## Parish of Colonsay and Oronsay – SESSION MINUTE BOOK

The Kirk Session (from Latin "sedere" "to sit) may be seen as similar to a Parish Council in England – it had administrative functions within the civil realm and its membership would often include the local heritors or land-owners.

The following material is transcribed from the original record in Colonsay, partly to provide a copy in case of any accident to the original and partly to make the information available to historical researchers. It is intended to include no confidential material unless this is authorised at some future date by the Session Court of the day. If any material of too personal a nature has to be withheld, a clear note will indicate the fact of the omission. Proper names have been transliterated. This work was initiated 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010 by the current Session Clerk, Kevin Byrne.

[Preamble, possibly in the hand of Donald Clark, Session Clark in 1925]

Colonsay is officially a Quoad Omnia Parish. It is one of ten parishes erected under the New Parishes Scotland Act of 1844 and enumerated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Schedule of 1925 Act. The date of its erection into a Quoad Omnia Parish is 27<sup>th</sup> February 1861.

A quoad omnia parish consisted of a Church with Minister and Kirk Session plus a School with Dominie (schoolmaster). It had legal responsibilities, especially in respect of education and provision for the poor. The heritors of the parish appointed the Minister and had responsibility for the provision and upkeep of the Church and Manse; the teinds (tithes) of the parish provided the Minister's stipend, supplemented by any income from the Glebe. Over time the parochial responsibilities were abrogated to the state, e.g. by the Education Act and by the introduction of an Old Age Pension. It will be noted that the earliest Kirk Minutes are largely devoted to the fulfilment of secular responsibilities (including regulation of family standards through peer-discouragement of fornication) - KB

[Preamble is continued in another hand]

Application having be [en] made to the General Assembly, a Deed of Constitution dated 12<sup>th</sup>

June 1975 gave permission for the introduction of a Mo onstitution to the congregation of

Colonsay and Oronsay Parish Church – in the presbytery of Lorn and Mull –

Donald McNeill, Session Clerk

[1882 Jan.] At Colonsay Church the second day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty two; which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present)

Revd. Dugald Carmichael Modr.
Mr. Donald McPhee Elder
Mr. Malcolm Macneill Do.

The Session called for the account of the church door collection from February 13<sup>th</sup> 1881 to this date, together with the account of disbursements for that period, which both the Clerk produced. These accounts were examined by the Kirk Session and found correct showing a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £//-//-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The Session find £4.10.2½ to be amount of funds in hand for period above mentioned out of which they instruct their Clerk to pay their precentor

Angus McMillan	£3:10://
Malcolm Blue Baleraomin More	£//:2://
Mrs. M. Blue do.	£//:2://
Flora McGillivray do.	£//:2://
Margaret McGillivray Baleraomin More	£//:2://
Donald McNeill Baleraomin Dubh	£//:2://
Margaret McNeill do.	£//:2://
Widow McMillan Mulbuie	£//:2://
Catherine Currie or Wilson Portmore	£//:2://
Angus McMillan Kilchattan	£//:2://
Jane Blue do,	£//:2://

There was no other business before the Kirk Session.

Closed with prayer

Dugald Carmichael Modr. Neil Macmillan Session Clerk

[1883 Jan.] At Colonsay Church the Second day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty three which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present

Revd. Dugald Carmichael Modr.
Mr. Donald McPhee Elder
Mr M McNeill Elder

The Kirk Session examind the Treasurer's accounts for last year and found the whole correct. The accounts show a balance of £//:3:2¾ at this date in favour of the Kirk Session.

The Session taking into account the want of Session Record Books instruct their Cl

them. They agreed to give the sum of 10/- yearly to their Clerk for the additional labour of keeping the above named Session Books and they further agree to the propriety of having henceforth a larger balance in the hands of the Treasurer that something could be given to the deserving poor when required all to be accounted for in the Clerk's books.

The Session find their funds in hand to be £8:3:2¾ out of which they instruct their Clerk to pay their

Precentor Angus McMillan £4://:// Malcolm Blue Baleraomin More f//:8:// Mrs. M. Blue do. £//:8:// £//:8:// Flora McGillivray do. Margaret McGillivray do. £//:8:// Donald McNeill Baleraomin Dubh f//:8:// Margaret McNeill do. £//:8:// Widow McMillan Mulbuie £//:8:// Angus McMillan Kilchattan £//:8:// Jane Blue do. £//:8://

C.W.P. [appears to be added later "Closed with prayer"]

Dugald Carmichael Modr. Neil Macmillan Session Clerk [1884 Jan.] At Scalsaig School-house Colonsay the first day of January one thousand eight hundred and eighty four, which day the Kirk-Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present)

Revd. Dugald Carmichael Modr.
Mr. Donald McPhee Elder
Mr. Malcolm McNeill Do.

A meeting of the Kirk-Session of the Parish of Colonsay and Oronsay was held this day, for the purpose of examining the Cash-Book containing the state of the Poor's fund and the same being audited & found correct, leaving a balance of £2:14:4¼ due Session Clerk. The Session find £12:4:7¾ to be the amount of Church door collections for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 1883 and instruct their Clerk to make the following payments therefrom –

Session Record Books £1:3:6
Precentor £4:0:0
Paupers respectively £0:6:0

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael Modr. Neil Macmillan Session Clerk

[1884 Aug.] At Colonsay Church, Colonsay the twenty-sixth day of August one thousand eight hundred and eighty four, which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay &c. met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. Dugald Carmichael Modr.

Mr Donald McPhee Elder

Mr. Malcolm McNeill do.

Compeared [a named female, 23 yrs, unmarried] a native of Kilchoman Parish, Islay, voluntarily confessing that she had been guilty of the sin of fornication.

Being solemnly exhorted by the Moderator to speak the truth and further interrogated she declared that [a named male, 34 yrs, unmarried] residing at Kilchattan Colonsay had been guilty with her and was the father of her illegitimate child.

The said [named male] having been previously summoned to appear was present and when being interrogated as to the truth of the allegation, he could not deny having criminal intercourse with her but refused to acknowledge that he was the father of h he said [named male] having left the meeting, the Moderator solemnly rebuked the said [named female] for having so grievously fallen into sin and brought a scandal on the cause of religion in the Parish and seriously admonished her to repent of her sin and henceforth to walk through divine grace in newness of life. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clerk

[1885 Jan.] At Scalasaig School-house Colonsay the Fifth day of January. One thousand eight hundred and eighty five; which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay &c. met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. Dugald Carmichael Modr.

Mr Donald McPhee Elder and

Mr Malcolm McNeill do.

The Kirk Session found total amount of Church door collections to be £12.2.10¾ at this date. They allowed the sum of £3.12/- to be distributed among the deserving poor of the Parish as noted below. They found a balance of £1.15.5\% and instructed their clerk to make the following payments

Precentor £4.00.0 Session Clerk £0.10.0 **Paupers** £3.12.0 Clerk to Synod & Prebytery Clk. £1.17.5 C.W.P. [signifies "Closed with prayer"]

> Dugald Carmichael Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. CIk

## Formula to be signed by Elders

I do sincerely own and declare the above Confession of y former General Assemblies of this Church, and ratified by law in the year 1690, to be the confession of my faith; and that I own the doctrine therein contained to be the true doctrine, which I will constantly adhere to: as likewise that I own and acknowledge the Presbyterian Church government of this Church, now settled by law, by Kirk Sessions, presbyteries, provincial synods, and General Assemblies, to be the only government of this Church; and that I will submit thereto, concur therewith, and never endeavour, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or su ion thereof; and that I shall observe uniformity of worship, and of the administration of all public ordinances within this Church, as the same as are at present performed and allowed.

[Note: the above Formula was entered into the Minute Book here for future reference and the signatures which follow were appended at various dates, as and when the individuals were ordained.]

Donald McNeill Elder [17 May 1885] Angus McMillan Elder [12 December 1897] Neil McInnes Elder [12 December 1897] Donald Clark Elder [12 December 1897] Alexander MacAllister Elder Neil McPhee Elder

[1885 Apr.] At Colonsay Church the twenty-sixth day of April one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five: which day the Kirk Session met and was duly constituted. (Present)

Revd. D. Carmichael Modr. Mr. Donald McPhee Elder

Mr. Malcolm McNeill do.

The Session having taken into consideration the propriety of adding to the number of the elders in the Parish and being persuaded of the good character of Mr. Donald McNeill, Kilchattan and that he is in every way qualified in terms of the Act of Assembly of 1816, and the other Acts of the General Assembly which respect the qualifications of elders – they unanimously made choice of the said Mr. Donald McNeill, to be a member of this Kirk Session and appoint his ordination to take place in presence of the congregation on Sabbath the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May next to come, and intimation to be

made on Sabbath the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May to the people that if they have any objections to state why the above named person should not be ordained to the eldership they will have an opportunity of doing so at a meeting of Session to be held for this purpose on the said 17<sup>th</sup> day of May previous to the commencement of public worship.

Adjourned, opened & closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1885 May] At Colonsay Church the seventeenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighty five: which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present:

Revd. D. Carmichael Modr.

Mr. Donald McPhee Elder

Mr. Malcolm McNeill do.

The Session having convened for the purpose of hearing any objections against the ordination of Mr. Donald McNeill. The Revd. Mr. Carmichael having reported that his edict had been duly served and the people having thrice been called by the Church Officer no person appeared to object. Whereupon it was agreed in terms of the former resolution that the ordination of the said Mr. Donald McNeill be proceeded with.

The Session adjourn to meet after divine service.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1885 May] At Colonsay Church the Seventeenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, the Kirk Session met agreeably to adjournment and was constituted with prayer.

## Present ut supra

In accordance with former resolutions the Moderator did this day after Gaelic Sermon put to Mr Donald McNeill the questions appointed to be put to persons before their ordination to the eldership, and he having given satisfactory answers to the same, he did by solemn prayer set apart the said Mr Donald McNeill to the office of the eldership after which he and the people were addressed severally on their respective duties. Mr Donald McNeill being now present received the right hand of fellowship from the other members of the Session. His name was ordered to be added to the Roll.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1886 Jan.] At Colonsay Church the  $2^{nd}$  of Jany. 1886 which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Modr.

Mr. Donald McPhee. Mr. Malcolm McNeill and Mr. Donald McNeill Elders.

The Treasurer's Accounts for the past year were examined and found correct.

The sum of Church door collections for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 1885 amounted to £9:1:3¾. The Kirk Session order officials to be paid out of the above mentioned sum and total balance distributed among the deserving poor viz.

Malcolm Blue Baleraomin More 5 shillings Margaret McGilvray do. 5 shillings 5 shillings Catherine McGilvray do. Donald McNeill Baleraomin Dubh 5 shillings Margaret McNeill do. 5 shillings James Munn Kilchattan 5 shillings Hugh McPhee do. 5 shillings Angus McMillan do. 5 shillings Duncan Black do. 5 shillings Jane Blue do. 5 shillings Alexander McNeill Riskbuie 3 shillings

C.W.P.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1887 Jan.] At Scalsaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the fourth day of January Eighteen hundred and eighty seven: which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present

Revd. D. Carmichael Modr.

Mr. Donald MacPhee Elder

Mr. Malcolm McNeill do.

Mr. Donald McNeill do.

The Kirk Session at this date examined the Treasurer's Account of Church door Collections, and found it correct.

The said Collections the past year amounted to £9.2.10

From the sum on hand the Treasurer was instructed to pay all expenses connected with the Session, and to divide the balance among the poor as follows.

Session expenses £7.14.3

Balance to Poor £1.8.7

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1887 Jun.] 8 June 1887. Examined by the Presbytery of Islay and Jura and found carefully and correctly kept. John W Gilchrist Presby. Clk.

[1888 Jan.] At Colonsay Church the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January Eighteen hundred and eighty-eight: which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was er. (Present)

Revd. D. Carmichael Moderator

Mr Donald McPhee Elder

Mr Malcolm McNeill do.

Mr Donald McNeill do.

The Treasurer's Accounts of Church door Collections amounting to £10.2.5½ were duly examined before a meeting of the Kirk Session held on the above date and found correct.

Session's liabilities being paid £2.10 were distributed among the deserving poor of the parish leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of £/:/:7 Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator.
Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1888 Dec.] 25 Decr. 1888. At Bridgend this and the other Session books of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay were examined by the Presbytery of Islay and Jura, and found to be carefully kept.

John W Gilchrist Presbytery Clerk.

[1889 Jan.] At Colonsay Church the First day of January 1889.

Which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Moderator.

Mr. Donald McPhee Elder

Mr. Malcolm McNeill do.

Mr. Donald McNeill do.

The ordinary Church door Collections during the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 1888 Amounted to £9:14:4.

The Treasuer's Accounts were at this date examined and found correct.

All expenses incurred by the Session having been paid and the sum of £2 distributed among the deserving poor, a balance of £2.2.10 remained in favour of the Kirk Session. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1889 Sep.] At Bridgend the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 1889 the Kirk Session books of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay were this day examined by the Presbytery of Islay and Jura & found to be correctly kept. Alexander Duff. Modr. P.I.

[1890 Jan.] At Colonsay the tenth day of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer. (Present)

Revd, Dugald Carmichael Modr.

Mr. Donald McPhee Elder

Mr Malcolm McNeill do.

Mr. Donald McNeill do.

From the sum of £10.11.4 Amount of Church door collections for the past year the necessary and occasional expenses were subtracted leaving on hand the sum of £1.14.8½ Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1891 Jan.] At Colonsay the Twenty-third day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety one: which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present)

Revd. Dugald Carmichael Chairman

Mr. Donald McPhee Elder Mr Malcolm McNeill do.

Mr. Donald McNeill do.

The Account of Church door Collections for last year (amounting to £10-0-9) together with the accounts of all sums paid out by the Treasurer were examined at this date by the Kirk Session and found correct. The sum of £1-9-11 was left to the credit of the session. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1891 Dec.] At Bridgend 29<sup>th</sup> Decr. 1891 – examined by the Presbytery of Islay and Jura attested by **John W Gilchrist** Presby. CIk.

[1892 Jan.] At Colonsay the Fifth January 1892: which day the Kirk and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Parish of Colonsay

(Present)

Revd. Dugald Carmichael Chairman

Mr Donald McPhee Elder

Mr Malcolm McNeill Do.

Mr Donald McNeill Do.

The Ordinary Church door collections for the year ending 1891 amounted to £10.9.2½. From this sum all expenses incurred by the Kirk Session during the year were paid together with an allowance of three shillings to each of the poor of the parish leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of 4/5½. [Four and fivepence halfpenny]

The Treasurer's yearly Accounts relative to the above were duly examined by the Kirk Session and found correct.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator Neil Macmillan Session Clerk

[1892 Dec.] 27 Decr. 1892. Session Records of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay were submitted to the Presbytery of Islay & Jura at this meeting and attested by the Clerk.

John W Gilchrist Presby, Clk.

[1893 Jan.] At Colonsay the Tenth day of January 1893 – Which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present)

Revd. Dugald Carmichael Chairman Mr Donald McPhee Elder Mr Malcolm McNeill do. And

Mr Donald McNeill do.

The whole sum of Church door Collections for the year 1892 Amounted to £8:16:8¾ The Clerk was instructed to give one allowance of 4 shillings to each of the deserving poor of the parish and to pay all expenses incurred by the Seassion leaving on hand fifteen shillings and one penny halfpenny.

The Kirk Session at this date examined the Treasurer's account of Church door collections and found it Correct.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Session Clerk

[1894 Jan.] At Colonsay the Ninth day of January 1894 Which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Moderator, Mr. Malcolm McNeill and Mr Donald McNeill Elders.

The Treasurer produced the sum of Account of Church door collections for the year 1893 which amounted to £12.14.2.

The same being examined by Kirk Session was found correct.

The Clerk was authorised to give a specified allowance to the paupers on Poor Roll and to the deserving poor of the parish leaving a balance of £2-3-7 to the credit of the Kirk Session. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk.

[1895 Jan.] At Scalasaig Schoolhouse, Colonsay the first day of January 1895.

Which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer. (Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Moderator, Mr. Malcolm McNeill and Mr. Donald McNeill Elders. The annual account of Church door collections for last year was examined at a meeting of the Kirk Session held on this date and found correct. Collection £16.5.[0.]

From this sum all necessary expenses, the allowances of paupers and needful poor were paid leaving a balance of £6.0.7 in the hands of the Treasurer. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan Sess, Clk

[1895 Jan.] 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 1895 – At Bridgend, Islay. The Kirk Session Records of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay were submitted to the Presbytery of Jura, Examined and duly attested by the Clerk. **John W Gilchrist** Presby. Clk.

[1895 Dec.] At Bridgend the 31 day of December 1895 – Book attested by **John W Gilchrist** Presbytery Clerk.

[1896 Jan.] At Scalsaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the Thirteenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety six years, which day the Kirk-session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Moderator, Mr Malcolm McNeill and Mr Donald McNeill Elders. The Kirk Session examined on the above date, the account of Church Door Collections and found the same to be correctly kept.

From the sum of Fifteen pounds sixteen shillings and four pence half-penny the Kirk Session's obligations, together with all incidental demands calling for sympathy and help, were sanctioned and ordered to be paid. In addition, five shillings were allowed to be given to each person on the Roll of paupers and to the deserving poor in the parish.

This was all the business.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator.

[1896 Dec.] At Bridgend, 29<sup>th</sup> December 1896 – The Kirk Session Records of Colonsay were examined by the Presbytery of Islay & Jura, and found to be carefully kept. **John W Gilchrist** Presbytery Clerk.

[1897 Jan.] At Scalsaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the Eighth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven years: which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd D. Carmichael Moderator, Mr Malcolm McNeill and Mr Donald McNeill Elders. The Account of Church door collection was examined at this meeting of the Kirk Session and found correct.

From the sum of £11.10.1½ the salaries of the Session C k and Precentor were paid as well as all other expenses incurred and agreed to by the Kirk Session.

An allowance of five shillings being granted to the poof the parish, a balance of ten shillings and one halfpenny remained to the credit of the Session.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator. Neil Macmillan Session Clerk

[1897 Aug.] At Colonsay Church. The nineteenth day of August one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven which day the Kirk Seasion of the Parish of Colonsay &c met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. Dugald Carmichael Modr.

Mr. Malcolm McNeill Elder

Mr. Donald McNeill Do.

Compeared [a named female, 32 yrs. unmarried], A native of Colonsay voluntarily confessing that she was guilty of the sin of fornication. The said [named female] expressing her sincere sorrow for having so grievously fallen into sin was solemnly admonished by the Moderator to repent of her sin and henceforth to walk through Divine grace in newness of life.

The Kirk Session being satisfied of her manifest grief for having brought a scandal on the cause of religion in this Parish, they at her own earnest desire admitted h communion with the Church.

At this meeting Mr Donald McNeill was elected an elder to represent the Kirk-Session in the Presbytery and Synod.

Opened and Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator.

Neil Macmillan Clerk

[1897 Nov.] At Colonsay Church the sixteenth day of November one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven.

Which day the Kirk-Session of Colonsay & Oronsay parish met and was constituted with prayer. (Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Modr.

Mr. Malcolm McNeill Elder

Mr. Donald McNeill Do.

The Session having taken into consideration the propri ing to the number of the elders in the parish and being persuaded of the good character of Mr Angus McMillan Scalasaig, Mr. Neil McInnes Machrins and Mr. Donald Clark Bunavah, and that they are in every way qualified in terms of the Act of Assembly of 1816 and the other Acts of the General Assembly which respect the qualification of Elders.

They unanimously made choice of the said Mr. Angus McMillan Mr. Neil McInnes and Mr. Donald Clark to be members of this Kirk Session and appoint their ordination to take place on Sabbath the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December next to come, and intimation to be made on Sabbath the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November to the people that if they have any objections to state wy the above named persons should not be ordained to the eldership they will have an opportunity of doing so at a meeting of Session to be held for this purpose on the said 12<sup>th</sup> day of December previous to the commencement of public worship.

Adjourned, opened & Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator.

Neil Macmillan Clerk

[1897 Dec.] At Colonsay Church the Twelfth day of December one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven – the Kirk Session met and was constituted.

(Present) Revd. W. Carmichael

Mr Malcolm McNeill Elder

Mr. Donald McNeill Do.

The Session having convened for the purpose of hearing any objections against the ordination of Mr Angus MacMillan Mr Neil McInnes and Mr Donald Clark. The Revd. Mr Carmichael having reported that their edict had been duly served and the people having thrice been called by the Church Officer no person appeared to object.

Whereupon it was agreed in terms of the former resolution that the ordination of the said Mr Angus McMillan Mr Neil McInnes and Mr Donald Clark be proceeded with.

The Session adjourned to meet after Divine Service.

Opened & Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator.

Neil Macmillan Clerk

[1897 Dec.] At Colonsay Church the Twelfth day of December One thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven. The Kirk Session met agreeably to adjournment and was constituted with prayer. (Present ut supra

In accordance with former resolutions the Moderator did this day after Gaelic Sermon put to Mr Angus McMillan Mr Neil McInnes and Mr Donald Clark the questions appointed to be put to persons before their ordination to the Eldership and they having given satisfactory answers to the same, he did by solemn prayer set apart the said Mr Angus McMillan Mr Neil McInnes and Mr. Donald Clark to the office of the Eldership after which they and the people were addressed severally on their respective duties. Mr Angus McMillan, Mr Neil McInnes and Mr. Donald Clark being now present received the right hand of fellowship from the other members of the Session.

Their names were ordered to be added to the Roll.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator.

Neil Macmillan Clerk

[1898 Jan.] At Bridgend 18<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1898. Attested by the Presbytery of Islay & Jura **John W Gilchrist** Pres. Clk.

[1899 Jan.] At Scalasaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the Third day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety nine: which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Rev. D. Carmichael Moderator.

Messrs. Donald McNeill, Malcolm McNeill, Angus McMillan, Neil McInnes and Donald Clark, Elders. The Session found Amount of Church door collections for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> Decr. 1898 to be £8.14.9 All expenses due Kirk Session at this date were ordered to be paid –

The Session instructed the remaining sum to be distributed among paupers on the Roll and the deserving poor.

Opened and closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator. Neil Macmillan Session Clerk.

[1899 Jan.] 31 Jany 1899. The Session Records of Jura [sic] were submitted and duly attested by **John W Gilchrist** Presbytery Clerk.

[1900 Jan.] At Scalsaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the Ninth day of January nineteen hundred: which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Rev. D. Carmichael Moderator

Messrs Malcolm McNeill Angus McMillan and Donald Clark Elders.

The Amount of Church door collections for year ended 31st December 1899 was £6.4.7

When all Kirk Session expenses were paid there was no balance left.

This was all the business.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator. Neil Macmillan Session Clerk

[1900 Jan.] 30 January 1900 – Kirk Session Books of Colonsay submitted to the Presbytery.

John W Gilchrist P. C.

[1901 Jan.] At Scalsaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the Eighth day of January nineteen hundred and one. Which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer. (Present Revd D. Carmichael Moderator, Messrs Anus McMillan and Donald Clark Elders. The Kirk Session found the amount of Kirk Door collections for the year 1900 to be six pounds. At this meeting the Kirk Session appointed Mr Angus McMillan to be their member to represent the Presbytery and Synod.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Modr. Neil Macmillan S.C.

[1901 Jan.] 29 Jany. 1901. Colonsay Records were examined by Presbytery and found carefully kept,

John W Gilchrist Pres. Clk.

[1902 Jan.] At Scalsaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the Seventh day of January Nineteen hundred and two.

Which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer. (Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Moderator Messrs Angus McMillan and Malcolm McNeill Elders. The Kirk Session found the Amount of Kirk door Collections for the year ended Thirty first December 1901 to be six pounds twelve and seven pence.

The meeting gave instructions that all the session's accounts and incidental expenses be paid. A balance of Eight shillings was left in the hands of the Treasurer.

Mr Angus McMillan was reappointed to represent the Kir the year 1902.

n the Presbytery and Synod for

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Moderator Neil Macmillan s.c.

[1902 Jan.] Jany. 1902.3 – Attested by the Presbytery of Islay and Jura. John W Gilchrist P. C.

[1903 Jan.] at Scalsaig Schoolhouse Colonsay the Seventh day of January 1903 which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd Dugald Carmichael Modr. Messrs Angus MacMillan and Donald Clark Elders.

From the sum of Six pounds eleven shillings and eleven pence stg., beingthe amount of Church door Collections for the year ended 1902,

The Kirk Session expenses were subtracted from the above sum leaving a balance of eleven shillings & eleven pence.

Mr Angus MacMillan was again reappointed to represent the Kirk Session in the Presbytery and Synod for the year 1903.

(Closed with prayer).

Neil Macmillan Session Clk Dugald Carmichael, Modr.

[1904 Jan.] At Colonsay Parish Church the Fifth day of January 1904 which day the Kirk Session of

(Present) Revd. D. Carmichael Mins. Messrs Angus McMillan, Donald McNeill, Donald Clark and Neil McInnes Elders.

The Amount of Church door Collections for the last year was £8.2.10.

Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

From this sum the Synod and Presbytery Accounts as well as all necessary payments and expenses were instructed to be paid.

Mr Angus McMillan was again appointed representative to attend the meetings of Presby. & Synod for the year 1904.

Closed with prayer.

Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk Dugald Carmichael, Modr.

[1905 Jan.] Islay. Jany. 1905 – 6 – Examined and attested by John W Gilchrist Presbytery Clerk.

[1905 Jan.] At Colonsay Parish Church the Tenth day of January 1905. Which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

(Present) Revd. Dugald Carmichael Minister; Messrs. Angus McMillan Donald Clark and Neil McInnes Elders.

Church Door Collections for the year 1904 Amounted to £8.18.10½.

The Treasurer was instructed to pay Synod and Presbytery Clerks' Accounts, Salary of Precentor, and all other expenses due at this time.

After these payments were made a balance of £1.13.11½ was left in favour of the Kirk Session.

The Session appointed Mr. Neil McInnes as their Repres Presby.
(Closed with prayer)

eetings of Synod &

Neil Macmillan Sess. CIk Dugald Carmichael, Modr.

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[1906 Jan.] At Colonsay Parish Church the Second January 1906: which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present) Revd Dugald Carmichael Minister Messrs Angus McMillan and Donald Clark Elders The Church Door Collections made during the year 1905 Amounted to £7.12.7. The Kirk Session instructed their Clerk to pay the usual accounts due at this date.

The Session agreed to reappoint Mr Neil McInnes to represent them at Presbytery & Synod.

Neil Macmillan Session CIk. / Dugald Carmichael, Minr.

Note by transcriber: in the original, the excellent hand has been slowly deteriorating; although the same signatures appear in future years, the text of the minutes is in a new, more vigorous hand -KB

[1907 Jan.] At Colonsay Parish Church the Eighth day of January on e hundred and seven years: which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present: Rev. Dugald Carmichael Minr.

Mr. Angus McMillan Elder Mr. Donald Clark Elder

The ordinary Church door collections for the year 1906 amounted to £6.2. The Treasurer's accounts were examined at this meeting and found correct. Mr. Angus McMillan, Elder, was appointed to attend meetings of Presbytery & Synod. Closed with prayer.

Neil Macmillan Sess. CIk. Dugald Carmichael, Minr.

[1909] 1909 Bowmore Manse – attested as Correctly kept

John W Gilchrist Presbytery Clerk

[1908 Jan.] At Colonsay Parish Church the seventh day of January one thousand nine hundred and eight years: which day the Kirk Session of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present:

Rev. Dugald Carmichael, Minister Mr Angus Macneill, Elder Mr. Donald Clark, Elder

The Treasurer's accounts of Church Door Collections, amounting to £6.12. were examined on above date and passed correct. When the Kirk Session's expenses were met a balance of thirteen shillings was left. This was all the business.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Minr. Neil Macmillan Sess. Clk. [1909 Jan.] At Colonsay Parish Church the twelfth day of January one thousand nine hundred and nine; which day the Kirk-session of the Parish of Colonsay & Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present: Rev. Dugald Carmichael Minr.

Mr. Angus Macmillan, Elder

Mr. Donald Clark, Elder

The Treasurer's accounts of Church-door collections for the year 1908 were examined at this meeting and found to be correctly kept. Last Year's collections amounted to £7.15.10. When salaries and expenses due at this date were paid a Balance of £1.5.10 was left to the Session's credit. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Minr. Neil Macmillan Session Clk.

[1910 Jan.] At Colonsay Parish Church the eleventh day of January one thousand nine hundred and nine ten: which day the Kirk-session of the Parish of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present Rev. D. Carmichael Minr.

Mr. Angus Macmillan, Elder

Mr. Donald Clark, Elder

The Church Door Collections for the year 1909 amounted to £6.17.7½ leaving a balance of £1.8/= to the credit of the Session.

At this meeting of the Kirk-Session Mr. Angus Macmillan was appointed Session Clerk and Treasurer, in room of Mr. Neil MacMillan, retired.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Minr. Angus McMillan, Sess. CIk

[1911 Jan.] At Colonsay the fourth day of January one thousand nine hundred and eleven: which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay met and was constituted with prayer.

Present Rev D. Carmichael Minr.

Mr. Angus Macmillan Elder

Mr. Donald Clark Elder

The Ordinary Church Door Collections of the Congregation for the year 1910 amounted to £8.11.10 leaving a Balance of over £2 when all the accounts due were paid. This was all the Business. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Minr. Angus McMillan, . Clerk.

[1912 Jan.] At Colonsay the ninth day of January one thousand nine hundred and ve: which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer. Present Rev. Dugald Carmichael, Minr.

Mr. Angus Macmillan, Elder

Mr. Donald Clark, Elder

The Ordinary Church Door Collections during the Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 1911 amounted to £9. All expenses incurred by the Session were paid leaving a balance of £2.12/= in favour of the Kirk Session.

Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Minr. / Angus McMillan, S. Clerk

[1913 Jan.] At Colonsay the eighth day of January one thousand nin and thirteen: which day the Kirk Session of the Parish of Colonsay and Oronsay met and was constituted with prayer. Present Rev. Dugald Carmichael, Minr.

Mr Angus Macmillan Elder

Mr. Donald Clark, Elder

The Kirk Session examined the Treasurer's accounts for last year and found them correct. The collections amounted to £7.18.1½ showing a balance of £ over £1 in the hands of the Treasurer. Closed with prayer.

Dugald Carmichael, Minr.

[1914 Jan.] 27<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1914 Examined, and attested by order of the Presbytery of Islay and Jura.

Archd. Anderson, Pres. Clk.

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Thus concluded the ministry of Rev. Dugald Carmichael, steadfastly supported throughout by his long-serving elders and clerk. He was born in 1849, the son of Donald Carmichael, schoolmaster in Saddell, and Mary Brown; educated at Saddell School and University of Glasgow; licensed by Presbytery of Kintyre; ordained 14th September 1881 and was appointed to Colonsay; died unmarried 7th November 1915.

There appear to have been 73 Communicants at the start of his ministry, and 72 at the close; but the next minister recorded only 54 Communicants, so the figures probably require much closer analysis. Church door collections in 1913 averaged 3/= per week, probably about ½d per head. Inter-denominational relations appear to have been good, since the Colonsay Baptist History records: "Mr. McDougall resigned his charge and left Colonsay in 1907. The people subscribed for a presentation, and before his departure a crowded meeting was held in the Baptist Church on 18th December, a large proportion of the people of the island being present. Mr. Carmichael, the parish minister, presided, and spoke very highly of Mr. McDougall, expressing his regret at his departure from the island. Many others spoke to the same effect."

Neil Macmillan, clerk, had been the Parochial Schoolmaster and retired to Partick on 28 August 1910; he died on 30 July 1913.

Donald Clark, Elder, was the shepherd at Bonaveh; his brother-in-law is believed to have been the last direct descendant of Malcolm Macfie, d. 1623); he died 7<sup>th</sup> June 1934 aged years, by which time he had become the hotelier.

Angus Macmillan, Elder, was a labourer, Scalasaig; he served as the Precentor (cf. "cantor" – he sang each line before the congregation took it up); he died after 8 June 1913, probably within the year. - KB