

**MINUTES OF THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 5TH JUNE 2017 IN ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH
HIGH HALSTOW**

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Prayer	The meeting was opened with prayer by Diane Welch.	
Attendance	Wendy Brunt, June Collins, Raymond Collins, George Crozer, Elizabeth Meredith, Michael Meredith, Ann Smith and Wendy Brunt.	
Apologies	An apology was received from Rev. Stephen Gwilt.	
Minutes of the last Meeting	Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 22 nd May, 2017, having been circulated, were duly corrected and then signed as a true record of the Meeting by the Chairman, Michael Meredith.	
Matters arising from the Minutes	There were no matters arising from the Minutes which were not on the Agenda for this Meeting.	

<p>Finance</p>	<p>It was agreed that Rev. Stephen Gwilt and Michael Meredith (Chairman) would be the signatories and that the Treasurer's name (Elizabeth Meredith) would be added to the list. Rev. Stephen Gwilt receives the Bank Statements for the Friends of St. Margaret's. The Public Liability Insurance Cover amounting to £273.36 was due on 30th April, 2017 and that this should be paid as soon as possible. At the Annual General Meeting, the balance of funds held in the Friends Account was £11,084.96.</p>	<p>Elizabeth Meredith</p>
<p>Membership</p>	<p>The number of member of the Friends has remained unchanged, although Mike Meredith had received 2 enquiries. There was much discussion regarding the Committee knowing the names of the Members. The present Standing Order Form was deemed to be difficult to read and that a new one should be produced.</p>	

<p>Brochure</p>	<p>Following on from the discussion regarding the Standing Order Form, it was thought that a completely new Brochure should be produced, which would be more “user friendly.” It needs to be modernised. The Chairman suggested that the Committee should have a Sub-Committee made up of Ann Smith, Wendy Brunt, Carl Mitchell and one other, but that all members should bring some ideas and thoughts on a new Brochure to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Ann Smith Wendy Brunt Carl Mitchell A.N.Other</p> <p>All Members</p>
<p>Recruitment</p>	<p>The Chairman stated that he would like to see a slightly larger Committee, so that the workload could be shared out, so as not to burden the same people each time. George Crozer commented that it would be good to increase membership and in order to achieve this aim, he said that the Friends of St. Margaret’s should be an Agenda Item each month on the Parish Council Agenda, so that the Friends received a higher profile in the village. George Crozer would give a report each month.</p>	<p>George Crozer</p>

<p>Committee Members' Details</p>	<p>It was agreed that Members have good lines of communication and to help this addresses, e-mail addresses, landline numbers and mobile numbers would be circulated to all Members at the next Meeting.</p>	
<p>Letter of thanks to former Committee Members</p>	<p>It was agreed that Letters of Thanks should be written to Gary Thomas, the previous Chairman and to Fred Beringer and Lesley Munday, former Committee Members to thank them for their contributions to the work of the Friends of St. Margaret's.</p>	<p>Di Welch Mike Meredith</p>
<p>Website</p>	<p>Gary Thomas set up the Friends Website but the Committee Members felt that it should be up-dated. George Crozer agreed to be the Webmaster and he and Mike Meredith would get together to plan this.</p>	<p>George Crozer Mike Meredith</p>

<p>Scarecrow Festival</p>	<p>There was a great deal of discussion about how, when and where the Scarecrows would be displayed from the days they would be in people's gardens, in the Rectory Garden and afterwards in the Church Yard. The idea of each scarecrow having a box when in the Rectory Garden for donations to the Friends was considered. Other considerations were:- the placing of the scarecrows, a stall and display boards with forms for folk to sign up as members of the Friends, Judging the scarecrows and where Committee Members would be involved. Di Welch, June Collins and Jill Howard would be based in the Church as guides, with the opportunity to ask folk if they would like to become Friends of St. Margaret's. See note at the end of these Minutes.</p>	
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<p>Cuxton Music Group and the Community Choir</p>	<p>Wednesday, 19th July 2017 at 8.00 p.m. in St. Margaret's Church. It was agreed that the interval should be half way through the performance. Tickets:- Printing – Mike Meredith Distribution: High Halstow Shop, King's Kitchen, Cuxton Music Group – Maggie Ryan Church – June Collins W.I. June Collins Posters to be distributed ON THE NIGHT:- Teas and Coffees – June Collins, Ann Smith and Wendy Brunt Door – Raymond Collins and Di Welch</p>	
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<p>Christmas Tree Festival</p>	<p>After much discussion, it was decided to hold the Christmas Tree Festival in St. Margaret's Church over 2 weekends, namely, the 9th and the 16th December, 2017. It was agreed to ask Matthew Crane to sing on one weekend and to have the High Halstow Community Choir to sing at the other one. Ann Smith agreed to speak to Shirley Williams Liz Meredith agreed to speak to Ken Reynolds. It was also agreed that Mick Woolmington, Justin Murray and Craig be asked to erect some staging for the Christmas Trees in appropriate places. It was thought that the Friends could charge slightly more for entrance this time.</p>	<p>Ann Smith Liz Meredith Mike Meredith</p>
<p>Heritage Open Days</p>	<p>These to be held on the 1st and 2nd weekends in September. June Collins to liaise with David Stephenson. Rev. Stephen Gwilt had produced a Heritage Trail around the Church which would be useful to give out on these days.</p>	<p>June Collins</p>

St. Margaret's Church Open Days	Following on from the success of the Christian Aid Afternoon Tea, it was agreed that the Committee should trial having the Church open one afternoon per month and offering Afternoon Tea, the History Trail and some stalls. The proposed date is Saturday 19th August.	All the Committee
Grant Applications	Gary Thomas had reported that the Friends bid to the Co-op for a grant was unsuccessful. The Committee was awaiting a detailed request, with costings, from the P.C.C. regarding the Gully Works.	June Collins
Charity Status	The Chairman to speak to Gary Thomas about this matter.	Mike Meredith
Santa's Visit	The Chairman to liaise with Gary Thomas about this.	Mike Meredith
History of the Hoo Peninsula	There is to be a History of the Hoo Peninsula Exhibition in Hoo Library from Saturday 1st July for one week.	
Date of next Meeting	Monday 24 th July, 2017 in St. Margaret's Church, High Halstow at 7.30 p.m.	All Members
Meeting closed.	There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.	

Following on from the decisions about the Scarecrows, the Chairman deemed it

necessary to change the arrangements for judging them. For a donation, people would be able to vote at the Friends Stall for their favourite scarecrow and the favourite one would then be “The People’s Choice.”