

**Minutes of Kirk Session Meeting held in
Kingussie Parish Church
on Tuesday 22 January 2019 at 7pm**

Rev Gordon Strang, Interim Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting and constituted the Kirk Session sharing a thought that we should learn to talk more to each other and a prayer.

Sederunt and apologies – as per Sederunt Book.

1. **Minutes of Meeting on 13 September 2018** – Reports previously missing had now been added into the Minutes. These Minutes had been seen previously by all but had not been approved. Following these additions the Minutes of 13 September 2018 were approved.
2. **Minutes of Meeting on 27 November 2018** – Following amendments to same these were approved.
3. **Matters arising not already on Agenda** – None.
4. **Social & Fundraising Report** – An updated report was circulated prior to the meeting. Nothing further had arisen and no questions were raised.
5. **Vacancy Matters** – Rev Strang advised that he had met with Rev Catherine Buchan and they had discussed the following:-
 - Basis of Linkage template for Kingussie with Laggan and Newtonmore. A very early and vague draft of the template had been produced and a copy of same was given to all present.
 - Time of Worship
 - Leader
 - Amount the Kirk Sessions of Laggan and Newtonmore and Kingussie Parish Church contribute to Manse and Minister's expenses not included at present.

Rev Strang commented on each point of the draft Basis of Linkage follows:-

1. **Transference of Property & Funds:** There would be no change here with the property and funds of each congregation remaining separate.
2. **Places of Worship:** At present the four places of worship are, Laggan and Newtonmore, Kingussie and Insh Village. How often Insh Village Church would be used is very vague at present. Three services to be held each Sunday with no more than two services on any Sunday conducted by the Minister, with Pulpit supply, Elders and Worship groups leading services at the discretion of the Minister. This clause can have times of worship inserted, these times to be decided by both Kirk Sessions, subject to Presbytery approval.

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3. **Territorial Responsibility:** This clause is a standard clause about the bounds of the present parishes.
4. **Kirk Session:** The Minister shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session and the Kirk Sessions may meet together as deemed necessary.
5. **Congregational Management:** This is a standard clause whereby the office bearers of each congregation meet to discuss their own contributions towards expenses, agreed by them and subject to the approval of Presbytery.
6. **Minister:** Rev Catherine Buchan is the incumbent minister of the Linked Charge. Kingussie congregation would be asked to vote if they would accept Rev Buchan to be their minister.
7. **Manse:** The manse of Laggan and Newtonmore shall be the manse for the linked Charge. Any vacancy in the future may raise the subject of a new manse and where it would be situated.
8. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend shall be paid per the National Stipend Scheme.
9. **Power to Readjust:** This clause remains as at present.

Rev Strang had spoken to Rev Catherine Buchan in general terms about her staying in the area. So far as he knows, he doesn't think that she would be wishing to move from the area.

It was suggested that one small group of 3 people from each Kirk Session together with Rev Strang & Rev Buchan be formed to meet and further explore the details of the Basis of Linkage further and report back. This was agreed. The group for Kingussie Parish Church will be Sandy Peebles, Session Clerk, Mrs Jean Munro, Treasurer and Mrs Eppy Mackay.

The main points the groups would discuss would be:

- Times of worship
- Leaders
- Divisions of expenses – Manse and Minister's expenses (travel)
- Property

Kingussie Parish Church Manse – Rev Strang discussed as follows:

- The Manse could be sold at present if wished and funds would be held by Head Office for Fabric matters.
- Part time member – this person would not be entitled to the Manse although they may be able to rent on a “peppercorn” rent but advice may be required from Head Office.
- The Manse could be sold and a smaller property purchased to let. Head Office requires to approve any purchase over £15000

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General Vacancy points - General points raised and discussed in connection with the Linkage namely:

- Pastoral Care, Rainbow Babies & Toddlers Group, Lunch Club, links with Schools – How does the Minister of the Linkage view these and how do we explore with Rev Buchan? It was felt important that this should be included in the prepared document.
- The Kirk Session wished to progress as agreed at the previous meeting but as all were not present the point was raised that the document should come back to the Kirk Session and the congregation for discussion.
- The priority needs of the “half” person role would be decided between the two Kirk Sessions and they would draw up a job description. The small group could look at the role of this person.

- Rev Buchan has offered to conduct worship on a Sunday, this having no connection to the Linkage. Rev Strang & Rev Thomson to arrange.

Electoral Roll – A Linkage with an Incumbent process is different to normal as no preaching is required.

- Two edicts had been read on Sunday 13 & 20 January 2019 advising the congregation of the requirements if they wished to change their current status on the Church Roll. It was noted that John & Durga Patchett wished to become members. John had been baptised but Durga, who was a Hindu, had not but was willing to be baptised. Rev Strang & Rev Thomson to visit them to discuss.
- A “tidying up” exercise of our Church Roll in connection with information of some on same is to be carried out. All responses are to come back to Janet to deal with to enable the Electoral Roll to be compiled.
- Kirk Session to meet to approve Electoral Roll - this meeting to take place after Morning Worship on Sunday 17 Feb 2019 with Rev Strang when he would also speak to the congregation during Morning Worship on behalf of the Kirk Session and Presbytery.
- The Congregation meet to approval Electoral Roll.
- The Electoral Roll is finalised for voting procedure.
- Once Linkage agreed by both Kirk Sessions and it had been approved by Presbytery then it would come back to the congregation for approval.

6. AOCB -

- Rev Thomson wished to seek approval to hold monthly Communion after Morning Worship. This would be on the first Sunday of each month. This was approved and Rev Thomson will speak to John Crombie regarding same.
- Coffee Morning – Rev Thomson had been contacted by the Free Church and the Roman Catholic Church about a joint coffee morning in early March. This would be hosted by us. This was approved.
- The death of Joyce Moodie was intimated and arrangements for her Funeral Service discussed.

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- Mark Duncan had approached Rev Strang enquiring if we would be willing to rent the Manse. We would need to spend money on the Manse to bring it up to letting standards and so we would leave meantime but may look again at this in the future.
- Rev Strang had received an email from George White, Principal Clerk at Head Office in connection with War Graves and was unsure what this was about. Rev Thomson explained about Mrs I Harling and the large event which took place with Colourful Heritage. Mrs I Harling had received a plaque and she had asked if this could be on view within our Church and also the Roman Catholic Church. This was agreed.
- Mrs J Munro wished to seek approval for an indoor picnic on Easter Sunday. This was approved.

The next Kirk Session meeting will be held on Thursday 7 March 2019 at 7pm in Kingussie Parish Church.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with the saying of the Grace.

..... (Minister)

..... (Session Clerk)