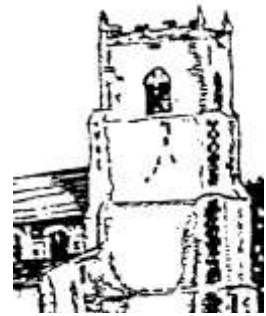


The Friends of St Mary's, Bacton
Thursday 10th March 2011 at Church Cottage
Registered Charity Number 1106579



Minutes

Present:

Simon Holdich (Trustee, Chairman)
Claire Bissett (Treasurer)
Peggy Boyer (Trustee)
Rose Graham (Trustee)
Sue Middleton (Trustee, secretary)
Dick Middleton (Trustee)
Janice Shea
Mike Talbot
Rvd Liz Varley

Welcome and apologies. Apologies were received from Pip Wright, Norma Lambert (Trustee) Angela Friend, Andrew Friend (Trustee, Membership Secretary) Julia Lall, Anne Kent, Richard Peaty, Helen Thomson

Minutes of the meeting on February 10th – all in favour and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising

Financial Report:

Claire had prepared Treasurer's Report Accounts to March 2011
The balance in the accounts is **£6,218** of which £4,218 is in the current account and £2,000 in the investment account. The income for the year to date is £8,047 with expenditure and grants of £16,791, leading to a **net outflow of £8,744**. The **net income is £7,235**. All accepted the report. Liz Varley asked that monies given out should be described as grants, not donations. This would emphasise to the PCC and others that the Friends are an independent charity. Claire said that insurance payments were up to date and that there would be very little change in the accounts at year end, which is March 31st.

Company of Friends Village Variety Show 25th and 26th March 2011. Helen Hardy had prepared a rota for helpers – these were handed out at the meeting. Any raffle prizes would be gratefully received by Helen Hardy, The Old Rectory, Wyverstone.

Ruby and her Horses May 20th

Rose had received all the advertising material and handed round a draft ticket, which was approved. It was agreed to serve red and white wine at £2 a glass, and fruit juice 50p. Light refreshments i.e. sausage rolls and a vegetarian option would be given free with a drink. Liz offered any wine which was left over from the Community Room opening could be used. Simon offered to ask John Gooderham if the Manor can be used for car parking. It was suggested that parking arrangements should be printed on the tickets. Peggy to enquire if the Scout HQ chairs could be borrowed for the evening. Liz pointed out that the balcony could be used as an extra seating area whilst there was no organ. .

Church Weekend, SNAP and Dates for the Diary

Liz said she was apprehensive about having the Church Weekend in June because of other commitments by the PCC. The Friends were not leading on this weekend, and it was the

new SNAP committee who should lead on this. It was decided that this should be postponed for a variety of reasons and move it to the early autumn.. Date to be decided.

Liz invited all the Friends to a lunch reception at the opening of the Community Rooms to be held on Friday 13th May . The latest date for completion is 7th April, but connection to the mains water cannot take place until after the school breaks up on 11th April.

A meeting will be held on March 23rd in St Marys, to discuss future community projects and how best to use the new facility for the benefit of the whole community. Various representatives of community project had been invited, and everyone was welcome to attend the meeting. There has been difficulty in finding suitable comfortable chairs for the relaxation area, Dick suggested the Corporate furniture shop at Gloster Road, Martlesham Heath. The new carpet had been chosen and it was hoped that this would continue down the aisle at a later stage when some restoration had been completed. The door curtain is to be altered, and the wheelchair ramp to be realigned to make it safer.

It was hoped to keep the church unlocked during the day so that it would be easily accessible. There were many ways to use the building for the benefit of the community, from mentoring the unemployed in finding work to helping people living in isolation. It was hoped there would be a pastoral visit from Tanzania 22th-29th June
All agreed that the work was being done to a very high standard.

Any other Business

Dick suggested that rather than Friends' meetings being held in our homes they should be held in the community rooms once they are completed. It was agreed that it could be excluding to people, who may well be happy to come to the community room but might be unwilling to turn up to someone's home. It was agreed in principle to do this.

Liz reminded the Friends of the inauguration of Julia Lall on June 25th at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, to which everyone was cordially invited. There being no other business Simon closed the meeting and thanked Sue and Dick for their hospitality

Date and Venue of next meeting April 14th at Mill House Farm at 7.30

Dates for the diary:-

April 14 th	Friends meeting	Mill House Farm
March 23 rd		Community Project Meeting St Marys
May 13 th		Opening of the Community Rooms
March 25 and 26		Village Concert - Wyverstone Village Hall
May 20 th		Ruby and her Horses - St Marys Bacton
June 30 th		Friends AGM
September 18 th		Metal Detecting

To: The Friends of St Mary's, Bacton
Progress Report: St Mary's Neighbourhood Action Project – Build Phase.
From: Helen [Friends rep on the SNAP sub-committee]

Our contractor (F A Valiant & Son Ltd) hopes to be finished on schedule by **8th April** as the work is going well. The lower level work on the large cracks on the wall has been completed (where the toilet will go). The upper parts of these cracks have been opened, for some exploratory work, and will be repaired over the next few weeks. These cracks appear to have been from the site of a window that has been filled in with flint. Revd Liz is progressing with a grant application to Suffolk Historic Churches who seem to be sympathetic about this unexpected work. All plaster-boarding and plaster skimming is complete. All the services first fix work is complete except the connections within the servery area. The staircase construction (joinery) is 90% complete and balustrade construction 20% complete. Door jambs are fitted and the south door frame and fanlight are fitted. The flooring works are all complete. Over the next few weeks the doors will be hung, decorations will start and the services second fix will then start. The balustrade joinery work will continue as well. The vinyl flooring in front of the servery will go down, the tiles on the outside perimeter of the room and the quarry tiles in the toilet. The carpet has been chosen and Andrew Stringer will be laying this after the contractor has completed his work.

R&D Construction will be connecting the water services. To do the work on the road they need a licence from Suffolk County Council (SCC) Highways Department. SCC will not allow them to do any work during school term time so, all being well, they hope to start on 11th April when the school is having the Easter Holiday. We can't use the toilet or servery sinks until this work is complete.

Brian Manley is paying the bills as they come in and then invoicing our grant providers. The PCC have met to approve the release of some investments. We're still chasing grants for both the build and the organ fund and also looking for funding for the SNAP Community Project. We have a fair way to go with the organ funding and I believe that the work may be complete on this by Sept/Oct. (The other subcommittee members (apart from Brian & me) are Revd Liz, Revd Julia & David Black.)

It had been proposed that we might have an opening party on 15th April. Because of the water situation this has been postponed and a date has yet to be fixed.

I think everyone who came to look on the evening of 3rd March was thoroughly impressed!

As soon as the building work is complete our work on this subcommittee will be over. I think that we should feel pleased that we have done our bit for this project raising £90,000 in grants. However, there is still considerable, and much longer term, work to be done on the SNAP Community Projects and I believe that Revd. Liz will be asking for Volunteers to help with this. She has some wonderful and very worthwhile ideas and will need a lot of help & support to get these going

