

St James the Less Church, Tatham

Minutes of the 13th Friends Meeting on 9th November 2015 (Draft)

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

Present	Colin Burford (Chair), Liz Quine (Treasurer), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Linda Kirkby, Rebecca Sanderson, John Parkinson, Sue Wood, Chris Berry, Jenny Herd, Rita Murphy, Paul Whatmough, Sue Dawson, Sue Marsden, Mel Winstanley, John Holt, Clare Danz – 16 people
Apologies	John & Barbara Harrison, Mike Winstanley, Kate McDonald, Richard Sanderson, Cathy Walker
Chair	The meeting was opened by the Chair, Colin Burford
Minutes	The minutes of the previous minutes were agreed as a true record.
Matters Arising	<p>Church Organ: John Parkinson reported that the faculty for the removal of the organ has been granted. There is a party interested in acquiring the organ and their diocesan organ advisor will be coming to the church to view.</p> <p>Paul Whatmough advised that he had raised the question of a Christmas tree in the village with the Wennington Parish Council. It would be added to the agenda for the meeting to be held on 23rd November 2015 but, due to lack of time, may not happen this year.</p>
Secretary's Report	Headed paper has now been received in both hard copy and in electronic form. Many thanks to Clare Danz for her assistance and generosity.
Treasurer's Report	There is now over £7,000 in the bank. The contribution by the 100 Club including November amounts to £2,388. Liz advised that she was now anxious to close the Nat West account set up on the back of the PCC account as a temporary measure and this was agreed. There were still 4 people paying into the 100 Club through this account but it is hoped that closure of the account will encourage them to transfer their subscription into the new Barclays account.
PCC Report	<p>Linda Kirkby reported that the Jumble Sale held in September had raised over £1,200 for the PCC. The date for the Jumble Sale next year will be 10th September 2016.</p> <p>The Wenning Singers had sung at the Harvest Festival and had been greatly enjoyed. The weather had been kind for the Harvest Lunch after the service and had been held outside.</p> <p>The PCC had catered at the Farm Sale at John Whitfield's farm and had raised over £1,500.</p> <p>Linda expressed the thanks of the PCC to the Friends for the Leyland Brass Band evening at the church and said that it had been a fantastic night.</p> <p>The PCC had recently met and Sue Dawson reported on the progress made and distributed plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Brew Point is to be clad with oak doors formed from redundant pews; • The drainage has been approved by the Building Inspector; • There will be an instant boiling water system which will be situated under the sink and will cost in the region of £700; • A radiator will need to be moved and John Parkinson suggested that it could be resited in the vacated organ space; • the PCC meeting approved the siting of the new toilet in the vestry area; • Sue Dawson will be meeting with the Building Inspector and was hoping that

St James the Less Church, Tatham

	<p>agreement to reduce the width of the toilet door might be reached. However wheelchair access was necessary and a ramp would be required;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Ministry had been consulted and were happy with the proposed alterations to the vestry; • the existing cupboard behind the curtain will be made into a proper cupboard with proper doors; • Sue will now be working on more detailed specifications so that costs can be estimated. <p>Rebecca raised the issue of lighting which it was agreed needs to be looked at. There is a diocesan advisor on lighting and it was suggested that he be approached for his input.</p> <p>The system for applying for diocesan faculties would be going online in January 2016 and it was intended that the necessary faculties should be applied for asap.</p> <p>John Holt advised that the water supply to the church also needed looking at as it currently comes off a private supply. It will need new pipework and a new meter so that the church has an independent supply.</p>
Projects Sub Group	<p>The Projects Sub Group are awaiting budget costs for the intended work and an indication from the PCC of the contribution they would like from the Friends both financially and direct labour. However, the installation of the Brew Point would require the assistance of a craftsman as it was felt that the necessary skills were not available from within the membership of the Friends.</p>
Constitution Sub Group	<p>At the meeting of the Friends held on 11th May 2015 concerns had been raised by the attendees with the proposal of a fee being incurred as one of the criteria of membership of the Friends. The Trustees agreed to give further consideration to the question of membership and subsequently volunteers had been requested to form a Membership Committee to form a body of opinion representative of the attendees of the meeting as well as the Trustees. The first meeting of this Committee met at Colin Burford's house on Tuesday, 20th October 2015 at 19:00. Present were Colin Burford, Margaret Whatmough, Liz Quine, Rita Murphy, Paul Whatmough and Mel Winstanley.</p> <p>In accordance with the constitution of the Friends, membership is open to anyone who is interested in furthering its purposes and who, by applying for membership, has indicated his / her agreement to become a member and acceptance of the duty of members to exercise his / her powers as a member in the way he / she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the Friends.</p> <p>Following intensive discussion the Committee propose that there should be two categories of membership of the Friends and would like to submit their proposals to this meeting for debate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members: it is envisaged that those who wish to become a member will support the Aims & Objectives of the Friends and would be happy to play an active role in the organisation of, and give assistance with, their events and projects. It is anticipated that members would attend meetings if and when they can. These members would have full voting rights at meetings and at the election of Trustees / Officers. Apart from attendance at meetings, members will be kept informed by receiving the minutes of the meetings and by email updates from the various committees and other members via the Secretary. 2. Associates: it is envisaged that those who wish to become an associate will

St James the Less Church, Tatham

	<p>support the Aims & Objectives of the Friends, would like to be kept informed of events and activities and would not object to their advice and assistance being sought on an ad-hoc basis as and when it is perceived that their areas of expertise and interests coincide with those of the Friends. Associates will not have any voting rights at meetings and at the election of Trustees / Officers. Associates will be kept informed of events and activities by email updates from the Secretary and by receiving copies of the St James the Less newsletter.</p> <p>Neither category of membership will incur a membership fee. All administrative costs of the Friends will be met from monies raised at events.</p> <p>It is envisaged that both full and associate members will be encouraged to join the 100 Club and / or make a donation to the Friends, especially if they live a distance from the church.</p> <p>A full and frank discussion followed the report of the Membership Committee and, although some members were anxious to clarify the issue of voting rights at meetings, strong concerns were expressed at the proposal to have a two tiered membership. It was therefore decided that the Membership Committee would reconvene to re-assess the views of the attendees and come to the next meeting with revised proposals on membership reflecting the views of the attendees.</p>
<p>Events Sub Group / Fund Rais</p>	<p>£1187 was raised at the Leyland Band concert of which £229 was raised by the raffle. At the debriefing after the event it was agreed that the cash handling guidelines, which were trialled at the evening, needed refining especially the requirement to count the money at the end of the evening as this really did not work. It was agreed that Margaret Whatmough would reconvene the committee who had drawn up the guidelines so that these could be reviewed and amended. Colin Burford thanked the members of the Events Committee for organising such an excellent event. Margaret is to write to the Leyland Band to thank them for the concert. Margaret wrote to Andrew Blackledge of the band on 11th November 2015.</p> <p>The 100 Club now has 83 members. It was agreed that a poster promoting the 100 Club should be displayed in The Bridge Inn and that the draw for November would take place in the bar directly after this meeting.</p> <p>The Friends' Christmas Dinner will take place on Friday, 4th December 2015 at the Bridge Inn, Tatham, at a cost of £13.95 per person. This dinner is open to Friends, the members of the PCC and their partners. Rebecca will draft an email to be circulated to all concerned. Margaret circulated Rebecca's email on 11th November 2015.</p>
<p>Publicity Sub-Group</p>	<p>Contributions on the Leyland Brass Band concert and the 100 Club should be forwarded to Chris Berry for the next issue of the newsletter.</p>
<p>AOB</p>	<p>Rita Murphy advised the meeting that interest had been voiced on a visit to the Dukes Cinema in Lancaster to see the film 'Suffragette' and that this had been arranged for Thursday, 19th November 2015 at 11:00. Tickets are £5.50 including coffee and croissant. Anyone who is interested should contact Rita as all are welcome.</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>Monday, 11th January 2016 at the Bridge Inn at 7.30pm.</p>