

Churches Together in Glenrothes and District Constitution

1. Name

Our name is Churches Together in Glenrothes and District.

2. Basis

Churches Together in Glenrothes and District unites in pilgrimage those Churches in Glenrothes and District which, acknowledging God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves:

- a. to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is His body and
- b. to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

3. Affiliations

We are affiliated to ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland) and locally see ourselves as a fellowship of all the churches in our area.

4. Purpose

Our purpose is to encourage good working relationships between all Christian congregations within Glenrothes and district in worship, study and community ventures.

5. Membership

All member Churches are encouraged to participate fully in the activities of Glenrothes Churches Together.

Membership of Churches Together in Glenrothes and District shall be open to:

- a. Any local church in the area which is affiliated to a church which is a full member of Action of Churches Together in Scotland (see appendix 1) and
- b. Any other local church in the area which affirms the Basis (point 2 of constitution) and commits itself to promote the aims of Churches Together in Glenrothes and District and
- c. Any local Church which on principle has no creedal statements in its tradition and therefore cannot formally subscribe to the statement of faith in the Basis, provided that it satisfies 75% in number of those full Member Churches which subscribe to the Basis, that it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and it is committed to the aims and the purposes of Churches Together in Glenrothes and District and that it will work in the spirit of the Basis.

A list of member churches, their representatives and contact details will be maintained by the Secretary. Changes can be made during the year, but the lists will be checked each year at the AGM.

6. **Office bearers**

Glenrothes and District Churches Together shall appoint from amongst its members at the AGM:

Chairperson

Vice-chair (from a different congregation than the chair)

Secretary

Treasurer

Member of clergy (liaison between Churches Together in Glenrothes and District and clergy.)

The normal period of office will be a three year term with the option for one extra term.

The officer bearers will meet as required between normal meetings and may make decisions on items which cannot be held until the next meeting. Any such decisions will be reported back to the next meeting.

If possible, office bearers should be lay representatives. If this is not possible then clergy members can be elected to hold office for a period of one year.

Where no chair is elected at the AGM each hosting Church of a meeting will be invited to provide a chair for that meeting. If they are unable to do so, the secretary will ask a member of clergy to chair the meeting.

7. **Representation to Churches Together in Glenrothes and District**

Each Church may be represented by:

a) All clergy and other employees.

b) Up to four lay representatives from each congregation/fellowship.

c) In addition youth representation should be encouraged whenever possible.

8. **Meetings**

Churches Together in Glenrothes and District will normally meet four times a year with sub-groups meeting as required. Additionally, the AGM will take place in June at which the accounts, which have been reviewed by an independent examiner, will be presented for approval, retiring officer bearers elected and the annual report submitted.

9. **Sub-Groups**

Sub-groups should be set up as required at main meetings with one person

responsible for organising the sub-group and reporting back. Each set of minutes should list the sub-groups in existence, their membership and remit at that date.

10. **Quorum**

A quorum for a meeting of Churches Together in Glenrothes and District shall be representatives from at least four of Churches in membership.

11. **Finance**

Each participating church shall be asked to contribute a subscription to be decided annually at the AGM to cover expenses. This should be paid in January.

12. **Recommendations**

All decisions/recommendations made at Churches Together in Glenrothes and District meetings shall normally be reported back to the governing bodies and congregations of the member Churches.

13. **Amendment of Constitution**

Churches Together in Glenrothes and District meeting shall have the power to amend the Constitution provided a quorum is present and at least four weeks notice is given of any such amendment. This should normally be done at the AGM.

Appendix 1

The Member Churches of Action of Churches Together in Scotland are:

Congregational Federation

Church of Scotland

Methodist Church

Religious Society of Friends

Roman Catholic Church

Salvation Army

Scottish Episcopal Church

United Free Church of Scotland

United Reformed Church