

# Friends of St. Peter's



**Friends of St Peters Annual General Meeting**  
Tuesday 21 April 2015 in The Green Dragon, Stoke Fleming

## **MINUTES**

### **Those Present:**

- Committee: John Harrow (Chairman), Rick Kemp (Treasurer), Anne Bailey (Secretary), Rokie Shiffner, Jan Lloyd-Edwards
- Other members and visitors: 15

### **1. Welcome**

JH welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the members of the committee.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from: Joan & Trevor Mason, Graham Fice, John & Hilary Speed, Juliet Lambert, Peter & Julie Hunkin, Mr & Mrs Cooper, John & Di Knight, Cheryl Kamstra, Caroline Bailey, Richard & Heather Stramik, Eric Pengelly.

### **3. Minutes of Last AGM (10 May 14)**

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed. Proposed: Jan Lloyd-Edwards, Seconded: Rokie Shiffner. There were no matters arising which were not appearing elsewhere on the Agenda

### **4. Chairman's Report**

JH explained that FOSP was formed nearly 5 years ago and that the balance on the first Bank Statement stood at £60. Considerable progress has been made since then. At the last AGM we had about £8,000 and the balance is now significantly more.

At the 2013 AGM it was agreed that within the overall expenditure on the bells and bell tower, FOSP would pay for the refurbishment of the clock at a cost of about £14,000. We are now very close to that target. FOSP would like to thank all members and other contributors, from fundraising, one-off donations and regular subscriptions; every penny is very much appreciated. In particular he thanked a special donor who has undertaken to cover the extra £2,000 for painting and re-gilding the clock face.

Most members will know that the removal of the clock has to co-ordinate with other work on the bell tower and, although it all seems to be taking longer than we would wish, a lot of work is going on behind the scenes. This was covered in more detail under Item 8.

JH thanked the members of the committee for their commitment, good humour and creative ideas. One small regret is that membership growth is slow and ideas for ways to accelerate it would be welcome.

The committee has been giving thought to the next project for their support, and as there has been comment in the Village since the old weather vane was taken down, JH asked the AGM to approve the modest sum of about £1,600 for a replacement. This was agreed, proposed Mary Newman, seconded by Jan Lloyd-Edwards.

Apart from this it is assumed that members would want to continue fundraising towards the maintenance and improvement of the fabric of St Peter's beyond the current clock project, and after some discussion the committee made a provisional suggestion, explained by RS, to support

conservation of the stained glass windows. The scope of this project has yet to be defined. It is possible that grants might be available but, subject to quotes being obtained and the shortfall established, the AGM agreed in principle that this would be a suitable aim to support.

Finally, JH stated that he had been intending to stand down as chairman at this meeting, but in view of the current level of activity on the tower project and the continuing support of his colleagues, he had decided to withdraw his resignation and continue in post for another year, if elected. JLE expressed the gratitude of the committee for this decision.

## **5. Treasurer's Report**

The Financial Statement was circulated and is attached; it shows a current balance of some £14,800.

The Treasurer explained that there were two types of entry in the "Subscriptions" section, standing orders, which comprise 70% of the total (up from 66% last year), and annual donations. He commented that standing orders were preferred as it allowed an assessment of the regular income.

It had been noticed that in October 2014 some expected monthly standing order income had not been received by the bank. RK will identify the members involved and AB will draft a letter for those affected to send to their respective banks to start the resolution of this issue.

RK suggested that an external auditor should be appointed to review the accounts and to ensure that proper records were kept. This was becoming more important as the balance in the account has increased to a significant level. Members were asked to suggest anyone they thought might be willing to fill the post.

In response to a question from the floor, RK undertook to look again at interest bearing accounts.

## **6. Committee Nominations/Election**

AB explained that the Constitution allowed for 5 committee members who could be re-elected if they were prepared to continue. All said they were so prepared. She asked for any further nominations – there were none, but anyone interested in assisting the committee in the future was invited to contact her. Sue Tweed proposed that the existing committee should be re-elected en bloc. This was seconded by Mary Newman, and carried unanimously.

