

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
PRESBYTERY OF EDINBURGH

DRAFT BASIS OF DEFERRED UNION

THE CONGREGATION OF EDINBURGH: GILMERTON and the CONGREGATION OF EDINBURGH: TRON MOREDUN shall be united on a date in 2010 to be set by the Presbytery subsequent to, and subject to, the raising of Gilmerton New Charge to full status, and that on the following terms and conditions:

- 1 **Name:** The name of the united congregation shall be *Edinburgh: The Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun)*.
- 2 **Transference of Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall belong to or be held on behalf of the united congregation, and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.
- 3 **Place of Worship:**
 - 3.1 The churches at present used and occupied by the Gilmerton and Tron Moredun congregations shall in the first instance be the places of worship for the united congregation.
 - 3.2 Two years after the date of union there shall be a review of the building requirements by Presbytery, after which a further determination may be made.
 - 3.3 In the event of any buildings being at a later date sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the titles on which they are held, this shall be subject to the approval of Presbytery and of the General Trustees.
 - 3.4 Subject to the provisions of the Regulations anent the Application of Stipend and Fabric Endowments held by the General Trustees, the free proceeds of any later sale shall be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation and for the endowment of stipend.
- 4 **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united congregation shall be the bounds the parishes uniting, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
- 5 **Kirk Session:** The elders of both Kirk Sessions shall form with the minister the Kirk Session of the united congregation.
- 6 **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of the united congregation shall be administered by the united Kirk Session as in the Unitary Constitution 2003, the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue the appropriate Constitution.
- 7 **Minister:** A minister shall be called to be in the first instance to be the minister of Tron Moredun and thereafter of the united charge. In addition a Parish Worker shall be appointed.

8 **Manse:**

- 8.1 The minister shall in the first instance occupy the manse of Tron Moredun at 467 Gilmerton Road.
- 8.2 After the union (and not later than the review in 3.2 above) the united congregation shall review which manse shall be used, subject to the approval of Presbytery, and the surplus manse shall, if not required, be sold.
- 8.3 Subject to the provisions of the Regulations anent the Application of Stipend and Fabric Endowments held by the General Trustees, the free proceeds of the sale shall be held and applied for fabric purposes in connection with the properties of the congregation and for the endowment of stipend.

9 **Power to Readjust:** While these articles and terms shall form a Basis of Union for the two congregations now uniting, the united congregation shall be free to adjust arrangements under the authority of the Presbytery, as need may arise.