

At Fort William, and within the hall of Kilmallie Parish Church, Caol, the seventh day of February 2006, at 7.00 pm, which place, date and time the Presbytery of Lochaber met and was constituted with prayer.

1. **SEDERUNT, APOLOGIES, ROLL OF PRESBYTERY & TRIBUTE**
 - 1.1 Present were the Rev Archie Speirs, Moderator, the Rev David M. Anderson, Clerk, 27 full members, one assessor minister appointed under Act V, 2001 and 1 corresponding member of Presbytery. Names and apologies as per sederunt sheet.
 - 1.2 Tribute was paid to Mr David Maitland by the Rev Alan Ramsay.
2. **MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous meeting of 6th December 2005, being in the hands of members, were approved.
3. **REPORT**

Mrs Margaret Varwell, the President of Lochaber Presbyterial Council, gave a report from the Guild. The Moderator thanked her for her report and commended the work of the Guild to God's care.
4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Presbytery Clerk presented 32 items of correspondence.

 - 4.1 Clerk of the Presbytery of Perth: Acknowledgement of the Presbytery Clerk's response to correspondence item 2 of 6th December 2005. **No further action required.**
 - 4.2 General Trustees: Details of timings of their meetings. Referred to Property Committee. **No further action required.**
 - 4.3 Acting Clerk of Nether Lochaber Congregational Board: Informing Presbytery of changes in the funding of ministerial expenses. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**
 - 4.4 Church Solicitor: Information on New Food Safety Regulations. **Regulations placed on Presbytery web site.**
 - 4.5 Rev Donald MacQuarrie: Hospital Chaplain's Annual Report. **Forwarded with Extract of Minute to Ministries Support Officer.**
 - 4.6 Church Solicitor: Letter concerning the House of Lord judgement in the Helen Percy v Board of National Mission case. Contents noted. **No further action required.**
 - 4.7 Media Relations Department: a) Request for name of Presbytery's Communication Officer – **Clerk replied** to state that he was the Communication Officer; b) Request from Life & Work for a volunteer. **Request placed on Intimation sheet** of February 2006 meeting.
 - 4.8 Ministries Council: Informing us that John Jackson is the person responsible for Appraisal matters at the Ministries Council. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**
 - 4.9 Clerk of the Presbytery of Aberdeen: Transfer of documentation regarding the readership training of Eric & Pat Walker. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**
 - 4.10 General Trustees: Acharacle Glebe – acknowledgement of receipt of extract minute. **No further action required.**
 - 4.11 Ministries Support Officer: Acknowledgement of receipt of extract minute. **No further action required.**
 - 4.12 General Trustees: Mallaig Church – intimation of approval of grant. **No further action required.**
 - 4.13 Stewardship & Finance Committee: Instructions and information on the attestation of Presbytery and

Congregational accounts. **Forwarded to Finance Committee.**

4.14 General Trustees: Arisaig Church – acknowledgment of receipt of General Form A and Form C. **No further action required.**

4.15 General Trustees: Morvern (ground at manse) – acknowledgment of receipt of extract minute and request for further information. **Clerk replied.**

4.16 Ministries Council: Keith Offor – Application for admission as Minister. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**

4.17 Rev Ian Paterson as Interim Moderator at Arisaig I/w Mallaig: Application for extension of right to Call. **Referred to the February Presbytery meeting.**

4.18 General Trustees: Presbytery Returns. **Forwarded to the Property Committee.**

4.19 Ministries Finance: Locum Funding at Arisaig & Mallaig. **Forwarded to the Interim Moderator.**

4.20 Ministries Council: Future Parish Appraisal Meetings: **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**

4.21 Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Carlisle, Presbyterian Church (USA): Mission Partnership. **Referred to the Mission & Outreach Committee.**

4.22 Ministries Support Officer: Admission & Readmissions. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**

4.23 General Trustees: Acknowledgement of reply to 4.15 asking for more information. **Clerk replied.**

4.24 General Trustees Treasurer's Department: Funds held on behalf of Congregations by the General Trustees. **Forwarded to Finance Committee.**

4.25 HIV/AIDS Project: Update. **Forwarded to Mission & Outreach Committee.**

4.26 Ministries Council: Ministries Council Year Book. **Clerk downloaded copy for Ministry & Appraisal Committee.**

4.27 Ministries Finance: Additional Payments. **Forwarded to Finance Committee.**

4.28 Melville Paton: Suggestion for Presbytery Speaker. **Referred to Business Committee.**

4.29 General Treasurer: Copy of letter to Congregational Treasurers. **Forwarded to Finance Committee.**

4.30 Session Clerk Acharacle: Vacancy progress. **Clerk replied.**

4.31 Mission & Discipleship Council: Countryside & Church – Contemporary Challenges. **Forwarded to Ministers.**

4.32 Principal Clerk: General Assembly 2006. **Referred to Business Committee.**

5. REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Business Convener, the Rev A. Ann Winning, reported. It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery: Business

5.1.1 Approve the Order of Business as circulated.

5.2.1 Receive the report of the committee to examine the Presbytery Minute Book (Act III 2000 – section 32).

5.2.2 Note the satisfactory report of the committee appointed to examine the Presbytery Minute Book (Act III 2000 – section 32).

5.3.1 Resolve to hold an election of commissioners to the 2006

General Assembly on Tuesday March 28th 2006 at 7.45 pm in Kilmallie Parish Church, Caol.

5.3.2 Note that Presbytery has been allocated four ministers and four elders as commissioners to the 2006 General Assembly.

5.4.1 Receive a report from the Clerk on congregational Statistical Returns for the Presbytery – Appendix I.

5.4.2 Receive a report from the Clerk on congregational Statistical Return for Mallaig St. Columba's with Knoydart – Appendix II.

Nomination

5.5 Nominate Mr John Fraser as the Moderator of the Presbytery of Lochaber from June 2006.

5.6 Appoint the following to inspect the Presbytery Records on Tuesday 28th March 2006: Property - G. Haggart, R Corbett & M. Paton; Finance - R. Lawson, A. Sandilands & W. Henderson; Minutes - A. Ramsay, J. Fraser & S. Parrish; Rolls etc.- D. MacQuarrie & J. Maitland; Presbytery Committees - A. A. Winning & K. Cruickshank.

6. REPORT OF THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Mr George Haggart, Convener of the Property Committee, reported.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

**The Presbytery:
Kilmallie Manse**

6.1.1 Note the completion of Kilmallie Manse.

6.1.2 Note that it was built within budget.

6.1.3 Commend the commitment and diligence exercised by Messrs Campbell Builders, Mr Mike MacGruer the Planning Supervisor for Kearney Donald Architects and the Rev Dr Ruth Lawson for the successful completion of this project.

7. REPORT OF THE APPRAISAL & MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The Rev Dr Adrian Varwell, Convener of the Appraisal & Ministry Committee, reported.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

Readers

7.1 Receive the Annual Readers' Reports and thank them for their valued ministry across the Presbytery.

Kinlochleven I/w Nether Lochaber

7.2 Approve a change to Article Six of the Basis of Linking of the congregations of Kinlochleven and Nether Lochaber (Presbytery minute of 8th June 1981 Appendix A) to enable the Nether Lochaber Congregation to increase their contribution to the joint expenses of the charge from one third to one half in respect of Pulpit Supply costs, Minister's travel costs and Minister's telephone costs.

Presbytery Plan

7.3 Note that it is the intention of the committee to bring proposals for the Presbytery Plan to the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery.

8. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Rev Dr Ruth Lawson, Convener of the Finance Committee, reported.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

Voluntary Additional Payments

8.1 Approve Voluntary Additional Payments to stipend at the level of 10% to be made by the congregations of Fort William, Duncansburgh and Kilmonivaig.

Payments to Central Funds

8.2 Grant permission to the congregations of Acharacle, Ardnamurchan, Fort William, MacIntosh Memorial and Mallaig to make payments to Central Funds in the following patterns: Ardnamurchan - payment in three equal instalments: (one in June, August and November); Acharacle - payment in two equal instalments (one in April, one in September); Duror - payment of the whole in one lump sum in March of the current year; Fort William, MacIntosh Memorial - payment of 50% of the total to be paid in 12 equal monthly instalments, the remaining 50% to be paid in a lump sum in December; Mallaig - payment in three equal instalments in April, August and December.

9. VACANCIES

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

The Presbytery:

Arisaig I/w Mallaig

9.1 Agree to the request from the congregations of the charge of Arisaig & the Small Isles linked with Mallaig St. Columba's and Knoydart to extend the right to Call for three months.

9.2 Note that the Rev John L. Paterson is willing to continue as Interim Moderator until the end of March 2006.

9.3 Note that the Rev Tony MacLean-Foreman is to act as locum from 12th February 2006.

9.4 Note the appointment of Miss Janet Anderson, Deacon, as Parish Assistant.

9.5 Note that two new elders have been ordained in Mallaig – Mrs Jessie Corson and Mrs Ann MacGillivray.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Presbytery adjourned to meet for Ordinary Business on Tuesday 28th March 2006 at 7.00 pm within Kilmallie Parish Church, Caol. Inspection of records to be held at 3.00 pm that day in Caol.

Closed with prayer

8.12 pm

.....Moderator

.....Clerk