



## **The Friends of St James the Less Church, Tatham**

**AGM 16<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

### **Chairman's Report**

This is the Annual Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, the sixth full year since the Friends was launched.

The charity has been established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registration number 1161272, with the following objective: to preserve and protect St James the Less Church for the benefit of the public as a place of worship and such other charitable purposes as the Trustees deem appropriate.

A close working relationship has been established with the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to identify improvements and modifications to the church which are beneficial in achieving greater use of the church buildings for both religious and secular purposes. In addition, the Friends are involved in raising funds to finance developments agreed by the PCC.

Membership of the Friends is available to anyone who supports its objectives and is interested in furthering its purposes. General meetings of the Friends are held bi-monthly to which all members are invited. Members are also invited to take part in the work of the various sub-groups. The Secretary of the Friends also maintains a database of supporters who wish to be kept informed of the activities of the Friends but do not wish to play a more active role in the running of the charity. These supporters are welcome to attend all our meetings but do not have voting rights. All databases are maintained in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations.

Our longstanding Chairman and founder member of the Friends of St James the Less Church, Colin Burford, announced his resignation as Trustee and Chair at the business meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Colin's wisdom and guidance of the Friends since its inception has been greatly valued and appreciated and, fortunately, he is still playing an active role but from the "back seats" so we can still call upon him for his sound advice. It was agreed at the same meeting that the number of Trustees should be increased to four and the members were delighted with the nominations and elections of Rita Murphy and Mel Winstanley.



The four Trustees of the Friends are therefore:

Chairman, Trustee and Treasurer: Paul Whatmough

Trustee and Secretary: Margaret Whatmough

Trustee: Rita Murphy

Trustee: Mel Winstanley

The contact details of all the Trustees can be found on the Charity Commission website or by contacting the Secretary.

It is the role and responsibility of the Trustees to ensure that the organisation is run in accordance with its constitution and charity law.

**Meetings:** Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed by the Government in the lockdowns and the requirements of social distancing, meetings of the Friends were curtailed during 2020. We were able to meet for business meetings on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 9<sup>th</sup> March and a postponed AGM and business meeting were held on 13<sup>th</sup> July. The Trustees met on 8<sup>th</sup> July to review the activities and compliance of the charity. No further meetings were held in 2020.

**Financial Review:** a copy of the Financial Statement is attached to this report and will be discussed fully later in this meeting under the item of the Treasurer's Report.

**Fundraising:** the fundraising activities of the Friends has been seriously curtailed by the Covid-19 pandemic during 2020. As the severity of this illness started to become apparent in March 2020, it was decided at our business meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March to cancel our first planned fundraising event of the year: an afternoon tea to be held at the church. Initially it was hoped to reschedule this event for later in the year, but this idea too was shelved as the health crisis deepened and all those who had bought tickets were contacted and offered a refund.

Planned concerts with the Lancaster Singers and the Leyland Brass Band due to take place during 2020 were postponed and rescheduled for 2021 with the full understanding and co-operation of the participants.

As a charity we are indebted to the members of our 100 Club and its administrator, Sue Wood, for ensuring that, despite the difficult circumstances, our funds did continue to grow to the tune of over £4,000 during the year and we are very grateful for this support.





**Outgoings:** At the business meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July, the Treasurer advised that the PCC would need to settle the invoice for the roof of the cellar steps for which the Friends had promised financial support and that this debt would become due before the Friends were likely to meet again due to the pandemic. It was agreed that the Treasurer could pay up to 50% of the total costs as long as these did not exceed £11,000. A payment of £4,434 was subsequently made to the PCC when advised.

**Other Matters:** it is with sadness that I have to report that the summer of 2020 saw the death of John Holt. John was a founder member of the Friends, a keen supporter of all its activities and a stalwart of the community. His absence in our midst is a significant loss and he is greatly missed.

As the effects of the pandemic started to bite in our region, it was suggested that the Friends of St James the Less could and should do something to assist people struggling to feed themselves and their families. The membership was consulted by email and overwhelmingly supported a proposal to donate £500 to the Morecambe Foodbank which was duly carried out.

The email circulation lists maintained by the Secretary have proved to be an invaluable tool in disseminating information to our community on services and assistance available during the pandemic and, judging by the feedback, the emails have been greatly appreciated.

Under the umbrella of the Friends, the Secretary organised trips to see live screenings at the cinema. These were offered to both registered and social members and two very successful outings were made to see the musical Kinky Boots and a Royal Ballet screening before the pandemic curtailed our fun.

In summary, 2020 proved to be a difficult and challenging year for the Friends of St James the Less as its meetings and activities were seriously curtailed due the Covid-19 pandemic but our community remains resilient and we look forward to resuming a full programme of activities as soon as possible.

**Paul Whatmough**  
**Chair**

**Friends of St. James the Less**

**Registered Charity Number 1161272**

**Financial Statement  
31st December 2020**

Prepared and presented by:

Paul Whatmough  
Coach House  
Wennington

Treasurer and Trustee

## **Friends of St. James the Less**

**6th Annual General Meeting, 16th August 2021**

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Financial Statements relate to the year ending 31st December 2020.

The Financial Statements have not been independently examined because it is not a requirement of the Charities Commission.

# Friends of St. James the Less

## General Account

### Income and Expenditure

Year to 31st December 2020

		2020	2019
<b>Income</b>			
Fund raising			
	Summer supper	0.00	1979.50
	Bibi concert	0.00	660.71
	Afternoon tea	136.00	0.00
	Sale of Jam	119.00	0.00
Donations	Khazeni-rad (100 Club winner)	56.50	0.00
Surplus from 100 Club		<u>4397.25</u>	<u>4290.00</u>
Total Income		4708.75	6930.21
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Donations	Morecambe Bay Foodbank	500.00	0.00
Secretary expenses		86.69	94.90
Summer supper		0.00	399.53
Printing	New 100 Club invite	75.00	25.98
Afternoon tea	Prosecco (held in stock)	107.88	206.71
Sundry	Keys, Stamps, Wine glasses	0.00	31.98
Grants to PCC	Black out blinds	0.00	77.44
	Speaker above choir	0.00	314.40
	Window lights	0.00	576.00
	Summer supper	0.00	774.99
	Literature racks	0.00	224.00
	Folding chairs	0.00	1458.00
	Lights to Lit. Rack and organ window	519.79	0.00
	Roof over cellar steps	4434.00	0.00
	Sale of Jam	119.00	0.00
Donation	Khazeni-rad	56.50	0.00
Total Expenditure		<u>5898.86</u>	<u>4183.93</u>
Annual Surplus		<u><u>-1190.11</u></u>	<u><u>2746.28</u></u>
Represented by			
Bank balance b/fwd		12041.84	9295.56
Annual surplus		<u>-1190.11</u>	<u>2746.28</u>
Bank balance c/fwd		10851.73	12041.84

## Friends of St. James the Less

### 100 Club

#### Income and Expenditure

#### Year to 31st December 2020

2020

#### Income

Monthly Membership	6765.00	
Donation	<u>300.00</u>	
		7065.00

#### Expenditure

Prize Money	2367.75	
Donation	<u>300.00</u>	
		2667.75
"Profit" to General A/c		4397.25

#### Balance Sheet

#### at 31st December 2020

Bank Balance	1875.00
Payments in Advance	<u>1875.00</u>
	0.00