

Angus Presbytery

Local Church/Congregational Review

Congregation Carnoustie Panbride

Date

Questions answered by Office Bearers and sent to Review Group

ACT 1 2011 Section 4

1. Is the administration of the Sacrament of Baptism to infants in accordance with Act V, 2000?
Yes

2. Are the office-bearers representative of the congregation's life, for example in terms of age and gender?
Yes

3. Does the congregation's current form of constitution serve its future mission?
Yes

4. Does the employment status of members of staff, the formal relationships among them and the prioritisation of work amongst them serve the congregation's mission effectively?
Yes

5. Is the Kirk Session in compliance with the church law and civil law relating to Safeguarding?
Yes

6. Is the Congregation in compliance with those provisions of Act XII 2007 regarding the provision and maintenance of manses?
Yes

7. Is the Congregation implementing the findings of the most recent property surveys?
Yes

8. How is the Congregation implementing the General Assembly instruction re Stewardship?
We are in the process of implementing the 3rd part of the instruction, having completed parts 1 and 2

Parish/Community Profile

N.B. Check www.churchofscotland.org.uk/resources/stats_for_mission and the “Church Finder” there for your own Parish Statistics.

1. Population trends, including approximate numbers, age ranges, local employment;
There is a wide age range in the parish from 0 – 85+ with the majority being in the 45 – 85+ age range (with these approximate numbers 0 – 44 = 1398 and 45 – 85+ = 2152)
Local employment includes the Retail Trade, Education, Health and Social Welfare, Manufacturing and Repair of motor vehicles

2. Education and leisure provision relating to different age ranges and interest groups;
There is a primary school within the Parish which also has preschool provision.
There is a privately owned Play Group in the Parish
There are 2 other Primary schools and a High School in the town.
Evening Classes are also available at various locations
There is a Leisure Centre which provides varied activities for a wide age range.
There is a Swimming Pool at the High School which clubs and the public can use out with school hours
Boys’ Brigade, The Scouting Movement and the Guiding Movement all have units in Carnoustie
Football Club
Rugby Club
Golf

3. Any changes or developments that have taken place recently or which are planned and which affect parish/community life.

There is the possibility of 300 new houses being built in the Parish

4. Other relevant comments

Current circumstances of the Congregation:

1. Description of the parish and details of any union, linking or grouping.
 - ◆ Mixture of rural and town.
 - ◆ Mainly a commuter town with little local industry.
 - ◆ There has been a union of Newton and Panbride Churches for about 50 years

2. Details of the Minister or Ministry Team, including dates of ordination / induction / admission / appointment.
 - ◆ We have 1 minister who was inducted in June 1989

3. Details of the Presbytery Plan for the Congregation.
 - ◆ The Plan is for the continuation of a full time minister

4. Average attendance at worship and description of the Congregation in terms of age mix and sense of identity.
 - ◆ Average attendance between 100 – 120
 - ◆ Age of congregation mainly in the 55+ range but there are younger families who attend regularly
 - ◆ More females than males

5. Use and condition of the church buildings.
 - ◆ Newton Church is in good condition and is used between September and May
 - ◆ Panbride Church also in good condition and used between June and August
 - ◆ Both churches used for weddings and funerals
 - ◆ The Halls at Newton Church, which are well maintained, are used for a variety of Community groups and church organisations.

6. List of current regular congregational activities.
 - ◆ Teas and coffees after services
 - ◆ Monthly Soup and Sweet lunches
 - ◆ Social/fundraising events such as Coffee Mornings, Concerts, Plant Sale, Safari Supper
 - ◆ Choir
 - ◆ Friendship Circle
 - ◆ Cleaning teams
 - ◆ Congregational outing
 - ◆ FOG Squad

7. Details of any local schools and of their church connection.

Minister is Chaplain to Carlogie Primary School which he visits weekly and speaks to classes.
Carlogie P6 holds a monthly Fairtrade Cafe in Panbride Hall.

8. Comment on the financial state of the Congregation.

At the moment we do not meet the full cost of our ministry but are striving to do so. All other obligations are met and our reserves are close to expected levels.

9. Details of any planning proposals for the parish area.

There are proposed developments, within the Parish, for approximately 300 houses and an Industrial and Business Park.

10. Current concerns or problems within the Congregation.

The current concerns are as follows

- ◆ We have an aging population
- ◆ There is a missing generation in the life of our church

11. Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals

There are fewer Baptisms and Weddings than previously but Funeral numbers remain high.

Congregational Review

1. What is the Congregation's action plan?

A Planning Group was established a few years ago and this group looks at where the congregation hope to be on a 5 year cycle. It has looked at how to encourage members back to church; how to involve new families and young people; how new housing will impact on the parish; how we deal with the retirement of our minister and the ensuing vacancy. The Group regularly reports to Kirk Session.

2. What is the congregation's own analysis of its purpose and vision for the future? This should include all aspects of the church's work as defined by that congregation including

- **Worship**

We have an 11am morning service, which has a variety of traditional and new hymns. Worship, over the years, has evolved to include children carrying in the Bible, children being actively involved in parts of the service, and a team of members of the congregation and Office Bearers who read the Scripture weekly. We are in the process of developing a Worship Team.

- **Service**

A Pastoral Visiting Group was established many years ago and although there are now fewer requesting visits this is still seen as a valuable service.

We try to involve the community as much as possible and the Halls are used by many community groups. A Bereavement Service is held annually which is for all in the Parish who have been bereaved in that year.

An afternoon Communion Service is now held 4 times a year, in the Panbride Hall, to allow those for whom the morning service in church is difficult, to attend

Home Communion is also there for those who wish it.

Services are given in Residential Homes and Sheltered Housing

- **Fellowship**

Between September and May there are teas and coffees after the service on a Sunday morning and a Soup and Sweet lunch on the last Sunday of the month. There are varied social events which are supported by the congregation and the community.

- **Discipleship**

Elders visit all members 4 times a year with Communion Invitations when they meet with the members. The Church magazine is delivered to all members 5 times a year by either the elder or a volunteer.

- **Evangelism**
During Holy Week the services are Ecumenical. There are short morning services of Reflection in Panbride Hall with the opportunity to have tea afterwards and an evening service in each of the churches which also have the opportunity for fellowship afterwards.
As Advent approaches, a leaflet is delivered to all homes in Carnoustie which details all services available in all churches.
 - **Social Outreach**
Supporting the Food Bank at Old and Abbey Church, Arbroath weekly and at Harvest Service, Offerings to local charities at Christmas, supporting Fairlogie – a Fairtrade Cafe run by P6 at Carlogie Primary School, copies of Church Magazine in library, the Friendship Circle attracts members from other congregations and ahs members who have no church connection.
 - **Congregational Life**
Fund raising and social events are supported by the congregation.
There was great support for the new kitchen and upgrading of Panbride Hall and all are appreciative of the changes made.
Christian Aid is supported by the congregation as is Fairtrade.
Lifts are offered to those who need transport to and from services and other events.
 - **Christian Education**
The F.O.G. (Friends of God) Squad continues to support the younger children in church.
There have been attendances at the seminars run by the Presbytery Training Team.
Bible Study courses, in house, have been offered – with limited uptake.
 - **Finance and Fabric**
The Finance Committee meets every 2 months between September and May and the fabric Committee meets regularly. Both committees bring reports to the Congregational Board.
The Fabric Committee ensures all necessary repairs are made and diligently look after the fabric of all our buildings.
New boilers have recently been installed in Newton Church and the Manse.
The Stewardship campaign has ensured the financial situation of the church has been given to all members.
 - **Mission of the Church**
Our Mission Statement is “**We encourage all to worship God; Follow Christ; Serve Others**” and this is always printed on the front page of the Church magazine.
3. What is the nature of the working relationships amongst office-bearers, and between the office-bearers and the ministers?
There is a good working relationship among the Office Bearers and also between the Minister and Office Bearers.
 4. What are the values that shape and direct the life of the congregation?

- ◆ Christian values
 - ◆ Caring
 - ◆ Respect
 - ◆ Trust
 - ◆ Tolerance
 - ◆ Traditional
 - ◆ The minister is highly respected in church and the parish
5. How has the life and work of the congregation has developed since the last review?
- ◆ Congregation is growing older
 - ◆ More involvement from others in weekly services
 - ◆ Great support for the building of the new kitchen
 - ◆ The work of the Planning Group
 - ◆ The development of a Worship Team
 - ◆ Teas and Coffees after Sunday services
 - ◆ Monthly Soup and Sweet lunches
6. What challenges does the congregation encounter and how have or can these be dealt with?
- ◆ Encouraging new and younger members – we invite children who have been baptised to join the FOG Squad when they are 3 years of age. We have also had fun afternoons to which FOG Squad children are able to bring friends some of whom may not have any church connection.
 - ◆ A reduction in membership attendance due to a number of issues.
 - * Aging and infirm members. We have offered lifts to those who find it difficult to get to church and we have an afternoon Communion service in the Panbride hall for those who are less able.
 - * Lifestyle situations such as shift work and clubs for children e.g. swimming/rugby – this is difficult as obviously people cannot change work commitments.
 - * Habit – once people get out of the habit of coming to church they find it hard to resume.
We have used a questionnaire to see if we could find solutions to the issue of lifestyle and habit but did not find an answer.
 - ◆ Our Minister is retiring in 2017 and we are already beginning to plan for the vacancy
7. Other relevant comments
- ◆ We hope that we are a vibrant and forward looking congregation who will be able to attract a new Minister in 2017
 - ◆ When a difficult situation arises we are able to work together to overcome the obstacle whether it be financially or with practical help

Deliverances