

NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL MEETING OF PRESBYTERY

PRESBYTERY OF MELROSE AND PEEBLES

The Presbytery will meet **BY ZOOM** on Friday 28 May 2021 at 6.30pm *pro re nata* for the purposes of dealing with certain Presbytery Planning Implementation matters.

Victoria Linford, Clerk
on behalf of Rev Malcolm Jefferson, Moderator

BUSINESS

1. Constitute
2. Sederunt and Apologies
3. Approval of Meeting and Order of Business
4. Presbytery Planning Implementation Committee regarding the implementation of:
 - (a) Basis of Linking of Caddonfoot and Stow and Heriot; and
 - (b) Basis of Union of Galashiels: Old and St Paul's, Galashiels: St John's and Galashiels: Trinity
5. Vacancy Procedure Committee re: Galashiels
6. Adjournment

The Presbytery of Melrose and Peebles

Report of the Presbytery Plan Implementation Committee

28th May 2021

First of all thank you very much for meeting tonight. It's a very important meeting for the congregations of Stow & Heriot and Caddonfoot and the three congregations in Galashiels. The Presbytery Planning Task Group in 121 have brought forward one of their meetings and were happy with the basis of linking for Caddonfoot and Stow & Heriot and with the basis of union for the three Galashiels churches. Their only comment was a reminder that the basis of linking contains a reference to the severing of the linking between Caddonfoot and Galashiels: Trinity and this needs to be enacted before the date for the union can be set. I am therefore asking Presbytery to set a date for the linking of 28th May and a date for the union also of 28th May.

As this completes the work of the Presbytery Plan Implementation Committee (PPIC) for the immediate future and the remaining linking is the one between Channelkirk & Lauder and Earlston I would recommend that we discharge the PPIC. We can establish a small team to handle the outstanding linking when it is appropriate.

Deliverance:

1. Presbytery receives the report.
2. Presbytery intimates the concurrence by the Presbytery Planning Task Group (the "121" Committee) on the basis of linking of Stow & Heriot and Caddonfoot and sets the date of linking to be 28 May 2021. This also includes the severing of the linking between Caddonfoot and Galashiels: Trinity.
3. Presbytery intimates the concurrence by the Presbytery Planning Task Group on the basis of union of Galashiels: Old Parish & St Paul's, Galashiels: St John's and Galashiels: Trinity and sets the date of union to be 28 May 2021.
4. Presbytery discharges the Presbytery Plan Implementation Committee.

Report of the Vacancy Procedure Committee – May 28th 2021

The Committee, excluding Mr Peter Sandison as an interested party, noting the agreement in the Basis of Union that a decision on the sale/future use of the buildings will be reached within two years, agreed to grant permission to the newly united congregation in Galashiels to call a minister to its vacant charge effective from the date of union. The Committee notes that the finances are in good order, the Manse is in a satisfactory state and also that should no candidate be forthcoming the right to call will be automatically suspended in two years' time (subject of course to any extension agreed then by Presbytery).

The Vacancy Procedure Committee has appointed an Advisory Committee for the United Galashiels congregation to come into effect at the date of union. Its membership is the Rev Dr Miller Milloy, Mr Robert Turnbull and Miss Susan McDonald.

The Committee agreed that the number for the Nominating Committee shall be 9.

Deliverance:

1. Presbytery receives the report.
2. Presbytery notes the decision of the Vacancy Procedure Committee to grant permission to the United Congregation in Galashiels to call a minister to its vacant charge effective from the date of union. The Committee notes that the finances are in good order, the Manse is in a satisfactory state and also that should no candidate be forthcoming the right to call will be automatically suspended in two years' time (subject to any extension agreed then by Presbytery).
3. Presbytery notes the appointment of the Rev Dr Miller Milloy, Mr Robert Turnbull and Miss Susan McDonald as the Advisory Committee for the united Galashiels congregation, effective from the date of union.
4. Presbytery notes that the number on the Nominating Committee will be 9.