



At Edinburgh, and within Carrick Knowe the third day of September 2019, the Presbytery of Edinburgh met after Holy Communion 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**

#### **Tribute**

The Moderator paid tribute to the Miss Rhoda Drummond DCS who died on 13 August 2019.

#### **Congratulations**

The Moderator congratulated the Rev Dr George J Whyte on his appointment as Chaplain to the Queen.

The Moderator also congratulated the Very Rev Prof. David Fergusson on his appointment to Dean of the Chapel Royal & Dean of the Order of the Thistle.

#### **Anniversary**

The Moderator on behalf of Presbytery congratulated the Very Rev Dr Russell Barr on reaching the fortieth anniversary of his ordination.

#### **Leave Taking**

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Rev Gayle Taylor, Associate Minister at Colinton, who takes up the role of Transition Minister at Newbattle and to the Rev Drausio Goncalves, minister of Bristo Memorial Craigmillar, who is translating to the Parish of Dingwall Castle Street in the Presbytery of Ross. He thanked them both for their ministries in the city and assured them of the good wishes of Presbytery.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to the Rev Maggie Lane who is demitting from her charge of Kirkliston and assured her of the good wishes of Presbytery. Mrs Lane gave suitable reply.

#### **Minute**

The minute of the meeting held on the 18 June 2019 was submitted and approved.

## CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS

### Deployment of Resources

The Clerk, gave in the report.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery:

#### Kirkliston Parish Church

1. grant permission to the congregation of Kirkliston to call a minister on Unrestricted Tenure.
2. agree the number to serve on the Nominating Committee shall be eleven.
3. appoint Rev Jamie Griggs (Convener), Rev James Aitken and Ms Dee Hunter to serve as the Vacancy Advisory Committee.
4. instruct the Clerk to intimate these decisions to the congregation.

## LOCAL MISSION IN CONTEXT

### Local Church Review

The Convener, Rev Moira McDonald, gave in the report, (Appendix 1)

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery

1. receive the Local Church Review reports for Corstorphine St Ninian's, Dalmeny, Queensferry and Wardie churches.
2. thank the visiting teams for their input to the Local Church Review process and their visits.

### Resourcing Mission Committee

The Convener, Rev Michael Mair, gave in the report, (Appendix 2)

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery

1. commend all congregations who have engaged in summer mission activities or who have supported their young people in attending SU summer camps or similar activities.
2. encourage congregations to pray for the discussions around what should replace Soul Survivor Scotland in Summer 2020.
3. note awards of Mission grants to Marchmont St. Giles' - £400, Craiglockart Parish Church - £400, and St. John's Colinton Main's Parish Church - £400.
4. note awards of the Wester Coates Fund of £940 each to St. Martin's, Gracemount, Richmond Craigmillar, Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun), St. David's Broomhouse, The Old Kirk and Muirhouse, St. Nicholas Sighthill, Bristo Memorial Craigmillar, Granton, and Holy Trinity Wester Hailes Parish Churches.
5. note an award of the Dean Mission fund of £4,700 to St. Stephen's Comely Bank Parish Church to support their CAP centre.

6. encourage congregations to make locally employed ministry staff aware of the Community and Outreach Workers Network.
7. note the proposed Mental Health First Aid Course to be run in St. David's Broomhouse Church on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November. Those who wish to take part should email [MMair@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:MMair@churchofscotland.org.uk) to book one of 16 places. A suggested donation of £15 per place is being sought.
8. note the Passion Trust Conference will be taking place in Edinburgh on the 11th and 12th of October. More details and how to register can be found at <https://passiontrust.org/>

## ENGAGEMENT WITH THE CITY AND WIDER WORLD

### Fresh Start

The Very Rev Dr Russell Barr introduced Ms Biddy Kelly, Managing Director of Fresh Start who thanked Presbyters for their ongoing support and talked about their plans for the future.

## BUSINESS MATTERS

### Business Committee

On behalf of the Presbytery the Convener of the Business Committee, the Rev David Cameron thanked the Moderator and the office bearers of Carrick Knowe for making the arrangements for the celebration of Holy Communion.

The Convener, Rev David Cameron, gave in the report, (Appendix 3)

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery

1. note that the "Holiday Committee" acting under powers agreed
  - 1.1 that the congregation of Ratho could draw down an additional amount of £5244.04 from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to cover costs incurred with previously agreed Fabric Work.
  - 1.2 to suspend Standing Order 14a 2019 which states that Holy Communion shall be celebrated at the December meeting to allow Communion to take place in September.
2. **Standing Orders**

approve the amendments to the Standing Orders.
3. **Anniversary Service**

note the anniversary service on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
4. **Budget Strategy Committee Report**

agree to the proposed criteria for a congregation to apply for funding in the light of a shortfall in funding a congregational post.
5. **Public Access Defibrillator Project**
  - 5.1 approve the Presbytery of Edinburgh Public Access Defibrillator Project.
  - 5.2 approve underwriting the cost of this project (up to £83,000) from the 5% Development Fund.

- 5.3** note the congregational input to this project to include the installation and maintenance of the defibrillator and cabinet.
- 5.4** encourage congregations to fundraise locally towards the cost of the defibrillator (£1,188) and cabinet (£414) in their location.
- 5.5** instruct Kirk Sessions to complete the Presbytery return by the 22nd October 2019.

## **6. Campus Ministry**

- 6.1** agree the extension of the Campus Ministry project until the end of June 2022.
- 6.2** agree to fund the additional support measures for the Campus Minister as per recommendation 6.
- 6.3** instruct the Clerk along with relevant parties to implement the report's recommendations.

## **Strategic Planning Group**

The Convener, Rev Jack Holt, gave in the report. (Appendix 4)

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery:

1. receive the report.

## **Finance Committee**

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

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery:

### **1. Treasurers Training Event**

note there will be a Treasurers' Training held on Tuesday 15th October at Tron Kirk Gilmerton and Moredun Church at 7pm.

(For further details please consult the Presbytery website.)

