

## FRIENDS OF ST NICHOLAS - NEWSLETTER No. 1.

The Friends support group was successfully launched on Saturday 21st February with a meeting in the Church when at least 30 people were present. The Vicar opened the meeting with a blessing after which he said that the maintenance of the fabric of the building could not be met by the Congregation and Diocese alone; this beautiful and important building could only be safeguarded with funding raised by the Friends.

The Chairman of the Trustees said that he had already obtained a volunteer to be Chairman and asked for any other volunteers/nominations. Mr Derek Singleton was asked to be Chairman and he agreed. It was thought that volunteers for the other essential posts such as Secretary and Treasurer might be forthcoming once the aims of the group were more well established.

It was agreed that the primary purpose of the Committee would be to co-ordinate fundraising efforts (with a light touch), deal with finance and look after membership. It should only be necessary for the Committee to meet every 3 months or so. The important part was for as many Friends as possible to be involved in actual fundraising. There was a lively discussion with lots of ideas put forward and it was agreed that this should be the main item to be covered at the next meeting.

It was requested that arrangements be put in place to allow Friends to make donation and payments by Standing Order and I am investigating this. All Friends were asked to distribute additional forms in order to increase the membership base.