

The Annual General Meeting of th Friends of St Edmund's
Tuesday, 15th November

Welcome Room, St Edmund's Church.

Present:-Alistair Irvine, Alison Hodgson, Brian Mutch, Anne Eyley, Ron Eyley, Robert Elders, Martin King, Alison King, Judith Edgoose, Kev Stephens

1. Apologies for absence:- Jimmy Seymour, Bill Hodgson

These were agreed as a true record.

2. Matters arising:- There were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's report:-

Chairman's Report 2022

This report is, as was last years, brief.

For the last year, even after Covid, has continued to be a difficult time for all of us, and as far as the Friends are concerned, it has continued to curtail and limit many, but thankfully not all, of our activities.

In addition, as many of you may know, I have also had to face additional problems at a personal level.

In spite of the restrictions on our activities imposed by the Corona virus crisis, the Friends have not been totally inactive and we have spent some time reconsidering our priorities as far as proposed ventures are concerned. We have successfully installed the bronze rails on the tower, and repointed and restored the stonework on the South Transept. In addition, arrangements have been made for the refurbishing of the clock faces and clock mechanism, together with the replacement of a main beam in the belfry..

However, the current restrictions have severely limited our ability to hold any fundraising events, but we remain hopeful that the current sale of the 2023 calendars and this year's Christmas cards will be fruitful, and certainly early indications are that there is significant interest in both. We have also arranged a quiz night on the 19th November 2022

Although, as chairman, I have been relatively inactive during the last year, I must again not allow this opportunity to pass without expressing my continued thanks and gratitude to the other harder working members of the committee, in particular Alison Hodgson who continues to work hard as Friends Secretary, the Treasurers, Nigel and Linda Clegg, graphic designer Kev Stephens who has worked so hard in preparing merchandise and other things, and Brian Mutch who, in addition to being Membership Secretary, does so much, together with his wife Christine, who assists with and supports the website.

The committee members have all made significant contributions to the work of the Friends and for that I am extremely grateful.

Clearly, in spite of having received a significant bequest, we need to continue to raise funds if we are going to be able to proceed with the proposed ventures and future plans

So, overall, although activities have been limited, they have not been non-existent, and we have continued to work together on the task of maintaining St Edmund's for the greater benefit of the community, the parish, and the future.

5. Secretary's report:-

The Secretary's report.

Alistair's excellent report has said just about everything I needed to say so there is no point in repeating everything. So I will just mention a few things. As regards the selling of the calendar, which has now become an established occurrence in the Sedgefield calendar, we were pleased that after a gap of a couple of years, the Sedgefield Show took place in August and we were able to have a stall and begin to sell the calendars. I believe 40 went on that day. We continue to be overwhelmed by the high standard of submissions. It is always difficult to choose the final ones, particularly for the "in between months" We always seem to have plenty showing spring flowers for example. Regarding the christmas cards, we have been grateful in the last couple of years to the Hive for selling our merchandise but with their demise we are pleased that Loft to Loved have taken over the mantle.

We have continued in our other identity "the Inspired Futures" group to work with the Local History Society towards the possible establishment of a Heritage area in church. We are currently investigating the setting up of a separate trust to push this forward prior to applying for lottery money or indeed, money from other sources.

As regards social events, we naturally have not had any due to Covid but have our first quiz for a few years on Saturday. We hope it will go well although ticket sales have been slow but we look forward to a good night. We have not planned any coach trips or visits due to the prohibitive cost of hiring coaches which is a shame.

I will finish my report by also giving my thanks to the rest of the committee for all t

Alison Hodgson

6. Treasurer's report:-

We have pleasure in presenting the provisional accounts for the Friends of St Edmund's for the financial year 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022. We have provided a brief narrative of the accounts here to help you navigate through them and to find information which is both significant and of interest. Income: The highlight of our financial year was in late in 2021 when the Friends received a legacy in the sum of £100,000.00 from the estate of a spinster who had lived in the parish. This was the final distribution from the estate. This significant sum will help the Friends to complete a number of long-planned and outstanding projects around the church and will help to kick-start projects for the future. We have deliberately avoided any announcement of this legacy for several reasons; not least because even a substantial sum such as this could very easily be swallowed up by any of many ambitious projects, and because we need the good work of the friends to continue into the future. Furthermore, any discussion about church finance within the parish usually results in damaging and misguided comments claiming that 'the church is wealthy and should not be asking parishioners for financial support' so it was thought best to avoid any publicity. Other significant income has come from sales of merchandise (£5,693.01), memberships (£2,421.00), moneys received for the clock and tower fund (£1,256.73), and donations totalling £198.00. We have also reclaimed Gift Aid in the sum of £680.27 from HMRC for the period 6th April 2021 to 5th April 2022. The SumUp card machine continues to help boost our income. Expenditure: Several smaller projects have been completed or have reached key stages over the past year including repairs to external stonework, (£22,372.20), and fitting bronze bars between the castellations on the church tower (£2,940.00), so that tower trips can be safely resumed. Routine maintenance has also continued including painting gutters and external doors (£700 total), and gutter cleaning in the sum of £200.00. Other expenditure has included Architects fees (£810.00 total) and sales promotions such as Marketing, Website Hosting, Calendar and Card design adding up to £1,335.00. We trust that everything here is clear, but please do not hesitate to ask if you have any queries. Yours sincerely, Nigel & Lynda Clegg, Treasurers For and On Behalf of the Friends of St Edmund'

7. Membership Secretary's report:-

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2022

Our current individual membership is at present **112**

We have had 6 new members this year .Four members have passed away7 members have not renewed 'Our corporate membership still stands at 4We have had no NEW Corporate Members

The web site is still bringing us a lot of good results and comments

8. Report on work in the Church :-

Fabric report for the Friends meeting 15/11/22, sent in on the 06/11/22

External Stonework

Both phases of the external stonework are now complete

A further phase of work is now being put into place around the porch doorway, more about this, later in the report

As Part of the first phase of the stonework repairs, there is still the high-level plasterwork around the East window to replace, but it has been recommended that there should be no rush to complete this, and allow the wall to dry out completely first

Once we have the go ahead to start from the plasterers, a Scaffold company will erect the scaffold, and the plastering will commence

Tower Railings

This Project is now complete

Church clock and the Refurbishment of church clock external faces

The quotation from the Cumbrian Clock Company is £21,730.00 + vat which includes the striking mechanism and the dismantling and cleaning the complete movement.

The faculty application is complete, and in place

However due to the company's workload, and abseiling can only be done during April/September, the work has been booked in for next spring, and an order is placed

Bell Frame

The quotation for the bell frame is £21, 571.00 including VAT

This has been passed by the DAC, and the faculty application is complete, and in place

Again, due to the company's workload, it will be at least 12 months before a start date can be given, and the order is now in place

Lythe Gate Roof This has been put into the Friends budget, contractors have priced the works and a faculty application is underway, first thing was to get permission from Heritage England as the Lythe gate is listed, this has been completed, and I am working on the statement of need to send to the DAC for consideration

Quinquennial

No outstanding issues

South Transept West wall

While the recent stonework repairs were being carried out, to this wall, the condition of the stonework was found to be in a very bad way to the whole wall

The Friends decided to pay an additional sum of money to have the whole wall mortar cut out, and repointed

It is now hoped that this may improve the condition of the wall, internally, and it is being monitored over the next twelve months

It would cost about £20,000.00 to remove all the plaster and re-plaster

New Projects for consideration

I think the flagpole on the tower, could be the cause of the rotting bell frame beam, I wish to look into having a new flagpole installed, but without it going through the roof

The reason for this is two-fold, One, the flagpole cannot be used as the wheel at the top is corroding and it can only carry a thin rope, which keeps shredding, also the lead collar around the pole is taped up around the lead leadwork, I am convinced that the water runs down the pole and through the collar onto the bell frame

Two, the flagpole on the village green has just been replaced by a fitting connected at the base to a fixed bracket and concrete base, so the pole is supported by the bracket only and does not go into the ground, so I think there could be a bracket to fix onto the roof, and not go through the roof I have contacted a local contractor, who are paying me a visit shortly

Second Project

While looking at all the recent stonework around the church, the archway above the porch doors is in a very bad state, both externally and internally and will have to be corrected in the near future

I think we should look into the possibility of replacing the archway stonework as well as trimming the stonework around the doors to allow a

timber door frame manufactured to fit with the existing doors, or have a new pair of doors manufactured, all under the eco requirements currently being expressed by the church of England

The church Architect has sent in Draft drawings, and these have been sent to Heritage England for their comments, once this is done, I shall send them to the DAC for their comments

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This is for information only

Crossing Floor

The DAC have requested a further site meeting with Stage Systems, it was to take place on the 10 Th of October, but Stage Systems could not get their van to deliver a set up pack on that date, so another meeting date is being planned

Church Flood Lighting

The new flood lights bulbs have been replaced ready for a big switch on when we have dark nights again, these are now L.E.D light bulbs. This was carried out, but the time clock is faulty, so a new one has been ordered
The new lights and sockets in the belfry, have also been installed

Kitchen Refurbishment

The DCC have asked me to get a design and costings for this. The Architect has produced a plan for consultation, and I have met with one contractor to gauge what we can have in units

Inspired futures Heritage Centre

A visit to the Wheatly hill Heritage centre was attended with members of the History Society, and from that, a meeting has been arranged with them on Thursday 1st December to discuss the way forward.

We have had a visit from the new company helping us with the setup of this project.

We have sent them a lot of information, which they have gone through, and an application to the Heritage Lottery has been presented, once we have a reply, we shall involve the DCC and then the PCC to discuss the way forward, and this will I hope also include the idea for the Virtual Reality system

The village model now installed in the North Transept; will I hope will become a centre piece for the time being. I would like to recommend that a

large interpretation board be made with further details about the model, this has been agreed, Kev is working on it
Brian

Alistair thanked Brian for all his hard work.

9. Nominations and elections:

Alistair Irvine was re elected as Chair. Alison Hodgson as secretary, Nigel and Lynda Clegg as joint treasurers, Brian Mutch as membersh

10. Date of the next AGM:- Early November, 2022 – date to be finalised.

11. A.O.B:-

Brian gave us a merchandise update. 65 packs of bifold cards had been sold. 170 calendars out of 250. 74 mixed packs of cards. Altogether we have laid out £2020 and income so far is £1932 so we have almost broken even. Loft to Loved sold out of everything they were given and received £300s worth more today.

A discussion followed on possible ideas for fund raising. The cost of trips make it difficult to raise any money from them. Alison explained about the cross-stitch picture of the church that we have been donated – we could possibly auction it. Once the floor is in place we can hold concerts.



Friends of St Edmunds Church			Charity No	1082600	CC17a
Annual accounts for the period					
Period start date	01/09/2021	To	Period end date	31/08/2022	



Section A Statement of financial activities

Recommended categories by activity	Details of own analysis	Note	Restricted			Total this year £	Total last year £
			Unrestricted funds £	income funds £	Endowment funds £		
			F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Incoming resources							
Incoming resources from generated funds			-	-	-	-	-
Voluntary income		S01	102,421	-	-	102,421	2,065
Activities for generating funds		S02	5,643	1,996	-	7,639	5,162
Investment income		S03	14	-	-	14	5
Incoming resources from charitable activities		S04	198	-	-	198	50
Other incoming resources		S05	680	-	-	680	589
Total incoming resources		S06	108,957	1,996	-	110,953	7,872
Resources expended							
Costs of Generating Funds			-	-	-	-	-
Costs of generating voluntary income		S07	1,375	-	-	1,375	720
Fundraising trading costs		S08	3,375	-	-	3,375	1,251
Investment management costs		S09	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		S10	27,022	-	-	27,022	2,567
Governance costs		S11	-	-	-	-	-
Other resources expended		S12	343	-	-	343	250
Total resources expended		S13	32,115	-	-	32,115	4,788
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		S14	76,842	1,996	-	78,838	3,084
Gross transfers between funds		S15	-	-	-	-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains/(losses)		S16	76,842	1,996	-	78,838	3,084
Other recognised gains/(losses)							
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use		S17	-	-	-	-	-
Gains and losses on investment assets		S18	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		S19	76,842	1,996	-	78,838	3,084
Total funds brought forward		S20	25,631	2,934	-	28,566	25,482
Total funds carried forward		S21	102,473	4,930	-	107,403	28,566

Section B Balance sheet

	Note	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	B01	207	-	-	207	219
	B02	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	B03	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets	B04	207	-	-	207	219
Current assets						
Stock and work in progress	B05	100	-	-	100	150
Debtors	B06	686	-	-	686	40
(Short term) investments	B07	99,544	4,930	-	104,474	26,474
Cash at bank and in hand	B08	1,936	-	-	1,936	2,093
Total current assets	B09	102,266	4,930	-	107,196	28,757
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	B10	-	-	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	B11	102,266	4,930	-	107,196	28,757
Total assets less current liabilities	B12	102,473	4,930	-	107,403	28,976
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	B13	-	-	-	-	410
Provisions for liabilities and charges	B14	-	-	-	-	-
Net assets	B15	102,473	4,930	-	107,403	28,566
Funds of the Charity						
Unrestricted funds	B16	102,473			102,473	25,631
	B17	-			-	-
Restricted income funds	B18		4,930		4,930	2,934
Endowment funds	B19			-	-	-
Total funds	B20	102,473	4,930	-	107,403	28,566

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Nigel Clegg (Treasurer)	26/06/2023
	Roger Whitehill ACMA	

Signed by the Auditor