

# St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 16th January 2017

Held at The Bridge Inn, Tatham, at 7.30 pm

Present	Colin Burford (Chair), Liz Quine (Treasurer), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Mel Winstanley, Carol Emmett, Linda Kirkby, Sue Wood, John Holt, Lesley Loy, John Parkinson, Chris Berry – 11 members
Apologies	John & Barbara Harrison, Rita Murphy, Paul Whatmough, Kathy Walker, Dorothy Clark, Jenny Herd, Sue Marsden, Mike Winstanley, Steve Loy, Sue Dawson, Richard & Rebecca Sanderson
Chair	Colin welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting.
Minutes	The date of Plough Sunday was incorrectly recorded in the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2016. The date was amended to Sunday, 22nd January 2017 and then the Minutes were agreed as a true record.
Matters Arising	<p>A letter has been received from Linda Kirkby, Chair of the PCC requesting payment for the submersible pump for the boiler house in order to protect the heating system of the church becoming damaged by any future flooding and as discussed and agreed at the meeting of the Friends on 14th November 2016. Liz Quine was asked to raise a cheque in the sum of £142.98 to cover this item.</p> <p>John Parkinson is to meet with Paul Whatmough regarding the electrics to the pump.</p>
Secretary's Report	<p>Margaret reported that there had been no change in membership since the last meeting.</p> <p>An email has been received from Sue Marsden as follows: I doubt if I will make the Friends Meeting tonight as I am full of a cold and it is worse when I am inside – just streaming! - so I don't want to spread it in a closely confined room.</p> <p>I can report the following which may be helpful for the meeting:</p>

1. The carpet has been installed between the choir stalls, in front of the altar and under the piano at a total cost of £521 and they were all in place in time for Christmas. Thank you so much to the Friends for financing this.

2. There is just one Communion kneeler cushion to be embroidered which is being made this week. Then the only cushion left for sponsorship is a small joining Communion kneeler in front of the closed Communion gate during the service. As this is short it would be £70 to sponsor it if anyone asks in the future.

3. The Beginners Upholstery Course started last Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January with 6 participants and everyone is enjoying it, as am I. The course continues over the next 3 Wednesdays and then there will be weekly Wednesday afternoon Upholstery Workshops for those who want to continue with their projects and for anyone who already has some experience of upholstery. A new course will begin on Wednesday mornings on 15<sup>th</sup> February for 4 weeks for beginners again and this already has some people booked in. Each session is for 3 hours and I bring all the tools, materials and equipment that everyone will need including a compressor to run some staple guns.

4. The only problem with the Course is that the lighting in the North Aisle is poor and not good enough for the detailed work of upholstery. Paul Whatmough was on hand and we tried using the floodlight on its cable but this created shadows and wasn't much help. We moved to the centre aisle where the light is good but there is not enough room at the tables to work and have the equipment to hand. I wondered if something can be done about the north aisle lighting. Could we buy a freestanding tall lamp? Could the existing lighting on the pillars be improved? I am happy to help with sourcing something or asking for quotes if required. Please could this be discussed at the Friends meeting tonight and a solution found so that I can perhaps do something before Wednesday. I think that the lighting might also limit other activities at the church which are using the North Aisle.

I am so sorry that I can't be there this evening and please give my apologies. Please let me know what is decided about the lighting.

	<p>A discussion followed regarding the lighting problem and Margaret responded to Sue the following day with a summary of the discussion as follows:</p> <p><b>Further to your email of yesterday the problem of the lighting in the North Aisle of the church was discussed at the meeting of the Friends last night. I am dropping you a line, therefore, to let you know the outcome of the discussions.</b></p> <p><b>It was generally agreed that the lighting in the North Aisle is poor and that this would be a problem for such activities as upholstery and any other art and craft courses that could possibly be encouraged to use the church. However it was also agreed that the church lighting needed a complete review so that nothing was done piecemeal. The matter has therefore been referred to the PCC. It was suggested that it is worth looking at the lighting now installed at Wray church. A specialist from Skipton advised on these improvements and there is also a diocesan lighting specialist who can be consulted. Once the PCC had decided on the way forward and had some costings, the Friends are amenable to considering the plans and helping with the funding.</b></p> <p><b>All this, of course, does not solve your immediate problems but offers of lamps were forthcoming for every Wednesday. Robert &amp; Carol Emmett at Wennington Old Farm believe they have a builder's powerful light on a tripod in their shed and will be digging it out and testing it. Other people have also offered spare lamps. Paul will pop in tomorrow with a lamp from our house and see what has appeared. Perhaps we can then re-assess the situation.</b></p>
Treasurer's Report	<p>£545 has been paid to the PCC for the sanding of the floor in the North Aisle and £521 has also been paid to the PCC for the carpeting.</p> <p>The final total raised at the Leyland Brass Band concert is £1140.54.</p> <p>The total in the General Account is £10,555 of which £6,300 has been reserved for the brew point and the new cupboard doors.</p>
PCC Report	<p>Linda Kirkby was delighted to report on behalf of the PCC that the assisted disabled toilet is now complete with the additions of a mirror and paper towel dispenser and thanked the Friends for enabling the St James the Less Luxury Loo.</p>

The floors in the North Aisle and the Vestry are just amazing.

A lot of ideas and thoughts have gone into "How to Deal with the Altar Cloth Box" and, as a result, rubber castors have been fitted by Graham Atkinson making it mobile and creating easy access for the ladies to the altar cloth frontals.

A wooden step has been created on the steps into the Vestry. These steps have to be altered to accommodate the ramp that has been bought to gain access to the Luxury Loo. The steps are being trialled and are proving a success after which a local stone cutter will be approached to get a price for a stone step to be cut to size and then someone will need to fit it. There will also have to be a handrail for additional safety and ease of use. The PCC will look into the cost of both of these and maybe the Friends would consider financial assistance.

As mentioned in Sue Marsden's email, there just remains a small joining kneeler to go in front of the closed communion gate during the service to be sponsored. The cost for this would be just £70.

The red carpet was installed in time for Christmas between the choir stalls, in front of the altar and under the piano. The church now looks bright and cheerful and thanks again to the Friends for their assistance with this.

A submersible pump has been purchased. There is still some electrical work in order for the pump to be in permanent situ but, in the meantime, it can be dealt with manually - one or two of us just need a lesson from Paul!

The drainage work has been completed outside for the brew station and the core drilling for the pipework into the Church has been done just this weekend. The pipework inside is next and then we can give the go ahead to Tony to commence the installation of the brew station.

The PCC are aware of the lighting problem, especially in the North Aisle. The lighting was an area we were proposing to look at in the future but maybe now it has to be our next priority for the Church, especially if we want to open up the Church for other activities / courses, etc. Sue Dawson is very keen to be involved in getting the lighting right for the Church.

The PCC are arranging to go and visit Yealand Church to look at their chairs. We would like to be able to have approximately 18 chairs which we would want to be both movable and stackable for community and church use in the North Aisle and organ space.

Thank you for all the support and funding you have given our Church for the community. Without the help of the Friends we would not have

	<p>achieved any of the above and a special big thank you was due to Paul Whatmough for all his time and assistance.</p> <p>John Holt reported that progress with Entwistle House was proving to be very slow. The charity Better Things had requested assistance with their legal fees which had been agreed to.</p> <p>Specialists have been to look at the embroidery backdrop that has been in the Church. They estimate that it is associated with the Arts &amp; Craft Movement and will be returning to the Church to carry out specialised dusting on Thursday, 26th January. Members of the PCC will be welcome from 15:00 to view the work.</p> <p>The provision of microphone and PA system in the Church was raised and suggested as a possible future project.</p> <p>Discussion then took place about the future direction of the Church as a community venue and inviting secular groups to use the building. The PCC need to decide what activities they would find suitable and also the question of making a charge for the use of the venue.</p>
<p>Events Sub Group / Fund Raising</p>	<p>Rebecca Sanderson will be standing in for Barbara Harrison as Chair of the Events Committee whilst Barbara is away.</p> <p>The next event will be the afternoon concert of choral music by the Levens Choir on Sunday, 26th February at 14:30. Tickets are £10 each to include tea and cake after the performance. There will be a charge of £150 to the choir. The Events Committee will be meeting next Monday to finalise the arrangements.</p> <p>Sue Wood reported that the 100 Club has 103 members.</p> <p>Congratulations were made to the Events Committee for all their hard work.</p>
<p>Publicity Sub-Group</p>	<p>The Events Committee were asked to email Chris Berry regarding the Levens Choir concert so that details can be put on the website. An entry regarding the activities of the Friends is required by mid-March for inclusion in The Bell and Colin Burford offered to take responsibility for this.</p>
<p>AGM 2017</p>	<p>It was agreed that the AGM should be held in the church and that a finger Jacobs Join buffet should be offered to make the AGM more of a sociable event. It was also decided that at least two meetings a year should be held in the church and the others at The Bridge Inn, Tatham.</p>

Date of next meeting	AGM at 19:00 on Monday, 13th March 2017 at The Church of St James the Less, Tatham. <b>Please note that due to the death of Liz Quine on 15th February 2017, this has now been amended to meeting at 19:30 on Monday, 13th March 2017 at The Bridge Inn, Tatham and the AGM has been adjourned to our May meeting.</b>
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