

**A Meeting of the Friends of St Mary's, Bacton,
held on Thursday 10th July 2008
Old Manor Cottage
at 7.30pm.**

Charity Number 1106579

Minutes

Attendance:

Simon Holdich (Chairman	Rose Graham
Dick Middleton (Treasurer)	Ann Kent
Sue Middleton (Secretary)	Richard Peaty
Ian Armstrong	Mike Talbot
Peggy Boyer	Helen Thomson

Welcome and apologies

Apologies received from Pip Wright, Helen Thomson, Janice Shea, Andy and Angela Friend

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday March 13th

Rose proposed the minutes as a true copy of the meeting, Richard seconded all in favour.

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

Financial Report

The Treasurer circulated the routine monthly financial report. (Copy attached) The Friends had £14.462, with £13.000 on deposit.

Future Events

Bacton Fayre - 2nd August

Ann had circulated a letter asking for help at the Bacton Fayre. She asked for help with giving old 'family' recipes and making samples – then selling recipes. Sue, Ian and Liz offered to help with this. Ann also wanted Friends to donate herbs.

Helen to provide table

Ian to provide gazebo

It was agreed that Ann could spend up to £50 on providing a notice board/stand that could also be used for future events

It was hoped that Andy could produce a newsletter in time to hand out at the Fayre. This could contain information about the 2009 Pantomime (Audition dates etc) It was agreed to collect an email address list at the Fayre. This could be used for advertising future events.

Metal Detecting Day.

This is to be held on September 14th 2008. Tony Finbow has agreed to allow his land to be used, and Mike and Sarah Clare, Potash Nursery will help with buildings. A minimum of eight people were required to run the day. Arrangements for toilet facilities would have to be arranged. Food would be provided. Peggy agreed to run the raffle. Rose to buy a Coin book as a prize. She also had a jigsaw puzzle. The final arrangements for the day will be discussed at the September meeting.

Pantomime

Simon thanked Liz for helping negotiate the use of the Middle School for the pantomime 'Cinderella' on 16th and 17th January 2009. St Mary's would be, as last year, the

beneficiaries of this event along with St George's. It was agreed that there would be no late night rehearsals. Rose can call on £500 as a float for expenses.

Any Other Business

RAF Honnington Band

It was agreed to confirm the booking of a concert on 25th April 2009. The cost would be £300, and a licence would be required. Dick suggested that it would be an asset to have our own staging and lighting to call on for events in the church. Liz suggested that this would be part of the refurbishment project.

Stowmarket Ladies Choir

Dick suggested that they could form part of a Christmas concert. It was agreed that Rose find out if they had any available dates. Liz agreed that this could be a candlelight concert. It was thought that the only expense would be the pianist.

Church Building Project

Liz explained the proposed alterations in the church. The first stage would be building the organ loft, then build the meeting room, a basic kitchen and toilet facilities, and lastly re-installing the rebuilt organ. The meeting room space would be enclosed to enable it to be heated separately. If the PCC like what the architect has produced in September, it should be possible to get the plans passed by the DAC by Spring 2009.

Phase 1 – building the shell of the organ loft, the meeting room and kitchen and toilet facilities.

Phase 2 Rebuilding and installing the organ

Phase 3 Upgrading the church as an events venue

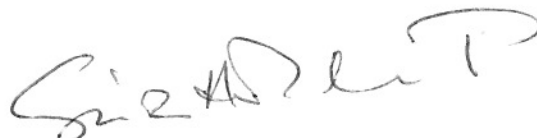
The Friends would be happy to fund the meeting room, kitchen and toilet facilities, not the rebuilding of the organ and organ loft as there are separate funds available for that project. As far as it was known, there had been no quinquennial report so far.

A electric organ would be made available during this period. Liz was hoping that tutoring for young organists could be a part of this project, as there was a need to bring on the next generation of organists, and show young people what an exciting instrument the organ is. Dick suggested this could be done in conjunction with the Cotton Mechanical Museum.

The PCC have had a lot of re-pointing done to the flint work on the south side of the church. It was understood that the cost would be around £1000.. All agreed to fund this.

(Afternote – cost of pointing is confirmed as £2395.30, payment of which has been agreed by all trustees after this meeting)

If the PCC want to apply for a grant to enable the church to be a community events venue, it would be advantageous to them to add the Friend's constitution activities and achievements, particularly the educational and community aspects.



Next Meeting to be held at Mill House Farm on September 11th at 7.30