

St. Margaret Clitherow's, Threshfield.

Minutes of Parish Meeting – Tuesday 17th September, 2013.

Present: Fr. Andrew, Peter Vetch, Peter Thompson, Cath Barclay, Pauline Copeland, Fiona Romano, Vicky Fattorini, Audrey Yates, Raymond James, Margaret James

Apologies: Joe Pope, Ann Davies, Helen Ellwood, Chris Ellwood, Maria Donizetti, Maureen Keep, Clare Guest

Minutes: Minutes of last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's report: Raymond informed the meeting that the balance in the bank on 31st August 2013 stood at £3959.69 while the "cash in hand" was £40.69. Recent expenditure: the cost of the new mower, £439.00 was covered by donation; new crockery purchased for the Grassington Festival event cost £186.25, but a donation of £100.00 was received to assist that purchase; the labour for the re-pointing of the church piers, amounting to 50 hours' work, was donated, but material for this work amounted to £106.83. The church has had to purchase a tag for the brown bin to ensure that garden refuse continues to be collected. Income: £50 donation from "Helping Hands" for the use of the building and a donation of £206.62 from the Buckden Singers following their recent concert. The sum of £262.00 is still outstanding from the Grassington Festival and Fr. Andrew will pursue this issue with the festival Committee. Future expenditure: £200.00 has been set aside for flowers and other expenses for the 40th Anniversary celebration.

Church maintenance: All maintenance is currently up to date. Thanks to Barry and his team for their work in pointing the piers.

Recent activities:

- a) **Grassington Festival Concert:** A successful event, but ticket sales were down on recent years. Fiona commented that the advance notice of sales would be useful to minimise wastage of baked goods and refreshments. Raymond had checked with the Festival Office earlier in the week of the concert, but was told that more tickets were expected to be sold on the day. Fr. Andrew is to give this feedback to the Festival Committee.
- b) **Flower Festival:** Thanks to Ann and Helen for their work and their willingness to represent St. Margaret's at this event.

Future activities:

- a) **40th anniversary celebrations:** Preparations are progressing as planned. Peter has sent an informative notice for inclusion in the local churches' newsletter. Fr. Andrew has invited local clergy to the "Jacob's Join" on Sunday 6th October and it was suggested that we send a brief article and photograph to "The Craven Herald". Flyers have been sent to St. Stephen's and Sacred Heart, Broughton. Fiona suggested that numbers of participants should be collected from these sites also to ensure adequate catering. Fr. Andrew informed the meeting that relatives of Fr. Brady, who served in the parish at the time of the dedication of the church, would visit St. Margaret's during the anniversary weekend and would attend the lunch. Trip to York: At present, 12 people have expressed interest from each of St. Margaret's and St. Stephen's and Saturday would appear to be the preferred option. Fr. Andrew said that this could be a difficult option for him, but he would look into solving this. Some discussion took place with regard to timing of the visit and it was finally decided to arrange it later in the anniversary year, perhaps Spring, when the weather was possibly more clement.

b) The Christmas Carol Service: Proposed date Sunday 15th December at 3.00p.m. Catering arrangements as usual.

A.O.B.

Peter: Chris Elwood has suggested that the Autumn Works' Outing should be cancelled because of the Anniversary and the Year of Faith parish dinner.

Margaret: Margaret drew attention to the newly framed photograph of Pope Francis which Fr. Andrew brought from Rome.

Fr. Andrew: He gave a reminder that the "Pulpit Swap" would take place on October 13th. David Macha is visiting St. Margaret's while Fr. Andrew will preach at Hetton Methodist Church and later attend the Halton Gill Harvest Festival service. He added that a Catholic was needed to preach in Kettlewell Church at 11.00a.m. and it was suggested that Maria Donizetti be approached as she might be willing to undertake the task. Fr. Andrew added that the opening service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place at 10.00a.m. on Sunday 19th January in Grassington Town Hall.

Fr. Andrew thanked Cath for the donation of the new holy water font which has now been installed.

Audrey: Audrey said that a volunteer was required to organise the Women's World Day of Prayer event which will take place on the first Friday in March at St. Margaret's as Maureen Fraser is no longer able to continue these commitments. She again repeated her request for an audit of key holders and the return of any unused keys. It was suggested that a notice to this effect should be inserted in the bulletin.

Fiona: Fiona reminded the meeting that a painting had been donated at last year's Flower Festival to be auctioned for the Church. Since it was felt that an auction might not realise a sum appropriate to the quality of the painting, she suggested that it should be exhibited in Rob Keep's gallery with a view to a future sale. A notice in the parish newsletter could also invite written bids.

Peter: The next Justice and Peace group meeting will take place in St. Margaret's at 2.00p.m. on Saturday 6th November. Fr. Andrew added that the group's focus during Advent was likely to be concerned with raising awareness about different aspects of Peace rather than fundraising.

Next meeting: A.G.M. Tuesday, 21st January, 2014, 7.30p.m.

Mass will be celebrated at 7.00p.m.