

**News from Clèir Eilean Ì  
Transition Team**



#### **GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS:**

**Beannachdan a-rithist bho Chlèir Eilean Ì – greetings again from Clèir Eilean Ì.** With four months to go before the new Presbytery formally convenes for the first time, it's going to be a busy autumn. Our embryo working committees will begin to meet online to lay the groundwork and patterns for their future work – and we're still looking for nominees to enhance the expertise, local knowledge and enthusiasm of each of these committees. Ideally, each one should have nine initial members – one from each of the uniting Presbyteries, bringing practical knowledge from that area of work. Any names put forward during September should come through your current Presbytery Clerk. The committees are: **Mission Planning; Ministry Support; Finance; Property; Safeguarding; Superintendence.** It is expected that they will each decide on their Convener – and these Conveners will then help to form the **Business Committee** membership. Check our current names overleaf...

#### **PRESBYTERY CLERK POST:**

We can report that a number of applications were received for this crucial role and, working with HR in 121, the shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in early September. We therefore expect to bring you news of CEI's first Presbytery Clerk in the next Update... and thereafter that will become the route through which we'll keep everyone informed and engaged in preparing for **Clèir Eilean Ì**.

Once this key appointment is made, the process of transferring databases, and setting up working arrangements gets underway in earnest – but that process has already begun...

#### **BUSINESS COMMITTEE CONVENER:**

We're delighted to welcome **Rev Donald McCorkindale** as CEI's first Business Committee Convener. Following our appeal in June for someone to take on this crucial role, Donald's name came forward from at least five different places among our uniting presbyteries, and it's easy to see why. He's just finished his term as Convener of the General Assembly Business Committee. He steered the GA through lockdown, and the process of developing hybrid meeting and voting arrangements which work. He's already here; he's in ministry in Lochaber. He says of the challenge presented by CEI: "Exciting times ahead – I'm very happy to be part of this."



#### **MODERATOR:**

We also asked in June for names of possible candidates for this other key role – and we're still awaiting God's guidance, it seems! It's expected that our first Moderator will take on the role for 18 months, to help establish CEI as a working, mission-oriented Presbytery. Contact Doug McRoberts [doug.mcroberts@btinternet.com](mailto:doug.mcroberts@btinternet.com) or 01463 772594 with your suggestions by the end of September...

## **PRESBYTERY BUDGETS & NEW/RENEWED CONTRACTS:**

Some presbyteries have raised the question around setting of presbytery dues for the remaining half of the year, while they will still exist independently of one another. The transition team would like to encourage all 9 presbyteries to continue to set their budgets for the presbytery year (i.e. from July 2023-June 2024), as per their usual custom and practice. This will give continuity to the congregations within their bounds, where (no doubt) many congregational treasurers will be expecting an invoice for presbytery dues. The work of presbytery will continue as we head into the union of our presbyteries, and the budgets which will go forward from each individual presbytery into the large one will allow that work to continue.

For similar reasons, all offers of employment made by presbyteries before 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 should state that the employer will automatically change to the new Presbytery without any change of terms and conditions on that date.

## **PRAYER POINTS**

### **Give thanks...**

...for Donald McCorkindale answering God's call to serve as Business Committee Convener.

...for the work already underway to create our working structures and patterns.

...for those already nominated to embryo committees.

### **Ask...**

...that funding routes for our Mission, Property & Finance specialists will be identified in good time.

...for God to guide the interview process to find and call our first Presbytery Clerk this coming month.

...that God's call to our first Moderator will be discerned.

***Gun robh foghar torrach agus beannaichte a bhith agaibh uile –***

***may you all have a fruitful and blessed harvest.***

### **Mission Planning:**

Rev Janet MacKellar (Argyll)  
Rev Mike Robertson (Inverness)  
Rev. Ann Winning (Lochaber)  
Fred Vincent (Lochcarron Skye)  
Rev Drausio Goncalves (Ross)  
Mrs Margaret Kinsman (Ross)  
Rev A Boves (Sutherland)

### **Property:**

Mr James Dunbar (Abernethy)  
Mr Alan Walker (Argyll)  
Rev Scott Polworth (Inverness)  
Ken Gill (Lochaber)  
Donnie MacRae (Lochcarron Skye)  
Mr Angus Bethune (Ross)  
Rev Marv Stobo (Sutherland)

### **Finance:**

Mr Roy Alexander (Abernethy)  
Mr Douglas McHugh (Argyll)  
Mrs Lorraine Sinclair (Caithness)  
Connie Anderson (Lochaber)  
Mrs Cath Chambers (Ross)  
Mrs Kim McCarthy (Sutherland)

### **Ministry Support:**

Mr Douglas Allan (Argyll)  
Rev. Donald McCorkindale (Lochaber)  
Anne Sikorski (Lochcarron Skye)  
Rev Monika Redman (Ross)  
Rev J Sterrett (Sutherland)

### **Safeguarding:**

Mrs Doreen Henderson (Argyll)  
Rev. Malcolm Kinnear (Lochaber)  
John Lamont (Lochcarron Skye)  
Irene Munro (Ross)  
Mrs Jackie Templeton (Sutherland)

### **Superintendence:**

Rev Dr Roderick DM Campbell (Argyll)  
Rev Terry Burns (Ross)  
Rev Ian McCree (Sutherland)

### **Business Committee:**

Moderator, Clerk, Rev Donald McCorkindale (C); conveners of the above committees; Rev David Carruthers; (Argyll); Mr James Maxwell (Ross);