean for their conduct of the service of Induction. Thanks were also expressed to the Clerk, Rev Bryan Kerr for arrangements.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business in the halls of Lanark: St Nicholas Parish Church on Tuesday 7th February 2017.

Closure

The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt. Rev. Dr. G Russell Barr closed the meeting with the Benediction

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 7th February 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Helen Jamieson, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 Ministers, 1 Deacon, 23 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members, and 4 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev Dr N Macdonald, S Reid, Ministers; H Chekansky, A Lumsden, L Nicol, M Somerville and D Waters, Elders; and V Chalmers, Corresponding Member

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6th December 2016 & 12th January 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2016 & 12th January 2017 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that the following decisions had been notified to the clerk as having been taken under delegated powers.

Property Committee (26th January 2017)

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. in light of property damage in Douglas Valley Manse, agree to the Kirk Session proceeding with urgent works to replace the boiler, oil tank, and bathrooms; and repair any leaks from the heating system and shower, at a cost of approximately £8,100 and grant permission for the Kirk Session to use capital funds from holdings in the consolidated fabric fund.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Rev David Easton (retired) had moved to Glasgow Presbytery.

The Moderator invited Rev Louise Mackay to accept the presentation of a book to mark her arrival in the presbytery of Lanark as minister of Lanark: St. Nicholas and wished her God's blessing upon her ministry.

Correspondence

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

Presentation – Robbie Morrison, Mission & Discipleship Council

The Moderator invited Robbie Morrison from the Mission & Discipleship Council to address Presbytery on his work. Mr Morrison spoke on his work as the Regional Development Worker for the West of Scotland. He informed Presbytery of the different initiatives undertaken by the Council, including resources for sharing faith and the 'Future Focus' programme for looking at the life of the church. Mr Morrison spoke of his hope of getting to know, and work with, congregations within Lanark Presbytery.

The Moderator thanked Mr Morrison for his presentation and wished him well in his ongoing work.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.

2. Agree that Rev Helen Jamieson, Mr Robert Jamieson, Rev Elspeth MacLean and Rev Louise Mackay be nominated to attend this year's Holyrood garden party on 4th July 2017.
3. In respect of the employment of the Presbytery Clerk, agree
 - a. the salary for the Presbytery Clerk will be 1/7th of the maximum stipend scale and will be reviewed annually in November, and that from 1st January 2017 this will be £4677.57
 - b. the post of Clerk to the Presbytery of Lanark in non-pensionable
 - c. the suggested hours are 7 hours per week but the Clerk will be expected to work sufficient hours to properly complete the duties incumbent upon him
 - d. a holiday entitlement of 6 weeks per annum
 - e. the duties of the post of Clerk to the Presbytery of Lanark are contained in Appendix 1
 - f. to authorise the Moderator of Presbytery to issue and sign the contract of employment of the Clerk to the Presbytery of Lanark on behalf of the Presbytery with immediate effect
4. Agree that Rev George Shand, Rev Maudeen McDougall and Mrs Anne Cochrane become members of the Complaints Committee and that the Rev George Shand will be the Convenor of the Committee.
5. Note that a letter has been sent to all Funeral Directors in the area, giving details of Ministers, Interim Moderators and Locums and to this will be added contact details for Session Clerks and Church Officers.
6. Agree to encourage in the strongest terms that all ministers and locums should contact local Funeral Directors to inform them of annual leave and pastoral cover.
7. Agree that it would be helpful and courteous for Ministers and Locums to inform the Presbytery Clerk of annual leave and pastoral cover in place.
8. Note that Ministries Committee have been asked to look at Presbytery Chaplain provision and report to the May meeting of Presbytery.
9. Agree that commissions to this year's General Assembly should be Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank (Minister and elder), Lanark: Greyfriars (Minister and Elder), Forth: St Paul (Minister and elder), Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen (Elder only); and note that there will be spare commissions for 2 Ministers and 2 Elders and those interested in filling the places should express their interest to the Business Convenor no later than 20th February 2017.
10. Note that an updated Presbytery Year Book has been circulated and thank the Clerk for his work in producing this.
11. Note, for a period of six month, the appointment of Mr Bill Love as locum to Law Parish Church from 1st February 2017 on the basis of 1 day per week pastoral cover plus the Sunday service, with the Kirk Session to review after six months and seek the agreement of Presbytery should the appointment continue.

The Deliverance was approved

Joint Report of Vacancy Procedure Committee & Congregational Support Committee (Douglas Valley Church)

The Joint Report of Vacancy Procedure Committee & Congregational Support Committee into matters relating to Douglas Valley Church was presented by the Business Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that a citation had been served to the congregation of The Douglas Valley Church and returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree to sist the Presbytery Plan in respect of the Douglas Valley Church.
3. Agree to sist the vacancy process and permission to call with immediate effect in the Douglas Valley Church.
4. Note, for the avoidance of doubt, that the nominating committee elected by the Douglas Valley Church is not discharged but are not permitted to proceed in filling the vacancy until Presbytery lift the sist in the vacancy process.
5. Appoint a team comprising Rev Dr Nikki MacDonald (team leader), Mrs Anne Cochrane and Mr Scott Paget to conduct a Local Church Review in the Douglas Valley Church and report back in time for the Presbytery meeting in May 2017.
6. Encourage all members of Presbytery to uphold the parish and congregation of the Douglas Valley Church in prayer at this time.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

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

Good News Stories

Anne Reid, Carluke: St. John's spoke of the Christmas Day lunch held in the church. On Christmas day 38 people between 1 years old and 80+ from across Clydesdale came together for lunch provided by local businesses and donations of £585 from many people both known and unknown to the congregation. An excess of £280 was donated to the Clydesdale Food Bank. 2016 marked the sixth year of the project and saw volunteers from Carluke St: John's and elsewhere joining together to make a difference within the community.

Mabel Morris, Carstairs, spoke of a visit by Rt Rev Dr Russell Barr on 5th February when he led worship in both Carstairs and Carnwath, presented long service certificates and had lunch together.

Rev Elspeth MacLean, Forth: St. Paul's, had an approach from a lady in Auchengray who wanted to send knitted socks to refugees. She is now taking a large amount of knitted goods to Edinburgh Direct Aid to help with their work.

Kathleen Wood, Carluke: St. Andrew's expressed thanks for those who supported the efforts to gain funding from Aviva for the Playlist for Life project. The project was successful in receiving £1000 which will provide playlists for 10 people. The congregation will also be presenting St. Andrew's Hospice Capital Appeal a cheque for £1,317

Elizabeth McLachlan, Carluke: Kirkton, spoke of their fundraising efforts for St. Andrew's hospice Capital Appeal which totalled approximately £2,500

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Instruct the Kirk Session/Congregational board of Carstairs Parish Church to provide additional information relating to the proposed alterations for consideration by the Property Committee in advance of a meeting.
3. Instruct Biggar Kirk Session provide the Property Committee a list of suitable dates to allow a meeting to be convened with all parties with regard to the Gillespie Centre.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Mike Fucella, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. Invite the submission of ideas for the Big Question Rally 2017 to the convener

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Alan Grant, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that no nominations have been received regarding a Youth Representative from Lanark Presbytery to attend General Assembly 2017.
3. Note that Kirk Session Safeguarding Training for the Grouping of: Biggar, Blackmount, Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan and Symington took place on 2nd February at Symington Church and thank Symington Church for hosting the event.
4. Agree amendment of items 8 (ii) and 10 of the Scheme for the Selection, Training and Authorisation of Worship Leaders to read "either in their own congregation or in a congregation other than their own".

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to delete section 2 and add in a new section 2 "Approve the name of Euan Robb from Carlisle: Kirkton to represent Lanark Presbytery at the General Assembly 2017 as Youth Representative and instruct the clerk to pass on his details and application to the Mission and Discipleship Council."

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of the appointment of a consultant to the Local Church Review Process:
 - a. Approve the scope of the role as outlined in the 'Invitation to Tender' document (Appendix 2)
 - b. Approve the use of part of the Variance Allowance to fund the engagement of a consultant to train and Mentor members of Presbytery, and others, to carry out LCRV's for the equivalent of 5 days, or 40 hours, per congregation visited for each of approximately four congregations per year over the next 5 years at a cost of around £300 per day, amounting in total to around £7000 per year, plus expenses for travel and meeting costs should these be necessary.
 - c. Instruct the Clerk to seek tenders from appropriate consultants for this training with a closing date of 21st February.
 - d. Instruct each congregation within the bounds of the Presbytery of Lanark to intimate the search for a suitable consultant to carry out Local Church Reviews at worship on Sunday 12th February 2017.
 - e. Grant delegated powers and instruct the Congregational Support Committee to arrange the selection and engagement of the most suitable tender by the end of February 2017 and intimate the decision to Presbytery at the March 2017 meeting of Presbytery.

The deliverance was approved

Douglas Valley Church

It was proposed that a statement of support to the Douglas Valley Church be sent with an instruction to read at worship on Sunday 12th February 2017.

Deliverance: Presbytery-

It was agreed to instruct the Kirk Session of The Douglas Valley Church to read the following statement of support to both worshipping congregations on Sunday 12th February 2017 and make it widely available thereafter.

“The Presbytery of Lanark met on 7th February 2017 and spent considerable time discussing the vacancy in the Douglas Valley Church, the challenging situations that the congregation and parish find themselves in, and listening to office bearers of the congregation share their thoughts and heartfelt feelings.

After questions and discussion the Presbytery agreed that, at this time, it was important that the Presbytery sought to listen to the wider congregation of the Douglas Valley Church, to identify areas of concern and challenge in which the Presbytery and the Church of Scotland might seek to offer practical help and assistance to enable the work of the church to move forward positively.

The Presbytery have instructed a Local Church Review to take place swiftly, to report to the Presbytery meeting in May 2017. This review will focus on the many good things in which the Douglas Valley Church is presently engaged as well as identify areas of concern that might need addressed. The Review will build on the positive ‘Health Check’ that the Kirk Session undertook in 2016.

The Presbytery is aware that a time of vacancy can be a challenging and worrying time for a congregation, however it recognises that the Douglas Valley Church has continued to develop and grow in times of vacancy and this is a cause for everyone to give thanks. As a Presbytery it was agreed that members of Presbytery commit themselves to praying for the Douglas Valley Church.

It is the earnest prayer of Presbytery that the decisions that have been taken will strengthen the life and witness of the Douglas Valley Church and assist the congregation in searching for and welcoming a new minister to lead them into a positive future.”

Intimations

The Clerk intimated that there were events taking place around the Presbytery for the World Day of Prayer on 3rd March 2017 and invited members of Presbytery advertise these and attend wherever possible.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 7 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas’ Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

**Duties of the Presbytery Clerk
as referred to in the contract of Employment
Schedule 1**

The Employee will carry out the whole duties pertaining to the post of Presbytery Clerk which shall include:-

1. To prepare agendas, attend and Clerk the meetings of the Presbytery and its Business Committee.
2. To maintain and retain the minutes and attendance records of these meetings.
3. To be an *ex officio* member of all Presbytery Committees, noting that it is not expected that the Clerk should attend each Committee meeting.
4. To send out Call Notices, printing of Presbytery papers, and posting of the same.
5. To issue Extract Minutes of the Presbytery.
6. To be a link with the Church Offices in Edinburgh.
7. To deal appropriately with all matters of correspondence both internally and externally, or as required by the Presbytery or the councils of the Church.
8. To be custodian of the Presbytery records (from the Union of 1929), and the Formula Book.
9. To recognise and support the role of the Moderator of Presbytery.
10. To liaise with the Moderator in terms of dates of Inductions, Invitations to attend functions etc.
11. To arrange and attend Special Services such as Ordinations and Inductions (appointing preacher and one to lead the worship) liaising with the congregation and the new minister.
12. To advise the Presbytery on matters of procedure, Church Law and Regulations, both at the meetings and personally.
13. To be a member of the Association of General Assembly and Presbytery Clerks and to attend the overnight meeting of the Presbytery Clerks Association.
14. To attend the General Assembly regularly as a commissioner, if Presbytery so agrees when it decides its list of commissioners.
15. To attempt to maintain accuracy in the Presbytery handbook, receive updates and supervise the updating, checking and electronic distribution of the handbook which should be available for the September meeting of Presbytery.
16. To establish a list of appropriate persons who may be willing to undertake certain duties on request which includes leading worship, pastoral cover, locums, interim moderator duties etc.
17. To be aware of the current statutory guidelines and obligations in regard to Safeguarding and to support the Safeguarding Officer in checking and confirming annually to Presbytery, that congregations are making all reasonable endeavours to comply with these guidelines and obligations.
18. To act as Data Controller and register Data Protection issues.
19. To act in an advisory capacity, advising both parties should a case arise.
20. To deal with all above matters in a manner which is timeous and which respects the confidentiality of those involved.
21. To arrange appropriate cover, in consultation with the Business Convener, when on holiday.
22. To undertake any other duties reasonably deemed necessary by the Presbytery.

Invitation to Tender Local Church Review Consultant

1. Introduction & Background

The Presbytery of Lanark is a constituent part of the Church of Scotland comprising of ministers, deacons and elders from 22 congregations covering the Clydesdale area of South Lanarkshire. The Presbytery has responsibility for, amongst other things, the deployment of ministerial resources through an agreed plan, and the support supervision of each congregation. As part of the support and supervision of the congregations, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland instructs the Presbytery of Lanark to conduct a review of every congregation in the Presbytery, normally once every five years.

2. Purpose

The Presbytery wishes to procure external expertise to assist in undertaking the review of congregations, known as Local Church Review (LCR) on a consultancy basis. This consultant will undertake the LCR for each congregation as part of a team (normally of three persons) appointed by the Presbytery. The consultant will work within the scope of Act 1 2011 of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and seek to assist the Presbytery of Lanark in fulfilling its duties and obligations thereof. The appointment of the consultant will be reviewed annually in November, and, subject to satisfactory performance of the consultant and finances being available to the Presbytery will be appointed for a maximum of five years.

The consultant will also be expected to revisit congregations after one year to assess the state of the agreed action plan and perform training within the Presbytery to other LCR visiting team members to ensure that, after a five year period, the Presbytery of Lanark have sufficient skills and expertise to complete LCR's without external consultancy.

The consultant will therefore be required to:

- Work with the Congregational Support Committee to agree a suitable programme to conduct an LCR in every congregation within the Presbytery over a five year period.
- Work as part of a team in conducting LCRs in terms of Act 1 2011 of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland
- As part of the LCR of each congregation, work with the congregation and office bearers to develop and agree an Action Plan to address areas including, but not limited to worship, service, fellowship, discipleship, evangelism, social outreach, congregational life, Christian education, finance, fabric, and ministries support in relation to the local, national and international mission of the Church.
- Utilise and develop the material produced by the Presbytery of Lanark for conducting an LCR
- Provide training and mentoring to individuals to enable them to conduct an LCR and engage the congregation and office bearers in developing an action plan, and develop a training programme for use by the Presbytery in future years.
- Provide ongoing monitoring of the LCR process, including visiting each congregation one year after the action plan is agreed to assess progress
- Provide a full report on each LCR to the Congregational Support Committee of Presbytery in line with Act 1 2011 section 9 referred to above.
- Provide a report to the Congregational Support Committee of Presbytery following each return visit to assess action plan progress.

3. Fee

The fee for the consultancy will be £1500 per congregation plus any agreed amount for any additional agreed work. The Presbytery expect that this will enable the consultant to spend 32 hours on the LCR process, 4 hours on the return visit and 4 hours on training visiting team members (in the knowledge the return visit takes place after one year and the training hours can be kept and utilised as the consultant and congregational support committee of Presbytery agree). A fee structure will be agreed between the consultant and the Presbytery

upon appointment.

Appendix 2 (contd.)

4. Proposals

Proposals for this consultancy are invited and should include:

- a. An understanding of the context of the Church of Scotland and a summary showing the understanding of the issues facing congregations of the Church of Scotland today
- b. A summary of the understanding of the process and rationale of the Local Church Review
- c. Details of experience in undertaking reviews of organisations and in Strategic Planning
- d. Details of experience of developing and delivering training to volunteers
- e. An understanding of the importance of sensitivity, confidentiality and working with volunteers
- f. Experience and expertise of the person or team to be involved (including lead and key members)

The proposal must also include acceptance of the fee proposal in section 3 of the document and an understanding of the annual appointment and review of this consultancy to a maximum of five years

5. Tender Arrangements

Tender proposals should be sent by email to the Presbytery of Lanark, no later than 5pm on 20th February 2017. Interviews of shortlisted contractors will take place on the evening of 21st February 2017 and will be conducted by the Congregational Support Committee of Presbytery. Thereafter a recommendation of an approved consultant will be made to the Presbytery of Lanark on 7th March 2017. The contract will start on an agreed date, prior to 31st March 2017

6. Instructions to Tenderers

Tender proposals should be emailed to the Presbytery Clerk, Rev Bryan Kerr **by 5pm on Monday 20th February 2017**. The email address to be utilised is lanark@churchofscotland.org.uk

The Presbytery reserves the right to reject tenders submitted after the time and date shown.

If you require further information concerning the tender process, or the nature of the proposed contract, please in the first instance contact the Presbytery Clerk, Rev Bryan Kerr on 07889841511/ 01555663363 or email lanark@churchofscotland.org.uk

7. Useful Information to Tenderers

- a. Act 1, 2011 of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland - http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/6679/2011_Act_01.pdf
- b. Local Church Review Documents Produced by the Presbytery of Lanark - <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/cf3jp05kqlmk907/AAAuz0wMpaz48fZWNFdun9bGa?dl=0>

Lanark, on Tuesday 7th March 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Helen Jamieson, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 Ministers, 1 Deacon, 26 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members, and 10 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael, E Obinna, Ministers; J Austin and G Chapman, Elders

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda as printed and circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 7th February 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2017 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that no decisions had been notified to the clerk as having been taken under delegated powers.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Rev Elijah Obinna had returned to Nigeria for the funeral of his father. The Moderator invited Rev George Shand to pay tribute to the late Frank Mitchell, elder at Symington Parish Church who was, until October 2016 the representative elder.

The Moderator invited members of Presbytery to stand.

FRANK MITCHELL was born 17th June 1939 in Perth, the first of five children to Frank Mitchell, and Elizabeth Horne Carroll. Frank died in Wishaw General Hospital on 18th February 2017.

Frank's father retired when the family was quite young, so his mother Elizabeth continued her employment as teacher – and the family moved around following her work – as headteacher at Bridge of Balgie in Glen Lyon, and later in Kinloch, Blairgowrie. As a school boy Frank was very interested in sports, and when he left school he trained as a PE Teacher at Jordanhill College, also taking the one year graduate Primary Teacher course – because Primary teaching was where his heart really was.

He met his wife-to-be, Rena, at Jordanhill. They married in 1962, and began family life in East Kilbride. When their second son was born, it was more difficult to make ends meet on one teacher's salary. At one point Frank and Rena had a conversation which went something like this. 'Here, we are poor and cold. We are teachers, so we are going to continue to be poor. So, if we have to be poor, couldn't we at least be poor and warm.'

So began an adventure. Not long after, Frank accepted a posting to a teaching job in Freetown in the Bahamas. 'Poor and warm'. While he was there, he sought out the Presbyterian Church, which was then in its early stages of formation, meeting in a room in a Hotel. In 1969 when Rev. Lawson Brown, a Church of Scotland missionary was sent out to help build up the church, Frank was soon ordained into the eldership.

After working for three years in the Bahamas, the family then moved to Northern Alberta, in Canada. In that area there were many first nation schools, and Frank became head of a 7 teacher school amongst the Cree peoples. From endless sun, to endless snow – or at least for ten months of the year. This was a fascinating experience for them, but it was tough, and not an easy place for a growing family. They returned to Scotland just a few weeks before their third son was born.

Frank took up Primary head-teacher positions, culminating in Crawforddyke Primary, in Carluke where he remained for almost 19 years until he retired in January 2001.

Frank was greatly respected within his profession, was one of the group who founded the association of Primary School Headteachers – of which he was President three times. And he led influential submissions on their behalf

to the McCrone Inquiry into education. Frank's approach, and his ability to work round conflict, was very persuasive.

Within the community he had a long-term involvement in Crime Prevention panels.

After his retirement Frank, became more involved with the local church Choir at Symington and more actively involved again in the church.

But he also suffered a number of health complaints over these last 15 years, which made it difficult for him to commit himself consistently to things he was interested in, and was highly skilled for, in his church.

The Presbytery of Lanark is grateful for Frank's involvement in the Congregational Support Committee from when he became Symington Parish Church's Presbytery elder in June 2014. He had skills, experience, a keen mind, a joke for every occasion, the courage to say exactly what he thought, and the capacity to treat everyone as equals. This combination made him a very appropriate choice as the first chairperson of the Presbytery Complaints Committee.

Frank will be sadly missed by his friends in Church and throughout our community. He is missed most of all by Rena and the boys – David, Gordon, Kenneth and Derek - and his 2 grandchildren. We remember them all in our prayers as we give thanks for the life of Frank Mitchell.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

The Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send a copy of the tribute and extract minute to Mrs Mitchell.

Correspondence

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

Good News Stories

Fiona Hannah, Forth: St. Paul's spoke of a service on February 19th where 50 children and young people led worship in the congregation.

Kathleen Wood, Carlisle: St. Andrew's spoke of the congregations worship team who attended Carlisle Health Centre and served Fair Trade refreshments and encourage Lenten good acts with those who came along.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

12. Receive the report.
13. Agree that those commissioned to attend this year's General Assembly are: Mr Ian Conn (Forth: St Paul's), Mr Ross Hyslop (Lanark: Greyfriars), Rev Bryan Kerr (Lanark: Greyfriars), Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald (Upper Clyde), Rev Maureen MacDougall (Carnwath lw Carstairs), Rev Louise MacKay (Lanark: St. Nicholas), Mr Ken Mackie (Carlisle: St. Johns), Mr Scott Paget (Lanark: Greyfriars), Rev Steven Reid (Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank), Sandy Russell (Kirkfieldbank).
14. Agree that Presbytery Representatives to the Commission of Assembly for the year 2017-2018 will be Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald (Upper Clyde) and Mr Scott Paget (Lanark: Greyfriars).
15. Note the resignation of Mrs M McGillivray as Presbytery Treasurer, thank Mrs McGillivray for her work on behalf of Presbytery and for her willingness to continue in post until a replacement is in place.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of Congregational Support Committee

The Report of Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that a citation had been served to the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations. The Session Clerk, Catherine Gold expressed the delight and joy of the congregation that they were at the stage of being allowed to call a minister, and paid tribute to the Presbytery for their continued involvement and help over more than three years and those who have served as Interim Moderator, Rev Helen Jamieson as Presbytery Clerk over the period, the Assessor Elders, especially Libby Muir and Jack Lumsden who have been a great help with the second chance shop and the congregational finances. Mrs Gold thanked Ann Lyall for her steadfast work and ministry. The congregation were told by some of those who left that the church would be closed and the manse turned into a block of flats. Mrs Gold stated that by the grace of God this is far from being true and that God 'has been faithful to Kirkmuirhill Church and he certainly hasn't left Kirkmuirhill Parish Church'.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that a report from the Transitional Support Group to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) has been received (Appendix 1) and agree:
 - a. Recommend that the Vacancy Procedure Committee
 - i. Remove the sist on the Presbytery Plan with respect to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland).
 - ii. Grant the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) permission to call a minister on an unrestricted basis.
 - b. Commend the Kirk Session and Congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) for the way they have engaged with the process of change and discovery under the ministry of the Interim Deacon and strongly urge them to continue on the path of learning and understanding of the role of women in a Church of Scotland congregation.
 - c. Reaffirm the role of the Assessor Elders in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) and continue their appointment.
 - d. Invite the Interim Deacon in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) to present a timetable for the release of Assessor Elders on a phased basis to the Congregational Support Committee for presentation to the May 2017 Presbytery meeting.
 - e. Commend the work of the Interim Deacon in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) and strongly urge the Interim Ministries Task Group of the Ministries Council to continue the appointment for at least six months from the date of permission to call being granted as recommended by the Transitional Support Group
 - f. Instruct the clerk to send an extract minute to the Ministries Council

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that as previously intimated a citation had been served to the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

3. Receive the report.
4. In respect of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland):
 - a. Note that a congregational meeting of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) took place with the Transition Support Group on 1st February 2017 at which the congregation spoke overwhelmingly and unanimously in respect of reinstating the congregation's right to call that Presbytery noted was relinquished in March 2014, and agree that this meeting and intention be taken as formal approval of the wishes of the congregation to reinstate their right to call a minister.
 - b. Agree that Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) be granted permission to call a minister without restriction with immediate effect.
 - c. Agree that the Advisory Committee in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) will consist of Mrs Fiona Hannah (Convener), Mr Ewan Easton and Rev Helen Jamieson.
 - d. Note that Miss Ann Lyall DCS will remain as Interim Moderator of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) at this time.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Supplementary Report of Congregational Support Committee

The Supplementary Report of Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt.

A total of three applications were received for the position of LCRV Consultant. The applicants were interviewed on Monday 6th March by a panel from the Congregational Support Committee comprising Mr Jim Watt (convenor), Rev Maudeen MacDougall, Rev George Shand and Mr David Waters. All three candidates demonstrated a wide range of skills and it was only after a lengthy discussion that the panel decided to engage the services of 'Catch the Light' community development consultant as Local Church Review Consultants for the year 2017. The panel felt that they had a willingness to engage with people and could bring new insights into the process from their wide experience. The appointment will be for a maximum period of 5 years providing that finance is available and will be subject to annual review by the committee to ensure that the work is satisfactory.

The committee will bring forward a program of local Church Review visits for the period 2017 – 2021 for the approval of Presbytery at the May meeting.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the three applicants for the position of LCRV Consultant were interviewed on Monday 6th March by a panel from the Congregational Support Committee comprising Mr Jim Watt (convenor), Rev Maudeen MacDougall, Rev George Shand and Mr David Waters, and that Presbytery thank all three applicants for their interest in the post.
3. Note that the decision of the panel was to engage the services of 'Catch the Light' community development consultant as Local Church Review Consultants for the year 2017, with the understanding that the appointment will be for a maximum period of five years should finance be

available and the work is deemed to be satisfactory at an annual review presented to Presbytery by the committee.

4. Instruct the Clerk, in conjunction with the Law Department to issue a 'Consultancy Agreement' to Catch the Light in respect of the Local Church Review Consultancy.
5. Instruct the Congregational Support Committee to produce a calendar of Local Church Reviews to be carried out from 2017-2021 and present to the May meeting of Presbytery.
6. Thank the panel for undertaking the task of interviewing and appointing the Local Church Review Consultant.
7. Note that the Annual Attestation of Records will take place in St Nicholas Church Hall starting at 6:30pm and congregations should attend at the times indicated on page 42 of the Presbytery Yearbook.
8. Instruct the Clerk to write to all Session Clerks reminding them of the Annual Attestation of Records, drawing their attention to the Guidance Notes in the Presbytery Yearbook and indicating the time at which they should attend.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

4. Receive the report
5. Instruct the Kirk Session/Congregational board of Carstairs Parish Church to provide additional information relating to the proposed alterations for consideration by the Property Committee in advance of a meeting.
6. Instruct Biggar Kirk Session provide the Property Committee a list of suitable dates to allow a meeting to be convened with all parties with regard to the Gillespie Centre.

The Deliverance was approved

Presentation – Martin Johnston, Church and Society Council

The Moderator invited Martin Johnston to address the Presbytery. Mr Johnston spoke of his work as Council Secretary and the ways in which the local church can be involved in seeking a more just and fair nation in which to live. He encouraged all members to engage with the Speak Out project and make a difference in local, and national politics.

The Moderator thanked Mr Johnston for his presentation and wished him well in his ongoing work.

Intimations

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 2nd May 2017 at 7 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) Interim Ministry Final Review and Future Action

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Congregation | Presbytery |
| Kirkmuirhill | Lanark |
| Interim Minister | Period of Interim Ministry |
| Ann Lyall | March 2016 - |
| <p>1. What impact has the interim ministry process had on your church?</p> <p>Church life at Kirkmuirhill was active and busy before the interim, however, many spoke about a real flourishing of that life over the last year. There has been a change in the demographic of the congregation with younger people joining. The Sunday School has increased and a crèche has started. Two members of the congregation are exploring a call to ministry.</p> <p>Links with the community have improved as Ann has conducted funeral services for people who were not members of the church and visited the bereaved families before and after the funeral.</p> <p>Church communication has improved. The website has been updated and the church is now on Facebook and Twitter.</p> <p>Finances are in order and the requirements of the church at Presbytery and National level are now clear</p> <p>More people are involved in the life and running of the church and some people feel that there is a place for them and their gifts that wasn't there before.</p> | |
| <p>2. What have they learned through the interim ministry process?</p> <p>To trust in God and have patience in God's timing</p> <p>The split in the congregation, though painful, has also brought good things</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more people are able to use their gifts in worship and service, • different views are respected • there has been a strengthening of the fellowship | |
| <p>3. What needs to happen next to enhance the life of the church and build on its achievements</p> <p>The strong message from the congregation is that they feel ready to call a minister. The TSG agree that Presbytery should grant a call to the congregation.</p> <p>Some expressed anxiety about maintaining the culture and momentum of Ann's work. The TSG think that allowing Ann to remain in place for the beginning of the vacancy process and perhaps to continue as interim moderator for a period after that if resources allowed would be helpful as the congregation transition to settled ministry.</p> | |
| <p>4. What further support from the Presbytery and national church would be helpful to this church?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presbytery restore the right to call a minister • Presbytery allow the assessor elders to remain in place to maintain the stability created in the interim period | |

- The Interim Ministry Task Group allow Ann to stay in place for the beginning of the vacancy. The TSG thought that six months after Presbytery restore the right to call would be helpful.

5. Further comments.

A spectrum of opinions about women's ministry exists within the congregation. It ranges from those who feel it is wrong to have woman elders to those who would like to have women elders. It includes shades of opinion in between from "yes but not now" to "no because we don't want further upset". The congregation are aware of this spectrum and appear to treat one another respectfully.

It is an area of learning together for the congregation and they are careful of one another with it, there being a strong feeling of not wanting to cause further upset.

Any future movement on this matter is likely to come from the ministry of the next settled minister.

Lanark, on Tuesday 2nd May 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Helen Jamieson, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 Ministers, 1 Deacon, 22 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members, and 7 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael, E Cleland and N Macdonald Ministers; G Chapman, A Grant, E McLachlan, L Nicol and A Reid, Elders

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting, especially from cited congregations of Douglas Valley and Lanark: Greyfriars

Approval of the Agenda

With the addition of a new section section 8 'Commissioners to General Assembly 2017' and 15 'Report of the Lanark Presbyterial Council of The Guild', the Agenda was approved.

Ann Lyall DCS queried when the outcome of applications to the Mission and Ministry Variance would be known. The Finance Convener assured Presbytery that these would be brought for approval to the June meeting of Presbytery.

Playlist for Life

Mr Andy Lowndes, Deputy Chair of Playlist for Life spoke to the Presbytery about the work of the charity and outlined the work in which it is engaged and also the issues around living with dementia. Mr Lowndes spoke of the way in which music could speak to individuals in ways which many other things can't, including drugs. The idea behind the charity is to allow everyone to think of, and identify, the soundtrack of their lives, the songs that have meant something to them during their lives. Those songs can help someone who is suffering from confusion or anger about their condition almost forget those feelings.

Playlist for Life encourages individuals to listen to personal music and songs that evoke memories and engage the brain and stimulate the person emotionally, physically and spiritually, and re-establish neurosenses. The charity have seen a multitude of benefits from, for example, better nutrition and sleep patterns. The charity believe that the ability to respond to music is one of the last part of the brain to stop.

Carlisle: St. Andrew's are the first community pilot hub for the charity and are working closely with Playlist. They are hosting a 'Music Detective Workshop' on 13th May which is open to all. The charity are keen to speak to any church or group that might want to act as a community hub.

Minutes of meeting on 7th March 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 2017 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that the following decisions had been notified to the clerk as having been taken under delegated powers by the Property Committee:

Biggar, Gillespie Centre (21st March 2017)

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree under powers the expenditure of £13,000 to undertake the urgent roofing repairs detailed on MNA report and identified in Table under point 2b in the Biggar Kirk report.
3. Request the Clerk issue the relevant forms to the General Trustees for approval to allow the urgent repairs to be undertaken at an early stage.
4. Request Biggar Kirk provide an indicative timescale for the remainder of the work to repair the fabric to the sum of £31,490.
5. Commend Biggar Kirk for the provision of proposals for the upgrade of the Gillespie Centre to allow these to be discussed at an early stage.

6. Request Biggar Kirk provide additional outline information for the fit out works to the Gillespie Centre and the division of responsibility for the remainder of the proposals as they become available.

Culter (26th April 2017)

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Having previously given permission for the sale of Culter Church and a small portion of the glebe, agree to the sale of the Glebe at full agricultural value with an uplift should the site be developed in years to come.

The Presbytery moved to consider the report of Congregational Support Committee and Vacancy procedure Committee at 8:15pm as an Order of the Day.

Report of Congregational Support Committee

The Report of Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that a citation had been served to the congregation of Douglas Valley Parish Church and returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report
2. In respect of Douglas Valley Church (local Church Review Report Appendix 2)
 - a. Commend the office bearers and congregation of The Douglas Valley Church for their enthusiastic engagement with the visiting team.
 - b. Commend the office bearers and congregation of The Douglas Valley Church for their high level of commitment towards their church and its future.
 - c. Commend the outgoing Session Clerk of The Douglas Valley Church for his long, faithful and committed service to the congregation and local community.
 - d. Commend the work of Rev George Shand as Interim Moderator in helping them to remain positive and continue to develop ideas and initiatives.
 - e. Note that The Douglas Valley Church are facing both financial and leadership crises.
 - f. Note that the area served by The Douglas Valley Church is one of high deprivation.
 - g. Instruct the Clerk, along with representatives of the Congregational Support and Ministries Committees to make the strongest possible representations to the ministries Council to allocate a Rural Development Worker to The Douglas Valley Church.
 - h. Thank the visiting team for carrying out the review expeditiously at a busy period in the Church calendar.
 - i. Keep the office bearers and the congregation of The Douglas Valley Church in their prayers.
3. In respect of Local Church Review Programme
 - a. Note and approve the proposed programme of Local Church Review Visits (Appendix 3).
 - b. Note that the members of the teams to visit Carlisle: Kirkton and Upper Clyde will be reported to the June meeting of Presbytery.
 - c. Request the sum of £5,500 to be released to Presbytery from the 2017 Ministries and Mission Variance for the payment of the LCR consultancy programme, and instruct the clerk to send an

extract minute to Finance Dept.

4. Agree the following phased withdrawal of Assessor Elders from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) :-
 - a. 2 Assessor elders to be withdrawn as of 30th June 2017;
 - b. 3 Assessor elders to be withdrawn as of 30th November 2017;
 - c. The remaining 3 Assessor elders to be withdrawn as of 31st March 2018.
5. In respect of the Annual Attestation of Records
 - a. Note that the Annual Attestation of Records took place on the evening of Tuesday 18th April 2017.
 - b. Note that while the general standard of record keeping remains good, there is still room for improvement.
 - c. Commend the Office Bearers of the congregations within the bounds of Presbytery for their diligence in record keeping.
 - d. Thank the members of the Congregational Support Committee for carrying out the Annual Attestation of Records.

The convener moved a new section 5,d and renumber, that was seconded and agreed 'Note that the Presbytery minutes for 2016 have been attested and found to be in order.'

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

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

Report of Vacancy Procedure Committee

The Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that as previously intimated a citation had been served to the congregation of Douglas Valley Parish Church and returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Remove the sist on the vacancy at Douglas Valley with immediate effect and grant permission to call a minister on the agreed basis of a five year reviewable charge and urge the Ministries Council, Mission and Discipleship Council (Rural Team) and Council of Assembly to meet with Presbytery to discuss the ongoing nature of support within the charge.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Mrs Moira White, Session Clerk at Upper Clyde and former Presbytery elder is currently ill in hospital and invited members of Presbytery to remember the family in prayer.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Rev Lorna MacDougall has been invited to be sole nominee in Overtown Parish Church, Hamilton Presbytery.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Rev Dr Elijah Obinna's new book "Identity Crises and Indigenous Religious Traditions: Exploring Nigerian-Africa Christian Societies" has been published. The congratulations of Presbytery were offered to Dr Obinna by the Moderator.

The Clerk further informed the Presbytery that Rev Susan Cowell recently celebrated her 30th anniversary following her induction into Culter lw Libberton & Quothquan lw Symington on 23rd April 1987.

Miss Cowell expressed her thanks to the Presbytery for their support and friendship over the last 30 years, and comments that she has preached in every church within the Presbytery, bar one.

The Moderator presented Miss Cowell with a certificate of appreciation for her ministry within the Presbytery and led Presbytery in prayer of thanksgiving for Miss Cowell's ministry.

Correspondence

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

Commissioners to General Assembly 2017

The Presbytery were informed that many commissioners to the General Assembly were present at the meeting. The Moderator offered them words of encouragement as they took up their commissions. Commissioners were Mr Ian Conn (Forth: St Paul's), Mr Ross Hyslop (Lanark: Greyfriars), Rev Bryan Kerr (Lanark: Greyfriars), Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald (Upper Clyde), Rev Maudeen MacDougall (Carnwath lw Carstairs), Rev Louise MacKay (Lanark: St. Nicholas), Mr Ken Mackie (Carluke: St. Johns), Mr Scott Paget (Lanark: Greyfriars), Rev Steven Reid (Crossford lw Kirkfieldbank), Sandy Russell (Kirkfieldbank).

The Moderator led the Presbytery in a prayer of commissioning

Good News Stories

Steven Reid, Crossford, spoke of the recent visit of the African Children's Choir to Crossford. The 46th choir visited and led a concert, went to the Primary school and inspired the church and community who turned out in great numbers.

Mabel Morris, Carstairs, expressed thanks for the variance allowance grant which allowed 67 young people to have a day in Wiston Lodge with Godly Play to think about the Emmaus Road.

Scott Paget, Lanark: Greyfriars, spoke of the recent Easter Holiday Club which saw 120 children of mostly non church families who came along for a week of teaching, thought and fun around the Easter story.

Report of the Business Committee

The Report of the Business Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Bill Love who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: *Presbytery-*

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of the appointment of the Depute Presbytery Clerk agree
 - a. The post holder will work closely with the Presbytery Clerk and offer cover for him/her as required.
 - b. The post holder will be a member of the Business Committee and the Vacancy Procedure Committee and will act as minute secretary for these committees.
 - c. The post will be unsalaried but will have an honorarium payed annually in December with such payment reviewed annually by the Business Committee to reflect the work done in the previous 12 month period.
3. The Business Committee are pleased to recommend that the Mr Alan Grant be appointed as Moderator Designate of the Presbytery of Lanark for the session 2017/18.

4. Agree that the Presbytery position regarding the use of Culter Church remains unchanged and that a recent request for the church to be used for a wedding should be refused unless significant progress is made towards the sale of the building.
5. Agree that expressions of interest for anyone interested in becoming Presbytery Treasurer should be made to the Convenor of the Business Committee by 31st May 2017 and instruct Session Clerks to advertise the position widely in their churches.

It was moved, seconded and agreed, as an amendment to section 4 to change the words to read 'agree that, due to significant progress being made in the matter of the sale of the former church building at Culter, in the transitional period prior to sale completion, permission to use the building for a funeral and wedding be granted; and that Presbytery further instructs any Church of Scotland minister who is asked to conduct worship in the former Cutler Church seek advance permission from the Presbytery Clerk; with these arrangements to be communicated to any minister by the McCosh family or by those using the building.'

It was moved and seconded and agreed, as an amendment to the Deliverance, to add a new section 5 and renumber 'In the event of the sale of the former Culter Church building being concluded, instruct the clerk to confer with the law department and the owners of the former Culter Church to draw up a legal agreement as to the ongoing use of the church building; and to bring said agreement to the earliest possible meeting of Presbytery for approval.'

The convener moved, and it was seconded and agreed to add a new section 6, 'Agree the reappointment as Additional Elders of Mr Robert Carson (Symington), Mr Ewan Easton (Lanark Greyfriars), Mr George Forbes (Kirkmuirhill), Mr Alan Grant (Carluke St Johns), Mr Bill Love (Lanark St Nicholas), Mrs Anna Lumsden (Lanark Greyfriars), Mr William McSween (Carluke Kirkton), Mrs Libby Muir (Carluke: St. Andrew's) and Mr Scott Paget (Lanark Greyfriars), and thank Mrs Mairi Somerville for her years of service to the Presbytery of Lanark.'

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

Report of Property Committee

The Clerk indicated that as he is minister of Lanark: Greyfriars, a cited congregation, he wished to relinquish the role of Presbytery Clerk for the duration of the report. In the absence of a Depute Clerk, the Presbytery appointed Mr Bill Love to act as Presbytery Clerk for the duration of the Property Report. Mr Love took the Oath de fideli and assumed the role of Presbytery Clerk.

The Report of Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton, with the exception of the section on Lanark: Greyfriars which was presented by the vice convener, Mr Bobby Mitchell, due to the convener being a member of the said congregation.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that as previously intimated a citation had been served to the congregation of Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

9. Receive the report

10. In respect of Lanark: Greyfriars
 - a. Grant permission for the works to undertake Phase 2 and 3 of the Sanctuary modernisation plan, at a total cost of approximately £72,000, including the addition of providing of remote operated black-out blinds to the windows, all subject to the approval of the General Trustees.
 - b. Note that CARTA and the General Trustees have visited Lanark: Greyfriars, evaluated the proposals and costings and will present their decision to a forthcoming meeting of CARTA.
 - c. Note that the works will commence on 18th June 2017 and are scheduled to be completed by 3rd September 2017 and that alternative arrangements for worship have been made by the Kirk Session.
 - d. Instruct the Clerk to send an extract minute of approval to the General Trustees
11. In respect of Law
 - a. Note that a 'fact-finding' meeting was held with Law Church for the potential of the development of future proposals.
 - b. Note that an inspection of the Manse at Law Parish was undertaken and the condition was considered suitable for occupation by a minister should it be required.
12. Note that the annual attestation of Property Records was carried out and that those records presented were found to be in order.
13. Request that those Congregations whose records were not presented, those records are brought for inspection at the next committee night.

The Deliverance was approved

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

The Moderator thanked Mr Love for fulfilling the role of Acting Clerk and invited Rev Bryan Kerr to assume his role as Presbytery Clerk again.

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented, in the absence of the Convener and Vice-Convener by Mrs Fiona Hannah, who moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that almost all Safeguarding Registers and Safeguarding Audit Checklists have been inspected and the examination of those outstanding is in hand.
3. Note that Kirk Session Safeguarding Training for the grouping of: Forth, Carnwath and Carstairs took place on 28th March at Forth: St Paul's and thank St Paul's Church for hosting the event.
4. Note that it is proposed to hold Kirk Session Safeguarding training primarily for the grouping of Kirkmuirhill, Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, Lesmahagow: Old and Coalburn on 11 May at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church.
5. Note that Safeguarding Co-ordinators meet on 1 June at 7.30pm at Upper Clyde Church, Abington.

The Deliverance was approved

Due to the late hour it was agreed, with the consent of the convener of the Presbyterial Council of The Guild, to hold over the Report of the Presbyterial Council of The Guild to the June meeting. The Presbytery agreed and thanked the convener.

Intimations

The Clerk asked all members of Presbytery to ensure that Session Clerks and Ministers are on track to return Elder Commission forms and Data Check's by Friday 26th May 2017.

The Finance Convener called for final applications for the variance allowance to be in his hands by the May committee meetings. He also urged congregations that have not submitted accounts for 2016 to do so urgently in order that the attestation can proceed.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 20th June 2017 at 7 pm at Lanark: St Nicholas' Church Hall.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

The Presbytery Lanark

TREASURER'S JOB DESCRIPTION

The Treasurer will be expected to:

1. Issue cheques for payment of Invoices
2. Undertake lodgement of cheques with Bank. This is usually in November, December and January of the following year when cheques are received from Congregational Treasurers in respect of Presbytery Dues.
3. Keep cashbook up to date.
4. Serve on the Finance committee.

Annually

1. Prepare a Budget for the following year.
2. After approval by members of Presbytery, issue letters to the Congregational Treasurers advising them of the amount due to Presbytery for the payment of Dues.
3. Prepare Receipt & Payments Accounts for Audit and liaising with Accountant.
4. Liaise with Payroll department at 121 George Street in connection with the Presbytery Clerk's salary.

If not able to attend monthly Business committee meetings, the Treasurer will require to attend the October meeting of the Business committee to discuss finances for the following year e.g. salary and honoraria.

**Presbytery of Lanark
Congregational Support Committee
Local Church Review: Douglas Valley Church**

1 CONTEXT.

- 1.1 At its meeting in February 2017, the Presbytery of Lanark sisted vacancy activity at Douglas Valley Church. The charge has been without a minister since August 2014, and Presbytery are therefore required to call the vacancy for review after two years of being approved to call a minister. Presbytery has first instructed the Congregational Support Committee to undertake a Local Churches Review, and for the Congregational Support Committee, and Ministries Committee to then meet and discuss a way forward for the vacancy. These joint recommendations will be presented to Presbytery at, or before, its May 2017 meeting.
- 1.2 The LCR Team was therefore composed of representatives from both committees:
Ministries Committee: Rev. Dr Nikki Macdonald (Team Leader), Anne Cochrane Congregational Support Committee: Scott Paget
- 1.3 The Team Leader held initial discussions with the office bearers of the charge on 15 February , and then two evening workshops on 9th and 23nd March. The LCR Team held a further meeting on 6th April to “mop up” any outstanding issues.
- 1.4 The LCR Visiting Team would like to thank the Kirk Session and office bearers for their very positive response to participating in the review. Special thanks, also, to the Session Clerk, Sinclair Scott, for his assistance, and for writing up the congregation contribution to the LCR reports. We would also like to thank the Interim Moderator, Rev. George Shand, for his support and encouragement.
- 1.5 It is worthwhile to note that the Church Office Bearers had already undertaken a “health check” and consequently felt prepared for the review.

2. BACKGROUND.

- 2.1 The Douglas Valley Church was formed by the union of the previously linked charges of Douglas St. Bride’s Church and Douglas Water & Rigside Church, with one Minister, one Kirk Session and two places of worship, governed by a Unitary Constitution. There has been worship in the Douglas Valley for nearly a thousand years. There is a strong covenanting tradition still celebrated in local Cameronian connections. The Church in Rigside has had strong evangelical outreach through the years. The congregation is small, the population of the villages having been significantly reduced by the collapse of deep coal mining after the 1950s and, in the last twenty years the loss of most of the significant local employers.
- 2.2 Although the congregation is small, it is committed, friendly, welcoming and hard working. Church members are active throughout the community and sustain powerful links with other voluntary groups locally. The main Church building in Douglas is a venue for many regular celebratory services, such as Remembrance, Easter and Christmas Services, Cameronian Sunday, World Day of Prayer, Thinking Day and others. Most local funeral services take place in the Church irrespective of membership, including for those of the Roman Catholic congregation occasionally. The Church buildings in Rigside were sold and worship has successfully transferred to the Community Hall (where a separate World Day of Prayer is also held). Joint services take place occasionally in both venues.
- 2.3 In common with many, they do not have young folk attending regularly and do not, currently, have a Sunday School. Competing community and sports activities impact on all local families.
- 2.4 Attendance on Sundays is on average 45 at Douglas, and 15 at Rigside. On average between both Churches 70% are aged 65 plus. Of the 24 office bearers, most are over 64.
- 2.5 Fabric. Douglas Valley Church is in a mostly positive position as regards fabric. The church building in Douglas is impressive, and well maintained. Recently some necessary work has been identified to the manse. The work included replacing the boiler and modernise the bathroom. Funding for the work is identified and work has already been put in progress

3. KEY THINGS IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE LOCAL CHURCHES REVIEW.

3.1 As with most other churches, the pool of people prepared to take on office-bearer responsibility is narrowing, and office bearers are getting older. The LCR Team would like to commend the office bearers of the church for their hard work and dedication to their churches over the years, for their creativity, and for their continued commitment. The Team noted that the church is in a process of transition: it will be losing its long servicing and widely experienced Session Clerk in the next few months. The Treasurer also has recently resigned, again after many years of faithful service.

3.2 Within the Local Churches Review, the congregation identified a number of issues:

- areas of work they could undertake to build up the life and participation of the congregation,
- what the congregation could achieve by exploring different forms of worship.
- financial matters that need to be addressed

3.4 Parish statistics support the identification of some of the local difficulties:

- Within the congregation most are on fixed income or pensions.
- There is significant deprivation, especially in Rigside. They are in the bottom 15% of the Scottish population.
- There is low educational attainment compared with Scottish Average.

3.5 Because most of the industry and business has been lost. There are few, if any, remaining local employers who make a significant contribution to local employment. In the main, with only one or two exceptions, local businesses struggle to survive in a locally depressed market. Given a lack of local opportunities, there has been a significant decrease in business managers, and professionals from the community. Further, few people choose to retire to Douglas Valley.

3.6 Despite all of these worrying statistics, giving to the church has been remarkably steady. They have seen per capita rise, although there has been an overall reduction in income. However the concurrent rise in the Ministry and Mission allocation already presents the Church with a significant financial problem.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The LCR Team commend Douglas Valley Church for their very positive engagement with the LCR process and for their openness in highlighting both positive and negative challenges that they face as a community as they look to the future. Arising from the LCR process, Douglas Valley have begun to develop an Action Plan, addressing the challenges that were highlighted in their discussions. We would encourage the Congregation to continue with the good work already begun on their Action Plans, and hope that they would develop and 'fine-tune' the Plan. We look forward to seeing their progress, especially in the areas of:

- developing a more effective communications strategy – we commend the current rebuilding of the old website,
- considering new expressions of worship (e.g. Messy Church),
- reaching out to the wider community (e.g. re-establishing an after school club, developing a befriending team, developing better links with the local cottage hospital,
- building further links with neighbouring rural parishes for fellowship/ friendship/ and possible sharing of resources,
- making Douglas Church both a more accessible building, as well as more eco-friendly/ fuel-efficient – this latter to also save heating costs,
- the establishment of a social committee to encourage more opportunities for fellowship,
- undertaking a skills audit – being pro-active about discovering 'hidden' gifts and finding ways in which these might be employed within the Congregation.

- 4.2 Although the Action Plan is currently a work in progress, the LCR team note that the Congregation have several areas that could be attended to sooner, rather than later, especially in the area of worship, namely:
- Rigside – music and space:** music is provided via a digital hymnal, although the sound from the system is not as satisfactory as it could be. The initial plan in process notes the possibility of purchasing a small speaker to enhance the sound. We would encourage this, as well as finding ways to enhance the space used itself – to, as participants stated, ‘give it a more ‘churchy feel during worship’. Ideas were already being expressed that would be relatively straightforward and inexpensive.
- Home Communion:** in group conversation, it was noted that, although the Congregation provided opportunities for Home Communion, it was rarely utilised. This was thought to be due to a lack of publicity: we suggest a simple communication strategy be developed to highlight this particular service – possibly by word of mouth, putting it as an item on the weekly pew sheet, and a poster/s in an appropriate place/s.
- Douglas – AV system:** the church is furnished with an AV system that is not currently being used. We would encourage some training on this with identified volunteers, so that this equipment might be utilised, and, provide opportunities for more varied worship where appropriate.
- The above areas do not necessarily need to wait until the finalised Action Plan is in place.
- 4.3 Although engaged in a variety of activities and, having been blessed with an excellent locum during the vacancy, the LCR Team noted that a shadow hung over the Congregation due to their financial situation. Having accrued added costs due to the vacancy, and lost income due to a decrease (removal from the area, or by death) in numbers, there is a current projected deficit of c.£5 000 per year. It is also to be noted that, while numbers have decreased, the overall giving has remained relatively stable – indeed, many members are giving quite sacrificially. This was quite humbling. Clearly, the matter of an ongoing deficit needs to be addressed. The LCR Team observe that the parish has areas of immense deprivation, with the societal issues often entailed with poverty. The Clydesdale Food Bank are kept particularly busy in the Rigside area, but Douglas, too, has areas of extreme poverty. The LCR is of the opinion that Douglas Valley Church should be reclassified as a Priority area. There are certainly compelling arguments for this course of action. Reclassification would then make it eligible for support at both National and Presbytery level, and may help alleviate some of the current financial struggles. As such, we recommend that:
- a. Douglas Valley Church continue with their current fact-finding around local area service usage, such as Clydesdale Food Bank, etc., in order to demonstrate the financial difficulties found within the Parish, and to strengthen their case for reclassification
 - b. that Presbytery support this, by calling for discussions with Ministries Council to find ways that the needs of the congregation can be appropriately supported by the Church at both a local and a national level.

**Local Church Review
Programme of Visits 2017-2021**

| Proposed Programme of Local Church Review Visits | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | Last Visited | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| Biggar I/w | 2007 | | | | X | |
| Black Mount | 2009/10 | | | | | |
| Cairngryffe I/w | 2007 | | | | | |
| Libberton & Quothquan I/w | 2009/10 | | X | | | |
| Symington | 2007 | | | | | |
| Carluke: Kirkton | 2009/10 | X | | | | |
| Carluke: St Andrews | 2012/13 | | | | X | |
| Carluke: St Johns | 2007/08 | | | | X | |
| Carnwath | 2004/05 (IM) | | | | | |
| Carstairs | 2008/09 | | X | | | |
| Coalburn I/w | 2016/17 | | | | | X |
| Lesmahagow Old | | | | | | |
| Crossford I/w | 2007/08 | | | X | | |
| Kirkfieldbank | | | | | | |
| Douglas Valley | 2003/04 | X | | | | |
| Forth: St Pauls | 2005/06 | | | X | | |
| Kirkmuirhill | 2009/10 | | | X | | |
| Lanark: Greyfriars | 2014/15 | | | | | X |
| Lanark: St Nicholas | 2008/09 | | | X | | |
| Law | 2015/16 | | | | | X |
| Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen | 2012/13 | | | | X | |
| Upper Clyde | 2007/08 | X | | | | |

Lanark, on Tuesday 20 June 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: St. Nicholas Parish Church Hall and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Helen Jamieson, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers, 16 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members, and 2 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael, M Fucella, M MacDougall, L Mackay, E MacLean Ministers; A Lyall, Deacon; G Chapman, A Grant, A Lumsden, E McLachlan, C Murray, L Nicol, K Wood, Elders

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 2 May 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2017 were held as read and approved.

Appointment of Depute Presbytery Clerk

Section 2 of the Business Committee's proposed Deliverance was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery:

2. Agree the appointment of Rev George Shand to serve as Depute Presbytery Clerk.

The Rev George Shand was welcomed by the Moderator on his appointment. Mr Shand took the oath de fideli.

Boys Brigade Scotland

Mr Paul O'Shea, Lanarkshire Development Worker of the Boys' Brigade in Scotland, spoke to the Presbytery about the work of the Boys' Brigade. The Boy's Brigade have utilised the LEARN publication as a basis for their current work. Mr O'Shea reminded members of Presbytery that support exists for both ministers and churches with current companies as well as those who seek to develop a company. In BB Scotland over 220 young people are currently supported by over 70 volunteers, partnering with 8 churches within Lanark Presbytery area. Six young men from the presbytery area have recently gained their Queen's Badge and gave over 560 hours community service. At a normal sessional youth worker hourly rate this equated to over £5,368 of youth service within the Presbytery in the past year. The Boys' Brigade are seeking to address the statistic that over 80% of young people do not feel that the community at large care about them. With the mission statement 'Faith in young people', the BB have a commitment to sharing the faith with young people and also see the good, and have faith in young people. BB Scotland currently works with over 6% of boys aged 5-18 within Scotland. Mr O'Shea encouraged all members to think about the possibility of starting a company and develop the youth work of their congregation and community. The Moderator thanked Mr O'Shea and wished him well in his ongoing work with Boys' Brigade Scotland.

Minutes of meeting on 2 May 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2 May 2017 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that the following decisions had been notified to the clerk as having been taken under delegated powers by the Property Committee:

Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen (18 May 2017)

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree under delegated powers to the replacement of the boiler at Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen Manse.
3. Agree under delegated powers to the repairs to the driveway at Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen on the basis that the use of road planing material is entirely at the risk of the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen.
4. Instruct the Presbytery Clerk to advise the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen of the decisions made by the issue of a relevant minute.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Rev Lorna MacDougall has been appointed as minister elect at Overtown Parish Church, Hamilton Presbytery and the induction will take place on 29 June 2017. The Moderator offered good wishes and God's blessings on Miss MacDougall's ministry. Miss MacDougall spoke warmly of her time in the Presbytery and paid tribute to Rev Iain Cunningham who supervised her final placement.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Anna Lumsden has been admitted to hospital and would appreciate the prayers of Presbytery.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that he and the Business Convenor granted compassionate leave to Rev Elspeth MacLean from 8– 27 May 2017 following the death of her mother.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that a number of elders retire on 30 June. The Moderator offered thanks to Cameron Sutherland (Biggar), Hazel Sharpe (Upper Clyde), Kathleen Wood (Carluke: St. Andrew's) and Fiona Hannah (Forth: St. Paul's). The Moderator also offered thanks to Mairi Somerville (Carluke: St. John's) who is retiring after many years' service as an additional elder.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that a number of new elders have been appointed to begin their term on 1 July, and had been invited to attend the meeting. The Moderator acknowledged Kenneth Watson (Biggar), Lynn Cochrane (Upper Clyde), Elizabeth Bradley (Carluke: St. Andrew's) and Jim Sinclair (Forth: St. Paul's) and would welcome them formally at the next meeting of Presbytery.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Ms Kaye Gardiner, soon to be nominated as a candidate in training for the full time ministry of word and sacrament was also in attendance. The Moderator welcomed Ms Gardiner and encouraged her in her forthcoming studies at Glasgow University.

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that the Roll of Presbytery (Appendix 1) for Session 2017/18 had been collated and was laid on the table to take effect from 1 July 2017.

Correspondence

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

Good News Stories

Anne Reid, Carluke: St. John's spoke of their Boys' Brigade company where 5 boys gained their Queen's Badge and 2 their President's badge. Mrs Reid also spoke of the recent publicity from the Church of Scotland where the new Principal Clerk spoke warmly of the collaboration between Lanark and Hamilton presbytery's in the recent worship leading programme.

Report of the Business Committee

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

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. *Agreed earlier in meeting*

3. In respect of Presbytery Committees
 - a. appoint Mr Scott Paget as Convenor of Congregational Support Committee from 1 July 2017
 - b. appoint Rev Louise Mackay as Convenor of Congregational Development Committee from 1 July 2017
 - c. agree the Committee membership for 2017-2018 (Appendix 2)
4. In respect of the Complaints Committee
 - a. agree the Complaints Committee membership be Rev Elizabeth Clelland (Convenor), Mrs Anne Cochrane, Rev Harry Findlay, Rev Maudeen MacDougall, Mrs Anne Reid and Mr Jim Watt.
 - b. agree that The Depute Presbytery Clerk be the alternative contact to receive complaints.
 - c. in accordance with the decision of Presbytery on 7 October 2014, and in accordance with Act X, 2012, instruct the Clerk to inform Hamilton Presbytery of the changes to the personnel within the Complaints Committee.
5. Agree that meetings of Presbytery will be held in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark (with the exception of September meetings held in the church of the incoming Moderator) with committee meetings continuing to be held in the halls of Lanark St Nicholas Parish Church.
6. Agree that for session 2017-2018, Presbytery meetings be held at 7pm on 5 September, 3 October, 7 November, 5 December 2017, 6 February, 6 March, 1 May and 19 June 2018.
7. Agree that for session 2017-2018, Presbytery Committees meet on 22 August, 19 September, 24 October, 21 November 2017, 23 January, 20 February, 20 March, 17 April, 5 June 2018.
8. Agree powers of Presbytery be granted to The Presbytery Clerk, Depute Presbytery Clerk, Business Convenor and Moderator from the close of the meeting to the start of September meeting of Presbytery.
9. In respect of Joint Summer Services
 - a. grant permission for joint services to take place between Lanark: St Nicholas and Lanark: Greyfriars from 25 June to 6 August 2017, with ecumenical services being held outwith both buildings on 25 June, 9 July and 6 August
 - b. grant permission for joint services to take place between Carluke: St Johns, St Andrew's and Kirkton from 2 July to 13 August 2017.
10. Agree that early in the new session there should be a meeting of all committee convenors to discuss the future shape of Lanark Presbytery with a report being brought to Presbytery for discussion as soon as possible after this meeting.
11. Agree that the Year Book for session 2017-2018 be issued as soon after this meeting as possible.
12. Note that the Presbytery Clerk intends to meet with Ministers and Interim Moderators to discuss decisions of interest after this year's Assembly.
13. Instruct the Clerk write to Rev Nancy Norman thanking her for her service as Locum at Upper Clyde and Douglas Valley churches.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Ministries Committee

The Report of the Ministries Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of Register of Ministries
 - a. in accordance with Act 2, 2017, note the initial register of ministries (Appendix 3) for the Presbytery of Lanark and instruct any minister unhappy with their categorisation to contact the Presbytery Clerk no later than 14th August 2017.
 - b. agree that the post of 'Resident Chaplain to Braehead House Christian Healing Centre' be defined as a post equivalent to other chaplaincy posts as defined in Section 11 of Act 3, 2000

(as amended) and resolve that, should the postholder be a Minister of Word and Sacrament of the Church of Scotland they will be entitled to membership of the Presbytery of Lanark and should be entered into the Register of Ministries as Category E, as allowed in Act 2, 2017.

3. In respect of the Draft Basis of Union between Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old:
 - a. note that the congregation of Coalburn voted 22 for and none against the draft Basis
 - b. note that the congregation of Lesmahagow: Old voted 38 for and none against the draft Basis
 - c. agree that the legal name of the congregation shall be 'The Parish of Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old (Church of Scotland)'
 - d. approve the Draft Basis of Union between Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old (Appendix 4)
 - e. instruct the clerk to issue an extract minute to the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council for approval.
4. Nominate Ms Kaye Gardiner, member of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) as a candidate in Training for the full time ministry of Word and Sacrament and assure her of the ongoing support of Presbytery throughout the period of training.
5. Note the preparation, and circulation to Ministers, of a short questionnaire on the subject of Presbytery Chaplaincy.

The Deliverance was approved

The Clerk informed Presbytery that in relation to the matter of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old the process is sisted until concurrence is heard from the Ministries Council.

Report of the Guild Presbyterial Council

The Report of the Guild Presbyterial Council was presented by the Convenor, Mrs Dorothy Wiseman. The theme for the Guild in this year has been 'Go, Enjoy' and a number of members from the Guild in the Presbytery journeyed to the annual gathering in Dundee. Mrs Wiseman spoke of the programme experienced by members throughout the year, including times of fellowship, challenge, networking and worship in local Guild groups. Prayer and praise is encouraged at every meeting and the guild groups meet in Spring to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Over £478,000 has been raised nationally for the Guild projects and the support locally has been strong. Next year the Guild encourage all to 'Go in love' and Mrs Wiseman encouraged all members to prayerfully consider how we can love all in God's name. The Moderator thanked the Convenor for her report and her leadership over the past year.

Due to an issue in Congregational Support Committee affecting the congregation of the Moderator, Mrs Jamieson relinquished the chair for the duration of the report and Rev Elizabeth Clelland, past Moderator of the Presbytery took the chair.

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Jim Watt. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of Local Church Reviews
 - a. note that the committee warmly welcomed the presentation by 'Catch the light' on their proposals for carrying out Local Church Review Visits.
 - b. note that the LCRV reports on the congregations of Upper Clyde and Carluke: Kirkton are to be in the hands of the Convenor by 15th November 2017.
 - c. note that the team to carry out the LCRV to Upper Clyde will be Rev Maudeen MacDougall and Mr Hugh Stewart, along with the consultants from 'Catch the Light'.
 - d. note that the team to carry out the LCRV to Carluke: Kirkton will be Rev Elspeth MacLean and Mrs Helen Chekansky, along with the consultants from 'Catch the Light'.
3. In respect of Practicing Certificates, and in accordance with Act II, 2000 (as amended),

- a. issue Practicing Certificates to Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Jim Cutler, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Graham Houston, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev John Turnbull and note that these will be effective until 31 December 2017 or until such time as Act 2 2017 anent the Registration of Ministers comes into force.
 - b. note that Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Margaret Muir and Rev John Turnbull have indicated that they will not be taking up their seats in Presbytery.
4. In respect of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland)
- a. note that the two Assessor Elders being withdrawn from Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) on 30 June will be Mr Denham McDougall and Mr Jim Sinclair.
 - b. instruct the Clerk to write to Mr Denham McDougall and Mr Jim Sinclair thanking them for their valuable and valued contribution to the life and work of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church (Church of Scotland) during their period as Assessor Elders.
5. Invite the Congregational Support Committee and Ministries Committee to host a meeting with an external facilitator, to be attended by the Parish Ministers and four representatives from each of the three congregations involved in the Carluke Parish Grouping, with the aim of re-establishing communication and trust in order that the beneficial work of the Parish Grouping be restarted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed to remove the words 'and trust' from section 5 of the deliverance.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 5 of the deliverance after the words, 'in order that the', remove 'beneficial work of the Parish Grouping be restarted' add 'future of the Parish Grouping be discussed.'

It was moved and seconded as a counter motion to section 5 of the deliverance, 'Until the three congregations of Carluke: St. Andrew's, Carluke: St. John's and Carluke: Kirkton have held joint discussions with an external facilitator and mediator and until, as part of the annual review of the Presbytery Plan, a full review of Ministry and Mission in respect of the Carluke area has been undertaken, no decisions on the future of the Carluke Parish Grouping will be made.' After a period of discussion the mover of the motion, with the approval of the seconder sought the permission of Presbytery to withdraw the motion. This was agreed by the Presbytery.

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

The Moderator expressed the thanks of Presbytery to Mr Watt upon his retiral as convenor.

Rev Helen Jamieson assumed the chair again and thanked Ms Clelland for standing in as Moderator.

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report
2. In respect of Biggar Kirk
 - a. note that the Gillespie Centre Association in Biggar is in the process of being disbanded and that the responsibility for the Gillespie Centre will revert to the Kirk Session of Biggar Kirk.
 - b. note that whilst permission for urgent repairs has been given, future funding in the region of £46,000.00 is required to undertake internal and external repairs.
 - c. 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.
3. Note that the Property Committee are happy to be involved in any meetings with the General Trustees and representatives from Kirkmuirhill relating to the future manse provision.

4. Note that the Property Committee are happy to meet with 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.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree to the following reductions in the 2017 Ministries and Mission Allocations
 - a. Tinto Parishes - Bubblegum & Fluff - £1145
 - b. Carluke: St. Andrews – Drop in support Project - £1500
 - c. Forth St. Paul's – Project Costs excluding Staffing - £1200
 - d. Kirkmuirhill – Holiday Club – £1000
 - e. Lanark: Greyfriars – Cinema & Christmas Activity Day - £2000
 - f. Carstairs – Night Kirk & Open Book - £1660

It was moved, seconded and agreed as a new section 3 'Approve the Accounts of the Presbytery for the year ended 31st December 2016.'

It was moved, seconded and agreed as a new section 4 'Thank Mary McGillivray for the Accounts and her work as Treasurer of Presbytery.'

The Deliverance, as amended, was approved

Intimations

No intimations were made.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for The Sacrament of Holy Communion and thereafter for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 September 2017 at 7 pm in Carluke: St. John's Parish Church.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Roll of Presbytery of Lanark 2017/2018

| | | |
|----|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | Mr John Austin | Commissioned Elder LIBBERTON AND QUOTHQUAN |
| 2 | Mrs Elizabeth Bradley | Commissioned Elder CARLUKE ST ANDREW'S |
| 3 | Rev David Carmichael | Minister in Charge |
| 4 | Mr Robert Carson | Commissioned Elder SYMINGTON |
| 5 | Mr Tom Chalmers | Commissioned Elder LAW |
| 6 | Mr Graham Chapman | Commissioned Elder LANARK GREYFRIARS |
| 7 | Mrs Helen Chekansky | Commissioned Elder LANARK ST NICHOLAS |
| 8 | Rev Elizabeth Cleland | Minister Practising Certificate - Member |
| 9 | Mrs Anne Cochrane | Commissioned Elder CARNWATH |
| 10 | Mrs Lynn Cochrane | Commissioned Elder UPPER CLYDE |
| 11 | Mr William Coulter | Commissioned Elder BLACK MOUNT |
| 12 | Rev Susan Cowell | Retired Minister |
| 13 | Rev Iain Cunningham | Minister in Charge |
| 14 | Rev James Cutler | Ret Minister Practising Certificate - Member |
| 15 | Mr Ewan Easton | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 16 | Rev Henry Findlay | Retired Minister |
| 17 | Mr George Forbes | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 18 | Rev Michael Fucella | Minister in Charge |
| 19 | Mr Alan Grant | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 20 | Rev Dr Graham Houston | Ret Minister Practising Certificate - Member |
| 21 | Rev Helen Jamieson | Minister in Charge |
| 22 | Rev Bryan Kerr | Minister in Charge |
| 23 | Mr William Love | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 24 | Mrs Anna Lumsden | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 25 | Miss Ann Lyall | Deacon |
| 26 | Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald | Minister in Charge |
| 27 | Rev Maudeen MacDougall | Minister in Charge |
| 28 | Rev Louise Mackay | Minister in Charge |
| 29 | Rev Elspeth MacLean | Minister in Charge |
| 30 | Mr Willie MacSween | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 31 | Mrs Elizabeth McLachlan | Commissioned Elder CARLUKE KIRKTON |
| 32 | Mr Peter McLeish | Commissioned Elder COALBURN |
| 33 | Mr Alex McPhee | Commissioned Elder LESMAHAGOW ABBEYGREEN |
| 34 | Mr Robert Mitchell | Commissioned Elder DOUGLAS VALLEY |
| 35 | Mrs Mabel Morris | Commissioned Elder CARSTAIRS |
| 36 | Mrs Libby Muir | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 37 | Mr Cameron Murray | Commissioned Elder CROSSFORD |
| 38 | Mrs Lillias Nicol | Commissioned Elder KIRKFIELD BANK |
| 39 | Rev Dr Elijah Obinna | Minister in Charge |
| 40 | Rev Stephen Pacitti | Retired Minister |
| 41 | Mr Scott Paget | Equalising Elder - Equalising Elder Presbytery |
| 42 | Rev Steven Reid | Minister in Charge |
| 43 | Mrs Anne Reid | Commissioned Elder CARLUKE ST JOHN'S |
| 44 | Rev James Seath | Retired Minister |
| 45 | Rev George Shand | Minister in Charge |
| 46 | Mr Jim Sinclair | Commissioned Elder FORTH ST PAUL'S |
| 47 | Mr Hugh Stewart | Commissioned Elder LESMAHAGOW OLD |
| 48 | Mr David Waters | Commissioned Elder KIRKMUIRHILL |
| 49 | Mr Kenneth Watson | Commissioned Elder BIGGAR |
| 50 | Mr James Watt | Commissioned Elder CAIRNGRYFFE |
| 51 | Rev David Young | Retired Minister |

| PROPOSED COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2017-2018 | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Fifth+ Year</i> | <i>Fourth Year</i> | <i>Third Year</i> | <i>Second Year</i> | <i>First Year</i> |
| CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CONVENOR - REV LOUISE MACKAY - 1ST YEAR) | | | | |
| David Carmichael | | | | |
| John Austin Robert Carson Lilias Nicol | Anne Reid Tom Chalmers | | | Elizabeth Bradley Bill Love |
| CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT (CONVENOR - MR SCOTT PAGET - 1ST YEAR) | | | | |
| | | | Elizabeth Clelland M Macdougall | |
| Alex McPhee | David Waters Mabel Morris | | Anna Lumsden | Lynn Cochrane |
| FINANCE (CONVENOR - REV STEVEN REID - 4TH YEAR) | | | | |
| | Mary McGillivray* Graham Chapman Jack Lumsden** | | | |
| | Harry Findlay | | | |
| MINISTRIES (CONVENOR - REV DR NIKKI MACDONALD - 3RD YEAR) | | | | |
| | | | Ann Lyall | Elspeth MacLean |
| Anne Cochrane | | | George Forbes Libby Muir | Jim Watt |
| PROPERTY (CONVENOR - MR EWAN EASTON - 4TH YEAR) | | | | |
| | | | Jim Cutler | Helen Jamieson |
| William Coulter Bobby Mitchell | Cameron Murray | Peter McLeish | | Kenneth Watson |
| WORLD & COMMUNITY ISSUES (CONVENOR - REV MIKE FUCELLA - 2ND YEAR) | | | | |
| Iain Cunningham | | | Elijah Obinna | |
| Hugh Stewart | Willie Macsween | Elizabeth McLachlan | | Helen Chekansky |
| BUSINESS (CONVENOR - MR BILL LOVE - 5TH YEAR; PRESBYTERY CLERK - BRYAN KERR; DEPUTE CLERK - GEORGE SHAND; TREASURER - MARY MCGILLIVRAY*) | | | | |
| | | | H Jamieson (2yr) | Louise Mackay (1yr) |
| | | | | Alan Grant (2yr) Mabel Morris George Forbes |

Clerk and Depute Ex-officio members of all committees

* Ex- Officio Member, ** Co-opted Member

Initial DRAFT 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 | Abbeygreen 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. V9N 9B2 Canada | | arjay1232@gmail.com | Minister | R | 1 January 2018 | |

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|---|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|---|----------------|--|
| Rev James Cutler BD, CEng, MIStructE | 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 | mfcucella@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 | |

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|--|---|------------------|--|----------|---|-------------------|--|
| Ann Lyall DCS | The Manse, 2 Lanark Road, Kirkmuirhill, ML11 9RB | 01555 892409 | alyall@churchofscotland.org.uk | Deacon | E | 1 January 2018 | |
| Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald BD, MTh, PhD | 31 Carlisle Road, Crawford, ML12 6TP | 01864 502139 | nmacdonald@churchofscotland.org.uk | Minister | O | 1 January 2018 | |
| 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 Margaret Muir MA, LLB, BD | 59/4 South Beechwood, Edinburgh, EH12 5YS | 0131 313 3240 | | Minister | R | 1 January 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 Stephen A Pacitti MA | 157 Nithsdale Road, Glasgow, G41 5RD | 0141 423 5792 | ibanawi@yahoo.co.uk | Minister | R | 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 | |

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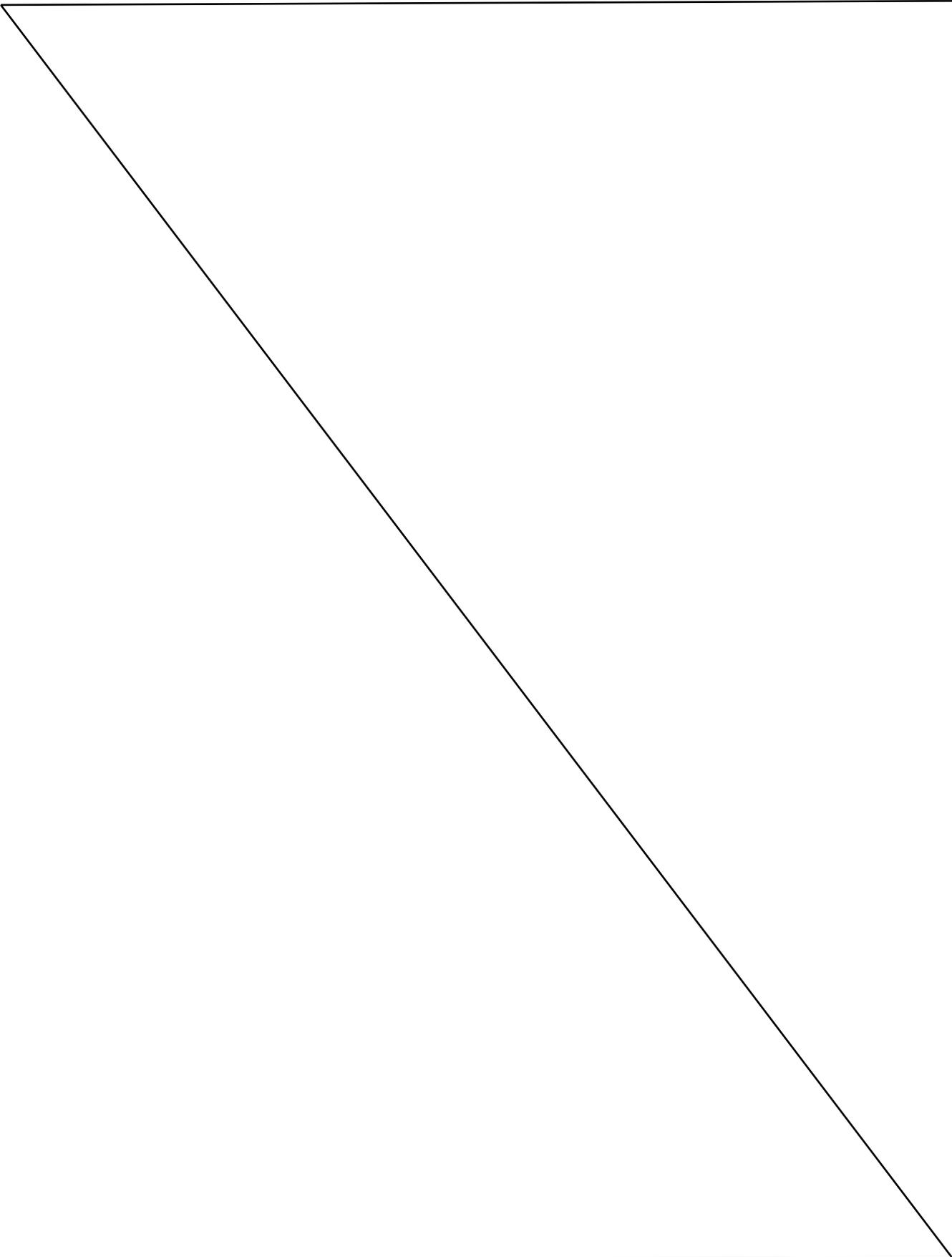
Presbytery of Lanark

Draft 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.

Approved Accounts for year ended 31 December 2016



Lanark, on Tuesday 5 September 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met after the administration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion in Carluke: St. John's Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 Ministers, 1 Deacon, 20 Elders, and 20 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs S Cowell, M MacDougall, L MacKay, S Reid Ministers; H Chekansky, L Cochrane, A Lumsden, A McPhee, A Reid, D Waters, J Watt, Elders, V Chalmers, M McGillivray, Corresponding Member.

Installation of Moderator

The Presbytery, having previously elected Mr Alan Grant to be Moderator, moved to install him as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2016/17, during the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Ms Clelland welcomed Mr Grant, installed him as Moderator of the Presbytery with prayer and invited him to take the chair.

Welcome to new members and Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting, including those from Biggar, Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old, Rev Dr Cameron McPherson and new Presbytery elders.

Thanks to retiring Moderator

The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Rev Helen Jamieson in absentia for her service throughout the year as Moderator and previous years as Presbytery Clerk.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 20 June 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2017 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under powers (Summer Recess)

Presbytery noted that the following decision had been taken under powers agreed at the meeting on 20 June 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 taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that the following decisions had been notified to the clerk as having been taken under delegated powers by the Ministries Committee on 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.

Roll of Presbytery

Departure of Miss Ann Lyall DCS

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Miss Ann Lyall DCS will be moving to a new Interim Placement on 18th September 2017. The Moderator invited Mr George Forbes, elder at Kirkmuirhill to pay appreciation to Miss Lyall's ministry. Mr Forbes spoke to of the work that Miss Lyall had undertaken and the joy the congregation felt when she returned to Kirkmuirhill and began to develop new relationships. Mr Forbes paid tribute to Miss Lyall's pastoral skills, her ability to encourage the congregation and Kirk Session to think in new ways and develop new patterns of mission, worship and practice and heal wounds that were very much in evidence at the beginning of her placement.

The Moderator invited Miss Lyall to speak and she spoke of the warmth that she felt at Kirkmuirhill and her appreciation for the friendship and love she had received during her time in the charge. Miss Lyall spoke of her desire to see the congregation continue to develop and grow in new ways. Miss Lyall thanked the Presbytery for their support and paid particular tribute to the Assessor Elders with whom she worked.

The Moderator assured Miss Lyall of the ongoing prayers of Presbytery in her continuing ministry.

Updates on Members of Presbytery

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Anna Lumsden has is now receiving palliative care. The Clerk informed members that the prayers of Presbytery would be appreciated by the family, however the family have asked that all contact be made through the minister of Lanark: Greyfriars at this time.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

Admission of Rev D Cameron McPherson to membership

A request has been received by the Presbytery of Hamilton to transfer membership of Rev Dr D Cameron McPherson to Lanark Presbytery. Dr McPherson, having handed to the Clerk a practising certificate, re-affirmed his ordination vows, signed the formula and was duly welcomed to the Presbytery of Lanark by the Moderator and Clerk.

The Presbytery agreed to add the name of Dr McPherson to the roll of Presbytery, agree to his request to not take a seat on Presbytery and issue him a practicing certificate to 31 December 2017.

Register of Ministries

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the Register of Ministries (Appendix 1) has been finalised and noted that Rev Stephen Pacitti has moved to Glasgow, Rev Margaret Muir has moved to Edinburgh and that Rev Dr Cameron McPherson is now a member of Lanark Presbytery.

The Presbytery:

1. Approve the Register of Ministries (Appendix 1) for the Presbytery of Lanark and instruct the Clerk to forward the register to the Ministries Council in time for the deadline of 1 October 2017 as set by the General Assembly.

Matters relating to the union of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: Old (Order of the Day 8:30pm)

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that citations had been served to the congregations of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and were returned duly signed.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that concurrence from the Ministries Council Presbytery Planning Task Group regarding the union had been received and that the union was now able to go ahead.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. Appoint Mr Alan Grant as Interim Moderator as of 18 September 2017
3. 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 (Convener), 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.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Report of the visiting team to Biggar (Order of the Day 8:40pm)

The Report of the Visiting Team to Biggar was called for and presented by the Convener of the Congregational Support Committee, Mr Scott Paget.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that a citation had been served to the congregation of Biggar and had been returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

The Convener then moved the following deliverance:

Deliverance: Presbytery-

1. Receive the report.
2. 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.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Presbytery Plan Review Process

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Lanark is one of 9 pilot Presbyteries undertaking a Presbytery Review Process. As part of the review process Presbyters were asked to comment on the following questions by email.

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?

In small groups members of Presbytery were invited to take time and recall a time when Presbytery had an impact upon their congregation. Feedback was sought from each group in the form of post-it notes in order that they can be analysed and used in the review process.

Correspondence

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

Good News Stories

Mr Scott Paget, Lanark: Greyfriars informed the Presbytery that the refurbishment works have been completed on schedule, on plan and on budget.

Rev Mike Fucella, Biggar, encouraged members of Presbytery to read the Ascend magazine and, in particular Neil Dougal's article on Leadership and the other books contained therein.

Report of the Business Committee

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

The Presbytery:

14. Receive the report.
15. Note that a meeting on the implications for ministry of recent General Assembly decisions was held on Thursday 17th August at Lanark: Greyfriars.
16. 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.
17. Note that at the September meeting of Presbytery time will be given for a workshop exploring the nature, purpose and future of Presbytery.
18. Agree that a survey exploring congregation's experiences of Presbytery will be devised and sent to Session Clerks.
19. Note that there have been no expressions of interest in the post of Presbytery Treasurer.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Scott Paget. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that Mr David Waters 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.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton. It was moved and seconded:

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.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Mike Fucella. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

6. Receive the report.
7. 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
8. Approve a budget of up to £500 for the Big Question Rally 2017.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee, in the absence of the Convenor and Vice-Convenor was presented by the Clerk. It was moved and seconded:

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

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

The Clerk informed members of presbytery that they 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

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 October 2017 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

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 | Abbeygreen 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 | |

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|---|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|---|----------------|--|
| 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 | |

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|--|--|-----------------|--|--|----------|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| BD, MTh, PhD | Crawford, ML12 6TP | | | | | | | | |
| Rev Maureen I MacDougall BA, BD, MTh | 11 Range View, Kames, Carstairs, Lanark, ML11 8TF | 01555 871258 | | maureen.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, Carlisle, ML8 4HN | 01555 752389 | | eobinna@churchofscotland.org.uk | Minister | O | | 1 January 2018 | |
| Rev Steven Reid Bacc, CA, BD | The Manse, Crossford, Carlisle, 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 | |

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|-----------------------|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------|---|----------------|--|
| 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 | |

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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

11. **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.
12. **Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.
13. **Places of Worship:** 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.
14. **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.
15. **Kirk Session:** The elders of the two Kirk Sessions shall form with the minister the Kirk Session of the United Congregation.
16. **Congregational Management:** The financial or temporal affairs of the United Congregation shall be administered as, or in accordance with, the Unitary Constitution, the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the said congregation.
17. **Minister:** The united congregation, being vacant, shall proceed to the election and call of a minister under the terms of Act VIII, 2003 and subsequent to the approval of the Presbytery Plan and all necessary permissions being granted.
18. **Manse:** The current manse of Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church shall be the manse of the united congregation.
19. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the Charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
20. **Power to re-adjust:** While these articles and terms shall form a Basis of Union for the two Congregations now uniting, the united Congregation shall be free, like other Congregations, to adjust arrangements under authority of the Presbytery and with the approval of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council as need may arise.

Lanark, on Tuesday 28 September 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met *in hunc effectum* at Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church, for the service of union between Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Alan Grant, Moderator and with him others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 7 Ministers and 7 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs S Cowell, I Cunningham, Ministers; J Austin, E Bradley, T Chalmers, A Lumsden, A McPhee, R Mitchell, M Morris, A Reid and J Watt, Elders; K Gardiner and M McGillivray, Corresponding Members.

Narrative

Following the translation of The Reverend Aileen Robson to Dunoon: The High Kirk linked with Innellan linked with Toward in the Presbytery of Argyll on 6 September 2011, and following the development and subsequent agreement of a Plan for the deployment of ministries within the Presbytery area in March 2013, the charge of Coalburn linked with Lesmahagow: old was given permission to call a minister on an unrestricted basis.

Despite a prayerful and thorough search the Nominating Committee were unable to bring forward the name of a minister to preach as sole nominee prior to the timeframe for permission a call a minister reaching an end. Accordingly the Presbytery sisted the vacancy process on 31 March 2016 and instructed a Local Church Review take place to provide support, encouragement and rejuvenation to the congregations.

As part of the Local Church Review the congregations were invited to consider their relationship with each other and the ways in which they can best work together for sharing the Good News of Jesus within the parishes. Accordingly the Charity Trustees of both congregations agreed to proceed to draft a Basis of Union for the two congregations which would allow them to work together more closely and provide support to any new minister. The Basis of Union was voted upon by the two congregations with no dissensions and was subsequently approved by the Presbytery on 20 June 2017. Both congregations were cited to appear at the meeting of the Presbytery of Lanark on 6 September 2017 for their interests and there the Presbytery heard concurrence from the Ministries Council of the General Assembly, and agreed to the Basis of Union of the linked congregations of Coalburn with Lesmahagow: Old. The Presbytery also set the date of Thursday 28 September 2017 at 7pm for the Service of Union to take place.

Service of Union

The Presbytery proceeded to the Church, where the Sermon was preached by the Rev Louise Mackay. The Moderator presided over the Act of Union between the congregations of Coalburn Parish Church and Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church and the Clerk presided over the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. After the service Mr Bill Love expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator, the Clerk, and Rev Louise Mackay for their conduct of the service. The Clerk was instructed to issue an extract minute of proceedings to all relevant parties.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 October 2017 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 October 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Alan Grant, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 Ministers, 25 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs H Findlay, D Young Ministers; B Love, L Nicol Elders, V Chalmers, M McGillivray, Corresponding Member.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved with the addition of a new section 13 'Report of the Finance Committee'.

Minutes of meeting on 5 September and 28 September 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 September and 28 September 2017 were held as read and approved. The Moderator expressed his hope and prayer that member of Presbytery make every effort to attend Presbytery services as they are a significant part of the life of a congregation and Presbytery ought to be showing a strength of support for congregations at this time.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery that no decisions had been made under powers.

Roll of Presbytery

Death of Mrs Anna Lumsden

The Clerk informed the Presbytery that Mrs Anna Lumsden, Additional Elder from Lanark: Greyfriars had passed away the previous day. Intimation of funeral arrangements was made and a full tribute would be given at the November meeting. The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer and assured the family of the continuing prayers of Presbytery.

Correspondence

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

Good News Stories

Anne Reid, Carlisle: St. John's reported on the very successful Youth Praise Night held on 16 September 2017 and encouraged the presbytery to look at supporting and developing more ways to reach young people.

Report of the Business Committee

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

The Presbytery:

20. Receive the report.
21. 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.
22. 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.
23. Note that the Moderator of Lanark Presbytery has been invited to become Honorary Vice President for Clyde Scouts and has accepted their invitation.

24. 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.
25. 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.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Scott Paget. It was moved and seconded:

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.
5. Note that Place for Hope have taken over the process of facilitated discussion within the Carluke Parish Grouping and, in the interests of confidentiality of the process, no further updates will be given to Presbytery until the end of the process.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton. It was moved and seconded:

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.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Louise Mackay. It was moved and seconded:

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 ministers 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.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Steven Reid. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the proposed figures for the allocation to the Ministries and Mission fund that were issued to Congregational Financial Courts in September 2017. Any appeals should be in the hands of the Finance Convener before the October committee night.

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

Rev Mike Fucella intimated the arrangements for the Big Questions Rally in November

Adjournment:

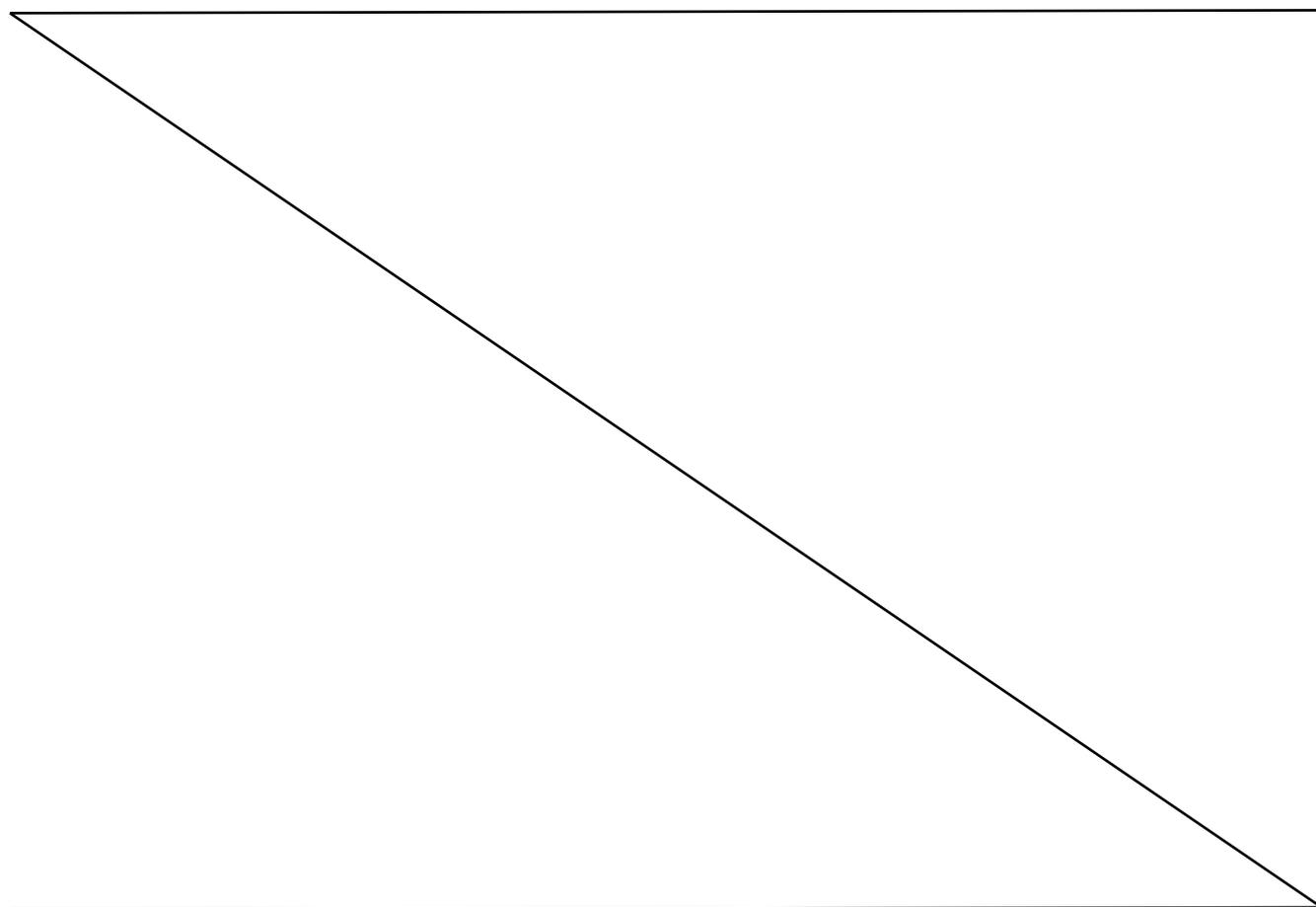
The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 7 November 2017 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk



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.

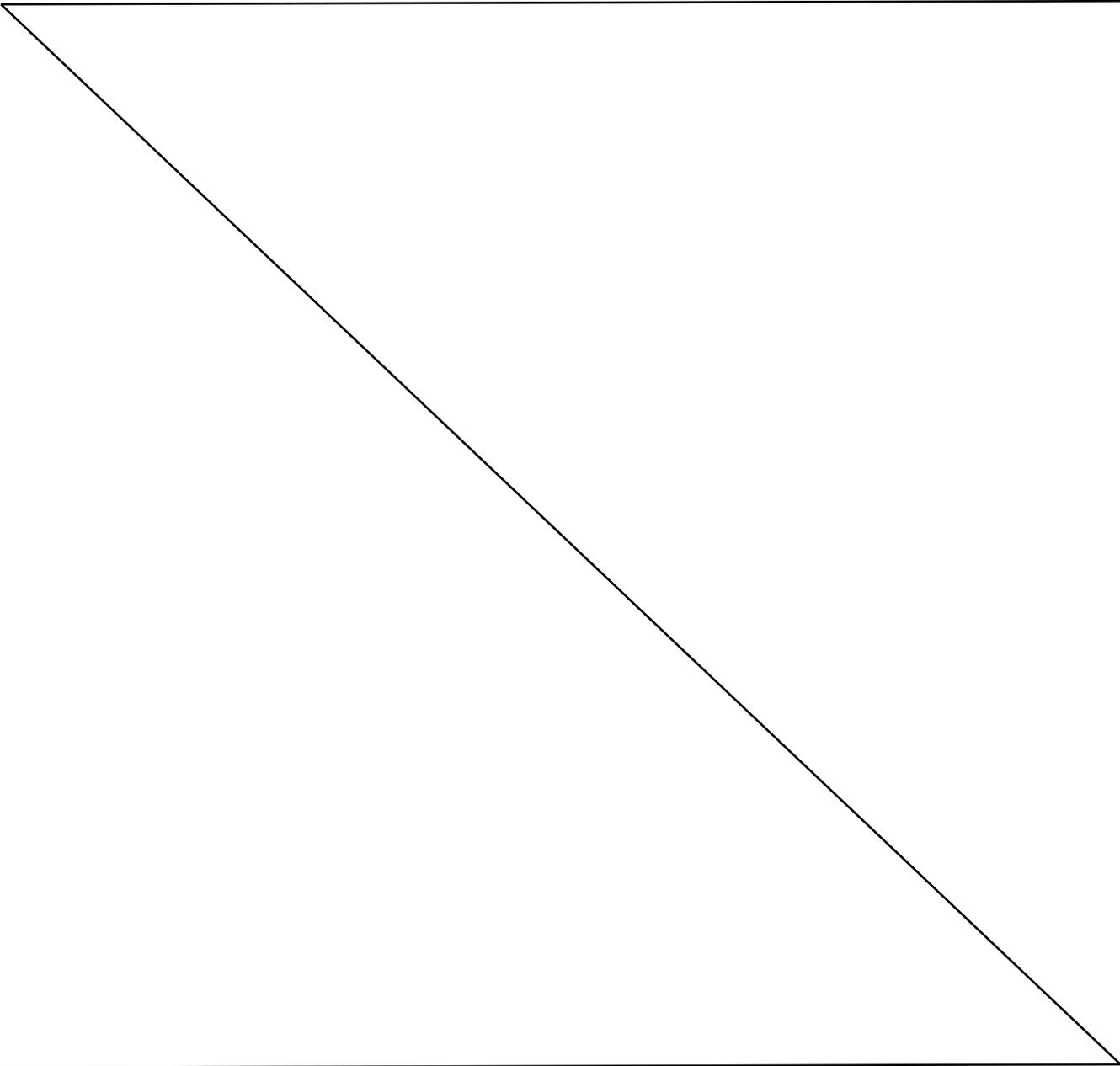
| | |
|---|--|
| Did the Kirk Session complete Section 1 of the Local Church Review Paperwork in advance of a meeting? | |
| Is the approach of the congregation to the baptism of children in line with the Act V, 2000? | |
| What constitution does the congregation operate and do members feel it serves 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? | |
|---|--|

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.



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 |
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| Lanark St Nicholas | 68,188 |
| Law | 28,009 |
| Lesmahagow Abbeygreen | 39,810 |
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| Symington | 22,946 |
| Greyfriars | 54,234 |
| Cairngryffe | 21,032 |
| Upper Clyde | 22,926 |

Lanark, on Tuesday 7 November 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Alan Grant, Moderator and with her others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 13 Ministers, 20 Elders, 2 Corresponding Members and 2 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs E Clelland and N Macdonald Ministers; E Bradley, T Chalmers, G Chapman, L Cochrane, A McPhee Elders, K Gardiner Corresponding Member.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 3 October 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2017 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The Clerk informed Presbytery that no decisions had been made under powers.

Roll of Presbytery

Death of Mrs Anna Lumsden

The Moderator invited Rev Bryan Kerr to pay tribute to the late Anna Lumsden, elder at Greyfriars Parish Church and additional elder on Presbytery.

The Moderator invited members of Presbytery to stand.

ANNA LUMSDEN was born in Motherwell Maternity Hospital in 1940, daughter to Jim and Cathie Mackay and an older sister to Angus.

Anna grew up in Wishaw and attended both Wishaw Public and Wishaw High schools before going to Jordanhill College to train as a Primary School teacher. Her first teaching post was at Wishaw Academy and when Jack and Anna moved to Lanark in 1966 she taught at Lanark Primary.

In 1964 Anna married her beloved husband Jack. It was in Thornlie Church in Wishaw that they tied the knot and that knot was a true partnership of love and of faith, with God and faith being at the very heart of their family. 53 very happy years of married life then began. Anna had been an active member of Thornlie Church attending from a very young age and working her way through the Sunday School and Youth Group and becoming a leader in the Life Boys.

Anna was a huge support to Jack in every way and during his business career she was always there to support and encourage him and act as a sounding board with great common sense advice. Jack needed to travel overseas frequently and extensively throughout his working life and Anna had the task of looking after their two children, Kandi and Kirsty and running the home. Family was always at the centre of her life and she was very proud of her daughters and in later years her grandchildren Jodie and Jamie. In later life Anna sometimes travelled with Jack on business and her lively and friendly personality made Anna very popular wherever she went.

Anna loved her family and was always there for them. She was one of the strongest, wisest, most loving, creative woman. Anna was always on hand to offer the best advice in all aspects of life. For many, whether family, friends, young farmers, speech makers, or even ministers, Anna was always willing to lend an ear and some constructive comments on what was being proposed or said.

The list of organisations that Anna gave her time and expertise to is simply staggering. The WRVS and Meals on Wheels, The Red Cross, Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research, Lanark Ladies Speakers Club, Robert Owen Memorial Primary School Council, Lanark Grammar School Board and Invigilator and then Chief Invigilator for the SQA Exams, the Chairman of the Management Committee of Clydesdale Citizens Advice Bureau, the Lanimer Committee, and of course her service to the NHS in Law and the wider Lanarkshire area. There are still people who would speak to Anna and the family of her caring, gracious spirit when she dealt with staff and patients alike. Just a couple of years ago Anna was delighted to be made a Burgess of the Royal Burgh of Lanark in recognition of her incredible service to the community of Lanark.

Anna put her heart and soul into everything she did and her philosophy was “if something is worth doing it was worth doing well”. Whenever I asked her to take on a new role or challenge she would always ask ‘do you think I can do it’ as she never, ever wanted to let anyone down.

Anna’s faith was exceptionally important to her. She served as an elder within the congregation of Greyfriars for 20 years, attended the General Assembly in Edinburgh as our representative and served on Lanark Presbytery for 12 years as a Presbytery Elder, Business Convenor and latterly as Moderator in 2015-2016. There cannot be many churches in which Anna has not been, or visited, or assisted in throughout her time in the Presbytery.

Anna was an incredibly strong person. She could hold a meeting together, instil confidence in others and resolve disputes. She had a unique ability to diplomatically resolve heated moments which was a valued asset throughout her work with the NHS and presbytery. I do recall a famous evening when Anna, cool as a cucumber, instructed a ministerial member of Presbytery to ‘sit down’ after a bit of a heated discussion. He did, we were surprised, Anna wasn’t!

Throughout her life Anna always had a positive attitude even during her periods of illness which she bore with great courage. She always had a beautiful smile for everyone and anyone, regardless of who they were or if she had ever met them before - a beautiful lady inside and out. Anna was so stoical and brave throughout her life, never complaining about anything. A repeated phrase was “well we just need to get on with it” and “God only asks us to bear what we can cope with”.

Anna will be missed by her friends in Greyfriars Church, and in our Presbytery. I know she will be missed by her family who we ask God to keep close to him in the weeks and months that lie ahead.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer.

The Presbytery instructed the Clerk to send a copy of the tribute and extract minute to Mr Lumsden.

Correspondence

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

The clerk referred to

- Law Dept – letter on Data Protection changes urging congregations to conduct a data review
- Year of Young Person 2018 – Encouraging all congregations to sign up to the initiative
- Children and Communion Survey from Mission and Discipleship Council seeking responses online
- Prisoners Week – information available from Clerk
- Delegation of General Assembly – Unitary Constitution for Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old Parish Church has been issued to the congregation.

Good News Stories

- David Waters, Kirkmuirhill, spoke of Messy Church that began one year ago and at the last event 36 children accompanied by at least one parent were in attendance.
- Jim Sinclair, Forth, spoke of a ‘Sing a long Sunday’ where people were encouraged to think of memories and a

- Libby Muir, Interim Moderator at Law spoke of Rev Paul Grant, Healthcare Chaplain being appointed as sole Nominee and will preach on 3rd December.
- Louise Mackay, Lanark: St. Nicholas, spoke of the two Lanark ministers attending a wedding fayre in new Lanark Mill Hotel and holding conversations with couples about the fact that ministers are always willing to speak to couples about the possibility of being married by a minister.
- Elspeth McLean, Forth: St. Paul's, spoke of Dunfermline Presbytery organising group supervision for ministers, encouraging ministers to speak to each other in a formal setting and gain vision from others.
- Elizabeth McLachlan, Carluke: Kirkton, spoke of her membership of the Chaplaincy Committee of the Church of Scotland and how chaplains in forces require support from the wider church.

Report of the Business Committee

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

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 Convener the Clerk may write to the committee member, asking that they be more regular in their attendance.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Property Committee

The Report of the Property Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Ewan Easton.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that a citation had been served to the congregation of Carstairs Parish Church and returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Mr Ian Brown, Property Convener from Carstairs expressed his thanks to the Property Committee for their support and encouragement in recent meetings and in supporting the congregation in the renovation.

Parties were removed.

The Moderator invited discussion and questions.

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

The Presbytery:

4. Receive the Report
5. 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.
6. 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.
 7. In respect of Kirkmuirhill and Crossford instruct the outstanding paperwork including extract minutes to be forwarded as soon as possible.
 8. Note that information was provided to Forth St Pauls regarding ramps and that further information may be available from South Lanarkshire Planning Department.
 9. Note that Law have appointed a Health and Safety Co-ordinator.

The Deliverance was approved

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

Joint Report of the Congregational Support and Congregational Development Committees

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener of Congregational Development Committee, Rev Louise Mackay. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

6. Receive the report
7. Note the appointment of a small group to consider the implementation of the Elders as moderators of their own kirk session for Lanark Presbytery.
8. Note the appointment of a small group to consider the Presbytery of Lanark's response to 2018 Year of the Young Person.

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Finance Committee

The Report of the Finance Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Steven Reid. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

3. Receive the report
4. 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.
5. Approve the figures for the 2018 Ministry and Mission allocations (Appendix 1)
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Approve the budget for 2018 (Appendix 2).
9. Thank Mary McGillivray for her work in preparing the budget and for her years of service, friendship and support as Presbytery Treasurer.
10. 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

11. Agree a release of £8250 from the Ministry and Mission Allowance Variance to fund the Local Church Review Process for 2018.

The Deliverance was approved

The Moderator expressed the sincere thanks of Presbytery to Mary McGillivray as she prepared to step down as treasurer after seven years of faithful service.

Report of the World & Community Issues Committee

The Report of the World & Community Issues Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Mike Fucella. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

9. Receive the report.

The Deliverance was approved

Presbytery Review Process

The Presbytery gave consideration to the ongoing review of the work and effectiveness of the Presbytery of Lanark and in groups discussed the following

Thinking about the Presbytery ...

1. What three things do you feel the Presbytery of Lanark do well?
2. What things do you feel the Presbytery of Lanark need to improve upon?

Thinking about the future ...

1. What is your group's vision for the future within the Presbytery of Lanark – how would you like to see church life develop in our area?
2. What do you feel should be the guiding principles in looking to the road ahead?

Thinking about our communities ...

1. How do you expect our communities to change in the years ahead (5 years, 10 years, 20 years)?
2. How do you see our ministry and our mission evolving in response to these changes?

Thinking about our churches ...

1. Thinking of your vision and the changes we might expect in our communities how might these affect the lives of our congregations?
2. In what ways might your congregation (or congregations partnering in an area) develop and explore fresh expressions and pioneer ministries to serve the communities in which you minister in the future?

Responses were collated and are attached as Appendix 4

Intimations

Anne Reid spoke of a Carluke and District Praise the Lord on Sunday 26th November 6:30pm for 7pm in St. John's Church, Carluke.

The Prayer Co-ordinator, through the Clerk encouraged all congregations to participate in the National Day of Prayer for the Church of Scotland on 25th November 2017

Rev Bryan Kerr intimated details of 'A Monks Tale', a comedy show on the reformation coming to Lanark: Greyfriars on 23rd November. Tickets priced £8.50 are available online at tickets.greyfriars.church or from the church office

Adjournment:

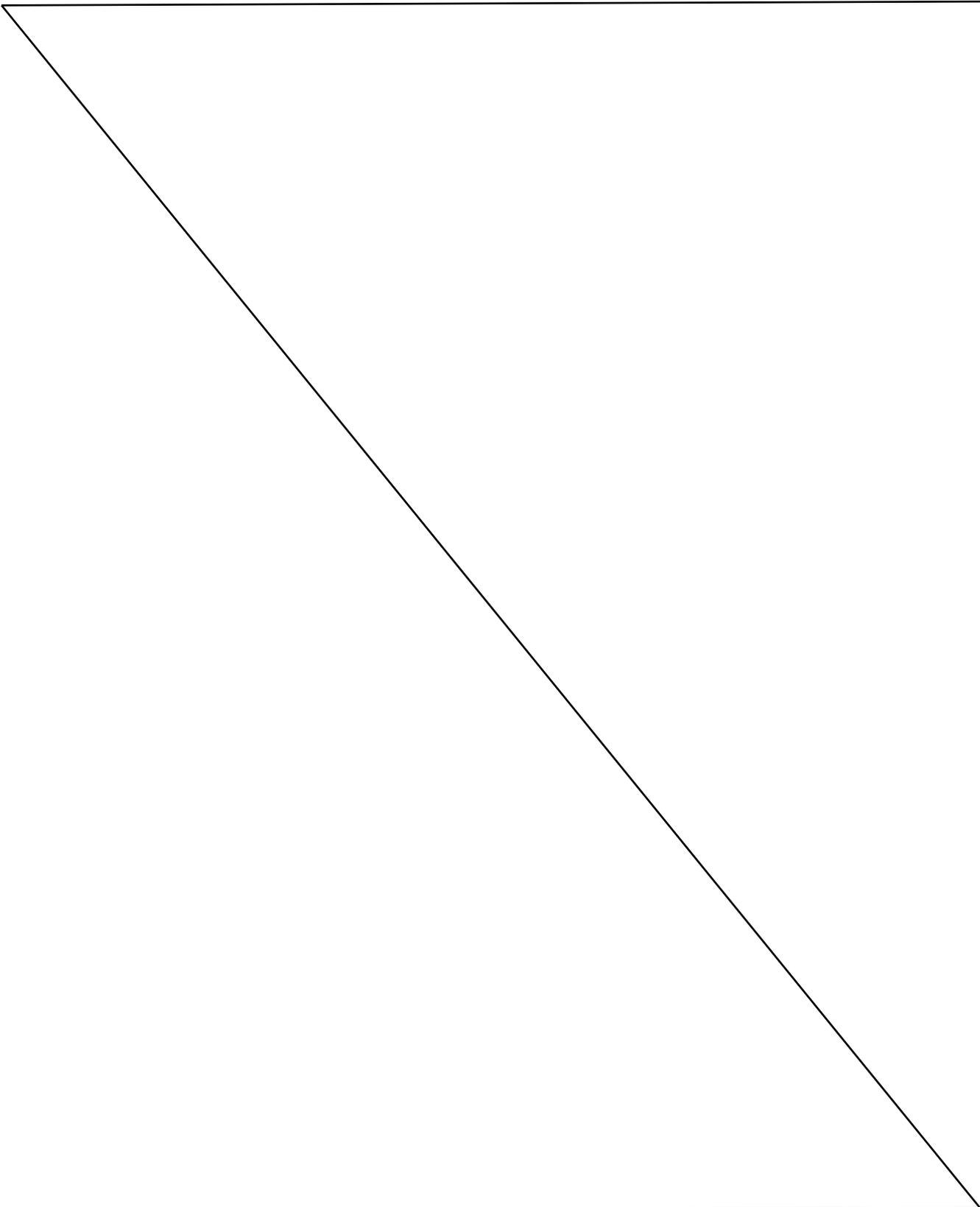
The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 December 2017 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk



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 |

Presbytery Review
Presbytery Discussion, 7th November 2017

Thinking about the Presbytery ...

1. What three things do you feel the Presbytery of Lanark do well?
 - Support during vacancies
 - Caring for congregations and ministers
 - Processes
 - Small enough to care and big enough to cope
 - Communicate well
 - A friendly Presbytery
 - A very supportive Presbytery to congregations
 - Administration – keeping up to date with legislation etc and disseminating it to all congregations
 - We talk to one another – tables have been positive addition rather than rows
 - Small Presbytery helps in making us caring/ supportive of one another. Elders are known (not just ministers) again because small
 - Non ministerial personnel encouraged to take on roles within
 - Quality not quantity
 - Supporting congregations and ministers – a wide range of support; positive changes eg records inspections, pastoral support is positive
 - Invaluable advice – expert help
 - Administration of Presbytery – timeous information to Presbyters
 - Co-operation between convenors and support from Clerk
 - Outside Voices eg St. Andrew's Hospice and '121'
 - Welcoming/ Encouraging
 - Year Book
 - Committees give good reports/ informative

2. What things do you feel the Presbytery of Lanark need to improve upon?
 - Developing Relationships
 - Communicate with congregations
 - Attendance at committees
 - A court of the church that ought to be treated with respect
 - Lack of quality debates
 - Not being invited to take part in Assembly committees
 - Discussion at Presbytery more enthusiastic than happens in reality – does it dilute on filtering down?
 - Do congregations really understand role of Presbytery and their elders (All Legislation)
 - Be more missional
 - Image
 - Congregations don't see the good stuff (see presbytery as a nuisance)
 - Meetings – time imbalance between meetings – planning for planned input
 - New people attending might find formalities difficult – language/ worship/ plain English maybe –guidance to new Presbytery elders.
 - Lack of participation/ debate from members – do we encourage more friendly debate? Have we a fear of argument?

- Deliverances are read quite quickly and we don't always get a chance to really be sure what we are voting for.

Thinking about the future ...

1. What is your group's vision for the future within the Presbytery of Lanark – how would you like to see church life develop in our area?
 - Presbytery to be more efficient – motivating more people in congregations to be involved
 - To have a minister in every charge. The Presbytery must help more. Ministers should be able to sign 'the call' with confidence. Listening for 'the call' should be encouraged. When nothing is happening what is being done to help young ministers who have been invited to a charge by Presbytery and indeed the National Church? Getting over the problem of a career driven/ dependant spouse.
 - Most congregations are ageing so develop the process of engaging the youth in the work/ life of the church. Revolving Door - -people encouraged to come into churches; people encouraged to go out into the community and beyond. Twining of local/ global congregations – sharing information, learning about others, meeting new people, partnerships working together. Churches should be churches which are Christ-led and Christ-like.
 - Presbytery numbers need to reduce nationally as we are too small. If we merged and became a larger Presbytery we might be able to achieve more – not just keep going. Also thinking about longer term – an interfaith umbrella – rainbow umbrella of faith – We are thinking very big. We used to do more big things and we feel much smaller now and we need to reach beyond Presbyterian churches. We are also too big to be the support group we need to be. Maybe we need smaller groups to envision and have the larger groups dealing with the larger elements of the work and have properly qualified and capable individuals at that regional level.
 - Ministers as a smaller proportion within presbytery – the role of the elders. Less Presbyteries – merge with Hamilton (pragmatic vision). Presbytery 'seen' as supporting the church. Does GA & '121' just see the big Presbytery and their resources? One size fits all approach to Presbytery instructions.
2. What do you feel should be the guiding principles in looking to the road ahead?
 - Mission and Discipleship
 - Listen to God
 - Culture of invitation; listening rather than always talking; joyful; promote Christian behaviour/ lifestyle throughout; idea of ministry – promote idea that all the 'people of God' are active members in this not only 'the minister'; look for opportunities to reach out rather than waiting for folk to approach us.
 - Don't do by yourself things that you can join together with others to do better. Also do everything together unless you HAVE to do it on your own.
 - People in congregations are the most important people. Presbytery exists to support them.

Thinking about our communities ...

1. How do you expect our communities to change in the years ahead (5 years, 10 years, 20 years)?
 - Work patterns changing & Family relationships changing.
 - Methods of communication? Technology, emails, texts, twitter, facebook.
 - More elderly.
 - Housing moving out of town centres so therefore they are further away from churches.

- Family units changing.
- More older people living longer.
- More single people.
- More housing – lower house occupancy numbers.
- More mobile – rising car ownership (affect parish territorial “hope”?). Dormitory towns?
- Disappearing sense of community.
- Lack of commitment to membership
- Families have changed – both parents working and they don’t have the time to volunteer to take part in community groups.
- People move to get employment
- We have to be prepared to recruit people to support community activity. We will have to get rid of lots of other huge buildings.
- We are increasingly dependant on retired people to undertake any unpaid work and provide caring to other older people
- Community is in shared interest. Lots of community interest and activity is dropping off. Golf clubs, bowling clubs are in decline – may be related to lack of money to pay for these.
- Technology has killed a lot of social life.
- Anticipating increased social isolation and increasingly young people who have never learned social skills. But we will have loads of retired people and lots of frail older people.
- Concerned about what the church is doing right now first and foremost! We have to learn the language of the world but not conform to the ways of the world. We must stick with the important Biblical principles. People will continue to look for answers - We can be lovingly concerned. A community = people living in isolation, communities are fragmented. A major revival might be just around the corner.

2. How do you see our ministry and our mission evolving in response to these changes?

- Different times/ days for worship.
- Change of buildings (not building centered)
- Back to basics
- Think outside the box – who are our people and where are they? When are they around?
- Go out to people as well as them coming into church. Where? How?
- Still want face to face contact.
- Church as genuine community – counter to society
- The Community Glue
- Redefine church from bums on seats to community involvement
- Promoting relationships with our neighbours.

Thinking about our churches ...

1. Thinking of your vision and the changes we might expect in our communities how might these affect the lives of our congregations?

- Every member a minister
- Parish ministers enabling others to minister
- People willing to step up and do ministry and being allowed and encouraged.
- The national Church should encourage more cohesion and direction between the national church and local congregations.
- On line support for ministers and sharing of resources. A wider spectrum of support and ideas. But not all ‘church of Scotland’ but is Church of Christ.

- Main function of the church is to proclaim the Good News.
- 10:30am Sunday morning may not be the future.
- Working and life patterns will be different.
- Congregation numbers will go down – close and centralise churches
- We need a lot more forms of ministry – perhaps we should also de-formalise, encouraging people towards local mission. Arguable most members also need to be ministering to communities. Debate over OLM'S/ Readers/ Missionaries.
- Providing help and support when and when its most needed can help to plant seeds of a worshipping community (Hungary example with Roma people)

2. In what ways might your congregation (or congregations partnering in an area) develop and explore fresh expressions and pioneer ministries to serve the communities in which you minister in the future?

- Increase and diversify the roles/ people who will minister within the community – youth workers/ readers/ special area remits.
- Hub type ministry – minister + reader + deacon to support wider area not one minister per charge.
- A vision that cares for the existing congregations while developing new work with those outwith the current church.
- Discussion about mission stations/ church planting

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 December 2017 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Alan Grant, Moderator, Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk and with them others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers and 21 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs I Cunningham, N Macdonald and D Young Ministers; A Cochrane, L Cochrane and L Nicol Elders, and K Gardiner, M McGillivray and D Wiseman, Corresponding Members.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated with the addition of a new section 12 'Mission Partner Request' was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 7 November 2017

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2017 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

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

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the father of Lynn Cochrane, Presbytery elder in Upper Clyde recently died and invited Presbytery to keep the family in prayer.

Correspondence

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

The clerk referred to

- Ministries Council – intimating acceptance of a candidate for Full Time Word and Sacrament.
- Symington – seeking clarification on variance from Ministry and Mission 2018
- Abernethy Trust – offering special rates for youth groups to visit their centres during 2018
- Covenant Fellowship Scotland – offering a response to the GA 2017
- Learn Project – details of an elders conference in April 2018
- Ministries Council – Intimation of Presbytery Planning Day Conference on 18th January 2018
- Safeguarding Service – intimation of a review of the service in 2018.

Good News Stories

- Liz Bradley, Carluke: St. Andrew's spoke of the drop in café for those with memory facilities that recently celebrated its fifth birthday with a tea party. More people continue to come along and a garden area has been cleared to allow a gardening programme and Playlist for Life continues to grow and develop.
- Anne Reid, Carluke: St. John's spoke of the Praise the Lord event that took place recently in St. John's with Rev Louise Mackay speaking, four choirs participating and a full church.
- Elizabeth McLachlan, Carluke: Kirkton, spoke of the Kirkton Coffee Morning has celebrated its 25th anniversary and has served over 34,000 cups of coffee, as well as Messy Church that has been held once a month for the last year.
- Maudeen MacDougall, Carnwath and Carstairs have been accepted to be a part of a pilot of the culture of invitation project of the Church of Scotland.

Report of the Business Committee

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

The Presbytery:

6. Receive the report.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 4(d) to remove the word 'instruct' and replace with 'recommend'.

The Deliverance as amended was approved

Report of the Congregational Development Committee

The Report of the Congregational Development Committee was presented by the Convener, Rev Louise Mackay. It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

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

The Deliverance was approved

Report of the Congregational Support Committee

The Report of the Congregational Support Committee was presented by the Convener, Mr Scott Paget. It was moved and seconded:

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.

The Deliverance was approved

Mission Partner Request

The Clerk informed Presbytery that World Mission Council has been in contact to invite the Presbytery of Lanark to appoint Rev Dr John McCulloch as a new Mission Partner for the Presbytery. John, his wife and children are going to the Israel and the occupied Palestinian Territory where John will be minister of St. Andrew's, Jerusalem. The Presbytery of Lanark has strong links with this person and place. Dr McCulloch is a former pupil of Lesmahagow High School and therefore feels links with this Presbytery, and his home Presbytery of Argyll would be beneficial in his work, and to our congregations. However, we also remember that the Depute Clerk, Rev George Shand, was minister in St. Andrew's Jerusalem prior to taking up his role in the Tinto Parishes. Dr McCulloch will be moving overseas in early March and, should the Presbytery accept this appointment, will visit the Presbytery in February 2018 to discuss how Presbytery begin long term partnership working. World Mission Council will write to all congregations within the bounds to invite them to 'opt in' to having Dr McCulloch as a mission Partner. Dr McCulloch would also conduct a 10 day deputation to the Presbytery in 2020.

It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

12. Receive the report
13. Thank the World Mission Council for the offer of a new Mission Partner and agree to accept the offer of Rev Dr John McCulloch and his family as mission partners to the Presbytery of Lanark during his time in Israel and the occupied Palestinian Territory.
14. Urge all Kirk Sessions to prayerfully consider the request from World Mission Council to partner with Rev Dr John McCulloch in Israel and the occupied Palestinian Territory when it arrives in due course, and see the opportunity of a new mission partner as a great learning opportunity for the congregation.

The Deliverance was approved

Review of the structure of the Presbytery of Lanark

The Report on the Review of the Structure of the Presbytery of Lanark (appendix 1) was presented by the Business Convener, Mr Bill Love. It was moved and seconded:

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.

Members of Presbytery were invited, in small groups, to discuss the proposals

The Deliverance was approved

Intimations

There were no intimations made.

Adjournment:

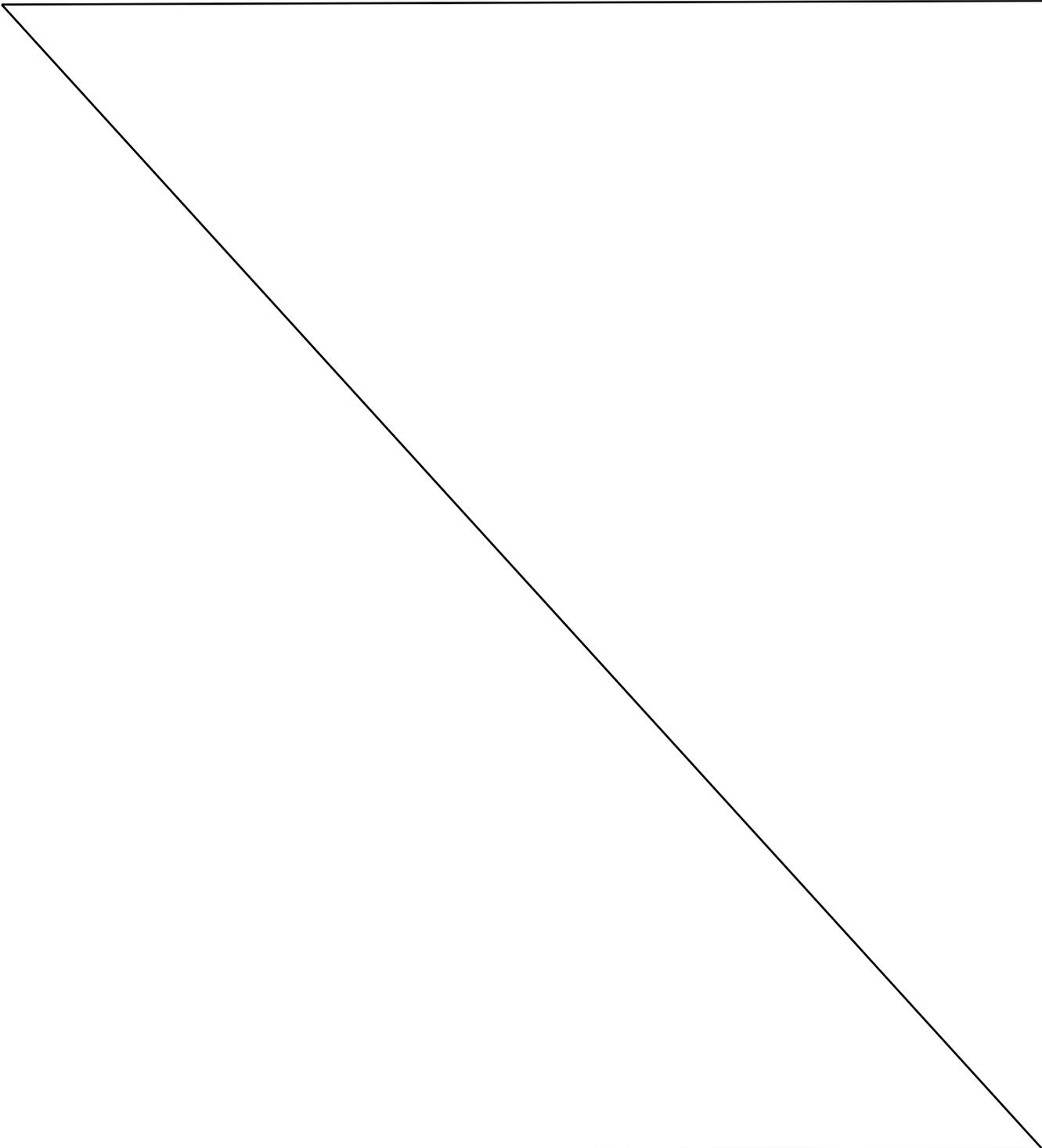
The Presbytery adjourned to meet, subject to the call to Rev Paul Grant being issued and sustained, pro re nata on Tuesday 16 January 2018 at 6:45pm for the induction of Rev Paul Grant in Law Parish Church and then for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 6 February 2018 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church,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

Closure

The Moderator closed the meeting by offering a prayer of blessing.

Moderator

Clerk



Review of the structure of the Presbytery of Lanark

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 -

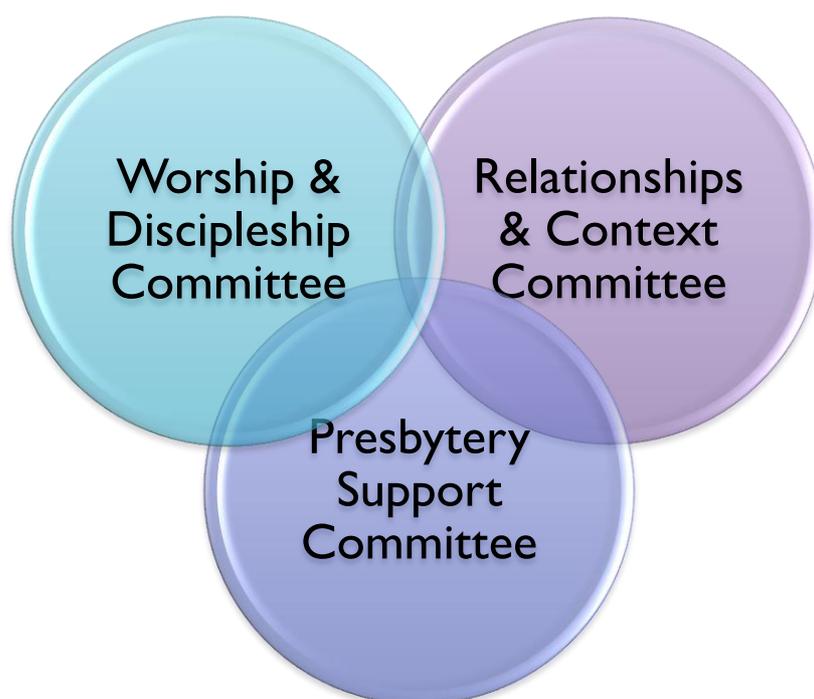
- Confident people serving flourishing communities,
- Thriving intergenerational churches,
- Growing congregations,
- Well-supported ministry teams,
- Fewer, but better-equipped spaces,
- Sustainable financial planning (incl. balanced budgets),
- People engaged with local and global concerns,
- Interdependence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