### **2. Presbytery Accounts**

note that the Presbytery Accounts are on the Presbytery website.

### **3. Ministries and Mission (M&M) 2020**

**3.1** note the proposed congregational allocations for 2020, calculated by the General Treasurer – see summary below.

**3.2** note that appeals against these allocations should be made to the Committee by 18 October 2019.

**3.3** note that the General Treasurer estimated an allocation for those congregations who had failed to submit their accounts by April 2019.

**3.4** note that where a congregation has endowments for stipend, the amount payable to the General Treasurer will be the net amount after the endowments income has been credited.

**3.5** remind congregations wishing to make contributions other than by standing order, that they must apply to the Committee, through the Clerk, no later than 30 November, and that any dispensation granted is for a period of 1 year.

## Property Committee

The Convener, Rev Jared Hay, gave in the report (Appendix 5)

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery:

### 1. Polwarth

approve the application to draw down funds from the Consolidated Fabric Fund to cover the cost of roof repair and resulting electrical work.

### 2. Grants from Presbytery-held property funds

note that grant applications from funds held by Presbytery should be sent to the Presbytery Office and Property Convener by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

## Administrative items from the Clerk

The Clerk gave in the report.

*It was moved, seconded and agreed:*

Presbytery

### 1. Elders' Commissions

sustain the following Elders' Commission:

Barclay Viewforth Mr Hugh Paterson

### 2. Services

grant permission to the congregation of St David's Broomhouse to not conduct Sunday worship on 15<sup>th</sup> September instead to have a joint service with St Nicholas Sighthill.

### 3. Assessor Elders

**3.1** appoint as Assessor Elders for Bristo Memorial, with full voting rights:-

Fiona Beveridge, (Meadowbank), David Buchanan, (Kirkliston),  
Rob Clyde, (Morningside United), Ian Gordon, (Corstorphine Old),  
Heather Robertson, (Newhaven).

**3.2** appoint as Assessor Elders for Greenside, with full voting rights:-

Ramsay Allan, (Corstorphine Old), Ian Laing, (Queensferry).

**4.** thank the Rev Ann Inglis for her work as Interim Moderator at Dalmeny linked with Queensferry and discharge her.

**5.** note the inclusion of the Rev Ronald Smith as a category R in the Register of Ministries. He was previously with the Presbytery of Stirling.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Presbytery adjourned to meet:

- for Anniversary Service on 8<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm at the Church Offices, 121 George Street and then onto St Andrew's & St George's West Church.
- for ordinary business until 5 November 2019 at 7pm in Palmerston Place Parish Church.

Closed with prayer

Moderator

Clerk

### St. Ninian's Corstorphine Parish Church



Under the new ministry of Rev James Aitken and as stated in the report, St Ninian's Corstorphine (StNC) continues to be a place of *"welcome in the heart of Corstorphine"* with *"a formal, traditional, lectionary based, Presbyterian style of worship."*

There is much about the community that StNC is grateful for, including the unique and special Corstorphine community and the variety of local churches with differing worship styles.

StNC is a well-used and busy. As the report documents, *"The church facilities are used by many faith based and non-faith based activities (24 at the last count)."* StNC sees their buildings as a resource for the community.

StNC is a generous church, committed to giving to those in need both locally and internationally. StNC actively supports a number of charities including Christian Aid, Fresh Start, the Bethany Care Van and St Columba's Hospice. It has a heart for the parish and the city.

Like many churches, StNC is aware that it will look very different 10 years from now. They are aware that *"numbers in the Sunday Club are falling."* Because of this, StNC is thinking through the kind of legacy that they want to leave to the next generation and to the community, as they address the immediate needs of the congregation and parish.

StNC has committed as one of their 'Next Steps' to *"examine whether there is a need for an additional, regular worship service or worship experience (for example: Messy Church...)"* They have also committed to organising an annual adventure for young people. The team is reminded of St Ninian's 5<sup>th</sup> Century pioneering, Jesus-sharing endeavours and heartily commends work of this kind.

Aware of the needs of the elderly, StNC has set up a new Visiting Team and a tri-annual special afternoon tea with transport provided. The team were encouraged by this ministry and also its potential for growth. The team were pleased to hear of the lively and active Guild.

StNC care greatly for the community and plan as another of their 'Next Steps' to *"establish an outreach working group to review the needs of the community."* The team commends this venture and sees the potential for this to be a joint church exercise. StNC expressed gratitude and appreciation of 'Corstorphine Churches Together' and their annual pilgrimage.

A deep desire to reach out was expressed in order to *"get people to come to church...to get noticed...in hope of attracting others."*

StNC also recognises and reported that *“we need to help our members grow in faith and to be continually learning about what it means to be a Christian.”* The introduction of the sermon discussion and the Lent discussion group is appreciated.

New Minister, Rev James Aitken and the Kirk Session were mutually appreciative of each other. James spoke about the importance of honouring traditions, recognising StNC’s particular faith journey as well as moving forward. This approach seemed to be well received.

Two ticks:

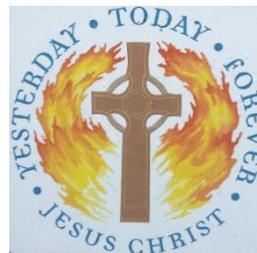
1. StNC’s community spirit and desire to serve their neighbours and city
2. StNC’s willingness to *“examine whether there is a need for an additional, regular worship service or worship experience.”*

Wish: More ‘hearts and minds’ meetings of the Corstorphine Churches Together group of churches.

### **Dalmeny Parish Church (linked with Queensferry)**

In view, between the ancient Sanctuary and recently opened Church Centre is a sign. The sign has a Celtic Cross in the middle, is surrounded with the Holy Spirit’s fire of Pentecost and declares from Hebrews 13:8, **“Jesus Christ, yesterday, today forever”**.

We commend Dalmeny Parish Church (a church with a long and proud tradition dating from 880 A.D.) for holding onto this timeless and timely truth as it seeks to navigate the new cultural landscape of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and as it wrestles with the question of what it means to be faithful followers of Jesus *now* in Dalmeny.



