

Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 14th January 2019 at St James the Less Church

Present:	Colin Burford (Chair), Paul Whatmough (Treasurer), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Rita Murphy, John Holt, Mel Winstanley, Richard & Rebecca Sanderson, John Parkinson, Linda Kirkby, Sue Wood – 11 members
Apologies:	Jenny Herd, John & Barbara Harrison Chris Berry, Sue Marsden
Chair:	Colin Burford welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting at 19:30
Minutes:	The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 12 th November 2018 were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Mel Winstanley, seconded by John Holt.
Matters Arising:	<p>Following on from the inspection of the bells, there is a “chunk” missing on the funeral bell. Mark Rowland and Paul will look into this. It does need to be repaired and the bell may not be tolled until the repair has been carried out. It is a mechanical rather than a structural fault.</p> <p>The vacuum cleaner has been purchased.</p> <p>John Holt reported on the situation with Entwistle House. The church cannot own the building; it has to be “vested” to the church by the diocese and the matter now lies with the diocese. However the church should be able to sell the building and the church should be able to retain the money from the sale but this agreement should be obtained in writing. The keys to Entwistle House are with the solicitor. Mike Winstanley had spotted damage to the gable wall and part of the roof.</p> <p>Rita Murphy agreed to purchase one dozen wine glasses for the church to replace glasses broken at Friends’ events.</p> <p>Contributions to the Winter Newsletter should be sent to Chris Berry as soon as possible. Chris had emailed Margaret as follows: I would be grateful if the meeting could be informed/reminded that I will be putting together the "Winter 2018/2019" Newsletter pretty soon after we return on the 15th January & so if anyone wants anything put in it, please could they email it to me asap after the meeting as, once the final draft is approved & printed & distributed, I will not be able to amend it.</p> <p>Sue Marsden has raised the matter of black out blinds for the church windows so that “Movies in the Pews” can continue through the lighter evenings of Spring. This is actually a PCC matter but it was agreed that it was worth investigating further and the first step would be to check what is available. Sue Wood will enquire a blinds company that she has</p>

	used domestically and Linda said that she would speak to Treble 3.
Secretary's Report:	<p>Margaret reported that she had received an invitation to the Wennington WI Cheese & Wine Evening on Saturday, 16th March and, although this did not directly clash with our Afternoon Tea for Friends and Members of the 100 Club, it was not ideal to have two events so close together. It was possible to have an online calendar so that local societies could enter their chosen dates for events to be viewed by others committees but it depended very much on persuading people to use it and keep it updated so unlikely to be successful.</p>
Treasurer's Report:	<p>Since the last meeting on 12th November 2018:</p> <p>£1036.75 has been paid to General Account relating to the November, December and January 100 Club draws.</p> <p>A grant to the PCC of £499.97 has been paid for the purchase of a new Dyson vacuum cleaner and two kettles.</p> <p>The current balance in General Account is £9636.81.</p> <p>Total income to General Account to date is £27,400.80 of which £15265.25 has been raised from the 100 Club.</p> <p>100 Club prizes totalling £8219.25 have been paid.</p> <p>Paul also reported that the cellar steps have been covered with a temporary roof to prevent flooding. It is the intention to replace this roof with a permanent one at an estimated cost of £8k - £10k: £3k for planning consents, bat survey, etc and building costs of approximately £5k. Paul asked whether the Friends would be prepared to support the PCC to the tune of 50% of the costs. It was agreed to support the project in principle and the exact amount to be decided at a later date.</p>
PCC Report:	<p>Linda Kirkby reported on behalf of the PCC as follows:</p> <p>Thank you to those who helped decorate the church for Christmas – it looked beautiful. The 130 people who attended the Crib Service appreciated our efforts and Norman & Anne Dawson did their usual splendid service and then a lovely time was had by all who went over to The Rectory – thanks to John and Phyllis.</p> <p>After Christmas we were, of course, able to remove the decorations and clean up very swiftly; thanks to the Friends for their purchase of the V10 Dyson that lives safely in the vestry. We are delighted with it; in fact, we all want one!</p> <p>The font top is now gleaming and looks loved and cared for. Thanks to Mel Winstanley for her guidance and instructions to her two little helpers. You never know – we may even do some more work on other parts of the church.</p>

	<p>As you will all have seen, the temporary build has been erected over the Boiler House steps and really does look quite in-keeping and we hope will stop the flooding. The PCC are awaiting the result of a Pre-Application to Lancaster City Council before any more work is carried out.</p> <p>Finally there is the new 2019 rota for volunteers for flowers, coffee and cleaning. The PCC very much appreciates any help that can be given in keeping our church clean and cared for.</p> <p>Thank you Friends for your continued support and we look forward to the New Year working together for our church and the community.</p>
Joint Committee:	No report but it was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with a view to what could be done in presentation before the proposed Afternoon Tea.
Events:	<p>The next event will be the Afternoon Tea on 17th March 2019. This event has been agreed as a "thank you" to the members of the Friends and subscribers to the 100 Club for their loyalty and support over the past four years. The Events Committee is well in hand with the planning for this event and a full report will be given at the next meeting.</p> <p>Other dates for the diary for 2019 are: 6th April: spring clean (PCC) 28th April: Wray Scarecrow Festival catering (PCC) 6th May: Wray Fair (PCC) 30th June: Picnic and Games (PCC) 21st September: Jumble Sale (PCC) 5th October: Concert (Friends)</p> <p>On behalf of the Friends Richard & Rebecca Sanderson offered to host a summer BBQ / lunch and a provisional date of 13th July was agreed. This has subsequently been amended to 20th July.</p>
Publicity:	Please refer to Matters Arising
Any Other Business:	John Holt requested that he should be grateful if anyone had any ideas on how to liven up the Benefice magazine "The Bell" to make it more appealing to the readership.
Date of Next Meeting:	Monday, 11 th March 2019 at 19:30 at the church.