

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S MINUTES

Minutes of meeting held in the community room on March 13, 2014.

1. The meeting was **attended** by Mike Talbot, Simon Holdich, Andy Friend, Angela Friend, Norma Lambert, Peggy Boyer, Richard Peaty, Sue Middleton (chairman), Helen Thomson, Dick Middleton, Claire Bissett (treasurer) and Ann Kent (secretary).
Apologies were received from Pip Wright, Liz Varley, Janice Shea and Penny Harris.
2. The **minutes** of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and there were no other matters arising (apart from those listed on the agenda below).
3. The treasurer presented the **financial report** and stated that the balance stood at £16,115 at the end of February. This did not include monies received from ticket sales of the forthcoming metal detecting rally. The murder mystery event had raised £893 after expenses. The chairman suggested that Ann Kent should be reimbursed for the cost of attending the Level 2 Food Safety course - £55. This was agreed.
4. Helen Thomson outlined the detailed plans for the **metal detecting** day on Sunday March 16. Simon Holdich reported that he expected about 185 detectorists plus a handful of field walkers to attend. It was agreed that raffle tickets should be sold for £1 each but if there were complaints then we would revert to the earlier system of £1 a strip at the next event.
5. Helen Thomson reported on the progress of the **East End project**. There is currently a faculty application for this before the Diocesan Advisory Committee. The project involves the relocation of the parclose screen (which is currently positioned as an altar screen between the nave and chancel) and making some front pews and choir pews removable. These changes would create more space for concerts and other public performances. The archdeacon has said it is within his remit to give permission for these changes to be made on a temporary basis – 15-18 months provided there are no objections. If he does this, then the current faculty could be withdrawn. However before this can happen the arch deacon wishes to hear the opinion of the diocesan advisor on wooden structures. If the archdeacon feels able to sanction the changes, the faculty could be re-submitted at a later date.
6. Ann Kent reported on the **angels project**. The arch deacon and deputy DAC secretary had met with some Friends and PCC representatives on February 14 to report back on the views of English Heritage and the Church Buildings Council. These two bodies asked for evidence that angels had originally been attached to the hammerbeams and the CBC also suggested that other sculptors should be invited to submit designs. The archdeacon felt that the DAC was unlikely to agree the project as it stood. The DAC would be meeting to consider its response on March 21.
7. Committee members agreed that the **murder mystery** had been a success, with plenty of positive feedback from those who had attended. Some concern was expressed that the venue was overcrowded and the idea of repeating it using Wyverstone village hall was briefly considered. However the meeting felt that it was best to keep it as a Bacton event, even if it was necessary to reduce the number of tables. Ann Kent pointed out that the kitchen had been entirely staffed by people from other organisations and if we repeated it, then more volunteers from the Friends committee would be needed.
8. Any other business. The chairman reported that she was in contact with Peter Gipson about a **WW1 history** event which he hoped to hold in the village in August. The church would be the preferred venue, but it was currently uncertain whether the East End changes could be reported in time.
9. **Date of next meeting.** May 8 Old Manor Cottage, Bacton Community Room, 6.30.