

ST JAMES THE LESS, TATHAM

Minutes of the Meeting of Tatham PCC held on 1st February 2016

Present	Mrs L Kirkby (Chairman), Mr J R Holt (Treasurer), Mrs P Holt, Mr W J Parkinson (Vice-Chairman), Mrs E Atkinson, Mr N Dove, Mrs C Dove, Mrs S Marsden (Secretary), Mrs I Hilton, Mrs F Parkinson, Mr D Lund, Rev Mark Cannon, Mrs B Harrison, Mrs V Gardner
Apologies	Mr P Osborne
Minutes	The Minutes of the PCC Meeting held on 2 nd November 2015 were approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.
Matters Arising	<p>Remembrance Garden – We have still to decide on the location of this. Need to discuss on site after the next service as the previously proposed site has been dug up for the water supply.</p> <p>The School Account –John Holt has looked at the Deed and it says ‘for Educational Purposes’ so this is a broad remit which could possibly be used for a computer and screen.</p> <p>Linda Kirkby found a copy of a draft Welcome Park we did years ago and Chris Berry will prepare a new draft of this. Linda suggested that it was broadened to include Wennington as well as the Parish of Tatham and all agreed.</p>
Finance	<p>The Treasurers Report:</p> <p>We are in a position to pay all bills and we can either put £1,000 into shares or start to repay the loan of £8,000. We still have some shares totalling £880. This was discussed and all agreed that £1,000 should be paid off the loan.</p> <p>The Carol Service collection raised £463 which was divided between the Hospice and our church. The bacon butties on Plough Sunday raised £60.</p> <p>The RHI refund for 2015 was £2943. A cheaper supply of wood pellets has been found for £207 per tonne including VAT (the previous price was £234)</p> <p>The Deposit account is £10,630 and the loan is standing at £8,000</p> <p>The Current account is £3,315. The School Account is £1932.</p> <p>The Fabric Account is £800.</p> <p>At present we are not paying towards Tunstall vicarage so there is some saving there.</p> <p>The boiler flooded before Christmas due to a back up from the drain in the cellar. This is not covered by our insurance and we are waiting for Wheildon’s bill for the repair. It was suggested that a non-return valve is fitted to the drain to prevent a future event.</p> <p>Brian Kirkby has finished the work on the church’s own water supply and the cost is £700 including the digging and the pipes. It was agreed that the Friends should be asked if they might pay this.</p>
Church Maintenance and Facilities	<p>Organ - John Parkinson has spoken to the organ purchasers and they now have Diocesan approval. They will be paying soon and then will decide the timing of the removal of the organ.</p> <p>Porch doors - The porch doors have been taken away again to be mended as they have been problematic and stick at times. The handle also has come off.</p> <p>Kitchen and wc plans - Sue Dawson is applying online to the Diocese for a faculty for the kitchen and wc plans. This has been submitted but more quotes and approvals are required and Sue Dawson is kindly co-ordinating all this work and obtaining the necessary documents.</p> <p>There was some discussion as to how much the Friends would help in-kind with the work to the Vestry and kitchen. Sue Dawson will provide a specification and at this point it can be discussed in more detail at a future meeting. A trench arch porosity test is need.</p> <p>After discussion, a Working Group was set up to assist John with the detail of the proposed works to the church. This will comprise John Holt, Linda Kirkby, Sue Dawson, Richard and Rebecca Sanderson.</p>

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	<p>Pew cushions - Linda Kirkby and Sue Marsden had been exploring the possibility of providing comfortable upholstered cushions for the pews as has been done at the Church of the Good Shepherd. This could not be done in the past because the church was too damp but now we have the heating the cushions could be provided. The cost would be £1584 for the 22 cushions, fully tailored with piping in long-lasting upholstery fabric. This compares with more than double this cost for Lowgill.</p> <p>It was proposed that individuals could choose to sponsor a cushion for £90 each and 4 offers of sponsorship have been received already. The PCC discussed this at length and it was agreed that the Friends could be consulted to see how they felt about the proposal, especially as it would be an instant improvement that could be seen after all their efforts to help the Church.</p> <p>Staging for the piano – This extends too far and is making the lectern too high. It can be cut back and the lectern return to its usual place.</p>
Diocese and Benefice	<p>Rev Mark Cannon has spoken to two of the Bishops regarding the vacancy at Tunstall and we will hear more in the future.</p> <p>The Diocese is concerned, as is the whole Church of England, with the decline in attendance at church – 15% in the last decade. We are being asked how we can make Sunday services more accessible and it would appear that we are doing the right things in reaching out into the community through the Friends group and their involvement with a wider audience.</p> <p>Wray and Tatham are conducting some of their own services, without a minister or lay reader. Wray has also had a successful afternoon service.</p>
Friends Group	<p>There are now 91 people in the 100 Club.</p> <p>The Christmas tree on the green at Wennington was a great success and it is hoped this can be repeated annually, perhaps with some carol singing this year.</p> <p>The Wenning Voices sang at the Christmas Eve service and this was greatly enjoyed by all the congregation</p>
Newsletter	<p>Chris Berry will be asked if he might prepare a spring Newsletter.</p>
Mission	<p>The Welcome Pack is being prepared – to be handed personally to anyone moving into the area.</p> <p>The involvement of non church goers with the Friends and the Wenning Voices is helping to bring more people into the church and to feel some ownership and involvement.</p>
Correspondence	<p>Two Diocese letters were read out regarding fundraising and events.</p>
Recent events and activities	<p>The Plough Sunday service and the Carol Service on Christmas Eve were both well attended with over 100 at the Carol Service and over 30 on Plough Sunday.</p>
Future events	<p>4th March is Womens World Day of Prayer which will be held at Melling Church.</p> <p>Sunday 24th April – catering at Wray Institute</p> <p>Monday 2nd May – church stall at Wray Fair with Jamjarbola, plants and bric a brac and perhaps a photo booth for ‘selfies’ with wigs and other props for amusing photographs.</p> <p>9th July – Possibility of Jazz and Fizz evening with ‘High Society Jazz Band’ at Station Farm, Wennington by kind invitation of Jackie and Willis Harris.</p> <p>The Friends Social Group meets on 8th Feb and we look forward to hearing their suggestions of events over the coming year.</p> <p>10th Sept 2016 Jumble Sale</p>
Any other business	<p>Thanks were expressed to John Parkinson for his solution of the temporary electric light on a delayed off switch to enable those locking up to see their way back into the vestry. This has solved the problem very well.</p>

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	<p>Entwistle House – Tatham Old School. John Holt has written to ask about the plans for the school. The Mencap Charity have to give it back to Tatham Church at no cost when they no longer require it and it has been unused for several years now. Mencap have used it since 1968 when the school closed. They revamped it some 10 years ago and it is expected to be in a reasonable condition.</p> <p>An application has been made to Wennington Parish Council for a grant to help with the upkeep of the Church yard. Keith Shaw’s family would like to scatter his ashes in the graveyard and this was agreed by all.</p> <p>A choir led by a Mr Guppy – Gladly Solemn Sound – have asked to make a recording of their singing in the church.</p> <p>Thanks were expressed from all members to John and Phyllis Holt for their kind hospitality.</p>
Date of next meeting	Monday 4 th April at 7.30pm at the Old Rectory

Minutes circulated 30th March 2016