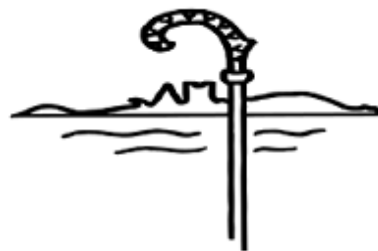


News from St. Fillan's

April 2022



As you may know because of a challenging financial picture and a projected shortage of ministers the Church of Scotland has been in 'discussion' with churches to make plans to reduce the number of ministries and buildings.

The first draft of their proposals for review, have been published including the building audit.

All church buildings have been put into two categories; A) To be retained beyond the five years from the date at which the Mission Plan is approved or annually reviewed, or B) To be sold, let or otherwise disposed of by a specified date which is within five years from the date at which the ecclesiastical building is first categorised as (B).

The church hall has been placed in category A, whilst St Fillan's Church has been placed in category B. **This means that they are proposing that St Fillan's church be disposed of.**

The Kirk Session, as I'm sure you are, are shocked at this decision. We see that the church hall and St Fillan's church are both vitally important in the life of the village and the surrounding area. Next year will be St Fillan's 900th anniversary and 2026 will be the 100th anniversary of the restoration.

There will be a meeting in the Church on Tuesday, 19th April, 2022 at 7:00pm when clarification will be given on the criteria used to reach this outcome and what the next steps are that we are hoping to take. We hope you will be able to come along and support us.

The Church of Scotland is not only planning to close St Fillan's but also plans to close Burntisland Parish Church, St Monans Parish Church, Kinghorn Parish Church (the church by the sea), Culross Abbey, North Queensferry church, St Leonards church, etc. They plan to close 38% of church buildings in Fife.

You may also know that St Fillan's will put in a Cluster/ Area/ Grouping with Dalgety, Inverkeithing, North Queensferry and Rosyth churches. The discussions have been positive and it is proposed that there will be a team ministry with a single Kirk Session. Currently there are 4 full time ministers, this will be reduced to 3 (full time equivalent posts), at least one of which will be a minister.

<https://www.stfillanschurch.org.uk/>