	Fort William Kilmallie Kirk Session Meeting on 17th September 2026, 7pm in the Upper Room
Welcome: **Constituting:**	Our Interim Moderator Rev. Dugald Cameron, Minister of Appin and Lismore, welcomed all of us to the Fort William Kilmallie Kirk Session Meeting held on 17th September 2026, at 7pm in the Upper Room of the Duncansburgh Church. Rev. Dugald Cameron constituted the meeting with Prayer, and pointed out the significance of water in our faith e.g. in creation, see Genesis; for baptism. Often we want to make things solid in our faith, whereas the flow of water represents constant change; see a new book "Liquid Faith" by Prof. Ian Bradley.
Sederunt: **Apologies:**	*Fort William Kilmallie Kirk Session*: Alister McDonald, Hugh Cameron, Malcolm MacRaild, Sheana Fraser, Aileen Haggart, Mike MacGruer, Margaret Antonios, Andy Muirhead, Margaret Adam, Norma MacLellan, Marion Malcolm, Phamie Burns, Mary Elliott. *Interim Moderator* : Rev. Dugald Cameron *Associate OLM* : Rev. Morag Muirhead *Observers :*John MacIntyre, Margaret MacPhee, Gordon Gair, Norma Callison (*no longer a Trustee Elder*). *Observers from Kilmonivaig KS*: Gordon Smith, John Fotheringham. *Apologies:* Ian Fleming, Gail Young, Mabel Wallace, Joan MacKintosh, Jinty O'neil, Rev David Anderson, Sallie Parrish, Christine Houston, Jimmy Cameron
Agenda Item 2 **Approval of Minutes**	The Kirk Session approved the KS Minutes for the meeting on 2nd July 2026; proposed by Aileen Haggart, seconded by Andy Muirhead. This document was circulated to the KS prior to the 17th September meeting.
Agenda Item 3 **Matters Arising** - **including Review of Action Points.**	*Review of the 2 Action Points* : *Carried forward to autumn from 2nd July 2026 AP 1 :An item on new leaflets describing the Duncansburgh Church could be included in the next newsletter.* *2nd July 2026 AP 2 : Each member of the KS requires to complete this form by email or on paper and return to Hannah. Not many have returned this form yet, folk adjured to remember to do this.*
Agenda Item 4 **Approval of Agenda and Raising of AOCB**	AOCB – A question was asked about the sharing of the approved Kirk Session minutes. This was previously agreed by the KS. *17th Sept 2026 Action Point 1 : The SC to provide the approved KS Minutes and ask the Parish Administrator to put on our website; and make paper copies with one available in the Session House and one in Kilmallie Church.* *AOCB – e.g.* Duncansburgh being open until when? Data protection for publicly visible docs. Parish Admin hours. Possible transport from Caol and Corpach.
Agenda Item 5 **Interim Moderator's Report**	The Interim Moderator (IMod), Rev. Dugald reported on the following : ➢ The definite news that ***an Interim Minister*** has been appointed was welcomed. The Presbytery, CEI, will organize a Service of Induction. *17th Sept 2026 AP 2 : The SC to send formal thanks from the KS to Daran Golby. [Informal thanks were sent immediately the news was received.*] ➢ The ***CEI Special Committee*** : It is Presbytery's responsibility for a charge in vacancy. The special committee : Rev. Amanda MacQuarrie, Rev. Willem Bezuidenhout, and Mrs Doreen Henderson, met with 20 of the 21 Trustee Elders on 16th September 2026. They asked some questions and listed to us. The 2nd meeting to be held by the CEI special committee is provisionally set for 20th October 2026 when they will come back to the KS with proposals. They will then report to the CEI November meeting.

Agenda Item 6 **Place for Hope**	Following the Congregational Meeting on 22nd June 2026 chaired by ***Place for Hope***: Revs Russell McLarty and Judith MacLeod sent their Feedback Analysis on the questionnaires provided at the meeting, and the draft report to the three groups of three in the working group on 1st July. The report contained factual errors and comments were returned to the ***Place for Hope*** duo in July. The Revised version of the Report was sent to the Session Clerks on 11th Sept. The Revised Report and Feedback Analysis were circulated to the KS, and the CEI Special Committee chair (as requested), for folk to read prior to the CEI meeting with Trustee Elders on 16th September 2026. In answer to a question, the IMod stated that neither of these documents is to be placed on the church website [or other media]. *17th Sept 2026 AP 3 :the SC will arrange with the Parish Administrator (PA) for all on the emailing list to receive a copy of the Revised Report, dated Sept 2026, and the Feedback Analysis dated June 2026; and inform people without email that they can request a paper copy from the PA.* *17th Sept 2026 AP 4 : the SC will forward the two documents prepared by Place for Hope to the CEI Presbytery Clerk, Rev. James Bissett.* Comments on these 2 documents can be raised and discussed at the KS meeting on 22nd October 2026.
Agenda Item 7 **Kirk Courts - CEI news and Ministry Update**	*Report on relevant CEI Presbytery news* by Marion Malcolm and Rev. Morag : - The CEI Presbytery meeting on 27th August started with **Ephesians 4** v1, a reference to Thomas Telford; and a reminder that Christians should be bridge builders. - At this meeting Presbytery agreed for the charge of Fort William Kilmallie linked with Kilmonivaig to have an Interim Minister appointed. - Saturday 31st October 2026 is to be a national day of prayer in the Church of Scotland which we are asked to do for one hour either on our own congregation or on line with the CEI Moderator Janet MacKellar. *Update on Worship Leaders' training* –John Fotheringham and Marion Malcolm have both completed their courses but have not received accreditation in writing. *17th Sept 2026 AP 5 : the Revs Dugald and Morag will pursue this matter with the Moderator at the CEI Presbytery meeting on 24th Sept in Strathpeffer.*
Agenda Item 8 **Mission Plan Implementation**	*Messy Church* – due to be held on the 4th Sunday of the month from 2.30pm to 4pm; restarting on 27th September 2026. *All Church Youth Group*– the start of this ecumenical venture led by David Duncan (Mustard Seed) has been delayed, safeguarding falls on them and they are waiting for *Disclosure Scotland* checks to be completed.
Agenda Item 9 **Worship and Outreach**	*Harvest Thanksgiving on 4th October 2026* – donations of food and money will go to the Lochaber Food Bank. *Remembrance Sunday on 8th November* – We are involved in the usual 5 events : at Kilmonivaig, on the Parade, in the Duncansburgh, at Banavie War Memorial and the Commando Memorial at Spean Bridge. Rev Morag is unable to attend the Highland Council organising zoom meeting on 25th Sept so Mary Elliott, Session Clerk, will attend. This year there is to be a military chaplain at the

Commando Memorial, Morag asks that we do not lose the church connection as this service is usually taken by the Parish Minister.

Agenda Item 10
Finance Group Update :

Sheana Fraser (SF), the Finance Convenor, reported on the following. Please refer to the Finance Report, final amended dated 17th Sept 2026 which was sent out to the KS prior to this meeting, along with the Financial Procedures and Policy Documents.

1. ***Receipts & Payments for July and August 2026.***

	July 2026	**August 2026**
Bank balance on 1st of month	£31,289.27	£26,876.70
Bank balance at month end.	£26,876.70	£26,258.93
Income	£5,729.68	£7,764.97
Notes:	*Dividend Embark £433.29* *Musicians £200.* *'Open' days £160.* *Hall hire £1,691.25*	*SSE Refund £2,213.90* *'Open' days £105* *Hall Hire £1030.50*
Expenditure	£10,142.25	£8,382.74
Notes :	*Hallmaster Ltd subs £279.00* *CCLI £765.66*	*Nothing to report.*
Bank balance	£29,935.30 on 19th August	£29,569.30 on 16th September
Gift Aid Donations Account at month end	£53,739.29	£54,261.33
Redwood Bank - designated & restricted funds	£15,156.65	£15,156.65 (Matures 1st Oct 2026.)

2. ***Actions Completed since the KS meeting on 2nd July 2026.***

- The 2025 Annual Accounts were submitted to OSCR on 20 July 2026 on the SC's authority after they were sent to CEI in March 2026 – with no response. The deadline is the end of September 2026.
- Financial Procedures were reviewed by SF & HB, with all Annual Review appendices updated. It was agreed to place a limit of £100 on the debit card held by the Parish Administrator (PA).
- Kilmallie Church –full inventory is now collated, saved with photos on a USB. Thus the inventories for both churches are now completed.

3. ***Rates for Hall Hires*** : The Finance group has reviewed the rates of hall hire. The increase in fuel costs was the main factor for the review. The KS was asked to approve the following increases: Normal rate £15 to £18 per hour; Govt bodies £20 to £25 per hr; *Reed in Partnership* (DVLA Driving Theory Testing) £120 to £150 per day, plus any additional hours outwith the normal working day to be charged at £25 per hour. The Sanctuary to be hired (was £30) now at £36 per hour at the Interim Moderator/Minister's discretion - as the IM's permission is needed to use the Sanctuary.[Rev. Morag absented herself when the Sanctuary was mentioned because she is a member of the Kilmallie Singers and considered this a conflict of interests.] The Session House is not going to be

	hired out as not cost-effective given the heating costs. Using the Kilmallie Church and Hall is by donation to Fort William Kilmallie C of S, to date only had 2 hires in 2026. *17th September 2026 Motion 1* : The KS was asked and approved the recommended increases in hall hire rates as outlined above. ***4.The policy documents*** *for Church Premises' Hire and Food Safety* have been updated; these documents apply to both congregational and external users. *17th Sept 2026 Motion 2* : The KS was asked to approve and adhere to the following policy documents : • Church Premises Hire Policy. • Food Safety Policy. • GDPR policy – which lists what to Do and what Not to Do. The KS approved this motion. **5. Property Disposals** a)The transfer of a small strip of ground (2m by 6m) to the adjacent Parade House owners has received CEI approval and goes to the GT's Fabric Committee on 22nd Sept. b) The sale of both manses was approved by the CEI L&P committee and signed by the Presbytery Clerk (JB) on10th August; the application went to the GT's Fabric Committee meeting on 25th August 2026. Both manses should be on the market by end of October 2026; the Duncansburgh to be sold by a local agent and Kilmallie Manse by the GTs. *17th Sept 2026 Motion 3* : The KS approved buying half a tank of heating oil and leaving the external painting and fallen front fence for the new owner to replace. *17th Sept 2026 AP 6 : Hughie Cameron is going to remove the external post box as there is no key (& some post for Free Church Minister Euan Dodds is there).* c) For the Corpach Scout Mission Hall The old Lochaber Presbytery had given permission for it to be sold. The KS reaffirmed its previous decision to sell this Hut. *17th Sept 2026 AP 7 : A new application to CEI, then the GTs, is being prepared to be within 6 months of the lease to the Scouts expiring in 2027.*
Agenda Item 11 **Property Issues**	*Some property issues were covered in the Agenda Item 10 Finance section.* *Maintenance* : at the Duncansburgh Church roofers have been attending to slipping slates. There are ongoing electrical works at Kilmallie Church Hall but Kenny could not gain access into the roof-space.
Agenda Item 12 **Correspondence**	The IMod read out the letter of resignation from the Treasurer Mrs Helen Wilson. *17th Sept 2026 AP 8 : A new Treasurer is required, the KS and the Finance Group to pray and come up with a recommended person.* *17th Sept 2026 AP 9 : The SC to email a letter of thanks to Helen.* Several other correspondence items were discussed under AOCB. The IMod pointed out that as there is now a Parish Administrator emails to the KS should be sent to the church email fortwilliamkilmalliecofs@gmail.com
Agenda Item 13 **Safeguarding**	Mrs Doreen Henderson who is a Safeguarding Trainer, has offered to provide Elders' training to us in the New Year. Elders are supposed to receive refresher training every 5 years.
Agenda Item 14 **Health & Safety**	Nothing to report.

Agenda Item 15 **AOCB**	➢ The leaflets in different languages about the Duncansburgh Church are now available. Our thanks to Joan for arranging for these translations. ➢ The next Newsletter will probably be produced in November to include Christmas service times and the name of the Interim Minister. ➢ Andy shared that Soup Saturdays are a good time to share news. ➢ The IMod pointed out that the Interim Minister may have ideas on how District Visiting is done in future. ➢ There was a discussion on the Duncansburgh Church being open every Sunday. This can be reviewed once the Interim Minister is in post. The present church open days are due to finish at the end of September. ➢ Margaret Adam asked about the Cradle Rolls and Data Protection. These are being removed to the Vestry and will be stored for reference. The tapestry of the Last Supper will be moved to their space where it will be easier to view. ➢ The Parish Administrator's hours are still 21 but have altered such that Hannah is not in on Wednesday mornings. The SC praised Hannah for her helpful and intelligent work for the congregation, and pleasant manner. ➢ David Hamilton has asked for the KS to approve the moving of the Technica Clavinova from the Old Hall to Kilmallie Church and disposal of the broken clavinova. [The KS approved this by emails, the instruments were moved on 10th October and the Technica was playing fine in the Sunday 11th October service. The SC and others thanked all involved in this successful operation.] ➢ Phamie Burns asked if transport from Caol and Corpach, possibly a minibus, could be organised to take folk to the Sunday service. Upper Achintore is another location where there may be a need. *17th Sept 2026 AP 10 : a list of folk for collection and if any have special requirements, is to be made for the next ordinary KS meeting.*
Agenda Item 16 **Next Meeting**	The next KS meeting is due to be the 2nd CEI-held meeting on 20th October 2026 at 7pm; this is still to be confirmed. Our next usual meeting is due to be held on Thursday 22nd October 2026, 7.00pm in the Upper Room. We closed by everyone sharing The Grace.
	Interim Moderator : Session Clerk : Date : Signed by IM and SC on 5th November 2026