



THE FRIENDS OF FOTHERINGHAY CHURCH

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of

Friends of Fotheringhay Church

Held at

Fotheringhay Church

17:00 Friday 12th July 2019

1. **Introduction.** The Chairman opened the meeting with a welcome to all for their attendance.
2. **Attendance:** Those present were as follows:

Committee Members:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| a. Lady Victoria Leatham (VL) | President |
| b. Mr Tim Stimpson (TS) | Chairman & Church Warden |
| c. Mr Simon Leatham (SL) | Honorary Treasurer |
| d. Mr Hugh Smith (HS) | Committee Secretary |
| e. Bill James (BJ) | Committee member & Church Warden |
| f. Colin Pendrill (CP) | Committee member |
| g. Apologies were received from the following: | |
| i. Rev Anne Hindle (AH) on retirement | Committee Member |

Members of Friends of Fotheringhay Church

1. Glyn & Linda Prior
2. Sandra & Tom Cochrane
3. Annette Beeton
4. Michael Wilson
5. John Miley
6. Charlotte Williams
7. Graham & Christine Charity
8. Judith Kroese & guest Carol
9. Ian Lawson
10. Ashley Mather
11. James Parsons
12. Christine & Chris Halsall
13. Jill Stewart

Friends apologies are attached at **Annex A**

3. **Agenda.** The agenda for the meeting is attached at **Annex B.**

Item	Discussion	Action
1	<p>President's Welcome: Lady Victoria welcomed all to the meeting for the last time before stepping down now that she and Simon are leaving the village. She emphasised the importance of the work that the Friends do in keeping the heritage of the church "alive" and the need to continue. She thanked everyone for their commitment to our most valuable historic asset and encouraged the meeting to continue to bring in new members.</p>	VL
2	<p>Attendance: Those who attended are listed above.</p> <p>Apologies: Apologies were received from 21 Friends. The list of names is attached at Annex A.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of AGM 2018: The minutes of the AGM last held on 22nd February 2018 were circulated and approved.</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising: There were no matters arising from the last AGM.</p>	
5	<p>Repairs to the Church and other work in progress. Report from Bill James is attached at Annex C.</p>	BJ
6	<p>President's address The president had nothing to add to her remarks in opening the meeting.</p>	
7	<p>Treasure's Report and Approval of Accounts. The accounts up to 31st August 2018 were presented.</p>	SL

	<p>They were accepted following proposal from Victoria and seconded by Tom Cochrane. These will be posted on the website.</p> <p>Financial report for the period 1st September 2018 to 31st May 2019 was presented outlining income and expenditure in the period. This report is attached at Annex D</p> <p>Simon Announced that he was stepping down from the position of honorary treasure as he will be leaving the village shortly.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Update on New Constitution. The meeting was briefed on the details of the recent update to the constitution. This had taken longer than expected because amendments to the constitution had not been registered with the Charitie Commission since 1996.</p> <p>This necessitated a trawl through all the amendments in the period to date, those amendments being incorporated into the new version of our constitution and the revised constitution being drafted for approval.</p> <p>This onerous task was undertaken pro bono by Isla Smith, Associate at Sherman & Sterling in London. Our thanks to her for this much needed update to our governance documentation.</p> <p>The new constitution was adopted unanimously by the meeting. This will be forwarded to the Charities Commission once signed by the trustees.</p> <p>The new Constitution is attached at Annex E</p>	<p>HS</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Update on membership</p> <p>We were delighted to welcome our latest new member to the meeting; James Parsons. Welcome James!</p> <p>The current membership stands at 50; 16 life members and 34 Annual members. 48 members are resident in UK and 2 in USA. We also have 5 honorary members who give very generously on a regular basis as do some other members from time to time.</p> <p>As a reminder the membership fees now are as follows: Single Annual Membership: £30 Couple Annual Membership: £40 Single Life Membership: £200 Couple Life Membership: £300</p> <p>Payment of subscriptions. It was noted that annual members pay by the following means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Standing Order 	<p>HS</p>

	<p>2. Direct Bank Transfer 3. Cheque</p> <p>All were encouraged to pay by Standing Order if possible as this is easy for the committee to track and eliminates the possibility of payment being overlooked.</p> <p>Of course members can pay by whichever method which suits them best. We are always grateful for our subscriptions payments. To date 9 members have not yet paid for this year.</p> <p>Everyone was encouraged to look for new members to keep up our numbers and to bring in fresh ideas.</p>													
10	<p>Chairman’s Comments on Activities in past year:</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for their support throughout the year. In particular he thanks Victoria and Simon for everything they have done for the church in general and the Friends in particular. As a token of our appreciation he presented Victoria with a “Victoria Rose” for her new garden!</p>	TS												
11.	<p>Proposal and Election of Officers:</p> <p>The following were proposed and duly elected to serve on the committee and as trustees of the Friends of Fotheringhay Church:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Mr Tim Stimpson</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Chairman & Church Warden</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Colin Pendrill</td> <td>Vice Chairman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Chris Nicholson</td> <td>Honorary Treasurer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Bill James</td> <td>Committee member & Church Warden</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Hugh Smith</td> <td>Committee Secretary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ms Ashley Mather</td> <td>Committee Member</td> </tr> </table>	Mr Tim Stimpson	Chairman & Church Warden	Mr Colin Pendrill	Vice Chairman	Mr Chris Nicholson	Honorary Treasurer	Mr Bill James	Committee member & Church Warden	Mr Hugh Smith	Committee Secretary	Ms Ashley Mather	Committee Member	All
Mr Tim Stimpson	Chairman & Church Warden													
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Mr Bill James	Committee member & Church Warden													
Mr Hugh Smith	Committee Secretary													
Ms Ashley Mather	Committee Member													
12.	<p>Appointment Independent Examiner: The independent examiner will be Bulley Davey.</p>	TS												
13	<p>Home insurance</p> <p>There is an opportunity to bring in additional donations to the church by the following means. Please visit the following website:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. https://www.ecclesiastical.com/individuals/home-insurance/ b. You will see that anyone taking out home insurance with this company before 31st December this year will have a donation of £130 made by the insurance company to their church. Of course you are under no 	All												

