

## DRAFT

### Minutes of the Kirk Session meeting of Kilfinichen, Kilvickeon and the Ross of Mull 8.30 pm Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Bunessan Church Meeting Room

1. **Sederunt:** Rev. Jenny Earl, Minister, Mrs. Linda Dawson, Session Clerk, Mrs. Emily Lawson, Mr. Andrew Smith and Mrs. Euphie Wood.

In attendance: Mrs. Anne Smith and 5 members of the "Way Forward Group"

2. **Apologies:** Mr. Jon Lloyd

3. **Constitution:** Rev. Jenny Earl constituted the meeting with a prayer

3. **Approval of agenda and declaration of items not on the agenda:** all items were approved

4. **Approval of minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020:** All items were approved as an accurate record. Proposed by Mr. Andrew Smith, seconded by Mrs. Emily Lawson

5. **Matters Arising:**

5.1 **Feedback from the World Day of Prayer Service:** Approximately 25 people attended a very enjoyable evening in Creich Hall on 6<sup>th</sup> March. Various people took part in the service and it was a joy to see a couple of the nuns who now live on the Ross of Mull. Jenny encouraged us to try and keep contact with them. Refreshments were served afterwards.

6. **Worship:**

6.1 **Palm Sunday:** Jonathan Knight had contacted Jenny to see if the Palm Sunday service on 5<sup>th</sup> April could be enacted through the street to Bunessan Church with a willing child to sit on his donkey with palm branches being strewn around. Everyone thought this would be a good idea. Jenny agreed to discuss the feasibility of this with Jonathan. **Action: JE**

7 **Unitary Constitution:** This item would be discussed at a future meeting.

8. **Presbytery Meeting:** Jenny read out some of the important points raised and agreed to e-mail a copy to members of the Kirk Session. **Action: JE**

9. **Future of Ministry on the island:** The meeting was held in St. Ernan's Church, Creich with two members of the Presbytery of Argyll. Everyone was welcomed and a number of members, adherent's and people in the community were present. It was reported by the "Way Forward Group" (WFG) that they felt they were not made welcome by the Elders. Some of the points discussed:

- Rev. Dugald Cameron stated at the meeting that all options were still on the table for both churches and it is up to the Kirk Session to come up with ways of maintaining the buildings
- Emily suggested that we give the WFG 18 months to find £60,000 approximately to do up both churches. It was reported that the painting of Bunessan Church will be very kindly undertaken and donated by Glen MacKellar's family. Andrew Todd stated that the previous grant application for £30,000 (which was declined) was for repairs to both churches
- The two plans put forward at the meeting are not set in stone. One other option suggested at a previous meeting was to build on at the back of the church.

- We should advertise the pilgrims walk, the last staging post before Iona to encourage visitors to come into St. Ernan's Church and use could be made of the history
- John Noddings stated there is no intention to take out the pews. The suggestions by the WFG are to make use of the church in other ways, which could increase finance to keep the church open.
- Andrew Smith pointed out that we can't afford two churches with only a few people attending each Sunday at either church.
- Jenny stated that a Stewardship Campaign held last year was not well attended at all by members of the church
- Jenny informed everyone that there are many roles of a Minister, one of which is to leave the people in a better situation/position than when they came. There will be risks involved, but she suggested that we take up the vision, embark on the venture in order to regain some of the trust in the community. Do the right thing and the money will follow

**10. New Elders:** It was suggested that we should try and encourage new people to become Elders. Importance was stressed that anyone considering this has to be a member of the Church first and show they are committed.

**10. Safeguarding:** In the absence of Jon, there were no issues to report.

**"if harm or abuse is suspected or witnessed, or is reported to you, it should immediately be reported to the Safeguarding Co-ordinator who must then contact the Safeguarding Service for verbal and written advice."**

The meeting ended with the grace

**11. Time and date of next meeting: To be advised**

**Minister:**

**Session Clerk:**

**Date:**