

## FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S BACTON

MINUTES OF TRUSTEES MEETING, 15.01.2015

1. The meeting was held in the community room Bacton and **attended** by Sue Middleton (chair), Dick Middleton, Richard Peaty, Andy Friend, Peggy Boyer, Simon Holdich, Ann Kent (secretary). **Apologies** were received from Norma Lambert and Claire Bisset (treasurer).
2. **The minutes of the previous meeting** on January 9, 2014, were accepted as a true record. (Simon Holdich proposed, Dick Middleton seconded).
3. The **financial report** was presented by Dick Middleton in the absence of the treasurer. The balance in the accounts stood at £13,775 of which £4,701 was in the current account, £9,000 in the investment account and £74 in petty cash.
4. **Fund raising** measures were discussed. Simon Holdich reported that he was still trying to arrange a suitable date – possibly in the autumn for the **metal detecting**. Ann Kent will investigate whether it is possible to hold another **murder mystery event** – a provisional date of April 18 was suggested.\* Sue pointed out that the wine tasting and previous murder mystery events had highlighted **a lack of helpers**. The secretary was asked to contact the people who had offered to help while not attending committee meetings if they could be available. Although not a fund raiser, Dick Middleton suggested another **thank you event** might be held in the late summer – and the desirability of organising an event which might attract families with children was also discussed. A Christmas tree festival was also discussed but the committee did not want to pursue the idea this year.
5. Dick Middleton reported on a meeting with Brian Manley and David Black, treasurer and chairman respectively of the PCC. This was to discuss **spending priorities** arising from the quinquennial. The combination of monies in the PCC fabric fund, plus a VAT repayment, combined with FOSM funds meant that there would be £32,000 available for necessary maintenance works. In addition the PCC had received a grant of £500 to pay a conservation expert to inspect and report on the state of the **Doom painting** over the chancel arch. It was expected that a grant should be available to conserve the deteriorating painting. In addition to the items listed in the quinquennial report, the PCC wish **to repair and re-roof the top of the tower** and it was anticipated that this might cost about £6,000.
6. As far as the **East End Project** was concerned, Dick said that the PCC had little enthusiasm for the proposal to make the pews movable. They preferred the concept of **removable staging** – an idea which is being investigated by Dick and Richard Peaty.
7. **Funding**. It was agreed to provide up to £8,000 from PCC funds to the PCC for the maintenance of St. Mary. (proposed Sue Middleton, seconded Ann Kent).
8. Sue Middleton outlined the situation with the **Angels Project**. The PCC had now granted permission for two angels, but had asked for a commissioning process. A panel was being set up under the chairmanship of Canon Barbara Bilston to advise on this. The panel consisted of one project member (Ann Kent), two nominees from the DAC, a museum curator, PCC representative and congregation representative. Ann Kent said she was hoping to persuade the panel to allow the project to go ahead with the designs and sculptor which had already been chosen. She and Sue felt it was important to keep the project local and

unnecessary to go further afield. **The trustees agreed to continue to support the project on this basis but would not be happy to grant money if the panel insisted on a competition.**

9. Sue Middleton proposed a **constitutional change**. At present three trustees represent a quorum when financial matters are being discussed. She felt that this was not enough, given that at present there were ten trustees. After some discussion it was agreed that a **quorum** should represent 50 per cent of the trustees (to be rounded up in the event of an odd number e.g. nine trustees would need a quorum of five). This proposal will be discussed at the next Friends meeting and will ultimately be raised at the next AGM.

**Dates of next meetings:** Friends meeting, Feb 12; Friends meeting April 9 – both in community room at 7.30. Next trustees meeting, provisional date Sept 10. AGM date to be decided.

\*Date of murder mystery now provisionally April 25.