

Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham

Meeting on 13th May 2019 at St James the Less Church

Present:	Colin Burford (Chair), Paul Whatmough (Treasurer), Margaret Whatmough (Secretary), Rita Murphy, John Holt, Mel Winstanley, John Parkinson, Barbara Harrison, Sue Wood, Chris Berry, Richard Sanderson, Rebecca Sanderson – 12 members
Apologies:	Jenny Herd, Linda Kirkby
Chair:	Colin Burford welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting at 19:36 following the AGM
Minutes:	The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 11 th March 2019 were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Rita Murphy, seconded by Mel Winstanley. All found in favour.
Matters Arising:	The PCC have received the keys to Entwistle House but no inspection has been made to date. No decision has been made about the future of the building and access problems still remain. However, should the building be sold, the capital will be at the disposal of the PCC.
Secretary's Report:	Margaret read out thank you letters that had been received following the very successful Afternoon Tea in March.
Treasurer's Report:	<p>Since the last meeting on 11th March 2019:</p> <p>£718.35 has been paid to General Account relating to the March and April 100 Club draws.</p> <p>£218.67 has been paid from General Account relating to the Afternoon Tea Party on 17th March 2019.</p> <p>Grants to the PCC totalling £80.44 have been paid relating to the purchase of new wine glasses and black out blinds.</p> <p>The current balance in General Account is £10,360.70.</p> <p>Total income to General Account to date is £28,466.90 of which £16,331.35 has been raised by the 100 Club.</p> <p>100 Club prizes totalling £8,793.25 have been paid out.</p> <p>Paul reported that the Friends had committed to the purchase of a new literature rack in the region of £500. The financial commitment by the Friends to the new roof over the steps to the boiler house was likely to be around £5,000.</p> <p>Paul also reported that a new speaker was required for the choir stalls. John Parkinson will follow this up and Paul proposed and Barbara Harrison seconded that approximately £350 should be set aside for this. All found in favour.</p>

	<p>The lights in the window recesses have been removed to comply with regulations. The wiring is sound but the fitting themselves do not comply so there will be expense occurred in replacing these.</p>
PCC Report:	<p>In Linda Kirkby's absence, Margaret read out the report that she had submitted on behalf of the PCC to the meeting:</p> <p>What a lot both the Friends and the PCC have achieved during the last twelve months and St James the Less just continues to thrive.</p> <p>In particular, your Afternoon Tea was wonderful and enjoyed by all. Thank you for all your hard work. It was a real treat.</p> <p>To bring you up to date on other matters:</p> <p>We have now got the keys to Entwistle House; it has taken approximately three years to get our hands on these! The PCC is now arranging a date to open the door and have a good look and discussion as to where we go from here.</p> <p>The boiler house roof: a full planning application has been submitted and we, hopefully, await the go-ahead soon.</p> <p>We required an Electrical Test Certificate for the church insurance and, unfortunately, the window lights failed so these have had to be dismantled in order to get the Test Certificate. They were very fragile and ancient and we would like to replace the window lights as I think you will agree that they do show our beautiful church off to its best. We have been quoted a figure of £600 for replacements and maybe this is something the Friends would like to support.</p> <p>Our thanks go to Richard and Paul for up-righting the unsafe tombstone. A job well done!</p> <p>I know that Richard is on the case of sorting out the broken tap and, in the meantime, please could you get water from the vestry. Let's face it: we never even had a kitchen not that long ago and we brought the water across in the container, which I have brought out again.</p> <p>On behalf of the PCC I would like to say how very much appreciated is the support the Friends give and, in particular, the hands-on work and we look forward to another year of happenings at our church.</p>
Joint Committee:	<p>The Joint Committee have been looking at literature racks. The requirements and design have been discussed and agreed with Acorn Oak. The matter is now with the PCC for approval.</p>
Events:	<p>The next event will be the Summer Supper on the 20th July commencing at 06:00 p.m. at Raw Ridding House, courtesy of Richard & Rebecca.</p>

	<p>Tickets will be priced at £15 to include a glass of wine. There will be a pay bar and a raffle. The catering will be done by both the Friends and members of the PCC and the proceeds from the event will be split equally between the two.</p> <p>On the 5th October 2019 there will be a concert given by the opera singer, Bibi Heals, with the theme of "Don't put your daughter on the stage, Mrs Worthington". The cost for this will be £800 to include her accompanist on the piano and her father on saxophone. A lengthy discussion followed concerning the fact that it was becoming more expensive to cover the costs of these concerts and whether the way forward would be to increase the ticket price or cut back on the refreshments served. No decision was reached and the matter will be raised again following discussion at the Events Committee meetings.</p> <p>Concerts with the Lancaster Singers and the Leyland Brass Band have already been agreed for 2020.</p>
Publicity:	The Spring Newsletter has been distributed.
Any Other Business:	None
Date of Next Meeting:	Monday, 8 th July 2019 at 19:30 at the church.