

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, BACTON

MINUTES OF MEETING ON JUNE 12 2014

1. The meeting was held in the Community Room of St. Mary's immediately after the AGM. The chairman, Sue Middleton welcomed those **attending**: Pip Wright, Claire Bisset (treasurer), Andy Friend (membership secretary), Peggy Boyer, Simon Holdich, Dick Middleton, Richard Peaty and Ann Kent (secretary). **Apologies** were received from Liz Varley (rector), Norma Lambert, Penny Harris, Helen Thomson and Mike Talbot.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting on May 8 were agreed.
3. The financial situation had not changed since the **annual accounts** were presented at the previous meeting. Insurance is up for renewal in August.
4. The **East End Project**. The PCC has been granted a licence to make four choir pews and five nave pews movable. However at a recent meeting the PCC decided that it wished that only three pews should be movable. The Friends committee voted unanimously to ask the PCC to reconsider. The wording is as follows: *The Friends of St. Mary's would like to request the PCC to reconsider its decision on the proposed alterations to the East End. We had originally asked for five nave pews and the children's choir stalls to be made movable. These alterations would not be visible when the church is in normal use and all the furniture is back in place. Moving this number of pews and stalls would create an optimum performance space for the occasional community or fund raising concert, such as the St. George's Day concert. Our aim is to encourage the wider community to use St. Mary's and also to raise funds for the maintenance of the building. None of us would wish to do anything to interfere with the religious function of St. Mary's or spoil its appearance.* The committee agreed to **thank Helen Thomson** for all her hard work for researching all the options and establishing how these changes might be carried out.
5. Sue Middleton reported that pupils at Bacton Middle School had been asked to submit their designs for a **school angel**. The best of these would be judged by the sculptor Rob Lewis and fed into the final design. Amanda Manley, who is a skilled artist, will produce drawings to be submitted to the DAC. The hope is that if the DAC agrees two angels, it may allow further angels to be added to the nave roof in future. Liz Varley has commissioned Mr Lewis to sculpt a small angel, which will become the design prototype.
6. Plans for the **WW1 history event** to be held in the church are proceeding well, and committee members are asked to save the date – October 11 – to help on the night. An admin meeting will be held on July 11 which the Friends are welcome to attend.
7. **Fund raising ideas** were discussed with members keen to hold a repeat St. George's concert, murder mystery evening, call my wine bluff as well as the best fund raisers of all – the metal detecting events. Andy Friend agreed to help with the details of the wine event, as he has experience of similar events with the Lions and a provisional time frame was set for late November. We will need to sell tickets and book the village hall early as this may coincide with other Christmas events. The nearest Saturday to St. George's Day is April 25, but as a band will be required the final arrangements will depend on the space available in the church. Dick Middleton commented that a thank-you event, similar to the one previously arranged, would also be desirable. Dates for this, along with metal detecting days and another murder mystery, will be decided later.
8. **Date of next meeting**: September 11 in the community room.

Dates for Diary: WW1 – admin meeting, Community Room, 7.30 July 11; WW1 event October 11; wine bluff, late November tba.