775

The Kirk Session met at 19.00 hours on 17th June 2024 in the Killellan Halls. The meeting was constituted in worship and prayer by the Moderator.

Sederunt and Apologies: the names of those attending were noted, with apologies from Helen Lister, Jim McLaughlin, James McBeath, Sandra Griffiths, Helen Dunn, Ronnie Anderson, David Shaw, Janice Watt, Linda Fisher, Barbara Ann Brown, Ken Campbell

As this was an additional Kirk Session meeting with a single item agenda the minutes would be approved at the meeting on the 25th June.

The moderator outlined the process that had been experienced since the KS had met with our area moderators on 8th Jan 24 up to the approval of the desire to seek a linkage by PMPIG.

The moderator read out an email which would be sent to all members in advance of the vote on Sunday 30th June (appended to minutes).

There was some discussion of the merits of a linkage or a union and also its possible impact on a future minister.

There was a question over the status of Langbank Church building post union. The moderator confirmed that in most unions worship could continue in multiple churches.

It was observed that a new minister would be called to specifically to a linkage and, as a result, it would not be imposed on them. It was also notes that there are few if any ministries that are unaffected by the changes in the wider church.

The moderator outlined the procedures for voting. It would be a paper ballot and votes would take place at HKK and Langbank on the same day with results duly reported. Assuming both congregations voted in favour then a service of Linkage would take place on 6th August, it was hoped that permission to call for minster would also be given at this service with meetings with the presbytery advisory committee to take place as soon as possible afterwards.

The moderator outlined the current status of vacancies and status of ministers in training/not yet with charges.

Further clarification that in a union there could still be multiple places of worship.

776

Concerns were expressed again about the impact of a linkage on a new minister. The moderator noted that even with the addition of Langbank the parish population would still be only 9,000 which is well below the size of the larger parishes in the Presbytery.

The moderator report that on the 18th June there would be a meeting at the manse to with two representatives from the Presbytery fabric committee. They will inspect the house and make recommendations for any work that is required. The moderator has asked if they can ‘pass’ the manse in lieu of work still to be done. If that is the case, then a call could be progressed. If not there could be a delay in a call.

The meeting proceeded to a vote on the proposal to form a linkage with Langbank Parish Church. Members were asked to stand if they were for (against) the motion with the deputy session clerk conducting the count.

Voting proceeded as follows:

In favour of linkage – **35**

Against linkage – **1**

Abstentions – **0**

The motion was duly passed. The moderator would update the Kirk session after the Langbank Kirk session meeting and also the meeting at the manse (both 18th June).

The next Kirk Session meeting would be 25th June in the Killallan Halls.

The meeting concluded by saying the grace together.

Signed

Moderator Session clerk

Date :