

FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S HELD ON 4TH JUNE, 2018 AT 7.30 P.M. IN ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rev. Stephen Gwilt, Raymond Collins (Treasurer,) June Collins, Ann Smith, Wendy Brunt, Ann Judges, Tamsin Stowers, Chris Cook, Jane Cook, Chris Peek, Mike Meredith (Chairman,) Di Welch (Secretary,) Maggie Ryan, Ken Reynolds.

APOLOGIES:

George Crozer (in case he was delayed,) Bob Prichard, Carole Cocup, Doreen West, Alan West, Fred Beringer, Hazel Beringer.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 23RD MAY, 2017:

These Minutes, having been circulated beforehand, were taken as read and duly signed by the Chairman, Mike Meredith, as a correct record of the Meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23RD May, 2017.

It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Chris Peek that Ray Collins should be formally elected to the position of Treasurer of the Friends. This motion was passed unanimously.

It was reported that 2 Members of the Friends of St. Margaret's had died during the year.

Postscript: After the AGM Gary Thomas stood down as the Chairman of the Friends of St. Margaret's and Lesley Munday relinquished her post as Secretary of the Friends of St. Margaret's.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

A copy of the Chairman's Report is attached to the Minutes of the Committee Meeting following the Annual General Meeting. The Chairman referred to the following matters:

1. The Income for the year was over £4,000, half of which came from subscriptions and half from events.
2. The Friends had part funded the drainage repairs and will be funding the repairs of the windows in the future.
3. In total, at the present time, approximately £33,000 would be needed for repairs and that amount does not include paying for the asbestos removal on the window sills, or for the scaffolding costs when the roof is repaired. It was reported that the roof had an unsatisfactory repair in the past and that this would need to be considered when the roof was being made watertight in the future.

4. Questions were asked of the Chairman regarding the number of members of the Friends and he reported that it was 29 at the moment. The Chairman also intimated that a family membership was being considered.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached to the Minutes of the Committee Meeting which followed the Annual General Meeting.

The Treasurer referred to the following matters:

1. The income from donations and subscriptions was £2,543 but no Gift Aid has been claimed yet. It is expected to be in the region of £200.
2. Expenditure for the year was £2,653.36
3. Excess income over expenditure for the year was £1554.84
4. Total accumulated funds are £12,629.80
5. It is estimated that the cost of repairing the roof would be in the region of £9,000 to £10,000 but the estimate was 2 years ago!
6. Becoming a Charity was also discussed and once the annual income of the Friends exceeds £5,000 per annum, we will be forced to register with the Charity Commissioners. It was suggested that this step would help to give credibility to any donations.

WEB MANAGER'S REPORT:

A copy of the e-mail sent by George, in case he was delayed, is attached to these Minutes. George said that he was happy to discuss any matters from that e-mail, should anyone submit questions. Gorge has investigated the use of an Encryption Service, which would cost £50.00 per annum and that using Service would mean that we are complying with the rules of the Data Protection Act.

THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S COMMITTEE ELECTION:

Members of the Committee that were elected for the year are:

Michael Meredith

Tamsin Stowers

Ann Judges

Wendy Brunt

Carole Cocup

(Rosemary) Jane Cook

Christopher Cook

In addition, the following are Members of the Committee

Rev. Stephen Gwilt (Ex Officio)

Raymond Collins (Parish Council Representative)

George Crozer (Parish Council Representative)

June Collins (St. Margaret's P.C.C. Representative)

Diane Welch (St. Margaret's P.C.C. Representative)

DATA PROTECTION:

A discussion took place regarding protecting the private details of the Members of the Friends of St. Margaret's. The Chairman stated that he sends out "blind copies" of all e-mails sent to the Committee and the Members. The Guidelines to be followed regarding data privacy are those which have been adopted by St. Margaret's Church. New Members of the Friends are asked to give permission for their details to be stored by the Chairman. The Secretary just has the details of the Committee. It was stressed that it is extremely important that we are abiding by the rules of the Data Protection Act.

EVENTS:

Scarecrow Festival – Event to be launched on 23rd June to run until the Church Garden Party on 7th July. A Scarecrow Trail is being devised.

Summer Concert – to be held on 11th July with the Cuxton Singers and the High Halstow Community Choir.

Village Heritage Open Days – 8th and 9th September. The Church to be open for 2 days over the weekend but more volunteers are needed for this to happen.

Armistice Concert – Friday 9th November to commemorate the ending of the First World War.

Winter Window Wonderland

Christmas Tree Festival – dates to be arranged.

Railways on the Hoo Peninsula – Ken Reynolds to be invited to this Local History Event.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Jane Cook explained the Coffee Tree Project to the Meeting and it was agreed that it would start in October.

CLOSE:

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.