



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

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Parish Council Meeting-Minutes 13 December 2023

PRESENT:

Fr Philip Bua, Kenny Stark, Cathleen McFadden, Marian Pallister, Tony Fenlon, Ian & Eunice Salmon, Ann McCartan, Agata Koloziak, Tony Jones, Marie-Therese Brannigan.

Apologies:

Denise McDermott, Phil Conner

Opening Prayer: Fr Philip led the opening prayer.

Minutes of the meeting on 3rd September 2023.

These were read and proposed by Marian and seconded by Cathleen.

Matters arising-

Parish 'Events Tent'

This was purchased and erected since the last meeting and has proved to be a great success as a meeting room and for the serving of refreshments after Sunday Mass.

Parish walking day- This took place at the end of the 'Season of Creation' and was led by Marion.

Christmas Fare- This took place on 25th November 2023 and proved to be a great success financially and as a Parish social event.

Eucharistic Ministers- Training of Eucharistic ministers was completed and receiving of Holy Communion under both kinds resumed from the first Sunday of Advent.

Parish Recollection Day- This took place on 7th October 2023 and Advent recollection took place on the 8th of December all were great success despite weather disruption.

Childrens' Mass- This event did not take place but it is hoped to arrange it sometime in the New Year.

Report from different sectors-

Inveraray Mass Station-Sunday Mass continues to be said although the numbers have dropped following the end of the holiday season. Currently the Parish pay a fee of £2000 for the use of the Episcopal Church. Father Philip has proposed that in future we pay by the hour for use of the venue and we are awaiting a response.

Justice and Peace-The group have now resumed their regular meetings and last met on 12 December 2023. They have agreed to send a letter to both the UK Foreign Secretary and the Home Secretary over the issue of refugees. They are now collecting donations for the Simon Community and Care for Calais.

Safeguarding- A Parish Audit is due at the end of January 2023. 8 parishioners will need to have a PVG carried out. Ann will contact those concerned and arrange for the necessary applications to be made.

Finance Report- Kenny presented the latest report showing the position regarding Parishes finances. This report is now available for parishioners to view.

Lectors- There is now a rota of readers in place however more readers are welcome particularly to cover for Christmas and Easter.

Prayer Group- The group now meet every Wednesday evening in the Church from 5pm to 6pm. There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for one hour. Fr. Philip expressed that Wednesday Adoration is for all parishioners, and the prayer group only help in facilitating it, therefore all members of the parish are welcome to attend.

Hospitality Group- There are around 10 members who continue to provide a great service of refreshments after Sunday Mass and other social events.

Other Matters-

Announcements- Someone other than Fr Philip will speak at the end of Sunday Mass to tell the parishioners of any significant new or future events.

Christmas Flowers- There will be a collection on Sunday 17th December 2023 to raise funds for extra flowers needed for the Christmas and New Year period.

Closing Prayer- Tony said the closing prayer.

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on 7th February 2024 at 6.00pm.

Tony Fenlon
Parish Pastoral Council
13th December 2023

ST MARGARET'S PARISH

Finance Report, 12th December 2023

This report covers the financial situation for 3 months to 30 November 2023, the end of the 2022/23 Financial Year. The bank balance at that time was £6740, but it should be noted that on 4 December, Fr Philip received notification that we were indebted to RCDAI for loans payable for Henry's salary amounting to almost £4800. Enquiries are being made with the Finance Manager RCDAI, as to how this amount was accrued.

The Gift Aid return from HMRC mentioned in the financial report dated 31 August 2023 is included in the income for September. In November, the 6 month rent for All Saints, Inveraray amounting to £2000 was paid and is reflected in the inflated figure of Church expenses. Fr Philip has proposed a different method of calculating All Saints Rent from the 2nd period of 2023, which should substantially reduce the rental figure, and is awaiting a response from the Episcopal Church.

See below for a breakdown of monthly figures which have been rounded off to the nearest pound.

Kenny Stark
St Margaret's Financial Sub Committee
12 December 2023

	Sept 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023
Income			
Income from Offertory Cash	506	671	443
Income from Gift Aid Envelopes	271	517	428
Income from Standing Orders	1864	1473	1473
Special Collection	15	352	125
Donation	19.14		118
Gift Aid Refund	7008		
Teas etc	49.56		
Transfer from RCDAi	693	139	569
Total Income	10426	5871	3156
Expenses			
House Expenses	3841	2536	1117
Church Expenses inc flowers	297	269	2212
Other Expenses inc Church Levy Car & Salary	2314	1129	2543
Special Collection transferred	202.60	337	352
Bank Charge			
Total Expenses	6654	4270	5871
Balance at month end	10574	9456	6740
Balance at Year Start			
£2727			