

BROUGHTON 26 JUNE 2018. At Broughton Church on Tuesday the twenty sixth day of June 2018, the Presbytery met at 7pm and was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, Prof Murray Campbell. On behalf of the congregation of Broughton, Glenholm and Kilbucho, Mrs Pat Middlemass welcomed Presbytery to Broughton Church.

SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES: There were present 13 ministers and 31 elders whose names were recorded in the attendance book. Apologies were also recorded in the book. The Moderator welcomed members and visitors to the meeting of Presbytery.

MINUTES: The minute of the meeting of 1 May 2018 was submitted and approved, with one amendment.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR: Before calling for the election of the next Moderator, Professor Murray Campbell outlined some of the highlights from his year as Moderator, including attending a service at Earlston Church where Rev Rola Sleiman from the Lebanon and Rev Marci Glass from the USA participated in leading worship, and the recent service at Newtown Church to mark its 150th anniversary, at which the Moderator of the General Assembly was also present. Professor Campbell also warmly thanked Presbytery for the support he had received during his year in the Chair. Presbytery proceeded to the election of the Moderator, when it was unanimously agreed that Rev Julie Rennick be appointed. The appointment was intimated to Mrs Rennick who was welcomed by the Moderator and, after the Prayer of Consecration, took the Chair. Mrs Rennick expressed thanks on behalf of Presbytery to Professor Campbell for his year as Moderator.

CONGREGATIONAL SHOWCASE – BROUGHTON CHURCH: Dr Fiona Burnett and Mr Peter Worthington made a presentation highlighting some of the character and activities of Broughton, Glenholm and Kilbucho, and its wider linked charge. The linked charge has the distinction of having the longest name in the Red Book, and the parishes work very well together (for example through joint Kirk Session meetings where possible), whilst also celebrating their own distinctiveness. Dr Burnett paid tribute, amongst other things, to the worship workshop which has operated since the 1980s and works with the minister in leading worship. Mr Worthington explained that the parishes are continuing to develop new ideas even in vacancy, along with their Interim Moderator and Locum. Recent developments in Broughton, Glenholm and Kilbucho include afternoon family worship, and a fresh look at the suitability of the buildings for worship and mission.

ORDER OF BUSINESS: The order of business was approved as circulated, with the addition of two items under the Business Committee report and a verbal report from the Mission and Service Committee. It was also agreed to move the Governance Committee report on Presbytery Planning to be the first item under Standing Committee Reports. On behalf of Presbytery, the Business Committee convener thanked members of Broughton, Glenholm and Kilbucho for their hospitality in providing refreshments before the meeting.

FAREWELL TO REV JANICE FARIS: The Moderator welcomed representatives from the congregation of Innerleithen Traquair and Walkerburn. Mrs Julia Stoddart spoke and paid tribute to the ministry of Rev Janice Faris, and Mr John Taylor spoke in appreciation of the contribution of Mr Paul Faris to the life of the church. Mrs Faris spoke in her own interest, and the Moderator also paid tribute to Mr and Mrs Faris and on behalf of Presbytery wished them well in retirement and in their move to Cumbria.

DEMISSION OF REV DR LEON KELLER: Rev Calum Macdougall, Convener of the Business Committee, reported that a request by Rev Dr Leon Keller to demit his charge of Galashiels: Old and St Paul's l/w Galashiels: St John's had been received. Presbytery agreed to the demission, to take effect from 31 August 2018. Mr Andrew Bramhall, Session Clerk of Galashiels: St John's Church spoke and paid tribute to the ministry of Dr Keller in Galashiels: Old and St Paul's and Galashiels: St John's Churches. In the absence of Dr Keller, the Moderator paid tribute to him and, on behalf of Presbytery, wished him and his wife every blessing as they returned to South Africa.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY DILIGENCE: Rev J Faris reported diligence on behalf of herself and the Presbytery's other Commissioners. The Moderator thanked Mrs Faris on behalf of Presbytery.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE: Rev Calum Macdougall, Convener, presented the report of the Business Committee. Presbytery received the report.

1. Presbytery noted the Business Committee's review of the two-year pilot structure for Presbytery and Committee meetings and agreed to implement the Business Committee's recommendations for 2018-19.
2. Presbytery approved the following calendar of meetings for 2018-19:
 - Tuesday 4 September 2018 – 7pm Earlston: Business Meeting (after Holy Communion); Showcase
 - Tuesday 2 October 2018 – 7pm Innerleithen: Committee Evening; including Assembly Remits; with training for new members of Presbytery and Committee conveners (6pm)
 - Wednesday 24 October 2018 – afternoon/evening: World Mission prayer event for Israel/Palestine
 - Tuesday 6 November 2018 – 7pm Innerleithen: Business Meeting; Committee reports
 - Tuesday 4 December 2018 – 7pm Innerleithen: Assembly Remits; Speaker evening
 - Tuesday 5 February 2019 – 7pm Innerleithen: Committee Evening
 - Tuesday 5 March 2019 – 7pm Innerleithen: Business Meeting; Committee reports
 - Tuesday 7 May 2019 – 7pm Innerleithen: General Assembly topics (with speaker if appropriate)
 - Saturday 1 June 2019: Away Day (half day) Topic tbc; Invitation to Duns and Jedburgh Presbyteries.
 - Tuesday 25 June 2019 – Venue tbc: Business Meeting; Showcase.

76

PRESBYTERY of MELROSE and PEEBLES

26 June 2018

3. Presbytery agreed to set up a new Presbytery Planning Task Group, with the Governance Committee Convener as the Task Group Convener, plus one other member from the Governance Committee, and two members from each of the Mission and Service and Property and Stewardship Committees.
4. Presbytery appointed Mrs Christine Brotherston, Mr John Henderson, Rev Malcolm Jefferson, Rev Miller Milloy, Mr Robert Turnbull and Mrs Susan White as additional members of the Presbytery Complaints Panel and noted that the Clerk will provide a training session on the Presbytery Complaints Procedure for new members of the Panel.
5. Presbytery extended the appointment of Very Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald as interim moderator at Carlops l/w Kirkurd and Newlands l/w West Linton: St Andrew's until 16 July 2018.
6. Presbytery noted with approval the appointment of Rev Stewart McPherson as Interim Minister for Carlops l/w Kirkurd and Newlands l/w West Linton: St Andrew's, with effect from 16 July 2018. Presbytery appointed a Service of Introduction to take place on Tuesday 17 July 2018 in West Linton: St Andrew's Church at 7pm, with Presbytery meeting at 6.45pm on that day.
7. Presbytery noted with approval the decision by Eddleston Parish Church to move from a Model Deed to a Unitary Constitution and instructed the Clerk to send an extract minute to the Delegation of Assembly of the decision made by the congregation and of the Presbytery's approval.
8. Presbytery appointed Rev Elspeth Harley as the Presbytery Link with the Guild, and thanked Rev Julie Rennick for having been its Link person with the Guild for the past five years.

STATISTICAL RETURN: The Clerk submitted the statistical return for the year ended 31 December 2017 as follows:

Number of Communicants:	5556 (2016: 5815)
Removals:	
By Death	199
By Certificate	38
Otherwise	86
Admissions:	
By Profession	5
By Certificate	29
By Restoration	30
Supplementary Roll:	682
Children under 17:	284
Over 18 involved in life of congregation:	292
Elders:	397
Baptisms:	43 (including 3 adult baptisms)
Blessings:	3
Weddings:	42
Funerals:	284

Presbytery received the report.

ACCOUNTS INSPECTION COMMITTEE: Mr Fraser Simm, Treasurer, presented the report of the Accounts Inspection Committee. Presbytery noted that the accounts from all congregations have been inspected, and

commended the Accounts Inspection Committee for their work in this regard. Presbytery approved the proposal for the Accounts Inspection Committee to liaise with the Property and Stewardship Committee on ways to assist congregational treasurers.

VACANCY PROCEDURE COMMITTEE – GALASHIELS OLD AND ST PAUL’S L/W GALASHIELS: ST JOHN’S: Rev Margaret Steele, Convener, presented a report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee. Presbytery received the report. Following intimation by Rev Dr Leon Keller of his intention to demit from his charge with effect from 31 August 2018, but with his last Sunday being 12 August 2018, Presbytery noted with approval the appointment of the Rev David Donaldson as Interim Moderator in the charge of Galashiels: Old and St Paul’s l/w Galashiels: St John’s with effect from 13 August 2018.

GOVERNANCE – PRESBYTERY PLANNING: Rev Rosie Frew, Convener, presented a report of the Governance Committee on Presbytery Planning. Representatives from congregations as well as Presbytery members took part in a discussion on the report. Presbytery received the report. Presbytery asked congregations to note the remit from the General Assembly – “Instruct Kirk Sessions meantime to meet in conference, to reflect on the state of decline of the national Church and in particular how that affects the Church locally and determine what their vision and mission is for the next three years in collaboration with Presbytery Planning teams”. Presbytery agreed only to grant permission to call to vacant congregations when the new shape of the Presbytery Plan is clear and a way ahead agreed. Presbytery urged its Presbytery Planning Task Group and all congregations to work towards producing a new Presbytery Plan by 31 December 2019. Presbytery agreed to extend Reviewable Tenures to 2021. Presbytery encouraged Ministers in charges to be supportive of vacant congregations. Presbytery thanked those serving as Interim Moderators and Locums at this time.

MISSION AND SERVICE: Mr Graeme Donald, Convener, presented the report of the Mission and Service Committee, with Dr Fiona Burnett, World Mission Vice-Convener, presenting that part of the report relating to the forthcoming youth visit from Lebanon and Malawi. Presbytery received the report. Presbytery approved absence on study leave for Rev Rosemary Frew from
26 June 2018

PRESBYTERY of MELROSE and PEEBLES

77

17 - 23 September 2018. Presbytery noted the venue for the autumn Presbytery conference as Innerleithen Church. Presbytery noted the programme for the Malawi/Lebanon visit and the Presbytery World Mission Gathering to be held on 28 June 2018 in Innerleithen Church at 7pm.

PROPERTY AND STEWARDSHIP: Mr Keith Simpson, Property Vice-Convener, presented the report of the Property and Stewardship Committee. Presbytery received the report. Presbytery approved the decision of Selkirk Parish Church Congregational Board to sell St. Mary’s Manse.

PRESBYTERY MET IN PRIVATE:

This section of the minutes are removed and is only available to Presbytery members.

PRESBYTERY RESUMED IN OPEN COURT:

INTIMATIONS:

1. Kirk Sessions who have not yet provided the Clerk with details of their Presbytery elder for 2018-19 are asked to do so as soon as possible.
2. From World Mission: You are reminded about the Presbytery World Mission get-together on Thursday 28 June 2018 at 6pm in Innerleithen Church. At the meeting, we hope to bring you up to date with the plans for the forthcoming visit of our Lebanese and Malawian guests in August, show you a little of the area where they are coming from and also let you know what other exciting things are going on in the area of World Mission. There will also be an opportunity to hear your news and concerns about matters World Mission. Do come and bring a friend if you can. We are providing a sandwich supper and the meeting will end no later than 8pm. Please could you let Fiona Burnett have numbers for catering purposes.
3. Braw Lads Day Coffee Morning: The Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday 30 June 2018, 10:00 to 12:00, at Old Parish and St. Paul’s Church in Galashiels; entry will be payment at the door, adults @£2.00 each with accompanied children going free. There will be tea, coffee, other refreshments and home baking.
4. The Presbytery Prayer Diary for Summer 2018 is now available. This was enclosed with the Presbytery papers sent out by email, and printed copies will be made available to those members of Presbytery not on email.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. From Mission and Discipleship Council: There will be an “Equip for Sports” event, looking at connecting with communities through sports, taking place on Saturday 8 September 2018 at Bankfoot Church Centre, Perth. Flyers were available at Presbytery.
2. From the Kirk Sessions of Maxton and Mertoun and Newtown Churches: Presbytery granted permission to those congregations not to hold a service of worship on Sunday 2 September 2018, in order to join with the congregation of St Boswells for a special service to mark the end of the probationary placement for Rachel Wilson, ministry candidate.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the Presbytery adjourned to meet *in hunc effectum* on Tuesday 17 July 2018 at 6.45pm in West Linton: St Andrew’s Church for the Service of Introduction of Rev Stewart McPherson to the charge of Carlops l/w Kirkurd and Newlands l/w West Linton: St Andrew’s, and to meet for the Sacrament of Holy Communion followed by Ordinary Business on Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 7pm in Earlston Church, of which public intimation was made, and the *sederunt* was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk