**Friends of St John’s, Sharow – NEWSLETTER No 1**

**‘Founder’ Members**

To all of you who have become members to date – a big ‘thank you’ from the Chair. Without you we could not have progressed with the formation of the Friends.

The inaugural AGM meeting (well attended) and subsequent Exec Committee meeting on 3rd Sept went vey well and we accomplished all we had set out to do. The Friends of St John’s, Sharow is now up and running with its own Constitution and Exec Committee. As at the date of writing we have 33 paid-up founder members. You have all been allocated a Prize Draw number. Our initial target is 100 paid-up members.

Minutes of the first General Meeting are attached for your information and I am pleased to report the following; -

* A bank account has been opened with Barclays Bank Plc UK A/c holder’s name: Friends of St John’s, Sharow Sort Code: 20-98-98Account No: 83470601
* Our email address is: friends@stjohnssharow.org.uk
* The preparation and printing of a circulation leaflet inviting membership is now in hand, with printing to be completed by 12 noon 24th Sept
* The stuffing of envelopes will take place in Church Mon 2.30 pm & Tues am 24th & 25th Sept \* This is where you might be able to help. If you can offer your services – please contact David Page.
* The distribution of 800 envelopes to households and businesses in Sharow, Ure Bank, Station Drive, Copt Hewick, Marton le Moor and Hutton Conyers needs to be carefully co-ordinated. It is proposed that this will take place from Wed 26 Sept - Sat 29 Sept \* **All volunteers welcomed.**  Please contact David Page to offer your services. David’s Tel number: 01765 601514 or email address: jdpage36@gmail.com
* The Friends’ Open Day will be held in St John’s Church on Sat 13th Oct from 11.00am until 3.00pm. The programme for this celebratory event is virtually finalised. We will you inform of the details in our next newsletter as soon as agreed. We have an exciting speaker lined up for 2.00pm – David Winpenny talking about his new book ‘Secret Ripon’
* An all-member (and friends) candlelit dinner, with speaker, is envisaged for **Sat 24th November.** Please make a note in your diary
* Suggestions for speakers and tours are already being talked about – we intend to be a proactive association. ‘Watch this space’ as they say

These are exciting times and we are off to a good start – long may it last.

Thank you again for your initial support of this project.

**From your Friends’ Chairman: Rev’d Ruth Newton**

 **18 Sept 2018**