

PAOS ITEM 63.5

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S, RYE

Court Hay
41 Mermaid Street
Rye
East Sussex
TN31 7EU
01797 224418
TerryBurke9@Hotmail.com

Rye Town Council
Town Hall, Rye

27 December 2011

Dear Town Clerk

I enclose an application for a grant towards the Friends' appeal for the complete overhaul and conservation of the Elizabethan town clock, which is housed in the tower of St Mary's church. It is the oldest working tower/turret clock in the country and is thus an important part of the town's heritage.

Sadly, after striking the hours for 450 years, the hour mechanism is proving unreliable and, unless professionally serviced, will cease to function.

The Friends of St Mary's plan use the period of the clock mechanism inspection and servicing to mount the whole mechanism in an architect designed museum standard display case, with explanatory boards. The display case will be dedicated to the Queen's 2012 Diamond Jubilee.

The council web site suggests that larger applications should be filed before the year's end to facilitate budgeting for 2012. I also enclose the text of our appeal leaflet, which shows the significance of the clock in the town's history.

Yours sincerely



Terry Burke

Chair of the Friends of St Mary's, Rye

RYE TOWN COUNCIL

APPLICATION FOR A GRANT (VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS)

Please note that this application will not be considered unless it is accompanied by a copy of the organisation's latest set of accounts showing income and expenditure and balances. If the organisation does not prepare annual accounts or is less than 12 months' old copies of statements for all accounts (bank/deposit/investment and so on) covering the last six months must be supplied.

1	Name of organisation	Friends of St Mary's, Rye
2	Is the organisation a registered charity? If yes, please state charity number If no, what is the constituted status of your organisation?	Charity Number 1065052
3	Name, address and status of individual ('the contact') completing this application	Terry Burke 41 Mermaid Street, Rye TN31 7EU Chair
4	Contact's telephone no.	01797 224418
5	Contact's email address	TerryBurke9@hotmail.com
6	Amount of grant requested	£3,000
7	For what purpose or project is the grant requested?	<p>Rye's town clock is the oldest working church turret/tower clock in the country, dating from the 1560s. The hour striking mechanism has ceased to be reliable and the whole clock (hours, quarters, dial) is in need of a complete overhaul. We also need to replace the electric winding mechanism which lifts the weight.</p> <p>The Friends of St Mary's, Rye wish to use this opportunity to give the clock a modern illuminated display case so that it can be better appreciated by both Rye residents and visitors. A well displayed Elizabethan clock will add to the town's visitor attractions.</p> <p>The works will coincide with and acknowledge the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.</p>
8	What will be the total cost of the project?	<i>Preliminary budget: £17,000 to £20,000 –</i>

		(A) <i>Heritage and Community engagement</i> : Design, professional fees, museum quality display case, information boards, VAT = £10,000 (B) <i>Clock mechanism</i> : overhaul and conservation; automatic self winding gear = less than £10,000 (not part of this bid).
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9	If the total cost of the project is more than the grant requested, how will the remainder be financed?	We will seek further grants for the display of the town clock from Rother District Council, the National Lottery Awards for All scheme and, for the clock mechanism itself, we will approach the Church of England's own clock fund (Churchcare). The Friends will also fund raise during the coming year, by means of collections and special events held in the church.
10	Have you actually applied for a grant towards this project from other organisations? If so, which organisations, how much, and has funding been confirmed?	No funding as yet confirmed.
11	How many signatories are required to sign cheques? (<i>must be a minimum of two</i>)	Two
12	Who/What will benefit from this project and how?	The Town of Rye, with its clock accurately striking the hours, in that it has the safekeeping of one of the country's treasures. It is part of Rye's heritage. Rye's tourist and hospitality industry in that the town's historic clock will be an additional visitor attraction, reaching back to the first Elizabethan era.

If necessary, please continue on a separate sheet. Please feel free to submit any other relevant supporting information.

Signed 

Date 27/12/11

(The person completing this application on the organisation's behalf)

Summary of Accounts 2010
Friends of St Mary's Church Rye
 Registered Charity No 1065052
Income & Expenditure Account
 For Year 1st January to 31st December 2010

	2010	2009
Income		
Voluntary Sources		
Subscriptions & Donations	1,350	1,748
Friends General Fundraising, Activities & Stock Sales	1,004	1,148
Organ Renovation Fund Raising	943	65,534
Benson Window Fund Raising	12,079	3,648
Investment Income		
Bank Interest	287	1,148
Total Income:	15,664	73,227
Expenditure		
Fund Raising Costs	0	2,111
Organ Refurbishment	0	10,917
Benson Window	49,576	1,127
Church Smaller Works: (ClareChapel Chairs): (Leadcap Churchyard Board) (ClockRepairer's Brass Plate) (Lightning Protection System)	0	3,968
		288
		40
		0
Friends Activities Costs	111	113
Administrative Costs	173	113
Total Expenditure:	50,166	20,734
Net Gain/Loss in Year:	10,442	52,493
Funds B/F on 1st January	44,789	128,694
Funds, less Stock, C/F as at: 31st Dec 2010	10,447	44,790

