

The Friends of St Mary's, Bacton
Thursday, March 8th 2012
At Church Cottage

Registered Charity Number 1106579

Minutes



Present:

Simon Holdich (Trustee, Chairman)
Andy Friend (Trustee, Membership Secretary)
Angela Friend
Penny Harris
Anne Kent
Revd Julia Lall
Sue Middleton (Trustee, Secretary)
Richard Middleton (Trustee)
Richard Peaty
Mike Talbot
Helen Thomson
Claire Bissett (Treasurer)
Janice Shea
Revd Liz Varley

Welcome and apologies. Apologies were received from Peggy Boyer, (Trustee) (Trustee) Norma Lambert, (Trustee) Pip Wright, Rose Graham (Trustee)

Minutes of the meeting on 10th November 2011 – all in favour and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

Position of Chair

Simon said that he will stand down at the AGM in June, and thought that a time limit should be placed on the length of chairmanship. This would be less daunting if the term of office was set at, say, two years. Liz said that Simon had given the job tremendous energy, which was much appreciated. Sue said that it may be helpful to have a vice chair. The length of terms of office for the other positions should also be considered, although it was thought an exception may be the post of treasurer as it entailed more changes than other posts. It was agreed that 'spreading the load' would make filling posts easier. It was suggested holding a meeting on April 12th solely to discuss the changes in the key posts. All in favour. Any changes needed to be made to the constitution could happen at the AGM

Financial Report:

Claire's Financial Report had been previously circulated to the Friends:

Summary for the 11 months to end of February 2012

The balance in the accounts stood at **£11,800** at the end of October, of which £1,800 is in the current account and £10,000 in the investment account.

The total income for the year so far is £6,427 with expenditure of £911 leading to a **net inflow of £5,516.**

There have been two main fundraising events so far this year; Ruby and Her Horses which raised £459 and Metal Detecting which raised £3,212. A donation of £450 has been received from the Company of Friends from the proceeds of their Variety Show. We have also received £483 from HMRC for Gift Aid tax relief relating to donations in the 2010/11 financial year.

Metal Detecting Day on 2nd September.

Simon is happy to continue organising the Metal Detecting Day. Everyone expressed appreciation of this as it raises so much money. He said that he would begin to contact people next month. It was now the law to have formal consent from the local archaeological authorities and English Heritage. The proposed land is at Finningham, one 100 acre field, 'Big Field' and another smaller called 'God's Own'. It was thought that there was one barn that would be usable. There was a water supply, and the offer of Helen and Gordon's generator would solve the electricity problem. Simon to contact Mark Black regarding porta-loos. Helen would investigate prices. There were no points of reference in the fields on the map so Helen was going to mark some – pond or telegraph pole as points of reference. There was parking space available.

Pantomime

It was agreed that the pantomime had been a triumph, and extremely well attended. Claire had not got the final figures, so did not yet know how much the donation to Friends would be.

SNAP Report

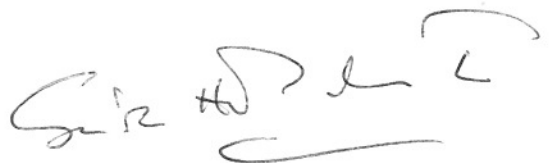
Julia reported on SNAP activity progress. Existing activities were gaining support and the numbers of people through the church doors had increased significantly. There were plans for an up to date church leaflet. Julia would like to see more people in the community to give time so that the church could be open more frequently and asked the Friends to look out for people who would like to help, and to encourage the use of the community room for small meetings. There was discussion about holding a history evening with adults and children Liz said that it would be wise to book the room well in advance through Linda Last PCC secretary, but always remembering that any church activity, for example, a funeral, would always have to take priority. Simon thanked Julia for her update of the SNAP activities, and said that as individuals, we were happy to help, indeed many were already involved.

Any other Business –

A proposed meeting with the PPC in the church was discussed again, so that the Friends, with the PCC, can identify the spending priorities regarding the maintenance of the fabric of the church. It was thought that the Friends would not be required to contribute to the reinstatement of the organ. The Friends were happy to contribute to the changes required to make the church more "user friendly" for concerts by moving the rood screen and making choir stalls and some of the front pews movable. It was agreed that Sue would write to Linda Last to suggest representatives from the Friends attend the PCC meeting on June 26th to share ideas about future projects.

**Next Meeting Thursday April 12th 2012
to be held in the Community Room St Mary's at 7.30**

Dates for the diary:-
Friends Meeting April 12th 2012
Metal Detecting September 2nd 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sue', written over a horizontal line.