

## **Netherlee and Stamperland Church**

### **Kirk Session at Netherlee**

**7.30pm on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

#### **1 CONSTITUTION**

Meeting constituted by Rev Scott Blythe with Prayer.

#### **2 SEDERUNT & APOLOGIES**

There were 38 Elders present with apologies from 11 Elders as per the Sederunt Sheet.

#### **3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

The draft Agenda was agreed with 3 additional items under AOCB.

#### **4 DISCUSSION TOPIC(S)**

##### **4.1 Presbytery Plan update – Zone 4 and our Cluster Group.**

Scott invited any questions or comments on the papers from Presbytery which had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were none.

He went on to explain that Presbytery was trying a bottom up rather than a top down approach to encourage more visionary thinking. He and Alistair Gow had attended a recent meeting which was designed to group churches into clusters. Our cluster was to be with Greenbank and Busby with those in that group suggesting that Williamwood and Carmunnock might join us as they had been associated with Clarkston Churches Together for many years. When asked Williamwood replied that they had decided to align themselves with the Giffnock cluster, and to date there has been no response from Carmunnock.

When asked by Scott if we supported the cluster grouping of Netherlee & Stamperland, Greenbank and Busby the meeting agreed.

##### **4.2 Transition Working Group – update.**

Scott referred to the paper produced by Norrie Bolton and issued ahead of the meeting to all elders and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Scott thanked Norrie for his excellent paper and looked forward to receiving further updates as the Group dealt with the challenges identified in the paper.

##### **4.3 Steps to creating a new approach for Elders communicating with our members.**

Scott invited comments and views from the Session –

- **Niall** understood the difficulty in attracting new elders and suggested we need to find a new way to allocate “duties” maybe making use of “virtual” districts.
- **Dagmar** thought our present system was fit for purpose and would be very saddened if we stopped visiting members, particularly those on their own.
- **Gordon** asked not to discount those who are irregular attenders or who do not come at all.
- **Helen** referred to the Future of the Eldership conference she attended recently in St Andrews Church in Bath Street –
  - Ideas for consideration included (a) reduce the number of elders in the Kirk Session, (b) find finite active roles for the future eldership, (c) not always realistic to visit all members in a district, (d) restrict the eldership to a 3 year term of office rather than for life, (e) identify those who really needed a visit.

- **Scott** highlighted that in the PCUSA they had identified that a fewer number of elders were required in congregations.
- **Niall** was concerned that we needed more creative thinking and not to let it drift as we did not have the 10 people Stuart identified as being required to fill the gaps.

Scott and Stuart would look further at this and formulate some questions, with a view to holding a discussion on the subject at the June meeting. Meantime if Elders had any views or questions they were asked to send them to Stuart.

## 5 WRITTEN REPORTS

Scott asked the Conveners if they had motions to propose or highlights to mention:

- **Communion Roll** – Mabel Bell reported that she had enrolled 2 new members since we last met. The Session Clerk is looking at the viability of creating a combined electronic Roll following the resignation of Bill Paterson, using the church office computer if possible.
- **Planning & Communication** – Diane Levey (Convener) intimated there was a need to improve the list of members on email. She has arranged for 30 hard copies of the Newsletter to be printed off by the office and left in the Lesser Sanctuary for members not on email. It would be possible for Elders to have copies printed by Elspeth for members in their districts not on email.
- **Correspondence** – In the Clerk's absence John reported there had been 3 items of correspondence dealt with by the Clerk since the last meeting.
  - Citation from Glasgow Presbytery (8<sup>th</sup> March 2022) regarding the Presbytery Property Committee presenting their report and proposal that Presbytery authorise disposal of the Stamperland church building subject to the consent of the General Trustees.
  - Extract on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – “Presbytery noted that, at a congregational meeting, there voted 127 to 32 in favour, authorised the disposal of the Stamperland church building subject to the consent of the General Trustees.”
  - Application to the Church of Scotland General Trustees for Authority to Sell the Stamperland church building, at such price and on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the General Trustees in consultation with the Kirk Session of the Netherlee and Stamperland congregation. The net proceeds of the sale shall, subject to the potential operation of the Levy under Regulations 8 2008, be credited to the benefit of the congregation in the Consolidated Fabric Fund. The Kirk Session and the Presbytery of Glasgow have approved the sale of the Stamperland church building.
- **Insurance** – John reminded Session that renewal was due in May but nothing had been received to date on the new premium, currently we pay c£9,000 per annum.

Scott asked the Trustees if they had any questions. There were none.

Scott asked the Trustees if they accepted all the reports as presented. The majority of those present agreed.

## 6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

- Kirk Session minute of 28/02/2022 was approved.
- Minute of the Trustees meeting of 09/03/2022 was approved.

## **7 ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

1. **Congregational Commissioner** to the General Assembly 2022 – the appointment of John Montgomery was approved by the majority present.
2. **Face masks no longer mandatory in worship** – Scott asked if there were any comments to this recent change. There being none he recommended as the legal requirement allowed us to dispense with them we should intimate this to the congregation, with the proviso that we should clearly allow anyone attending services the choice of wearing or not wearing a face mask. The meeting agreed. Intimation would be made in the Order of Service.
3. **Date of final service at Stamperland** – Scott intimated the final service would be held on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022 with Rev Roy Henderson as the guest preacher. Roy is the man appointed by Presbytery to be in charge of the new Mission Plan.

## **8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- Kirk Session at 7:30pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at Stamperland.
- Group and Committee meetings as per schedules issued.

## **9 CLOSE**

The meeting was closed with all present saying the Grace.

### **DISCUSSION NOTE(S) PAPERS re PRESBYTERY PLAN 2023-2027**

### **ANNEX WRITTEN REPORTS PRESENTED TO THE MEETING**

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Scott Blythe  
**Minister**

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Stuart Buchanan  
**Session Clerk**