



At Edinburgh, and within Palmerston Place, the eighteenth day of June 2019, the Presbytery of Edinburgh met and was constituted with prayer.

SEDERUNT

Rev Angus Mathieson, Moderator, Rev Marjory McPherson, Clerk, and others, Ministers, Deacons and Elders as in the Register of Attendance.

CELEBRATION

RECEPTION OF CANDIDATES ENTERING PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Opening Worship included a celebration of the completion of academic studies of Julia Cato, Hayley Cohen, Fraser Edwards, Brian Macleod, Iain Majcher and William Watt. (candidates for Ministry of Word and Sacrament).

The candidates were each presented with a Bible.

Tribute

The Moderator paid tribute to the Rev George Munro who died on 26 April 2019 and the Rev Ian Doyle who died on 26 May 2019.

Welcome

The Moderator welcomed the Rev Rosie Magee to her first meeting of Presbytery since her Induction at St Andrew's & St George's West and recognised the Rev Alex McAspurren and the Rev Sam Torrens who have recently translated to a different charge within the bounds.

The Moderator welcomed from Zambia Brian Musongole and Nkaka Kasonde who are in their last year of academic training for the Ministry for the United Church of Zambia (UCZ). They are in Edinburgh for ten days preparing for their six month Probationary period at Leith South which commences in January 2020.

Anniversary

The Moderator on behalf of Presbytery congratulated the Rev Ailsa MacLean on reaching the fortieth anniversary of her ordination and the Rev Gilleasbuig Macmillan on reaching the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination.

Leave Taking

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Rev Helen Alexander who is retiring as Assistant Minister at St Giles' Cathedral and thanked her for her ministry in the city centre and assured her of their good wishes.

CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS

Blackhall St Columba's

The Clerk reported that in terms of Act VIII 2003 anent Vacancy Procedure, the Business Committee, sitting as the Vacancy Procedure Committee for Blackhall St Columba's had agreed:

1. to give permission to the congregation to call a minister on Unrestricted Tenure.
2. that the number to serve on the Nominating Committee shall be thirteen.
3. to appoint the Rev Dr Anne Logan, the Rev Alistair Keil and Ms Sheila Minty to serve as the Vacancy Advisory Committee.
4. to instruct the Clerk to intimate these decisions to the congregation.

The Presbytery, having agreed to the Translation of the Rev Benjamin Abeledo the Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to Mr Abeledo for his ministry in Blackhall St Columba's and his work within the Presbytery and assured him of their good wishes.

Barclay Viewforth

The Clerk reported that in terms of Act VIII 2003 anent Vacancy Procedure, the Business Committee, sitting as the Vacancy Procedure Committee for Barclay Viewforth had agreed:

1. to give permission to the congregation to call a minister on Unrestricted Tenure.
2. that the number to serve on the Nominating Committee shall be eleven.
3. to appoint the Rev Ian MacDonald as the Interim Moderator.
4. to appoint the Rev Michael Mair, the Rev Ian Wells, and Mrs Linda Farrer to serve as the Vacancy Advisory Committee.
5. to instruct the Clerk to intimate these decisions to the congregation.

Bristo Memorial Craigmillar

The Clerk reported that she had received a call sustained by the Presbytery of Ross addressed to the Rev Drausio Goncalves minister of Bristo Memorial Craigmillar from the congregation of Dingwall: Castle Street Parish Church.

The Presbytery agreed to:

1. release Mr Goncalves from his charge.
2. declare that Mr Goncalves will remain Minister of Bristo Memorial Craigmillar until the date of his induction at Dingwall: Castle Street Parish Church on 27 September 2019.
3. appoint the Rev Donald Scott as Interim Moderator.
4. instruct the Clerk to intimate these decisions to the congregation of Bristo Memorial Craigmillar and the Presbytery of Ross.

Deployment of Resources

The Convener, Rev Dr James Jack gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery:

Greenside

approve the Basis of Guardianship for Greenside, subject to the concurrence of the Ministries Council's Presbytery Planning Task Group, in terms of Act VII 2003, section 10(1) on the following basis:

BASIS OF GUARDIANSHIP

EDINBURGH: GREENSIDE

As from 18th June 2019 the congregation of Edinburgh: Greenside shall be retained on a Basis of Guardianship for a further period of two years.

Name: The name of the congregation shall be Edinburgh: Greenside and will retain Scottish Charity Number SC009749.

- 1. Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of the congregation shall continue to belong to or be held on behalf of the congregation.
- 2. Place of Worship:** The church building will continue to be used for regular public worship.
- 3. Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the charge shall continue to be the bounds presently served by the charge.
- 4. Kirk Session:** The elders of the Kirk Session shall form with the Interim Moderator the Kirk Session of the congregation.
- 5. Congregational Management:** The spiritual affairs of the congregation shall be administered by the Kirk Session. The Congregation has moved to the Unitary Constitution.
- 6. Minister:** The charge will not be free to call a Minister during the period of Guardianship. An Interim Moderator shall be appointed by Presbytery and the Kirk Session shall be responsible for ensuring that public worship and the celebration of the sacraments is conducted by appropriate persons and that pastoral care is offered to the congregation and parish.
- 7. Ministerial Support:** The Guardianship Allowance shall be applied to this charge to allow for the payment of ministry.
- 8. Review:** The Basis of Guardianship shall be subject to review by 30th June 2021. It may also be reviewed at an earlier date if in the opinion of the Presbytery and the Kirk Session circumstances change before that date.
- 9. Power to Readjust:** While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Guardianship for the congregation, the congregation shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.

Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on the 2 April, 17 May, 29 May and 11 June 2019 were submitted and approved.

PRESENTATION

Mrs Kay Coull presented the Report of the Edinburgh Guilds Together. The Moderator on behalf of Presbytery thanked Mrs Coull for her report. (Appendix 1)

DISCUSSION

Behind the Wall

On behalf of the World Mission Committee Mr Tim Bell and the Rev Russell McLarty made a presentation to Presbytery on their recent trip to Israel-Palestine and highlighted some of the many issues there. They then posed the following questions for Presbyters to discuss:

- What value is there in people visiting Israel-Palestine and what difference might we make?
- How do we best speak about Israel-Palestine given the fear of being considered anti-Semitic?

The Moderator thanked Mr Bell and Mr McLarty for their Presentation.

World Mission Committee

The Convener, Rev George Vidits, gave in the report, (Appendix 2)

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. receive the report.
2. encourage congregations to complete the Congregational Partnership Survey.
3. invite congregations to raise awareness of the persecution of Christians and churches around the world, in particular the plight of isolated and vulnerable Christians of Northern Iraq, and the exiled Yazidi people.
4. urge congregations to support our persecuted brothers and sisters and the suffering church in the world with their prayers, and seek ways to support them with appropriate action, by using the available resource materials, Prayer Diary, and information from the World Mission Council, this committee and other organisations.

LOCAL MISSION IN CONTEXT

Local Church Review

The Convener, Rev Moira McDonald, gave in the report, (Appendix 3)

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. receive the Local Church Review reports for Colinton, Fairmilehead, Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse, and St Martin's churches.
2. thank the visiting teams for their input to the Local Church Review process and their visits.

Resourcing Mission Committee

The Acting Convener, Rev Michael Mair, gave in the report,

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. thank Mr. Martin Elliot for his term of office as a Member, Vice-Convener and Convener of the Resourcing Mission Committee and wish him and his family well in the future.
2. note that the following mission grants have been awarded:
 - St. Michael's Parish Church, £250
 - Liberton Northfield Parish Church, £400
 - Gracemount Parish Church, £400

Resourcing Mission & Mission and Worship & Theology

The Acting Convener, Rev Michael Mair, gave in the report,

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. note the "Introduction to Pioneer Ministry and Church Planting" course will run on two Saturdays (1-5pm) and five Monday evenings (6-8pm) at New College this September - November. The dates are: Saturday 21 Sep, Mondays 7 Oct, 21 Oct, 28 Oct, 4 Nov, 11 Nov, 18 Nov and Saturday 30 Nov.
2. encourage Kirk Sessions to identify suitable people to attend this course.
3. note that the Resourcing Mission Committee has purchased 12 spaces on this course for those attending from Edinburgh Presbytery.
4. note that those wishing to attend should note their interest by emailing newcollege@ed.ac.uk

Ministries

The Rev Rolf Billes spoke to Presbytery about “Ascend” and encouraged ministers to take advantage of what the scheme has to offer particularly in relation to Ministerial Development Conversation.

The Convener, Rev Fiona Mathieson, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery:

1. nominate, Mr Sumit Harrison as a candidate for Ordained National Ministry and Mr Reuben Addis, Ms Fiona Kennedy, Mr Derek Munn and Ms Mary Rivett, as candidates for Ordained Local Ministry.
2. elect Mr Harrison, Ms Kennedy, Mr Munn and Ms Rivett as Corresponding Members of Presbytery.
3. approve Study Leave for Rev Joanne Foster from 9th July 2019 to 16th July 2019 to allow her time to consolidate learning and complete the first 5000 word coaching assignment for ILM qualification. This will allow Ms Foster to work towards full coaching accreditation.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CITY AND WIDER WORLD

Social and Community Interests

The Convener, Rev Bill Wishart, gave in the report,

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. note the results of the recent Dementia Survey, encourage the Social & Community Interests Committee to explore further ways of utilising the results, and thank Julie Dunn for all her hard work in setting up the online survey and collating the results.
2. commend all our congregations who do such wonderful work in the field of Dementia Care and encourage others to explore this vital work.
3. note the work of Music For You and commend it to the wider church.
4. commend the work of Fresh Start in this its 20th year and bring to Presbyters attention the Kilt Walk on Sunday the 15th September and encourage those who wish to do the walk to do so in aid of Fresh Start.
5. congratulate the Grassmarket Community project on their recent win at the Scottish Café Awards 2019 where they won the ‘Best Not For Profit Café’ award.
6. note that the total raised at the recent St. Andrew’s & St. George’s West Christian Aid Book Fair was over £130,000 and congratulate everyone involved in this magnificent effort.

BUSINESS MATTERS

Business Committee

The Acting Convener, Rev Moira McDonald, gave in the report,

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. note that the Holiday Committee acting under powers agreed to appoint the Rev Ann Inglis as Interim Moderator of Dalmeny linked with Queensferry for the duration of David Cameron's absence and phased return.
2. grant powers to the Moderator, the Convener of the Business Committee, the Convener of the Superintendence Committee, the Clerk and Depute Clerk to deal with any urgent business arising between Presbytery meetings from 19 June 2019 to 15 June 2020.
3. approve the amendments to the Standing Orders.
4. instruct the Clerk to pass on to the Legal Questions Committee the request that the Legal Questions Committee, when reviewing the Church Courts Acts, takes into consideration the impact of civil charity law on the workings of Presbyteries with charitable status, particularly in regard to the number of trustees and whether that number could be lower than the full membership of Presbytery.
5. support the limited use of resources from the 5% Development Fund to offer support to congregations facing the challenges of gap funding, access to be given normally on a one off basis and after all other avenues for match funding have been pursued.
6. agree to grant Carrick Knowe £4,433, Granton £5,000 and Murrayfield £3,500 from the Development Fund for the year 2019-20.

Deployment of Resources

The Convener, Rev Dr James Jack gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery:

1. approve the proposed Deployment of Resources procedure for vacancies.

Presbytery Strategy Group

The Convener, Rev Jack Holt, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery:

1. receive the report.
2. approve the Values and Principles as outlined and instruct the Clerk to issue them to the ministers and Session Clerks of all the congregations within its bounds.
3. note the proposed Communication Strategy and thank the Presbytery Communications Co-ordinator for her technical support.

Finance Committee

The Convener, Rev Dr Karen Campbell, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery:

1. note that the accounts attestation has taken place for 64 congregations, the standard of accounts was very good and thank treasurers for their diligence.
2. note the recommended practice regarding the appointment and communication with Independent Examiners circulated by the General Treasurer of the Church of Scotland, in particular Session Clerks should now write to or telephone their congregation's Independent Examiner to thank them for their work and advice with regards to the accounts approval process.
3. grant funding for a further year to the Congregation of Corstorphine Craigsbank for the post of Children and Families Worker.

Property Committee

The Convener, Rev Jared Hay, gave in the report

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery:

1. Ratho

approve the application to proceed with fabric work in response to the five-year inspection at a cost c£10,000, give permission to the congregation to draw down funds from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to cover the cost, and commend the congregation for its speedy response to the inspection.

2. Greenside

approve the application to proceed with approval to proceed with urgent work identified by the five-year inspection at a cost of c£65,000, to be funded locally from reserves, and commend the congregation for its speedy response to the inspection.

3. Greyfriars

approve the expenditure of an additional c£100,000 on the already approved extension to the Church Halls, subject to raising the funding.

4. Grants

note the grants awarded from Presbytery Fabric Funds in the March grant cycle.

5. Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse: Diadem Project

approve the application to proceed with making the night-shelter for the homeless a permanent winter programme in partnership with Bethany Christian Trust, subject to obtaining the relevant Council permissions and finalising the partnership agreement.

6. Old Kirk Muirhouse

approve the application to draw down funds not exceeding £25,000 held on the congregation's behalf in the Consolidated Fabric Fund, for the replacement of doors and windows at the Church entrance.

7. Willowbrae

approve the installation of AV equipment at a cost of £20,000, subject to the approval of CARTA, drawing on funds held on the congregation's behalf to cover the cost.

Records Committee

The Convener, Mr George Goodall, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

1. note that the Records Committee has met on four separate occasions during March and has examined the records of all congregations within the bounds.
2. note that the general standard of record keeping remains high although it was necessary to make comment in some areas which fell below that standard.
3. direct the attention of those responsible for maintaining the records to the comments made by examiners and trust that these will be assimilated in the records for 2019.
4. appreciate the work done by Clerks, Treasurers and record keepers and record thanks to all those responsible for maintaining Congregational records.
5. to facilitate the review arrangements, encourage Session Clerks to ensure that for the March 2020 examination, all requested records are deposited at the date and time specified.
6. record appreciation to Palmerston Place Church, who provided accommodation for the purposes of the examination.
7. note the Convener's appreciation of the assistance afforded by the Presbytery Administrator in arranging the examinations.
8. report accordingly to the Legal Questions Committee.
9. note that the Records Committee has examined the minute book of Presbytery from January 2018 to December 2019 (pages 1 - 159) and has found them to be in very good order.

Nomination Committee

The Clerk gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. appoint the Rev Michael Mair as convener of Resourcing Mission Committee.
2. appoint the Rev Iain May as convener of Ministries Committee.
3. appoint Mr Mark Evans DCS as convener of Pastoral Care Committee.
4. thank the retiring conveners of committees: Mr Martin Elliott, Resourcing Mission, Rev Fiona Mathieson, Ministries and the Rev Jamie Griggs, Pastoral Care.

Administrative items from the Clerk

The Clerk gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

Presbytery

1. Equalising Elders

re-elect to serve as Equalising Elders as set out below.

2. Resignations of Equalising Elders

note the following have resigned from the office of Equalising Elder and thank them for their services: Dr Gavin Brydone, Canongate, Mr Alasdair Mackenzie, Colinton, Dr Alison Elliot,

Greyfriars, Mr Hugh Crawford, Morningside, Mr Brian Moar, Portobello and Joppa, Mr Allan Sim, St Andrew's & St George's West.

3. Elders Commissions

sustain the Elders Commissions as set out on page 24.

4. appoint the Rev Suzi Stark as Interim Moderator of Greenside.

5. thank the Rev Ian Gilmour for his work as Interim Moderator of Greenside and discharge him.

6. appoint the Rev Russell McLarty as Interim Moderator of Leith North.

8. grant permission to the Rev Peter Nelson to become the Chaplain to the 870 (Dreghorn) Squadron, Edinburgh.

9. grant permission to the Rev Stephen Ashley-Emery to attend the Accelerated Officer Programme in Dartmouth from 12 July to 5 September 2019.

10. grant permission to the congregation of Corstorphine Craigsbank to consider a minister from outwith the European Union and Switzerland.

11. Registration of Ministries

note that all ministers with a Category R Registration have been contacted as per Act II 2017 Registration of Ministries.

12. note the transfer of the Rev William Johnstone from the Presbytery of Aberdeen to this Presbytery.

13. appoint the Rev John Cowie as Interim Moderator of Kirkliston.

14. appoint Mrs Karen McKay as Interim Moderator of Liberton Northfield.

15. thank the Rev Gordon Kennedy for his work as Interim Moderator at Liberton Northfield and discharge him.

16. appoint the Rev Douglas Nicol as Interim Moderator of the Old Kirk and Muirhouse for the duration of the Rev Stephen Ashley Emery's training in Dartmouth.

17. elect Mrs June Kemp, Cramond, as an Equalising Elder.

18. note the transfer of the Rev George McCabe from the Presbytery of Hamilton to this Presbytery.

ADJOURNMENT

The Presbytery adjourned to meet:

- for celebration of Holy Communion and ordinary business until 3 September 2019 at 7pm, in Carrick Knowe Parish Church.

Closed with prayer

Moderator

Clerk

Appendix 1 – Edinburgh Guilds Together

Kay Coull, Convener of the Edinburgh Guilds Together.

The Guild is a dynamic movement within the Church, an organisation which is continually looking to the needs of its members, congregations, and communities.

In the past twelve months the new three year strategy '***One Journey, Many Roads***' has been launched as well as an undertaking to support six new projects.

At the Conveners' Conference in May 2018 a decision was made to change the name of the Regional Guilds, previously known as the Presbyterian Guild Councils. We will now be known as the 'Edinburgh Guilds Together' a friendly informal title, which better reflects who we are. All Regional Guilds will be known as '***Guilds Together***'.

The Annual theme for 2018-19 has been '***Seeking the Way***' and this was launched at the Annual Gathering in the Caird Hall, Dundee on the 1st of September 2018. Several representatives from this Presbytery were among the 1800 or so members and guests who heard a superb talk from Tamsin Dingwall, Moderator of the National Youth Assembly.

Our past National Convener, Marge Patterson, and the current National Convener, Patricia Robertson, shared their experiences and their hopes for the Guild.

The then Moderator of the Church of Scotland the Right Rev Susan Brown spoke on our theme and Mabel Sichali, Deaconess of the United Church of Zambia and leader of one of our projects, sang beautifully, songs from her own tradition. The hymn singing was, as ever, very uplifting and moving.

The Edinburgh Guilds Together competed in the National '***Conveners' Challenge***' and I am pleased to report that at the Annual Gathering it was announced that Craigmillar Park Church Guild had achieved third place, with their unique cushion design depicting the Guild strategy and theme.

The '***Seeking the Way***' theme has allowed a lot of discussion and celebration in our worship, our meetings and our work in general.

Along with the Theme and Discussion Guide, the Edinburgh Guilds have supported a range of ***Projects*** under the '***One Journey, Many Roads***' strategy.

The New Projects were introduced to the Edinburgh Guilds at a meeting held in Wardie Parish Church in April 2018. They are:

Crossreach and their project 'Join up the Dots', addressing loneliness, isolation and mental health issues.

Sailors Society and their project 'A chaplain for our Ports' aiming to provide a chaplaincy service in every port in Scotland.

The Boys Brigade and their Project 'Faith in Young People' looking to support young leaders, encourage membership and develop Christian education within the BB.

‘Malawi Fruits’ and their project ‘Growing the Future’, a scheme to encourage, support and train young farmers.

The Free to Live Trust and their project ‘Seema’s Project’, working to support sex workers and their children in Pune in India.

World Mission Council and their project Journeying Together, ‘Empowering Teenage Mothers in Zambia’, working with young mums in Zambia.

Afternoon Teas, Fashion Shows and Musical Events have been just a few of the initiatives which have been held throughout Edinburgh in the past year and together they have raised a significant amount of money for the projects.

Presbytery will be interested to learn that the total donations nationally for the ‘One Journey, Many Roads’ Projects is now reported to be **£215,770**.

Guild week continues to encourage members to communicate the work of the Guild to their congregations and communities. It has been encouraging to see a growing number of Guilds leading Sunday Services during Guild week.

I had the privilege of attending Morningside Parish Church during Guild week in 2018, where a window hanging was dedicated in recognition of the years of service given by former Guild members. It was a special morning.

Please note that this year Guild Week will run from the 8th to the 15th of September 2019.

The “Big Sing” during the General Assembly in **May** 2019 was very well attended and a most uplifting experience. £3,437 was raised at the event and this together with the money raised at the two previous Big Sings will be used to replace a Church roof in Mzuzu, Malawi.

What will the coming year hold?

In the coming year our theme will be ***‘Companions on the Road’***.

We acknowledge the support we receive from Ministers, congregations, communities and Presbytery.

We look forward to sharing our faith journey in the year ahead with our “Companions on the Road”.

Until recently we had 23 Guilds in the Edinburgh area. Sadly, after much heart searching and support from the wider Guild, Priestfield Parish Church Guild closed following their AGM in April 2019 due to a lack of office bearers. Members have been encouraged to join a neighbouring Guild or become individual members.

If there are any congregations represented in this Presbytery who have a group or are thinking of forming a group which would like to be a part of the Guild Movement, then please do not hesitate to contact me or the Guild Office.

This report hopefully gives you a flavour of the committed service given by the Edinburgh Guilds as they seek to invite and encourage both women and men to commit their lives to Jesus Christ and enable them to express their faith in worship, prayer and action.

The work of the Guild locally and nationally is easily accessible through different media. Information can be sourced from the locally produced Newsletter, Facebook, the e news or the website.

2019/20 promises to be another exciting and rewarding year to be part of this dynamic movement.

Together we are the Edinburgh Guilds.

Appendix - Basis of Guardianship Greenside

Background

1. The charge became vacant on the demission on the grounds of age of Rev Andrew Anderson on 31st October 2011.
2. The parish population is 3,500 (2011). Typically, of a city centre parish, the population structure is weighted towards the student and young adult age groups i.e. 16 -44 years, and 65% of the parish population are in this age group compared with a city average of 47%. Accordingly, children and the more mature and elderly are less well represented. Further information can be found on Page 15 of a Plan for Presbytery.
3. There were 103 on the roll at the end of December 2018, with 1 baptism, 1 blessing, 0 weddings and 6 funerals during that year. Average weekly attendance at worship as recorded in the survey of 2018 was 40. Ministries and Mission allocation for 2019 is £34,431, somewhat below the benchmark of £49,000 on the basis of 86% for Ministries and 14% for Mission, Renewal, Support and Services.
4. Greenside, which is a gathered congregation, has these focal points for mission:
 - The residential community of those who have chosen to live in the inner city;
 - Those who come to this part of the city centre for leisure and cultural reasons;
 - International congregations, and
 - Arts and Entertainment chaplaincy and engagement with local congregations and the refugee community.

Mission to the city centre and inner-city aspects are shared enterprises with neighbouring city centre and inner-city congregations. In this connection, a Project Leader, Arts and Entertainment was employed in July 2017 to work with those who use the city centre's entertainment and leisure facilities and who work in the creative arts in these settings. Chaplaincy for those working in the industry in the four city centre theatres and the Omni Centre is offered. The Project Leader works on behalf of Greenside Parish Church. Theatre and film evenings are organised for participating congregations and the refugee community has benefitted from theatre visits and outings. Funding for the Project Leader is met by the Parish Staffing Fund (20% through the Plan for Presbytery), and the Presbytery Staffing Fund (30%) and 50% from funds provided by Greenside Parish Church. The current contract ends on 30th June 2020 and the congregation plan to continue to fund the post and source outside funding if possible. In the autumn of 2018, a community research project was undertaken and there are plans to pilot the results through the employment of a part time leader. A funding application has been submitted to the Ministries Council 'Go for It' Fund and 50% of costs has already been secured from the Calton Youth Ministry Trust.

5. During the period of Guardianship, the Kirk Session and congregation would continue to develop Greenside as a hub for international congregations as well as sustaining the life of the Greenside Parish Church. The future of Greenside would be reviewed by 30th June 2021.

6. The Basis of Guardianship was unanimously voted for by the office bearers on 26th May 2019 and at a congregational meeting held on 16th June 2019 there voted 35 for and 0 against.

Appendix 2 – World Mission

1. Congregational Partnership Survey

The Congregational Partnership Survey is online, and we are grateful to those congregations that already have completed it. We encourage all congregations to complete the survey, regardless of whether they are or they are not involved in partnership with missionaries, organisations or churches. The survey is just the first step for us to assess and explore the rich opportunities to work, worship and share together with others in the global church.

The survey is hosted by Survey Monkey and is available online at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8CZ9BRK> ,

and also on the World Mission page of the Presbytery website

<https://www.edinburghpresbytery.org.uk/world-mission> .

2. Persecuted Christians and the Suffering Church

All of us were shocked and horrified seeing the devastating pictures and hearing the sad news of the attacks on our brothers and sisters in Sri Lanka at Easter! Sadly that terrible attack was not unique, it was just one among many and repeated attacks on Christians and churches around the world, most of which are not reported in our media! The Interim Report of the Bishop of Truro, which incidentally was published in the Easter period alerts us that “persecution on grounds of religious faith is a global phenomenon that is growing in scale and intensity”, and that “research consistently indicates that Christians are the most widely targeted religious community”. “Furthermore, the evidence suggests that acts of violence and other intimidation against Christians are becoming more widespread.” (page 3 of the Interim Report). Persecution of Christians in the world is a reality, and its growth is both worrying and calls us for action.

The General Assembly observed a minute of silence followed by prayer in respect of the suffering and persecuted Church. The General Assembly also agreed to:

- I. Express deep concern for Christians around the world whose witness to their faith can be both costly and dangerous;
- II. Encourage the World Mission Council to continue its work of highlighting the plight of those Christians who suffer violent persecution and discrimination; and
- III. in particular invite congregations to raise awareness of the isolated and vulnerable Christians of Northern Iraq, and the exiled Yazidi people, and to support them in prayer and in other practical ways.

In his first letter to the Corinthians the Apostle Paul describes the church as a body, in which every part is tightly linked together to the head, which is Christ and to one another. Therefore, Paul writes,

“if one part suffers, every part suffers with it” (1 Corinthians 12:26). Here in Edinburgh we can’t really claim that we are experiencing suffering because of persecution, so we are tempted to forget about those parts of the body that are not next to us, for we don’t see or feel their pain. But the pain of the church in Sri Lanka, and the plight of the Yazidi people in northern Iraq is our pain and our plight too! Their suffering must hurt us too and we need to express the hurt and indignation their distress causes us. We must weep with those who weep and raise our voice on their behalf, for we are part of the same body!

The Apostle Paul urged Timothy that in the church under his leadership requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for people in authority and power so that Christians may live peaceful and quiet lives in godliness and holiness (1 Timothy 2:1). That is that Christians will not be persecuted, harmed, discriminated, or disadvantaged for teaching and living God’s Way!

Being urged by Scripture and encouraged by the General Assembly we are calling on our congregations and the Presbytery to highlight the plight of our persecuted brothers and sisters and the suffering church, pray regularly for them and to seek practical ways to support them. We call upon our congregations to offer regular prayers of intercession for the persecuted church in their worship services. Here we offer suggestions of which country to pray for through a prayer diary that we will publish for each Presbytery meeting.

Information about and prayer resources for the suffering church and persecuted Christians are to be found in:

(a) The Bishop of Truro’s Independent Review (Interim Report)
<https://christianpersecutionreview.org.uk/interim-report/>

(b) World Mission Council’s webpage and resources
(http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/serve/world_mission)

(c) The websites of the various Christian charities that support the persecuted church: Barnabas Fund (<https://barnabasfund.org/en>); Open Doors (<https://www.opendoorsuk.org>); The Voice of the Martyrs (<https://www.persecution.com>); Tearfund (<https://www.tearfund.org>); Christian Aid (<https://www.christianaid.org.uk>)

To help the congregations to pray for our persecuted brothers and sisters, we compiled a resource sheet that is available with this meeting’s papers and all also on the World Mission page of the Presbytery website. The resource page offers encouragement and ideas how to pray for persecuted Christians.

Prayer Diary for Persecuted Christians and the Suffering Church

This diary is based on the World Watch List by Open Doors (<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/countries/>). The webpage offers more detailed information about each country by clicking on them. The numbers in brackets following the name of the country indicates where the country is on the World Watch List (Number 1 indicating the most severe persecution; number 50 the least severe). We also added stars to indicate the level of persecution within that numeric scale; *** = Extreme; ** = Very High; * = High)

JUNE

23 - Israel & Palestine (49) *

30 - Pakistan (5) ***

JULY

07 - Iraq (in particular the church in Northern Iraq and the Yazidi people) (13) **

14 - Turkmenistan (23) **

21 - Indonesia (30) **

28 - Sudan (6) ***

AUGUST

04 - Syria (11) ***

11 - Central African Republic (21) **

18 - Mexico (39) **

25 Sri Lanka (46) * (!!!)

SEPTEMBER

01 - Afghanistan (2) ***

Appendix 3 – LOCAL CHURCH REVIEW

Colinton

Colinton Parish Church is at the heart of its community. The worship of God is central to its purpose with two services being offered most Sundays; the earlier service led by a praise band, the later set in a more traditional form. Often the services are combined and members regularly choose between one service and the other. There is much sharing of worship, fellowship and planning with the neighbouring St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church. Each Tuesday evening a Prayer Space is offered to members and the community, with a link to the Sunday service. Colinton Parish Church is well aware of the spiritual needs of people, even in a changing society and a changing parish.

In addition to the information given in Pack 2 of the LCR Report, the visiting team wishes to highlight The Swing Café (named after a link with a Robert Louis Stevenson poem), staffed by a rota of between 60 and 80 volunteers, and managed by a paid co-ordinator, which offers tea, coffee, lunches, welcome and friendship to the community and to many visitors, often walkers on the Water of Leith walkway.

The "Sisters with Spirit" group affords women a regular opportunity to consider spiritual matters and practices; it emerged out of conversations following the baptism of children. Contributing to "Art in the Park", a bi-annual celebration of creative arts in Colinton, has resulted in a closer working relationship with the Colinton Village Events group. "Christmas on the Corner", which began as an outdoor community gathering, is now being held annually in the church rooms and developing a spiritual dimension to the event. These are just some examples of how the members of the congregation use their bright, relaxing, amenable halls and their Christian faith to reach out to the community and beyond. Support for the Hailesland Early Years Centre in Wester Hailes and commitment to Christian Aid speak of the concern for the needs of the wider world. There is a strong link with the military too, where the Associate Minister's chaplaincy to schools has created a lasting and continuous link between church and army life, offering pastoral care and support.

Colinton Parish Church is a resourceful congregation with considerable resources and a healthy confidence. However this confidence does not lead to complacency. The Kirk Session is well aware of the challenges facing it. The Kirk Session has formed a Strategy Group which is preparing a Strategy to consider the mission and outreach of the Church. An exceptionally well-organised Away Day set in motion a review of the congregation's mission statement and purpose in sharing the Gospel of Christ. The Strategy and Strategy Team were in their initial stages as the Local Church Review was taking place. The visiting team were greatly impressed by the willingness and togetherness of the Kirk Session in facing up to the challenges that all our congregations experience. The Session's realistic hopes and plans speak of their determination. However finding people to undertake the tasks needed to reach out with the Gospel effectively is a real challenge not easily solved. For example, the much appreciated church magazine (appreciated by the community as well as church members) is in abeyance as an editor is being sought and the whole question of staffing in Colinton Parish Church is under review.

It was very evident to the visiting team how much the Kirk Session valued the ministry in Colinton, with Rolf and Gayle being held in high regard. The Session were aware of the considerable workload the ministry team carries. As well as the time given to the Army, four schools are given chaplaincy, staffing matters need support and energy, pastoral care and funerals take up time, as does commitment to the work of Presbytery and the wider church. At the same time as offering prayerful support the Session expressed its real appreciation of the leadership, insight, vision, practical thinking and considerable pastoral care Rolf and Gayle give to the church and community. Their dedication is to be highly commended. At our meeting with the Ministers and the Kirk Session the visiting team felt among a people of faith with a unity of purpose and a recognition of skills, devotion, and care. We pray God's blessing upon their work and their planning, as we feel sure their devotion will be fruitful for the Kingdom.

Three Ticks...

1. In the planning of all our activities, we strive to work intergenerationally, creating links and meeting opportunities for people of all ages.
2. We greatly value the reciprocal relationships with groups and individuals in the community.
3. We provide varied styles and times of services, including partnership with the Scottish Episcopal Church, services in the three care homes, home communions and soup lunch services, as well as prayer table and Prayer Space.

...and a Wish

To formulate a clear mission statement that takes account of the changing needs in the community and congregation.

Finally, an image



Colinton
Parish
Church

A Community
of Faith
at the Heart of
Colinton



A Journey into Love

Fairmilehead

Fairmilehead's building design marks it out as a welcoming place and this sense of welcome extends to the people of Fairmilehead who understand that they have much to share with their community- their buildings as well as their gifts and talents and faith- something which seems to have been given extra focus with their calling of a new minister in early 2018.

Sunday worship takes place at 10:30am with time set aside to especially focus on children, this being led by the minister or a small group from within the congregation. There is also a praise band capable of playing both contemporary and traditional music. Communion takes place at the end of each month along with quarterly Communion services. Special services, like baptisms, take place on the first Sunday of each month.

Innovations with regard to worship include a service on Thursday mornings called Seedlings. This is a service aimed at toddlers and tots and parents and grandparents. It lasts about an hour and is especially geared to be child friendly. Also on Thursdays, on the other side of the spectrum, is a service aptly named "A Time of Stillness." This is a short service which allows for a time of prayer, reading, reflection and meditation.

Special services are a feature of Fairmilehead's worship. For example, a Creation Sunday service has been introduced which takes place in September led by the Eco Congregation Steering Group. There is also an "Ability Sunday" led by the Disability Steering Group which ensures things like making the church accessible for people with disabilities.

In Summer, worship moves away from the lectionary with specific themes being covered, like, for example, "The Miracles in John." A service for the recently bereaved has also been introduced, taking place in October. The minister has also been invited to lead the Uniformed Organisation's service which encourages building bridges within the community. Furthermore, new services, like dementia sensitive services, are being planned. "Messy" Church is also being looked into with a first service being held focusing on the theme of "Light." Furthermore, a monthly prayer diary has been initiated, part of the aim being to provide a diverse range of services to appeal to people who have little or no connection to

church in order to let them see that all of life, with all its joys and challenges, is in the hands of God. Appeals of this nature are advertised in the Church Centre.

Outreach at Fairmilehead doesn't only come in the form of services though. It also has a practical side, with, for example, support for St. Catherine's Mercy Centre, in the form of weekly deliveries of clothing and food ie supporting food banks etc. The congregation also supports appeals for groups such as the Guild and the Young Church, as well as international disaster appeals.

Pastorally, the congregation and community are cared for by the minister and a pastoral group and the minister has begun to work with Buckstone Primary School partaking in assemblies. P7 pupils also contributed to a Festival of Peace which was organised by the three churches of Fairmilehead, Greenbank and Morningside.

The congregation of Fairmilehead are deeply committed and keen to help others as part of their commitment to Christ.

Two Session conferences have been held recently in order to ponder ways of "doing" church, with the belief that evangelism doesn't simply consist of going out and presenting the gospel and winning converts. Rather, different ways of being and doing church, as seen above, have been considered. Four elders have attended worship training organised by the Presbytery of Edinburgh with the idea that it allows the minister to be involved with the Young Church. The minister has also been training an elder as funeral support, to lead funeral services when the minister is away.

The church has also rebranded itself with a new logo which is used on banners, leaflets, and flyers etc. It is also on Facebook, posting daily readings as well as advertising new services with people able to join or get involved in one or more of a number of groups like the Guild, Forum, the Walking Group, Knitting Group, or being part of the "pop up" cafe.

In terms of future there are various "irons in the fire." Tots and Toddlers Church on Thursdays and Messy Church being built on. Messy Vintage, an intergenerational endeavour is also being considered. Furthermore, there are ideas about a dementia cafe, with the minister having worked with Alzheimer's Scotland for the past four years. The minister has also met with local nursery school staff who rent premises within the Church Centre.

Contact has also been established, as previously stated, with the local primary school to conduct assemblies and build relationships and with the local hospice which is located within the parish. The Session is also considering the viability of employing a parish assistant rather than a youth worker, with a view to building relationships within the community.

Fairmilehead Parish Church is an active church with an eye firmly on creating and building new and strong relationships within the community on as with the relationships that already exist. It has a new minister who has brought with her a new focus and new ideas and there is a sense of enthusiasm and excitement about the possibilities for Fairmilehead's continuing place in the community. There is a strong focus on service through relationships, which is greatly encouraging to see, and an understanding that a church is not only a place of meeting for some form of physical activity but is primarily a place of worship in all its various forms. May God bless the work and worship of the people of this church.

Peter Bluett

Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse

As we think about how to resolve the problem of 'what to do with all our surplus buildings' there are many questions: 'Are our buildings fit for purpose? Do they support our mission and service

appropriately, as well as being gathering places of worship? Do they help build community?' None of these are easy to answer.

It was inspiring to learn of what the congregation of Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse (GDS) have committed to in answer to these difficult questions having three or more buildings in three locations to maintain as centres for worship and service. It requires faith, prayer, imagination and boldness - a willingness to think 'out of the box', to take risks, to see where God is working, to listen for the still small voice and then to move into what you believe God is asking of you.

A Thanksgiving Service was held on Sunday 7th April in the Stenhouse St Aidan's building. The vision, commitment and people power evident in opening this night shelter in partnership with Bethany Christian Trust is nothing short of inspirational. '**Diadem**' has become a safe place for those who are homeless and vulnerable on our streets. Catering Teams from a number of Churches take part. An application for change of the building's use to a permanent night shelter is underway and will involve up-grading the fabric. This is a huge commitment for one congregation to make and offers of help to support the vision and sustain the work are needed. When previously a rota existed and the Night Shelter moved from Church to Church, utilities bills were shared; these are now being met by the one congregation. Please consider if your Church can assist and contact Rev Peter Barber, Minister, if you can.

The **Saltyard** is also an innovative project that is intentionally a fresh expression of Church. New windows were added to the former St Colm's Church to allow passers-by to see what was happening inside. Saltyard is a Café with a difference. Homemade soup, lovely bakes and a wide variety of teas and coffees are on offer but so too is a warm welcome, time from people who care, a place to chat and pray. Used by parents dropping off children at Dalry Primary, school staff and others meeting informally, Saltyard's approach is not overtly religious, yet there are remarkable stories of people at critical moments in their lives dropping in, meeting Staff or volunteers and unburdening themselves. There are: a monthly "Songs that Wonder" where people bring songs or poetry that speak to them; a daily time for prayer led by the Staff team and a weekly evening Café Church Service.

The **Worship Centre** for the Church remains what was formerly Gorgie Parish Church. Here the space is used flexibly to facilitate worship in which preaching has a central place. Notes from the Minister's sermon are made available for discussion at Housegroups through the week. Risks are also taken here when, on occasion, there is time given for anyone who wishes to address the congregation. Gorgie's population is largely transitory; people become part of the Church for a while then move.

Here, and sometimes at Saltyard, the energetic **Children's and Youth Work** connects with a range of ages, providing Family Fun Days and Holiday Clubs during the School holidays in February, at Easter, Summer and in October. There is an acute awareness of the pressures on young people, the challenging backgrounds from which many come and of the need to build up their self-esteem.

GDS aims to provide a contextual ministry sensitive to the needs of all in their parish and built on a core vision of Love, Prayer and Service. There are frequent opportunities for prayer and a conviction that more prayer is needed. There is a great deal of enthusiasm and people are eager to engage in life and work at GDS. There are many and varied denominations in the area and GDS aim to work together with others, notably with St Michael's, St Martin's (SEC), The Salvation Army, and Destiny Church with whom there is good co-operation especially in relation to planning youth activities.

Next Steps are identified as follows:

1. **Revision of pastoral care** system this Spring to reach out to those who cannot attend Church, those who do but are not members, and people who have been 'lost' since the unions. Elders and others will be part of the Pastoral Care Team and training will be provided.
2. **Expand Ministry Team** - add the post of Assistant to the Minister with responsibility for volunteer development. An appointment has been made. The Team at GDS consists of: Rev Peter Barber, Minister; Trevor Martindale, Assistant to the Minister; Zoltan Safrany, Trainee Minister; Michael McMullin, Outreach Worker (Diadem); Rachel Cooney, Children & Families Worker; Rachel Zystra-Walkinshaw, Worship Director & Community Musician; Gordon Cooney, Administrator; George Kay, Saltyard Manager. Tricia Kingston, Session Clerk, provides much valued support especially in relation to HR. The elders are 24 in number and the Unitary Constitution is in place.
3. **Alpha and Youth Alpha** next Spring. Alpha will be offered as an outreach to the local communities and as a refresher course. Youth Alpha provides space needed for young people and their friends to explore questions of faith and life.
4. **Raising Profile within the community.** The colourful and informative monthly newsletter 'Connections' can be downloaded from the website www.gdschurch.org.uk The Communications Group discuss new ideas on improving communication with the community.
5. **Christmas Outreach** – building on the success of last year there will be a 'Pantivity' event with 'Out the Box' following the switch on of Christmas lights in White Park.
6. **Membership classes for Young People** – the idea is to deepen the connection and provide more of a voice for young people within the Church.
7. **Springboard from Diadem to reach the community in Stenhouse**, organising various events including coffee mornings, book sales, clothes swaps. There are conversations with Chaplaincy at HMP Edinburgh (which is in the parish) and Families Outside about throughcare support.
8. **Develop Diadem as a Community Hub** – improving kitchen and toilet facilities and reconfiguring corridor.
9. **Secure a stand at Heart & Soul** to create an attractive and informative presentation about the work at Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse across its three sites.

The Minister, Ministry Team, Session Clerk and Office-bearers are to be thanked and commended as they seek to support the congregation and ministry of Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse Parish Church to this area of the city.

The LCR Team were: Grant Gordon, Caroline Kehoe, Maggie Lane, Iain May, and Bill Taylor

St Martin's

Building Connections

A new Community Café is underway. It takes place in the Sanctuary on Wednesdays when such drop-in facilities are not provided by other Churches or community agencies. The Minister, Bill Wishart, Diaconal Candidate, Kirsty Forsyth, and a number of Church members are on hand to meet, befriend and make connections, and on the day we visited the Café was also supported by visitors from the Community Council, the Community Centre and Community Renewal.

Community Ministry is a strong area that continues to develop. There are warm relationships with community agencies, especially with Community Renewal with whom there is a positive reciprocal relationship, facilitating some activities organised by the Church and open to what the Church can offer.

Quickly you gain an impression of what this Church is about – **‘people have found a home here.’**

There are 85 members on the roll and 58% attend worship regularly – an incredible proportion! Brian Kerley is Session Clerk and there are 11 elders. Some consideration has been given to a move to the Unitary Constitution and meetings of the Board - who are 12 in number - and Session take place on the same night. There is a very happy relationship between the Minister and his team of office-bearers and congregation. The output achieved by such a dedicated group is outstanding and our visiting team was impressed by the joy, trust, giftedness and pastoral awareness of the Minister, and Office-bearers. With music, the gospel and magic tricks (the minister is a member of the West Lothian Magic Circle) Bill communicates in an engaging way with all ages.

The current Church buildings are a modern facility (2013), which is well used, with movable seating, a large screen and multi-media facilities. A cross is kept in place at the front of the Sanctuary. A wide range of events and styles, including Café Church, are offered. The Church furnishings were crafted by the Grassmarket Community Project, which is supported by a volunteer from the congregation and by generous charitable giving.

The following objectives are driving things forward:

1. **A Review of provision for Children and Young People.** The Church currently responds to children who turn up on a Sunday and offers occasional children’s mid-week activities. However, the need for regular provision is identified and a range of activities involving drama, art, crafts, etc is being considered. Messy Church is an option. A team of volunteers is required. The minister participates in services at the local Primary School.
2. **Discipleship/Ongoing Christian Education** – interactive themed worship is offered; in addition a need to provide discussion opportunities and courses to help people grow in Faith is recognised. There are plans to offer Discipleship Explored or Alpha courses. A Lent Group is underway.
3. **Weekly Community Café** - Hospitality is provided on Sundays as well. A welcome team ensures that no-one is left out. People have spoken about what the inclusive fellowship offered has meant to them. There is also an annual Church Open day and Barbecue,
4. **Developing Community Relationships.** The parish includes two distinct areas, Magdalene (where St Martin’s is situated) and Bingham. Impact is being made in both by making connections with Community agencies and groups, including both Community Forums. A Community Ministry approach attempts to be the church ‘in context’, networking and sometimes acting as a broker between community groups. Church buildings are used by groups including the Phoenix Community Choir and the Magdalene Community Forum. The Church is very active in this way, creating and taking opportunities. **“This is a community that knows it has a Church”**. Ecumenical relations include St Mary Magdalene Roman Catholic Church and an Independent Church; relationships with Portobello Churches Together are strong and there are active connections with Gladsmuir & Longniddry, and with Tranent Parish Church where the Rev Erica Wishart is Minister.

5. **Community Cinema** – an ambitious plan is being realised. The Church has acquired the necessary 3 licences to allow it to show movies and can now offer film events to appeal to all ages. Community Renewal has offered support for this project. These occasions will provide opportunities to families and others who would find going to the cinema very costly, they will help bring people around the Church and build up connections.

