

FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST MARY WARWICK

Registered Charity No. 503629

THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST MARY, WARWICK ON SUNDAY 14TH MAY 2017 AT 12.00.

1. Apologies for Absence were received from:

John Luxton (Church Warden), Diane Luxton, Kevin McHale, Jayne McHale, Charles Brown, Jean Liggins, Gill Benson, Carol Warren, Jim Reeve.

2. Minutes of 2016 A.G.M.

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th April 2016 had been circulated and were approved as a true record of proceedings.

Proposed: Frances Humphreys

Seconded: Christine Smeaton

As a point of interest Frances Humphreys asked the outcome of the proposed discussion regarding the production and sale of Friends Christmas cards (AOB AGM 2016). Clive replied that all cards had been sold and that there were no immediate plans to produce any more.

3. Chairman's Report: Clive welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for attending. Clive continued by reminding everyone of the objectives of the Friends:

1) **to raise money** for the enhancement of St Mary's and Clive

Clive referred to the generous Harris legacy which had enabled the Friends to commit a substantial sum of money (£38,000) to the PCC towards a) the cost of re-ordering the reception and shop area and b) restoration of the Dean's Chapel. The split of funds to be determined by the PCC

2) **to encourage fellowship.** Last year's visit to Leicester Cathedral and the Richard III exhibition was very successful and enjoyable. The annual croquet evening and the Victorian evening were also very successful.

During 2017 the Vergers "Behind the Scenes" evening and the visit to Oken's tearoom were both very successful events and we look forward to our trip to Renishaw Hall in June (now oversubscribed), the croquet evening in August, and our mulled wine and mince pies at this year's Victorian evening.

Clive expressed his thanks to the Committee and in particular Kevin McHale who has been a very active and proactive member of the Committee as Hon. Sec. The 'Friends' are hugely indebted to Kevin for his enthusiasm and look forward to him continuing as a Committee member. Clive continued by thanking Heather Partis (Hon. Sec), Tony King (financial auditor), Ian Bayliss (Hon. Treasurer) and Jayne McHale (Hon. Membership Sec.) and finally, but not least, many thanks to Felicity and Glynis (Parish office) for their help and assistance during the year.

On behalf of St. Mary's and in response to Clive's report, Vaughan wished to echo all that had been said and that he and the PCC were grateful for all the support from the 'Friends'.

4. Election of Chairman: Clive Black, again willing to stand, was elected unopposed, as Chairman

Proposed: Peter Young

Seconded: Noel Reeve: The election was unanimous.

5. Election of Honorary Secretary: Heather Partis, willing to stand, was elected unopposed, as Honorary Secretary

Proposed: Christine Smeaton

Seconded: Peter Briggs. The election was unanimous.

6. Election of Honorary Treasurer: Ian Bayliss was duly re-elected as Honorary Treasurer.

Proposed: Vaughan Roberts

Seconded: David Benson. The election was unanimous.

7. Election of Committee: Clive asked those in attendance to consider becoming committee members but none were forthcoming. The Committee were all re-elected unopposed.

8. Presentation and adoption of annual accounts: In the absence of our Hon. Treasurer, Ian Bayliss, Clive presented the audited annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016. These were duly adopted.

Proposed: Christine Smeaton

Seconded: Frances Humphreys

9. Appointment of Auditor: Tony King was re-elected as auditor for the year.

Proposed: Godfrey Hill

Seconded: David Benson.

There were no other nominations.

10. Future Programme: Clive reported that, in addition to the forthcoming planned events for 2017 (see C'man's report), he was currently liaising with Prof. Campbell, University of Warwick, to present a lecture about Sir Basil Spence and Coventry Cathedral. This event could be promoted as a Fellowship event later in the year. Details to follow.

11. Any Other Business:

a) Membership - in Jayne's absence (holiday) Clive read a report from our Hon. Membership Secretary stating that there were currently 100 members on our register. Seven names had been removed during this last year due to loss of contact/failure to pay subscriptions for the last 3 years/deceased.

The good news is that we have recruited six new members. Most people pay by standing order which makes it easier to monitor and Jayne suggested that we should endeavour to encourage those who pay by other means to set up a standing order mandate.

b) David Benson, as a "newcomer" to the 'Friends', and following a 'phone call from his bank, queried the Standing Order mandate form and it was agreed that the Committee would investigate this further.

c) Peter Young asked if we were maximising Gift Aid on subscriptions. It was agreed that the Committee would ask Jayne and Ian to look at the Membership list and Gift Aid income.

d) **Peter Young** asked if other "Behind the Scenes" events were being planned. Following on from the recent successful 'verger's' "behind the scenes" Peter suggested 'Parish Administration' could be an interesting and informative event.

e) **Noel Reeve** asked when a decision about the refurbishment of the reception area would be made as the 'Friends' had earmarked funds several years ago towards the cost. Vaughan explained that the PCC were in the process of discussing plans for the refurbishment of the West End

There being no further business, Clive once again thanked everyone for attending, and the meeting closed at 12.29pm.