

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 February 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Jim Watt, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 11 Ministers, 17 Elders and 8 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev E Clelland, J Cutler and D Young Ministers; H Chekansky, A McPhee and A Reid, Elders; 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 was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 6 November 2018 & 4 December 2018

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2018 and 4 December 2018 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The clerk the Presbytery that the following decisions had been taken under delegated powers.

Property - Kirkmuirhill Manse (12th December)

The Presbytery:

1. subject to the agreement of the General Trustees, agree to the sale of the field adjacent to Kirkmuirhill Parish Church, subject to successful planning application, for a sum of £135,000 recognizing this sum is less than market value but noting the developer is willing to grant access to the old Manse from a new road to be built from Carlisle Road and undertake the planning process.
2. agree to the purchase of 82 Vere Road, Kirkmuirhill as the new Manse of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and authorise the General Trustees, in consultation with the Congregational Board of Kirkmuirhill to make appropriate offers on the property, noting that the property is on the market for offers over £175,000
3. Instruct the titles for a new Manse in Kirkmuirhill to be vested in the General Trustees
4. Urge the General Trustees to make available a short term loan for the purchase a new Manse for Kirkmuirhill in recognition of the prospective sale of old Manse and adjacent field.

Vacancy Procedure Committee (Kirkmuirhill) (5th January 2019)

The Presbytery, having received all relevant papers relating to the vacancy in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church including:

- voting papers and a signed declaration of election result whereby 99 members voted for and 1 voted against electing Mr Andrew Rooney as minister of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church;
- a call to Mr Andrew Rooney subscribed by 83 members of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church as listed on the electoral register with 15 signing a paper of concurrence

agrees that, in respect of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), the call to Mr Andrew Rooney to the congregation of Kirkmuirhill Parish Church be sustained, with the ordination and induction of the said Mr Andrew Rooney to take place on date to be determined when an entry date for the new manse has been agreed by all parties.

Vacancy Procedure Committee (Carnwath linked with Carstairs) (8th January 2019)

The Presbytery, in respect of Carnwath linked with Carstairs, and in terms of Act VIII, 2003 (as amended), agree to

1. Release Rev Maudeen MacDougall from the charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs to translate to Scone and St Martin's from a date to yet be determined and instruct her to await the instructions of the Presbytery of Perth.
2. Appoint Rev Jim Cutler as Interim Moderator in the charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs from the date of translation of Rev Maudeen MacDougall and with immediate effect for vacancy business.
3. Appoint Rev Elspeth MacLean (Convenor), Mr Robert Carson (replaced by Mr Scott Paget when Mr Carson is out of the country) and Mr Ian Ivison as Advisory Committee for Carnwath linked with Carstairs.
4. Grant permission to the charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs to call a minister on the basis of unrestricted tenure in accordance with the agreed Presbytery Plan of the Presbytery of Lanark.
5. That a Nominating Committee of nine people for the charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs be appointed with five people from Carstairs and four from Carnwath.

Property – Carnwath linked with Carstairs (23rd January 2019)

The Presbytery grant permission to Carnwath linked with Carstairs to let out the manse of the charge when it becomes vacant with all contracts being entered into through the Law Department of the Church of Scotland.

Vacancy Procedure Committee (Kirkmuirhill) (31st January 2019)

The Presbytery, in respect of the vacancy at Kirkmuirhill, appoint Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 7pm for the Ordination and Induction of Mr Andrew Rooney to be the minister of the charge.

Decisions taken under delegated powers (Christmas Break)

The clerk the Presbytery that the following decisions had been taken under delegated powers (Christmas Break).

Presbytery Retreat (3rd February 2019)

The Presbytery, in respect of the Presbytery Retreat to be held on 2nd March 2019, agree to pay the £50 donation to the Ignatian centre and provide subsidy for a maximum of 10 spaces at a total cost of £150.

Roll of Presbytery

Rev William (Bill) Buchan DipTheol BD (formerly Kilwinning: Abbey) – having requested to transfer membership as a Minister of Word and Sacrament (Category R) from the Presbytery of Perth to the Presbytery of Lanark and having handed to the Clerk a practising certificate, Rev Bill Buchan re-affirmed his ordination vows, signed the formula and was duly welcomed to the Presbytery of Lanark by the Moderator, Presbytery Clerk, Depute Clerk and Presbytery Support Convener.

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

David Waters, Kirkmuirhill, spoke of a conversation with an individual who expressed great appreciation for the ministry of Bill Love, Reader, in The Douglas Valley Church.

Elijah Obinna, Carlisle: St. John's, spoke of the Christmas Day lunch for those who would otherwise have been on their own where 48 meals were served by volunteers from a number of congregation including the Clerk to the Presbytery of Hamilton.

Farewell to Rev Maudeen MacDougall

The Moderator invited representatives of the two churches to pay tribute to Miss MacDougall's ministry. Betty McLeod, Carnwath, spoke of the variety of worship that had been experienced and led including Nite Kirk. Mrs McLeod spoke warmly of the journey minister and congregation have undertaken over the last three years. Mabel Morris, Carstairs, spoke of an eventful three years where new initiatives have been initiated and appreciated, including Open the Book in the schools. Mrs Morris spoke of the restarting of initiatives in nursing homes and committees. Both representatives spoke warmly of the three years of ministry that Miss MacDougall has undertaken within the churches and community.

The Moderator invited Rev George Shand to share thoughts on Miss MacDougall's ministry. Mr Shand spoke of many people who have spoken warmly of Miss MacDougall's pastoral skills as well as the many ways she has supported her congregation and colleagues.

The Moderator invited Miss MacDougall to respond. Miss MacDougall thanked Presbytery for the support and friendship she has received from members over three years of ministry that have been enjoyable and sometimes challenging. Miss MacDougall thanked those who have journeyed with her in the parishes and sought to develop new ideas and patterns of mission.

The Moderator assured Miss MacDougall of the prayers of Presbytery as she translated to Scone and St. Martin's in the Presbytery of Perth.

Upper Clyde Local Church Review

The Moderator called for the report of the Local Church Review of Upper Clyde which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Presbytery Support Committee Convener. Mr Paget outlined the process and asked the Moderator to invite representatives of the charge to present some findings from their action plan.

Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald spoke on behalf of the congregation. Dr Macdonald spoke of the engagement with the LCR process and highlighted the following aspects of the newly adopted action plan:

- Removing Isolation – with limited public transport the church is exploring possibility of church community bus to collect people from some of the villages around the parish ... to come to church and to act as a service to the parish for other matters. It is hoped that this initiative might break down transport issues, isolation and allow the community to see the church as a welcoming church.
- Stewardship recruitment drive – to look at how people can get involved in the life of the church and share their talents.
- Blether and biscuits – grew out of LCR process to listen to villages. The Kirk Session are aiming for an annual conversation with the communities they serve.
- Interactive All Age events – bringing families together for activities and worship with an initial trial at Leadhills.
- Redevelopment of Community Pop Up Choir – following death of one of the leaders the congregation and community now feel ready to start looking at beginning that work again. The choir will be for community singing but also singing for special services with a focus on singing for enjoyment.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. Commend the congregation of Upper Clyde for their engagement in the Local Church Review Process.
3. Note the action plan that has been devised for the charge of Upper Clyde and the final report is contained in Appendix I.
4. Commend the minister, Kirk Session and congregation of Upper Clyde to the prayers of Presbytery.

Kirkton LCR (Val MacSween)

The Moderator called for the report of the Local Church Review of Carluke: Kirkton which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Presbytery Support Committee Convener. Mr Paget outlined the process and asked the Moderator to invite representatives of the charge to present some findings from their action plan.

Mr Val MacSween spoke on behalf of the congregation. Mrs MacSween spoke of the engagement with the LCR process and when the Kirk Session were asked what was important within the life of the church, the elders

came up with 73 proposals. Seven ministry teams were allocated the proposals to work on in order that an action plan could be developed. The following aspects of the plan were highlighted:

It was acknowledged that some of the plans were already in place and being developed.

- Visitation to members changed a few years ago and the congregational survey highlighted it wasn't working as well as it might. The Kirk Session made changes to ensure more visits carried out.
- The Kirk Session are beginning to make changes slowly to traditional Sunday worship and involve the young people in the church which is being well received. Desire for young people to be more involved in worship and young people reading scripture every week, welcoming on the door, uplifting offering.
- Coffee Shop links – The Kirk Session are developing Café church once a month – young person's café church also started once a month.
- The Kirk Session are looking at how they welcome, how they deepen relationships, notice people who are missing or need support.
- Web presence being developed
- Lenten studies, passion play during Holy Week, starting prayer group, house group rejuvenation, social events within church and within community are all being worked on.
- There is a recognition that the congregation need to be more involved and more visible in community.
- Schools work – the Kirk Session are investigating ways to increase work, Messy Church with the Children and Youth worker.
- The Kirk Session are also working out how property is used and whether it could be used more effectively.

Mrs MacSween commented that enthusiasm for development and change is huge within the congregation and that the Kirk Session appreciate knowing that the support of Presbytery is evident. In closing, the Kirk Session of Carluke: Kirkton expressed a willingness to share ideas and resources with other churches on aspects of mission and congregational life.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. Commend the congregation of Carluke: Kirkton for their engagement in the Local Church Review Process.
3. Note the action plan that has been devised for the charge of Carluke: Kirkton and the final report is contained in Appendix 2.
4. Commend the minister, Kirk Session and congregation of Carluke: Kirkton to the prayers of Presbytery.

Thanks from the two congregations were expressed to the Depute Presbytery Clerk for his guidance throughout the process as well as his pastoral support to those involved.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. Note that the charges of Biggar lw Black Mount, Lanark: St. Nicholas, Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Law must provide, no later than 18th February 2019, the name of the elder they wish Presbytery to commission to the General Assembly.
3. Thank the Rev. Elspeth MacLean for her term as convener of the Worship and Discipleship Committee.

4. Appoint the Rev. Louise Mackay as convener of the Worship and Discipleship committee with effect from 6th March 2019
5. Appoint Bill Love as Convener of the Presbytery Complaints Committee with immediate effect.
6. Instruct all Kirk Sessions and Congregational Boards to ensure that treasurers are aware that Presbytery dues must be paid in the year in which Presbytery call for them and not held over until the following financial year.
7. Note that no congregation has submitted a request seeking dispensation from paying 2019 Ministry and Mission Contributions by Standing Order.
8. Agree to designate the property at 82 Vere Road, Kirkmuirhill as the manse of Kirkmuirhill
9. Note the decision of Douglas Valley church's kirk session to see guardianship as a positive way forward and assure theme of presbytery's prayers and support.
10. Note that a positive meeting took place with the General Trustees in respect of the buildings in Biggar and that the outcome was that plans for work on the church building, particularly in respect of heating, should be an urgent priority for the Kirk Session
11. Note the date of ordination and induction of Mr Andrew Rooney to Kirkmuirhill has been set for 12th March 2019 with the Moderator to conduct worship and give the charges and Rev Louise Mackay to preach.

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Relationship and Context Committee which was given in by the Rev. Dr Elijah Obinna, Convener. Dr Obinna expressed his appreciation of those who had come along to the Mission Conference and made it such a success. Thanks were expressed to the Moderator for chairing the meeting and to the committee for their work in ensuring the conference worked so well.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.

The Context of Lanark Presbytery

The Moderator invited the Presbytery Clerk to share a presentation on the context of the Presbytery that had been delivered to the recent Mission Conference. This presentation highlighted a number of statistics within the congregational returns which showed a decline of 47% of church members in the previous 18 years. The Clerk offered to make the presentation available to anyone who would find it useful to think about the changing context.

Intimations

The Presbytery Retreat Day would be held on 2 March 2019 at Braehead House. Arrangements and booking process were highlighted on a poster and emailed to all congregations.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 5 March 2019 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

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

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1

Local Church Review Report of Visiting Team

Name of Congregation: UPPER CLYDE PARISH CHURCH

Names of Visiting Team Members: Rev. Maudeen MacDougall, Hugh Stewart

Congregational Story

What has been since 2013 one congregation with a parish that spans 170 square miles was, sixty years ago, nine churches in nine villages and surrounding. The villages remain, and the challenges to ministry are many – disconnection, poor transport links, the changing nature of community and the additional time needed to do everything, because of travelling distances.

A small creative and generous congregation seek to rise to the task of being church in such a dispersed and changing environment. The congregation has a small core group of dedicated Elders.

Congregational Leadership

Rev. Nikki Macdonald has been in post since October 2014. This is her first parish, and she has established strong working relationships within the church and many of the communities, and particularly good working relationships with the 5 local primary schools (ranging between 13 and 35 pupils each).

Unfortunately, during the period of the Local Church Review a number of key officers died, and individual and community grief being a significant issue over the end of 2017 and into early 2018. Since then it has been very difficult to fill key positions within the Kirk Session – so difficult in fact that Presbytery has introduced 4 Assessor Elders with skill and experience from other congregations in the Presbytery.

The Local Church Review process was therefore, at times, necessarily held up because of lack of time and available human resources. However, the congregational workshops built on a very useful Kirk Session away day which had been held early in 2017 and provided a very valuable context for LCR.

Like many small rural congregations of the Church of Scotland, 'maintaining what we currently have' is always a matter of concern, but there is also a continual enthusiasm for reaching out into the different communities that the church has physically retreated from over these last years. Resources for this, however, are rather thin.

The 'Blether and Biscuits' initiative during the LCR did reveal a positive response within some communities for the Church reaching out.

Congregational Life

Worship is creative and dynamic, and attractive, and takes account of the diversity of traditions that congregation members originate from. Links with the school also connect creatively with the church/congregation at major festivals.

The challenge for the congregation always remains 'being church' in and for all the different communities.

It is hard to see how the congregation can continue to sustain a model of church life where it appears to be only the Minister who is the link between differing communities. It is also hard to see how the congregation can continue to engage in effective mission without partnership and support.

Congregation & Community

The congregation is 'the church' in all these communities. The congregation is ecumenical in make-up as reflects the local worshipping community. There are no other churches or church meetings within the parish.

The congregation is primarily elderly and as such has deep links with some long-standing aspects of community, but less links with the younger more mobile commuter community which is less engaged locally. There appear to be significant gaps, in most of the smaller communities, in community leadership and therefore in community planning.

Recommendations for Action and Support

During the period of Local Church Review, Presbytery attached four Assessor Elders to the Kirk Session to help UCPC through a difficult period following the death of some key elders

Partnerships out-with the parish should be encouraged, and the congregation should also be encouraged to make use of the presbytery's variance fund for outreach activities.

The next three years are perhaps crucial years not only for the broader direction of the whole Church of Scotland but also for how we can best be church, and experiment, in areas such as Upper Clyde with small dispersed communities.

Timetable for subsequent superintendence and congregational action

LCR will keep engaged with the Minister and Kirk Session so that 1 year and 3 year reviews can happen at times that are appropriate and helpful to the congregation.

Assessor Elders will, of course, report back to Presbytery on the ongoing needs of the congregation.

Date report submitted to Kirk Session

Any outstanding areas of disagreement between Kirk Session and Visiting Team?

None

A copy of the congregational action plan expressing a vision of the local church for its mission over at least the next five years must be submitted with this report.

WD3 - Version1 October 2018

Appendix 2

Local Church Review Report of Visiting Team

Name of Congregation: Kirkton Parish Church, Carluke

Names of Visiting Team Members: Rev Elspeth MacLean and Helen Chekansky

Congregational Story

Carluk Kirkton have been an active well-organised church for many years and are part of the Carluk parish grouping. Their minister Rev Iain Cunningham completed his years as Convenor of World Mission 8 months after this Review began.

Congregational Leadership

In conversation with Iain Cunningham it was clear that he is fully aware that his absence due to World Mission work has had an impact on the church, and he was looking forward to being back in the parish and picking up the reins again. Forward planning has been an important part of the church's life over a number of years. Iain was very honest about the financial situation of the church, which received a substantial bequest making it look very well off, but whose regular givings only just cover the costs of the ministry.

Congregational Life

The congregational life of Kirkton is impressive and their attention to detail can be seen in the attached five year plan. Iain's absence had an impact, but the presence of Rev Susan Cowell (locum), Lesley Ewing (Youth worker) and for a period of time Lorna MacDougall (Probationer) meant that a good team was in place. The forward planning which is detailed in the attached plan is good, although we did have some concerns that a large number of items were all to be tackled in the first year. However, we understand that it now becomes the responsibility of the various working groups to take this on board and produce more realistic timescales. We also were pleased to see that a Stewardship campaign is planned to improve and maintain finances.

Congregation & Community

Kirkton is part of Carluk parish grouping and it is hoped that this will be able to continue the good joint work done in the past. Kirkton has a very good presence in the community, with strong links to four schools, as well as sheltered housing complex and the Bakehouse Cafe.

Recommendations for Action and Support

The minister and kirk session have worked diligently to produce a comprehensive action plan taking them forward in all areas in the next five years.

Timetable for subsequent superintendence and congregational action

Kirkton have regular annual reviews programmed in and should be commended by Presbytery for their very thorough attention to all their planning. As with all congregations we assure Kirkton Kirk Session that Presbytery offer their full support if this is required at any time.

The Local Church Review team have timetabled a return meeting with all congregations in year 1 and year 3. Because the congregation had robust planning systems, their link with the LCR was limited to initial meetings and the origination and analysis of an extensive congregational survey. The congregation are to be commended on their diligent approach towards this survey, and their use of the feedback in their planning. Otherwise they did not perceive any 'value added' from the LCR Team at this time.

However, as part of the LCR process is also about how congregations can contribute to/ require support from Presbytery, and this was not addressed, this is something the LCR Team will take up at their Year 1 visit (which can coincide, perhaps, with the congregation's annual review).

Date report submitted to Kirk Session

13th November 2018

Any outstanding areas of disagreement between Kirk Session and Visiting Team?

The only disagreement was the timing of this local church review, which failed initially to consider the minister's National Church commitments.

A copy of the congregational action plan expressing a vision of the local church for its mission over at least the next five years must be submitted with this report.

WD3 - *Version1 October 2018*

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 March 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Jim Watt, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 8 Ministers, 17 Elders and 1 Corresponding Member.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev E Clelland, H Jamieson, N Macdonald, G Shand and D Young Ministers; S Crofton and R Mitchell, Elders; K Gardiner, and M McGillivray 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 was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 5 February 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2019 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The clerk the Presbytery that no decisions had been taken under delegated powers.

Roll of Presbytery

Translation of Rev Maudeen MacDougall – The Clerk informed Presbytery that he had received certification for the Presbytery of Perth of the translation of Miss MacDougall to the pastoral charge of Scone and St Martins on 27 February 2019.

Presbytery Elder (Lanark: Greyfriars) – Following the resignation of Mrs Sue Crofton as representative elder the Kirk Session of Lanark: Greyfriars have appointed Mr Ross Hyslop to the role. This appointment was noted by 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

Mabel Morris (Carstairs) spoke to the funding that had been received from Heritage Lottery Fund for the refurbishment of Carstairs Parish Church.

Elizabeth Bradley (Carluke: St. Andrew's) spoke to the Drop In service and running a healthy walk group where seven volunteers have already been trained to lead health walks.

Bryan Kerr (Lanark: Greyfriars) spoke to the use of technology in worship and specifically the development of links with Beechgrove Nursing home who join worship via the web each Sunday as well as the plans to move worship to Beechgrove later in March.

Elsbeth MacLean (Forth: St. Paul's) spoke to the Mainly Music Toddler Group which has been running for one year and now has 16 families regularly attending.

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee which was given in by the Rev. Elspeth MacLean, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report.

2. Note the proposed prayer resources event on Wednesday 15 May 2019 and encourage congregations to participate
3. Encourage Kirk Sessions to reflect and report back at June meeting of Presbytery of ways in which the Worship and Discipleship Committee can resource and equip congregations

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved and seconded

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. In respect of the General Assembly
 - a. Appoint Mike Fucella (Biggar lw Black Mount), Paul Grant (Law) Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Louise MacKay (Lanark: St. Nicholas) and George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk) as ministerial commissioners to the General Assembly of 2019
 - b. Appoint Anna Aitken (Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old), Alan Grant (Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old), Janette Mason (Law), Robin Murdoch (Lanark: St. Nicholas) and Cameron Sutherland (Biggar) as elder commissioners to the General Assembly of 2019.
 - c. Note that a briefing meeting for all commissioners will be held on 2nd May at 7pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark
3. Note that the annual attestation of records will take place on Tuesday 30th April in Greyfriars Church and that Session Clerks & Clerks to Financial Courts, Roll Keepers, Safeguarding Co-ordinators and Property Conveners are urged to attend in person.
4. Remind ministers that mileage log books covering the period 1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019 must be presented to the Clerk and Depute Clerk on Tuesday 30th April 2019 at the attestation of records.
5. Grant permission to Lanark: Greyfriars to move the service of worship at 11am on Sunday 17th March 2019 from the church to Beechgrove Care Home, Lanark, to offer a sense of community and lessen isolation within the residents.
6. Note that the Presbytery will be undertaking the pilot delivery of the new Safeguarding Panel Training developed by the Safeguarding Service.
7. In respect of the Annual Accounts
 - a. Approve the annual report and accounts for the Presbytery of Lanark for year ended 31 December 2018.
 - b. Thank Mary McGillivray, Helen Paget and the Clerk for their work in preparing the accounts and annual report.
8. In respect of the Accounting processes of Presbytery
 - a. Note the changes to accounting processes for the Presbytery.
 - b. Agree to amend the signatories on the bank account operated by and in the name of the Presbytery of Lanark to Rev. Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), John Lumsden (Depute Honorary Treasurer) Scott Paget (Presbytery Support Convener), Rev. George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk) and Mary McGillivray (Honorary Treasurer) with any two signatories being required to sign cheques and instructions.
9. In respect of the Ministry and Mission Discretionary Allowance
 - a. Approve an award of £4,000 to Carlisle: St. Andrews for the development of a Heart for Art project on the understanding that learning, resources and expertise be shared with other congregations and that there is no expectation of future funding in coming years.
 - b. Approve an award of £1,200 to Lanark: Greyfriars for the development of the Clearspace Movie Project Fresh Expression in line with the agreed aims and objectives submitted with the application.
 - c. Approve an award of £1,400 to Lanark: Greyfriars for the development of the Wild Church Fresh Expression in line with the agreed aims and objectives submitted with the application.
10. In respect of Local Church Reviews

- a. Appoint the following visitation teams for 2019
 - i. Forth St. Paul's: Rev. Elijah Obinna (leader), Anne Cochrane (& Catch the Light)
 - ii. Crossford l/w Kirkfieldbank: Rev Paul Grant (leader), Anne Reid (& Catch the Light)
 - iii. Lanark St. Nicholas: Rev. Mike Fucella (leader), Liz Bradley (& Catch the Light)
 - iv. Kirkmuirhill: Rev. Helen Jamieson (leader) (& Catch the Light).
 - b. Grant powers to the Presbytery Support Committee to appoint an extra member for Crossford l/w Kirkfieldbank and Kirkmuirhill visitation teams, as well as powers to replace team members should that become necessary for any reason.
11. Urge all congregations to hold a retiring collection to support the candidates for Ministry of Word and Sacrament within the Presbytery, with such a collection to be intimated and uplifted following the Sunday worship on a Sunday before 30th April 2019.

The convener moved an amendment to the deliverance with a new section 12.

12. In respect of Carstairs Parish Church
- a. Approve that renovation and refurbishment works previously agreed can now commence due to finance being in place.
 - b. Grant permission to access £56,454.38 of capital held in the Consolidated Fabric Fund from the sale of the Junction Church to assist with the funding of the project.
 - c. Support an application to the General Trustees for grant aid to assist with any shortfall in project costs when decisions from funding bodies have been received.
 - d. Grant approval for the Kirk Session to alter the venue for worship from the church to another suitable community venue if the buildings works necessitate such a decision.
 - e. Offer warm congratulations to the Kirk Session and Congregational Board for their dedication and effort in ensuring the church building in Carstairs will be an asset for the church and community for generations to come.

The amendment was seconded and approved.

The deliverance as amended was approved.

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Relationship and Context Committee which was given in by the Rev. Dr Elijah Obinna, Convener Convener.

It was moved and seconded-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report.
2. Note that the committee intend to explore the possibility of the Presbytery of Lanark twinning with another Presbytery in the World Church.
3. Note that the Committee intend to write to attendees at the Resourcing Mission Conference to ask how they are taking forward the outcomes from the day in their own congregations.
4. Agree to develop a network within Presbytery of Local Mission activities, including:
 - a. Training and shadowing opportunities for others within Presbytery wanting to develop local projects.
 - b. A "notice board" detailing any volunteer or support requirements.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 2 to add at the end " , and explore the current twinning relationship with the Presbytery of East Soul PROK."

The deliverance as amended was approved.

Reflections from Iain Cunningham on World Mission Convener

The Moderator invited Mr Cunningham to share his reflections of his four year terms of Convener of the World Mission Council. The Presbytery was pleased to hear of the work of the Council and in particular the

commitment of Mr Cunningham during his term of office. Following a very engaging and informative photo talk the Presbytery thanked Mr Cunningham for his reflections and his time as Convener.

Preparation for visit of Moderator of the General Assembly

The Presbytery were invited to give input to the forthcoming visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland. Each table were invited to think of projects and places the Moderator might visit.

Intimations

The intimations were printed in the papers for members of presbytery to share.

Adjournment:

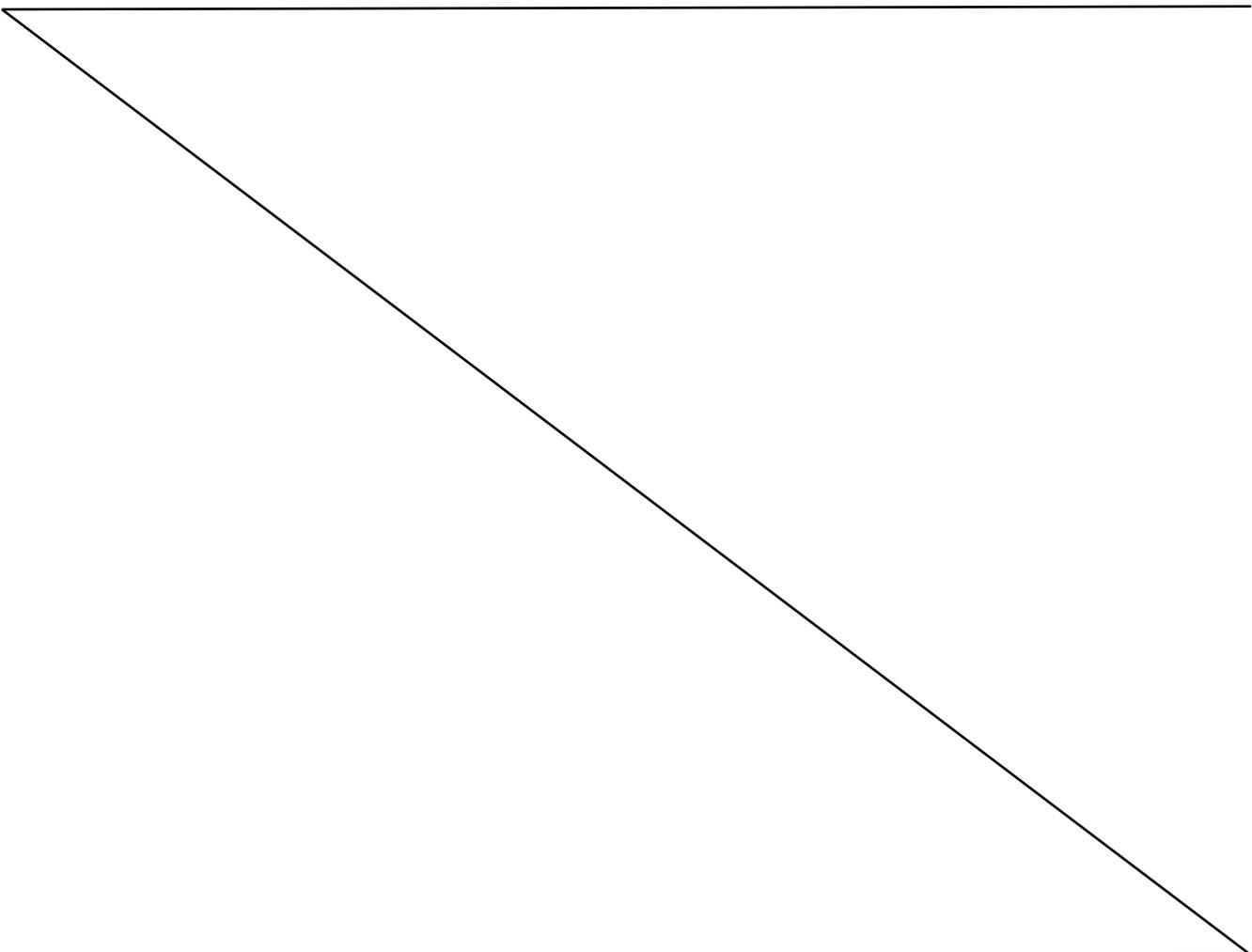
The Presbytery adjourned to meet for the Ordination and Induction of Mr Andrew David Rooney as minister of the Parish of Kirkmuirhill on Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 6:45pm in Kirkmuirhill Parish Church and thereafter for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 7 May 2019 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

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

Moderator

Clerk



Lanark, on Tuesday 7 May 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Jim Watt, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 14 Ministers, 14 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and 10 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev E Clelland and D Young Ministers; A Cochrane, A Grant, W Love, A Reid and J Sinclair, Elders; C Deerin, M McGillivray and G Sneddon, Corresponding Members.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting especially those from the cited congregations of Douglas Valley, Tinto Parishes & Upper Clyde as well as commissioners to General Assembly.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved with the amendment of moving item 5, Decisions taken under delegated powers to the end of the meeting.

Minutes of meeting on 5 March 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5 March 2019 were held as read and approved.

Roll of Presbytery

Welcome to Rev Andrew Rooney – The Moderator presented Mr Rooney with a book to mark his first meeting of presbytery and offered a prayer of blessing.

The Clerk informed Presbytery of the death of the wife of Presbytery Elder, Jim Sinclair, Marilyn Sinclair and the silver wedding of Additional Elder Bill Love and his wife Janette. Card were sent and prayers were assured.

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

The following Good News Stories were shared

Commissioning of General Assembly Commissioners

The Moderator invited the Commissioners to the forthcoming General Assembly to stand and offered a prayer of commissioning for their attendance at General Assembly.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee (Douglas Valley)

The Rev Helen Jamieson took the chair as Moderator due to the Moderator being a member of a cited congregation.

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that a citations had been served to the congregations of Douglas Valley, Cairngryffe, Libberton & Quothquan, Symington and Upper Clyde and had been returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

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

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of the Presbytery Plan
 - a. Commend the Kirk Session of Douglas Valley Church for their vision and courage in suggesting a change in ministry status
 - b. Following approaches made by the congregation, agree to amend the Presbytery Plan to move Douglas Valley into Guardianship
 - c. Note the intention of Presbytery to ensure that a new MDS post be created within the southern end of Presbytery to support ministry and community.
 - d. Instruct the Presbytery Support Committee to begin discussions with the charges of Douglas Valley, Tinto Parishes and Upper Clyde into entering into a collaborative form of hub style ministry whilst considering the potential role for an MDS post within the area and report back to a future Presbytery meeting.
 - e. Suspend the Presbytery Plan for the congregations and charges of Douglas Valley, Tinto Parishes and Upper Clyde.

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

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the process was immediately sisted until concurrence is heard from the Ministries Council.

The Moderator, Mr Jim Watt assumed the chair.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. Note with regret that there were no applications for a youth delegate to the General Assembly by the extended closing date.
3. In respect of Congregational Records
 - a. Note that records of congregations were inspected and attested by the committee and generally found to be in order.
 - b. Encourage all record keepers to pay consider the points raised with them at the inspection for future good practice
 - c. Thank all who keep records on behalf of congregations for their diligence and willingness.
4. Note that travel log books of ministers have been inspected and attested and found to be in order.
5. Ministers are reminded of the importance of ensuring they make regular claims for reimbursement of travel expenses.
6. In respect of Ministry & Mission Discretionary Fund Applications
 - a. Grant an award of £2,000 to Carluke: St. John's towards the training of new listeners in the Carluke Listeners Project
 - b. Agree that a sum of £14,000 be made available for grants from the Ministry and Mission Discretionary Fund for the second application window of 2019 in line with the guidelines approved in June 2018

7. Appoint the Reverend George Shand as Moderator Designate of the Presbytery of Lanark for session 2019-2020 to be installed at the September meeting.
8. Approve the draft timetable for the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland between 26th October and 3rd November 2019.
9. Urge all congregations to hold a retiring collection to support the candidates for Ministry of Word and Sacrament within the Presbytery, with such a collection to be intimated and uplifted following the Sunday worship on a Sunday before end of June 2019.
10. Remind Kirk Sessions of the importance of sending representatives to the June meeting of presbytery to help inform the work of Presbytery in the forthcoming year.

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee which was given in by the Rev. Louise MacKay, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report
2. Note the date of prayer event on Monday 13th May 2019 and encourage congregations to participate
3. Continue to encourage Kirk Sessions to reflect and report back at June meeting of Presbytery of ways in which the Worship and Discipleship Committee can resource and equip congregations

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Relationship and Context Committee which was given in by the Rev. Dr Elijah Obinna, Convener Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Agree to formally discontinue the twinning arrangement with South Korea.
3. Note that the committee is examining the potential for Presbytery Twinning with a suitable partner.
4. Note the concern over poor Committee attendance and underline the importance of full participation of Presbytery members
5. Encourage the Presbytery to set a date for review of the new Committee structure.
6. Note that a Presbytery "All Tied Up" work is being planned for early October

The Presbytery took a recess for 10 minutes

The Clerk outlined that following a discussion with the Conveners of Committees it was proposed that the following questions were sent to Kirk Sessions to aid their preparation for the June meeting of Presbytery.

1. What is your congregation doing to resource mission both locally and globally?
2. What is your congregation doing to nurture and grow faith in your church and community?
3. How is your congregation seeking to develop worship and grow new patterns and forms of worship?
4. What challenges are facing your congregation at present?
5. What support from Presbytery does your Kirk Session feel would be useful at this time?
6. In what ways has your Kirk Session and congregation accessed and used money from the Presbytery Ministry and Mission Discretionary Allowance in the last year?

The questions, as proposed were agreed and the Clerk instructed to send them to Session Clerks as soon as possible.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The clerk the Presbytery that the following decisions had been taken under delegated powers.

Carnwath Manse & Glebe (Presbytery Support Committee, 23rd April 2019)

The Presbytery agree to the sale of the former Manse of Carnwath Parish Church and the Glebe of Carnwath Parish Church in line with the agreements of both the Kirk Session and General Trustees

Presbytery moved to meet in private

Special Committee in terms of Act III 2001 (as amended), appointed 4 December 2018

A minute of this item is held in a record apart.

Presbytery returned to open court

Intimations

The intimations were printed in the papers for members of presbytery to share.

Dr Elijah Obinna intimated the forthcoming concert by Watoto Children's Choir to Carluke: St. John's and invited anyone who wished to attend so to do.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 18 June 2019 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 18 June 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Lanark: Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Jim Watt, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 Ministers, 15 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and 24 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev D Carmichael, E Clelland and M Fucella, Ministers; J Austin, R Carson, H Chekansky, A Grant, W Love and D Waters, Elders.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting especially those representing congregations across Presbytery as part of the discussion item during the meeting.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 7 May 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 May 2019 with the inclusion of 'Good News Stories' were held as read and approved.

Roll of Presbytery

Rev Iain D Cunningham – Tribute was paid to Mr Cunningham on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on 9 May 2019. Mr Cunningham was ordained by the Presbytery of Ayr during assistantship in Castlehill on 9 June 1979, before moving to become minister of Duntocher: Trinity in the Presbytery of Dumbarton on 12 June 1980, translating to the charge of Carluke: Kirkton on 29 October 1987.

Rev Helen E Jamieson – Tribute was paid to Mrs Jamieson on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of her ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on 7 June 2019. Mrs Jamieson, then Miss Sloan was ordained by the Presbytery of Lanark and inducted to the charge of Carluke: St. Andrew's on 7 June 1989 where she has continued to serve as minister.

Rev Steven Reid – Tribute was paid to Mr Reid on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of his ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on 15 June 2019. Mr Reid was ordained by the Presbytery of Dunfermline and inducted to the charge of Dunfermline: North on 15 June 1989, translating to the charge of Crossford linked with Kirkfieldbank on 3 October 1997.

The Moderator thanked Mr Cunningham, Mrs Jamieson and Mr Reid for a century of faithful ministry of Word and Sacrament to the Church of Scotland with an almost combined 84 years of service to the Presbytery of Lanark.

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 highlighted correspondence from

- Law Department containing information on employment of nationals of the Republic of Ireland following Brexit
- Elizabeth Crumlish offering opportunities to join third tranche of Path of Renewal
- General Trustees issuing guidelines on the safe use of inflatables at church events
- David Lynch inviting congregations to the National Stewardship Roadshow one of which will take place in Lanark: Greyfriars on the evening of 19 June.

Table Discussion with congregations on Future Planning

The Moderator invited the Convener of the Presbytery Support Committee, Mr Scott Paget, to lead the Presbytery and members of the congregations who gathered in a discussion on future planning. Mr Paget invited

groups to discuss six key questions, previously agreed by Presbytery, which focussed on the hopes and visions of congregations in mission and life together.

1. What is your congregation doing to resource mission both locally and globally?
2. What is your congregation doing to nurture and grow faith in your church and community?
3. How is your congregation seeking to develop worship and grow new patterns and forms of worship?
4. What challenges are facing your congregation at present?
5. What support from Presbytery does your Kirk Session feel would be useful at this time?
6. In what ways has your Kirk Session and congregation accessed and used money from the Presbytery Ministry and Mission Discretionary Allowance in the last year?

Mr Paget invited one table to offer feedback on each question and asked other tables to write down their feedback in order that responses can be collated and discussed with committee conveners. Mr Paget reminded Presbytery and those gathered that the responses offered at the table would play a part in shaping the work of the Presbytery over the coming year through its committees as Presbytery seeks to be more responsive to the needs of the congregations it serves.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of the roll of Presbytery:
 - a. Appoint the following to serve as additional elders from 1st July 2019, subject to any outstanding bona-fide elder forms being received: Mr Ewan Easton (Lanark: Greyfriars), Mr Alan Grant (Carluke: St John's), Mr Bill Love (Lanark: St Nicholas) Mr Willie Macsween (Carluke: Kirkton) and Mr Scott Paget (Lanark: Greyfriars).
 - b. Thank Mr George Forbes (Kirkmuirhill) for his service as an Additional Elder.
 - c. Remind Kirk Sessions which have not yet done so to submit details of elders elected to serve as their representatives on Presbytery from 1st July 2019.
 - d. Instruct the Clerk to compile the roll of Presbytery for the year beginning 1st July 2019, to make such additions as may subsequently be necessary in the light of further commissions received, and to present the roll at the next Ordinary Meeting.
 - e. Grant powers to the Presbytery Support Committee to populate committee membership lists prior to the August committee meeting.
3. Appoint Rev Mike Fucella as Convener of Relationship & Context Committee for a four year term from 1 July 2019
4. In respect of the Registration of Ministries Act
 - a. following requests from Rev Bill Buchan, Rev Susan Cowell, Rev Roy Cowieson, Rev Jim Cutler, Rev Harry Findlay, Rev Bev Gauld, Rev Dr Graham Houston, Rev John Turnbull, Rev David Young to retain Category R status, agree that Category R Status be granted from 1st July 2019 to 30 June 2020.
 - b. Following a request from Rev Jim Seath to move to Category I status, agree that Category I Status be granted from 1st July 2019 to 30 June 2020
5. In respect of meeting dates for 2019/20
 - a. Agree that the Presbytery will meet for ordinary business on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2019/2020 session: 3 September (in Libberton Church), 1 October, 5 November, 3 December, 4 February, 3 March, 5 May, 16 June.
 - b. Agree that the Worship & Discipleship and Relationship & Context committees will meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2019/2020 session: 20 August, 17 September, 22 October, 19 November, 21 January, 18 February, 24 March, 21 April, 26 May.

- c. Agree that the Presbytery Support Committee will meet on the following dates, at 7pm in Lanark: Greyfriars during the 2019/2020 session: 21 August, 18 September, 23 October, 20 November, 22 January, 19 February, 25 March, 22 April, 27 May.
 - d. Agree that the Annual Inspection of Records will be held in Lanark: Greyfriars on 28th April 2020.
6. Amend Standing Orders of Presbytery to insert a new section 11 and renumber 'Complaints and Discipline – The Presbytery Clerk, Depute Presbytery Clerk, Moderator and Convener of Presbytery Support Committee have delegated powers to act for Presbytery in respect of referral to the complaints process and in matters relating to the Discipline Act, as laid out in sections 17 and 20 of Act 1, 2019 of the General Assembly.'
 7. Appoint AJW Photography to undertake photographic drone surveys of all churches and church halls at a cost of £35 per building during the summer of 2019 and agree to utilise £1,000 from the Ministry and Mission Variance Allowance to cover costs of the initial survey.
 8. Grant powers to the Presbytery Clerk, Depute Presbytery Clerk, Moderator and Convener of Presbytery Support Committee from the close of the meeting until the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 3 to add at the end 'and thank Rev Dr Elijah Obinna for his period of Convener'ship during the initial period of the committee.'

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 9 'Grant permission for the Carluke Churches (Kirkton, St. Andrew's and St. John's) and the Lanark Churches (Greyfriars and St. Nicholas) to meet for joint worship in different buildings within the respective towns from 30th June to 11 August 2019.'

The Deliverance as amended was then agreed

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Relationship and Context Committee which was given in by the Rev. Dr Elijah Obinna, Convener Convener.

It was moved and seconded-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the date for the proposed Presbytery's "All Tied Up" sponsored walk has been altered to 2 November.
3. Invite members of the Presbytery to nominate individuals for the role of Veteran's Champion.
4. Encourage congregations to consider supporting the State Hospital through volunteering.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 2 to delete the words '2 November' and insert the words 'early November'

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to section 3 to add at the end 'no later than 16 August 2019'

The Deliverance as amended was then agreed

The Rev Dr Elijah Obinna, on his retiral as Convener of the Relationship and Context Committee, was thanked by the Moderator for his service to the committee and Presbytery during the initial period of the committee following the restructuring of Presbytery.

Intimations

Rev Helen Jamieson appealed for volunteers to be trained as part of Carluke: St. Andrew's Heart for Art Dementia Project and also informed Presbytery that following recruitment a 3 year full time Dementia Co-

ordinator has been appointed to the project and that the congregation are looking forward to sharing expertise and resources with the Presbytery.

Mabel Morris intimated the forthcoming film show in Carstairs on Friday 21 June to which all will be made welcome.

Dr Elijah Obinna intimated that on Sunday 23 June Carlisle: St. John's will have an opportunity to celebrate the publication launch of Dr Ann Jackson's Journal recording her time spent as a medical missionary in Biafra, Nigeria during the civil war. This will take place in the large hall after morning worship when Joanna and Will Storrar, who edited the book, will introduce the publication. Copies will be available to purchase and can be signed by the author. Tea, coffee and sandwiches will also be available.

The Presbytery took the opportunity to pay tribute to the ministry and service of Dr Jackson and instructed the Clerk to send the prayer best wishes of Presbytery to Dr Jackson.

A request was made for extra microphones around the church to enable those who were making comments to be heard. It was agreed that this would be actioned.

Adjournment:

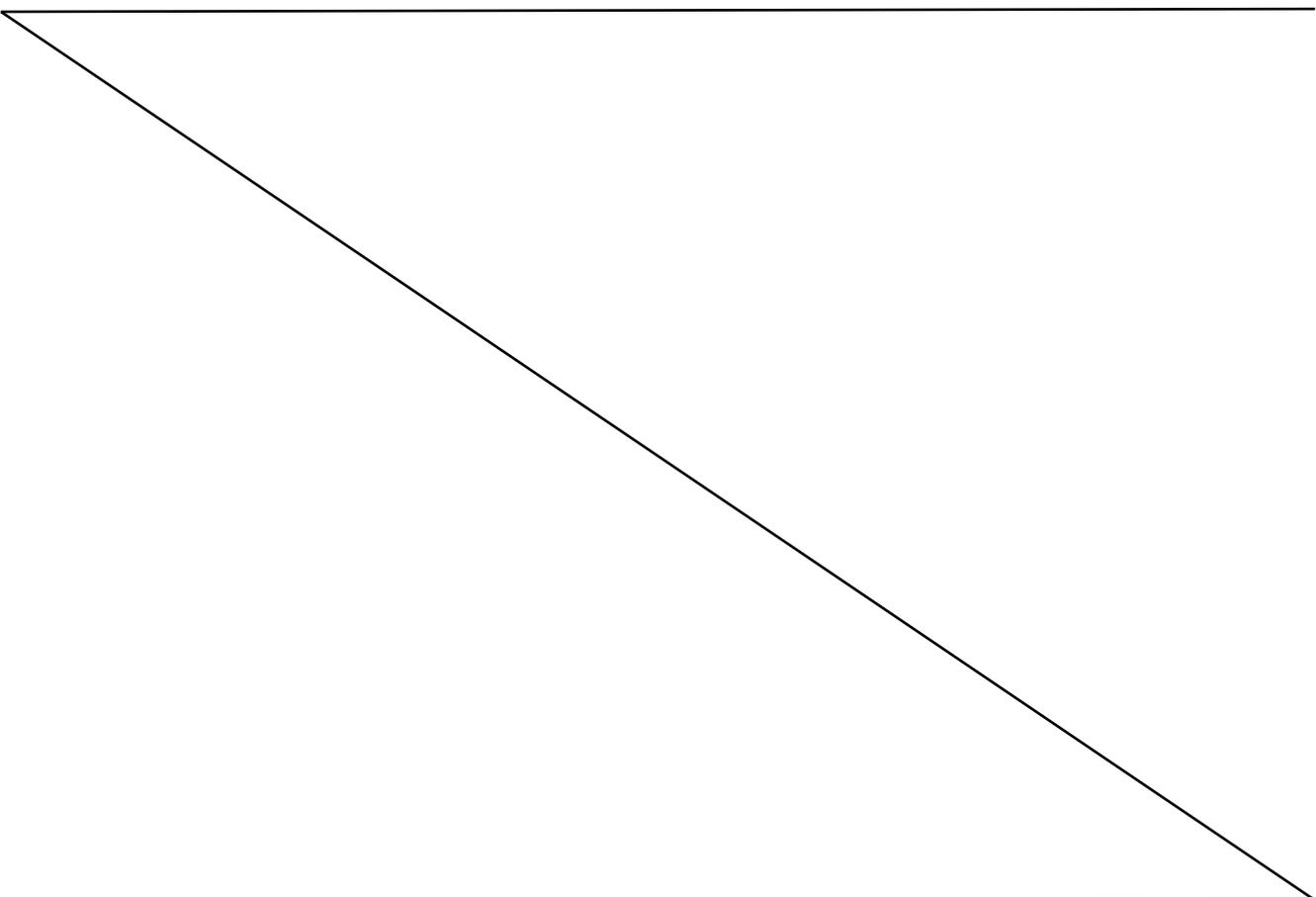
The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 September 2019 at 7 pm in Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church (Biggar Rd, Libberton, ML11 8LT)

Closure

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

Moderator

Clerk



Libberton, on Tuesday 3 September 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Jim Watt, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers, 18 Elders, 2 Corresponding Member and 24 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev E Clelland, H Jamieson, E MacLean and D Young, Ministers; E Bradley, E Easton, A McPhee and C O'Neill, Elders.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Moderator led the Presbytery in worship. The Presbytery, having previously elected The Reverend George Shand to be Moderator, installed him as Moderator of the Presbytery for the session 2019/20. After the prayer of consecration Mr Shand presided over the Sacrament.

Constitution of Presbytery

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer and constituted the meeting.

Welcome of Moderator

The Presbytery warmly welcomed Mr Shand as Moderator. The Moderator thanked the Presbytery for electing him, and also thanked Mr Jim Watt for his service throughout the year as Moderator. Mr Watt addressed the Presbytery and thanked them for their support during his year of office.

Welcome to new members Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting especially those representing congregations across Presbytery as part of the discussion item during the meeting.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 18 June 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2019 were held as read and approved.

Appointment of Acting Depute Presbytery Clerk

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

The Presbytery:

2. Appoint the Reverend Paul Grant as Acting Depute Presbytery Clerk until 31st August 2020

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

Decisions taken under powers (Summer Recess)

Presbytery noted that the following decision had been taken under powers agreed at the meeting on 18 June 2019:

The Presbytery:

1. Agreed in respect of Lanark: Greyfriars to the undertaking of urgent roof repairs to the building at a cost of approximately £10,200 +VAT and support the Kirk Session in making application for grant assistance to the General Trustees.
2. Agreed in respect of Kirkmuirhill to the undertaking of necessary work to the leaded windows and stonework in the tower at a cost of approximately £15,000+VAT and remind the congregation of the need to inform Presbytery with adequate notice of proposed works.
3. Agreed to appoint Rev Bryan Kerr as Presbytery Representative to the annual review meeting of candidates in training in September 2019 in terms of Act 10, 2004 (as amended)

4. Agreed in respect of Committee Membership to approve membership of Presbytery Committees for the session 2019/2020 as follows:
 - a. Relationships and Context Committee: Rev Michael Fucella (Convener), Mr John Austin, Mr Sandy Boag, Rev Bill Buchan, Rev David Carmichael, Mrs Anne Cochrane, Mr William Coulter, Rev Harry Findlay, Mr Ross Hyslop, Rev Helen Jamieson, Rev Dr Nikki Macdonald, Mr Willie MacSween, Mr Alex McPhee, Mr Robert Mitchell, Rev Dr Elijah Obinna, Mrs Christine O'Neill, Rev Andrew Rooney and Mr Hugh Stewart; plus one member co-opted from Guild Presbyterial Council
 - b. Worship & Discipleship Committee: Rev Louise Mackay (Convener), Mrs Elizabeth Bradley, Mr Robert Carson, Mrs Helen Chekansky, Rev Elizabeth Clelland, Mrs Margaret Harley, Rev Iain Cunningham, Rev James Cutler, Mr Alan Grant, Rev Paul Grant, Mr William Love, Rev Elspeth MacLean, Mrs Janette Mason, Mrs Mabel Morris, Mrs Anne Reid, Rev Steven Reid, Mr Sandy Russell, Mr Jim Sinclair, Mr David Waters, Mr Kenneth Watson, Mr James Watt and Rev David Young; plus one member co-opted from Guild Presbyterial Council
 - c. Presbytery Support Committee: Mr Scott Paget (Convener), Rev Bryan Kerr (Presbytery Clerk), Rev George Shand (Depute Presbytery Clerk & Moderator Designate), Mr Jim Watt (Moderator – member to 3/9/19), Acting Depute Clerk (to 23/9/2020), Mrs Anne Cochrane (1 year), Mr Robert Mitchell (1 year), Mrs Mabel Morris (1 year), Mrs Christine O'Neill (1 year), Rev Andrew Rooney (1 year) with Advisors Caroline Deerin, Ewan Easton, John Lumsden and Mary McGillivray.
5. Agreed in respect of Carlisle: St. Andrew's to the undertaking of organ repairs at an approximate cost of £4,500+VAT as highlighted in a report by Alan Buchan and approved by the General Trustees, subject to the Kirk Session consulting Presbytery should costs increase.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

The clerk informed the Presbytery that no decisions had been taken under delegated powers.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk laid the roll of Presbytery for session 2019/2020 on the table (Appendix I).

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.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved and seconded:

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Agreed earlier in meeting
3. In respect of the reform of Presbyteries as instructed by the General Assembly
 - a. Appoint the Convener of Presbytery Support Committee, the Moderator, the Presbytery Clerk and the Depute Presbytery Clerk as representatives in this process.
 - b. Agree to work with Hamilton Presbytery on possible models for creating a Lanarkshire Presbytery.
 - c. Agree to suspend the internal review of Presbytery structures whilst the review of Presbyteries is ongoing.
4. Agree that the November and March meetings of Presbytery be plenary/ discussion meetings led by the Relationship and Context and Worship and Discipleship committees respectively

5. Note that feedback from the June discussion meeting of Presbytery will be issued to Kirk Sessions for their interest and discussion.
6. Remind Kirk Sessions of the General Assembly instruction “to conduct Basic Disclosure Checks on all individuals (regardless of their employment status) in their congregation in leadership roles and/or positions of trust, including but not limited to organists, church officers/ caretakers and café workers, where their duties may involve contact with vulnerable groups as referred to in The Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.”
7. Note that it has not been possible to commence a mediation process in Carluke: St. Andrew’s in deferred union with Carluke: St. John’s.
8. In respect of the Ministry and Mission Discretionary Allowance
 - a. Approve an award of £120 to Symington for covering pulpit supply in 2019 when the minister is leading services in the other two Tinto Parish congregations.
 - b. Approve an award of £840 to Libberton & Quothquan for covering pulpit supply in 2019 when the minister is leading services in the other two Tinto Parish congregations.
 - c. Approve an award of £1,030 to Cairngryffe, on behalf of the Tinto Parishes, for the HARfEST project in line with aims and objectives submitted with the grant application.
 - d. Approve an award of £4,000 to Law for the Community engagement survey in line with aims and objectives submitted with the grant application.
 - e. Approve an award of £4,000 to Lanark: St. Nicholas for the Hear for You project in line with aims and objectives submitted with the grant application.
 - f. Approve an award of £150 to Carluke: Kirkton for the Messy Vintage project in line with aims and objectives submitted with the grant application.
 - g. Approve an award of £2,400 to Lanark: Greyfriars for the Online & Streaming worship project in line with aims and objectives submitted with the grant application.
9. Note that any appeals to the proposed ministry and mission allocations for 2020 (Appendix 2) must be presented to the committee no later than 18 October 2019 and that appeals can only be made on the incorrect calculation of an income base figure.
10. Approve the timetable for the Moderator’s Visit to Presbytery (Appendix 3).