Four members from St Martin's have attended the Edinburgh and Lothian Presbyteries' joint course "Worship Training, Level 1" at St Martin's Church. The course is led by Rev Bill Wishart and Rev Dr Robin Hill; it is complementary to the course offered by New College from the summer.

Pastoral Care in the congregation is strong, built on friendship nurtured and shared. If someone is ill they are visited by the minister or retired deacon, Nan Rennie DCS, and others. People are "supported in different ways. This happens naturally and is inspiring to behold". A review of elders' districts is underway. Twice a month a Dementia Friendly Group meets at St Martin's attended by both those living with dementia and their carers. 'RU Still Game?' meets monthly, supported by an average of 30 retired persons, a good proportion of whom are not otherwise involved in the church. A special Wave of Light Service for those who have suffered baby loss is offered annually. The local foodbank is supported on a regular basis.

St Martin's has a presence on Facebook and an excellent website: www.stmartinsedinburgh.info

LCR discussions were mindful of the Basis of Reviewable Charge for St Martin's. We are satisfied that with the above objectives and active faith, fellowship and witness of the Church, St Martin's is on target to meet areas identified in the Basis of Review.

The Minister, Office-bearers and Congregation of St Martin's are to be thanked and commended for their dedicated service and the inspiration they provide in their communities and beyond.

The Local Church Review Team were: Grant Gordon, Caroline Kehoe, Maggie Lane, Iain May, and Bill Taylor

Appendix 4 – Social and Community Interests

1. Dementia Survey: Over the last few months we have encouraged congregations throughout the Presbytery to tell us of their work with those affected by Dementia. Tonight, we are pleased to present the results of that survey and as a Committee we will seek ways of making the results known further.

We thank all the congregations for their willingness to share their work with us and congratulate them on all the wonderful things they do.

We thank the Presbytery Communications Co-ordinator Julie Dunn for all her hard work in setting up the survey and collating the results.

2. Music For You: Music for You is a project conceived and run by Tricia Whyatt and Jeremy Devlin-Thorp. Tricia and Jeremy are both gifted musicians and, aware of the joy that music can bring to people decided to use their gift to bring joy to Elderly and Housebound people who can't get out to concerts by bringing the concert to them!

They regularly play in people’s houses and are always very well received. If you know of anyone in your Parish who might benefit from a concert, or you want to find out more information, you can email tricia@joyofpiano.co.uk

3. Fresh Start: Most Presbyters will be aware of the wonderful work that Fresh Start does and in February they were awarded the ‘Third Sector Organisation of the Year Award’ at the Scottish Diversity Awards. In common with most organisations in these difficult economic times they are always looking for ways to increase their funding and so they are asking for people to consider participating in the Kilt Walk on their behalf.

More information on fresh Start is available at <http://www.freshstartweb.org.uk>

4. Grassmarket Community Project: The Grassmarket Community project continue to do amazing work with its volunteers “many of whom are amongst the most vulnerable of our citizens. Through mentoring, social enterprise, training and education in a nurturing environment, the Project develops skills which enable participants to develop to their full potential and move away from cycles of failure.”

In May the project won the Best Not For Profit Café award at the Scottish Café Awards 2019 and in the Autumn a team will travel to Zambia to help build a much needed school for girls.

For more information on the project visit www.grassmarket.org

5. Christian Aid Book Fair: One of the Highlights of the Church year in Edinburgh is the Christian Aid Book Fair in St. Andrew’s & St. George’s West and this year was no exception. The sale raised over £130,000 and this, along with money raised in other sales across the city, will do much to help Christian Aid carry out its vital work.

Appendix 5 – Business

Standing Orders - Amendments

Current Version	Proposed Amendment
II Finance Remit	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To transmit applications for Further Endowment if satisfied with the figures submitted in the Schedules. To prepare a Budget for submission not later than the June meeting. The Budget shall cover all items relating to the administration of the Presbytery and shall cover the period to 31 May following. To submit for approval a method of assessment of the Budget on congregations to be payable by 31 October. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To engage with Stewardship & Finance over the allocation of endowments. To prepare a Budget for submission not later than the November meeting. The Budget shall cover all items relating to the administration of the Presbytery and shall cover the period to 31 December following. To submit for approval a method of assessment of the Budget on congregations to be payable by 28 February.
VII Ministries	
Remit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the Enquiry and Assessment Process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the Discernment Process.

<p>Delegated Powers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To represent Presbytery in the Enquiry and Assessment process, including the Local Review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>To represent Presbytery in the Discernment Process, including the Local Review;</i> to carry out the responsibilities of Presbytery in relation to the superintendence of Readers in accordance with Act 17 1992 section 6.
XIV Pastoral Care	
<p><i>Remit:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to promote the provision of pastoral guidance, care and support for ministers, deacons and other full-time servants of the Church and their families. To oversee the Presbytery Chaplaincy scheme, including the provision of supervision to Presbytery Chaplains. To bring to Presbytery appropriate names to fill vacant roles for Presbytery chaplains. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be responsible for the promotion and provision of opportunities for Pastoral Care to all ministers, deacons, and OLMs and other servants of the Church who are under the supervision of Presbytery. To recruit and line-manage Chaplains, in conjunction with the Clerk, on behalf of Presbytery. To provide access to Pastoral Supervision and Chaplaincy which promote opportunities and developments for support and growth and ensure such opportunities and developments shall be contemporary, creative and forward looking. To promote and encourage reflective practice.
Unbudgeted Expenditure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Finance Committee shall annually prepare a Budget for submission not later than the June meeting. The Budget shall cover all items relating to the administration of the Presbytery and shall cover the period to 31 May following. The Finance Committee at the same time as it shall submit the annual Budget shall also submit for approval a method of assessment of the Budget on congregations to be payable by 31 October. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Finance Committee shall annually prepare a Budget for submission not later than the November meeting. The Budget shall cover all items relating to the administration of the Presbytery and shall cover the period to 31 December following. The Finance Committee at the same time as it shall submit the annual Budget shall also submit for approval a method of assessment of the Budget on congregations to be payable by 28 February.
Commissioners to the General Assembly	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Roll of Commissioners shall be made up at the March meeting of the Business Committee and reported to the April meeting of Presbytery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Roll of Commissioners shall be made up at the January meeting of the Business Committee and reported to the February meeting of Presbytery.

Presbytery Trustees

Recognising that concern has been expressed at the Presbytery meetings regarding the large number of trustees and the ability for this to be an effective pattern of governance, it is proposed, following discussions with the General Assembly Legal Questions Committee, that we invite them to give consideration to this matter. Such a matter is particularly timely given recent decisions at the General Assembly where a restricted number of trustees were appointed to act on behalf of the whole Church.

Budget Strategy Group

Following a recent meeting of the Budget Strategy Group consideration was given to recent requests from three congregations within the Presbytery each facing funding challenges for posts that are supported through the Church of Scotland Go For It Fund. As part of their commitment each congregation has to provide match funding to support the posts. Such a commitment they have all previously met and with people already in post serving as Family or Outreach workers in their parishes they each find themselves unable to close the gap on the match funding requirements. When the Finance Committee presented this year's budget to the Presbytery they held back an amount in the 5% Development Fund which would comfortably provide such support for this year.

These congregations are Carrick Knowe, Granton and Murrayfield, and the Budget Strategy Group propose we grant Carrick Knowe £4,433, Granton £5,000, and Murrayfield £3,500 for the coming year.

The Group commended this to the Business Committee who support the proposed deliverance to Presbytery.

Appendix 6 – Deployment of Resources

Vacancy Process

When a vacancy occurs within a congregation the Deployment of Resources Committee is proposing to send out a team comprising members of the Deployment of Resources, Finance and Property Committees to meet with the Kirk Session. This meeting will give opportunity to discuss and reflect upon not only the congregation's finances and property but also the presence of the ministry and mission of the church within the context of the parish. This holistic approach will make use of the most recent Local Church Review together with the Presbytery Plan and will inform the Presbytery's planning procedures to enable a way forward to be found for the congregation.

