



ST. MARGARET'S PARISH

Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NE

Tel. 01546 602380

Email: lochgilphead@rcdai.org.uk

Website: www.lochgilpheadcatholic.com

Parish Council Meeting-Minutes (Wednesday 8th May 2024)

Present:

Fr Philip Bua, Kenny Stark, Cathleen McFadden, Marian Pallister, Tony Fenlon, Ian Salmon, Eunice Salmon, Ann McCartan, Tony Jones, Marie-Therese Brannigan, Phil Connor, Denise McDermott

Apologies: Agata Koloziak

The meeting commenced with prayer led by Fr. Philip.

Matters Arising:

Rent renegotiated with the Episcopalian Church for All Saints, Inveraray, The Prayer Group has been renamed, Adoration of the Holy Eucharist or Holy Hour, which is open to all parishioners. Parking Area – reserved on Sundays for the senior members of the congregation. Anne McC and Father Philip will arrange for a Safeguarding catch-up. Agata has volunteered to become a eucharistic minister however we need one more volunteer. This request will be included in a future bulletin. The Super Saturday plan to have a parish rugby day did not happen because of difficulty securing a venue. A contractor has been appointed to quote for addressing the problem of dampness on the pillars at the sides of the altar and some damage to roof tiles. The Lenten Donations totalled £2500 and will contribute to building works etc.

Previous Minutes were approved and seconded by Tony Fenton and Iain Salmon

Inveraray – All Saints

Kenny advised that the bill for the quarterly rent of the church has been received and paid under the renegotiated arrangements with the Episcopalian Church of £40 per Sunday, approximately £2000 which is a considerable reduction from the original rent of £4000. The parish day out was a lovely success and Fr Philip made a special vote of thanks to all who find time out of their busy schedule to be there. The church door is now open every day during the week.

Safeguarding

Anne McCartan presented the Safeguarding report. The audit is complete and submitted with St Margaret's acting as a pilot site for the Diocese. The action plan will be displayed at the back of the church. All meetings or gatherings will be recorded in a register to include all attendees and which individual is responsible e.g. Children's Liturgy, Justice and Peace and any home visits undertaken by Eucharistic ministers. PVG renewals which expire at the end of the year are underway and all but one have been submitted to the Diocese. Maisie has completed a risk assessment. Any postings on social media can now only take place with the permission of parents.

Eucharistic Ministers

Father Philip advised that there would be a refresher for the Eucharistic minister's order of conducting Eucharistic service. He has already done this in St Mun's, Dunoon and will use the same training materials.

We have two new lectors – Karen Welch and Rab McAskill and there will be a renewal of ministry for the lectors and the Parish Council.

Hospitality

Marie has issued a new rota up to the end of June. Parishioners will be reminded that if they wish to donate to the hospitality expenses, there is a collection dish in the tent. In addition to teas, coffees and biscuits. Father Philip will arrange a meeting for the Hospitality Group to consider future events.

Justice and Peace

Marian presented the J&P report. Anne-Marie Clements, the Catholic Social Teaching Engagement Officer for Justice and Peace Scotland was welcomed to the meeting on April 9th. The Bishop, Anne Marie Clements, Anthony Horan from the Catholic Parliamentary Office and Marian are presenting an online pre-election event including a Q&A session, as suggested at the April meeting. This will take place on May 21st for the whole Diocese and parishes have been asked to produce questions. Marian added that the questions from St Margaret's are often valued and considered very pertinent. The topics covered will include shaping our country and holding political candidates to account. Bishop Nolan will be providing advice regarding engagement with elected representatives. The link to join the meeting is on the Facebook page.

Finance Report

A copy of the report prepared and presented by Kenny is attached. A vote of thanks was given to Iain Salmon, Tony Fenton and everyone involved in counting the Lenten and SCIAF collections. Denise offered to help with counting the collections in future.

Music Ministry

Phil thanked everyone for their efforts during Holy Week for the music ministry. Everyone at church is so grateful to Katy for her beautiful organ playing and her loyalty despite such a busy life with her young family. Peter Short, a visiting parishioner played the organ at the Easter Liturgy and his version of the Exultat was wonderful. Phil also thanked Isla for her lovely playing of the clarsach and the meeting considered that Isla be asked to play during reflection after Communion on some Sundays. For next Easter, there was a discussion about perhaps having some rehearsals during Lent and including Tony for the sound tech. Phil wants to reintroduce singing the Our Father and Denise would like to introduce the parish to a version of the Agnus Dei.

Maintenance and Repairs

Fr Philip is obtaining quotes to replace missing slates and repair/replace gutters since almost the present ones are decaying and rotten. The lower part of the pillars at the altar will be painted with wall sealant and clad with wood after the slate/gutter work has been done to address the water ingress in the roof.

Date of Next Meeting: 7th August 2024 at 6.00 pm.

Denise McDermott
Parish Pastoral Council
8th May 2024

St Margaret's Parish Finance Report

This report covers the financial situation to 30 April 2024. The bank balance at that time was £4945 a decrease from 31 January of 1597 (all figures rounded to nearest £).

See overleaf for a breakdown of monthly figures.

The 2nd table reports the situation of the Diocesan Loan and Restricted Funds which are Funds to which funds have been given for a specific purpose, and which by law are not allowed to be used for any other purpose. Unfortunately the Diocesan account set up does not allow me to ring fence these funds, but whenever a bank balance figure is shown it includes the amount in restricted funds, and must not fall below the total balance of the restricted funds.

The Lenten donations totalled £2500 and SCIAF wee boxes £832.21, and whilst this was collected during April, these were not banked until 1 May, and as such do not appear in these figures.

Kenny Stark

St Margaret's Financial Sub Committee (7 May 2024)

	February 2024	March 2024	April 2024
Income from Offertory Cash	515	425	520
Income from Gift Aid Envelopes	500	370	730
Income from Standing Orders	1453	1443	1493
Special Collection	113	347	288
Donation		10	110
Gift Aid Refund			
Teas etc			
Transfer from RCDAI	139	139	139
SCIAF Wee boxes			
Lenten Donations			250
Refund Ebay	24		
Easy Fundraising	22		
Total Income	2766	2734	3530
EXPENSES			
House Expenses	1829	590	913
Church Expenses	1452	789	147
Other Expenses inc Church Levy Car & Salary	1159	1485	1387
Special Collection transferred		347	288
Bank Charge	1	1	3
TOTAL EXPENSES	4439	3213	2738
Balance at month end	4632	4153	4945

Restricted Funds & Loans

Loan				
	Balance 1.2.24	Increase	Decrease	Balance at 30.4.24
Diocesan Loan	-4763.92		400	-4363.92
Restricted Funds				
All Saints Church	126	520	126	0
Garden	0	22		22
Church Renovation	250			250