

Minutes of the Meeting of The Friends of St Mary's, Bacton
On
November 11th at 7.30pm at August House

1. Present:

Simon Holdich (Chairman)
Rosy Black
David Black
Andy Friend
Angela Friend
Rose Graham (Membership Secretary)
Robin Jack
Ann Kent
Dick Middleon (Treasurer)
Sue Middleton (Secretary)
Janice Shea
Helen Thomson

2. Welcome and Apologies

Simon welcomed those present, and noted that the following had offered their apologies;

Pip and Joy Wright, Richard Peaty, Brenda Dunn, Peggy Boyer

3. Minutes of the meeting

The minutes of the meeting being accepted as a true copy, Simon signed them.

4. Matters arising

Simon had spoken to Trevor Southgate about the metal detecting day, who said that those attending had been very happy, and would like to come again. The Ipswich and District Metal Detecting Club fix their calendars in Feb/March, so it was agreed to get a date in their diary for next year. Working on stubble was not good, so around the same time next year would be ideal. John Gooderham was to be approached regarding using some of his land. A minimum of 40 acres was required for a successful event. Land either near the Scout HQ or the village hall would be best for catering for the event. Rose Graham said that land around the Deer Park (the meadow) could be interesting as there had been a 14th century mill with a round moat on the site. The Canute penny found at the metal detecting day was worth about £130, so no share in the sale would come to the Friends as it was only for items worth more than £400 that the sale price would be split.

General Repair Weekend More discussion with the PCC about this idea was required. Helen suggested that more sockets were required for sound and lighting etc. for events, and that Gordon was qualified to do this work. A list of jobs was needed so that volunteers' skills could be matched to the work required. A firm price for the delayed repair of the clerestory windows had not yet been settled, as it was not yet known if scaffolding would be needed. David to action.

The Head Teachers of the schools were said to be enthusiastic about the Friends paying for Roy Tricker to give the children lectures on the history of the church. This could become an annual slot in the school calendar.

The date of the carol service, which is to combine with the Toy service, has been changed to 12th December, to accommodate the concert on the 19th December.

5. Financial Report

All members were given a copy of the financial report.

£7,672.07 in the bank.

Annual Income of £700 – there had been no increase in this figure this month. Simon reminded members to continue to encourage people to sign standing orders for the Friends.

The Friends is now a registered charity, and Dick reminded members that any correspondence, leaflets, posters etc. must now have the charity number on. Also The Friends are now governed by the constitution **The Registered charity number is 1106579.**

The Friends of St Mary's is now eligible for Gift Aid, which would increase our annual income to about £1000 per year.

5. Christmas Cards and Notelets

Cards were only on sale in the Post Office at the moment. Notices had been placed in the shop to advertise them. It was hoped that the cards would soon be better placed in the shop, so that they could be seen. It was agreed to see if Jeffries would sell them in their shop, also have them displayed in the church. It was decided that the cards might be too expensive, so it agreed to have 'three packs for the price of two' and anyone who had bought three packs would be refunded £3.

Volunteers were needed to pack the notelets. Everyone agreed that they were a very good production, and they would cost £3.50 for a pack of ten.

6. The Concert 19th December

- The cost of tickets will be £7.50, to include mulled wine and mince pies. Extra wine would be available in the interval for a donation. It was hoped to sell at least 150 tickets.
- The concert will start at 7pm for 7.30pm. Members would provide raffle prizes with a Christmas theme.
- The concert will be candlelit. It was hoped to have the candelabra.
- The central heating for the concert would need to be put on in very good time so that the church can be really warm. Ray Bartrum would be asked to do this.

7. Pew cushions

A meeting with the PCC was to be arranged before the idea could go further forward.

8. Any Other Business

Terry Spalding had approached Simon about staging a production of 'Othello' in the church in February. It was agreed that this was exactly the sort of use the Friends wanted to see for the church., They will help in any way they can.

9. Date of the Next Meeting

Thursday December 9th at Mill House Farm. (Apologies from Andy and Angela Friend, Robin Jack and Rosy Black for that date.)

Simon M. W. H. P. 2