

**Minutes of meeting of the Friends of St. Margaret's
Monday, January 11th, 2010**

The meeting was held at Petal Cottage, starting at 7.45pm.

Present: Dave Sweeney (Chairman), Ann Ward, Jean Garner, Debbie Kristan, Loraine Winn, Andy Hopkins, Carole Smith, Dave and Sue Milne and Cameron Ross.

Apologies: Edward Green.

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

Treasurer's report: Dave said that our total was now £63,000.

English Heritage latest: Dave S explained that the position was not totally clear-cut. In our application, we had asked for the equivalent of repair of the tower and one window. The money we had at the time of the application had been the Jack Wills Trust plus £57,000. EH had offered the tower and 4 windows. This was encouraging but the down side was that it left us with a shortfall, which would have to be raised within 12-18 months. Opinions varied as to how much the shortfall would be but the PCC/FOSM restoration sub-committee would be meeting within the next few days. Meanwhile, Dave proposed that we sign up to the deal and this was agreed unanimously.

The arrangement would consist of 2 stages, stage 1 being employing a steeplejack, doing the necessary preparatory work to survey the building and putting the job out to tender.

Review of Chairman's position: Dave S reminded the committee that, at the last AGM, he had indicated his intention to stand down as Chairman in April. He had not then anticipated that we would have reached this point and was now willing to stay on until stage 1 was complete. He was, however, unable to do as much as he had been, and all agreed that if sufficient manpower were forthcoming to cover an event, then it would have to be cancelled.

Drama Group Gala Night: This was to be on Thursday, February 18th. It was agreed that we would cater for 80 people, providing a 3-course meal consisting of lamb and apricot casserole, jacket potatoes, green salad and French bread; apple pie and cheese and biscuits. The all-in ticket price would be £12.

Jean would ask her butcher to quote for the meat, Dave S would talk to Gwyneth Nisbet regarding the necessary licence and Loraine would make enquiries about the wine.

Tree Festival de-brief: We had had 41 trees and raised about £2,050 net. Two or three people had said that they were willing to quote for providing the trees were we to hold another festival next Christmas and we agreed that, in that event, the cost to sponsors should be £20.

All had run well but possible points to consider were more scope for a 'sing-along' type of entertainment, the sale of advertising space in the programme, a Santa's Grotto in the vestry (maybe as a separate evening) and dedicating a day on the weekend to remove the trees from the church, as there had been a definite lack of manpower to deal with this.

Thanks were due to all who had contributed to what had been our most ambitious project to date.

Curry and Casserole Night, Friday January 29th: The Sweeneys could not attend but would cook. Catering was agreed as follows;

Curry – Beef, Sweeneys

Lamb, Milnes

Chicken, Ann to ask Dee Lewis

Casserole – Lamb, Loraine

Pork, Jean

Chicken, Carole

Jacket potatoes – Ann

Any other business: Dave S had had an e mail from Tunnel Brewery, who had provided our 'Crick in the Neck' beer, to say that they had £133 for us.

We had had 72 Lights for a Loved One, one of which had been complimentary, at £10 per light. One string of lights may need to be renewed.

Andy suggested the use of time charts to count down to events and to ensure that all the necessary jobs were done.

Sue suggested inviting people to contribute a photograph and a brief personal resume to go into a time capsule when the restoration went ahead.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm.