

Basis Of Linking

The Congregation of Abernethy and the Congregation of Boat of Garten, Carrbridge & Kincardine shall be linked on the following terms and conditions:

- 1. Property and Funds:** The property and funds belonging to or held on behalf of each congregation shall remain the property and funds of each congregation as at present.
- 2. Places of Worship:** The Churches in Dell Road, Nethy Bridge; Deshar Road, Boat of Garten; and Main Road, Carrbridge shall be the essential places of worship of the linked congregations. Services shall be conducted in each location each Sunday at times to be decided by the minister and the Kirk Sessions, subject to the authority of the Presbytery. The Church at Kincardine shall be used for worship at the discretion of the Minister and Kirk Session of Boat of Garten, Carrbridge and Kincardine.
- 3. Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the two congregations shall be as at present or as the Presbytery shall determine.
- 4. Kirk Sessions:** The Minister of the linked charge shall be the Moderator of each Kirk Session. The Kirk Sessions may meet together, as they deem it desirable.
- 5. Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of each congregation shall be administered as at present. Listed and other shared expenses, and the costs of the maintenance of the manse, shall be divided 50/50 or by agreement of the office-bearers and the concurrence of the Presbytery; or, in the case of dispute, as the Presbytery shall determine.
- 6. Minister:** Following approval of this Basis, a joint Nomination Committee shall be established in terms of Section 10 (3 d) of Act VII, 2003 and Section 14 (5) of Act VIII, 2003. The minister to be called shall be the minister of the parish of Abernethy linked with the parish of Boat of Garten, Carrbridge & Kincardine. The linkage will come into full effect at a date to be determined by the Presbytery.
- 7. Manse:** The manse at Boat of Garten shall be the manse of the linked congregations. The manse at Nethy Bridge shall be sold, let or otherwise disposed of subject to the approval of the Presbytery and, if necessary, of the General Trustees or the General Assembly. The free proceeds of any such sale or let shall be applied in accordance with all relevant Acts and Regulations and as permitted by Presbytery.
- 8. Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the minister shall be payable in terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
- 9. Ministerial Assistance:** The Presbytery of Abernethy shall allocate support for the worship rotas of the linkages of Abernethy with Boat of Garten, Carrbridge & Kincardine, and Cromdale & Advie with Dulnain Bridge with Grantown-on-Spey (Inverallan), equivalent to 0.3 of a full post and to be divided equally between the two new charges, as specified by the Presbytery Plan of 2011-12, this arrangement to run for three years and to be subject to such changes as may be agreed to the Presbytery Plan. The congregations shall be free to employ further assistance severally or jointly, as the Kirk Sessions decide, with the concurrence of Presbytery, in accordance with section 16 (Members of Ministry Teams) of Act VII, 2003 as amended.
- 10. Power to Readjust:** While these articles and terms shall form the Basis of Linking, the linked congregations shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements with the concurrence of Presbytery, or, in the case of dispute, as the Presbytery shall determine.