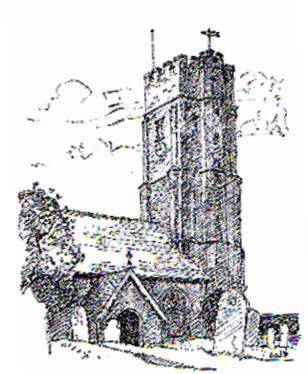


Friends of St. Peter's



Friends of St Peter's Annual General Meeting
Saturday 22nd April 2017 in The Green Dragon, Stoke Fleming

MINUTES

Those Present:

- Committee: John Harrow (JH – Chairman), Rick Kemp (RK – Treasurer), Rokie Shiffner (RS), Jan Lloyd-Edwards (JLE)
- Other members and visitors: 11

1. Welcome

JH welcomed everyone to the meeting; he thanked members for coming and for their continuing support over the last 12 months.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from: Anne & Peter Bailey, Joan & Trevor Mason, Bob & Jenny Norman, Norman Lloyd-Edwards, Stephanie Cole, Elizabeth & Peter Offord, Diana & John Knight, Richard Stramik.

3. Minutes of Last AGM (30 April 16)

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed. Proposed: JLE, Seconded: Suzie Dodsworth.

4. Matters Arising:

- Conservation of stained glass windows – ongoing
- Investigation of eligibility of FOSP for full charity registration to enhance our fund raising ability. Raised by Graham Fice. If FOSP is eligible, he would be happy to help set it up.

5. Chairman's Report

JH introduced the current members of the committee and commented that FOSP has had yet another very successful year. RK would provide details in the Treasurer's report. In summary, receipts for the year were just over £6700. Thanks were offered to Loam Rangers for £1000, and to Gwen Teage for the £400 raised from her Christmas tree baubles so beautifully painted with scenes of the church and the Green Dragon. Our second payment of £9000 was made to the Tower Fund as previously agreed, meeting our full financial commitment. JH then went on to explain the 'Contributing Third Party' payment of some £1,850 that FOSP made to Virador Waste Management, which facilitated a grant from them to the Tower Fund of £18,500 – an excellent use of our money!

A highlight of our calendar was the Picnic at Sanders. Many thanks to Mary and Geoffrey Newman for offering the use of their marquee and grounds to the Friends, to Gail Dorrington for organising the 'pop-up' choir, and for all the many helpers. The evening raised just over £850, and since the evening

was a Village celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday the Friends decided about half of the proceeds should be shared and donations were made to the cricket club, S/F School, the Hort & Sport and the village magazine. Other events during the year were our 'Human fruit machine' at the "Hort & Sport" Show and a curry / quiz evening at Radius 7. FOSP also hosted and funded a reception in the church for the people and groups who had decorated trees at the Christmas Tree Festival, as thanks to them on its 10th anniversary. One final initiative was to contribute to the painting and general refurbishment of the church vestry.

Finally, JH stepped down as Chairman of FOSP after seven fruitful years. He commented on how the group has grown over the years and how RS and he could not have imagined at the outset the great financial contribution to the church made. He closed with his thanks to the committee and members for their support and generosity. In response RS thanked JH for setting up the bank account and establishing our Gift Aid eligibility with HMRC in addition to well as his most valuable input and leadership over the years.

6. Treasurer's report

The Financial Statement was circulated and is attached: it shows a balance at 31st March 2017 of some £9,800. RK observed this was still a very healthy balance, despite expenditure of just under £11,000 on the second phase of the clock refurbishment together with the Virador contributing 3rd party payment. Our membership contributions for the year were from 36 members with standing orders, which provided 80% of the funds, and 5 from cheques. It was noted our membership had not increased over the period, which gave cause for concern. RK said that the statement had not yet been audited but would be done so shortly by David Sharp as per last year. With no further questions, adoption of the report was proposed by JLE and seconded by Robin Shiffner.

7. On-line fundraising.

RK explained the options on the website for collection of donations and regular payments, and explained how to set up EasyFundraising, Paypal and MyDonate accounts and how they function. It was noted that if members had any questions about these funding measures, they could either email or phone using information on our website for help. The general view was that EasyFundraising offered the best way forward; once it was set up a small percentage of qualifying on-line purchases would automatically come to FOSP with no financial penalty to the person using it. The committee said they would be looking at ways to capitalise on this. Mark Malley asked if there was any way that a link to the FOSP website could be added to the general village **stokefleming.org** website so that any casual hit on the site would have a route to be directed to us and see the donation options. This idea will be reviewed for its feasibility.

