

**A meeting of the Friends of St Mary's, Bacton,
held on Thursday 11th January 2007
at Beagles at 7.30pm.**

Charity Number 1106579

Minutes

Attendance:

Simon Holdich (Chairman)
Dick Middleton (Treasurer)
Sue Middleton (Secretary)
Andy Friend (Membership Secretary)
Barbara Bilston
Peggy Boyer
Angela Friend
Rose Graham
Ann Kent
Richard Peaty
Janice Shea
Helen Thomson

Welcome and apologies

Apologies received from Pip Wright

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday

Correction – Under 'Mediaeval Fayre' the date should read 12th May, not 13th May.

Matters arising

The PCC approved the purchase of new carpet runners for the church., as the existing carpet was becoming dangerous. Anne asked if was necessary to have carpets. Dick suggested investigating polyurathane coating over tiles, which he had seen in other churches. The reason that covering was required was to protect the tiles and tombstones in the aisles. It was agreed that alternatives should be considered, but advice should be sought from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) Expert advice would be required about the correct carpet, and any decision agreed between the DAC and PCC.

Financial Report

The Treasurer circulated the routine monthly financial report. (copy attached) He reported a balance of £5522.04 and he reported that the Friends had raised £20.000 since the formation of the Friends. One standing order had been stopped. Anne said that there was about £30 outstanding on the pew cushions.

Christmas Cards

Simon congratulated Anne on the success of the Christmas Cards. It was unfortunate that the Primary School had a venture of their own, producing packs of cards of the children's artwork. Consequently they declined to sell the Friends cards produced by the children. Anne thought there was room to appeal to different markets – maybe a different strategy could be put in place for next Christmas. There was a demand for a church photograph card, as well as the children's cards. Anne suggested a competition at the Bacton show again, but to open it up to adults: art, photography and computer enhanced work. It was thought that a better quality paper could used for the adult cards. It was agreed in principle that this would

be the way forward and details to be worked out at a later date, but a notice put in the Parish Magazine as soon as possible, to give people a chance to take some pictures of the church in the snow, if we had any! There was some discussion about calendars and Advent calendars in the future.

Bacton Church Ale Folk Night. 13th May

All members had received the meeting notes from the sub committee formed to re-think the event. Janice said that Ray Bartrum had not been happy with the decision to hold the event on the Sunday, but since then, the folk night would be held in the evening, rather than from early afternoon, as was the original plan. This would have impinged on morning service. Janice to take this back to the PCC on 22nd January with the new proposals. Barbara thought the PCC would have no objection to the event being held on the Sunday.

It was suggested that the entrance should be £7.50. Pip has suggested a couple of professional groups, as the main part of the concert, also some local performers but nothing could be done about booking until the PCC had cleared the date. A licence would be required to sell the beer. A brewery had been found who would produce beer at a very competitive price. At this point it was not known how much the groups were likely to cost. It was agreed that there should be a budget set for the event. Pip, Dick and Simon to negotiate a budget. Dick pointed out that although the Russian concert was a tremendous success, the Friends made very little profit for the amount of work it took. Once the PCC had agreed the date, plans could go ahead.

Benefice Concert

Pulham Market Village Orchestra are performing at a Benefice Concert at Cotton Church on May 19th. Simon hoped that this would be well supported by the Friends. It was agreed that a 'Year Planner' should be put in place, so that we can pace ourselves through the year. Helen suggested reviving the Village Hog Roast, which until recent years was an annual event.

Any other business

Anne suggested we needed to look at the year's activities. We now knew what the money makers were. We needed to decide if we were going to do something at the Bacton Show. Rose had received donations of a lot of children's toys. It was agreed that the Friends could hold something for children at the Friends stand at the Bacton Fayre.

Tony Finbow had offered land for the 2007 Metal Detecting Day. It was agreed that this event was the biggest fundraiser of the year, and if we could procure 70 acres, more people could be invited. It was agreed to hold a strategy meeting next month.

'Creative Arts East' provide entertainers locally. Agreed that they were worth investigation www.creativeartseast.co.uk.

Date of next meeting: Thursday February 8th at Old Manor Cottage at 7.30pm

