

MINUTES OF THE 5th AGM of the Friends of Long Sutton Church (FOLSC)

Held in Long Sutton School, Wednesday, 10th February, 2010

Trustees in attendance: Tim Walford (Chairman), David Crawshaw (Treasurer), Geoff Pringle (Secretary), Robert Fry, David Aitken, Mike Brake
Apologies: Kevin Robinson, Mrs. Ron Roberts, Val Pringle, Ken & Susan Burt.

The meeting was attended by 17 members and 1 non member.

1. Chairman's Report

Tim confirmed all members should have received the Issue 8 of the FOLSC News summarising activities in 2009 and planned events for 2010. He was very pleased FOLSC had contributed over £4,000 for the maintenance of the fabric and structure of our church. The architect confirmed the church was generally in good condition but some essential work was required and all was carried out other than caging the belfry to prevent bird entry which was felt unnecessary. Tim confirmed FOLSC would continue to build up fighting funds for the day when serious expenditure was required, such as the re-pointing of the tower. During the year John Bradley retired as FOLSC secretary and Tim thanked him and Tatiana for their considerable assistance, particularly with the Charity Commission during the start up process. Keith and Peni Harding decided to leave the village during 2009 and Keith also resigned, as did Robert Fry. Both had served as trustees from the very beginning and a further vote of thanks was proposed for their significant input. Geoff Pringle has agreed to take on the secretarial responsibilities and Kevin Robinson with Mike Brake were co-opted as trustees. Tim advised he had actively been looking for a female trustee and hoped this would be rectified later in the meeting. He concluded by thanking all trustees and members for attending on a cold evening.

2. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts

The consolidated accounts were distributed to all members at the meeting. David Crawshaw confirmed these had been examined by an independent scrutineer and had been signed off by him. In FOLSC's 5th Financial Year ending 31st December, 2009, income was £5668 against £6653 in 2008. Takings were down due to slightly reduced membership subscriptions and less money taken at FOLSC events during the year. Expenditure during the year was £5980 against £2495 in 2008. FOLSC contributed just over £4000 to the LSPCC and not as reported in the newsletter. Funds cleared and available amounted to £27,500 (£27,800 in 2008). Majority of funds amounting to £25,000 were on deposit with the CLA with a further £2,000 in the current account at Lloyds. FOLSC have no outstanding liabilities. The accounts were adopted on a proposal by John Bradley, seconded by Peter Brand and were passed unanimously.

3. FOLSC Funding PCC Projects

Roger Cox spoke on behalf of the PCC and welcomed the new trustees. He then thanked on behalf of the PCC all trustees and members for their generous support and for contributions made to the LSPCC. He reconfirmed the structure of the church is in very sound condition. He reported that sadly regular service attendance was down with the exception of the Carol Service and Mothering Sunday, particularly amongst the younger generation. The school, however, was making good use of the church facilities and the team vicar was doing a good job in this area. The church had a unifying role in the community while being a focal point for the village and he concluded by again thanking FOLSC for their support.

4. Election of Trustees and Officers

Tim confirmed that he was prepared to stand again as Chairman, David Crawshaw as Treasurer and Geoff Pringle as Secretary and it was agreed the re-election could be done en bloc. Peter Ellis proposed and John Bradley seconded and the motion was carried unanimously. Other trustees David Aitken, Kevin Robinson and Mike Brake were proposed by Janet Walford, seconded by Peter Ellis and the vote was carried unanimously. Tim then announced that Caroline Astington had agreed to stand as a replacement to Joan Bond as a trustee. Tim Walford proposed, Janet Walford seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

5. 2010 Events

Tim confirmed that FOLSC had already put together a full programme of events for the coming year and these were confirmed as follows:-

Friday, 12th March

Antarctic Talk by Tony Ellerbeck. Illustrated with some amazing slides and the story has a sting in its tail! Tickets are on sale now from the village stores.

Venue: L.S. Village Hall

Doors open: 7.00pm. Presentation commences: 7.30pm

Saturday, 26th June

Long Sutton Village Fete

A Summer of 1940 display with photo opportunities – to put you in the mood for our Summer Party – see below!

Saturday, 17th July

1940's themed summer Party and Disco with pig roast. While not essential, it is hoped as many as possible will come in appropriate dress!

Venue: Upton Farm, Grain Store.

Saturday, 11th September

Grand Mouse Race evening. Those who have not attended such an event before are in for a treat!

Venue: L.S. Village Hall

Saturday, 27th November

BBC Young Folk Musician of the Year – Jackie Oates in Concert. It is hoped we can build on the success of the 2009 Reg Meuross Concert and attract both members and non members to finish the year with a highly profitable and enjoyable evening.

Venue: L.S. Village Hall

Tim also asked for input and suggestions from members for other ideas for events. It was suggested from the floor an 'Any Questions' evening would be enjoyable as it is now 2 years since this event was last run. This suggestion met with general approval but on the proviso that an interesting panel could be recruited.

6. A.O.B.

Peter Brand asked if para 3 of the constitution could be amended so that FOLSC funding could be utilised to assist with the maintenance of the church heating system boiler. Tim thought that the existing boiler could be kept working for a while yet and although replacing it might save running costs, it would incur a significant capital expenditure. The architect was unsure whether another system was a good thing due to uncertainties about condensation in enclosed spaces. The Chairman agreed to consider it further. It was wondered if the boiler scrappage scheme might be relevant.

Geoff Pringle proposed a vote of thanks to Mark and Veronica Talbot and team at the village stores for their considerable support in 2009 in selling tickets for FOLSC events. This motion was carried unanimously.

Meeting closed at 20.05hrs.

Secretary

Chairman