

BROUGHTON 3 SEPTEMBER 2019. At Broughton Church on Tuesday the third day of September 2019, the Presbytery met at 7pm for the sacrament of Holy Communion, and thereafter was constituted in prayer by the Moderator, Dr Fiona Burnett.

SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES: There were present 13 ministers and 22 elders whose names were recorded in the attendance book. Apologies were also recorded in the book.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS AND FAREWELL TO RETIRING MEMBERS: On behalf of Presbytery, the Moderator welcomed Mrs Catriona Bird, Mr Chris Carroll, Mr John Pollitt and Mr Sandy Milligan as new members of Presbytery for 2019/20. The Moderator also reported that Rev Milton and Mrs Margaret Cashman had intimated their retirement as members of Presbytery; Presbytery instructed the Clerk to write to them, conveying Presbytery's gratitude for their long service to Presbytery.

MINUTES: The minute of the meeting of 25 June 2019 was submitted and approved.

ORDER OF BUSINESS: The order of business was approved as printed, save that there would be an additional verbal report from the Governance Committee.

FAREWELL TO REV CALUM MACDOUGALL: The Moderator welcomed representatives from the congregations of Eddleston l/w Peebles: Old. Dr Christine Donnelly from Eddleston and Mr Tom Fairbairn from Peebles: Old spoke and paid tribute to the ministry of Rev Calum Macdougall. Mr Macdougall spoke in his own interest, warmly commending the joys of parish ministry. The Moderator paid tribute to Mr Macdougall and on behalf of Presbytery wished him well in his retirement.

VACANCY PROCEDURE COMMITTEE: Rev Margaret Steele, Convener, presented the report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee. Presbytery received the report. Presbytery noted with approval the decision of the Vacancy Procedure Committee to release Rev Julie Rennick from the charge of Earlston on 1 October 2019 (or other similar date to be confirmed), upon which date the charge will become vacant.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE: In the absence of the Convener, Prof Murray Campbell presented the report of the Business Committee. Presbytery received the report.

1. Presbytery Assembly Remits 2019:

- (a) Presbytery remitted to its Safeguarding Co-ordinator the instructions to Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions relating to Safeguarding (items 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14 on page 3 of the Remits Booklet, Safeguarding Committee), the Presbytery Safeguarding Co-ordinator to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (b) Presbytery remitted to its Property and Stewardship Committee the instruction to Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to "engage with the consultation process" in relation to the Land and Buildings Plan Consultation Paper (item 3 on page 5 of the Remits Booklet, General Trustees), the Property and Stewardship Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (c) Presbytery remitted to the Mission and Service Committee the instruction to those serving in recognised ministries of the Church and others to "familiarise themselves with the Code of Professional Practice and Good Conduct" (item 24 on page 6 of the Remits Booklet, Ministries Council), the Mission and Service Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (d) Presbytery remitted to the Mission and Service Committee the instruction to Kirk Sessions to "implement proposals for the payment of Ordained Local Ministers etc" (item 40 on page 6 of the Remits Booklet, Ministries Council), the Mission and Service Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (e) Presbytery remitted to the Mission and Service Committee the instruction to Presbyteries and Kirk Sessions to "engage with the characteristics of discipleship and explore how they are worked out in their own local context" (item 5 on page 6 of the Remits Booklet, Mission and Discipleship Council), the Mission and Service Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (f) Presbytery instructed all Committees to study other remits and bring relevant matters to Presbytery.
 - (g) Presbytery instructed all ministers and elders to bring other relevant matters to the notice of their Kirk Sessions (see pages 1-8 of the Remits Booklet).
2. Presbytery reappointed Mr Fraser Simm as its Treasurer for 2019/20.
 3. Presbytery thanked Rev Sheila Moir for her work as Presbytery Safeguarding Co-ordinator over recent years and noted that a new Safeguarding Co-ordinator is now required.
 4. Presbytery appointed Mr David Brackenridge as its Governance Convener with effect from the close of this meeting.
 5. Presbytery approved the membership of its Committees for 2019/20 as set out in the draft Presbytery Year Book, noting that some additions may be made which will be brought to the October meeting.
 6. Presbytery approved the revised Standing Orders as set out in the Presbytery Year Book.
 7. Presbytery noted that Rev Jim Cutler will be appointed as locum to Eddleston l/w Peebles: Old upon the retirement of Rev Calum Macdougall.

