

At Fort William, and within the hall of Kilmallie Parish Church, Caol, the twenty eighth day of March 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, WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS**
  - 1.1 Present were the Rev Archie Speirs, Moderator, the Rev David M. Anderson, Clerk, 25 full members and 1 corresponding member of Presbytery. Names and apologies as per sederunt sheet.
  - 1.2.1 Elder's Commission was received from Acharacle for Mrs Marjory MacGillivray.
  - 1.2.2 Mrs Marjory MacGillivray was appointed to the Presbytery Finance Committee.
  - 1.3 Visitors were welcomed: the Rev Tony MacLean-Foreman, locum to Arisaig l/w Mallaig; Mr Malcolm Poole, the new Congregational Treasurer at Mallaig; and Mr John Henderson, former Session Clerk at Mallaig.
  - 1.4 Presbytery instructed the Clerk to write to the Rev Alison and the Rev William Burnside congratulating them on the birth of their daughter Aoife.
2. **MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2006, being in the hands of members, were approved.
3. **INTIMATIONS**

Intimations were made.
4. **REPORT**

Mrs Lin Ramsay reported on her recent World Mission Council Exposure Tour to Israel / Palestine from 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> February 2006. The Moderator thanked her for the report.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Presbytery Clerk presented 16 items of correspondence.

  - 5.1 Ministries Council: Readership Training & Selection. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**
  - 5.2 Principal Clerk: Ministries Deployment and Funding. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**
  - 5.3 Mr Keith Denison: Vacancy at Acharacle and Ardnamurchan. **Forwarded to Appraisal & Ministry Committee.**
  - 5.4 General Trustees: Morvern. Acknowledgement of Clerk's communications. **No further action required.**
  - 5.5 Christian Education Association Scotland: Training Workshop for Children's' Workers in Churches. **Forwarded to Ministers.**
  - 5.6 Clerk, Presbytery of St. Andrews: Long service following Ordination. **Clerk replied and referred matter to Business Committee.**
  - 5.7 Clerk, Arisaig Congregational Board: Copies of Minutes relating to Manses of the linked charge. **No further action required.**
  - 5.8 Solicitor of the Church: Ardgour Manse. **Forwarded to Property Committee.**
  - 5.9 Session Clerk, Acharacle: Acharacle Manse. **Clerk replied.**
  - 5.10 Convener Mission & Outreach Committee: Various matters. **Clerk replied and referred to Business Committee.**
  - 5.11 Ministries Council: Recruitment of Assessors for Enquiry and Assessment Process. **Clerk forwarded to Ministers.**

5.12 Rev Heather Olsen: Report on Presbytery Visitation to Glencoe St Munda's and Duror. **Copy of the report forwarded to the two Kirk Sessions (Act 2, 1984 (8))**

5.13 Solicitor to the Church: Landlord registration. Concerning the forthcoming local authority registration of landlords.

**Forwarded to members of Presbytery on email and intimated at March 2006 meeting.**

5.14 Solicitor to the Church: Smoking, Health & Social Care (Scotland) Act 2005. Implications for churches. **Forwarded to Ministers.**

5.15 Solicitor to the Church: Congregations adopting the Unitary Constitution. **No further action required but noted.**

5.16 Depute Principal Clerk: Interpretation of Act 5, 2001. **Clerk replied and referred to Business Committee.**

## 6. REPORT OF THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

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

### **The Presbytery:**

#### **Business**

6.1 Approve the Order of Business as circulated.

6.2 Note the co-option of Mrs Lin Ramsay to the Business Committee with tenure to the ordinary meeting of Presbytery in September 2006.

6.3 Invite Mr Colin Carmichael of Scripture Union (Highland) to be the guest speaker at the June 2006 ordinary meeting of Presbytery.

6.4 Receive reports from the Conveners of the examination committees on the inspection of records.

6.5 Instruct Session Clerks in the Presbytery to inform the Presbytery Clerk of the ordination and readmission of Elders.

6.6 Note that Presbytery Minutes are now available for download from the Presbytery web site.

#### **Nomination**

6.7 Elect Mr John Fraser as the Moderator of the Presbytery of Lochaber from June 2006.

6.8.1 Meet on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2006 in Duncansburgh Parish Church at 6.30 pm for Holy Communion, the Installation of Moderator and for ordinary business.

6.8.2 Appoint the Rev Donald MacQuarrie to conduct the sacrament of Holy Communion at the service of installation on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2006.

