

**The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St. James, Bishampton  
held at the St. James, Bishampton on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017 at 7:00pm  
As the meeting was not quorate it did not start until 7.13pm**

**Present:**

**Trustees:** Ian Hughes(Chairman), Geraldine Stapley, Lesley Miller, Wendy Wiggett & Eric Carter (Secretary/Treasurer)

**Members:** Rev. Garry Noyes, Bill Dobie, Gordon Kingston and Victoria Poole

**Minute No: 34/2017 - Apologies**

John Cook, Colin Davidson, Steve Dowling, Jennie Dickinson, Martin Dickinson, Bill Ellis, Sue Ellis, Marion Gough, Barry Griffin, Gill Griffin, Delia Harding, Janice Hodgkins, Rodney Hodgkins, Ann Jesson, Peter Jesson, Jill Nash, Mike Rickard, Rosemary Rickard, Belinda Whitehead, Graham Whitehead, Brenda Wilkinson and Martin Wilkinson.

**Minute No: 35/2017– Minutes the AGM held on April 11<sup>th</sup> 2016**

The Secretary pointed out that although Martin Dickinson was active at last year's meeting he had failed to sign the attendance list. It was agreed that he was present and the minutes were accordingly approved unanimously by those who attended last years meeting.

**Minute No: 36/2017 – Matters Arising**

The Secretary reported that although the Friends had made attempts to get various organisations in the village to communicate about forthcoming plans and a calendar had been published for entries to be made this was still not working as efficiently as might be wished. However, it was thought that the Parish Council were in the process for looking at ways to promote activities in the village through web pages and/or social media which might help to bring things together rather better

Rev Noyes said that he thought there was a greater synergy in the village and the Friends agreed to try continue and try and persuade groups to improve on the communications with each other. Gordon Kingston reported that the forthcoming Church Fête would have a "Community" area where groups would be encouraged to display their activities and this should help to encourage greater connection between them.

**Minute No: 37/2017 – Chairman's Report**

The chairman gave a report on the year's events and a copy is attached as Appendix A.

Rev. Noyes thanked the Chairman and said that he felt there was now a good sense of connection between the Friends and the Parochial Church Council

**Minute No: 38/2017 – Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented the end of year accounts for 2016 with comments as attached as Appendix B. These have been examined and found correct by Mr Simon Cosson. He reported that currently the Friends held £9,150 of which £1,200 was committed to outstanding architect's fees and £1,500 to bell repairs.

The potential financial benefits of *Give as You Live* were again highlighted and it was agreed to try and further promote this in the Flyfords Newsletter. An income of £86 was generated last year from just seven users of the scheme.

**Minute No: 39/2017 – Election of Trustees**

The following trustees and officers were proposed by Bill Dobie, seconded by Victoria Poole and agreed unanimously.

- Ian Hughes as Chairman
- Wendy Wiggett
- Geraldine Stapley
- Howard Morrish
- Lesley Miller
- Eric Carter as Secretary/Treasurer

**Minute No: 40/2017 - Appointment of independent Examiner of the accounts for 2016**

Subject to his agreement, the Treasurer proposed Simon Cosson as independent examiner following the excellent work he had carried out for the last 5 years without making a charge for his services. This was seconded by Ian Hughes and agreed unanimously with due thanks to Simon.

**Minute No: 41/2017 – Other Business**

Victoria Poole outlined two faculties which the Parochial Church Council was about to put forward:-

- The first was for an infra-red assisted hearing scheme, together with improved public address, a projector screen and video projector. It was hoped that this would be funded from the Abberton Spire fund.
- The second related to a proposal by NET Coverage Solutions to install a cell phone site in the church tower. All costs would be met by NET and the installation would be sympathetic to the nature of the building whilst creating negligible visual impact. Income from the scheme would be significant and would enable the Parochial Church Council to meet their Parish Share payable to the diocese. The Chairman said that, whilst the Friends would certainly be very pleased to see the Parochial Church Council receive this income, the Friends response would have to reflect the balanced views of its members. The Friends would wait until specific planning proposals were made before presenting any views which the members may have.

The chairman thanked those members attending for their time and input and the meeting was formally closed.