	<p>pressure from us to change your insurance policy, but if that is on your agenda for this year or you would simply like to receive a new quote for your home insurance why not give it a try? If any of you decide to take up this offer please let me know so that we can be sure to catch the resulting donation.</p> <p>This insurance company also insures Fotheringhay church and many others.</p>	
14	<p>Any Other Business:</p> <p>The chairman announced the availability of pins with the Church crest for all members. These we distributed to those who attended the meeting.</p>	TS
15.	<p>Date of Next AGM: Proposed date is <u>Friday 19th June 2020</u></p> <p>The meeting closed at 7:30pm.</p>	TS HS

Secretary to the Committee
Oundle, July 2019

Annexes:

- A. Apologies from FFC
- B. Agenda for the FFC AGM 12th July 2019
- C. Repairs to the church and other work
- D. Financial Report
- E. New Constitution

Annex A: Apologies for Absence

1. Mary Boyall
2. Peter Page
3. Barbara Page
4. Diana Powell
5. Phil Stone
6. Roger Fellows
7. Mandy Lawson
8. Peter Harrison
9. Penny Tibbs
10. Alan Hawker
11. Mary Wheeldon
12. Patricia Stewart
13. John Chadwick
14. Mike Ashton
15. Giles Hopkinson
16. Trisha Ryan
17. Robert Kay
18. Philip Clayton
19. Ros Clayton
20. Rowena Somerville
21. Erica Kendal

Annex B: Agenda for AGM 2019



THE FRIENDS OF FOTHERINGHAY CHURCH

Registered Charity No. 1060437

www.friends-of-fotheringhay-church.co.uk

President Lady Victoria Leatham Garden Farmhouse, Fotheringhay, Northamptonshire, PE8 5HZ

Telephone 01832 226110 07785 290 133

AGENDA

Annual General Meeting of Friends of Fotheringhay Church

Friday 12th July 2019 – 5:00pm

1. President's welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of 2018 AGM
4. Matters arising
5. Report from Bill James on Church repairs and other work in progress
6. President's address
7. Treasurers Report and Approval of Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2018
8. Update on new Constitution and approval of amendments including the change of our year end accounting date to 31 March.
9. Update on Membership
10. Chairman's comments on activities during the year.
11. Proposal and election of officers
12. Appointment of Independent Examiner
13. Home insurance with Ecclesiastical
 - a. <https://www.ecclesiastical.com/individuals/home-insurance/>
 - b. You will see that anyone taking out home insurance with this company before 31st December this year will have a donation of £130 made by the insurance company to their church. Of course you are under no pressure from us to change your insurance policy, but if that is on your agenda for this year or you would simply like to receive a new quote for your home insurance why not give it a try? If any of you decide to take up this offer please let me know so that we can be sure to catch the resulting donation.

14. Any other business

15. Date of next AGM; proposed as 19th June 2020

Annex C: Repairs to the church and other work

**The Friends of Fotheringhay Church
AGM 2019
Churchwardens' Report**

The Churchwardens are able to report the completion of the major project of renovation and refurbishment of Fotheringhay Church in November 2018.

Subsequently, further work has been undertaken to modernise and improve the efficiency of the under-seat pew heating and to upgrade the electrical supply system, now completed.

Restoration work continues on the churchyard east wall and quotations for the cost to rebuild the collapsing south wall are being sought.

In February, the falcon-and-fetterlock weathervane on the crown post of the church tower sustained storm damage necessitating a brief period of closure. Work to remediate the damage has been completed, with costs borne by the church's insurers.

The church gates have been repainted and the entrance porch gates re-gilded courtesy of The Friends and a new frontal now graces the altar, commissioned and financed by The Friends.

The Quinquennial Inspection was undertaken at the end of 2018 and the Consulting Architect, Mr Oliver Caroe, confirmed the soundness of the building. Some further investigation of the dampness in the west wall may be required in the coming year.

The Woodstock organ has undergone major refurbishment, much of the cost covered by grants, with The Friends' agreeing to underwrite any shortfall, and has recently featured in a series of five Sunday lunchtime concerts, organised by Mr James Parsons. The church has hosted The Wingfield Mediaeval Pipe Organ, on loan from the Royal College of Organists, the playing of which has formed part of the recital programme at lunchtime.

The Easy Sunday Music season, organised by Ms Sandra Cochrane, has continued to attract enthusiastic audiences on Sunday afternoons throughout the summer months.

The Friends have made a commitment to improve the sound distribution system and the lighting, both internal and external and the relevant permissions have been sought from the Diocesan Advisory Committee.

The church continues to function as both a place of worship, with three services per month and as a secular venue for meetings, recitals, concerts and training events. 2019 will see over seventy events held in the church throughout the year.

Minutes of Friends of Fotheringhay AGM
12th July 2019

In August the Warmington Benefice enters a period of interregnum following the retirement of the Reverend Anne Hindle. The Churchwardens and Worship Leaders across The Benefice will coordinate the pattern of services until a new incumbent is appointed.

Bill James
July 2019

Annex D: Financial Report

The Financial Report is attached to these minutes.

Annex E: New Constitution

The new constitution is attached to these minutes. Having been unanimously approved and adopted by those present at the AGM this will now be forwarded to the Charities Commission when signed by all the trustees.