Appendix 7 – Strategic Planning Group

Report of the Presbytery Strategic Planning Group (PSPG)

A. Values and Principles (see appendix)

At the 2019 General Assembly the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, was invited to address the Assembly and within her speech spoke of the work of the Scottish Government and how this was being built upon a set of values, which she indicated had helped make that work more productive.

In recognising the magnitude and complexity involved in the work of strategic planning and in wishing to alleviate fears and encourage healthy participation in the process by all congregations, the PSPG presents a set of values and principles for Presbytery's approval that will thereafter be distributed to the congregations to be shared with ministers, Kirk Sessions and congregation.

The Group trust that with Presbytery's approval, these values and principles will then undergird all future conversations between the Group and congregations, and congregations with other congregations, and enable the future plan to be developed by and from the grassroots.

B. Communication Strategy

The PSPG has considered the best way to seek to involve and engage with congregations as it takes the planning process forward. In discussions with the Presbytery's Communications Co-ordinator it has been decided that we will rely upon space within the Presbytery Website allocated for the production of documents to be shared with congregations and to receive suggestions, comments, and concerns from congregations. It was also decided that the channels through which information will be shared are the Presbytery Elder and Session Clerk of each congregation. It is hoped that they in turn would make the information known to the minister, Kirk Session, office-bearers and members where applicable and appropriate.

Through reports to Presbytery meetings, news items in the Presbytery Newsletter, communication through the dedicated page, and in time direct contact through face-to-face meetings it is the intention of the PSPG to keep the process transparent and participatory throughout and create a Plan, as said previously, that is developed by and from the grassroots.

Appendix – Finance

When the Presbytery Plan was put into place the ministry posts in Craigsbank reduced from 2 to 1, and in light of this the pilot Staffing Fund made provision for a post at Craigsbank. The worker has been in post now for 3 years, and there is provision in the budget to continue this post for 1 more year. The Finance Committee therefore asks the Presbytery to continue this post in light of the vacancy to provide stability.

Appendix 8 – Property

Ratho: in response to its recent five-yearly buildings inspection, the congregation is seeking approval to draw on monies held on the congregation's behalf in the Consolidated Fabric Fund to cover the cost of c£10,000.

Greenside: in response to its recent five-yearly buildings inspection, the congregation is seeking approval to proceed with urgent stonework repair at a cost of c£65k, to be funded locally from reserves.

Greyfriars: Presbytery has already approved the extension to the Church Halls to provide more facilities for the community project based there. Through an intrusive survey, it was found that deeper foundations would be required. The total additional cost of the project is around £100,000. The project will only proceed if this work is done, and therefore we recommend approval, subject to raising the additional money.

Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse: Diadem Project: After a successful pilot scheme of running the BCT winter night-shelter in 2018-19 in the Diadem building, the congregation is seeking permission to make this a permanent project in wintertime. The agreement with BCT put in place last year is being adapted slightly in the light of experience, and application has been made to the Council for relevant permissions.

Old Kirk Muirhouse: as a result of a recent attempted break-in, it was discovered that the door and window frames of the church entrance are in urgent need of replacement. Quotations have been obtained for two types of replacement, one costing £16,000 and one costing £24,000. Application has been made to the Council for the work to take place and while the congregation is minded to choose the lower cost project, this will depend on receiving appropriate permission.

Willowbrae: the AV equipment in the sanctuary is in urgent need of replacement at a cost of £20,000. Normally this would not have required Presbytery permission, but previous fabric work places this over the limit required for permission. The congregation is under Transition Ministry with its future shape still to be discerned, but since this need is a present one, we believe the work should go ahead.

Grants awarded from Presbytery Fabric Funds

Granton: for the removal of asbestos - £6,500
Kirkliston: towards work arising from buildings in section - £5,000
Bristo Craigmillar: towards cost of redecoration - £2,000
Wardie: towards cost of window repairs - £1,500
Priestfield: towards cost of renewal of hall lighting - £1,700
Total: £16,700

All congregations awarded grants in the September 2018 cycle have supplied appropriate information on use of their grant.

Appendix 9 – Administration

Mr Johnstone is a Retired Minister who resides within the bounds of the Presbytery, and will be listed on the Register of Ministries as category I.

Mr McCabe is a Retired Minister who resides within the bounds of the Presbytery, and will be listed on the Register of Ministries as category I.

Equalising Elders

John Ballantine
Ken Bisset
Margaret Bisset
James R Byers
Rachell Cadell
Andrena Crawford
Michael Cunliffe
Allan Gordon
G Grant Gordon
Ian Graham

Helen Hannan
Hazel Hastie
Dee Hunter
Caroline Kehoe
Herbert A Kerrigan
Patricia Kingston
Helen Kneale
David P H MacLennan
Morag J Mason
Hugh McDiarmid

Karen McKay
Elizabeth McLean
Chris McNeil
Lindsay Sawyer
Richard A Smith
Rodger Thom
Pauline Weibye
J Ross Wilkinson
Rachel Wright

Balerno	Ian Alexander	Liberton Northfield	Marie Sneddon
Barclay Viewforth	TBC	Marchmont St Giles'	Judith Stewart
Blackhall St Columba's	Edward Thorn	Mayfield Salisbury	Anne Steele
Bristo Memorial Craigmillar	Richard Smith	Meadowbank	Fiona Beveridge
Broughton St Mary's	John Endicott	Morningside	Robin Stimpson
Canongate	Jane Stewart	Morningside United	Mairianna Clyde
Carrick Knowe	George Goodall	Murrayfield	John Crispin
Colinton	Brian Falla	Newhaven	Heather Robertson
Corstorphine Craigsbank	Carol Turnbull	Old Kirk and Muihouse	TBC
Corstorphine old	John Hartil	Palmerston Place	John Duncan
Corstorphine St Anne's	Nigel Hicks	Pilrig St Paul's	Aileen Fraser
Corstorphine St Ninian's	Sheila Minty		
Craiglockhart	TBC	Polwarth	Audrey Downie
Craigmillar Park	Christopher McLeod	Portobello and Joppa	Reuben Addis
Cramond	Deirdre Shishodia	Priestfield	Andrew Steven
Currie	David Connell	Queensferry	Carol Kelly
Dalmeny	Duncan Douglas	Ratho	Patricia Fraser
Davidson's Mains	Graeme Small	Reid Memorial	Linda Farrer
Drylaw	Jill McIntosh	Richmond Craigmillar	Margaret Croall
Duddingston	Doreen Jones	St Andrew's & St George's west	George Burgess
Fairmilehead	Duncan Wilson	St Andrew's Clermiston	John Philip
Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse	Sandy Gemmill	St Catherine's Argyle	Calum Martin
Gracemount	Douglas Robertson	St Cuthbert's	James McLean
Granton	TBC	St David's Broomhouse	Andrew Davidson
Greenbank	Ian Thom	St John's Colinton Mains	Lizabeth Mackie
Greenside	Katherine Anderson	St Margaret's	TBC
Greyfriars Kirk	TBC	St Martin's	TBC
High St Giles'	TBC	St Michael's	Douglas Bannatyne
Holy Trinity	Ann Wanless	St Nicholas Sighthill	Maureen Samuel
Inverleith St Serf's	Sandy Pratt	St Stephen's Comely Bank	TBC
Juniper Green	John Sharp	Slateford Longstone	Sheila Ward
Kirkliston	William McKay	Stockbridge	Anne Wallace
Leith North	Tim Bell	Tron Kirk Moredun	Alice Bertram
Leith St Andrew's	Jean Aldred	Wardie	Brian Cooper
Leith South	TBC	Willowbrae	Robert Lowey
Liberton	TBC		