

Friends of St James, Swimbridge

Minutes of AGM held on 21 January 2015 in the Old School Room

Chair: Rev. Shaun O'Rourke Minutes: Mark Haworth-Booth

Apologies

The Rev. Bruce and Mrs Kathy Dixon, Ruth Moore

Present: Mo and Mike Clift, Jessica Duncan, Dave and Ros Jordan, Mary and Richard Fardon, David Netherway

Items 1 and 2 – Annual report and annual accounts – were rolled into one document presented by the Secretary and Treasurer (document attached). They were proposed for acceptance by Ald. Liverton and seconded by Mrs Clift. Approved unanimously.

3. Forward programme

Tabled by the Secretary (emailed to members, 22.1.15)

4. Honorary Friends

The Secretary reported that the Friends' committee had appointed as Hon. Friends five individuals who had given exceptional service to the congregation of St James over many years: Vera Knight, the Rev. Bruce and Kathy Dixon, Anne and John Hayes. The appointments were enthusiastically endorsed by the meeting.

5. Brochure.

The secretary thanked David Netherway for sharing with him a number of brochures issued by other Friends' organizations. He will have one designed and printed to attract new members.

6. Extra item

The secretary apologised for inadvertently omitting from the agenda the constitutional requirement that the committee must formally resign at the end of each year. The committee resigned and the members then offered themselves for re-election en bloc: proposed by Dave Jordan, seconded by Mary Fardon. The Rev. Shaun O'Rourke and Messrs Fardon, Haworth-Booth and Netherway were unanimously re-elected. The secretary hereby draws the attention of members of the Friends not present to the lack of prior notification of this agenda item: should any member insist that an Extraordinary General Meeting be held to address this item, the secretary will arrange same.

7. AOB

David Netherway told the meeting of exciting plans for a new disabled toilet proposed for the ground floor of the Old School Rooms. This would serve both the Pre-School and the church. He also outlined plans to repair the church clock and update its mechanism. He also discussed Annette Shilling's pictures of the church sold as Christmas cards in 2014, with plans to sell them to raise funds for the Friends in 2015. Mary Fardon raised the question of a village calendar illustrated with images of the village at different seasons of the year. The meeting hopes that image-makers around the village will get to work so that a calendar illustrating each month can be produced at some future time.

Mark Haworth-Booth, Secretary and Treasurer, Friends of St James, Swimbridge 25.1.15