### **MINUTES**

OF THE

### **PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

# **General Assembly**

OF THE

## **Presbyterian Church in Ireland**

Held at Belfast, June, 2017

#### FIRST SESSION

Monday, 5th June, 2017

7.00 pm

#### Within Church House

The Right Rev Dr FP Sellar, Moderator of the General Assembly, welcomed, on behalf of the Assembly, the Lord Lieutenant of Belfast, representatives of sister Churches, of educational and community organisations, and other special guests present.

The Moderator led in public worship, expressing thanks for the help he had received during his year in office. After delivering an address he constituted the Assembly with prayer. The Rev Trevor D Gribben, Clerk of Assembly, announced that the names of 579 ministers being ex officio members and 442 elders on whose behalf commissions had been received, had been entered on the Roll of the Assembly, together with 41 Assembly Elders, Conveners and nominees of the General Assembly Nominations Committee. In addition 248 people in various categories, not members of the court, have been invited to sit and deliberate, 17 of whom are from other Churches.

The following Ministers and Ruling Elders were present at the Annual Meeting:-

The Moderator asked the Assembly to proceed to the election and appointment of a successor to him in office for the ensuing year.

The Clerk submitted the nominations of Presbyteries for the Moderatorship as follows:-

The Rev James Noble Irvine McNeely	10 nominations
The Rev Charles John Carson McMullen	4 nominations
The Rev William Brian Boyd	3 nominations
The Rev Anthony Daniel Davidson	2 nominations

On the motion of the Rev CJC McMullen, seconded by the Rev AD Davidson, the Rev Dr JNI McNeely was unanimously called to the Chair, welcomed by the retiring Moderator and commended to God in prayer.

The Right Rev Dr JNI McNeely addressed the House.

The sederunt came to a close at 8.35pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

#### **SECOND SESSION**

#### Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2017

9.30am

The Assembly convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Initial Report of the **GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUSINESS COMMITTEE**) (Reports pp3-4) along with resolutions 1-4 (Reports p179) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr RA Patton, together with the following Supplementary Report:

#### **Additional Resolution**

2a. That at the 2017 General Assembly, permission be granted, where appropriate, to consolidate resolutions relating to Overtures; and that if a written request from ten or more members of Assembly is lodged with the Clerk before the time scheduled for debate on the consolidated resolution(s) relating to Overtures, then the item(s) specified in the written request will be removed from the consolidated resolution(s) and considered as separate resolution(s).

#### TREVOR D GRIBBEN

Moved by the very Rev Dr RA Patton, seconded by the Rev AJ Thompson and agreed:

- 1. That the Draft Order of Business for the 2017 General Assembly be approved.
- 2. That the 'Guide to Assembly Procedure' (yellow pages) be approved with the appropriate General Assembly Standing Orders suspended, when necessary, to facilitate alternative presentations etc.
- 3. That at the 2017 General Assembly, permission be granted, where appropriate, to consolidate resolutions relating to Overtures; and that if a written request from ten or more members of Assembly is lodged with the Clerk before the time scheduled for debate on the consolidated resolution(s) relating to Overtures, then the item(s) specified in the written request will be removed from the consolidated resolution(s) and considered as separate resolution(s).

- 4. That a grant of £20,000 be made from the Incidental Fund to the Arrangements Panel of the General Assembly Business Committee.
- 5. That the Initial Report of the General Assembly Business Committee be received.

The **REPORTS OF PRESBYTERIES** (Reports pp195-203) was submitted by the Rev TD Gribben, together with the following Supplementary Report:

# ADDENDUM TO THE REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY OF TYRONE (page 203)

The Presbytery of Tyrone further report that under their care is, as a Licentiate, Mr GR Mullan.