6.9 Nominate the Rev Alan Ramsay as Business Convener from June 2006.

## 7. ELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS TO THE 2006 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7.1 Having resolved on the seventh day of February 2006 to elect on the twenty eighth day of March 2006 at 7.45 pm representatives to the ensuing General Assembly, Presbytery did nominate and appoint the Rev Archie Speirs, the Rev Dr Richard Corbett, the Rev Dr Ruth Lawson and the Rev David Anderson, Ministers, Mr Tommy Williams, Mrs Kathleen Cruickshank, Mrs Margaret Livingston and Mrs Sallie Parrish, Elders, as Commissioners to the next General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, appointed to meet at Edinburgh the twentieth day of May 2006.

7.2 Powers of "After Election" were given to the Moderator and Clerk.

**8. REPORT OF THE MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Mrs Lin Ramsay, Vice-Convener of the Mission & Outreach Committee, reported.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

**The Presbytery:**

8.1 Receive the report from the Rev Dr Ruth Lawson on the recent Workshop for Children's Workers that she attended.

8.2 Agree to support Gwen Thompson, World Ministry Council employee in St. Andrew's Guest House, Jerusalem, both by prayer and by increasing awareness of her work amongst congregations within the Presbytery.

**9. 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:**

**Presbytery Plan**

9.1 Receive the committee's Background Report – Appendix I and draft Presbytery Plan – Appendix II.

9.2 Agree to send the Background Report and the draft Presbytery Plan to all members of Presbytery and Session Clerks within the Presbytery for consideration and comments from congregations.

9.3 Remit the Background report and the draft Presbytery Plan to the Presbytery Property Committee for their comments on Building Categories.

9.4 Seek consultation with Inverness Presbytery over appraisal in the Loch Ness area.

9.5.1 Resolve to call a meeting of Presbytery *in hunc effectum* to consider the draft Presbytery Plan on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2006 at 7.00 pm in Kilmallie Parish Church, Caol.

9.5.2 Cite all congregations within the Presbytery to attend this meeting for their interest.

9.6 Receive a report from the Rev Donald MacQuarrie on his meeting with the Office Bearers of Arisaig and Mallaig on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2006 at which the Vacancy Schedule of the charge was discussed.

**10. VACANCIES**

**Arisaig I/w Mallaig**

Report from the Vacancy Procedure Committee (Act VIII, 2003). The Presbytery Clerk intimated that the committee proposed that the Rev Dr Richard Corbett be appointed as Interim Moderator with immediate effect. Intimation of this proposal to be made to both congregations on Sunday ninth April 2006.

**Acharacle I/w Ardnamurchan**

Report from the Vacancy Procedure Committee (Act VIII, 2003). The Presbytery Clerk intimated that the committee proposed that Mr John Fraser be appointed as Interim Moderator with immediate effect. Intimation of this proposal to be made to both congregations on Sunday ninth April 2006.

**Ardgour I/w Strontian**

The Interim Moderator, the Rev Dr Ruth Lawson, reported that both congregations are in good heart.

**At this point the Rev Dr Adrian Varwell took the chair as Moderator.**

**Morvern**

The Interim Moderator, the Rev Archie Speirs, reported.  
It was moved, seconded and agreed-

**The Presbytery**

Supports the request of Morvern Congregational Board to have their existing shortfalls written off in the light of the changed regulations regarding payments during a vacancy.

**At this point the Rev Archie Speirs resumed the chair as Moderator**

**11. SUPERINTENDENCE  
(in private)**

**Presbytery Visit – Glencoe (St. Munda) linked with Duror.**

The Convener of the visiting committee, the Rev Heather Olsen, reported.

It was moved, seconded and agreed-

**The Presbytery:**

13.1 Receive the report from the Visitation Team to the charge of Glencoe St. Munda’s linked with Duror.

13.2 Commend the minister, the Rev Alison Burnside, for all her dedicated hard work and witness in God’s service.

13.3.1 Commend both congregations for continued Christian witness and involvement in their communities.

13.3.2 Commend both congregations for their good ecumenical relationships in their communities.

13.4 Affirm that Glencoe St. Munda linked with Duror is a necessary charge and is in a satisfactory state fulfilling its purpose and mission.

13.5 Thank the Visitation Team for their efforts in the preparation for and execution of the visit.

13.6 Discharge the committee.

13.7 Transmit to the General Assembly, through the Legal Questions Committee, a return certifying that Presbytery has carried out the provisions of Act II 1984 anent Presbytery Visits (Act II 1984 – sec 10).

The Moderator thanked Miss Olsen for her report.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Presbytery adjourned to meet “In Hunc Effectum” on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2006 in Kilmallie Parish Church, Caol at 7.00 pm for consideration of the Presbytery Plan and for Holy Communion, the Installation of Moderator and for Ordinary Business on Tuesday the sixth day of June 2006 in Duncansburgh Parish Church, Fort William at 6.30 pm.

Closed with prayer

8.58 pm

.....Moderator

.....Clerk