

**A Meeting of The Friends of St Mary's, Bacton
held on Thursday November 10th October 2005
At August House
At 7.30pm**

November?

Minutes

Attendance:

Simon Holdich (Chairman)
Peggy Boyer
Angela Friend
Andrew Friend
Rose Graham
Ann Kent
Sue Middleton (secretary)
Dick Middleton (treasurer)
Richard Peaty
Janice Shea
Helen Thomson

Welcome and apologies

Apologies received from David Black Pip Wright

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday September 8th 2005

Agreed as a true copy - Rose proposed, Janice seconded.

Matters arising

1. Pew Cushions. Ann is waiting to order extra material for the pew cushions until a decision is taken on what needs to be done. Working party required to decide. (Rose offered to organise, with Janice and Angela.) Special cushions were required for the carved pews. Janice said that the congregation had shown appreciation for the cushions. Decision on whether to make cushions for the side aisles could be taken at a later date. It was agreed that they were a success and Simon thanked those who had made them
2. Church Boiler. The PCC were attempting to claim back the VAT on the boiler. Rose filled out the forms, so hoped they would be successful. It was agreed that the PCC could come back to the Friends, if they were not successful.

Financial Report - Dick Middleton presented a summary of the account as at November 10th which was circulated. £2.402.00 had been paid for the boiler and £1000 for the pew cushions. Inward Donation of £1.600 back for Gift Aid. £909.34 was raised through the B2005 concert. Gislingham Silver Band Concert- £339.48 was donated to the Friends Balance £7.526.90 in the Bank.

B2005 Variety Concert

It was agreed that the concert was a great success, with really good acts. Simon suggested that if the Friends put on concerts in the future the stage should be extended. Simon also suggested that more young people could be involved in future events. It was agreed that the concert was just the sort of activity in the church that the Friends were trying to encourage.

Band Concert October 28th

The Gislingham Silver Band accompanied by a visiting French choir held a concert in St Mary's Church on October 28th. The Friends and the Lions Club promoted the concert, and Simon thanked Rose and Peggy for their hard work, and Gavin and Ernie Pearce for selling so many tickets. It was agreed that joint ventures were a successful way of running events.

There was discussion about the use of the village hall car park by people going to the concert, as there was a meeting of the Friday Girls being held in the village hall at the same time. They felt that activities in the hall should have priority to the car park. They also had concerns that the village hall door could not be locked, as it normally was during meetings, as access to the toilets had been arranged for the concert audience. There was discussion about keeping a village diary, over and above the one run for the parish magazine. Ann said that she would be willing to keep a diary on the web, if someone could set it up.

Christmas Cards

Sales had been disappointing at the Craft Fair at the Middle School About 17 packs of the children's cards had been sold and 14 packs of the church cards at a cost of £3.50 or two packs for £6.00. Philip Jeffries has a display board and the shop have agreed to sell them - Press releases to Radio Suffolk, the Bury Free Press and the East Anglian being set up. Simon thanked Ann for all her hard work.

Any other business

Simon suggested we all co-operated with other 'Friends' groups. He produced details of a choir, 'Heritage' who feature Russian Orthodox music. It was agreed to investigate the possibilities of a concert as a joint venture with the Friends groups of the whole Benefice.

Rose said how delighted she was at the good heartedness she had seen when asking for raffle prizes from the Friends, and a newsletter was suggested, as a way to communicate better with those not on the committee. A leaflet would also be a useful way of letting people know about the activities of the Friends of St Mary's.

Rose also was sorry to say that she felt that she would have to come off the committee. Simon expressed his regret and thanked her for all her hard work. Andy Friend agreed to take over her role as Membership secretary.

Next meeting to be held on Thursday 12th January, at 7.30 at August House

Simon W. H. P. O.