

Abbotshall Church Thursday 30th October 2014

which place and date the Kirk Session met and was duly convened with prayer.

- Sederunt** Rev R Frew with I Anderson, M Baxendine, P Bell, I Clark, A Duncan, R Duncan, E Fraser, Jane Gilmour, Jim Gilmour, R Henderson, J McLeod, M Michael, D Murray, J Napier, B Page, J Scott, M Scriven, A Steward, G Webster.
- Apologies** J Browning, S Docherty, R Duncan, A Elder, T Espie, B Farrell, J Farrell, R Michael, A Moyes, M Petrie, E Smith,
- Minutes** The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 3 September 2014 were approved.
- Matters Arising** Morna Scriven agreed to be our Mission and Discipleship Committee contact person.
- Eileen Miller has been called to the charge of Glenrothes: St Margaret's. Her service of Ordination is on Thursday 20 November at 7.00pm.
- James Bissett will be starting his final training placement for Ordained Local Ministry at Abbotshall on Sunday. He will be with us for 10hrs a week for the next year.
- Morag gave a brief report on the Eldership Conference she and Morna had just attended. She spoke about 'Learn', a new training resource for elders, and recommended that we purchase several copies for the Session.
- The minister has been in contact with the Mentiplay family. They have managed to secure a casket lair in the graveyard for Alan and there is to be a service of interment in late November.
- Work on the church wall will take place in January/February.
- Morag wrote to the Samaritans indicating that they would be the recipients of our Christmas offering. 2 speakers from Samaritans are coming to the Thursday Fellowship Group on 27 November.
- Local Church Review Questionnaire** The questionnaire for Local Church Review was completed by the appropriate office bearers and circulated prior to the meeting. A small number of minor corrections were made. The Moderator to make the changes and submit to the Presbytery Superintendence Committee.
- Communion** Numbers tight for Communion on Sunday. Suggested that in future we could reduce to 2 elders at 9.00am service if necessary.

Discussion of weekly rota followed. Possibility of reducing number on duty each week – Morag will look at this when next rota is drawn up for the new year. The importance of letting the Number 1 elder know if you are unable to do a duty was stressed as well as the importance of finding a replacement to cover for you. Elders were also reminded to be in good time if they are on duty.

Ordination of new elders

A training evening for prospective elders to be held on Tuesday 11 November at 7.00pm in the Manse, led by Mrs Beryl Luke. Morag, Morna and Anne to be in attendance. Still waiting for final decisions from 2 of those approached. Date for Ordination to be agreed at the training evening.

Presbytery update

No meeting since last Kirk Session meeting. Service of Welcome held for 3 new Ministries Development Staff serving in Glenrothes and Leslie. Ordination of Michael Allardice as an Ordained Local Minister to serve initially at Torbain Church. Presbytery meets on 2 November when the Ministers and Deacons in Civil Partnerships Overture will be voted on.

Safeguarding

Michael Baxendine reported:

1. Safeguarding Register - The signed original of the Safeguarding Register for Abbotshall Parish Church has now been found and returned.
2. Pastoral Care Group - Awaiting dates for half day Safeguarding training for Pastoral Care Group Members. Once completed our 1 remaining Pastoral Care Group member can then apply for registration under the PVG scheme.
3. Elders - Safeguarding Training Part 1 for all Elders (refresher and new Elders) has been arranged for Wednesday 26th November at 7.00pm in place of the Session Meeting in the Kennedy Hall. Trainer will be Alli Roy, the course is 2hrs long. There will be at least 14 Elders from other Churches in the Presbytery.
4. PVG Scheme - The Scottish Government requires all existing paid staff and volunteers doing regulated work to join the PVG scheme by 31st October 2015. After this date it will be an offence to recruit, or keep in post, a person who has been barred from working with vulnerable groups. The only way to know if a person has been barred is if they have been denied PVG scheme membership which links with Disclosure Scotland.
5. The minister reported that ministers in Kirkcaldy Presbytery are due to be contacted by the Safeguarding Committee imminently concerning their membership of the scheme.

Pastoral Care Update Anne reported that she had just delivered 90th birthday gifts to Eva Peters and Betty Robertson. Cis Robertson will be 90 on 15 November. She asked elders to pray for the grand-daughter of one of our members who has a stage 3 tumour on her kidney.

KART Morag received the KART annual report. She read out some statistics concerning the number of children Chris Beattie has contact with and the number of schools visited. Elders were reminded that the bulk of Chris's work is in schools and not churches. He does lead holiday clubs and activity days using church premises. Congregations were thanked for their funding of the work of KART. It was pointed out that Church of Scotland funding of £10,000 pa will come to an end this year so more support will be needed from churches and individuals. It was agreed to review Abbotshall's commitment when we look at the 2014 accounts and 2015 budget at our Trustees meeting in January.

Nominations Morag asked elders to consider nomination to one of the central Councils or Committees of the Church of Scotland. She has nomination forms and details of the different committees.

George Robertson Elders noted the recent death of George Robertson who was ordained in 1958 and retired from Session in 2009. A tribute to him will be included in the next newsletter.

Diary dates Sunday 2 November, 9.00am and 11.00am – Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Saturday 8 November – Christmas Fayre
Sunday 9 November, 10.50am – Remembrance Sunday Service
Wednesday 26 November, 7.00pm – Kirk Session meeting
Thursday 27 November, 2.00pm – Thursday Fellowship Group
Sunday 30 November – First Sunday in Advent
Saturday 13 December, 10.00am-12noon – Coffee Morning
Sunday 14 December – Gift Sunday
Saturday 20 December, 5.00pm – Christingle Service
Sunday 21 December, 11.00am – Family Christmas Service with Young Church
Wednesday 24 December, 11.15pm – Christmas carols, Watchnight Service
Thursday 25 December, 11.00am – Christmas Day Service
Sunday 28 December, 11.00am – United Service in St Bryce Kirk

Bill Page reported that everything is in hand for the Christmas Fayre.

Christmas gift envelopes will be sent out with the forthcoming newsletter (16 November).

Gifts for Women's Aid will be collected on Sunday 14

December.

Services during January and February will be held in the Halls.

Dates of next meeting Wednesday 26 November, 7.00pm – Kirk Session Safeguarding training session.

Closing Prayer The meeting was closed by the Session saying “*The Grace*” together.

Action Items Check Duty Rota.....

Minute Clerk

Moderator

DRAFT