BASIS OF DEFERRED LINKAGE
Hurlford and East Kilmarnock in deferred linkage with Kilmarnock: Kay Park Parish Church of Scotland

The congregation of Hurlford and East Kilmarnock Church of Scotland (SC001324), shall be linked with Kilmarnock: Kay Park Parish Church of Scotland (SC008154) as from a date to be determined by Presbytery, and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. Transference of 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 at present used and occupied by the congregations of Hurlford Parish Church, St Kentigern's Church, Kilmarnock, and Kay Park Parish Church shall be the places of worship of the linked charge. Times of worship shall be agreed between the minister and the Kirk Sessions, subject to the approval of the Presbytery.
3. Territorial Responsibility: The bounds to be served by the linked charge shall be the bounds of the present parishes, or as the Presbytery shall determine.
4. Kirk Session: 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 by its Kirk Session in terms of the Unitary Constitution. The office-bearers of the congregations shall meet annually to decide on their portion of ministry expenses (as listed in the Regulations for Remuneration and Reimbursement of Parish Ministers 2015) and costs for the maintenance of the manse, as may be agreed from time to time by the office-bearers and subject to the approval of the Presbytery.
6. Minister: The congregations to be linked shall proceed to the appointment of a minister in terms of the Call, Election and Appointment of Ministers of Word and Sacrament Act (Act XI 2025) who shall be inducted in the first instance as minister of Hurlford and East Kilmarnock Church of Scotland, provided that on the demission/retirement/translation of the Rev Fiona E Maxwell, minister of Kilmarnock: Kay Park Parish Church of Scotland, this linkage shall immediately be effective under the minister so appointed and inducted.
7. Manse: The current manse of Hurlford shall be the manse of the united charge pending implementation of the deferred linkage with Kilmarnock: Kay Park Parish Church of Scotland. Upon implementation of that linkage, either Hurlford manse or Kay Park manse shall be retained as the manse of the linked charge, as determined by Presbytery after consultation with the Kirk Sessions and the General Trustees. The manse not required for that purpose may thereafter be sold, let or otherwise disposed of, subject to the necessary approvals of Presbytery and the General Trustees. The application of any proceeds shall be governed by the Church of Scotland General Trustees (Properties, Funds and Endowments) Act (Act V 2024), as amended, and any other applicable requirements.
8. Ministerial Support: The stipend of the minister shall be payable in terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
9. Power to Readjust: While these articles and terms shall form the Basis of Linking for the congregations now linking, the linked congregations shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.