

**Minutes of meeting of the Friends of St. Margaret's
Monday, March 8th, 2010**

The meeting was held at 50, Watford Road, starting at 7.45pm.

Present: Ann and Mark Barker, Ann Ward, Loraine Winn, Edward Green, Carole Smith, Jane Davies, Dave and Sue Milne.

Apologies: David Sweeney, Jean Garner, Cameron Ross and Debbie Kristan.

In the absence of Dave Sweeney, the meeting was chaired by Dave Milne. He welcomed Jane Davies and Mark Barker as new committee members.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

Treasurer's report: Dave said that our total net worth was now £161,863.35. He was monitoring the position with English Heritage and estimated that, provided we were able to reclaim the VAT, we would need around £15,000 plus a £30,000 contingency. Meanwhile, approximately £3,000 needed to be spent on the roof to guard against water ingress. The PCC would have to fund this work, which was ongoing maintenance.

The Gala Night had raised a little over £800 and the Drama Group had been thanked.

Membership renewal: A letter inviting members to renew had been drafted and would go out within a few days. We were not asking for an increase on the annual fee (£5 per person or £8 per couple) but hoped that they would make an extra donation, as several had in past years.

Grants: Sue had written to two charities suggested by John Barker, in February. One had acknowledged and said that their trustees would consider the letter when they met in March. So far, there had been no reply from the other. It was still not possible to apply to some organisations until we had quotes for the necessary work.

Gala Night de-brief: Dave S had passed on his thanks to all concerned and we had had a card from the Group, also thanking us for our efforts. They might be putting on a production in October and may well ask us to provide a supper of, say, bangers and mash.

Curry Night, Friday, March 26th: The catering arrangements were amended as follows:

Curry : Beef – Milnes

Chicken & Cashew – Debbie

Lamb – Loraine

Casserole: Beef - Edward

Caribbean Pork –Anne B

Chicken Paprika – Jane

Jacket potatoes – Ann W

It was agreed that we should serve cheese and biscuits for an extra £1. We had cheese in stock from the Gala Night but would need biscuits, butter and some grapes. Set up would be at 5pm as usual.

Easter Egg Hunt: Sue had spoken to Sheila Robertson who had said that time and other factors would not allow an egg hunt to follow the activity session on March 26th. Sheila had suggested Easter Monday would be a better day, but it was agreed that, with competing attractions, family visits etc, we were unlikely to have enough children to make it viable.

Sheila had been in favour of the idea of a Little Saints' sponsored toddle and Sue would take this further with her and Jane Needham shortly.

AGM matters: The Old School had been booked for Monday, May 10th and the meeting would start at 8pm. Our constitution required one third of the executive committee to retire after 3 years and to seek re-election if desired. This could be discussed at the next meeting.

Summer concert: Sue had contacted the school to see whether a Friday night in early July would be suitable for the children to entertain in the church. She had also asked Nigel Howard, who had provisionally offered the services of the choir "Collage", whether this would suit them. Loraine volunteered to take on the organisation of the concert as the Milnes were due to be away during the summer.

Classical Spectacular: In Debbie's absence, this item was put back to the next meeting.

Fondue evening: All agreed that Dave S's idea of an evening, possibly in early May, was a good one. Sue has asked in the TCN for anyone interested to contact her and we could ask the guests at the curry night. We would charge the same as for a curry night. Sue was willing to organise a quiz for the evening.

Any Other Business: Carole asked for the date of the church fete – July 17th. Jane said she would be willing to help out at Hollowell and also would organise a raffle for the curry night. Sue had spoken to Jeff Day about her idea for a time capsule and he would discuss it with the History Society.

Date of next meeting: Monday, April 19th, venue to be confirmed.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.08pm.