

United Reformed Church – Glasgow Area Council
Wednesday 9th May 2007

Present: Jan Adamson (Field Officer), Peter Arthur (Shawlands), Ian Baillie (Shawlands), Barclay Bannister (Morison), Jim Boulton (Barrhead), Mary Buchanan (Ecumenical Officer), David Coleman (Barrhead), Sarah Brown (Giffnock), Iris Gillan (Morison), Rena Hannah (Barrhead), Paul Jupp (Pollokshields), John Humphreys (Moderator), Elinor McCulloch (Rutherglen), Helen Pattie Mossparck), Kathryn Price(DCP), Myra Rose (Barrhead), John Sanderson (Rutherglen), Maureen Stewart (Pastoral Committee), David Taylor (Shawlands/Priesthill), Zam Walker (student), Robert Wright (Shawlands).

Observer: Irene Hudson (Rutherglen)

Apologies: John Park, David Pattie, Graham Templeton.

29.1 Helen welcomed those present to the meeting and thanked Rutherglen URC for hosting the final meeting of the Area Council.

29.3 Minutes of meeting number 27 (15/11/06) Proposed by Ian Baillie and seconded by David Coleman. Council approved.

29.4 Matters Arising – Helen highlighted the Pulpit Exchange and thanks were expressed to May Simpson who had organised the exchange. Communication had been received from the West of Scotland Area Council following the informal evening (meeting No. 28) expressing thanks and suggesting that a pulpit exchange could be held between churches in the new West Link. Helen had responded positively. Helen expressed thanks to Drumchapel, Joyce Bannister and Mary Barr for their contributions to the success of the evening.

29.5 Notice of any other competent business. 4 items intimated.

29.6 New Business – Resolution relating to the dissolution of Area Councils. The amended resolution was accepted by the Area Council

29.7 Correspondence –

1. Racial Justice Today & Set All Free information packs received from Revd John Wylie.
2. Shawlands URC – letter requesting two Elders (John McCreary & Lesley Richmond) be authorised to preside at communion. Helen clarified that permission would be for a one year period and then it would be reviewed by the Synod Pastoral Committee.
3. Synod Clerk – vacancy for URC rep on Churches Action within Glasgow Churches Together. .

29.8 Treasurer's Report:

Little has happened since last meeting – committee expenses, food for informal evening and costs of sending Simon Peters to FURY Assembly. Current balance £599.40 Advice from Synod Clerk is that the choice lies with Area Council as to what to do with the balance. Paul recommended that the subscription to Glasgow Churches Together be paid before the account was closed – this was agreed. Kathryn Price suggested that we give the balance (£399.40) to a given body. Clarity was sought as to how Links will be funded as there was concern that churches may be asked to give money to fund activities within Links. Ian Baillie suggested some money could go to Churches Action who are looking for regular funding from denominations to fund their activities. Ian then gave examples of the ways in which that money could be used. After discussion it was agreed to give £200 to Synod and £200 to Churches Action.

29.9 Reports:

- a) Area Pastoral: John Sanderson had submitted a written report. John directed Area Council to those parts of the report that required a decision. Concurrence was given to David Coleman's move to Brighton. Area Pastoral Committee were given authority to scope Drumchapel Essenside URC should that be required before the 10th July. Concurrence was given to the Ordination & Induction of Lesley Moseley to Giffnock URC on 25th August. Area Council gave authority to the Area Council Pastoral Committee to act on Area Council's behalf between 10th May and 10th July if necessary.
- b) Area Ecumenical – Kathryn Price submitted a written report on SRAG giving an update on the Local Ecumenical Partnerships in the Strathclyde Region. Kathryn stated that these were notes from the November meeting and that the next meeting was imminent.
- c) Area Youth Secretary – David Pattie – no report.
- d) Synod PPS – Glasgow Area Council has not been well represented since the departure of Patrick Smyth. Minutes of the last meeting had been received. There was nothing that needed highlighting. .
- e) Synod Church & Society – Ian Baillie. Ian reported that Alan Paterson had retired as convenor (September 2006) and that he was being missed. John Young, the secretary, was currently unwell. However a meeting is forthcoming. Human sexuality is returning to the agenda and a meeting with Jack Dyce to consider how this will be addressed by the Synod is

being arranged. Ian highlighted the Parliamentary Office meetings (on which Alan and John had represented the Synod) and expressed the hope that the Synod's presence at these be maintained.

- f) Synod Mission & Ecumenical – Elinor McCulloch – no report. Elinor offered to e-mail a report to council members. Maureen Stewart mentioned the planned trip to Cuba which would take place over Christmas and New Year. There were spaces for 12 people. Anyone interested should contact Douglas Hay. She also mentioned the vacancies that had arisen in the Synod for a 'European Contact' and a 'World Church Advocate'. The meeting was informed by the Moderator that both these positions had now been filled.

Commitment for life – Paul mentioned that at the forthcoming Synod Day a CforL workshop would be held. This would involve churches engaged in the programme – among them Giffnock URC & Shawlands URC.

- g) Synod Finance and Property – William Pook no report submitted.
- h) Synod Education – Kathryn Price distributed a written report and spoke to it. She highlighted that Morison Memorial URC had been awarded the Child Friendly Church Award.
- i) Synod Pastoral – no report submitted. Myra reported that a Task Group on Deployment had been set up.

Helen concluded the reports by expressing thanks to all who have served the Area Council in some capacity – special mention was made of Paul Jupp, and John Sanderson and also the members of the Area Executive – Jim Bolton (who had served throughout) Barclay Bannister, Paul Jupp and Kathryn Price. She also thanked the members of Area Council for their commitment to Area Council.

29.10 AOCB

- a) 23rd – 25th August Nexus Christian Resources Exhibition. Synod has decided to take a stand – offers of help would be gratefully received and should be made to Jan Adamson.
- b) Synod Day – John Humphries reminded people of the conference and the need to have numbers as soon as possible.
- c) John Humphreys also spoke about the need to be a community learning to operate in a new kind of church structure. The Synod Clerk, Synod Treasurer & Synod Moderator are organising a Road Show in each Link and this

will take place during the autumn months. Dates will be available soon.

- d) 19th May – Open Day at Sannox – members of Council were reminded of this opportunity to experience the centre.

29.11 News sharing from the churches.

The final meeting of Glasgow Area Council concluded with an act of worship led by Helen.

Thanks were expressed by Helen to Rutherglen URC for providing refreshments. Helen was then thanked for her work in chairing the meetings and keeping Area Council functioning over the past months.

The meeting was closed with the saying of the Grace.