

Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 13th January 2020 at St James the Less Church

Present:	Colin Burford (Chair), Paul Whatmough (Treasurer), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Rita Murphy, John Holt, John Parkinson, Richard Sanderson, Rebecca Sanderson, Chris Berry, Mel Winstanley – 10 members
Apologies:	Jenny Herd, Linda Kirkby, Sue Wood, Barbara Harrison
Chair:	Colin Burford welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting at 19:30. He advised the meeting that Chris Berry has resigned from editing the church newsletter and thanked him on behalf of the Friends for his valued contribution. Chris advised that he would be continuing with editing and monitoring the website.
Minutes:	The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 11 th November 2019 were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Rita Murphy, seconded by John Holt. All found in favour.
Matters Arising:	No matters arising.
Secretary's Report:	<p>Margaret reported that since the last meeting she had added two to the Register of Members and one to the social circulation list.</p> <p>Margaret thanked Rebecca for organising the Christmas meal held at The Bridge Inn on 7th December and greatly enjoyed by all present.</p> <p>Eleven people had attended Les Miserables – The Staged Concert at the Vue Cinema in Lancaster on 8th December and agreed that it had been a pleasurable and successful trip to see a live screening of the musical. Margaret advised that she is more than happy to organise trips to the theatre / live screenings and is proposing to repeat the experience by inviting Friends and those on the social mailing list to a live screening from the Adelphi Theatre in London of Kinky Boots – The Musical on Sunday, 9th February.</p> <p>Since the last meeting emails have been sent regarding decorating the church for Christmas, the Christmas crib service and Plough Sunday.</p>
Treasurer's Report:	<p>Since the last meeting on 11th November 2019:</p> <p>£1082.25 relating to the November, December and January 100 Club draws has been paid to the General Account.</p> <p>A grant of £1458.00 has been paid to the PCC for the new folding chairs. The current balance in the General Account is £12,402.59.</p>

	<p>Total income to the General Account to date is £33,457.99 of which £19,658.00 has been raised by the 100 Club.</p> <p>100 Club prizes totalling £10,540.25 have been paid.</p> <p>Grants totalling £19,274.71 have been paid to the PCC for improvements to the church.</p> <p>As agreed previous meetings, Paul proposes to pay £519.79 to the PCC relating to a grant for the literature rack lighting, the organ window lights and the easel (£527.75 + £80.00 – VAT £87.96 = £519.79). Richard Sanderson proposed that this amount should be paid and Rebecca Sanderson seconded. All found in favour.</p> <p>The only remaining Work in Progress is the roof over the boiler room. The repair of the leaky gutter will be covered by the PCC as this is maintenance of the building and not an improvement.</p>
PCC Report:	<p>In Linda's absence, John Holt reported that the Crib Service on Christmas Eve had been well attended. Attendance had also been good at the Plough Sunday service.</p> <p>The future of Entwistle House is still undecided due to access problems.</p>
Joint Committee:	<p>A meeting of the Joint Committee is to be arranged when Linda has greater availability.</p>
Events:	<p>The next scheduled event is the concert with the Lancaster Singers. Unfortunately the Singers have already issued promotional literature about the event saying tickets are £15 each. The Friends agreed that we must therefore honour this even though we were planning on increasing the ticket price to £17.50.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that the Friends would do an Afternoon Tea in the spring and the Events Committee agreed to meet to organise this.</p>
Publicity:	<p>Chris Berry will be continuing with editing and monitoring the website.</p>
Any Other Business:	<p>The new Stitch & Chatter group will be meeting in the church on Friday, 24th January at 10:00 a.m. for a couple of hours.</p> <p>The PCC have discussed the possibility of a defibrillator for the church and this has been well received. The Friends agreed that they would be prepared to assist with this.</p>
Date of Next Meeting:	<p>Monday, 9th March 2020 at 19:30 at the church.</p>