

## MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETING OF FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S, BACTON

1. Welcome and apologies. The meeting was held at Church Cottage, Bacton on November 13, 2014. Sue Middleton (chairman) welcomed those attending: Richard Peaty, Ann Kent (secretary), Liz Varley (rector), Simon Holdich, Mike Talbot and Claire Bisset (treasurer). Apologies were received from Andy Friend, Peggy Boyer, Pip Wright, Janice Shea, Richard Middleton and Helen Thomson.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting on September 11 were agreed as a true record.
3. Matters arising: Claire Bisset reported that a donation of £725 had been received from the Company of Friends. The secretary was asked to write thanking Mark Wilson and other members of the company for this generous sum. Liz Varley suggested that leaflets inviting people to sign standing orders for the Friends could be placed in the church during the well attended Christingle service.
4. Financial report: The treasurer, Claire Bisset, reported that the balance in the accounts stood at £13,147 at the end of October, of which £4,094 is in the current account, £9,000 is in the investment account and £53 in petty cash. A grant had been made to the PCC Fabric Fund of £9,000 towards quinquennial repairs. It was agreed that another £7,000 could be made available when needed.
5. WW1 concert. The chairman commented that this very successful collaborative event between village organisations had showed how the church could be used by the wider community – one of the aims of the Friends of St. Mary's. Although fund raising had not been the main aim, the 1914 concert raised £795 for the Poppy Appeal.
6. Angels project. Liz Varley reported that the faculty application had been lodged with the Diocesan Advisory Committee and we were waiting for their response.
7. The wine tasting quiz. Ann Kent reported that arrangements were well under way but that assistance would be needed from committee members on the night – and a few more ticket sales would be welcome.
8. Metal detecting 2015. Simon Holdich reported that the next metal detecting event was now likely to be at the end of August on "virgin" land at Cow Green.
9. Any other business. Richard Peaty reported that he and Dick Middleton had discussed the possibility of building wooden staging to create a level performance area at the east end of the church. The committee asked them to draw up some preliminary plans and costings while emphasising it would be necessary to obtain the support of the PCC before such a project could go ahead.  
Sue Middleton reminded the committee of the deteriorating state of the Doom painting over the chancel arch. The PCC was struggling to find the three quotes needed for an expert opinion before they could release funds. The Friends decided to release up to £1500 for an expert opinion in order to speed up the process.

Date of next meeting: This was originally put at December 4, but because several members later reported they could not attend, **the date has been changed to 7.30 on December 11 at the Middletons house, Church Cottage, Bacton.**