

THE FRIENDS OF KEMPLEY CHURCHES

(Draft) Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2017

Held in Kempley Village Hall on Friday 24th February 2017 at 10.30am.

PRESENT: Richard Beard, Reg Billings, David & Ruth Clowes, Rev. Canon Richard & Ann Franklin, Tony Hawker-Bond, Basil Jarvis (Chairman), Marjorie Jarvis (Treasurer), Howell Rees, Maureen Tolver, & Stephen Wycherley.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE::** Pauline Hawker-Bond, Shirley Muir, Geraldine Rees
2. **MINUTES OF THE 2016 AGM** were approved *nem con*.
3. **MATTERS ARISING (not covered later on the agenda)** None.
4. **ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS FOR 2016** (attached). The Chairman explained that the Charity Commission now require publication of a formal Annual Report. The draft report had been displayed On the Notice Board for 2 weeks and also on the web site. The Chairman took the meeting through the report, which was adopted *nem con*.

The **Accounts for 2016** show a balance of £7,771.79 at 31 December 2016 in the bank. Total income in the year was £5,118 and expenditure £5,317. The trust spent some £3894 on charitable activities with fund-raising costs of £702. Other expenditure included the costs of printing (booklets, concert programmes, etc; £539) and administration costs, including insurance (£181). Compared with previous years both our income and expenditure were somewhat reduced, partly as a result of a decision to reduce the number of fund raising events in order not to compete with the Kempley Village Hall Trust that is seeking actively to raise funds to improve and extend the Village Hall for the benefit of everyone. The accounts had been examined by John Harper and were adopted *nem con*.

5. **ELECTION OF TRUSTEES FOR 2016** The Chairman advised that all Trustees were prepared to continue in office. In the absence of any further nominations the Trustees were re-elected *nem con*.
6. **MEMBERSHIP OFFICER & MINUTES SECRETARY** The Chairman advised that Geraldine Rees is happy to continue in the role of Membership Secretary; this was approved *nem con*. There were no nominations for Minutes Secretary.
7. **REPORT ON THE SOCIAL HISTORY GROUP** David Clowes presented a report (copy attached) of the ongoing work by Howell Rees and himself (WWI records; St Mary's Graveyard and church records), and by Basil Jarvis (Kempley Remembered) and outlined proposed work on the 1919 sale of land and properties in Kempley.
8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
On behalf of the PCC, Reg Billings thanked The Friends for their continuing support of St Edward's church.

The Chairman advised members that he had been asked whether activities by The Moment Group could be placed on the Friends Notice Board. Whilst appreciating the need to maximise information for visitors it was generally considered that this was not appropriate.

In the absence of further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 11.10am.

Kempley TARDIS* Project Steering Group Report.

The support of the Friends has continued to be immensely important in making sure that the project continues to grow and improve. 2016 has been a productive year with four principal tasks undertaken by the Project Group and consideration of a possible future additional research topic.

- **TARDIS website maintenance**

The website has been maintained and, in particular, the data relating to those local men who lost their lives in World War 1 has been steadily improved. The database now incorporates information on all those who we believe had close connections with Kempley and/or Dymock, including those commemorated on the memorials in the two villages. This data has been used to remember in our local churches those who died close to the centenary of their deaths and will continue to be enhanced as more information comes to light so that by Armistice Day 2018, 100 years after the end of WW1, a comprehensive set of information is available on the website relating to each man.

- **Graves at St Mary's**

During this year an extensive survey of the graves located in St Mary's Churchyard at Kempley was undertaken. This was extended to incorporate information about family members from Parish Registers and other sources so that a comprehensive record of the families of those who lived in Kempley during the 18th and 19th centuries has been collated and is being made available on the TARDIS website as time and effort permits.

- **Information Centre**

It was recognised that the small building, believed to have been erected during the 19th Century, in St Mary's churchyard was an ideal place in which to display more of the information about Kempley to visitors than was possible within the Church itself. With the help and encouragement of English Heritage, the building has been refurbished and display material created. It is hoped to be able to make full use of this information Centre for the first time during the forthcoming Daffodil Weekend.

- **Kempley Remembered**

Edited texts from the notes of Myra Wilkins and Dolly Jones have been added to the website and both provide interesting insights into life in Kempley in the early and middle 20C. Additional information from other long-term residents is currently being sourced for addition to the website.

- **The 1919 Sale of Land and Property in Kempley**

In addition to the ongoing topics the group have considered what would be the most appropriate way to research the effect of the 1919 sale by the Beauchamp Estate of most properties in Kempley.

It is recognised that great changes were set in train immediately after the Great War. Some thought has been given to how this sale should be commemorated and how the resultant changes to the lives of many who lived and worked in the village should be investigated and recorded. It is intended that this work should commence during 2017 as time and resources permit.

*This project covers the social history of Kempley parish and surrounding areas.