Dalmeny Parish Church (DPC), as reported in our meeting, is a *“welcoming, caring, compassionate church, more alive than ever, doing much with little.”* It is a rural church in a city Presbytery whose identity is bound to its past and their beautiful old building. DPC is not however stuck in the past. DPC stated clearly in their report, *“We want our beliefs that God is our light through the world and Jesus is our Saviour to be spread to as many of our fellow travellers in life’s journey as we can...We want to grow Gods’ kingdom in Dalmeny and open doors for people to explore and embrace faith.”*

One major outworking of this desire to share Jesus with the people of Dalmeny and surroundings, is the opening of the Church Centre in January 2018. The customised building provides a community hub and a different kind of space for people to meet Christians, enjoy their friendship and in turn the hope and prayer is for those in community to meet with and enjoy friendship with Jesus. People from the community and people passing by have responded well to the newly renovated building and the heart behind it – the heart to serve and bless the community. Having a café space has meant much more mixing and new

connections being established. DPC are prioritising developing relationships with young families and children and are, as they are able, resourcing this work. DPC are to be commended for the hard work and missional heart behind the building work.

The congregation and community of Dalmeny is significantly smaller than that of Queensferry to which it is linked. This inevitably has a bearing on the relational dynamic. What the team found very encouraging was: the warmth and appreciation expressed by both churches, the overlap of the congregations in house groups, and that one member of the QFPC Kirk Session responded to a sensed call by God to make Dalmeny their church home and to join Dalmeny Kirk Session.

With a smaller congregation and with few doing much, there are many challenges that will increase if numbers decline. One such challenge is that Sunday school is fortnightly. Whilst this was viewed with some sadness, it was also clear that the church understand that they need to 'cut their cloth to fit its size' so that people who serve well are not overburdened. DPC are very appreciative of their minister and his ministry. They also appreciate his commitment to Queensferry but miss having a 'full time minister'.

Also of note is DPC's participation in the monthly Messy Church, the ongoing Annual Alpha Course, the church's desire to develop wider involvement in Sunday worship, their ongoing commitment to pastoral care and chaplaincy work in the schools, the monthly groups such as the Monday Mix and the Dally men and hosting social events.

There is recognition of the need to develop their worship team and they are asking Presbytery for help in this matter. As DPC church embark on a new project to identify community needs, we would also ask this already hard-working church to exercise wisdom in what it commits to or is seen to be committing to. We encourage Dalmeny in their use of the Alpha course for all ages.

We would encourage other churches exploring building (re)development for missional purposes to speak and pray with DPC.

Two ticks:

1. Dalmeny's opening of the Church Centre and the heart behind it – to serve the community and introduce people to Jesus
2. Dalmeny's appreciation of its past, traditions and 'traditional' service whilst recognising the need for new ways to share the good news of Jesus with people in the community who may have different traditions and expectations.

Wish: Support and encouragement for David and development of the worship and pastoral teams as David ministers between QF and Dalmeny

### **Queensferry Parish Church (Linked with Dalmeny)**

Queensferry Parish Church's 'flotilla' logo symbolises, a group of 'all kinds and all sorts people' seeking to follow Jesus together in the power of the Spirit.



Knowing and enjoying Jesus and making him known is central to their life. The church are glad to be reminded by the Three Bridges of the triune nature of God and the glorious, eternal, relational joy enjoyed between Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The invitation to us to enter in to this relationship is clearly on their heart. As expressed, *“Jesus is good news, there are 100s and 1000s who need to hear!”*

Queensferry Parish Church (QFPC) gather on Sunday twice to worship. The 11:30am ‘traditional’ service is much enjoyed but numbers are declining. The 10am ‘more contemporary, informal’ service is *‘holding at a good level’* as some members pass on, move on and new people arrive. The church is very aware of the decline of ‘Christendom’ and the challenges and opportunities this provides. QFPC are working through what it means for worship services to be *‘fit for purpose’* - to meet the needs of those who attend regularly and who are familiar with things Christian and those who are not. As well as working this through in the existing services, QFPC are exploring a ‘fresh expression’ of church aimed at those who are curious, questioning and sceptical, those who may be unfamiliar with church traditions and social norms.

We commend this approach and encourage QFPC to use the many resources available within and without the CofS. Critical to establishing and growing this fresh expression is the leadership team and the needed support and encouragement of the whole church. Trust and good communication will be vital. With QFPC and Dalmeny Church being linked charges, it is vital that the preaching, teaching, worship team and pastoral team are grown and developed further. Individuals with competency and character are being encouraged to ‘have a go’. Part of Rev David Cameron’s ministry is one of empowering and equipping. The congregation has a history of being willing to try out new things out. The team finds this heartening.

Also of note is the monthly Messy Church which is a joint effort between QFPC, Dalmeny and The Priory (the local Episcopalian Church). It was reported that families are being introduced to Jesus and relationships are developing. The annual Holiday Club and Alpha course continue to be a central point in church life where people are coming to faith in Jesus.

The Bible and prayer are valued highly, not just as the people of QFPC gather for worship but as they are scattered throughout their week. QFPC continue to train their people of all ages with a prayerful desire for all of Jesus’ followers to feel comfortable in praying, opening up their Bibles themselves and with others. As stated, *“We want to share Jesus naturally and intentionally.”*

The LCR team were very encouraged by the Bereavement Support Group and six week course established in the Hawes Inn. This was a previous LCR objective. We were also encouraged to see the ongoing community engagement and activities and QFPC’s commitment to work with other churches and projects for the wellbeing of the local community. QFPC are about to embark on a new project to identify community needs. The team would ask this already hard-working church to exercise wisdom in what it commits to or is seen to be committing to.

We are also encouraged by QFPC’s ongoing relationship with Youth For Christ and the schools, and their continued commitment to fellowship seen through the active Guild, coffees, meals and walking groups.

QFPC and Rev David Cameron were realistic about the challenges of David being ‘spread over two churches’. The Leadership team spoke fondly of their minister and family. They are ‘much loved’ and his ministry is ‘much appreciated’. It was also encouraging to hear the

warmth in which members of QFPC spoke about Dalmeny church and their appreciation of the church they are linked with.

We would encourage other churches exploring fresh expressions of gathered worship and who are interested in the Bereavement course to speak and pray with QFPC.

Two ticks: QFPC's ongoing commitment to engage with and bless the community.

QFPC's ongoing willingness to try new things to help people meet with Jesus.

Wish: Support and encouragement for David and development of the worship and pastoral teams as David ministers between QFPC and Dalmeny and encourages a new fresh expression of worship.

## **Wardie Parish Church**

This is a congregation who "do church" in many exciting ways. They boldly attempt to take new initiatives for God, while accepting that some will be unsuccessful. One typical example from their LCR reports, ***"We try out new and contemporary forms of worship and liturgies that encourage participation and new songs"***

They do not work in isolation but are open to learn from the experience of other congregations. These are investigated by their relevant Task Groups and the resulting knowledge used to develop and execute plans for Wardie. The Kirk Session is made up of able people who are pulling in the same direction. New people are encouraged to take part and work alongside others who have worshipped and served for a long time. Some younger elders get involved with the activities of the Junior Church, **Kidz@Wardie**, creating a comfortable, fun and calm environment.

The excellent Trinity Community Gala was founded and organised by Wardie Parish Church. The Gala starts on the Saturday at Wardie Church with various activities and exhibitions. At the invitation of the KS, the Open Air Service on Sunday Morning is ecumenical in nature with involvement by the Council of Churches in Trinity and Goldenacre. It is held biannually and in 2017 attracted 1000 visitors to the Sunday programme in the local park. The theme of this annual event for August 2019 is ***Health and Wellbeing*** and is supported by community, local businesses and exhibitors. This Community Event is not intended for fundraising purposes, although a collection for charity is taken at the Ecumenical Service. Joint ventures with other local churches include Ecumenical Services with a choir of about 35 people, summer services, fundraising events for causes like Christian Aid, an ecumenical lecture, house groups and a lunch club.

Church and non-churched come together to create a community feel in the development of the well thought out church garden project and the two informal walking groups where people of all abilities are welcomed.

The Minister, Revd Ute Jaeger-Fleming, is both liked and respected, while her Kirk Session and staff are well informed. The congregation participate in the Sunday Service by offering

a welcome, Bible readings and intercession prayer. Members of the Pastoral Care group assist the minister with home visits.

Safeguarding is handled by two coordinators who have a good rapport with each other and ensure that PVG certificates are kept up to date. Attendance at safeguarding training was impressive and help is sought from Presbytery and the offices at 121 when required.

There is an active property maintenance programme and the fabric team take responsibility and prompt action to correct any faults, interspersed with fun and laughter.

This church worked hard to achieve a Gold Award as an Eco-congregation in 2017 but after a new system of evaluation has been introduced they are working again to achieve Gold status and are keen to grow in their commitment to care for the environment.

The focus in all their initiatives is guided by their Mission Statement with the strapline “Building relationships, building community - finding God in dialogue with the world and its people”. This is the basis for their new 3 year development plan which has recently been completed.

The second phase of a project is currently underway to renovate the original leaded windows with the enthusiastic financial support from the congregation and a grant from Presbytery and a grant from Scottish Churches Trust.

Other initiatives include; a Toddler music café set up in 2017 to offer support and build up relationships with parents and carers from among members and predominantly non-members. It is seen as a potential link to bring people into Sunday Church life. Supporting people with dementia and their carers and developing the musical aspects of Sunday worship.

Plans are at the early stages to increase the flexibility of the sanctuary and to turn the front of the church building into a welcoming place– and is viewed as invitational to the whole community (*both churched and non-churched*)

Wardie Parish Church is an outward looking congregation who are enthusiastic to engage with the local, national, and international communities. Their support for charitable work by action and finance is admirable. The solidarity of the Minister and Kirk Session are a joy to experience. We wish them success in their future adventures for God.

## **Appendix 2 – Resourcing Mission**

Summer is often a busy time for congregations within the bounds of Presbytery. With the absence of school, churches often grasp the mettle and run all kinds of missional holiday activities for families, young children and excursions for all ages. Other congregations find themselves unable to run these activities for themselves, but will partner with other local

congregations, fund young people to attend summer camps or have committed to pray as these important missional activities take place. The Committee wishes to commend the hard work that has been done over the past summer months in the name of the Church.

The Committee is aware that many congregations in the bounds send their young people to Soul Survivor Scotland. With this year's event being the last, many congregations will be seeking an alternative activity for their young people. The Committee is aware that a number of youth work charities are in discussion about creating a new event for Summer 2020, and the Committee commend these discussions to Presbyters for prayer.

The Committee continues to resource mission in local congregations through the awarding of mission grants. These grants are usually capped at £400 and are granted to congregations to ensure that money is not the reason that an activity, event or project does not take place. This month the Committee has made three mission grant awards to Marchmont St. Giles for a project which helps older people engage with IT, to Craiglockart for a holiday club they will run in partnership with St. John's Colinton Mains, and to St. John's Colinton Mains to assist with their newly formed parent and toddler group.

The Committee wished to mark the particular challenges that come from ministering in the most deprived areas of our city. To that end, the Committee has decided to make 10 awards from the Wester Coates Fund to those congregations in the Presbytery which serve areas that rate highest on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation statistics. Awards of £940 have been awarded to St. Martin's, Gracemount, Richmond Craigmillar, Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun), St. David's Broomhouse, The Old Kirk and Muirhouse, St. Nicholas Sighthill, Bristo Memorial Craigmillar, Granton, and Holy Trinity Wester Hailes Parish Churches.

The Committee is also responsible for making awards from the Dean Parish Mission Fund which was set up to enable mission in the five congregations who took on parts of the former Dean Parish. The Committee received an application from St. Stephen's Comely Bank, and made an award of £4,700. The committee will be approaching the remaining four congregations to spend the remainder of this year's allocation before the year's end.

Locally Employed ministry workers are often at risk of feeling isolated in their work. Presbyters should be aware therefore of the Community and Outreach Workers Network. This group is compiled of youth-workers, community workers, and pastoral assistants who meet together to share best practice and support one another in their work. It has been running for a few years now, and meets approximately every four months. Meetings consist of presentations from the group's members about work they are undertaking followed by discussions, coffee, and fellowship. Those interested in attending are asked to contact the group's facilitator, Alex Johnson at [outreach@stockbridge.org.uk](mailto:outreach@stockbridge.org.uk)

Finally, the Committee wants to resource Presbytery to be able to respond to the challenges that Presbyters will encounter as they carry out their ministries across the city. To this end, the Committee has organised a Mental Health First Aid course, to be run on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November at St. David’s Broomhouse Church. There are 16 spaces available, which can be booked by contacting [MMair@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:MMair@churchofscotland.org.uk). A suggested donation of £15 per place is requested on the day.

The Committee continues to hold a healthy balance towards Mission Grants, and applications can be received at any time via the Mission Grant form on the Presbytery website.

### Appendix 3 – Business

#### Presbytery Reform

It was reported to the Business Committee that, at the invitation of the Principal Clerk, the Presbytery Clerk along with representatives of the Business Committee, DRC, and Strategy Planning Team, met to discuss the implications of the General Assembly’s decision to reduce the number of Presbyteries within Scotland. In due course conversations will be held between the Principal Clerk and our neighbouring Presbyteries to determine the next steps for our area. Those present expressed a willingness to engage in conversations and an openness to future developments.

#### Standing Orders Amendments

Current Version	Proposed Amendment
<b>VII Ministries – add to remit -</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assist the Presbytery in fulfilling its responsibilities under 2017 Act 2 Registration of Ministries, particularly in relation to the categorisation of Ministers and Deacons.</li> </ul>
<b>VII Deployment of Resources – add to remit -</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To receive and act upon reports from the Presbytery Contacts assigned to Transition Ministry Support Groups.</li> <li>To arrange meetings with Kirk Sessions whenever a vacancy arises to evaluate matters of property, finance, and the health of the congregation, prior to any right of Call being granted.</li> </ul>
<b>I- XIV In view of the new Risk Analysis Exercise to add to the remit of all Standing Committees –</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To implement an induction programme for new Committee members in order to familiarise the members with the remit, activities, and work of the Committee.</li> </ul>

## **October Anniversary Meeting**

This year, on the 8<sup>th</sup> October the Presbytery celebrates the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its most recent constitution, following the union in 1929.

On this date in 1929 the Presbytery was formally constituted in St Andrew's Parish Church in George Street and then, after devotions, the Presbytery processed to the Presbytery Hall in 121 George Street for the transaction of business.

In order to mark this significant moment in our history it is proposed that Presbytery meets at 2pm in Room 1 of the Church Offices, 121 George Street and after a short lecture on our history we will process down George Street to St Andrew's & St George's Church for worship, the celebration of Holy Communion, and some refreshments.

## **Budget Strategy Committee Report**

At a recent meeting of the Budget Strategy Committee we discussed some proposed criteria for a congregation to apply for funding in the light of a shortfall in funding a congregational post.

### **Background**

In each calendar year the Budget Strategy Committee may disburse up to £20,000 of the 5% Development Fund to assist congregations who have discovered a shortfall in funding for a locally appointed post. As many congregations have Go For It Funding and may in future rely on the new Growth Fund, being set up under the Radical Action Plan, grants received are subject to an amount of match funding. Some congregations are able to secure sufficient match funding but at times there may be a funding gap. A gap can also arise if the congregation wishes a post to continue but the extension to the main funding has not yet been secured. In these cases the 5% Fund could be utilised. It's not intended to be core funding for a post nor will applications be accepted year on year. Rather it is to be used to alleviate a one-off funding issue once other avenues have been pursued.

The maximum grant that will be given to any congregation in this situation will be £4,000.

### **Information required**

Information required for a congregation making application will include:

1. Go For It or Growth Fund initial or extension application with details of the project and post.
2. A letter explaining the funding gap and its impact.
3. The application to Presbytery for a local appointment (if completed).
4. Details of the funding that is in place.
5. Information on work that has been done to secure alternative funding and reasons for this not being secured.

## Criteria for assessment

1. A number of other funding avenues have been pursued.
2. There is no other locally held funding that can reasonably be used.
3. The post would otherwise be in jeopardy.

## **Edinburgh Public Access Defibrillator Project**

Every year, 3,500 people will have a cardiac arrest in Scotland. This can happen anywhere, anytime, to anyone. Edinburgh is a growing city, and as it grows in population, the rates of cardiac arrest also increase.

Without immediate medical intervention, the survival rate is low. Without CPR or a defibrillator, only around 1 in 20 people will survive.

With CPR, chances of survival jump to around 54%, but access to a defibrillator within 10 minutes increases survival rates to around 75%.

Defibrillators save lives.

By placing Public Access Defibrillators on church buildings across the city, the Presbytery of Edinburgh sends a very clear message to those living in our parishes - that the church will meet need wherever it finds it.

This project has at its "heart", mission. By making defibrillators accessible 24/7, the church is able to respond to parishioners at the most trying of times. This project emphasises the role of churches being at the very centre of our communities and a resource to be drawn upon. As a network of parish churches, we have an opportunity to put a defibrillator into every community across Edinburgh.

By working with St. John Scotland, we are able to access free training in CPR and use of Defibrillators for every congregation that hosts an external defib, and we can link into their system of mapping for the Ambulance service.

The Presbytery has engaged in a mapping exercise over the course of the Summer. Currently, 43 Congregations have no defibrillator. All are open to the possibility of getting one.

