

**A meeting of the Friends of St Mary's, Bacton,  
held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2007  
Manor Farm Cottage 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  
Roger  
Winston  
Richard Peaty  
Janice Shea

**Welcome and apologies**

Apologies received from Pip Wright, Helen Thomson, Carol Milward

**Minutes of the meeting on Thursday January 11<sup>th</sup>**

Agreed by Rose as a true copy of the meeting, Peggy seconded

**Matters arising**

Metal Detecting – Simon hoped that land could be acquired for the metal detecting day – to be held as little earlier -end of August, beginning of September. All agreed to leave this with Simon.

Christmas Cards - Anne had put an article in the Parish Magazine outlining plans for the competition this year- opening up the competition to adults, and including photography. Ann said that she would be away for the Bacton Fayre, but would be happy to organise the competition. There was discussion about when the competition would be judged. Andy offered to provide the display boards.

Pew Cushions - were nearly completed.

**Financial Report**

The Treasurer circulated the routine monthly financial report. (copy attached ) He reported a balance of £5618.77, with about £200 per year being raised in interest. The end of the Financial Year is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Anne suggested that an 'expression of interest' regarding standing orders with the Friends be put in the Parish Magazine. Simon suggested this could be discussed at the March meeting.

**Forward Strategy**

It was decided that two concerts, the sponsored children's church talk, the Bacton Fayre and the Metal Detecting Day was about the right amount of events for the year. Any more was considered to be stretching the Friends too much, as there was usually a joint event every year (eg Benefice concert or the Lions) which came with little notice.

Everyone agreed that monthly meetings were needed, but Simon stressed that it was not compulsory to attend every month!

Other issues arising -

Quiz nights with ploughmans were usually well attended

Bacton Fayre - it was suggested to have a balloon race - there was discussion about the cost and safety of helium - no decision made

The Internet - Richard P suggested the Friends made more use of the internet. There was discussion about using the Parish council web site or linking in with an appropriate website (ie historical or tracing ancestry) to be investigated

Dick said it would be helpful if the PCC had, for instance, a five year plan so that the Friends could help in planning forward strategy. It was suggested that the PCC shared with the Friends their plans for future development, which would give energy to their efforts in fundraising. There was discussion about seeking expert advice from the DAC before embarking on expensive plans for development or change.

**Bacton Church Ale Folk Night. 13<sup>th</sup> May**

All members had received a report from Pip regarding the folk Night, and expressed their thanks to Pip for all the work that he had already done towards the folk night. It was agreed by vote that the entrance should be £7.50 for adults and £5.00 for under eighteen. It was also agreed that the cost of £250 for Harvey Andrews was very acceptable. There was discussion regarding the quantity of ale to be bought. Andy thought that the Lions would be willing to buy surplus beer/ale for a Lions event. Simon to discuss ale quantity, and advertising with Pip. Andy to buy a licence for the event - £21.00

**Any other business**

Benefice Concert Simon and Peggy had offered to help. Sheila Wright was getting sponsors for the event and it was suggested that the Bacton Friends should look in to getting sponsorship for events, eg paying for printing programmes and tickets etc. It was agreed to look in to this strategically, and to discuss with Pip suitable sponsors for the Folk Night.

Sponsored school talk by Clive Paine is to be held on March 1<sup>st</sup> Barbara regretted she would not be able to attend but was happy to lend her vestments. Richard said that the event was a great success with the children. The talk would cost £60.00

Development of Roman Villa The Suffolk Archaeological service are looking to excavate the roman Villa behind the Manor. DEFRA look kindly to farmers setting aside land for archaeology, a so though that there would be little objection. The Friends would welcome and support this concept

**Date of next meeting: Thursday March 8<sup>th</sup> at August House at 7.30pm**

*Simon Paine*