

Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 8th May 2017

St James the Less Church, Tatham, following the AGM

Present	Colin Burford (Chair), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Paul Whatmough (Treasurer), Linda Kirkby, John Holt, Phyllis Holt, Chris Berry, Rita Murphy, Dorothy Clark, Susan Dawson, John Parkinson, Sue Wood – 12 members
Apologies	Jenny Herd, Mel & Mike Winstanley, Lesley Loy, John & Barbara Harrison, Sue Marsden, Carol Emmett, Richard & Rebecca Sanderson
Chair	Colin re-opened the meeting following the AGM and a Jacobs Join Supper.
Minutes	The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.
Matters Arising	<p>The electrical supply to the submersible pump is still outstanding.</p> <p>The two fund raising events held at Wray Fair raised a magnificent £1689 for the PCC.</p> <p>John Holt reported that matters regarding Entwistle House were progressing very, very slowly! He understands that the Trustees of Better Things (formerly Mencap) have agreed to sign a declaration stating that there has never been a challenge to ownership.</p> <p>The Spring Newsletter has been distributed.</p> <p>John Holt is hopeful that he has found somebody to replace Liz Quine to look after the Benefice affairs but there is a backlog in administration, especially in Gift Aid. He is considering appointing a Gift Aid treasurer to assist with these matters and has somebody in mind.</p>
Secretary's Report	<p>Margaret reported that she had updated the Charity Commission website, deleting Liz Quine as a Trustee and replacing with Paul Whatmough.</p> <p>She will be looking at the issue of licences in time for the proposed Male Voice Choir concert in October.</p>

<p>Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>Paul advised that since the last meeting there had been two transfers of £328.25 from the 100 Club account to the General Account relating to the March and April draws.</p> <p>A grant of £1192.11 has been paid to the PCC to clear all balances to 28th February 2017 as agreed at the meeting of the Friends held on 13th March 2017.</p> <p>A further grant of £2780.00 has also been paid to the PCC to cover the cost to date of Tony Sedgewick's work on the Brew Station, as agreed at the Friends' meetings held on 11th July & 5th September 2016.</p> <p>A generous donation has been received from Emma Murphy of £105 to be allocated to the sanding of the vestry floor. A note of thanks has been sent by the Secretary.</p> <p>The current balance in the General Account is £8,327.25.</p>
<p>PCC Report</p>	<p>Linda thanked the Friends for the cheques as mentioned above.</p> <p>Linda also thanked Sue Dawson for her work and advice on the Brew Station. The surface of the station is to be re-oiled periodically. She stressed that it is important to remind people regarding the on/off switch for hot water. The existing cups and saucers are to be replaced with china mugs.</p> <p>The doors for the cupboard are in hand.</p> <p>The PCC has now received quotes for the proposed new chairs for the church: 16 chairs in beech with a light oak stain amount to £1371.73 VAT inclusive. The chairs in solid oak cost £16 more + VAT and would amount to £1641.93. The decision will be made by the PCC after viewing samples of each.</p> <p>Mike Orbiton, DAC Architect responsible for lighting, has visited the church. Any work carried out would be split into two phases. Phase One would be the North Aisle, organ space and vestry. Phase Two would be the rest of the church. It was proposed to replace two existing lights in the North Aisle with flood lights. It was agreed that the North Aisle made a good and useful community space and so the Friends are sympathetic to assisting with funding of this project.</p> <p>The proposed screen around the porch will require a faculty.</p> <p>A visit from a specialist to discuss the audio requirements in the church is also in hand.</p> <p>Linda thanked the Friends for helping the PCC at the two events at Wray Fair.</p>

<p>Events Sub Group / Fund Raising</p>	<p>The Events Committee have to report on two planned events:</p> <p>The first is a Summer Luncheon to be held on Sunday, 25th June 2017 courtesy of Richard & Rebecca Sanderson who have offered their home and garden for this event. Tickets will be priced at £15 per person and will include a two course lunch and a glass of wine. Veda Gardner will be catering for the event.</p> <p>The second event is a concert to be held at the church given by the Lancaster & Morecambe Male Voice Choir. The proposed date for this event is 14th October 2017.</p>
<p>Publicity Sub-Group</p>	<p>Chris Berry requested copy and photos for the newsletter.</p>
<p>Any Other Business</p>	<p>Linda Kirkby confirmed that guidelines for outside users of the church have now been drawn up. She stated that the PCC had agreed that they did not want to charge a set rate for using the church but would be happy with donations, left to the discretion of the user group.</p>
<p>Date of next meeting</p>	<p>The next meeting of the Friends is scheduled for 10th July 2017 at 19:30 and to be held at The Bridge Inn, Tatham.</p>