

St James the Less Church, Tatham

Minutes of the 5th Friends Meeting on 18th August 2014

Held at the Bridge Inn, Tatham, at 7.30pm.

Present	Colin Burford (Chair), Linda Kirkby, John Holt, Sue Marsden (Secretary), Liz Quine, Chris Berry, Rita Murphy, Kate McDonald, Sue Wood, John Harrison, Barbara Harrison, Jenny Hird, Mike Winstanley, Mel Winstanley, Mark Cannon, Paul Whatmough, Margaret Whatmough, Sue Dawson – 18 people
Apologies	Carl Hunter (Acting Chair), Rebecca Sanderson, Richard Sanderson, Clare Danz, Kathy Walker, Mark Cannon
Minutes	The minutes of the previous minutes were agreed as a true record
Matters Arising	The Diocese has been approached regarding removing the organ and they are not keen to see it removed. Its state of repair needs to be assessed.
Projects Sub Group	<p>John Harrison, Sue Dawson, Paul Watmough, Mike Winstanley</p> <p>Boiler and Heating</p> <p>The Diocesan Heating Adviser, John Book, has visited and specified where the radiators should go and the type. He endorsed a biomass boiler and Wheildon's expertise in this. A wood pellet 35kw boiler is envisaged, using the RHI scheme to payback over 20 years. 3 quotes have been obtained ranging from £25k to £36k. Only Wheildons are prepared to fit the boiler and hopper into the existing boiler space, the others require a separate new building to be erected. Wheildon's total is £35k plus £7k VAT but we can reclaim 15% of the 20% VAT so we only pay 5% in the end.</p> <p>Diocesan Advisor will recommend our plans to the next Diocesan Advisory Council Meeting on 12th September</p> <p>Concerns :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the cost would use all the Church reserves (£40k) - there are a lot of jobs to be done before the boiler can be installed <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Could a big Promise Auction raise the shortfall next spring?</p> <p>Could one of the wealthy churches in the Benefice loan us the shortfall?</p> <p>John Harrison will be away for several months so Paul Whatmough will lead the Group during this period.</p> <p>Kitchen and wc</p> <p>Sue Dawson is an architect with considerable experience of church facility improvements and she was welcomed to the Friends Group. Sue feels that the best place for the kitchen and wc is in the existing space of the church rather than any extension and she was confident that both these facilities could be fitted into the Vestry. The septic tank could be put in the car park where it is easier to empty and would avoid digging through the middle of the graveyard.</p> <p>There would be plenty for volunteers to do if the Vestry was adapted, thus minimising the cost. The stairs from the Vestry would be replaced by a ramp which can be fitted in even if the organ remains in place.</p> <p>Sue Dawson will speak to the Disability Officer at Lancaster City Council and then design the Vestry refurbishment for the next meeting.</p> <p>All the Friends expressed their thanks to John Harrison for the extensive work he has done to develop this project.</p>

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Website and Marketing Sub Group	<p>Chris Berry, Rebecca Sanderson, Clare Danz</p> <p>Chris continues to keep the website up to date and will post minutes of Friends and PCC meetings as well as Agendas and other notices.</p> <p>Clare was not at the meeting but will be asked to help with a legacy leaflet and also some print for a proposed 100 Club (see Fundraising Group below)</p>
Constitution Sub Group	<p>Colin Burford, Mel Winstanley, John Harrison</p> <p>Colin reported that they have been looking for a suitable structure for the Friends Constitution. The options are a CIO, a charitable company, an unincorporated association or a trust. The CIO seems to be the best solution and Colin will progress with this and circulate documents and the Management Plan prior to the next meeting.</p>
Events Sub Group	<p>Barbara Harrison, Sue Wood, Kathy Walker, Rebecca Sanderson, Jenny Herd, Rita Murphy, Clare Danz, Mel Winstanley</p> <p>Barbara reported that they are still waiting for the St Lawrence Choir to give a date for an event next year.</p> <p>Open Gardens are planned for 2015 and this could be extended into a Garden Party with games, possibly a car boot sale and a barbecue.</p> <p>Another suggestion is to set up a 100 Club and Sue Wood will progress this idea.</p> <p>A Recipe book has been suggested.</p> <p>A Bluebell walk next spring is planned</p> <p>A Promise Auction could be arranged, perhaps at Wennington Hall School.</p> <p>A PCC No 3 account can be opened for the Friends as a temporary solution until it has charitable status as a separate entity.</p> <p>Linda Kirkby will do a schedule of events that the PCC have organised for fundraising</p> <p>The Rotary Club and Lions Club could be asked for a donation.</p> <p>An event to launch the new Friends Group is planned, perhaps tying in with B4RN being installed in Tatham.</p> <p>Quernmore Park ran a Clay Pigeon Shoot for charity that raised £10k.</p> <p>Barbara Harrison will be away for a few months so Sue Wood will co-ordinate the group and will produce a plan of the various fundraising schemes.</p> <p>Colin suggested producing a legacy leaflet and having this in church and ready to circulate to Friends and others.</p>
Any other business	<p>John Holt said that help is needed with the Flower Rota and Cleaning Rota at church and asked if Friends would like to help. The list was circulated and Friends suggested that the rota is combined in future so friends can help together rather than go alone to the church (this is the way that Tatham Fells do it).</p> <p>Chris will put the list on the website too.</p> <p>Colin asked if a new Secretary could be found and Margaret Whatmough offered to take on this role which was very much appreciated by all.</p>
Date of next meeting	<p>Monday 29th September at the Bridge Inn at 7.30pm</p>

Minutes circulated by Sue Marsden, 17th September 2014