

FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, HIGH HALSTOW.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH MARCH, 2018
AT 7.30 P.M. IN ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH.

<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
Attendance	Wendy Brunt June Collins Ray Collins Mike Meredith Ann Smith Tamsin Stowers Di Welch	
Apologies for Absence	Rev. Stephen Gwilt George Crozer	
Minutes of the Meeting held on 30th October, 2017	The Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 th October, 2017, having been circulated, were taken as read. The Chairman duly signed the Minutes as an accurate record of the Meeting.	
Matters arising from the Minutes	Heritage Days and the Opening of the Church on the National Church Open Days was discussed and it was agreed that the Chairman would liaise with David Stephenson to firm up the application process and publicity.	Mike Meredith
Correspondence	There had been correspondence with Barclays Bank regarding the signatories to the Friends of St. Margaret's Account and these have now been changed.	
Finance	The current balance on the Friends of St. Margaret's Account is £12,202. June Collins banked the following amounts:- £346 on 12 th December 2017 in High Halstow Post Office for the Concert £626.24 on 2 nd January, 2018 from the Christmas Tree Festival and the sale of Christmas Cards. Ray Collins agreed to be the Treasurer of the Friends until the Annual General Meeting on 4 th June, 2018. Jane Cook to be asked to be the Auditor. This has to be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting. The Insurance for the Friends was renewed on 23 rd January 2018.	Ray Collins AGM
Membership of the Committee	It was agreed to co-opt Tamsin Stowers to the Committee and she was duly welcomed and thanked for all her hard work in the promoting the Friends of St. Margaret's, especially with the Scarecrow Festival.	

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<p>Membership of the Friends of St. Margaret's</p>	<p>There were 40 Members on 1st January, 2018 who had paid their subscriptions. The names of 12 members do not appear on Bank Statements and this may be because they subscribe to the Friends using cash. There are 50 members of the Friends on the current list. A review of membership is to be undertaken. Ann and Wendy produced a draft Membership Card and, subject to slight amendments, these will be printed. Ann and Wendy were asked to thank Jo Mitchell for her help in designing the card.</p>	<p>Mike Meredith</p> <p>Ann Smith and Wendy Brunt</p>
<p>Newsletter</p>	<p>This will be produced and sent out after this Meeting.</p>	<p>Mike Meredith</p>
<p>Website</p>	<p>The website needs updating and Mike will liaise with George regarding this. Gary Thomas is now in the process of producing a new Community Website for High Halstow.</p>	<p>George Crozer and Mike Meredith</p>
<p>Annual General Meeting</p>	<p>The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St. Margaret's will be held on 4th June, 2018 at 7.30 p.m. in St. Margaret's Church.</p>	
<p>Knit and Natter</p>	<p>The contributions from the participants of the Knit and Natter sessions will be put into the Friends' Funds. The aim of the group at the moment is to knit 1,918 poppies to commemorate the end of the First World War.</p>	
<p>Reviews of Events</p>	<p>The Christmas Tree Festival With 15 Christmas Trees displayed, this event was deemed to be a success. There were 2 twilight sessions where the attendance was disappointing. More liaison with High Halstow Primary School is needed. The two weekend sessions were well attended, but it was thought that the opening times should be shorter. The times of the entertainment should be made known and much more advertising needs to be done to improve attendance. I was felt that the Community Choir should sing at the beginning and at the end of each afternoon.</p> <p>The Christmas Concert This was a success but only half the heaters were working in the Church and people found the Church very, very cold. The Christmas Card sales this year were down by £20.00 but £117.00 was made for the Friends.</p>	

Future Events	<p>Spectacular Sunflowers 50 seeds have been planted by Tamsin and will be sold at £2.00 per pot, once they have grown. There was a great deal of discussion about how to measure the sunflowers and the awarding of a trug of gardening products as a prize for the tallest. The cut-off date for purchasing plants to be 4th June.</p> <p>Scarecrow Festival Tamsin was thanked for all her efforts in making the Scarecrow Festival such a success. The Scarecrows can be displayed for 2 weeks prior to the Garden Party on Saturday 7th July, 2018 in the Rectory Garden. There will also be a Scarecrow Trail and participation in this will cost £2.00. Other ways of creating income from the Scarecrow Festival were discussed and these details will be confirmed at the next Meeting.</p> <p>Armistice Concert This could be held on 9th or 16th November, 2018. To be confirmed. Participants could include the Community Choir, the Royal Engineers' Band and other singers. There could also be poetry readings.</p> <p>Window Wonderland For people around the village display pictures or tableaux in their windows before Christmas. This item to be discussed after the Garden Party.</p>	
Grant Applications	Grants will be sought for the repair of the Windows in the Church after an inspection.	
The Churchyard	Some headstones are crumbling and could endanger people. These headstones need attention.	
The Hogben Bequest	This bequest will be able to pay for the Churchyard repairs, once the Trustees have been found and the Bank Account re-activated. June Collins is investigating this.	
Date of Next Meeting	The next Committee Meeting of the Friends of St. Margaret's will be directly after the Annual General Meeting on Monday 4 th June, 2018.	
Close of Meeting.	There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.08 p.m.	

Signed as a correct record of the Meeting:

Date: