

Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 8th July 2019 at St James the Less Church

Present:	Colin Burford (Chair), Paul Whatmough (Treasurer), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Rita Murphy, John Holt, John Parkinson, Chris Berry, Richard Sanderson, Rebecca Sanderson, Linda Kirkby – 10 members
Apologies:	Jenny Herd, Mel Winstanley, Sue Wood, Barbara Harrison
Chair:	Colin Burford welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting at 19:30.
Minutes:	The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 13 th May 2019 were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Rita Murphy, seconded by John Parkinson. All found in favour.
Matters Arising:	<p>A letter has been prepared seeking diocesan approval to sell the property. Clarification from the diocese is being sought regarding the reimbursement of disbursements from the sale of the building.</p> <p>Paul proposed that the Friends should reimburse the PCC for the cost of the new window lights in the sum of £576 inclusive of VAT. This was seconded by Rita Murphy. All found in favour. It was also agreed to allocate an estimate of £250 for the installation of a window light in the organ space.</p> <p>The new literature rack was priced at £672 + VAT.</p>
Secretary's Report:	Nothing to report.
Treasurer's Report:	<p>Since the last meeting on 13th May 2019:</p> <p>£721.50 has been paid to General Account, relating to the May and June 100 Club draws.</p> <p>£94.90 has been paid from General Account relating to the Secretary's expenses for the past two years and reimbursement was approved at the AGM.</p> <p>A grant to the PCC of £314.40 has been paid for the new speaker above the choir seating.</p> <p>The current balance in General Account is £10,672.90.</p> <p>Total income to date in the General Account is £29,188.40 of which £17,052.85 has been raised by the 100 Club.</p> <p>100 Club prizes totalling £9,181.75 have been paid out.</p> <p>The only outstanding project at the present time for which a demand</p>

	<p>may be made for assistance from the PCC is the new roof over the cellar steps to prevent flooding.</p>
<p>PCC Report:</p>	<p>Linda Kirkby reported as follows:</p> <p>Following on from the Minutes in regard to Entwistle House:</p> <p>The PCC visited the property prior to their meeting. The property was found to be in fairly good order seeing that it had not been used for the last 8+ years. On the whole the property is sound. There are a few damp areas which are to be expected but it is structurally sound. At the PCC meeting a discussion took place and the outcome of which was that it was agreed by all the members present that the property should be sold. We now have to write to the Diocese to ask permission for it to be sold; this being one of the conditions of the transfer as the property is being held by the Diocese on behalf of the church. Meanwhile we have had three estate agents to view the property and give their opinions on marketing but, until we have the permission from the Diocese, we cannot instruct anyone. The property also has numerous household contents which will need to be dealt with in due course.</p> <p>The cellar steps roof: a bat survey has been carried out and there are no bats – another box ticked! The slow process is being worked through and, in the not too distant future, we hope to hear that all permissions / faculties will be completed and agreed and work can commence. We just need patience.</p> <p>The window lights have been completed; another excellent, efficient job by Harrison & Cross, the electricians, and thanks to John Parkinson for organising this. John has just received the invoice and the PCC ask if this is work that the Friends would be willing to fund (see Matters Arising).</p> <p>We drew the last 100 Club draw at the Benefice Service. The church was full and it was a good PR job. The service was followed by the annual picnic with the chance to have a go at croquet and French boules. It was a wonderful afternoon, the sun shone and there was lots of laughter and cheating! Phyllis Holt and Mark Rowlands won the croquet and John Wilson the boules. Give it a go next year – it is good fun!</p> <p>One last thank you to Paul for strimming the car park following the spraying off; it looks very tidy indeed.</p> <p>Now we are all looking forward to the Summer Supper at Richard and Rebecca's.</p> <p>Thank you everyone for your support.</p>

Joint Committee:	Work in progress
Events:	<p>The final details for the Summer Supper will be agreed at the next meeting of the Events Committee.</p> <p>It was agreed to increase the ticket price for the Bibi concert in October to £17.50 each.</p> <p>Ideas were discussed for future events. Enthusiasm was shown an "Antiques Roadshow" event involving a local auctioneer to value items. Colin requested that thought be given to events that might appeal more to younger members of the community.</p>
Publicity:	Copy is required for the forthcoming newsletter which will cover the Jumble Sale, Harvest Festival and Bibi's concert in October.
Any Other Business:	An inspection of Entwistle House was arranged for 24 th July at 19:00
Date of Next Meeting:	Monday, 9 th September 2019 at 19:30 at the church.