3 congregations have more than 1 site:

- Corstorphine Craigsbank  
Craigsbank Church  
East Craigs centre
- Gorgie Dalry Stenhouse  
Gorgie Church building  
Saltyard Cafe

Diadem homeless project

- Greyfriars Church  
Greyfriars Church  
Charteris Centre

7 congregations have an externally located Defib.

- Colinton Parish Church
- Currie Kirk
- Dalmeny Parish Church
- Granton Parish Church
- Leith St. Andrews Parish Church
- Portobello and Joppa Parish Church
- St. David's Broomhouse Parish Church

2 congregations are in the process of buying a Defib:

- Davidson's Mains Parish Church
- Ratho Parish Church

17 congregations have an internally located Defib. Most are open to the possibility of mounting them externally.

Should funds be available, we would like to offer one to 121 George Street to be dedicated by the Moderator of the General Assembly, but this is not worked into the figures below.

The costs involved in this project are as follows:

One off costs: Defibrillator £990 + VAT, Cabinet £345 + VAT

Ongoing costs (to be met by congregations): Battery change (every 5 years) £35, Pad change (every 3 years or after use) £28.

Working off the mapping exercise, if every congregation chooses to participate in this project then the cost of the project is as follows:

47 defibrillators + 47 Cabinets = £62,745 + VAT

17 Cabinets = £5,865 + VAT

**Total cost is likely to be around £68,610 + VAT = Total of £82,332**

The Presbytery is exploring if a VAT exemption certificate can be issued from HMRC.

The project does not include the cost of the cabinet being mounted and wired into the congregation's electricity supply. This cost to be borne by the congregation. Expected cost is around £100.

While the Presbytery is being asked to underwrite the entire cost of the project, congregations are expected to contribute what they can locally. Congregations may wish to raise this money on their own, or in partnership with other community organisations. Congregations should bear in mind that the cost of a Defibrillator is £1,188 and the cost of a cabinet is £414 (including VAT).

It is likely that the project will be cheaper than anticipated as a bulk order is likely to receive a discounted price.

The General Trustees Health and Safety Advisor has been consulted. He is happy that both training and maintenance have been considered and has no concerns moving forward.

CARTA have also been consulted. We are exploring if the Presbytery can submit a bulk application for this purpose rather than add this administrative burden to congregations. This will also allow Presbytery to control the speed of the project.

The Church of Scotland media team are also aware and think this story would play out well. If the project is approved, they foresee stories as Presbytery approves the project and as defibs are dedicated across the Presbytery.

If Presbytery approves this project, then congregations will be asked to complete a Presbytery return. This return will ask Kirk Sessions to formally agree to take part in this project, and will determine the number of defibrillators and cabinets which will need to be ordered across the Presbytery. Most importantly, the return will ask congregations to determine where their external defibrillator should be located. Pictures should be included in the return. We have asked that congregations return this by the 22<sup>nd</sup> October to allow this information to be collated and reported upon at the next Presbytery meeting in November.

The Presbytery returns will be forwarded to the General Trustees for approval. Congregations who do not have listed building status will only require consent from the Trustees to put their defibrillator up. Congregations who have listed status will require consent from the Trustees, followed by permission from the Council via listed building consent.

Given that these consents require to be granted, it is likely that the first defibrillators of this project will not be up and dedicated until the end of this year or the beginning of next year. Generally speaking, the project would look to work from the outskirts of the city towards the city centre. However, in practice it is likely that this will also be determined by which congregations have the relevant permissions in place to proceed at the appropriate times.

# Presbytery of Edinburgh: Staffing Committee

## Review of Campus Ministry

### 1. Introduction

1.1. Presbytery agreed in June 2016 to set up a Campus Ministry project. It recognised that the number of Church of Scotland university chaplains was decreasing and also that chaplaincy was increasingly focused on supporting people of all faiths and none. The 50,000 students and staff at the University of Edinburgh had therefore been left with a much diminished presence of Church of Scotland ministry. The project was designed to reimagine and increase the profile of our ministry in the university community, to address the emotional and spiritual turmoil, and loss of faith, that Christian students can experience at university, and the drift away from the Church of Scotland to other denominations.

1.2 Presbytery agreed to create a pioneer ministry post, the Campus Minister, for a three year period, and to fund it from Presbytery's Development Fund allocation (the "5%"). The project is supported by Presbytery but is supervised by Greyfriars and sponsored by New College and five other congregations: Canongate, Mayfield Salisbury, Priestfield, St Catherine's Argyle and St Giles. Together, these form the Core Leadership Group (CLG). The University Chaplain, Dr Harriet Harris, is also involved. There is a Covenant which sets out the arrangements for funding, legal issues, office accommodation and leadership. The Rev Dr Liam Fraser was appointed to the post of Campus Minister and took up his duties on 6 December 2016. His post is due to terminate in December 2019.

1.3 The main purposes of the project are:

- to create a worshipping Church of Scotland community for students in the University of Edinburgh
- to raise the profile of the Church of Scotland within the life of the University of Edinburgh
- to nurture discipleship of students and staff, grow their faith, and encourage them to pursue ministry and service within the church and in the wider community
- to facilitate student volunteering within the life of the city
- to cater for the spiritual needs of students and staff and offer a confessional ministry among the student and staff population
- to encourage and foster student work in the sponsoring congregations.

1.4 The Covenant includes the clause: "The Presbytery and the Kirk Sessions will together review this Covenant arrangement in January 2020 or at some earlier point on the request of any parties to this Covenant". Presbytery has asked the Staffing Committee to manage this review and to bring a report and recommendations to the September meeting. This paper is the result.

## **2. Review process**

2.1 The review team, assisted by the Presbytery Clerk, set three objectives:

- assessment of how far the project has travelled towards implementation of the main purposes as detailed in the Campus Minister job description
- identification of any new priorities that have emerged in practice
- identification of problems, blocks and opportunities for improvement should the project continue.

