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The Kirk Session met at 19.00 hours on 29 January 2024 in the Killellan Halls. The meeting was constituted in worship and prayer by the Moderator. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Sederunt and Apologies**: the names of those attending were noted, and apologies noted from Jim McLaughlin.

The Session clerk expressed thanks on behalf of the Elders to Barbara Ann Sweetin for taking on the role of Interim Moderator and Locum and complemented her on the positive atmosphere generated on church last Sunday

3. **Minutes of previous meetings** as the Minutes of the last KS meeting had not been circulated to all elders due to an administrative error this would be organised and the minutes approved at the next meeting

4. **Correspondence /reports** **– Session Clerk**

Helen asked the session to approve the attestation of the Communion Roll which had been provided to her by the Roll Keeper. The roll stood at 624, a reduction of 10 from last year, 6 through death, 4 transfer of certificates .4 adherents.

This was duly approved.

An email had been received from Moira Dunlop on behalf of the Guild thanking the elders for the Hampers they donated for their Christmas Fayre

An email request from Bob Ross on behalf of Gryffe Rotary to ask Session to change worship time on Sunday 19th May to 10 am to avoid traffic issues with the 10k race. The rotary wished use of the west church hall.

Duly approved

**5. Matters for discussion**

1. Carnival 2024 – The Moderator reported that Jane Crawford and Mattherw Alexander had volunteered to be joint coordinators.

Discussion took place on the programmes, advertising, and programme sellers. Whilst acknowledging the difficulties encountered selling round the doors and that we were slightly late in progressing this year it was agreed to proceed as previously as the programmes generated significant income for the carnival and Kirk Mission fund relied on the income generated through the programmes.

Mike Farley and Annabelle Love to be approached about their roles.

Ken Muir was thanked for volunteering.

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There were a number of key roles to be filled following resignations.

Ensuring the community was aware the carnival 2024 was happening was also essential as well as stressing that it was a community event for the community.

It was to be hooped that more members of the congregation would volunteer as the response to date had not been good.

Eric Richardson asked for approval of the deliverance that the allocation of Carnival proceeds would be to the Mission Fund

This was duly approved.

1. The Moderator updated the meeting that although the GA instruction was that congregations had until 2025 to upgrade their manses to C band on energy efficiency, Presbytery had intimated that upgrading for Houston would be a prerequisite of being able to call a new minister.

The moderator also outlined the repair maters noted on the Property Convenor’s walk round of the manse before Gary left.

Discussion took place on what works would be needed and whether the minimum works should be undertaken at this stage. There were a number of objections to this approach.

Agreed to refer the matter to the Property Team to review.

Noted that renting of the Manse might be possible during the vacancy but the legislation on restricting the right to evict was still in place

The Moderator highlighted that the condition of the manse was a big issue for any new minister and the congregation should be aware of this.

Noted that the manse family would remain in the manse until late March with no additional charges.

1. Langbank

Langbank Church is currently in guardianship.

Eleanor Hood who was formerly their locum gave an update to the meeting on the congregation. Noted there were already some links between our church and Langbank with some people attending their coffee mornings and they supported our food bank

Presbytery has designated them as a Mission Church but this was only being developed as a new concept.

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The rest of the discussion on Langbank would be taken in private with the elders updated at next Monday’s elders meeting.

This being an emergency meeting no reports from the Teams had been submitted.

The meeting closed by saying the Grace together

Rev B A Sweetin, Moderator Helen M Dunn, Session Clerk

Date: