



Udney Green



Pitmedden



Methlick



Tarves



Barthol Chapel

Formartine Churches Together

News Brief from Joint Session Meeting

19 September 2021

How can Tarves and Barthol Chapel, Udney & Pitmedden and Methlick work together?

The sessions of Tarves and Barthol Chapel (TBC), Udney & Pitmedden (UPC) and Methlick met at Haddo Main Hall on the 19 September 2021 to begin the process of discussing how this might/should look like in practice. There were 30 people in attendance: 25 representatives from the four churches, including the ministers of Methlick (Rev. Dr. Will Stalder) and TBC (Rev. Dr. Alison Swindells), the Interim Moderators of UPC (Rev. Sheila Mitchell and Rev. Anthony Craig) and the Probationer from TBC (Fiona Lister). It was a good and productive meeting.

Rev. Sheila Mitchell outlined the overall context, process and hoped for outcomes of the process, and included illustrations from her own context.

Rev. Dr. Alison Swindells gave a brief overview of the wider national and regional context that has influenced our present state of affairs (i.e. General Assembly and Presbytery).

We then spent time discussing with one another and sharing questions and concerns about the Presbytery Plan and working together. Time was also spent detailing what people thought should be the priorities going forward.

Going forward, a working group will be established from members of the respective churches in order to look at the proposed questions, concerns and suggested priorities. Based on the above consultation and on going communication with the respective sessions, this group will meet on a monthly basis in order to draw up a way of working together that will be positive, sustainable and agreeable by all the respective churches.

If there are any additional questions or concerns about the process or future of working together, please feel free to e-mail Will Stalder in the first instance:

Rev. Dr. Will Stalder

Minister of Methlick Parish Church

Minister of Fomartine Area Churches (w/ Rev. Dr. Alison Swindells)

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Until we speak again, please pray, and we will do our best to communicate with everybody at each stage in the process. God's richest blessings to you and your church and community!