

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S BACTON

Minutes of a meeting held in the community room on 8.9.2012

Present at meeting:

Sue Middleton (standing in for chairman), Richard Middleton, Rose Graham, Norma Lambert, Angela Friend, Richard Peaty, Ann Kent (standing in for secretary).

1. **Welcome and apologies.** Sue Middleton welcomed all present and thanked everyone for their help at the successful metal detection day, held on Sunday September 2. Apologies were received from: Simon Holdich, Liz Varley, Mike Talbot, Claire Bisset, Andrew Friend.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting.** The minutes of the previous meeting on April 12, 2012, were agreed unanimously.
3. **Matters arising.** There were no matters arising.
4. **Financial report.** The balance in the accounts stands at £17,340 of which £7,340 was in the current account and £10,000 in the investment account. After some discussion, it was agreed to ask the treasurer to place a further £6,000 in the investment account, provided that this money can be accessed quickly if required.
5. **Metal Detecting Day, Green Farm, Farningham – report.** Everyone agreed this was an extremely successful and enjoyable fund raising event which had involved most of the committee and a number of additional helpers. As usual, the feedback from those who attended was extremely positive.
Suggestions for further improvements included: one tea urn at each end of the refreshment table with the cakes in the middle, to avoid people crossing over with hot drinks; small boxes to hold cakes bought at the end of the event ; more milk at the outset as an additional eight pints were purchased during the event; fresh teabags and sugar for each event; at least two people on the finds table once it becomes busy; numbered squares on the finds table so that items can be replaced in the right place; parking wardens to help the safe departure of attendees, especially at busy times; bigger finds maps in order to accommodate finds; a display of historical information about the fields being explored; an additional finds photographer to give Gavin a break or an additional photographer using own equipment and an SD card so the pictures could be handed over to Rose immediately at the end . Another possibility discussed by the committee was that it could be helpful to appoint an events manager, to move helpers to where they were needed most, deal with any problems as they arose, and be generally a person to go to for assistance.
6. **PCC Report.** Sue Middleton reported that she was still waiting for the PCC report on its priorities for church repairs and refurbishment.
7. **Any other business.** Rose reminded the committee that the Friends had not yet held a thank-you event for people who had been particularly helpful to FOSM. It was agreed that this should be arranged, and that a date between April 1 and May 19 would be most suitable.
8. **Date of next meeting.** The community room is not free on October 11 and it was agreed to hold the second meeting on November 8 – the second Thursday of the month – in the community room.