

FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, 24TH JULY IN ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH
AT 7.30 P.M.**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Attendance	Wendy Brunt, June Collins, Raymond Collins, George Crozer, Rev. Stephen Gwilt (ex-officio), Elizabeth Meredith (Treasurer), Michael Meredith (Chairman), Ann Smith, Diane Welch (Secretary).	
Apologies	There were no apologies as all members of the Committee were present.	
Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 th June 2017	The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 th June, 2017 were taken as read, having been circulated prior to the Meeting and duly signed.	
Matters arising from the Minutes	The Minutes of the AGM of the Friends of St. Margaret's Church held on Monday, 22 nd May 2017 have been received from the previous Chairman. Now virtually all the paperwork has been received; there is one outstanding set of Minutes still to come.	

Finance	<p>The Public Liability Insurance of £273.00 has been paid by the Treasurer. This may not appear on the July Bank Statement.</p> <p>The Scarecrow Festival raised £229.36</p> <p>The Concert raised £445.70</p> <p>The current Bank Balance, at the end of June was £11,535.96</p> <p>There has been no change in signatories for cheques etc. at the moment.</p>	EM SG LM
Recruitment	<p>The Chairman reported that 6 people are interested in joining or re-joining the Friends of St. Margaret's. The Chairman is in conversation with the people interested. Names have been withheld for confidentiality reasons.</p> <p>The Chairman felt that we should increase the membership of the Committee by three. After much discussion it was decided to leave this matter in abeyance but call in help for particular events.</p> <p>There is, however, the provision for the Committee to co-opt at any time. Advertisements are being sent out on Facebook to publicise forthcoming activities by Tamsin Stowers.</p>	MM TS

Correspondence	<p>A letter had been received from Fred Beringer thanking the Friends for their kind words on his retirement from the Committee.</p> <p>A reply from Gary Thomas, the previous Chairman, stated that to apply for Charitable Status, the Friends need to have an income of £10,000 per year. The Committee agreed that people should be encouraged to Gift Aid their subscriptions.</p>	
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	<p>Letters of thanks to be written to Tamsin Stowers, Maggie Ryan, Ken Reynolds, the High Halstow Shop and the Red Dog.</p>	MM/DW
Flyer and Newsletter	<p>Ann Smith is to contact Village Voices when an event needs to be publicised. The Chairman is to write a newsletter to all Members of the Friends of St. Margaret's outlining our plans for the future. He will hand deliver these, where possible. It was decided to have a "running advert" in the High Halstow Times. Linda Atkinson is the new Editor.</p>	AS/MM

<p>Brochure</p>	<p>Wendy Brunt and Ann Smith, with help from Carl Mitchel, produced a draft copy of the new Brochure for the Friends of St. Margaret's. It was met with great approval by the Committee. Ann and Wendy were thanked for the hard work that they had put in to producing this. Discussion followed on the following topics:- Liz Meredith to proof read the final version A Gift Aid form to be included The Parish Council to be asked if the Brochures could be distributed with the High Halstow Times. Raymond Collins to do this. 500 copies to be printed but the High Halstow Times has a print run of 1,000. Rev. Stephen Gwilt, Ann Smith and Wendy Brunt to meet to discuss the price of printing from Hello Print in Belgium. Three quotations for the cost of printing the new Brochure to be obtained.</p>	<p>AS WB LM RC SG</p>

Website	George Crozer to liaise with Gary Thomas regarding the Friends website and to put on there the amendments to the Constitution made at the AGM on 22 nd May 2017. George would need access to all the passwords if he becomes the Web Manager.	GC
Members' Contact Details	A list of the contact details of every member of the Committee was distributed to everyone. It was noted that these details are confidential and should not be passed on without the express permission of the member.	

Recent Events	<p>Scarecrow Festival This was deemed to be a success. There were suggestions for the Festival next year and these included:- Entry Forms in advance The involvement of High Halstow Primary School A scarecrow Treasure Hunt Craig Stowers and Mick Woolmington to investigate more crash barriers from Medway Council (Contact: Carl Magetty from Norse) A secured box for donations in the Churchyard</p> <p>Cuxton Singers and High Halstow Community Singers The Concert was enjoyed by everyone and the Church is getting a good name for hosting Concerts. This could be widened to include other activities in the Church.</p>	<p>JC Head of HH Primary CS MW GC</p>
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in this and a suggestion was made that the school be invited to bring classes into Church during the week that the trees would be displayed.

That there be 2 Twilight Sessions on Tuesday 12th and Thursday 14th from 3.30 p.m. so that Parents can bring their children to see the trees when it is dark.

On each Saturday, refreshments would be available.

It is envisaged asking the Karmann Dancers to perform on Saturday 9th December, to ask Matthew Crane to sing on 16th December and to invite the Community singers to sing at both.

Selling programmes with notes about the trees and the performers would help to raise funds, with a price being decided later.

Festival Sub Committee –
Liz Meredith, June and Raymond Collins.

Cuxton Singers and High Halstow Community Singers – 29.11.17

Concert Sub Committee -
Wendy Brunt, Ann Smith and Maggie Ryan

Heritage Open Days

The National Church Heritage Open Days are to be held on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th September in St. Margaret's Church. Times to be confirmed.

All
Members
of the
Committee

AS

Future Events

Refreshments will be provided with people invited to make donations. The focus for the Friends will be to actively invite people to become Friends of St. Margaret's.

Personnel

8th September – Ann and Wendy

9th September - Liz and Di

June Collins to liaise with David Stephenson

Newsletters to be distributed prior to the event and Tamsin Stowers to be asked to advertise the dates and times on the High Halstow Appreciation Society Facebook page.

Remembrance Sunday Service 12th November

Members of the Committee to be at the door at the close of the Service to talk to people and to discreetly invite them to become Friends of St. Margaret's.

Santa's Visit

The Friends of St. Margaret's may not be the beneficiaries of the profits made from Santa's Visit this year.

Ideas that were discussed regarding raising the profile of the Friends in the weeks preceding Christmas were:-

Nativity characters moving around the village

Puppets of the people involved in the Nativity in

WB

MM/KR

LM/RC/JC

AS/WB/MR

AS/WB

LM/DW

JC/DS

MM/LM

the windows of homes
A tableau to move around
the village
Visits to people's homes
(as in the German
tradition)

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A Spring Festival

Tamsin Stowers is willing to organise a Spectacular Sunflower Competition to raise the profile of the Friends early in the year. Donations of the sunflower seeds would be sought. Photographs would be presented as evidence and an unbiased group of people would be the judges by measuring each sunflower individually.

Other ideas for raising the profile of the Friends of St. Margaret's.

1. An Art Exhibition
2. Craft Days
3. Antiques Roadshow
4. Car Boot Sale in the Rectory Garden
5. Auction of objects, time and activities
6. Following the example of All Saints' Allhallows and having performances from the Applause Group, as well as concerts and talent shows
7. Searching fund raising websites for

Grant Applications		It was previously agreed before the formation of the new Committee, that the Friends would pay half towards the cost of the drainage work outside the South Door. It was agreed by a nem con vote that the Friends would pay £2,200 towards this work but only after a formal request was made to the Committee by the PCC Treasurer.	LM
Any other business		None	
Date of the next Meeting		Monday, 30 th October, 2017 in St. Margaret's Church at 7.30 p.m. Secretary's Note – After consultation with the Chairman, at the next Meeting all Agenda Items will have a time allowance in order for the meeting to proceed effectively, given the pressures of time on Committee Members.	
Close of the Meeting		There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.	

Signed as a correct record of the Meeting

Michael Meredith - Chairman

Date: