

At Edinburgh, and within Palmerston Place Parish Church, the sixth day of October 2009, the Presbytery of Edinburgh met and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt

The Reverend W Peter Graham, Moderator, the Reverend Dr George J Whyte, Clerk, and others, Ministers, Deacons and Elders as in the Register of Attendance.

1 ROLL OF PRESBYTERY

1.1 Welcome

1.2 Elder's Commission

Commission to Mr Christopher McLeod, Ruling Elder, to represent Craigmillar Park in the Presbytery was submitted and sustained.

2 Minute

The minute of the meeting held on 8 September was submitted and approved.

3 Presentation

The Rev Dr Richard Frazer addressed the Presbytery on the work of "GROW" (Greyfriars Recycling of Wood). The Moderator thanked Dr Frazer on behalf of the Presbytery for his presentation.

4 Order of Business

The Order of Business as circulated was submitted and approved.

5. Business Committee

The Convener, Rev Tom Gordon, gave in the report. It was moved, seconded and agreed:
The Presbytery:

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5.1 Fairmilehead

note that the Commission of the General Assembly will meet on Friday 13 November 2009 at St Cuthbert's Parish Church to hear the Dissent and Complaint of the Rev John Munro among other matters.

5.2 Advisory Committees

appoint as Advisory Committees:

Leith North - Rev David Cameron (Convener), Rev Rob Mackenzie and Mr Wilson Marshall

Craigmillar Park - Rev Alex Douglas (Convener), Rev Elizabeth Henderson, Dr Janet Shepherd.

Tron Kirk - Rev Elizabeth Youngson (Convener), Rev Sigrid Martin, Mr John Mackie.

5.3 St Giles' Cathedral

grant permission for the Rev Mike Parker, Senior Minister for English speaking congregations, All Saint's Cathedral, Zamelek, Cairo, to conduct a marriage at St Giles' on 17th April 2010, subject to the Rev Mike Parker being granted temporary authorisation by the Registrar General.

5.4 Moderator of Presbytery

note that at the meeting for ordinary business in February 2010 it will be moved on behalf of the Business Committee that the Reverend Alistair H Keil be elected Moderator of the Presbytery for the ensuing year.

5.5 Practising Certificates

issue a Practising Certificate to the Reverend D Hugh Davidson on his retiral from Inverleith, with effect from 6 November 2009, and note that Mr Davidson will retain his seat in Presbytery.

5.6 Corresponding Member

elect the Rev Fran Ruthven, Minister of the United Church of Christ in the US, and currently on the roll of the United Reformed Church as a Corresponding Member, for the duration of her appointment as Associate Minister at Morningside United Church.

5.7 Appointments

a) appoint the Rev Karen Watson as Interim Moderator at Polwarth during the absence of the Rev Dr Linda Dunbar.

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b) note the appointment of the Rev John P L Munro as locum at Polwarth for October and the Rev T Stewart McGregor as locum at Polwarth for November.

6. Property Committee

The Vice Convener, Mr Graeme Small, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery:

6.1 Leith St Andrew's

approve the application of Leith St Andrew's to the General Trustees for reimbursement of professional fees amounting to £8,500 for a feasibility study and property survey.

6.2 Greenbank

grant approval to the Congregation of Greenbank, subject to any necessary consent from Church Art & Architecture, to renew the sound system, introduce audio/visual equipment and install an improved lighting scheme within the Sanctuary at a cost of £46,691 inc. VAT.

7. Unless the Lord Builds the House

The Rev Dr Caroline Lockerbie gave an update on the progress of the Unless the Lord Builds the House project.

8. Mission & Discipleship

The Convener, Rev Norman Smith, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery

8.1 thank the members of the Mission and Discipleship Group for their work over the summer months in preparing the interim report on Children/Family Ministry within Edinburgh Presbytery.

8.2 note that Ms Kirsty Gillies had resigned as the Presbytery funded Youth Worker at the 6VT Café.

9. Presbytery of Edinburgh Fabric Loan Trust

The Report of the Fabric Loan Trust was taken as read.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery receive the report and thank the Trustees:

10. Congregational Finance

The Convener, Mr Brian Moar, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery:

10.1 Reductions in the 3% Allocations for 2009

approve the use of part of the 3% discretionary allowance for 2009 to reduce payments for the current year to the Ministries & Mission Fund by the following congregations by the amounts shown:

10.2 Shortfalls

a Slateford Longstone	(Prior 2008)	£23,000	
	(2008)	£18,348	
	(2009)	£ 1,500	£42,848

b St Margaret's to assist the Congregation in the continuation of the present full-time Parish Worker post until the end of March 2010.