2.2 The review involved

- scrutiny of relevant reports and papers, including a recent report by the Campus Minister
- scrutiny of the church legislation around Presbytery Mission Initiatives
- meeting with Presbytery Clerk, the line manager
- consultation with Presbytery Finance Convener and Treasurer on finance and budgets
- meeting with Rev Dr Richard Frazer as representative of the Supervising Congregation (Greyfriars)
- meeting with Revd Dr Harriet Harris, University Chaplain
- consultation with the ministers and Core Leadership Group members from sponsoring congregations
- consultation with Ministries Council about pioneer ministry in general
- meeting with Rev Dr Liam Fraser

## **3. Campus Ministry in action**

3.1 The Campus Minister started in early 2017 by laying the foundations through building relationships, building a student ministry team, linking up with other Church of Scotland Pioneer Ministries and seeking resourcing and training from the Church of England. He then moved on to building up the project through:

- reciprocal social media and ministry activity model
- website and social media profile
- 'doubting church' pastoral service
- volunteering service
- signature events including ecumenical events at Christmas and New Year and a 'de-stress tent' during exams
- worship – relaunch of Nitekirk, retreat programme, enquirers' classes, baptism and Holy Communion.

3.2 Recent reports from the Campus Minister to the sponsoring congregations highlight growth in the diversity of ministries in which the project is engaged, and a growth in the

number of students who take part. There are now 20 students who regularly attend and another 30-40 who attend from time to time.

- there is a Student Flat, four students who live in community in a rhythm of prayer, hospitality and mission; the flat also serves as the main base for Campus Ministry worship
- a student society, SERVE Edinburgh, has been set up to recruit volunteers for the various projects including visits to nursing homes to lead music sessions and visits to housebound people
- Holyrood Harvest community gardening project was the first ministry and continues to grow
- Holy Cross worship was held in the Charteris Centre in conjunction with sponsoring congregations but this has been suspended, partly because of timetabling issues at the Centre and partly because of the low numbers of students attending.
- debates with the University of Edinburgh Humanist Society on matters of science and religion.
- Thursday pub chats at the Student Union, covering issues of spirituality, politics and relationships
- a series of talks and interactive sessions on mental health

3.3 Almost all respondents felt that the first objective of establishing a worshipping community was misplaced. The general decline of interest in the Church of Scotland, particularly among young people, is perhaps too high a challenge for a single minister, particularly given the short timescale and the rapid turnover of potential 'service users' inherent in the university context. However, it was also felt that there remains a need to reach out to non-Christians. The review team noted that the Ministries Council pioneer ministries talk of building 'ecclesial communities' rather than worshipping communities but noted the Campus Minister's preference for retaining the latter, based on his theological conviction that worshipping is more of a relationship with God. There was clearly an overlap between this objective and some of the others and the review team felt that it was key for the CLG to revise priorities as the mission needs of the student population emerge in practice. We also noted the inclusion of university staff as potential customers and thought that this, in practice, was unhelpful; staff would always be welcome at appropriate events but there is simply not enough time or resource in the project to address this missional opportunity.

3.4 We were not made aware of any completely new mission priorities that have emerged over the course of the project. We were, however, made aware of various challenges that hindered the initial stages: practical problems with accommodation; confusion over the running costs of the project and over day-to day financial administration; a lack of understanding among stakeholders of their various roles and responsibilities; and an almost complete absence of practical support for the Campus Minister apart from regular line management meetings. All of this was compounded by apparently poor communication

between all of the various stakeholders. Our recommendations seek to address these issues.

3.5 The project has an annual budget of £43,000 pa including running costs of approximately £2,500 pa and rental costs for the Charteris Centre of £1,700 pa. Consultation with Presbytery finance officials revealed that Presbytery holds sufficient funds to allow the project to continue for a further two years. Both noted that there had been some practical difficulties in the early years of the project, in sourcing funding for running costs and managing expenditure and repayments; this sometimes led the Campus Minister to be personally out of pocket for considerable periods of time. The project has benefited from generous donations from one of the sponsoring congregations and from one individual; these gifts cover the running costs. The Presbytery Office has recently assumed control of the finances and this system is working well. The Presbytery Treasurer is happy for this to continue.

#### **4. Recommendations**

Presbytery is invited to consider the following recommendations.

**1. continuation of the Campus Ministry project for a further period of just over two years, ending in June 2022 (at the end of the academic year) and an extension of the Campus Minister's employment contract for that period.** Almost all respondents agreed that three years was simply too short a period for this kind of pioneer ministry and thought that it should be extended for a further two year period. It seems sensible to align the end date with the academic year so we recommend extending the project, and the Campus Minister's employment, to June 2022.

**2. a facilitated meeting of the Core Leadership Group, the Presbytery Clerk and the Campus Minister within the next three months to re-assess the priority attaching to each of the main purposes and to agree evaluation criteria for the 2022 review.** The review team would like to see more flexibility around the main objectives and recommends that the main stakeholders should meet in the near future to review priorities; an external facilitator – someone who is experienced in mission initiatives – could be helpful in such a meeting, which should also attempt to set clear evaluation criteria for use in the next review. We recommend that revised priorities acknowledge the importance of mission as drawing alongside and listening, with the raising of the profile of the Church of Scotland as important but secondary.

**3. a renewed commitment to improved communication and team working between the supervising congregation, the Presbytery and the Campus Minister.** Some of the practical difficulties which have arisen could be avoided in future by better communication between all parties and by the development of a sense of collegiate team-working. There are clearly points of friction which are probably unavoidable in such a new and pioneer ministry,

planted into a number of existing institutional bodies but improved communication and a better understanding of everyone's priorities and challenges would help considerably.

**4. consultation with the supervising and sponsoring congregations, and other congregations which lie close to the two main university campuses, on securing access to appropriate accommodation for the project, to include worship space, a meeting room and office space.** We consider it unfortunate that the project has been unable to find suitable accommodation which would allow the Campus Minister a sensible workspace and allow the project, and the Church of Scotland, to develop a clear identity in the student body. We recognise that no suitable accommodation may be available or that it may be expensive but hope that congregations will feel able to assist, making this a truly Presbytery-wide project.

**5. improvements in communication between the Campus Ministry, Presbytery and the University Chaplaincy.** It is unfortunate that there is not a closer relationship with the University Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy has its own priorities, of course, but appropriate joint working would be helpful, particularly given the recent increase in the number of honorary chaplains from the Church of Scotland. It is suggested that Presbytery takes the lead in re-establishing cordial and mutually understanding relationships.

**6. provision of regular support for the Campus Minister..** The Campus Minister is appreciative of the active line management support offered by the Presbytery Clerk, and her pastoral support for him, but the review found that the Campus Minister is working largely alone in a challenging new environment; we recommend that a focused programme of support be provided for him by Presbytery. This could include mentoring, pastoral supervision or spiritual direction; we recommend that the Presbytery Clerk agree an appropriate mix with the Campus Minister.

**7. a review of the membership of the Core Leadership Group and a clearer understanding of the duties and responsibilities of all involved.** The CLG is large and not all congregations are regularly represented. We recommend that the membership should be reduced to just one representative from each of the sponsoring congregations and that the members discuss and agree their roles and responsibilities.

**8. the establishment of a small team of volunteers around the Campus Minister able to support, advise and assist in the hands-on work. These could be drawn from the students and/or from the sponsoring congregations.** The Campus Minister would be greatly helped by a small group of people who could share some of the work (as a parish minister would normally have in the Kirk Session/Board). The CLG could work with the Campus Minister to identify individuals who could assist in this way.

**9. a programme of communication within the Presbytery and the wider church to enlist support and perhaps funding from other congregations.** Presbytery is investing

considerable resources in this project and the review team believes that there is scope for more congregations to offer support (people, accommodation, prayer), and perhaps funding. Presbytery's Communications Coordinator could assist.

**10. a full review of the project to be completed by end January 2022, with recommendations on its future.** This review should include an assessment of whether the existing church legislation on Presbytery Mission Initiatives is the right vehicle for this project. The review team is aware that the legislation is in any case being scrutinised by Presbytery Clerks.

The review team is grateful to the following people who generously shared their views on the Campus Ministry project.

Mr Jim Byers, Presbytery Treasurer

Rev Dr Karen Campbell, Presbytery Finance Convener

Rev Liz Crumlish, Pioneer Ministry Coordinator, Church of Scotland

Rev Dr Liam Fraser, Campus Minister

Rev Dr Richard Frazer, Minister at Greyfriars, the Supervising Congregation

Revd Dr Harriet Harris, University Chaplain

Rev Stuart Irvin, Minister, St Catherine's Argyle, a Sponsoring Congregation

Rev Dr Scott McKenna, Minister, Mayfield Salisbury, a Sponsoring Congregation

Dr Rory Mackenzie, Elder, St Catherine's Argyle and member of the Core Leadership Group

Rev Marjory McPherson, Presbytery Clerk

Rev Donald Scott, Minister, Priestfield, a Sponsoring Congregation

Staffing Committee of the Business Committee of the Presbytery of Edinburgh

Pauline Weibye, Convener, Anne Mulligan DCS, Rev Bill Taylor, Rev Ian Alexander

Rev Marjory McPherson, Presbytery Clerk (Adviser)

## **Appendix 4 – Strategic Planning Group**

### **A. Communication Strategy: Update**

The PSPG reports diligence. The Presbytery's Communication Co-ordinator has created a new page within the Presbytery Website allocated for the production of documents to be shared with congregations and to receive suggestions, comments, and concerns from congregations. An e-mail announcing the page going live and explaining its present contents has been issued to all Presbytery Elders and Session Clerks of each congregation. They are our first point of contact who would then share information with their minister or Interim Moderator, other ministry team members, elders, and the wider congregation as appropriate. The website page can be found at: <https://www.edinburghpresbytery.org.uk/strategic-review-committee>.

## B. Congregational Survey

As has been already been stated it is the intention of the PSPG to keep the planning process transparent and participatory throughout the process in order to create a Plan that is developed by and from the grassroots. To help facilitate this approach and to allow conversations to begin, an online survey has been created on the webpage.

The main content of the survey is asking ministers, elders, members of ministry teams, Kirk Sessions, and congregations, to look at their church as it relates to other churches within the Presbytery. The word we are using is **cluster** which is defined in the dictionary as: *a group of similar things or people positioned or occurring closely together*. We want each parish to think about its place in relation to other parishes and who they might see as near neighbours. The obvious grouping might be geographical but we are also interested in groupings around transport links, matters of shared interest, common purposes and so on.

There are some other questions alongside this designed to give us a starting point for future conversations with you and your neighbours. As the Group considers collaboration and cooperation a major factor in any future strategy and planning, it is vitally important that every congregation takes time to consider and responds to the survey. It can be completed by individuals, groups, or the Kirk Session. More than one contribution per congregation is welcome. **But what we are asking is that this be completed as soon as possible so that the Group has time to assess the responses and, thereafter, formulate our planning for congregational visits.**

### Appendix 5 - Property

**Polwarth:** the congregation requires to do some further work in connection with a recent flooding incident – roof repair and electrical work – and seeks permission to draw down funds held on its behalf in the Consolidated Fabric Fund. The cost is around £3000.

### Grants awarded from Presbytery Fabric Funds

The Property Committee is inviting applications for small grants from the Fabric Funds held by Presbytery. Applications should be sent to the Presbytery Office and the Property Convener, if possible, electronically, using the form on the Presbytery website. This can be found at the link:

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/030308\\_840b30af69694209b6d85d943d0f2b90.docx?dn=Property%20Application%20for%20Financial%20Support%20July%202017.docx](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/030308_840b30af69694209b6d85d943d0f2b90.docx?dn=Property%20Application%20for%20Financial%20Support%20July%202017.docx)

### Property Committee Meetings

The next two Property Committee meetings will be held on:

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October** – applications for approval required by **10<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November** - applications for approval required by **7<sup>th</sup> November**.