BASIS OF UNION
Polbeth Harwood l/w West Kirk of Calder

The congregation of Polbeth Harwood Parish Church of Scotland (SC017373) and the congregation of West Kirk of Calder (Church of Scotland) (SC004703) shall be united on 1 January 2026, or from a date to be determined by Presbytery, and that on the following terms and conditions:

1. **Name:** The name of the united charge shall be West Calder and Polbeth Parish Church of Scotland and SC004703 will be retained.
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 charge and any transference necessary shall be duly effected.
3. **Places of Worship:** Both churches at present used and occupied by the congregations shall be the places of worship of the united charge. Services shall be conducted at West Kirk of Calder at 9.30am and Polbeth Harwood at 11.15 each Sunday, apart from occasional joint services as agreed by the Minister and Kirk Session.
4. **Territorial Responsibility:** The bounds to be served by the united charge shall be designated as the bounds of the parishes of Polbeth Harwood and West Kirk of Calder, 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 charge.
6. **Congregational Management:** The temporal affairs of the united congregation shall be administered by the Kirk Session in terms of the Unitary Constitution, the Delegation of Assembly being authorised to issue the appropriate Deed of Constitution to the said congregation.
7. **Ministry:** The Rev Dr. Jonanda Groenewald, currently minister at Polbeth Harwood l/w West Kirk of Calder, shall be the minister of the united charge in terms of section 8.2 of the Presbytery Mission Plan Act (Act 8, 2021). Rev. Alison Quilter, currently serving the linked congregations as an Ordained Local Minister, will continue to serve as per the Ordained Local Ministry Act (Act 9, 2011).
8. **Manse:** The manse of the congregation of West Kirk of Calder shall be the manse of the united charge.
9. **Ministerial Support:** The stipend of the charge shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the National Stipend Scheme.
10. **Power to Readjust:** While the articles and terms shall form the Basis of Union for the two congregations now uniting, the united charge shall be free, like other congregations, to adjust arrangements under the authority of Presbytery as need may arise.