RK told the meeting that assistance is frequently required at events, and any members who were able to take part would be very welcome.

## **7. Fundraising Plans for 2015/16**

JLE outlined the plans for the coming year:

- a. "Friends on the Beach" event at the Venus Café on 24 April. This has been generously sponsored by the Venus Company; they will provide the 3-course dinner free of charge, in return for the takings at the bar on the evening. The entertainer Damian Corbett has reduced his fee substantially and it is expected that this will be covered by the proceeds of the raffle. Thus the entire takings from ticket sales will be available to the FOSP funds.
- b. FOSP will have a stall at the Hort & Sport Village Show again this year, on Bank Holiday Monday, 31 August.
- c. The autumn concert this year will be on 26 September and will feature the Kingsmen, the barbershop chorus from Kingsbridge. More information will be provided nearer the time.
- d. FOSP will also be represented at the Christmas Tree Festival and the Craft Fayre.
- e. If the Bellringers run a tower open day this year, the FOSP will be represented to maintain awareness of their role in fundraising for church maintenance.

## **8. Progress on Tower Project**

AB then gave an overview of the progress on the tower project. She stressed that the project as a whole was the responsibility of John Dietz, the tower captain and churchwarden. However, as FOSP had raised the funds for the renovation of the clock, which was an integral part of the overall tower renovation, they had an interest in understanding the nature of the problems and the relationship of the various components of work.

After an overview of the work required, she identified the activities which had been completed this year, and in particular summarised the costs of the project, and the current state of raised and promised funds. It is intended to apply for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund - or Viridor (Pennon) if the HLF bid fails - as soon as an accurate estimate of the outstanding funds required had been established.

## **9. Any Other Business**

- AB explained that the current FOSP website would be terminated on 1 May and that an alternative would be set up as soon as possible.
- On behalf of the PCC, Peter Barker thanked FOSP for their support and enthusiasm. He commented that it is wonderful to have such a historic building, but it presents tremendous problems to look after. The PCC is very grateful.
- Robin Shiffner asked about recruitment and whether an active effort was being undertaken. JH explained his original approach but that this had been very labour intensive and would welcome any ideas to increase the number of members. In particular he asked for existing members to encourage their friends and neighbours to join.

There being no other business, JH thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the meeting with their suggestions.

Anne Bailey  
21 April 15

## Friends of St. Peter's, Stoke Fleming Treasurer's Report

Year ending 31st March 2015	2014-15		2013 - 2014
	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>			
Subscriptions			
Standing Orders	1,882.50		
One off cheques	795.50		
Total		2,678.00	2,392.00
Donations			
Scarecrow Trail	100.00		
Green Dragon	250.00		
Misc.			
Total		350.00	3,913.00
Gift Aid		630.25	478.53
Events			
Tower Day	45.00		
Hort & Sport	63.50		
Nauti Boys Concert	230.00		
BRNC Concert	1,569.00		
Misc.	24.50		
Total		1,932.00	1,479.52
(I) Prepayment of Venus dinner tickets		1,725.00	
<b>Total receipts in fiscal year</b>		<b>7,315.25</b>	<b>8,263.05</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
BRNC Concert	533.00		
Poppy appeal donation	80.00		
(II) Abortive costs of D Corbett concert	39.00		
<b>Total expenditure in fiscal year</b>		<b>652.00</b>	<b>963.52</b>
<b>Total Financial Surplus in Fiscal</b>		<b>6,663.25</b>	<b>7,299.53</b>
Bank Balance b/f from 2013-2014		8,172.37	872.84
Balance c/f to 2015-16	(III)	<b>14,835.62</b>	<b>8,172.37</b>

- (I) Event will be on 24<sup>th</sup> April (in next F/Y)  
 (II) Hire of Village Hall – 50% refunded  
 (III) Includes £74.47 held in cash.