

The Friends of St Andrew's, Bedford

St Andrew's Church Centre Office, Kimbolton Road, Bedford MK40 2PF

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Charity No. 1087979

The Annual General Meeting of The Friends of St Andrew's Church, Bedford will be held in The Main Hall, St Andrew's Church Centre, Kimbolton Road, Bedford on Sunday 3rd March 2024 at 4.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Opening Prayer: The Rev-d Canon Lucy Davies.
2. Apologies for Absence.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2023 AGM.
4. Matters Arising.
 - The full list of events so far organised for 2024 is shown on the Friends of St Andrew's Noticeboard in the corridor outside the Main Church Hall. For some of those events (the trips to "*Sense & Sensibility*" in July and "*Grease*" in August) we have had to reserve a set number of places well in advance of the event taking place and we will have to make payment in early April. So, if you wish to go on either of those events then please add your name, as soon as possible, to the relevant sign-up sheet (they are at the back of church but during the AGM they are on a table in the Main Hall). And please make your payment to the Church Office before the end of March.
 - We have several further ideas for events later in the year and these will be added to the Noticeboard as and when we have finalised the details.
5. Chairman's Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 2023.
6. Treasurer's Financial Report for the year ending 31st December 2023.
7. Election of the Officers and Committee.

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Members (6 Maximum)
8. Confirmation of Trustees.
9. Open Discussion and particularly suggestions from the floor.
10. TEA – everyone invited.
11. Sung Evensong at 6.00pm in the Church at which the Guest Preacher will be the Rev-d Monica Robinson.

THE FRIENDS OF ST ANDREW'S, BEDFORD

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 5th March 2023 In St Andrew's Church Hall at 3.45 pm

I. INTRODUCTION

The meeting commenced with a prayer and Ralph Hall (Chairman) took the chair.

2. ATTENDANCE

37 people were present with 7 apologies.

3. MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 2 OCTOBER 2022

The minutes, previously circulated to members, were duly approved without alteration by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING

Trip to The Big Sing - This will be kept under review.

Beds & Herts Historical Churches Trust Talk - This had been held on 23 February 2023

Bletchley Park trip - Staffing problems meant this had to be postponed.

Household Plastics Waste – Unfortunately, this could not be fitted in before the designated person left the Council but there will be another opportunity later in the year. This will be followed up.

Brooklands - A viable trip for 2023 but no guarantee due to lack of staff.

Bicester Village - Not being pursued.

Tolethorpe - Tickets for this year's trip were selling well with only two places left. However, more tickets were available if necessary. This year the tickets are for a Saturday performance at 11.30 (coach departs 09.15). It is hoped this change to a Saturday, together with an earlier performance, will accommodate working members of the congregation.

5. CHAIRMAN'S & FINANCIAL REPORTS (year ending 31.12.22)

The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports were received as printed in the AGM leaflet:

The Chairman reported that the committee had tried to fit lots of events and activities into 2023 but were having trouble recruiting a new secretary. However, a lot of the duties will be split between its current members. It was noted that the absence of the old Fisherman magazine was missed when it came to advertising events etc. Jenny Pegg's retirement from the committee was marked by a presentation of flowers, champagne and many other gifts, which were gratefully received.

The Treasurer Reported a healthy balance of £8,346.93 at 31 December 2022 and thanked Alan Colley for independently auditing the accounts. As always, The Treasurer wished to pay thanks to Beryl Tench for her hard work in putting together the Tea Dances each month. They were such a good, reliable, source of valuable income.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Jenny Pegg (Secretary) explained that she had regrettably taken the decision to stand down from the committee this year after 22 years in the post. This was not a decision she had taken lightly as she was aware it would be a difficult position to fill. However, she wished everyone well and asked the committee to contact her if there was any problem that she could help with.

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The 2023 committee will therefore consist of:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
Chairman	Ralph Hall
Deputy Chairman	Peter Brawn
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	John Thynne
Committee Members	Pat Skelton Zoë Browne Ann Mason Jenny Thynne Valerie Littleford Vacant

7. Ralph Hall confirmed that the Trustees for the next 6 months would be the Revd Lucy Davis, Ralph Hall, John Thynne, and Peter Brawn. Rosemary Phillips indicated that if any further Trustees were required. she would be happy to step up.

8. OPEN DISCUSSION

The chairman informed the meeting that there was a sheet of paper on each table indicating the list of possible trips etc suggested for the next year. Everyone was asked to indicate which ones they favoured and then return the form to the Chairman at the end of the afternoon.

Tea was again provided by the St Andrew's Guides.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 4.10pm.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023

Last Year was a new challenge for the committee as we were still looking for a Secretary. But the positive way committee members showed their expertise and enthusiasm was remarkable.

Valerie Littleford came forward to take Minutes so thank you Valerie. Then we were blessed by having an enthusiastic lady, Janet Connelly, who has stepped into the role as Secretary, and this was a great relief to us. She is now a very important part of the team. Thanks also to Peter Brawn for standing in for me when I was unavailable.

We had a full programme of events/trips etc. in 2023 of which I will go into more detail at the A.G.M. This coming year we have also have a full programme of events, copies of which are available with The Friends Application/Renewal Forms.

Our thanks go to Beryl Tench who runs the Sunday Tea Dances throughout the year and this year's programme is also available with The Friends Application/Renewal Forms. Beryl's support over the years has been the main stay of income for The Friends.

I thank all of you who have supported us and I hope you can continue to do so.

Thank you again.

Ralph Hall

Chairman

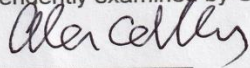
TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

My thanks, as always, go to Alan Colley for auditing and approving our accounts for another year. I would also like to echo our Chairman's thanks to our Secretary, Janet Connelly, for "stepping up to the plate" after the retirement of Jenny Pegg, and also to thank Beryl Tench for the regular and very welcome monetary contributions that her Tea Dances bring.

John Thynne
Treasurer

The Friends of St Andrew's, Bedford
Registered Charity No 1087979

Income and Expenditure Account 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2023</u>	2022
Membership	390.00	420	<u>St Andrews</u>		
Tea Dances	1698.35	1,610	Defibrillator service	224.90	
Donations	70.00	112	OWL System	1049.13	
Christmas Raffle	45.00				
<u>Trips/events</u>			<u>Trips/events</u>		
Tolethorpe	1185.00	1,359	Tolethorpe	1,078.00	990
Talks	212.00	55	Talks	7.00	
River cruise	394.00	525	River cruise	338.00	483
Chicksands visit	160.00	-	Donation Chicksands	50.00	
Observatory visit	50.00		Donation Observatory	50.00	
Fish and chips	157.50		Fish and chips	157.50	
	<u>4,361.85</u>	<u>4,081.00</u>		<u>2,954.53</u>	<u>1,473</u>
Balance B/Forward 1 January				8,356.58	
Income		4,361.85			
Expenditure		<u>2,954.53</u>			
Net income				1,407.32	
Balance C/Forward 31 December				9,763.90	
Represented by					
Cash		45.00			
Bank - Santander		9718.90			
				9,763.90	
Notes:					
This Income and Expenditure account is prepared on a cash basis					
Independently examined by GA Colley ACIB DipFS					
					
Date	January 2024				