

PRESBYTERY of MELROSE and PEEBLES

The Presbytery will meet at **Earlston Parish Church** on Tuesday 4 September 2018 at 7pm for the sacrament of Holy Communion and thereafter for ordinary business.

Victoria Linford, Clerk

Business

1. Constitute
2. Sederunt and Apologies
3. Welcome to new members
4. Minutes (pp75-79)
5. Congregational Showcase – Earlston Parish Church
6. Order of Business
7. Business Committee
8. Presbytery Planning Task Group Report (*report to follow after conference on 1 September 2018*)
9. Standing Committee Reports:
 - (a) Mission and Service (*report enclosed as separate document*)
 - (b) Property and Stewardship (*report to follow*)
10. Intimations
11. Correspondence
12. Adjournment

**[REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED BEFORE THE COMMUNION SERVICE,
AT EARLSTON CHURCH FROM 6.30PM]**

Business Committee

1. Presbytery Assembly Remits 2018:
 - (a) Overture under the Barrier Act – Discipline Overture (pp3-30 of the Remits Booklet). Presbytery appoints the required ballot to take place during the November meeting of Presbytery (a return of the votes has to be submitted to the Principal Clerk not later than 31 December 2018). Only Presbyters present at that meeting are entitled to vote in the ballot. Presbytery asks the Clerk to produce a guidance note on the Overture for the October meeting.
 - (b) Presbytery remits to its Presbytery Planning Task Group the instruction to Presbyteries to “challenge themselves in their Presbytery Plans to be robust, imaginative and courageous in reducing the number of charges, creating ministry hubs, and enabling new pioneer and new church planting opportunities” (item 6 on page 31 of the Remits Booklet, Council of Assembly), the Presbytery Planning Task Group to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (c) Presbytery remits to its Presbytery Planning Task Group the instruction to Kirk Sessions 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” (item 7 on page 31 of the Remits Booklet, Council of Assembly), the Presbytery Planning Task Group to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (d) Presbytery remits to the Presbytery Clerk the instruction to Presbyteries to “ensure that Congregational Office Bearers access and make use of the range of resources prepared by the Law Department to enable compliance with the terms of the General Data Protection Regulation from 25 May 2018” (item 12 on page 31 of the Remits Booklet, Council of Assembly), the Clerk to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.

- (e) Presbytery remits to the new Pastoral Care of Ministers Committee the instruction to Presbyteries to “act in a pastoral manner to both minister and congregation when considering the implications of sections 5-9 of the Long Term Illness of Ministers Act 2002” (item 15 on page 33 of the Remits Booklet, Ministries Council), the Pastoral Care of Ministers Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
- (f) Presbytery remits to the Governance Committee the instruction to Presbyteries to “obtain fresh concurrence with their current plan from the Presbytery Planning Task Group by 31 December 2018 and note that failure to do so may result in the sisting of vacancies” (item 29 on page 34 of the Remits Booklet, Ministries Council), the Governance Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
- (g) Presbytery remits to the Governance Committee the instruction to Presbyteries to “engage with the Presbytery Planning Task Group when negotiating a Basis of Adjustment” (item 31 on page 34 of the Remits Booklet, Ministries Council), the Governance Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.

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- (h) Presbytery remits to the Mission and Service Committee the instruction to Presbyteries to “actively encourage people of vision and leadership quality to be nominated to the Councils and Committees of the Church to bring direction in the light of the mission challenges the Church faces today” (items 6 on page 36 of the Remits Booklet, Nomination Committee), the Mission and Service Committee to report to Presbytery by the November meeting.
 - (i) Presbytery remits to the Mission and Service Committee the instruction to Kirk Sessions to “explore how the fresh vision for eldership outlined in section 2 of the Report applies to their particular local context” (item 3 on page 36 of the Remits Booklet, Mission and Discipleship Council), the Mission and Service Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (j) Presbytery remits to the Mission and Service Committee the instruction to Kirk Sessions to “consider how the aspirations outlined in the Report shape their ongoing ministry and engagement with children and young people in the parish” (item 4, page 36 of the Remits Booklet, Mission and Discipleship Council), the Mission and Service Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (k) Presbytery remits to the Mission and Service Committee the instruction to Kirk Sessions to “explore what opportunities exist for a fresh expression of church in their parish” (item 18 on page 36 of the Remits Booklet, Mission and Discipleship Council), the Mission and Service Committee to report to Presbytery by the December meeting.
 - (l) Presbytery instructs all Committees to study other remits and bring relevant matters to Presbytery.
 - (m) Presbytery instructs all ministers and elders to bring other relevant matters to the notice of their Kirk Sessions (see pages 31-36 of the Remits Booklet).
2. Presbytery approves the membership of its Committees for 2018/19 as set out in the Presbytery Year Book.
 3. Presbytery homologates the decision of the Moderator’s Committee to appoint Rev Sheila Moir as interim moderator at Channelkirk and Lauder Church during the absence on sick leave of Rev Rae Clark.

