

Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 13th March 2017

Held at The Bridge Inn, Tatham, at 19.30

Present	Colin Burford (Chair), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Carol Emmett, Linda Kirkby, John Holt, Lesley Loy, Chris Berry, Richard Sanderson, Rebecca Sanderson, Rita Murphy, Dorothy Clark, Paul Whatmough, Sue Marsden - 13 members
Apologies	Jenny Herd, Mel Winstanley, Mike Winstanley, Steve Loy, John Parkinson
Chair	<p>Colin welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting. Colin addressed the meeting regarding the sad loss of two of our members since our meeting in January. Both Liz Quine and Kate McDonald had succumbed to cancer and would be greatly missed. Both ladies had been supporters of the Friends since inception; Liz as Trustee and Treasurer and Kate as an active member of the Events Committee. Donations of £30 each had been sent by the Friends to their nominated charities. Paul Whatmough has agreed to be nominated as Trustee and Treasurer, proposed by Jenny Herd and seconded by Linda Kirkby and his election to these roles was passed unanimously.</p> <p>Colin thanked Paul & Margaret Whatmough for their help in retrieving the Friends' accounts and paperwork from Liz's family who had been more than generous with their assistance at such a difficult time.</p>
Minutes	The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.
Matters Arising	<p>The submersible pump is in situ but the electrical supply still requires installation. The electrician, Adrian Willans, has agreed to carry out the work when he can.</p> <p>Sue Marsden thanked Margaret for updating her regarding the discussion at the previous meeting regarding the lighting, which is of some concern to her as supplementary lighting needs to be brought into the North Aisle for the Upholstery Course.</p> <p>It was agreed that the lack of a microphone was a problem which became apparent at Liz Quine's funeral as it was difficult to hear the eulogy given by her brother. Linda Kirkby confirmed that this would be put on the Agenda for the next PCC meeting.</p>

Secretary's Report	<p>Margaret reported that, since the last meeting, her attention had been mainly focussed on retrieving the Friends' paperwork from Liz's house with the assistance of the family. Margaret would also like to add her thanks, along with Colin's, to Phil Scott, Liz's brother, who had really gone out of his way to assist the Friends. Colin and Margaret, with Paul Whatmough's assistance, had spent time reviewing and familiarising themselves with the accounts.</p> <p>Margaret also advised that the Trustees were aware of the Executors of Liz's estate and that she had paid for a year's subscription to the 100 Club. In the event that her name is drawn, any winnings will be paid to the Executors. Kate paid monthly into the 100 Club and, again, should her name be drawn whilst her payment is being received, payment of winnings will be made to her estate.</p>
Treasurer's Report	<p>Paul advised that he had been familiarising himself with the accounts and could report as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The net profit from the Levens Choir concert was £715; • As of 28th February 2017, the General Account stood at £11,537.86; • Since inception £14,895 has been raised by the Friends, of which £7,484 has come from the 100 Club. £4,030 has been paid out in prizes. • Paul had also spent time with John Holt reconciling the PCC account with promised funds from the Friends. To date there is a shortfall to the PCC of £1,192.11 and Paul proposed that this sum should be paid over to the PCC so that he can start his tenure as Treasurer with an up to date balance sheet. This was seconded by Lesley Loy and all found in favour. Linda Kirkby was asked to formally write and request this payment.
PCC Report	<p>Linda thanked the Friends for passing the Minute approving payment of the shortfall.</p> <p>The work on the brew station is ongoing. Thank you to Richard Sanderson for his work on this project.</p> <p>The Upholstery Course is proving popular and growing in numbers. The PCC will be discussing whether they should be charging for use of the church for communal activities at their AGM.</p> <p>The diocesan lighting expert will be visiting the church on 30th March. Sue Dawson will lead this project.</p> <p>Linda expressed her thanks to the Events Committee for arranging the Levens Choir concert. It was a wonderful afternoon and enjoyed by all those attending.</p> <p>There are ongoing discussions regarding the embroidery behind the altar. Currently, there are no clear ideas as to what to do with it!</p> <p>Slow progress is being made on Entwistle House.</p>

	<p>There are ongoing items in need of repair, for example, the ceiling in the porch and the roof, especially over the North Aisle, so no lack of projects for the Friends should they wish to assist.</p> <p>The PCC will be catering at the Wray Scarecrow Festival on Sunday, 23rd April from 08:00. Soup and cakes will be required and any offers of assistance and volunteers from the Friends will be gratefully received. The PCC will also have a stall at Wray Fair on Monday, 1st May.</p>
<p>Events Sub Group / Fund Raising</p>	<p>Thanks were once again given to the Events Committee for organising the Levens Choir concert.</p> <p>Rebecca reported that currently the Committee were evaluating the work input into events against the reward received. The Levens Choir concert raised a healthy £715 profit but the workload for the Friends had been less than on other events as Veda Gardner had provided the afternoon tea served after the concert. More money could have been raised if a raffle had been held. John Hold suggested that the goodwill generated by the activities of the Friends was just as important as raising money.</p> <p>The Events Committee are considering future events and will report back. The Wennington Open Gardens are held every three years so this event is not scheduled until 2018.</p>
<p>Publicity Sub-Group</p>	<p>Chris will shortly be preparing the Spring Newsletter so any contributions from the Friends will be gratefully received.</p> <p>It was pointed out that another wedding had been arranged in the church for September and it would be desirable to include photographs in the newsletter whenever possible.</p>
<p>AGM 2017</p>	<p>The AGM will be held on Monday, 8th May at the church of St James the Less, Tatham starting at 7:00 pm. It was agreed that a Jacob's Join supper would take place to make the AGM a sociable occasion.</p> <p>Colin Burford will be stepping down as Chairman at this meeting and, although he is prepared to stand again for the role, anyone who would like to put their name forward for the role of Chairman and Trustee, would be welcomed. Please contact Margaret if you are interested.</p>

Any Other Business	<p>Colin advised Linda as Chair of the PCC that the Friends would welcome direction from the PCC as to what sort of activities / groups they would encourage to use the communal space in the church. The Friends were aware of interest for running family history classes and art classes.</p> <p>Rita Murphy suggested that it would be useful for wedding parties to be given a contact so that they knew where their enquiries should be directed and the contact could be a point of liaison between the party and the church.</p> <p>Linda and Paul have have cleared out all manner of "stuff" from the vestry and hut. There are lists in the vestry and hut of where items can be found. The cleaning materials are now in the long chest.</p> <p>John Holt is hopeful that a replacement has been found for Liz to take over the benefice and parish accounts.</p>
Date of next meeting	AGM at 19:00 on Monday, 8th May 2017 at the Church of St James the Less, Tatham followed by a Jacob's Join supper and then a general meeting of the Friends.