



**Minutes of the 8th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St Mildred's
Held on Sunday 23th October 2022 at 11.15am
In The Lady Chapel, St Mildred's Church, Tenterden**

Present: Jeremy Cooper (Chairman), Jill Clark; Elizabeth Emson; Linda Fennell; Babsi Frikstad; Roger Graham; Brian Guest; Linda Guest; Jamie Hillyer; Nick Hudd; Malcolm Kneller (Treasurer). Penny Kneller; Tim Lee; Nicholas Marshall; Stephanie Marshall (Secretary); Mary Monckton; Tim Monckton; Tony Pearlman; Clare Picking; Kate Rawlinson; Jan Sienesi; Alan Topley; Gill Topley; Jenny Webb.

Apologies: Ron and Jean Easto; Sue Harvey; Carolyn Wilson; Jane and Quentin Johnson; Charlie and Jan Nicholls; Heather Smart; Mike and Fiona Davies; David Eddison; Michael Betts; Fiona Coombe; David Roome; Roy Isworth; Barbara Halstead; Jean Morris; Martin Vink; Rosemary Izod; Peter Sienesi

1. Minutes of 2021 Annual General Meeting

These were circulated with the Annual Report and Newsletter. There were no matters raised from the floor and the minutes were accepted and approved as read.

2. Chairman's Report

Jeremy Cooper reflected that the last year had still been affected by the after-effects of Covid but nevertheless a number of successful events had been held including the Kate Daniels event that had some 120-30 attendees, and was due to return this November. He commented that a business case had to be made for all events (usually a profit of £1000). The conversation with Bishop Rose had also been a success. The summer garden party in the Vicarage garden was also successful.

A number of events are planned for the coming year including the Bukolika Piano Trio, who are our Artists in Residence and who have held several successful workshops with local schools and the Benoit Viellefon Hot Club Jazz Band. The Countess of Munster Trust for Young Musicians should also offer opportunities. Hopefully the London Adventist Chorale will make a return visit.

The Chairman is waiting to hear when the church requires financial assistance for its roof.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report related to the previous financial year ending in April 2022. The accounts were audited and approved and stood at £65,365.10 plus £318.14 in cash (currently £70,232 including cash). Covid had restricted fund raising but FOSM had benefitted from a £15,000 legacy; 2 grants from KCC and the Ecclesiastical Movement totalling £1500; £500 from Ashford Borough Council (for the piano trio). The final total for the year was £25,198, but the profit would only have been £8500 without the one-off amounts. About half came from annual subscriptions.

The Treasurer is looking for interest-bearing accounts for use until the PCC requests funds. The Treasurer thanked Brian Guest for his help. The report was proposed by Gill Topley and seconded by Kate Rawlinson.

4. Appointment of Examiner.

MMP is our auditor; and were reappointed. They charge £200 but have never levied the fee.

Proposed by Brian Guest and seconded by Mary Monkton

5. Election of Trustees

Brian Guest took the chair for this item and put forward the nominations who were voted for en bloc: Jeremy Cooper; Roy Isworth; Malcolm Kneller; Tim Monckton; Jill Clark.

Proposed by Tony Pearlman, seconded by Kate Rawlinson.

6. Election of Officers

The following were nominated: Jill Clark as Hon. Secretary; Proposed by Stephanie Marshall and seconded by Nick Marshall; Malcolm Kneller sought an extension to his role.

Proposed by Brian Guest, seconded by Tim Monckton

7. Election of General Committee Members

Jeremy Cooper read out the nominations and they were elected en bloc: Jill Clark; Roger Graham; Malcolm Kneller; Tim Lee; Tim Monckton; Tony Pearlman; David Roome.

Proposed by Jan Sienesi, seconded by Nick Marshall.

8. AOB

Jeremy Cooper reported that Kate Rawlinson is leaving and thanked her for her excellent contribution. Stephanie Marshall is standing down as Secretary and Jeremy thanked her for her efficiency, excellent advice at making things happen and invaluable contribution. Tim Monckton concurred. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers. Jeremy also thanked Rosemary Izod and Esther Mansell for their contribution over the year.