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 11 ‘Note that the Kirk Session, Congregational Board and Congregation of Symington have resolved to move to the Unitary Constitution; agree to the request from Symington to move to the Unitary Constitution; and instruct the clerk to send an extract minute to the Delegation of Assembly to confer the new constitution.’

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 12 ‘Thank the Moderator for his conduct of the Sacrament of Holy Communion; thank Mr Jim Watt for his service during his year of office as Moderator; and thank the congregation of Libberton & Quothquan Parish Church for their hospitality for the evening.’

The Deliverance as amended was then agreed

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee which was given in by the Rev. Louise MacKay, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note the success of the prayer in worship evening and the plans for a future follow up workshop.
3. Note the proposal of a Music event in the next calendar year.

The Moderator offered the prayer best wishes to Miss MacKay and her fiancé Jason as they prepared for the marriage on Saturday 7 September 2019. The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer and offered a blessing upon Miss MacKay and her fiancé as they begin married life together as a manse family.

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Relationship and Context Committee which was given in by the Rev. Mike Fucella, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that a Presbytery walk to support "All Tied Up" has been postponed and will now take place in early spring.
3. Appoint Mr. Stephen Hefford as the Veterans' Champion for Lanark Presbytery.
4. Note that the committee will look at gathering a group to support Stephen in this important ministry.
5. Approve the themes of Outreach and service to the elderly and effective evangelism in our present context in Scotland for the November discussion meeting.
6. Encourage congregations as well as Presbyters to attend the November discussion meeting.

Presbytery moved to meet in private

Report of Special Committee in terms of Act III 2001 (as amended), appointed 4 December 2018

A minute of this item is held in a record apart.

Presbytery returned to open court

Intimations

The Clerk reminded Members of Presbytery that they should inform Clerks of Financial Courts and Treasurers to review the initial proposed figures for Ministry and Mission in 2020 recently emailed to the Clerks. Any appeals from financial courts should be in the hands of the Presbytery Clerk no later than Friday 18 October 2019.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 1 October 2019 at 7pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark

Closure

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

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix I

Roll of Presbytery 2019-2020

John	Austin	Commissioned Elder	Libberton & Quothquan
Sandy	Boag	Commissioned Elder	Crossford
Elizabeth	Bradley	Commissioned Elder	Carluke: St. Andrew's
Bill	Buchan	Minister (Cat R)	Retired
David	Carmichael	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen
Robert	Carson	Commissioned Elder	Symington
Valerie	Chalmers	Corresponding Member	Candidate in Training (OLM)
Helen	Chekansky	Commissioned Elder	Lanark: St. Nicholas
Elizabeth	Clelland	Minister (Cat E)	Chaplain, Divine Healing Fellowship
Anne	Cochrane	Commissioned Elder	Carnwath
William	Coulter	Commissioned Elder	Black Mount
Susan	Cowell	Minister (Cat R)	Retired
Iain	Cunningham	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Carluke: Kirkton
Jim	Cutler	Minister (Cat R)	Retired
Caroline	Deerin	Corresponding Member	Safeguarding Co-ordinator
Ewan	Easton	Equalising Elder	Lanark: Greyfriars
Harry	Findlay	Minister (Cat R)	Retired
Mike	Fucella	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Biggar l/w Black Mount
Kaye	Gardiner	Corresponding Member	Candidate in Training (FT W&S)
Alan	Grant	Equalising Elder	Carluke: St. John's
Paul	Grant	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Law
Margaret	Harley	Commissioned Elder	Upper Clyde
Graham	Houston	Minister (Cat R)	Retired
Ross	Hyslop	Commissioned Elder	Lanark: Greyfriars
Helen	Jamieson	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Carluke: St. Andrew's
Bryan	Kerr	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Lanark: Greyfriars
Bill	Love	Equalising Elder	Lanark: St. Nicholas
Nikki	Macdonald	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Upper Clyde
Louise	Mackay	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Lanark: St. Nicholas
Elspeth	MacLean	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Forth: St. Paul's
Willie	MacSween	Equalising Elder	Carluke: Kirkton
Janette	Mason	Commissioned Elder	Law
Mary	McGillivray	Corresponding Member	Presbytery Treasurer
Alex	McPhee	Commissioned Elder	Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen
Robert	Mitchell	Commissioned Elder	Douglas Valley
Mabel	Morris	Commissioned Elder	Carstairs
Christine	O'Neill	Commissioned Elder	Carluke: Kirkton
Elijah	Obinna	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Carluke: St. John's
Scott	Paget	Equalising Elder	Lanark: Greyfriars
Anne	Reid	Commissioned Elder	Carluke: St. John's
Steven	Reid	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Crossford l/w Kirkfieldbank
Andrew	Rooney	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Kirkmuirhill
Sandy	Russell	Commissioned Elder	Kirkfieldbank
George	Shand	Parish Minister (Cat O)	Cairngryffe l/w Libberton & Quothquan l/w Symington
Jim	Sinclair	Commissioned Elder	Forth: St. Paul's
George	Sneddon	Corresponding Member	Candidate in Training (FT W&S)
Hugh	Stewart	Commissioned Elder	Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old
David	Waters	Commissioned Elder	Kirkmuirhill
Kenneth	Watson	Commissioned Elder	Biggar
Jim	Watt	Commissioned Elder	Cairngryffe
Dorothy	Wiseman	Corresponding Member	Lanark Guild's Together
David	Young	Minister (Cat R)	Retired

The Presbytery of Lanark

Proposed Ministry & Mission Contributions 2020

Congregation	Average Income 2016-2018	Average Income 2017-2019	2019 Contribution (Gross)	2020 Increase/ (Decrease)	2020 Proposed Contribution (Gross)
Biggar	97,876	103,389	61,025	3,138	64,163
Black Mount	23,123	23,038	12,829	(55)	12,774
Cairngryffe	36,476	37,227	21,509	488	21,997
Carluke Kirkton	142,409	135,825	84,504	(3,292)	81,212
Carluke St Andrew's	55,078	54,128	33,600	(617)	32,983
Carluke St John's	92,376	95,627	57,844	1,832	59,676
Carnwath	23,284	23,460	12,911	137	13,048
Carstairs Parish	52,916	51,832	32,195	(705)	31,490
Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old	83,649	83,531	52,171	(76)	52,095
Crossford	38,070	37,419	22,545	(423)	22,122
Douglas Valley	56,910	60,371	34,791	2,250	37,041
Forth St Paul's	65,434	59,834	40,331	(3,640)	36,691
Kirkfieldbank	21,199	22,315	11,579	725	12,304
Kirkmuirhill	80,836	86,823	50,343	3,891	54,234
Lanark Greyfriars	90,425	91,754	56,554	798	57,352
Lanark St Nicholas	112,319	117,976	69,075	3,111	72,186
Law	49,169	51,348	29,759	1,417	31,176
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	62,089	57,437	38,157	(3,024)	35,133
Libberton and Quothquan	20,557	20,626	11,161	45	11,206
Symington	38,662	37,256	22,930	(914)	22,016
Upper Clyde	39,044	36,083	23,178	(1,925)	21,253

Visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to Lanark Presbytery (October 2019)

Time	Saturday 26th	Sunday 27th	Monday 28th	Tuesday 29th	Wednesday 30th	Thursday 31st	Friday 1st	Saturday 2nd	Sunday 3rd	Monday 4th
8:30 AM										
9:00 AM				Clydesdale Community Initiatives	Healthy Valleys					
9:30 AM		Communion Service at Lanark: Greyfriars				Education Forum	R & W Scott Jam Factory	March Stone Hoise Hack in Lanark		Border Biscuit Tour & Business Discussion
10:00 AM										
10:30 AM	Arrival at New Lanark	Café Church at Lanark: Greyfriars	Visit to Lanark Market			Travel (including tour of Rural Area)	Food Bank in Carluke		Worship in Symington	
11:00 AM			Lunch at Lanark Market with Farming Support Discussion	Civic Reception	Visit to State Hospital					
11:30 AM										
12:00 PM										
12:30 PM										
1:00 PM	Lunch & Welcome Briefing					Wanlockhead Visit	Dementia Drop in Support at Carluke: St. Andrew's			Lunch & Concluding Meeting
1:30 PM										
2:00 PM				Mainly Music Group						
2:30 PM			Covenanters & Cameronian Tour in Douglas and Lesmahagow	The Haven in Forth				Clyde Valley Orchard Regeneration		
3:00 PM	VIP Tour of New Lanark & meet Board								Service of Rededication of Cartails Parish Church	
3:30 PM			Second Chance Shop at Kirkmuirhill			Biggar Gin Distillery	Victoria Cross Memorial Act of Remembrance	Castlebank Park Regeneration		
4:00 PM						Visit to Gillespie Centre in Biggar & Discussion on Mission in Scattered communities	Reception			
4:30 PM										
5:00 PM										
5:30 PM			Ministers Gathering in Braehead House							
6:00 PM				Hear4You Project in Lanark: St. Nicholas			Street Level in Carluke			
6:30 PM										
7:00 PM	Concert and Meal Hosted by New Lanark World Heritage Site	Intergenerational Praise Service at Carluke: St. John's (with presentation of long service certificates)			Evening Gala Dinner with After Moderator in New Lanark			Meal with members of parliaments		
7:30 PM						Carluke Girls Brigade in Carluke: Kir-kton	Youth Group in Crossford		Evening Worship at Kirkmuirhill	
8:00 PM										
8:30 PM										
9:00 PM										
9:30 PM										
10:00 PM										
10:30 PM										
11:00 PM										Rev 7 20190822

Lanark, on Tuesday 1 October 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev George Shand, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 12 Ministers, 18 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and 18 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev W Buchan and E Clelland, Ministers; A Grant, M Morris, A Reid, and D Waters, Elders; G Sneddon, Corresponding Member.

Constitution of Presbytery

The Moderator led the Presbytery in praise and prayer and constituted the meeting.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting especially those representing the congregations of Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old, Douglas Valley, Kirkmuirhill and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen who had been cited to attend.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 3 September 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 3 September 2019 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that the following decision had been taken under delegated powers:

The Presbytery:

1. Agreed in respect of Carstairs to the removal of the unsafe pulpit and grant permission to not replace the pulpit during the refurbishment project and instruct the clerk to send an extract to the congregation and CARTA, via the General Trustees.
2. Agreed in respect of Carnwath linked with Carstairs to appoint Mr Denham MacDougall as Interim Moderator in the charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs with effect from 1st October 2019.
3. Noted that the decision of Presbytery made at the annual review of Kaye Gardiner and George Sneddon, Candidates in Training, was to allow them to proceed to the next year of study and formation.

The Moderator expressed thanks to Rev Jim Cutler for his willingness to serve as locum and Interim Moderator in the charge of Carnwath linked with Carstairs since the start of the vacancy.

Roll of Presbytery

The Clerk informed Presbytery that he and the Presbytery Support Convener granted compassionate leave to Rev Iain Cunningham from 16 – 24 September 2019 following the death of his father in law and brother in law within 5 days of each other. The Moderator assured Mr and Mrs Cunningham of the prayers of Presbytery at this time.

The Presbytery agreed that Mr Denham MacDougall (Cairngryffe) be appointed as an Additional Elder to the Presbytery of Lanark for the remainder of the 2019/2020 session.

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 of Candidates in Training

The Moderator invited Kaye Gardiner and George Sneddon to stand as he addressed and encouraged them in their studies. The Moderator presented cheques to the candidates following the donations received from members of congregations throughout Presbytery totalling £1358.05 to be split between them. The Moderator expressed thanks to all members who contributed and led the Presbytery in prayer and asked for God's blessing on Ms Gardiner and Mr Sneddon in their year of study and formation.

Lanark Guild's Together

The Moderator invited the Convener, Mrs Dorothy Wiseman to present the report. Mrs Wiseman informed the Presbytery of the position of the Guild within the Presbytery bounds and outlined the work of Lanark Guild's Together, including the two main rally's run by the committee for the benefit of the local groups. Mrs Wiseman thanks Presbytery for their support in the previous year.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that citations had been served to the congregations of Douglas Valley for section 2 and Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old, Kirkmuirhill and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen for sections 3-7 and had been returned duly signed.

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of Douglas Valley Church
 - a. Note that concurrence has been received from Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council for the change to the Presbytery Plan agreed in June 2019
 - b. Agree the Draft Basis of Guardianship (Appendix 1) and note that this has been voted on and approved by the Kirk Session and Congregation
 - c. Set the date of Guardianship as 1 November 2019
 - d. Invite the Moderator of the General Assembly to lead a service recognising this change of status on Sunday 3 November 2019 at 2pm
 - e. Grant permission to the Kirk Session to cancel the regular morning Sunday Services on 3 November 2019.
3. In respect of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen
 - a. Note that the Clerk has received correspondence from the Kirk Session dated 5 September 2019 signed by all members (with three signing *Per Procuracionem*), including the Minister, stating that they intend to resign their membership of the Church of Scotland. (Appendix 2)
 - b. Note that Kirk Session called a meeting of the congregation on 5 September 2019 with an indication given by members in regards to resigning their membership of the Church of Scotland were as follows: 64 present on the evening and 34 via proxy being aware of the meeting, there were also 33 adherents who gave support.
 - c. Homologate the actions of the Clerk and Presbytery Support Convener in meeting with congregational representatives on 6 September 2019 to discuss the situation. (Appendix 3)
 - d. Appoint a Special Committee comprising the Clerk, Depute Clerk, Presbytery Support Committee Convener, Rev Helen Jamieson and Mr Jim Watt to deal with any issues which arise regarding the stated intention of the minister, Kirk Session and members of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen Parish Church to resign their membership of The Church of Scotland.

- e. Instruct the Special Committee to liaise with representatives of the congregations, to seek further advice where necessary and to represent the interests of the Church of Scotland.
 - f. Grant to the Special Committee powers of Presbytery in respect of
 - i. Instructing minister, elders and other office-bearers to meet with the Special Committee, with its representatives, or with representatives of other Standing Committees.
 - ii. Referring matters to Standing Committees for consideration and comment.
 - iii. Calling and arranging Congregational Meetings in accordance with Act XVIII (1932).
 - iv. Instructing the submission of extract minutes and sederunt lists.
 - v. Instructing the submission of congregational records; these records being defined as those that are included in the annual inspection of congregational records which is undertaken by Presbytery.
 - vi. Instructing the submission of any records, papers or other documents which, in the opinion of the Special Committee may be necessary to effect a smooth transition in advance of minister demitting and office-bearers resigning.
 - vii. Arranging informal consultation meetings with individual members and with groups of members
 - viii. Ensuring that appropriate steps are taken to manage the situation in the event of minister demitting, office-bearers resigning and members leaving.
 - ix. Approving the terms of any proposed disposal of congregational assets.
 - g. Instruct the Special Committee to report to the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery if and when it has acted with powers.
 - h. Appoint Bill Love (Lanark: St. Nicholas), John Lumsden (Lanark: Greyfriars), Paul McGuigan (Kirkmuirhill), Libby Muir (Carluke: St. Andrew's), Stewart Toy (Lanark: St. Nicholas) and David Waters (Kirkmuirhill) as assessor elders with full voting rights and as charity trustees of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church of Scotland), SC006516 and who have become members of both the Kirk Session and Congregational Board from 1 October 2019.
 - i. Appoint Mr Jim Watt as Presbytery Assessor to Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen
 - j. Note that whilst the title deeds for the property are locally vested the Kirk Session have intimated their understanding that the buildings, as well as financial and other assets, will remain the property of The Church of Scotland.
 - k. Note that the intention of the Kirk Session is to negotiate the purchase of the land, buildings, and contents from the congregation and agree in principle to this course of action
 - l. Encourage the congregation, at a duly convened meeting, to appoint the assessor elders appointed by Presbytery as the property-holding trustees in terms of the Feu Disposition, to allow the intention of the Kirk Session to negotiate the purchase of assets to take effect from the point of resignation to proceed without any potential conflict of interest.
 - m. Instruct the Special Committee to work towards a date of 31 December 2019 for members to resign their membership of the Church of Scotland and the Rev David S. Carmichael to demit the charge of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen and also his status as a Minister of Word and Sacrament within the Church of Scotland.
 - n. Meantime, remind the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church of Scotland), SC006516 of their obligations in terms of their vows of ordination and of church and charity law and instruct them to co-operate fully with its Special Committee.
4. In respect of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old
 - a. In light of the failure to nominate a minister in terms of section 28(1) of Act 8, 2003 as amended agree to sist permission to call a minister.
 5. In respect of the Presbytery Plan
 - a. Agree to sist the Presbytery Plan in respect of Coalburn, Lesmahagow and Kirkmuirhill.
 - b. In light of the stated intention of the minister and members of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen to resign their membership of The Church of Scotland, agree to change the Presbytery Plan to allow for one charge to cover the villages and environs of Coalburn and Lesmahagow by uniting Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, with the provision of 1 FT minister of word and sacrament and 1 FT MDS to work within and across the Coalburn, Lesmahagow and Kirkmuirhill area, subject to a suitable role and job description being devised in conjunction with the congregations and Ministries Council.

- c. Agree to the reclassification of the buildings pertaining to Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen as category C.
 - d. Agree, subject to permission to alter the Presbytery plan in terms of (b) and (c) above, approve a draft basis of union (Appendix 4) between Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen to take effect on the next day following the demission of the minister of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen
6. Instruct the Clerk to issue extracts of this decision to relevant parties
 7. Express thanks to the Clerk and Convener of Presbytery Support Committee for their time and commitment in ensuring this matter has received the urgent attention of Presbytery.

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

The Clerk informed congregations of the appeal process should anyone desire so to do.

The Moderator addressed the congregation of Douglas Valley as they move into Guardianship and spoke warmly of the spirit within the congregation to see this as a positive way forward for the church and parish. The Moderator expressed his continued hope of exploration of collaborative ministry within the area.

The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer in respect of the situation in Lesmahagow, Coalburn and Kirkmuirhill and gave thanks for the graciousness of the community of Abbeygreen and asked a blessing on all of the churches and communities involved.

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Relationship and Context Committee which was given in by the Rev. Mike Fucella, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. Note that the one theme of 'Effective Evangelism in our Communities' will be covered in November's Presbytery Conference session due to the unavailability of a speaker to cover the other theme of 'Outreach and Service to the Elderly'.
3. Encourage congregations as well as Presbyters to attend the November Conference session.

Intimations

The Clerk reminded Members of Presbytery that they should inform Clerks of Financial Courts and Treasurers to review the initial proposed figures for Ministry and Mission in 2020 recently emailed to the Clerks. Any appeals from financial courts should be in the hands of the Presbytery Clerk no later than Friday 18 October 2019.

The Clerk reminded members of the various events in the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and urged all members of Presbytery to support as many as they can and invite members of congregations to join in where they are able.

Reminder of the Conference on Saturday 5 October 2019 at Carluke: Kirkton from 10:30am entitled "What Next?" which aims to look to the future and re-engaging with the Church Without Walls Report.

Reminder of Dementia Awareness Workshop with Playlist for Life from 1pm in Carluke: St. Andrew's on Friday 4 October.

Rev Mike Fucella informed members of Presbytery that on 10 November 2019 he would officially become a British Citizen. Presbytery wished Mr Fucella

Adjournment:

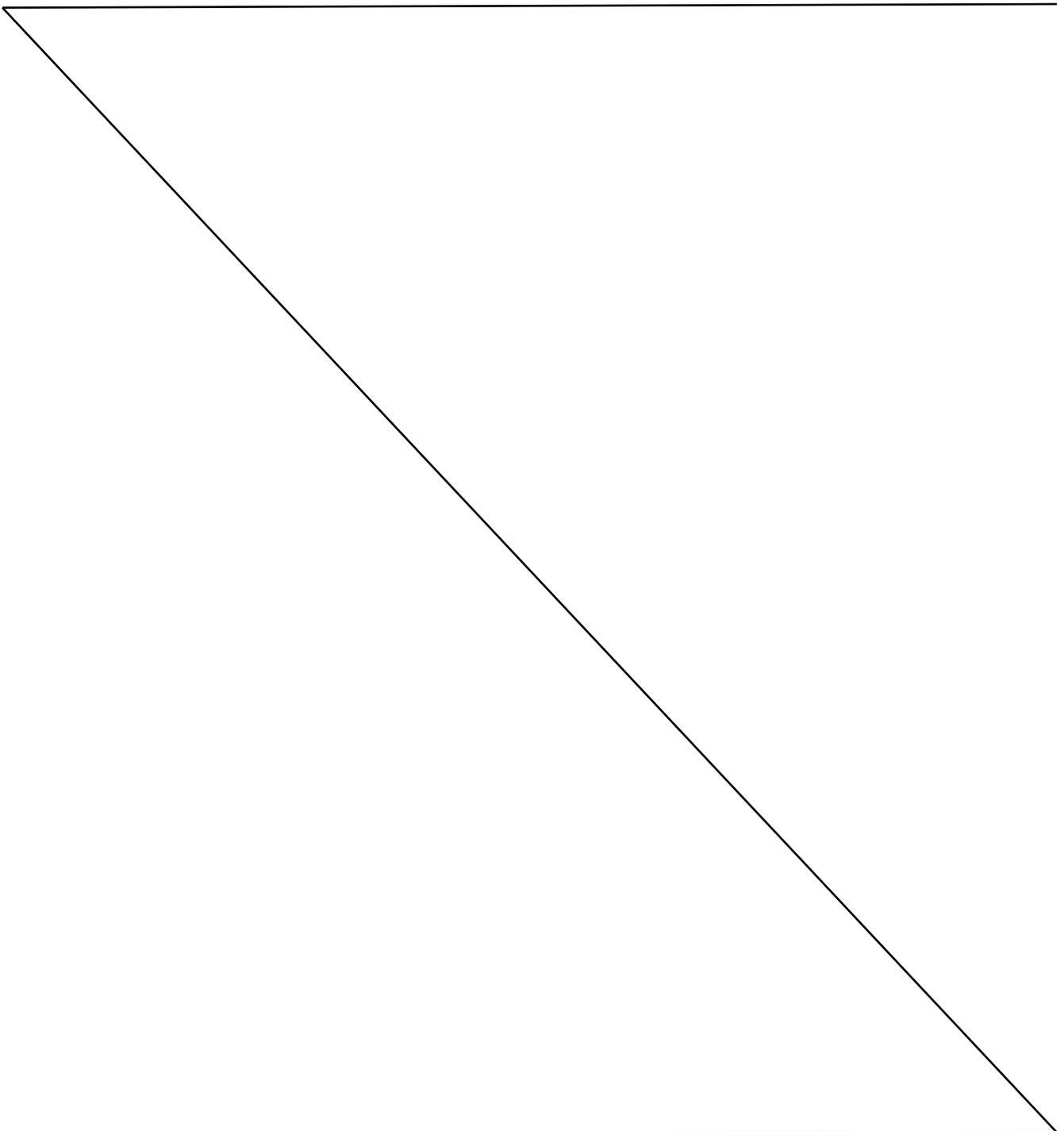
The Presbytery adjourned to meet on Sunday 3 November 2019 at 2pm for a Service to mark the occasion of The Douglas Valley Church moving into Guardianship and for Ordinary Business and Conference on Tuesday 5 November 2019 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

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

Moderator

Clerk



Appendix I

**Basis of Guardianship
for
Douglas Valley Church**

The Congregation of The Douglas Valley Church (Church of Scotland) (SC001718) shall be constituted on a Basis of Guardianship as from a date to be determined by the Presbytery of Lanark, and that on the following Terms and Conditions

1. **Name:** the name of the congregation shall be 'The Douglas Valley Church (Church of Scotland)' and will retain Scottish Charity Number SC001718.
2. **Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of the congregation shall continue to belong or held on behalf of the congregation.
3. **Places of Worship:** Worship for the congregation will continue to be held in both St. Bride's Church, Douglas and Rigside Community Centre, with the times of worship as agreed by the Kirk Session subject to the agreement of Presbytery.
4. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the charge shall continue to be the bounds presently held by the charge.
5. **Kirk Session:** The elders of the congregation shall form, with the Interim Moderator, the Kirk Session of the congregation.
6. **Congregational Management:** The congregation shall continue to be administered under the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form).
7. **Minister:** The charge will not be free to call a minister during the period of Guardianship. The Interim Moderator will be appointed by the Presbytery.
8. **Manse:** The manse of the congregation will be retained and may be let, sold or otherwise disposed of, during the course of Guardianship, subject to the agreement of the Presbytery and the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland.
9. **Ministerial Support:** A Guardianship Allowance shall be applied to this charge.
10. **Worship and pastoral Care:** A Locum shall be appointed by the Kirk Sessions, for two days a week plus Sunday (using Guardianship Allowance), this appointment being subject to the approval of Presbytery.
11. **Review:** The Basis of Guardianship shall be subject to interim review during the month two years following the date of constitution, and to a comprehensive review during the month five years following the date of constitution, the latter review to be brought to Presbytery prior to approving the continuance of Guardianship or adjusting arrangements as the need may arise.
12. **Power to readjust:** While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Guardianship for the congregation, the congregation shall be free to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.

Appendix 2

**Text of letter sent to Presbytery Clerk signed by all elders of Lesmahagow:
Abbeygreen**

Rev Bryan Kerr BA, BD
Greyfriars Manse,
3 Bellefield Way,
Lanark, ML11 7NW

5 September 2019

Dear Bryan,

We, the Kirk Session of Abbeygreen, write to you in order to formally declare that it is the intention of the congregation of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen to withdraw from the Church of Scotland. This is not a decision that has been taken lightly or with any degree of undue haste. On the contrary it is one that has been in the making for a considerable period of time and arrived at after much careful, solemn and prayerful consideration. We are sure that you would expect no less from us as a known evangelical and reformed congregation.

Throughout our entire process of seeking and struggling to come to terms with changes made in the past, changes planned for the future and the new trajectories established within our denomination, which we find no biblical warrant for, it has been our chief desire to seek the mind and will of God for the future of Abbeygreen. From the outset, we have deliberated with a keen and humble determination to be ready to give obedience to his rule and our continued faithful service to the cause of his kingdom here in the village of Lesmahagow.

The outcome has been that we now find ourselves at a place and a point in time where sadly and regrettably we are fully convinced before the Lord that the right, spiritual and honourable thing for us to do as a congregation is to withdraw from our mother denomination. We no longer feel at one, spiritually, theologically or biblically with our denomination and finding no resonance with its vision of a reconstructed church fit for the future we are persuaded that now is the appropriate time for our departure.

We do realise that there are protocols and procedures in place to deal with churches wishing to withdraw from our denomination. It is our hope that you will, as Presbytery Clerk, graciously help us in our understanding of the former and in the shaping of our best compliance in relation to the latter. With your help and understanding, and that of the Presbytery, we are sure that our hope of a smooth and quiet withdrawal will not be a forlorn one.

We have no desire to provoke bad feeling between ourselves and Presbytery or indeed anyone. Nor have we any interest in promoting controversy in the public square or in the press. Doing such would be to dishonour our Lord. That is the last thing we would want and we do believe that you will be of a similar mind. When Christians equally committed to serving the Lord choose different paths to walk, convinced that they have biblical authority for doing so, all must be done in ways that will truly please God, honour Christ and serve the cause of his church. Thus ensuring that all concerned can continue to give the best of themselves while enjoying the "well done" that God sounds over his faithful servants. While Christians might differ in their understanding of the word of God and how best to preach it or live it out in the eyes of the world we must never forget that we are all one in Christ Jesus.

We know that while we have stated above that the congregation wishes to withdraw from the Church of Scotland that in actual fact people need to do this on an individual basis. Our people are ready to do so and this with the commitment and hope of continuing to serve our Lord here in Abbeygreen. We look forward in due course, and with your guidance, to discussing the mechanics of this matter with the relevant authorities.

We await your response and can assure you that we are ready to follow your directions. There is much keenness on our part to bring this matter to a speedy and mutually satisfactory conclusion and all to the honouring of our Lord.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Alex McPhee
Dr Robert Nicol
Mr Alasdair Hynd
Mrs Heather Court
Mrs Nancy Lang
Mr Malcolm Kelly
Mr Alan Martin
Dr Richard Martin
Mr Campbell Cowie
Mr Richard Graham
Mr Kenneth Shaw
Rev David Carmichael
pp Mr Robert McMoran
pp Mr Bill Neville
pp Mr Allan MacPherson

Record Note

**Meeting between
Representatives of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen
and
Representative of The Presbytery of Lanark**

Friday 6 September 2019, 7pm, Lanark: Greyfriars Manse

Representing Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen: Alex McPhee, Session Clerk; Dr Richard Martin, Elder;
Richard Graham, Elder
Representing Presbytery of Lanark: Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk; Scott Paget, Presbytery Support
Convener

The meeting was requested by the Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen in the morning of 6 September.

1. Context

- 1.1. The representatives of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen explained that due to the current trajectory of the Church of Scotland in matter relating to theology, the 'Radical Plan' approved by the General Assembly of 2019, and the impending retirement of their minister, Rev David Carmichael, the Kirk Session have met and after prayerful consideration have decided that, as individuals they unanimously wish to leave the membership of the Church of Scotland.
- 1.2. The Kirk Session called a meeting of the congregation on 5 September 2019 with an indication given by members in regards to resigning their membership of the Church of Scotland were as follows: 64 present on the evening and 34 via proxy being aware of the meeting, there were also 33 adherents who gave support.
- 1.3. The representatives of the congregation stated their intention to remain together as a worshipping congregation, although there have been no discussions with any denomination at present.
- 1.4. The representatives explained that the congregation have no animosity towards the Church of Scotland and expressed a desire to work with the Presbytery and other Church authorities to effect their intention.

2. Membership of the Church of Scotland

- 2.1. It was stated by Presbytery and agreed by the congregational representatives that a congregation of the Church of Scotland is an unincorporated association and as such the congregation has no legal personality, meaning the members must individually resign their membership of the Church of Scotland and the congregation cannot 'vote to leave' the denomination.
- 2.2. It was stated by Presbytery and agreed by the congregational representatives that Presbytery would conduct meetings of the congregation to outline the process, as well as ensure all information given to the congregation has been accurate from a legal perspective.

3. Charity Trusteeship

- 3.1. The Presbytery reminded the congregational representatives of the first duty of charity trusteeship to act in the best interest of the present charity, Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church of Scotland) SC006516 and that of its parent charity, The Church of Scotland, SC011353. The congregational representatives recognised this duty and stated that it would not be an issue for any of the trustees.
- 3.2. It was agreed that this included not only the processes and procedures of the Church of Scotland but also a duty of care in regard to the financial and other assets of the charity, including the buildings.
- 3.3. It was stated by Presbytery that Assessor Elders may be appointed to the Kirk Session to ensure that in the period of transition the rights of the Church of Scotland continued to be upheld. Whilst expressing surprise at this, the congregational representatives understood the reasons.

4. Financial Assets

- 4.1. It was stated by Presbytery and agreed by the congregational representatives that the financial assets and reserves of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church of Scotland) SC006516 would remain the financial assets of the remaining congregation, or its successor should Presbytery decided to effect readjustment.

5. Buildings

- 5.1. It was stated by Presbytery and agreed by the congregational representatives that the buildings of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church of Scotland) SC006516 held in trust for the congregation by the Minister, Session Clerk and Clerk to the Congregational Board *ex officio* remain the assets of the Church of Scotland.
- 5.2. The congregational representatives agreed to provide copies of all the title deeds including the Feu Disposition and attached plans.
- 5.3. The congregational representatives undertook to locate and provide copies of two further dispositions relating to the titles (possibly held in Stoddarts Solicitors, 95 Alameda Street, Hamilton) granted by the Trustees of Abbeygreen Church of Scotland congregation in favour of themselves recorded on 3 November 1932 and 6 September 1933.
- 5.4. The congregational representatives expressed their desire to enter into discussion and negotiation with the Church of Scotland to purchase the buildings, fixtures and fittings for their ongoing use.
- 5.5. It was agreed by all that the Kirk Session would begin a thorough photographic inventory of all contents, fixtures and fittings of the buildings and that when completed the Presbytery would undertake a site visit to help understand the inventory.
- 5.6. The Presbytery stated that any negotiated removal of fixtures and fittings from a Church of Scotland building would always be subject to the control of the General Trustees through CARTA.
- 5.7. The Presbytery assured the congregational representatives that it would not be the desire of the Presbytery to remove the manse family from the property immediately following the date of demission and that an interim period of occupancy would likely be negotiated should the new congregation not be in a position to purchase the property.

6. Congregational Records

- 6.1. The Presbytery representatives stated that it would be necessary at points in the process for the Kirk Session and Congregational Board to submit their record books to the Presbytery for inspection. This was agreed by the congregational representatives.
- 6.2. The Presbytery representatives requested an up to date copy of the Communion Roll, a list of adherents and any supplementary roll be provided electronically as soon as possible to keep on record and to aid the forthcoming process. This was agreed by the congregational representatives.
- 6.3. The Presbytery representatives requested that current office bearers, such as the congregational treasurer, would work to aid a smooth transition of any assets. This was agreed by the congregational representatives.

7. Future Plans

- 7.1. The congregational representatives expressed a view that with the entire membership of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen likely to resign their membership that dissolution of the congregation might be a way forward.
- 7.2. The Presbytery representatives stated that a process of discussion would need to take place before any decision could be made on the future shape of the Church of Scotland in the area.

8. Timescale

- 8.1. The congregational representatives stated that they would like this process to be completed by the end of June 2020.
- 8.2. It was stated by Presbytery and agreed by the congregational representatives that for a number of reasons, including potential conflicts of interests in trusteeship, an earlier date might be more advantageous for all concerned in order to move to a settled position within the churches and community.
- 8.3. The Presbytery representatives reminded the congregational representatives that, in the interests of safeguarding, an earlier date would be preferential to ensure time for members of a new congregation to go through the disclosure process in time for any summer outreach activities.

9. Other matters

- 9.1. The Presbytery representatives thanked the congregational representatives for their honesty and willingness to engage with Presbytery to effect a managed process.
- 9.2. Similarly, the congregational representatives offered thanks to the Presbytery representatives for their understanding, welcome and openness.
- 9.3. It was stated by Presbytery and agreed by the congregational representatives that from this point in the process it was vital that an open line of communication was established and maintained to enable the process to move forward.
- 9.4. The Presbytery Representatives expressed their thanks Mr McPhee, who is the longest serving Presbytery Elder within the Presbytery of Lanark having served for a period of 28 years for his engagement with Presbytery and his personal efforts to ensure that the congregation of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen worked with Presbytery over these years.
- 9.5. The Presbytery Representatives assured the congregation of their prayers as they sought to continue to serve God faithfully as a worshipping community.
- 9.6. The congregational representatives presented the Presbytery representatives with a prepared letter signed by all members of the Kirk Session (with three signing *Per Procuracionem*) outlining the reasons for the decision that has been reached.

10. Closure

- 10.1. The meeting was closed with the Presbytery Clerk leading those present in a time of prayer.

*Record Note agreed for accuracy by Presbytery Representatives and Congregational Representatives
9 September 2019*

Appendix 4

**Draft Basis of Union
between
Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen**

The Congregation of The Parish of Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old (Church of Scotland) (SC017014) and the Congregation of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church of Scotland) (SC006516) 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 'Coalburn and Lesmahagow Parish Church (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. All the property currently held by the congregation of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old shall be retained by the united congregation. The remaining properties held by the congregation of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the titles on which they are held, and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, of the General Trustees and the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995 be credited to the benefit of the united congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the said united congregation.
3. **Places of Worship:** The Churches in Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old 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 The Parish of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, 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.

Douglas, on Sunday 3 November 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in St. Bride's Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev George Shand, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 6 Ministers, 8 Elders, and 1 Visitor, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Colin Sinclair.

Narrative

Following the decision of Presbytery to agree a Basis of Guardianship for the charge of Douglas Valley and their being no objections made, the Presbytery were called to meet on this day for a service to mark the move into Guardianship.

Service of Recognition of Guardianship

The Presbytery proceeded to the Church, where the Sermon was preached by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt Rev Colin Sinclair. The Moderator and Mr Sinclair presided over the Act of Recognition of the congregation moving into a period of Guardianship.

After the service Rev Louise MacKay expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Moderator of the General Assembly, the Moderator of Presbytery, the Clerk, the Interim Moderator, Mr Bill Love, for the conduct of the service.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business and Conference on Tuesday 5 November 2019 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

The Moderator of the General Assembly closed the meeting with the Benediction.

Moderator

Clerk

Lanark, on Tuesday 5 November 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Rev George Shand, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 10 Ministers, 19 Elders, 1 Corresponding Member and 10 Visitors.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Rev W Buchan and D Carmichael, Ministers; G Sneddon, Corresponding Member.

Constitution of Presbytery

The Moderator led the Presbytery in praise and prayer and constituted the meeting.

Welcome to Visitors

The Moderator welcomed visitors attending the Presbytery meeting especially those representing the congregations of Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old, Kirkmuirhill and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen who had been cited to attend.

Approval of the Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was approved.

Minutes of meeting on 1 October 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2019 were held over to the next meeting due to the visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted that no decisions had been taken under delegated powers

Roll of Presbytery

There were no changes to the roll 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.

Parties were called.

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

The Clerk informed Presbytery that on 3 October 2019 concurrence from Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council in respect of the report of the Special Committee approved by Presbytery on 1 October 2019 was received:

8. In respect of the Presbytery Plan
 - a. In light of the stated intention of the minister and members of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen to resign their membership of The Church of Scotland, agree to change the Presbytery Plan to allow for one charge to cover the villages and environs of Coalburn and Lesmahagow by uniting Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, with the provision of 1 FT minister of word and sacrament and 1 FT MDS to work within and across the Coalburn, Lesmahagow and Kirkmuirhill area, subject to a suitable role and job description being devised in conjunction with the congregations and Ministries Council.
 - b. Agree to the reclassification of the buildings pertaining to Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen as category C.

- c. Agree, subject to permission to alter the Presbytery plan in terms of (b) and (c) above, approve a draft basis of union between Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen to take effect on the next day following the demission of the minister of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

Representatives from the cited congregations were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Note the concurrence of the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council in respect of decisions made on 1 October 2019 under the report of the Special Committee deliverance sections 7(b) – (d).
2. Agree the Basis of Union between Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen (Appendix 1) to take effect on the next day following the demission of the minister of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen.

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

The Clerk informed congregations of the appeal process should anyone desire so to do.

Good News Stories

Elizabeth Bradley, Carluke: St. Andrews spoke of the Drop In project which will be visited by Scottish Ballet in November, as well as the Scottish Churches China Group as the representatives from the Caritas Social Care Centre in China begin to understand how they can work with residents who have dementia and memory problems.

Presentation of Readers

The Moderator invited Alan Grant and Bill Love to stand as he addressed and encouraged them in their ministry. The Moderator expressed the thanks of Presbytery for all they do for the churches within the area and the ways in which they serve. Mr Grant and Mr Love were also assured of the prayers of Presbytery and were encouraged to seek support from colleagues in ministry when able. The Moderator led the Presbytery in prayer and asked for God's blessing on Mr Grant and Mr Love as they continued to serve the Church.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of Salaries and Honoraria
 - a. The Clerks Salary for 2020 continue to be 1/7th of the maximum stipend.
 - b. The Depute Clerk receive an honorarium of £1,000 for the duties undertaken during 2019, split £750 to Rev George Shand and £250 to Rev Paul Grant
 - c. The Presbytery AV Technician receive an honorarium of £240 for the duties undertaken during 2018
 - d. Kaye Gardiner & George Sneddon (Candidates for Full time Ministry of Word and Sacrament) receive a bursary of £250 each for the current year of study.
3. In respect of Presbytery Finance
 - a. Approve the Presbytery Budget for 2020 (appendix 2)

- b. Set congregational dues at a levy of £3.50 per member and instruct congregational treasurers to remit payment to the Presbytery no later than Friday 6 December 2019
 - c. Encourage congregational treasurers to budget for a levy of £3.75 for payment in December 2020.
4. In respect of Ministry and Mission Allocations:
- a. Approve the Ministry and Mission Allocations for 2020 (Appendix 3)
 - b. Reject the appeal from the Kirk Session of the Douglas Valley in relation to the allocation for 2020 and encourage the Kirk Session to work with the Presbytery to identify missional projects that may be able to attract money from the Discretionary Allowance, and to make full use of income generated within the Consolidated Fabric Fund to pay for local fabric costs
5. Note that the Kirk Session, Congregational Board and Congregation of Carluke: St. John's have resolved to move to the Unitary Constitution; agree to the request from Carluke: St. John's to move to the Unitary Constitution; and instruct the clerk to send an extract minute to the Delegation of Assembly to confer the new constitution
6. In respect of the General Assembly of 2020
- a. Agree to suspend Standing Order 9(e) and 9(g) in order to bring forward the timeframe for appointing commissioners.
 - b. Note that the charges of Douglas Valley, Lanark: Greyfriars, Kirkmuirhill and Carluke: Kirkton are invited to an elder to the General Assembly of 2020 and instruct each Kirk Session to forward the name of the individual to the Presbytery Clerk no later than 15 December 2019.
 - c. Agree the spare elder place be granted to Mr Bill Love as Interim Moderator in Douglas Valley Church.
 - d. Note that Rev Bryan Kerr, Rev Andrew Rooney and Rev Iain Cunningham will receive a commission to the General Assembly of 2020
 - e. Invite ministers to apply for a spare place no later than 19 November 2019

Report of the Special Committee for Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Jim Watt.

Parties were called.

The Clerk informed Presbytery that citations had been served to the congregation of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen and had been returned duly signed.

Mr Watt gave in the following report

"The committee have met and called in the minute books and other documents to view. In addition the committee have started to deal with the financial aspects in relation to the transition.

A Congregational meeting has been called for 12th November at which we will outline the process to members of the congregation.

The Special Committee are grateful for the cooperation of the Office bearers and Kirk Session of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen and look forward to continuing the process in this same vein."

Representatives from the cited congregation were invited to make representations.

Parties were removed.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

1. Receive and note the report.

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

The Clerk informed congregations of the appeal process should anyone desire so to do.

Report on the Visit of the Moderator of the General Assembly of The Church of Scotland

The Presbytery watched a video compiled by the Clerk of the different aspects of the visit. Thanks were expressed to the Clerk for his work in undertaking the arrangements for the ten day visit.

Presbytery Conference – Try Praying

The Convener of Relationships & Context Committee, Rev Mike Fucella, introduced the topic of 'Try Praying'. The Presbytery went into conference and heard a presentation from founder David Hill and development Co-ordinator, David Hart.

After the presentation and conference the Moderator thanked Mr Hill and Mr Hart for their time and information and also the committee and convener for organising the session.

Intimations

The Clerk informed Presbytery that the General Trustees would be running a food hygiene course in Greyfriars Church, Lanark on 24 November and anyone interested in a place should contact him.

St. Andrews Church in Carluke are hosting the Farmers Choir & Farmers Wives Choir on Sunday 1 December at 7pm. More details from the minister.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 3 December 2019 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

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

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix I

**Basis of Union
between
Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen**

The Congregation of The Parish of Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old (Church of Scotland) (SC017014) and the Congregation of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen (Church of Scotland) (SC006516) 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 'Coalburn and Lesmahagow Parish Church (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. All the property currently held by the congregation of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old shall be retained by the united congregation. The remaining properties held by the congregation of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the titles on which they are held, and subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, of the General Trustees and the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall (a) if falling within the scope of Act VII 1995 be credited to the benefit of the united congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund or (b) if not falling within the scope of the said Act be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the said united congregation.
13. **Places of Worship:** The Churches in Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old 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 The Parish of Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old and Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, 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.

Appendix 2

Presbytery Budget 2020				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Designated	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	
Opening Balance as at 1/1/20				
General Fund*	25,254	0	0	25,254
Designated Survey Fund	0	0	8,760	8,760
Designated LCR Fund	0	0	3,530	3,530
Restricted Youth Work Fund	0	3,720	0	3,720
Restricted Bertram & Somerville	0	6,007	0	6,007
Totals	25,254	9,727	12,290	47,271
<i>* Includes dues for Dec 2019 of £18,182 - 5195 @ 3.50</i>				
Income				
Interest	118	0	0	118
Dec 2020 Dues (4845 @ £3.75) Decrease of 350	18,169	0	0	18,169
Local Church Review (M&M Variance)	0	0	7,000	7,000
Total	18,287	0	7,000	25,287
Expenditure				
Clerk's salary	5,850	0	0	5,850
Clerk's expenses	600	0	0	600
Clerk's office	750	0	0	750
Printing & postage	250	0	0	250
Insurance & copyright	350	0	0	350
Honoraria	1,300	0	0	1,300
Surveys	0	0	5,400	5,400
Local Church Reviews	0	0	6,500	6,500
Pulpit Supply	220	0	0	220
Attestation Fees	2,750	0	0	2,750
Hall rent	1,125	0	0	1,125
Grants & Bursaries	750	0	0	750
Sundry	250	0	0	250
Travel Expenses	800	0	0	800
Data Protection	35	0	0	35
Governance	300	0	0	300
Valuations	0	0	0	0
Moderator's Visit	0	0	0	0
Total	15,330	0	11,900	27,230
Transfers	-3,500	0	3,500	0
Surplus/ Deficit	-543	0	-1,400	-1,943
Closing Balances as at 31/12/20				
General Fund	24,711	0	0	24,711
Designated Survey Fund	0	0	6,860	6,860
Designated LCR Fund	0	0	4,030	4,030
Restricted Youth Work Fund	0	3,720	0	3,720
Restricted Bertram & Somerville	0	6,007	0	6,007
Totals	24,711	9,727	10,890	45,328

Appendix 3

The Presbytery of Lanark					
Ministry & Mission Contributions 2020					
Congregation	Average Income 2016-2018	Average Income 2017-2019	2019 Contribution (Gross)	2020 Increase/ (Decrease)	2020 Proposed Contribution (Gross)
Biggar	97,876	103,389	61,025	3,138	64,163
Black Mount	23,123	23,038	12,829	(55)	12,774
Cairngryffe	36,476	37,227	21,509	488	21,997
Carluke Kirkton	142,409	135,825	84,504	(3,292)	81,212
Carluke St Andrew's	55,078	54,128	33,600	(617)	32,983
Carluke St John's	92,376	95,627	57,844	1,832	59,676
Carnwath	23,284	23,460	12,911	137	13,048
Carstairs Parish	52,916	51,832	32,195	(705)	31,490
Coalburn and Lesmahagow Old	83,649	83,531	52,171	(76)	52,095
Crossford	38,070	37,419	22,545	(423)	22,122
Douglas Valley	56,910	60,371	34,791	2,250	37,041
Forth St Paul's	65,434	59,834	40,331	(3,640)	36,691
Kirkfieldbank	21,199	22,315	11,579	725	12,304
Kirkmuirhill	80,836	86,823	50,343	3,891	54,234
Lanark Greyfriars	90,425	91,754	56,554	798	57,352
Lanark St Nicholas	112,319	117,976	69,075	3,111	72,186
Law	49,169	51,348	29,759	1,417	31,176
Lesmahagow Abbeygreen	62,089	57,437	38,157	(3,024)	35,133
Libberton and Quothquan	20,557	20,626	11,161	45	11,206
Symington	38,662	37,256	22,930	(914)	22,016
Upper Clyde	39,044	36,083	23,178	(1,925)	21,253

Lanark, on Tuesday 3 December 2019 the **Presbytery of Lanark** met in Greyfriars Parish Church and was constituted in prayer.

Sederunt: Mr Jim Watt, Moderator and Rev Bryan Kerr, Clerk along with others as in the Sederunt Book – in all 9 Ministers and 15 Elders.

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Revs D Carmichael, E Clelland, P Grant, H Jamieson, G Shand, and D Young, Ministers; H Chekansky, A Cochrane, and A Reid, Elders.

Constitution of Presbytery

In the absence of the Moderator, Rev George Shand, due to illness, the Presbytery invited Mr Jim Watt to take the chair. The Moderator led the Presbytery in praise and prayer and constituted the meeting.

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 1 October, 3 & 5 November 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 October, 3 & 5 November 2019 were held as read and approved.

Decisions taken under delegated powers

Presbytery noted the following decision that had been taken under delegated powers

The Presbytery:

1. Agreed in respect of Carstairs to grant permission to the Kirk Session of Carstairs to install an upgraded Audio Visual System in the sanctuary in line with the guidance issued by the General Trustees Adviser, subject to the approval of the General Trustees.

Roll of Presbytery

The Presbytery were informed of the recent death of the father of Rev Paul Grant and that the Clerk and Presbytery Support Convener had agreed a period of compassionate leave from 24th November – 13 December 2019.

Thanks were expressed to Mr Jim Watt for standing in for the Moderator at short notice.

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

Nikki Macdonald, Upper Clyde spoke of the 4th Sunday evening Service at Leadhills and Wanlockhead with over 27 people of all ages attending

Robert Mitchell, Douglas Valley, spoke of a recent fundraiser for the church, a Christmas Sale that had raised over £1,130 for church funds.

Louise MacKay, Lanark: St. Nicholas, spoke of the recent funding success from Go For It for Heat for You. After an initial rejection the project received £11,262 continuation funding for two years.

Christine O'Neill, Carlisle: Kirkton, spoke of a recent Santa Day Choir at Sandyholm Garden Centre which raised £40.75 for charity.

Report of the Presbytery Support Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget, Convener.

It was moved and seconded -

The Presbytery:

1. Receive the report.
2. In respect of Local Church Reviews:
 - b. Agree that Local Church Reviews will take place in 2020 in Biggar linked with Black Mount, Coalburn and Lesmahagow, and Douglas Valley.
 - c. Appoint Catch the Light to continue to lead Local Church Reviews during 2020.
 - d. Grant powers to the Presbytery Support Committee to appoint Local Church Review teams in advance of the next meeting of Presbytery.
3. In respect of Ministry and Mission Discretionary Allowance:
 - b. Agree that a sum of £7,500 be used by Presbytery to fund Local Church Reviews in 2020
 - c. Agree that the sum of £1,560 be granted to both Douglas Valley and Coalburn and Lesmahagow: Old in respect of the charges having a second act of worship on a Sunday morning that is not covered by the Vacancy Allowance due to their status as united charges with 2 places of worship.
 - d. Agree that a sum of £15,000 be made available for grants from the Ministry and Mission Variance for the first application window of 2020 in line with the guidelines approved in June 2018
4. In respect of the General Assembly of 2020:
 - b. Agree to appoint Rev Louise MacKay and Rev Dr Elijah Obinna as commissioners utilising the two spare ministerial places.
 - c. Remind the Kirk Sessions in the charges of Douglas Valley, Lanark: Greyfriars, and Kirkmuirhill of the instruction to forward the name of their elder commissioner to the Presbytery Clerk no later than 15 December 2019.
 - d. Grant powers to the Clerk to finalise the list of commissioners by the deadline set by the General Assembly and, if necessary, to seek and appoint substitute commissioners.
5. Grant powers to the Moderator, Clerk, Depute Clerk and Presbytery Support Convener from the close of this meeting to the constitution of the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery on 4 February 2020.

It was moved, seconded and agreed as an amendment to the deliverance to add a new section 6 'Grant permission to the congregations in Carluke and Lanark to hold joint services in the respective towns during the Christmas period.'

The Deliverance as amended was then agreed

Report of the Special Committee for Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Presbytery Support Committee which was given in by Mr. Scott Paget.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

2. Receive the report.
3. Note that a meeting with the Congregation of Lesmahagow; Abbeygreen took place on 12th November.
4. Note that at that meeting personalised letters were given to those members of the congregation present detailing their options. These letters to be returned to the Clerk by 31st December.
5. Note that, due to the volume of applications they are currently dealing with, OSCR are unlikely to be able to process the application for charity status from Abbeygreen Church before the 31st of January 2020.
6. Instruct the Special Committee to work towards a date of 31st January 2020, or such date as soon thereafter as legal processes will permit but no later than 28 February 2020, for members to resign

their membership of the Church of Scotland and the Rev David S. Carmichael to demit the charge of Lesmahagow Abbeygreen and also his status as a Minister of Word and Sacrament within the Church of Scotland.

7. Note that the congregation of Lesmahagow: Abbeygreen, in terms of the title deeds of the buildings has, at a duly constituted and called congregational meeting appointed the building trustees as William Love, John Lumsden and Elizabeth Muir in place of the Minister, Session Clerk and Clerk to the Congregational Board with effect from 12 November 2019.
8. Note that the Committee has instructed the congregation to ensure that all bank accounts operated by, or on behalf of the trustees (including organisations where funds form part of the charity accounts) be subject to the same governance procedures as the main accounts with assessor elders as signatories.

Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Worship and Discipleship Committee which was given in by the Rev. Louise MacKay, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

7. Receive the report
8. Note that the keynote event for February meeting will be the 'Easter Code'
9. Note the 'Fischy Music' event planned for 24th May 2020.

Report of the Relationship and Context Committee

The Presbytery called for the Report of the Relationship and Context Committee which was given in by the Rev. Mike Fucella, Convener.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

7. Receive the report.
8. Note the committee's concern about the limited time afforded to guest speakers and interactivity at the Conference Style Presbytery Meeting and ask the moderator to consider shortening the ordinary business part of such meetings in the future.
9. Encourage congregations to engage with 'Try Praying' in the near future. Booklets can be obtained through the convenor or directly through Try Praying.
10. Note that the Reverend John McCulloch, Presbytery Mission Partner in Israel/ Palestine will be available to visit congregations between 17-27 July. Encourage congregations to have joint services with the Reverend McCulloch in order to make best use of the two Sundays he is with us.

Intimations

Come and Sing Messiah, Carluke St John's 29th December with rehearsal at 4:30pm and performance at 6pm
Carluke: St. John's are looking for assistance for the annual Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day. As well as donations volunteers are sought for driving, preparing and serving between 12:30pm and 3pm.
St. Andrews Church in Carluke are hosting the Farmers Choir & Farmers Wives Choir on Sunday 1 December at 7pm. More details from the minister.

Adjournment:

The Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business and in conference on Tuesday 4 February 2020 at 7 pm in Greyfriars Parish Church, Lanark.

Closure

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

Moderator

Clerk