MISSION AND SERVICE: In the absence of the Convener, Rev Malcolm Jefferson presented the report of the Mission and Service Committee.

1. Presbytery received the report.

2. Presbytery approved the application for Study Leave by Rev Victoria Linford from 20 January to 2 February 2020 in order to join a Study Tour to the Holy Land (22-29 January) plus time for reflection and reading. The full cost is £914.50; the funds are available.
3. Presbytery approved the absence of Rev Rosie Frew from her parish from 8 to 22 October 2019 to facilitate her successful application for National Study Leave.
4. Presbytery noted the proposed learning opportunities as referred to in Appendix A (Initial outline programme suggestions) and invited Presbyters and Kirk Sessions to offer comment and suggestions on improving the content of the programme by 23 October 2019.
5. Presbytery urged Ministers, Presbytery Elders and Session Clerks to actively support Creating and Deepening Discipleship learning opportunities (paras 3.4 and 3.5 and Appendix A) with a view to engaging with the initial conversation and a course on the 'Characteristics of Discipleship', that can in turn be utilised in the participant's own church context.
6. Presbytery urged Ministers, Presbytery Elders and Session Clerks to continue the search for course tutors, organisers and assessors to assist with the delivery of the three year learning programme.
7. Presbytery agreed that certificates awarded for completion of the Worship Leaders course (and other Presbytery courses) should be presented at a meeting of Presbytery, with a further presentation in the local church where appropriate.
8. Presbytery agreed to hold the October 'Away Day' from 3pm – 6pm on Wednesday 23 October 2019. It was agreed further that one or two representatives from each of the Borders Secondary Schools be invited to join us on that occasion.
9. Presbytery noted that applications to attend the October 'Away Day' should be with the Convener by the October meeting.
10. Presbytery agreed to hold the summer 2020 'Away Day' on Saturday 6 June 2020.
11. Presbytery encouraged the Business Committee to bring to Presbytery in October their recommendation on the funding and the appointment of a Learning and Development Officer.

PRESBYTERY MET IN PRIVATE:

The minute items in this section are only available in the "Private" section of the website.

PRESBYTERY RESUMED IN OPEN COURT:

INTIMATIONS:

1. General Assembly 2019 Remits Booklet was enclosed electronically with Presbytery papers; printed copies were also available at the meeting of Presbytery.
2. The Presbytery Year Book 2019/20 was enclosed electronically as a draft; please could members of Presbytery check their entries if they have not done so. A final version will be issued for the October meeting, along with printed copies.
3. The Autumn Prayer diary was enclosed electronically with these Presbytery papers; some printed copies were also available at the Presbytery meeting.
4. Please remember that applications for reductions in Ministry and Mission payments in 2020 should be with the Presbytery Clerk by 13 September 2019. There will need to be time for the applications to be reviewed by the Property and Stewardship Committee well before they have to be with Stewardship and Finance Department at "121" for processing. This is money to be used for mission in our Presbytery, so encourage your congregations to get their thinking caps on very soon. If you need another copy of the application form and guidelines, please contact the Clerk.
5. The next training arranged by Ministries Council for prospective Interim Moderators will take place on 26 October 2019 in Inverness; while this will not be geographically suitable for those in our Presbytery, an additional training day in another location may be held if there is enough demand. If you are interested in applying for Interim Moderator training, or can nominate an elder from a congregation in Presbytery who might be suitable for training, please contact the Clerk.
6. Presbytery noted that Rev Bob Milne is returning from his time in Zomba, Malawi and that he is willing to share with Presbytery details of his work there in recent months.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. From Borders Street Pastors – the August 2019 update was enclosed with Presbytery papers.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 1 October 2019 at 7pm in Innerleithen Church for refreshments and Committee meetings, followed by Ordinary Business at 7.30pm, of which public intimation was made, and the *sederunt* was closed with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk