

2018-14

RECORD OF THE PRESBYTERY OF MORAY

ORDINARY BUSINESS

The Presbytery of Moray met for Communion in Bellie Church, Fochabers, on Tuesday 26th June 2018 at 7 p.m., and thereafter as appointed for Ordinary Business. Presbytery was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Mrs Janet Whyte, who had earlier led Presbytery in devotions at the Communion service on the theme of the General Assembly 'Peace be with you', with the reading from Romans 15:1-13 by Rev Seòras Orr. The Communion service was then conducted by the Rev David Whyte.

Tea was served by Bellie and Speymouth folk

Presbytery was constituted for ordinary business by the Moderator, Janet Whyte. She thanked the Kirk Session of Bellie and Speymouth and its Session Clerk, John McConnachie; the organist, Marjorie Clarke; for all the arrangements for the Communion service; and those who had provided and served the hospitality. The clerk added the thanks of Presbytery to the Moderator and to David Whyte for the conduct of the Communion service.

Sederunt

With the Moderator there were seventeen ministers and twenty seven elders, one deacon and two corresponding members.

Apologies

Apologies were recorded from three ministers and seven elders.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of 1st May 2018, having been circulated, were approved.

Installation of Moderator of Presbytery for 2018-2019

Rev Stuart Duff, Minister at Elgin High linked with Birnie and Pluscarden, was installed as Moderator by the outgoing Moderator, Mrs Janet Whyte. Stuart Duff thanked Janet Whyte for her service to Presbytery over the past year, noting her welcome blend of firmness and kindness in the conduct of the meetings.

Report of Diligence at General Assembly

Rev Geoff McKee reported diligence on behalf of all the commissioners from Moray Presbytery, and gave his reflections on the proceedings.

Adjustment of Business

Rev. Morris Smith on behalf of the Business Committee moved that the business would be as printed on the Agenda.

Welcome to Presbytery

2018-15

Rev Rosemary Legge , retired minister from Cushnie and Tough in Gordon Presbytery, now resident at Archiestown, signed the formulae and was welcomed to Presbytery by the Moderator. She was formerly minister at Enzie and Rathven in Moray Presbytery.

Leave taking from Presbytery

Corinne Davies, (Session Clerk of Kinloss and Findhorn) and Barrie Wallace (Session Clerk of Alves and Burghead) spoke in appreciate of Rev Louis Bezuidenhout's ministry over the last four years. Louis then addressed Presbytery to record his valuing of the spirit of friendship and family that he has enjoyed in his congregations and in the Presbytery. The Moderator wished him well in his move to Dumbarton Presbytery to take up a transitional ministry post at Luss and Arrocher. The service of introduction will take place on Wednesday 8th August at 7.15 in Arrocher Church. Louis remains minister of his present charge up to the date of his service of introduction.

Business Committee

Presbytery called for the report of the Business Committee which was given in by Rev. Morris Smith, Convener. (He noted a correction to the report to list the number of full time ministry posts in the Presbytery Plan as 19 rather than 18) It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

1. Receives the report.
2. Agrees to the formation of a Nominations Committee as per appendix
3. Agrees the circulation of the Skills List sheet requesting information on interests and skills as per appendix to every member of Presbytery with a return of the end of July at the latest.
4. Agrees that proposed nominations to the Nominations Committee will be brought to the September Presbytery.
5. Notes that for 2018 - 2019 the Business Committee will allocate new elders to replace retiring elders on committees as an interim measure with the intention to move to the new system for 2019 - 2020.
6. Agrees that the remit for the Nominations Committee will be: the gathering of information on interests and talents of Presbytery members; the compilation of Presbytery Committees each year, as far as possible, based on that information; examination of the present Presbytery committee structure with the remit to propose changes if necessary.
7. Agrees to continue with the missional focus of Presbytery meetings in February, May and October 2018 - 2019.
8. Agrees to dispense with the 14 Day Rule.
9. Notes that committees can act under 'powers' for urgent business.
10. Agree that business that it is felt should come to Presbytery on a missional month should be via discussion with the Presbytery Clerk.
11. Agrees to the formation of a committee to manage the Robertson Scholarship Fund. The managers to be: Convenor of SF& P, Ministries and Training, and the Treasurer of Presbytery.

Appendix

The Presbytery of Moray Nominations Committee

2018-16

Information relating to Standing Committee Allocations and other Presbytery Posts.

NAME: Minister*
CONGREGATION: Deacon*
TELEPHONE NUMBER: Representative Elder*
EMAIL ADDRESS: Equalising Elder*

- Delete as appropriate

Dear member of Presbytery,

In order to make recommendations for membership of Standing Committees of Presbytery and for some other Presbytery appointments it is helpful to know about your employment and other experience, and about your interests. To this end it would be appreciated if you would kindly provide the information requested below:

Present or previous occupation.....

Professional or Vocational Qualifications (please specify)

Experience in any of the following fields (please tick all that apply and add a brief comment):

Law

Paralegal

Accounting

Finance

Teaching/Education

Healthcare

Social Work

Personal Care

Home Carer

Mission work

Media Services

Local or National Government service

Catering

Other (please specify)

Secretarial work (esp. in relation to Committees and Boards)

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Have you previously served on a Presbytery Committee? If so, which one(s):.....

This information will be used to allocate individuals to Presbytery or General Assembly Committees or in nominating people for positions that require Presbytery nomination. We will not disclose any information without your permission. If you are happy with this would you kindly sign below:

“I agree to this information being used by the Presbytery of Moray for the purposes of allocating individuals to Committees and/or other posts that require Presbytery nomination. I understand that I will be consulted before any such nomination is made.”

Signed:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO moray@churchofscotland.org.uk or by post to:

The Presbytery Clerk, North Manse, Church Road, KEITH, AB55 5BR

Vacancy Procedure Committee

Presbytery called for the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee which was given in by Rev. Bob Anderson Committee Co-ordinator. It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

1. Receives the report
2. Resolves to grant an extension of permission to call for a further one year to St. Andrew's-Lhanbryd and Urquhart
3. Resolves to grant an extension of call for a further one year to Keith: St. Rufus, Botriphnie and Grange
4. Resolves to grant an extension of call for a further one year to Mortlach & Cabrach.
5. Instructs the respective Kirk Sessions to update their Parish Profiles in line with the template published in the Guidance for Kirk Sessions.

Announcements

- a) Copies of a new book to reveal the history of St. Laurence Church Forres are available at the meeting, "Eight Centuries of Christian Worship. £5.00, and all proceeds go towards church funds.
- b) Refuel- volunteers are needed for the Presbytery-Episcopal Church tent at Gordon Castle, Monday 23 to Saturday 28 July 2018
- c) The North East Presbyteries' conference is now arranged for Saturday 8th September in Acorn Centre, Inverurie. Posters were given out at the Presbytery meeting
- d) The reception of students and readers will be at the September meeting of Presbytery

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- e) The Presbytery Prayer Diary for July to September was distributed as part of the Presbytery Papers. There were extra printed copies for congregational use available at the meeting.
- f) There will be a concert by the Military Wives Choir in Dyke Church on Saturday 7th July at 7.30 p.m. Proceeds will go to the Dyke and Edinkillie Church Access project.
- g) Leaflets on 'The Diaconate – A Ministry of Word and Service' were made available to Presbytery

Committee Reports

Superintendence Committee

Presbytery called for the report of the Superintendence Committee which was given in by - Rev Bob Anderson, Convener. It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

1. Receives the Report
2. Notes that all congregational records were produced at the Annual Inspection of Records on 28 March 2018, and that the standard of record-keeping was generally good.
3. Notes that 9 Parish Ministers Log Books were also inspected on 28 March, one of which was found to be unsatisfactory and guidance was given.
4. Notes that the required Report on the Annual Inspection of Parish Ministers' Log books has been remitted to the Ministries Council.
5. Thanks and discharges the inspection teams.

Mission and Service

Presbytery called for the report of the Mission and Service Committee which was given in by – Mr David Bridgeford, committee member It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

1. Receives the Report

Stewardship, Finance and Property Committee

Presbytery called for the report of the Stewardship, Finance & Property Committee which was given in by Rev Geoff McKee, convener. It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

1. Receive the Report
2. Adopt the 2017 Accounts with an attestation to be presented at a later date.
3. Instruct the treasurer to repay £575 towards the Historical NI Obligation.
4. Instruct the treasurer to bring the pay level for the Clerical Assistant to the Clerk to the level of the Scottish Living Wage, effective from the 1st April 2018.
5. Invite Committees to identify Missional or Ministries projects for 2019 to be funded out of the Presbytery's Discretionary Allowance and to set aside £2,000 of the Discretionary Allowance for this purpose.

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6. Commend the congregations of Dyke and Edinkillie on the purchase of a new manse
7. Approve the manse of Dyke and Edinkillie Parish as meeting the requirements for the induction of a minister
8. Approve the manse of Aberlour Parish as meeting the requirements for the induction of a minister
9. Commend the Kirk Session of Cullen and Deskford on the care of their buildings especially considering the particular challenges facing Cullen Old Kirk.

10. Note St. Andrew's-Lhanbryd and Urquhart Parish's consultation with CARTA and the General Trustees regarding the refurbishment or replacement of windows in the church

Ministry and Training Committee

Presbytery called for the report of the Ministry and Training Committee which was given in by Rev Isabel Buchan, convener. It was moved, seconded and agreed that Presbytery:

1. Receives the Report.
2. Agrees to Nominate Stuart Finlayson as a Candidate in Training for full-time Ministry from our Presbytery
3. Agrees to Nominate Eckhardt Bosch as a Candidate in Training for full-time Ministry from our Presbytery, and congratulate him as he is about to undertake his full-time Probationary period.
4. Seeks a placement for Ann Bowie to shadow an Interim Moderator to complete her training as an Elder Interim Moderator.
5. Gives permission to St. Andrews-Lhanbryd and Urquhart to apply for 'Go For It' funding for a part-time Children's Worker in the Parish, and to advertise such a post.
6. Invite Rev Stuart Duff to speak to Presbytery on his Study Leave visit to Nepal at a Presbytery Meeting after the summer break, possibly at one of our Mission Meetings.
7. Encourage all ministers and members of Congregations to support the first North East Presbytery Conference on 8 September 2018 at Acorn Centre, Inverurie West Church.

Thanks to retiring Conveners of committees and retiring members of Presbytery

The Moderator expressed thanks to Rev Geoff McKee (Convener, Stewardship, Finance and Property), and Elaine Clarke (Representative Elder, Mortlach and Cabrach) for their service to Presbytery

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet for Communion and Ordinary Business within St. Andrew's-Lhanbryd and Urquhart Church Hall on Tuesday 4th September 2018 at 7.00pm.

The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator. He led the Presbytery in saying the grace together.