

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, BACTON

Minutes of a meeting held 11.12.2014 at Church Cottage, Bacton

1. The meeting was attended by Canon Barbara Bilston, Simon Holdich, Richard Peaty, Janice Shea, Pip Wright, Mike Talbot, Sue Holdich, Richard Middleton, Helen Thomson, Peggy Boyer, Norma Lambert, Ann Kent (secretary), Sue Middleton (chair). **Apologies** were received from Andy Friend, Claire Bisset (treasurer) and the Rev. Liz Varley.
2. The **minutes** of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record (proposed Simon Holdich, seconded Mike Talbot).
3. **Angels Project:** Sue Middleton reported that the Angels Project was still waiting to hear from the Diocesan Advisory Committee. The PCC had been informed by the DAC secretary that the application had been sent on to the heritage organisations. However there was still an unresolved issue about the commissioning process and Canon Bilston commented that this was an important part of getting permission. SM and AK said they felt it was important to keep this as a local project, using the highly skilled sculptor who had been involved throughout.
4. Sue Middleton reported that the **wine quiz** had been a success with positive feedback from those who had attended. She thanked David Hammond for kindly organising and running the quiz. However the event highlighted the need for more helpers on the night.
5. The **financial position** had not changed apart from the proceeds from the wine quiz which had raised £388.70 after expenses.*
6. Sue Middleton reported that the Friends would shortly be meeting with the PCC to find out the progress of works detailed in the **quinquennial report**. The PCC had already secured some money from grant making trusts. One possible issue is the condition of the tower roof. Canon Tony Redman is to project manage the preservation of the **Doom painting**. Ann Kent proposed that Canon Bilston should pass on the Friends concern about the deteriorating state of the painting to Canon Redman. This was seconded by Simon Holdich.
7. Richard Peaty reported that he and Richard Middleton were exploring options for creating **removable staging** for the east end of the church. Options include ordering this readymade or making it themselves.
8. The committee agreed to pay for the **illumination of the church** over the Christmas period, up to the sum of £50.
9. The need to **recruit** more Friends - people to help at events rather than necessarily attend committee meetings – was also discussed. Helen Thomson suggested that something might be written in the parish magazine with a form which would be volunteers might fill in. Helen reported that she had been in touch with the Middle School (which closes down in the summer) to see if there is equipment which might be useful for concerts or other productions.
10. The poor state of the **wiring** of the church was also raised, and it was suggested that the area outside the porch should be illuminated. Canon Bilston said she would be making a Visitation to the church in the next two or three months to examine the condition of the building and the implementation of the quinquennial report.

*A further £16 has been collected bringing the proceeds to £409.70