Intimations

1. The General Assembly 2018 Remits Booklet is enclosed with these Presbytery papers; printed copies can also be obtained at the Presbytery meeting.
2. The Presbytery Year Book 2018/19 is almost finalised; it will be sent out by email, with printed copies available at the Presbytery meeting.

3. The Autumn Prayer diary is almost finalised; it will be sent out by email, with printed copies available at the Presbytery meeting.
4. As there are no first-time members of Presbytery for 2018-19, the proposed training session for new Presbytery members, which was scheduled to take place before the October meeting, will only be held if there is an interest in having this training session. If any member of Presbytery would find the training session useful, please could they let the Clerk know by 18 September 2018.
5. Presbytery notes that a training day for those interested in becoming a Mentor or Presbytery Assessor for applicants in Discernment, as well as refresher training for current Mentors and Presbytery Assessors, will be held on Wednesday 26 September 2018 at the Conforti Institute, Coatbridge. Please could anyone interested in attending this contact the Clerk by 8 September 2018.
6. Presbytery notes that an information morning for those interested in the role of National Assessor for the Discernment process will be held on Tuesday 9 October 2018 in Edinburgh. Please could anyone interested in being appointed by Presbytery to this role, contact the Clerk by 18 September 2018.
7. A Missionary Dinner will be held on Saturday 29 September 2018 at Old Parish and St Paul's Church, Galashiels, at 6.00 for 6.30 pm. A meal will be served and Rolf Buwert will speak about the work of Tear Fund in this their 50th Anniversary year. Tickets priced £8.00 for adults and £4.00 for students are available tonight from Milton Cashman and also at the door on the night. All proceeds to Tear Fund.

Correspondence

1. From Churches of Upper Tweeddale – Presbytery notes that the usual service of worship in Broughton Church was not held on Sunday 26 August 2018, in order to hold a joint service in Skirling Church at 11.30am to welcome Geoffrey Matias to Upper Tweeddale. The usual Sunday services in Tweedsmuir and Stobo Churches took place.
 2. From Churches of Upper Tweeddale – Presbytery notes that the usual service of worship was not held at Tweedsmuir Church on Sunday 2 September 2018 because of access problems resulting from the Tour o' the Borders cycle event; the usual Sunday services were held elsewhere in the linking.
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3. From Churches of Upper Tweeddale – permission is sought not to hold the usual services of worship at Broughton, Stobo and Tweedsmuir Churches on Sunday 21 October 2018, in order to hold a United Service at Skirling Church to mark the retiral from active eldership of the Misses Eastland.
 4. From SRT Project: As part of the annual “Good Money Week”, the Church of Scotland and partners are hosting an event entitled “A future worth saving for...”. To be held on Wednesday 3 October 2018 9.30am–1pm at City of Edinburgh Methodist Church, Edinburgh EH8 9BX. An opportunity to consider how your faith, values and finances interact. Learn how the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relate to positive decisions about our money and how we can help ensure a sustainable world now and in the future. Guest Speakers: Wendy Young, Christian Aid Scotland and Christopher Stockwell, Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility (ECCR). After hearing from our speakers, delegates will have the opportunity to take part in two of the three workshops hosted by Triodos Bank, Scotwest Credit Union and Prosper Social Finance. Lunch will be provided after the event. Places are free but limited. Book online at www.afwsf18.eventbrite.co.uk, or email khunter@churchofscotland.org.uk for more information.