TREVOR D GRIBBEN

Moved by the Rev TD Gribben, seconded by the Rev TJ Stothers, and agreed:

1. That the Reports of Presbyteries be received.

**Section 1** of the Report of the **GENERAL COUNCIL** (Reports pp1-3, 12-23) along with resolutions 5-7 (Reports p180) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr RL Craig, together with the following Supplementary Report:

#### MEMORIAL RECORD

The Rev Helen Steele Boyd, BD, Minister Emeritus, Millisle and Ballycopeland, died on 11th April 2017, in the seventy-fifth year of her age and the thirty-third year of her ministry. She was born at Belfast on 20<sup>th</sup> January 1943, the youngest of a family of five, to Thomas James Watson, a civil servant, and his wife, Margaret, née Young. The family were members of Old Park Presbyterian Church, Cliftonville Road, where, in later years, she became Captain of the Girls' Brigade Company. Mrs Boyd was educated at the Belfast Model School for Girls, and the Belfast Royal Academy, 1954-1960. On leaving school, she worked as a Secretary for the Antrim Education Board. Obeying the call of God to serve as a Deaconess she trained at St Colm's College, Edinburgh, from 1966 to 1968. Her first posting was to Bloomfield congregation, East Belfast, where she worked with the minister, the Rev Dr John Orr, assisting in the general life of the

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congregation including responsibility for visitation of the elderly. In 1971 she moved to take responsibility for the day to day running of a second Friendship House in Templemore Avenue, East Belfast. She developed a busy programme of activities including lunch clubs for the elderly, clubs for unchurched young people, and nursery and pre-school facilities. This was a challenging work, since many had social problems caused by poverty, broken and unstable homes, and involvement with gangs associated with the violence and disorder of the 'Troubles'. During this time, she developed a strong conviction to study for the ordained ministry, and, on being received by the Church, she entered the Union Theological College, Belfast, in the autumn of 1979, graduating in 1984 with a BD from the Queen's University, Belfast. She was licensed by the Presbytery of East Belfast in St John's Church, on 27th June 1984, and served her assistantship with the Rev John Chambers in the congregation of Second Comber, where she was ordained on 6th January 1985. The following year, 1986, she was called to the congregation of Millisle and Ballycopeland and installed by the Presbytery of Ards on 10<sup>th</sup> April. To her ministry she brought dedication, compassion and grace from which many benefitted, and she was highly regarded by all with whom she worked. She found personal joy and companionship in her marriage to David Boyd on 29th June 1990. Together they served God and His people with gladness. Mrs Boyd retired from full-time ministry on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2011. To her husband, David, her sisters Peggy, Irene, and Vera, and the wider family circle we extend our sympathy and prayers that the hope we have in the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ will be their strength and comfort in their loss.

The Rev Eric George McAuley BA, BD, BSc, minister without charge, died on 21<sup>St</sup> April 2017, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. He was born at Belfast on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1931, the eldest of two children, (brother to Cynthia) to George R McAuley, a confectioner, tobacconist and newsagent, and his wife, Eileen Cynthia, née Ross. The family worshipped in Crescent congregation, University Road, and Mr McAuley was educated at Fullerton House, the preparatory department of Methodist College Grammar School, and then the College, between 1937 and 1949. He was a keen sportsman, playing for the rugby team, and a member of the rowing four and eight, and a water polo player. He entered the Queen's University, Belfast, graduating BA in 1952, and, feeling called to the ordained ministry, he proceeded to Edinburgh where he studied theology at New College, graduating BD in 1955, and completed his ministry studies at the Assembly's College, Belfast. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1955, and

served his assistantship with the Very Rev Dr James Carlyle Breakey, minister of Fortwilliam Park congregation on the Antrim Road, Belfast. After three years, he was called to the newly created joint charge of Newtowncunningham with Crossroads, where he was ordained jointly by the Presbyteries of Raphoe and Derry, on 18th April 1957. Four years later he was called to the congregation of Bannside, Banbridge, where he was installed by the Presbytery of Iveagh on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1961. He was distinguished by his compassionate pastoral ministry, warm friendship, and his loyal service to the work of the presbytery. Interested in architecture, he designed the Emerson Memorial front entrance doors to Bannside church, named after a prominent local business family, depicting, in the copper overlay, the ministry of Christ and His presence in our everyday lives. He undertook further study and graduated BSc from the Queen's University in 1972. He became a chartered architect in 1973 and gained his Master's degree in 1974. In 1973 he had a career change on taking up an appointment as a lecturer in the Architecture Department of Queen's, and he resigned from Bannside on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1973, becoming a minister without charge. He continued to serve the Church as Convener of the General Assembly's Church Architecture Committee from 1979 to 1986. Mr McAuley married Mildred Patricia Scott on 1st August 1956 who shared with, and supported him, in congregational life and ministry. They had four children, Stephen, Sharon, David and Brian. To them, and to Mr McAuley's sister, Cynthia, we extend our sympathy and prayers in their loss, as we give thanks to God for Mr McAuley's ministry and service.