BALANCE SHEET
 As at 31st December 2010

Current Assets	10,447	44,790
Liabilities	0	0
Stock (Books & Cards) ¹	290	344
Net Assets	10,737	45,134
Represented by Cash & Stock Balances:		
Business Instant Access A/C	8,765	9,456
Treasurer's Cheque A/C	320	128
CBF CofE Deposit Fund	1,362	35,205
Stock (Books & Cards) ¹	290	344
Total Cash & Stock	10,737	45,133
Cash plus Stock held as under:		
Friends General	61,533	59,505
Organ Restoration	11,311	11,311
Benson Window	12,103	2,910
J. Bannister Memorial Fd	580	580
Stock (Books & Cards) ¹	290	344
TOTAL WORTH	10,737	45,133

Note 1: See Trading Account on page 2 overleaf

Accounts and Balance sheet prepared by

Honorary Treasurer:
Date:

Simon Pettigrew
S W G Pettigrew
23rd April 2011

Approved by:

Trustee: *David Frost*
Date: 12 May 2011

Opening Stock

Receipe Books at Cost £2.10
Greeting Cards(Pack of 10) at Cost £1.58
Total stock value at 1st Jan 2009

Held	Value
164	344
0	0
	<u>344</u>

In Year Sales

	26	105
	0	0
By Year End:		<u>105</u>

Closing Stock

Receipe Books at Cost £2.10
Greeting Cards(Pack of 10) at Cost £1.58
Value of Stock Carried Forward at 31 Dec 2011
Loss of Stock Value through Sales in Year:

138	290
0	0
	<u>290</u>
	<u>55</u>
Sales	

Profit in Year 2010:

55
50

Name
Address
.....

Post Code

(1) I wish to help St Mary's
Clock fund and donate

£

(2) I am a UK Tax Payer and
wish to donate through the Gift
Aid scheme. Tick here if you
wish to participate.

Signed:

Date

Please make cheque payable
to *The Friends of St Mary's Rye*
Please return this form to

St Mary's Church
Church Square
Rye

TN31 7HF

OUR CLOCK IS SOMETHING TRULY SPECIAL

Experts tell us this the oldest working turret clock in England, and is now seen as being in the same league as Wells and Salisbury. This is a very exciting development for Rye.

The Friends of St Mary's Rye aim to raise £20,000 from a mixture of fund raising, individual donations and grants to cover a thorough professional overhaul, and may be a new case, so visitors to the church tower can better appreciate its workings, with new information display boards, so that residents and visitors alike can share in this wonder of the world of clocks. Long may the hours be chimed across Rye.

The Friends of St Mary's is open to all of any faith or none and is dedicated to the maintenance and enhancement of the church fabric and its fittings.

CLOCK FUND appeal SUGGESTED DONATION TO CLOCK FUND



FOR THIS LEAFLET

The Friends of St Mary's Rye have set up a 'Special Clock Fund', with as target of £20,000 so that Rye's very special clock can be fully overhauled and given another 500 years of active life.

It is fifty years since the clock's last major overhaul and another is long overdue.

The clock fund could also be used to showcase the Tudor clock's mechanism in the Bell Ringing Chamber and to provide information boards on the clock, time and the proud history of Rye.

The true story of Rye's Tudor Clock

The original Medieval Rye clock mechanism was installed in 1513 by a local craftsman from Winchelsea. It was located for safety inside the church tower and was only required to sound the hours.

It was a modern version of the Town Crier's "It's Ten of the Clock and All's Well" -- however the new technology was prone to repeated breakdowns .

The townsfolk of Rye, in around 1561, decided enough was enough and invested in a 'new' clock to be made by a London Huguenot, Lewys Billiard, who was paid the princely sum of £30 for his work. The new clockwork would replace the old with a reliable means of sounding the hours worthy of the honour and prestige of Rye. At the time of ordering the clock, Rye was at the height of its prosperity -- it was the major port between London and Southampton, serving mainly the wine trade from

Bordeaux, replacing Winchelsea. However the harbour was silting up rapidly while England's 'blue water' ships were growing ever larger as trade grew across the Atlantic. Worse, Calais had been lost to the French in 1558, the year of Mary Tudor's death, so depriving Rye of its lucrative trade with Flanders and supplying the garrison town of Calais with food and fuel. Both the trade and the harbour were drying up, leaving work for only small coasters, local fishermen and before long smugglers.

500 years of striking the hours

In 1573, Queen Elizabeth visited Rye, who dubbed the town "Rye Royal", but by the time of the Armada, 1588, Rye was no longer a major maritime centre -- its glory days as a Cinque Port were over.

Nonetheless the town still had the pride and resolve to install a clock dial, which is mentioned in Samuel Jeake's diary of 1667. The hourly chiming mechanism was kept from the old Elizabethan 'Billiard' clock, while new 'quarter jacks' were added around the time of the Restoration.

It was around this time, 1674, that the extraordinary 17 foot pendulum was installed to improve accuracy, adding a dramatic "wow" factor to the church's timepiece. The current 'bob' is dated 1810 and signed 'R. Gill High Street Rye' -- further fine tuning by a local clock maker improve accuracy.

In the mid-18th century Rye seemed to enjoy a brief period of great prosperity. The two Quarter Boys, who give their name to the local football team, were added in 1761 they were replaced by fibreglass replicas in 1969, (the originals can still be seen in the windows of the Clare Chapel).

Rye had benefited from a fine new Town Hall, designed by the London architect Andrew Jeff in 1741 and, some say, funded by politicians in exchange for votes, since Rye was a rotten borough returning two MPs on a handful of votes. The debts on the Town Hall were paid of off in 1754 by their patron, the mighty Duke of Newcastle.

In 1775 a new tenor bell was hung in the tower, which required a new connection between clock mechanism and bell striker.