

**Minutes of the Meeting of
The Friends of St Mary's, Bacton**

**Thursday 10th September July 2015 in St Mary's Church
Community Room**

(Registered' Charity No.1106579)

Present: Ann Kent (Chair, Trustee)
Simon Holdich (Trustee)
Revd Barbara Bilston
Andy Friend (Trustee, Membership secretary)
Janice Shea,
Helen Thomson,
Sarah Spink
Gary Spink
Sue Middleton (Trustee, secretary)
Dick Middleton (Trustee)
Mike Talbot
Peggy Boyer (Trustee)

1. Welcome and apologies. Ann welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that the following had offered their apologies: Claire Bissett, Richard Peaty, Keith Parsons, Pip Wright

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

The Minutes of the previous meeting on September 10th. Mike Talbot proposed, and Helen Thomson seconded the minutes as a true record and were accepted unanimously.

3. Matters Arising:

Helen reported that the lights outside the church are installed, except for the light on the school - awaiting access. Installation of movement sensor lights: The light above the tower door replaced. The corner light replaced. The light above the oil tank checked. The light above the outside the main church porch door has a sensor added to it.

Doom Painting –Andrea Kirkham had produced an extensive report on the work required on the Doom Painting. The estimate was in the region of £23,000. James Halsall to advise on where funds could be available. PCC to project manage this project. The Friends would consider seed money for this
Dry Rot –on the agenda.

4. Financial Report There was no Financial Report to report. Claire awaiting the final figures for the Metal Detecting Day, which should be approximately £4,500

5. Metal Detecting Day – Feedback. Everyone agreed that the day had been a great success. There were over 200 detectorists on the 100 acres on Canham's Farm. Extra burgers and baps were bought during the day. There was too much cake. Suggested

that all cakes be labelled by the makers and then cut on site, so they can all be the same size and that the cake makers limited themselves to two cakes each. More juice was required; there were requests for cola. Suggested large bottles rather than cans. Look into sale or return from the shop.

Registration, finds and photography were situated in the tent, which worked well. There was a good supply of water and electricity. Toilets were provided by Karzees.

Find of the day was a 14th century gold ring with sapphire stone, engraved with 'Ave Maria and Gracia'. This is yet to be verified. Andy was forwarding photos to Ben Crosswell, Estate Manager, Orwell Park. The legal niceties of profit sharing and ownership have yet to be determined. The young man who found it was given £20 as it was felt inappropriate to give him the usual bottle of whisky.

It was reported that some people had not been filling their holes. Simon pointed out that they are told to do so in his introduction. It was suggested that it may be worth having a loud hailer, as it's sometimes difficult for everyone to hear. Thanks were extended to Jeffries family for the loan and erection of their tent, which they had done early Sunday morning as it had been too windy on the previous evening. All letters of thanks, and where appropriate, gifts had been sent.

A coin, possibly Elizabethan, but in a damaged state, went missing from the Finds Table. The detectorist was reimbursed with his £20 entrance fee. It was agreed that another pair of hands on the finds table would have been helpful. Ann Kent felt staffing was tight and that a few more volunteers would have allowed more flexibility and made it possible for more people to have breaks.

6. Dry Rot – Valiant had been contacted to look at the dry rot which had recently been found in the floor of the North Aisle. This work has become a priority. The Aisle is cordoned off, and it is hoped that the work can be done before Remembrance Day Service. The initial estimate was about £1,200 for the removal of the pews and £800 for the treatment but it was looking increasingly likely it would be far more. The Trustees of the Friends would look favourably on granting funds for this and would indicate to this the PCC.

7. Any other business – Andy, The Friends Membership Secretary reported that he understood that the PCC secretary was to assume responsibility for the music licences for the church, all correspondence going to him. Clarification on this is required, as the Friends have until now taken responsibility to acquire and pay for licences for their concerts.

Thank you Event – 6th May was floated as possible date, but having agreed that a pianist would be good entertainment, Helen was asked if she could sound out some pianists for May or the second half of June.

Rev'd Barbara Bilston reported that the organ was nearly completed. An organ recital was suggested as a future event.

Wine tasting event: Suggested that rather than French wines, we could use supermarket wines, as favourites would be available to buy. Gary agreed to help with wine supply if we had another event. No date planned.

St Georges Day was a great success previously and another could be considered, although finding a band was now more difficult.

The next meeting will be held on November 12th in the Community Rooms at 7.30

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**The date of the next meeting will July 30th at 7.30
in the Community Room**