

Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 8th January 2018 at St James the Less Church

Present:	Colin Burford (Chair), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Paul Whatmough (Treasurer), Mel Winstanley, John Parkinson, Barbara Harrison, Sue Wood, Steve Loy, Lesley Loy, Linda Kirkby, Chris Berry, Rita Murphy, John Holt - 13 members
Apologies:	Jenny Herd, Mike Winstanley, John Harrison,
Chair:	Colin Burford welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting at 19:30
Minutes:	The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 11th September 2017 were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Rita Murphy and seconded by Mel Winstanley.
Matters Arising:	<p>Due to Christmas and the time constraints this imposed, the first meeting of the Joint Committee formed by members of the PCC and the Friends has yet to take place.</p> <p>Other matters arising will be addressed in the reports by the appropriate representative.</p>
Secretary's Report:	Nothing to report
Treasurer's Report:	<p>Paul reported that, since the last meeting on 13th November 2017, transfers totalling £682.50 have been made from the 100 Club to the General Account relating to the November and December draws.</p> <p>A grant of £2,278.89 has been paid to the PCC relating to the new lighting in the North Aisle and the radiator move to make way for the brew station.</p> <p>The current balance in General Account is £7,379.76</p> <p>Total income to General Account to date is £20,696.28 of which £10,799.75 has been raised from the 100 Club.</p> <p>In response to a query from the floor, Paul confirmed that all outstanding invoices for the projects agreed to by the Friends have now been paid.</p>
PCC Report:	<p>Linda Kirkby reported on behalf of the PCC as follows:</p> <p>It was wonderful to see the church packed to the rafters for the Christmas Eve Crib Service – a quick count of 130+ attended and Norman & Anne Dawson worked hard as usual to make the service a lovely start to Christmas and, of course, everyone could now hear the readers beautifully thanks to the new audio system.</p>

Thanks especially go to Rita Murphy and Sue Wood who helped PCC members to decorate the church for Christmas.

This brings me on to another kind of decorating: the church painting party! A huge thank you to Paul Whatmough, Colin Burford and John Wood for giving up their day to paint the north aisle and the porch; team work and I think you will agree a great finish and another job ticked off. I thought we had a brilliant day – they may say otherwise – but if anyone wants a speedy painter, John's the man. He must be the fastest painter in Tatham! Thanks also to Graham Atkinson who brought his tower stack along which made the job a lot easier and safer; in fact, we couldn't have managed without it.

Another thank you again to Rita and co for stepping in at the last minute to produce and distribute the Winter Newsletter in Chris's absence. It made a good read as usual updating everyone with what goes on and what not to be missed at Tatham Church.

As you all know, unfortunately, the boiler house flooded yet again and Paul has worked tirelessly to sort matters out, dealing with Wheildons and handballing the pellets out of the hopper and then hand-feeding them back in again. The result, as of this morning, is that all is back to normal and functioning fine and we are warm again. The PCC in particular can't thank Paul enough. The boiler house has been Paul's second home throughout December but at least it is warm and cosy down there whilst studying the manual! Rest assured that the boiler, its maintenance contract and ways to hopefully prevent future flooding will be a main item on the February PCC meeting agenda.

Paul explained why the boiler room is flooding. However, this is a PCC problem to be discussed at the next meeting on 5th February.

Wenning Voices next – another successful night of carols round the Christmas tree on the green in Wennington. A lot of preparation work given by them with the help and support of many locals. Despite the weather it proved very popular and your leader, Lucy Leather, should be proud of her Voices and the success of the night. Thank you also to Wenning Voices for arranging with Veda Gardner for a tea urn to be placed in the church for all groups to use.

The quote for removal of the tree stump is still in progress.

John Parkinson will give further details on the quote for the lighting to the main body of the church and the additional microphones. However, I would say that we have been advised that the requested outside sensor light is too far away from the path to pick up so an outside porch light has been suggested. All these quotes will be put before the PCC at their February meeting for approval of the work and then we will report back to the Friends. An amount of £4,000 has been allocated by the Friends to carry out this work. (See Minutes of previous meeting).

Finally, dates for your diary:

This Sunday, 14th January, is Plough Sunday followed by bacon butties. This Thursday, 11th January, bell ringing classes start at Hornby first at 7p.m. for 2/3 weeks and then back at St James the Less Church.

	<p>The Jazz & Fizz Night is booked for the 14th July 2018 at Station Farm, courtesy of Willis & Jackie Harrison. This advanced date has also been put in The Bell in the hope that it doesn't clash with any other functions in the Benefice.</p> <p>Sunday, 29th April, Scarecrow catering at Wray Institute Monday, 7th May, church stall at Wray fair.</p> <p>Thank you for your continued support – it is much appreciated by the PCC.</p> <p>John Parkinson advised that the quote to upgrade the lighting in the main body of the church has been received at £2766 + VAT. This would replace the existing 6 spotlights with 4 lights with dimmer switches.</p> <p>The quote for a fixed microphone in the pulpit and a hand held microphone which could also be fixed to a stand is £598.80 inclusive of VAT.</p> <p>As stated by Linda, both these quotes have to be submitted to the PCC.</p> <p>The provision of dimmer switches was queried but it was agreed that these were necessary, especially to subdue the lighting during concerts, etc. The provision of PIR sensors was very expensive and therefore ruled unnecessary.</p> <p>Linda added that a "Booking" diary could now be found in the vestry for groups wanting to use the church.</p>
<p>Events:</p>	<p>The next event is the concert by the Levens Choir, "Music in Quiet Places", on Sunday, 25th February 2018. The tickets have been printed on the back of St James the Less postcards and everyone agreed that this was an excellent idea. Tickets cost £10 each. The 100 Club draw for February will take place at this event. The decision was taken not to hold a raffle.</p> <p>A return visit by the Leyland Brass Band is being considered for October. Rita Murphy has spoken to the Black Dyke Band but they were asking for £4k plus travel plus expenses!</p> <p>Sue Wood reported that the annual renewal of subscriptions to the 100 Club had been successful. The January draw will take place after the Plough Sunday service at the church.</p>
<p>Publicity:</p>	<p>Rita assisted Chris and Verity Berry to produce the winter newsletter. Due to Chris being unavailable to print this newsletter, it was taken to the printers in Bentham and produced in an A5 format. This cost £70 for 100 copies. It was agreed that everyone liked the format and that the feasibility for having it printed in this format in future with the costs shared between the PCC and the Friends is to be considered. Steve Loy said that he could find out where the Melling Chronicle which is in a similar format was printed and the costs involved. Chris and Rita will co-ordinate this matter.</p> <p>Chris advised that he had updated the website and Margaret agreed to email the membership and ask them to have a look and feed back any comments to Chris.</p>

	<p>Colin expressed the thanks of the Friends to Chris and Rita for the efforts they made to get the newsletter circulated before Christmas.</p>
<p>Any Other Business:</p>	<p>Reanne, the curator of the forthcoming Turner talk will be coming to look at the church on Friday, 26th January. Rita, Colin, Margaret and Carl Hunter will meet with her to discuss her requirement.</p> <p>Paul asks that he should be informed of bookings in the church so that he can put the heating on.</p> <p>Colin advised that the WW1 event will take place on Saturday, 17th March 2018 between 13:00 – 16:30. There will be presentations made by three local historians, Steve Roberts, Mike Winstanley and John Wilson. Rita will let Colin have the contact details for the Hornby Contact so that the event can be promoted in that publication.</p> <p>On Thursday, 1st March, the Lent Lunch will take place in the church from 12:00 – 13:30. All are welcome.</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p>	<p>Monday, 12th March 2018 at 19:30 at the church.</p>