

FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH - CIO

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH-CIO, HIGH HALSTOW. HELD ON TUESDAY 16th MAY 2023 AT 7.00PM IN ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH, HIGH HALSTOW.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mike Meredith (Chairman)
Chris Cook (Secretary)
Maggie Ryan (Correspondence Secretary)
Raymond Collins (Treasurer)
Jane Cook
Chris Peek (Membership Coordinator)
June Collins
Carole Cocup
Mitch Dowsett
David Laphorn
Robert Prichard

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

George Crozer, Tamsin Stowers, Jeannette Dowsett.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 25th APRIL 2022:

The minutes of the meeting had been circulated in advance.
The chairman gave an overview of last year's AGM minutes.

There being no amendments, it was proposed to accept the minutes.
Proposed by Mitch Dowsett
Seconded by Raymond Collins

They were then signed by Mike Meredith (Chairman) as a record of the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES, NOT LISTED AS A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM:

There were no matters raised.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT:

The chairman then summarised his annual report, dated May 2023.

A copy of the report is attached as an addendum, at the end of the minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Ray Collins (Treasurer) then presented the 2022/23 financial report.
Subscriptions. We now have 46 standing subscriptions, 43 monthly and 3 annually.
Subscription income reduced by £650.00, the first year that our subscription revenue has fallen.

Note: The accounts have been independently audited.

The Chairman thanked Raymond Collins for his continued work as Treasurer.

The full financial report is attached as an addendum, at the end of the minutes.

Page 1

TRUSTEES MEMBERS FOR THE COMING YEAR:

The chairman informed the meeting that he had received a resignation letter from Ann Judges. He thanked her for her service.

With regards to the renewal of trustees members, Michell Dowsett and David Laphorn are not up for renewal as their term of office has not expired.

The following trustees term of office are expiring and they indicated that they were prepared to stand again as trustees:-

Mike Meredith

Chris Cook

Carole Cocup

Jane Cook

Tamsin Stowers

After discussion, they were all elected to another term of office.

AOB:

There was a discussion on attracting more people to the FOSM annual general meeting. All villagers are welcome to attend the meeting. It was agreed that in advance of next year's AGM an invitation to attend would be advertised in the High Halstow Times and a copy of the invitation displayed on the village notice boards.

There being no other business the Annual General Meeting was closed at 7.40 p.m.

SIGNED:

DATE:

ADDENDUM: THE FRIENDS OF ST MARGARET'S CHURCH CIO ACCOUNTS 2022/23

THE FRIENDS OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH CIO FINANCIAL REPORT 2022/23

Subscriptions

We have 46 standing subscriptions. 43 monthly and 3 annually.

We lost four during the year with only one new addition.

This gave us a reduction £690 revenue, the first year our revenue through subscriptions has fallen

Debtors

We have only one debtor, the HMRC for the Gift Aid refund of £1,330.87.

Fund Raising

Following the pandemic fundraising has returned to near normal and the six events held helped raise £1900.19 including Carol and Chris's new gardening initiative.

Administration Expenses

These were £491.23 for insurance and hall hire

Funds to PCC

£16243.33 was given towards quinquennial repairs and £1394.20 for roof repair preparation. The PCC repaid £2641.97 after VAT was recovered

Audit

The accounts have been independently audited

Bank Balance

At the end of the financial year, we had a bank balance of £37995.76 with no cash in hand

Reserves

Roof repairs	£32008.06
Organ repairs	£1487.50
Pointing	£500.00
General	£4001.20

Total funds with debtor is £39325.29

R Collins
Treasurer
May 2023

Friends of St Margaret's High Halstow

Profit & Loss Account
For The Year Ended 31st March 2023

	2021/22		2022/23	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
General				
Subscriptions	6,194.00		5,504.00	
Gift Aid	1,317.42		1,330.87	
Donations	83.00		1,729.11	
PCC repayment	3,765.00		2,641.97	
		11,359.42		11,205.95
Fund Raising				
Scarecrow Festival	184.18		210.22	
Summer Concert			154.80	
Christmas Tree Festival	147.31		200.15	
Christmas Cards	126.90		114.30	
Heritage Day				
Flower Festival			324.65	
Knit & Natter				
Coffee Tree				
Christmas trees	500.00		0.00	
Village events	12.90		93.49	
Gardening			220.00	
Christmas Concert	170.90		304.75	
Christmas Nativity				
Amazon	14.46		5.00	
Railway talk	160.40			
History Talks	210.60		272.80	
		1527.65		1900.16
Total Income		12887.07		13106.11
Expenditure				
Insurance	391.96		415.23	
Stationery				
Asbestos Removal				
Roof Repairs			1394.20	
Window renovation	16830.00			
Charity application expenses				
Miscellaneous	32.69		76.00	
Fabric repairs	82.74		16243.33	
Total Expenditure		17337.39		18128.76
Excess Expenditure Over Income		-4450.32		-5022.65
Excess Income Over Expenditure				



The Friends of
St. Margaret's Church,
High Halstow CIO
Registered Charity Number 1189941
May 2023

Chairman's Annual Report

The Friends of St. Margaret's Church have had a successful year with well supported events which, with members' subscriptions raised £13,176 This helped fund the £17,637 repairs carried out in the year to the Church in line with the quinquennial survey.

Our next challenge is to support the Parochial Church Council in helping to fund the replacement of the temporary roofing that was installed after the theft of lead. This is a complicated process and an Architect has been appointed. Currently the necessary planning consent is awaited from the local council who liaise with English Heritage. Approval will then be sought from the Diocese.

Organ restoration fund.

A new fund has been set up to restore our Victorian Church Organ. It is proving to be very popular and donations have been coming in steadily. Alastair Curtis, an organ tuner and restorer has surveyed the Organ and has prepared a restoration specification and quotation of £18000.

Recent Events.

History Talks.

A series of talks have been delivered this winter and spring which were well supported and very enjoyable. They were:-

Len Feist – "The History of the Hoo Peninsula".

Ken Reynolds – "The Railways of the Hoo Peninsula".

Ken Reynolds – "Cinemas of the Medway Towns".

Peter Hartley, a former Royal Equerry – "A Royal Interlude"

Christmas Cards.

Ray Collins once again produced and sold good number of Christmas Cards at the Christmas Fair and in the Post Office.

Christmas Tree Festival.

A wonderful success. The Church was magical for the Christmas Services and the Carol Concert which was packed with villagers.

Music Hall Concert

The Community Choir 'Music Hall' Concert in November was a great success. This raised over £340 was well supported and very enjoyable. The Friends are very grateful to the Choir who consistently support us and add greatly to Village life.
Forthcoming Events.

The Annual Scarecrow Festival.

It's time to start planning this year's Scarecrows! The next Festival will run from Saturday 27th May, Scarecrows being made during the School Half Term, and displayed in front gardens throughout the summer. A display at the Rectory Garden party on July 1st is also planned.

Rectory Garden Party

Our stall will feature a Scarecrow Display and Free Games designed to create interest.

Concert.

The High Halstow Community Choir will present,
"Songs from the Musicals"
Saturday 8th July, 7.30pm. The Memorial Hall.

Wedding Photos

Mitch Dowsett is coordinating a project to celebrate the role of St Margaret's in the community. In the October edition of the High Halstow Times you may have noted the article recording two Dowsett family weddings. If you have memories of events in which St. Margaret's Church played a significant part then please contact Mitch on 01634 254428 or mitch.dowsett@btopenworld.com

Membership.

In order to build upon our success it is important that the "Friends" recruit new members. I am sure there are villagers who care about their church and wishes to help preserve the oldest building in the village so that it remains our distinctive landmark and is available for generations to come. Membership Forms and details are available.

Mike Meredith. Chairman.
m.meredith@zen.co.uk