The Rev David William Lapsley, BA, MA, DD, Minister Emeritus, Fisherwick, Belfast, died on 14th May 2017 in the ninety-first year of his age and the sixty-fifth year of his ministry. He was born at Londonderry on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1927, the eldest of four children, to David William Buchanan Lapsley, a merchant, and his wife, Rebecca (Ruby) Helen Lapsley, née Craig. The congregation of Carlisle Road, where his father was an elder, Sunday School Superintendent and Treasurer of the congregation, nurtured him in the faith, and he was educated at First Derry Primary School and Foyle College. Responding to the call of God to the ordained ministry, he proceeded to Magee University College, Londonderry, in 1945, followed by Trinity College, Dublin, graduating BA in 1948, and MA in 1967. He completed his studies at the Assembly's College, Belfast, 1948-1950, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Derry on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1950. From 1948 to 1950 he served as assistant to the Rev Donald Gillies in Agnes Street, Belfast, and, secondly, from 1950 to 1952, to the Rev John Orr, in

Bloomfield, Belfast. He was called by the congregation of First Killyleagh and ordained and installed there on 29th January 1953 by the Presbytery of Comber. After a ministry of nine years he was commissioned by the Foreign Missions Board on 24th February 1962 as a missionary to Jamaica. The country had gained its independence from Great Britain in 1962 and chose to become a member of the Commonwealth. It was into this post-colonial context Dr Lapsley and his wife and two children sailed in late March 1963. There he served as minister, firstly, in the three point charge of Bailleston, Mt Olivet and Spaldings, in the centre of the island, and, secondly, from 1967, at Webster Memorial United Church, Kingston, the denomination having united with the Congregational Church to form the United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman on 1st December 1965. Unstable family life and relationships, poor housing and poverty in Kingston, posed social and spiritual challenges to Christian witness. Dr Lapsley involved himself with many voluntary organisations addressing these issues and was Chairman of the Church's Advisory Bureau for social work in West Kingston. He also introduced culturally appropriate liturgy and Jamaican music and hymns to worship Services. Returning home in 1971, he was appointed and installed as Education Officer to Christian Aid, Ireland, on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Then, in 1973, he was called to the congregation of Fisherwick, Belfast, where he was installed on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, by the Presbytery of Belfast South. Here he was to remain for twenty years until his retirement on 30th April 1993. The 'Troubles' were at their height, and, along with others, he developed crosscommunity and inter-denominational contacts to promote understanding and good relations, an approach which he had adopted when working with Christian Aid. Under his leadership, Fisherwick formed a close connection with St Brigid's Catholic Church, in Derryvolgie Avenue. Dr Lapsley was a gifted preacher and communicator, and often contributed to Thought for the Day on BBC Radio Ulster, scripted and presented documentaries and conducted broadcast worship Services for radio and television. He served on the NI Religious Advisory Committees of the BBC in Belfast and London where he also sat on the BBC General Advisory Council. He wrote various articles for secular, church and theological journals. He was Moderator of the Synod of Belfast in 1988. Dr Lapsley's work for the Church, and in the wider community, was recognised with the award of a DD by the Presbyterian Theological Faculty Ireland, in 1989. He was a keen sportsman in earlier days, enjoying rugby and hockey, and especially cricket which he played for Trinity, and North Down. He married Mary Victoria Mercer on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1956, who predeceased him in 1994. They had two children, Michael and Sandra. As we return thanks to God for the work and witness of Dr Lapsley, we assure his second wife, Victoria (Vickie) Hamilton, whom he married on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2000, his children, Michael and Sandra, his brother, Joss, and the wider family circle, of our prayers in their loss.

**AMENDMENT – The Rev Robert William Wylie (Bill) Clarke** was installed in Dundalk with Carlingford in the Presbytery of Newry (not the Presbytery of Monaghan as printed in the Reports Book page 22).

TREVOR D GRIBBEN

Moved by the Very Rev Dr RL Craig, seconded by the Rev GE Best, and agreed:

- 6. That the General Assembly encourage all Congregations to pray for and fully support 'Everyday Disciples', the Residential General Assembly being held at the Ulster University, Coleraine from Monday 21st-Thursday 24th August, 2017.
- 7. That the General Assembly welcome the plans for the celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation through the 'FAITH AT THE CROSSROADS Rediscovering the Reformation' evenings in October 2017 and commend these to all Congregations.
- 8. That Section 1 of the Report of the General Council (with the exception of the General Assembly Business Committee) be received.

Miss Catherine Little, General Secretary of the Bible Society in Northern Ireland, addressed the house and presented the Moderator with a Bible.

# RECEPTION OF CORRESPONDING MEMBERS & DELEGATES Supplementary Report:

#### Add

**Presbyterian Church of Wales:** Rev Meirion Morris **Irish Council of Churches:** Dr Damian Jackson

Presbyterian Church of East Africa: Rev Francis Njoroge instead of Rev

Alfred Mugendi Kanga

TREVOR D GRIBBEN

The **Corresponding Members** were received from the Church of Scotland. These were the Rt Rev Dr Derek Browning, Rev John McMahon and Anne Mulligan.

The Moderator welcomed the Corresponding Members. The Rt Rev Dr Derek Browning replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Rev John Proctor of the United Reformed Church of the United Kingdom; and the Rev Meirion Morris of the Presbyterian Church of Wales. The Rev Meirion Morris replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Rt Rev John McDowell and Dr Elizabeth Leonard, delegates from the Church of Ireland; Mr Stanley Graham, from the Methodist Church in Ireland; Mr Daniel H Sinton from the Religious Society of Friends; and Dr Damian Jackson from the Irish Council of Churches.

[The Rev Brian Anderson of the Methodist Church in Ireland was unable to be present.]

The Rt Rev John McDowell replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed other delegates from — The Evangelical Reformed Church of Latvia: Mr Artis Celmiņš — The Reformed Church of Hungary: Rev Dr Zsolt Barta — Presbyterian Church of East Africa: Rev Francis Njoroge — The CCAP, Synod of Nkhoma: the Rev Vasco S K Kachipapa — National Evangelical Synod of Syria & Lebanon — the Rt Rev Fadi Elia Dagher — Presbyterian Church of Pakistan: Rev Maqsood Kamil.

[The Rev James Makuei Choul of the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan was unable to be present.]

The Rt Rev Fadi Elia Dagher replied and conveyed greetings.

At 11.00am the Moderator led the house in observing a minute of silence to honour the recent London Bridge terror attack victims, and then offered prayer

#### **Intermission**

Members of Assembly were joined by others to participate in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, conducted by the Moderator. During worship the Memorial Roll of Ministers deceased was submitted by the Very Rev Dr WD Patton, and the Assembly paid their customary tribute.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.00pm, the Moderator leading the house in saying 'The Grace'.

#### THIRD SESSION

#### Tuesday, 6th June, 2017

2.00pm

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

#### **CCLW ALTERNATIVE PRESENTATION**

Fellow workers with God who makes things grow

The Council Convener, the Rev Dr Graham Connor, opened the session with a short reflection on 1 Corinthians 3.7, from which the theme of the presentation was drawn.

Three particular areas of the Council's work were highlighted:

- Leadership development the Training Development Officer, Mr Tom Finnegan, interviewed Miss Christine Craig, a younger leader who has been involved in delivering the Emerge programme. He then introduced a new DVD Bible Study resource for congregations called 'Valuable Leadership' and members engaged in a short discussion.
- The development of Women's Ministry this was introduced by Mrs Pauline Kennedy, Women's Ministry Development Officer and Mrs Valerie Stewart, Convener of the Women's Strategy and Coordination Committee. It included an interview and the presentation of a short DVD resource aimed at helping congregations begin a conversation about the contribution of women's ministry to the wider work of congregations.
- SPUD Dr Graeme Thompson, Youth Development Officer introduced this section. Mr Owen Wilson spoke to three issues that had been discussed at the SPUD Youth Assembly: young people and the church; mental health; and social media. He showed a video highlighting the importance of social media in the lives of young people. Mr Nathan Wallace and Mr Conor Patton spoke about the use of social media by young people and how the church can engage with this for the gospel. Miss Helen Hooks illustrated how some congregations are using social media in creative ways. Mr Wilson drew attention to the SPUD resolution (Additional Resolution 2(a)

appended to the Supplementary Report of the Council for Congregational Life and Witness (see below, page XX).

The Council Secretary, the Rev David Thompson, drew the presentation to a close by encouraging every congregation to intentionally choose one area in which to develop their life or witness in the church year 2017/18.

The Moderator thanked all the participants and closed the presentation in prayer at 3.00pm.

#### **Intermission**

The Report of the **COUNCIL FOR CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND WITNESS** (Reports pp204-235) was submitted by the Rev Dr Graham Connor, together with the following Supplementary Report:

#### **SPUD**

- 1. This year the SPUD Working Group have focused on the 3 distinct areas of: young people and church, mental health and social media. Conversations in the Working Group led to a successful gathering of over 100 young people at our Youth Assembly in January 2017 at which these areas were enthusiastically explored. The Report gives a flavour of some of that conversation and proposes several outcomes flowing from it.
- 2. Young people and the church: Discussion and feedback at the Youth Assembly displayed a positive attitude among young people towards the church. There was an encouraging desire expressed for inter-generational church one which includes relationship and mentoring between generations. Delegates also showed a willingness to be involved and included within the life and leadership of their congregations. In response to this we will be hosting a Fringe event at the General Assembly on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June in the Minor Hall at 5:30pm to explore these issues and share good practice.
- 3. **Mental Health:** The discussion of this issue at the Youth Assembly showed great openness and desire to engage with what can still be a difficult area for the church and its members. Young people expressed a need for open, honest and sensitive conversations within our churches regarding mental health. We hope to share some of these inputs in a series of future blogs, as well as engaging, as appropriate, with Councils and Committees of the General Assembly whose remits include work in this field.

- 4. **Social Media:** There was a strong sense among delegates at the Youth Assembly that social media is a crucial area in which churches could be better engaged. SPUD identifies that young people have a crucial role to play in helping to stimulate and guide this conversation. SPUD believes that the potential for social media engagement by congregations represents a huge opportunity to reach into today's world with the gospel.
- 5. There can be little doubt that technology has transformed the world as we know it, nevertheless, the area of social media remains a new and unknown culture for many in our churches. SPUD recognises the dangers often identified with the growth of social media and pay tribute to the valuable work done by the Council for Social Witness and Taking Care in protecting our young people in these areas. SPUD also understand the unhealthy patterns that can be created as individuals engage in social media, constantly checking their social media feeds.
- 6. While acknowledging those potentially harmful effects and dangers, SPUD wants to focus the conversation positively on the opportunity and huge missional reach social media provides. Facebook was only created in 2004 yet 88% of 18-29 year olds have profiles on it. 90% of Instagram users and 74% of Snapchat users are under 35. Suffice to say that social media is now an integral part of the lives of a generation of young people, many of them accessing it for several hours every day. Healthy or not, this is reality for our world and the context in which we minister as congregations. Ignoring the world of social media and creating a vacuum in this space by our lack of presence cannot be an option.
- 7. While it should never be used as a replacement for face-to-face engagement, congregations should be engaged in social media to reach people in our communities. The potential reach of social media in a short space of time is nothing short of astounding. Thousands of people can be accessed in just one day. Users view things on Facebook and tell their friends about what they have seen, often by 'tagging' them. What is shared has the potential to go well beyond the initial post.
- 8. A good example is the PCI Young Adults' Facebook page. It is active with four to five fresh posts placed online every week highlighting key events, pointing to helpful articles or sharing examples of what churches are doing in mission. These posts reach a lot of people each week. One recent post was accessed and viewed by over 7,000 people in the space of forty-eight hours.
- 9. Jesus called his followers to live godly lives in the world amongst the prevailing culture, rather than to separate ourselves from it. So, what a great

way to engage in today's world with the gospel by using social media, maximising its reach for the glory of God.

- 10. A congregation's use of social media need not be limited to outreach. It can also be greatly used to provide a catalyst of engagement between different generations. It offers a contemporary way to communicate announcements and upcoming events, with personal invites helping to draw in others from the congregation. One simple idea already in place in a local PCI congregation that came out of the Youth Assembly was the development of a WhatsApp prayer group. It enabled young people to share their needs, to support each other and bear one another's burdens through prayer. Youth leaders and the minister being present in the group helped create an environment of awareness, support and nurture.
- 11. We believe that the potential for social media engagement by congregations is huge and it would be an enormous oversight not to utilise tools God has given us to reach the world for Him. However, SPUD recognises that this is a scary and unknown culture for many in the church and so wish to offer some help to congregations who want to develop their thinking and practice in this area.

#### ADDITIONAL RESOLUTION

- 2(a) That the General Assembly encourage the formation of a Task Group under the Council for Congregational Life and Witness, comprising membership from the SPUD Working Group and other relevant bodies, to:
  - i. develop and organise a training event in 2018 addressing the area of appropriate and effective use of social media in congregational life and witness;
  - ii. develop appropriate follow up material to enable local congregations to enhance their social media presence;
  - iii. to explore how best to encourage and enable each congregation to appoint a Social Media Co-ordinator.

#### DAVID H THOMPSON

Moved by the Rev Dr Graham Connor, seconded by the Rev DH Thompson and agreed:

- 1. That the General Assembly welcome the Framework for Partnerships for enabling congregations in their Life and Witness.
- 2. That the General Assembly instruct the Council for Congregational Life and Witness to proactively engage with at least three Presbyteries per year, on a rotational basis, to provide an agreed and accessible programme to envision and equip congregations within their bounds.
- 3. That the General Assembly encourage the formation of a Task Group under the Council for Congregational Life and Witness, comprising membership from the SPUD Working Group and other relevant bodies, to:
  - i. develop and organise a training event in 2018 addressing the area of appropriate and effective use of social media in congregational life and witness;
  - ii. develop appropriate follow up material to enable local congregations to enhance their social media presence;
  - iii. explore how best to encourage and enable each congregation to appoint a Social Media Co-ordinator.
- 4. That the General Assembly encourage the Council for Congregational Life and Witness to engage with the General Council to:
  - (a) reflect on the structure of Committees, Panels, Task Groups and Organising Groups that best ensures appropriate accountability and ability to deliver its remit to envision, equip and enable congregations for their life and witness;
  - (b) identify and take the necessary steps to improve mediums of communication with congregations and facilities for online booking and registration.
- 5. That the General Assembly encourage the General Council, on its behalf, to appoint a Task Group, involving representation from the Council for Congregational Life and Witness and other relevant bodies, to examine streamlined options for providing information for congregational prayer for denominational mission and ministry and bring recommendations to the 2018 General Assembly.
- 6. That the Report of the Council for Congregational Life and Witness be received.

The Report of the **COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL WITNESS** (Reports pp236-260) was submitted by the Rev Dr TJ McCormick.

Moved by the Rev Dr TJ McCormick, seconded by Mr Lindsay Conway, OBE, and agreed:

- 1. That the General Assembly note the rise of the number of residents with dementia, both in the homes run by the Council for Social Witness and by other providers; call on the Governments in both jurisdictions to provide adequate funding and resources for those residents; and instruct the Councils for Social Witness and Public Affairs to pursue this matter in the ensuing year.
- 2. That the General Assembly approve the 'Adult Safeguarding Policy and Guidelines' (Appendix 1 of the Report of the Council for Social Witness).
- 3. That the General Assembly welcome the 'Who's Calling Initiative' (a scheme to prevent scams and financial abuse of the elderly) launched by the Commissioner for Older People in Northern Ireland.
- 4. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for the work and witness of Ard Cluan in Londonderry and York House in Portrush and seek the prayers of the Church as residents and staff relocate to Trinity House in Garvagh.
- 5. That the Report of the Council for Social Witness be received.

The sederunt came to a close at 5.08pm, the Moderator leading in prayer.

#### ADDITIONAL BUSINESS LICENSED

ITEM 16: GENERAL COUNCIL, Section 4 (Thursday. 3.30pm)

#### Amendment to Resolution 22 (page 181):

That the words "with the exception of recommendation (b)" be deleted.

TREVOR W J MORROW