0.5 of the full-time costs. £ 7,300

To assist Congregations with Low Incomes to enable them to meet their 2009 Ministries & Mission Contributions:

Craigentiny St Christopher's	£1,900	
Kaimes Lockhart Memorial	£2,000	
Richmond Craigmillar	£3,500	
Stenhouse St Aidan's	£2,000	
St Martin's	£1,500	
		£10,900
		<hr/>
		£63,848

10.3 Edinburgh St Colm's Reallocation of Endowments grant permission for the sum of £200,000 presently held on behalf of St Colm's in the Consolidated Fabric Fund be transferred to the Consolidated Stipend Fund.

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10.4 Methods of Payment

remind congregations wishing to make their contributions to Ministries and Mission other than by monthly Standing Order that they must apply to the Convener of the Congregational Finance Committee through the Presbytery Clerk no later than 30 November 2009, and that any dispensation granted is for the period of one year.

11. Nominations

The Clerk, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery appoint to the Presbyterial Panel established under Act III 2001,

Mr P M Cadell (2nd year), Reverend B C Hilsley (2nd year), Mr D MacLennan (2nd year) and Mrs Rosemary Woodroffe (1st Year).

12. Report of the Clerk

The Clerk, gave in the report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed:

The Presbytery:

12.1 note the outline of his work from 1 May 2009 to 30 September 2009.

12.2 note that the offering at the Communion Service prior to the Presbytery meeting on Tuesday 8th September amounted to £ 612.33. This sum has now been transferred to The Open Door charity and a letter of thanks to the Presbytery has been received.

12.3 give permission to the Congregation of Barclay Viewforth to dispose of the Viewforth Parish Church building in the terms set out in the Basis of Union.

12.4 note that the Presbytery Planning Task Group was asking for conversations regarding the processing of vacancies and appointments pending a major review of the Presbytery Plan and remit the matter to the Deployment of Resources Committee for consideration.

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13 Order of the day

13.1 Craigmillar Park

The Presbytery resumed consideration of the vacancy at Craigmillar Park.

Parties were recalled

The Clerk intimated receipt of an Extract Minute from the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council intimating that the Task Group had agreed that Craigmillar Park should be allowed to call a minister on the Basis of Reviewable Tenure.

Accordingly the Presbytery proceeded to implement their decision of 8 September 2009 and granted permission to Edinburgh: Craigmillar Park to take steps to fill their vacancy. The Presbytery gave permission for the congregation to call a minister, determined that the number to act on the Nominating Committee would be thirteen.

13.2 Tron Kirk Moredun and Gilmerton

The Presbytery resumed consideration of a Basis of Deferred Union between Tron Kirk Moredun and Gilmerton and a Basis of Reviewable Tenure for the united charge.

Parties were recalled.

The Clerk intimated receipt of an Extract Minute from the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council intimating that the Task Group had agreed to a Basis of Deferred Union for Gilmerton and Tron Moredun and the Basis of Reviewable Tenure.

The Presbytery gave permission for the congregation to call a minister and determined that the number to act on the Nominating Committee would be as set out in the Basis of Reviewable Tenure.

13.3 Granton

The Clerk intimated receipt of an Extract Minute from the Presbytery Planning Task Group of the Ministries Council intimating that the Task Group had agreed to an amendment in the Basis of Parish Grouping for North West Churches Together by the deletion of Granton.

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He had also received the Task Group's agreement to the extension of the appointment of Mrs Marlynn Steel DCS until the end of October 2011.

13.4 Leave-Taking: Rev D Hugh Davidson

The Presbytery having already accepted the demission of Mr Davidson from the charge of Inverleith on grounds of age, Sheriff John Horsburgh spoke on behalf of the congregation. The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Presbytery to Mr Davidson for his ministry in Edinburgh and assured him of their good wishes for his retirement.

Mr Davidson made suitable reply.

14. Adjournment

Adjournment to 14 October 2009 at 6.45pm at Liberton Kirk for the Ordination and Introduction of Mr David Rankin as Associate at Kaimes Lockhart Memorial with Liberton, to 18 October 2009 at 10.45am at Leith St Andrew's Parish Church for the service of union between Leith St Andrew's and Leith St Thomas' Junction Road, and to 3 November 2009 at 6.45 pm at Palmerston Place Church for ordinary business.

Closed with Prayer

Moderator

Clerk