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8. Committee Nominations/ Election

At this point RS was proposed as new Chairman by JLE and was approved unanimously. RS thanked all for their support and formally accepted the new position. She then stated that, as there was now a vacancy on the committee, nominations had been requested, and Suzie Dodsworth had put her name forward. She was proposed by Robin Shiffner and seconded by Sue Tweed. RS then formally welcomed her to FOSP as the new committee member. The continuation of the rest of the committee was proposed by Mark Malley and seconded by Adrian Lloyd-Edwards.

9. Next projects(s) to support

RS talked about the conservation of the church stained glass windows and its progress during the year. She said that this project had necessarily taken a back seat for the duration of the Tower Refurbishment Project. However, since that has now been completed, progress had been made on the scope of the work, the contractors needed and the approvals required to start the work. It has been agreed by the church that there are 4 stained glass windows which need urgent work and so this is now seen as Phase I of the project. A formal estimate has been received of some £12,000, and it was proposed that this should be funded partly by FOSP and partly by the church. It is anticipated that we will need to provide in the region of £7,000 to £8,000 within the next 2-3 months. A request to

confirm a previous resolution that FOSP should contribute to this work was endorsed unanimously.

As the window repairs should be completed within the next few months future projects proposed by the Committee had been: improvement of churchyard paths, repair of the Parliament clock inside the church, refurbishment of the organ, replacement flagpole, none of which had been costed. On inviting suggestions from the floor Adrian Lloyd-Edwards outlined a proposal to remove the kerbs around graves; it would greatly ease, and thus the cost of, the maintenance and would make the churchyard into an area of general enjoyment and contemplation. The committee said it would review this with the other proposals.

10. Fundraising plans for 2017/2018

JLE reviewed the current proposals we have. The main event will be a Persian evening – “Persia Ancient and Modern Iran” – which will combine a social evening with a meal and drinks, and a presentation by Peter Barker on his recent trip to Iran, complete with excellent photographs and a fascinating story. This will be held on 6 October in the Village Hall. In addition, we will have a stand at the village 'Hort and Sport' Show in August, theme yet to be decided! For next year, following the success of our first Village Concert in the church 3 years ago, we are planning a follow-up concert in the church in spring of 2018. This will need local participation as we had before, so please look out for our version of the ubiquitous TV series – 'Stoke Fleming's Got Talent'!

11. Any Other Business

Rev. Alison Shaw brought up the issue of The Scarecrow Trail, which has been organised in the village for the last few years. She said the current organiser was unable to carry on next year and was asking for someone else to take the mantle. Alison said how impressed she had been with the organisation and especially the participation of families and children not just from the village. She understood the school would be happy to get involved and asked if FOSP would consider helping. The committee will review this idea at the next meeting, but commented that the initial feeling was that various organisations and groups representing all ages, especially children, would be vital to a successful format in the future.

RS, as a final thank you to JH, presented him with a card and small gift from the committee, together with a bouquet of flowers for his partner, Sandra.

There being no other business, RS thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the meeting with their suggestions. Once again, on behalf of the committee and members, unanimous thanks were given to Peter and Alix at The Green Dragon for providing the venue, coffee and biscuits for the meeting.

Treasurers Report Friends of St Peter's Financial Year 2016-2017

Year ending 31 st March 2017				2015_2016
Receipts		£	£	£
Subscriptions				
	Standing Orders	2,280.00		
	One off payments (1)	563.01		
	Total		2,843.01	2,819.00
Donations				
	Tree Bauble sales (G Teage)	400.00		
	Loam Rangers	1,000.00		
	Total		1,400.00	
Gift Aid				
			1,194.83	
Events				
	Picnic at Sanders (2)	862.00		
	Hort & Sport stall	167.00		
	R7 Curry & quiz night	235.00		
	Total		1,264.00	
Total receipts in fiscal year			6,701.84	8,970.34
Expenditure				
	Clock refurbishment (2 nd payment)	9,000.00		
	Virador contributing 3 rd party payment	1,854.91		
	Donations to local groups (2)	450.00		
	Vestry painting contribution	150.00		
	Website hosting fee	60.00		
	Refreshments at Christmas tree reception	60.00		
	Misc.	62.00		
Total Expenditure in fiscal year			11,636.91	8,995.29
Total Financial Surplus in Fiscal			-4,935.07	-24.95
Bank Balance b/f from 2015-2016			14,736.20	14,761.15
Balance as of 31st March 2017 (3)			9,801.13	14,736.20

Notes

(1) Includes £0.01 as trial payment to test Paypal account working

(2) Donations from picnic at Sanders: Cricket Club (£200), School (£100), Hort & Sport (£100) and Village Magazine (£50).

(3) £111.87 also held in cash in addition to this bank account total.