

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S MINUTES

Minutes of meeting held on May 8, 2014, at Old Manor Cottage, Bacton.

1. Welcome and apologies. The meeting was attended by Mike Talbot, Andy Friend, Angela Friend, Peggy Boyer, Dick Middleton, Claire Bisset (treasurer), Liz Varley (rector), Sue Middleton (chairman), Richard Peaty, Ann Kent (secretary). Apologies were received from Helen Thomson, Pip Wright, Norma Lambert, Janice Shea, Simon Holdich, Penny Harris. Sue Middleton said she had received a letter from the secretary of the PCC, thanking the Friends committee for their fundraising efforts.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.
3. Financial report. The treasurer, Claire Bisset, provided a summary for the 12 months to the end of March 2014. The net flow of income for the year was £10,215 and the balance in the accounts stood at £20,647. Dick Middleton suggested that the money which had been ring fenced for the purchase of an angel for the church roof should now be released into the general pot. However, the committee voted to keep the status quo, on the grounds that the £3,500 concerned had not been placed in a separate fund and would be available if needed for urgent repairs. Dick Middleton dissented.
4. AGM. The chairman reported that no one had come forward seeking office at the AGM. She, Ann Kent, Andy Friend (membership secretary) and Claire Bisset were happy to continue for another year, unless someone else wishes to stand at the meeting on June 12. Angela Friend said that she wished to stand down from the committee, but would continue to help at events.
5. East End Project. The parclose screen has now been removed, opening up the chancel and the view of the east window. However the PCC has said that it only wants three front pews to be movable, not the five front pews, which were originally part of the scheme. The PCC had also decided against making the four child sized choir pews movable. All this had originally been approved by the PCC at a meeting on 20th October 2013.
6. The angels project. Clive Paine had been able to establish to the satisfaction of the DAC that there were indeed carved angels on the hammerbeams at St Mary's. Nevertheless, Ann Kent reported that the DAC had turned down the faculty, partly on the grounds that they felt the project might never be completed. However they had suggested that it might be possible to agree a project for two angels to be set up in the canopy of honour, paid for by donations. The DAC had made no guarantees, however. The Angels steering group was currently looking into this possibility and considering whether the two angels might be dedicated to the Middle School and the late Robin Jack. Ultimately the wish would be to install the planned 18 angels.
7. The World War one history event including a concert by Gislingham brass band, will be held in St. Mary's on October 11. Sue Middleton reported a good turnout at the last meeting to arrange this, with plenty of interest from other organisations. The capacity of the church for fire regulations needs to be checked. The Friends will pay for the band and arrange the bar, but expect to recover the costs of both from ticket sales. There was some discussion about what might happen if the ticket sales did not cover this, but committee members felt this was unlikely. Andy Friend will arrange a drinks licence.
8. Any other business: Liz Varley thanked the committee for their fund raising efforts and apologised for not being able to attend the AGM owing to a prior engagement.
9. Date of next meeting: AGM 7 p.m. community room on Thursday June 12.
10. Other diary date: WW1 history event and concert, St. Mary's church, October 11.