

News from Friends of Lyne Kirk

November 2024



Friends of Lyne Kirk is a registered charity set up for the purpose of buying Lyne Kirk building to preserve it as a place of public worship and architectural interest following the announcement by the Church of Scotland that it intended to sell the building.

Friends of Lyne Kirk currently has four Trustees, namely, Linda Haldane, Sheena Jones, Nancy Norman and Nick Rankin.

With the help of Lyne & Manor Kirk Session, an offer has now been secured from the Church of Scotland to sell Lyne Kirk building to Friends of Lyne Kirk for a price of £25,000 with an entry date of 1 February 2025.

This is a take-it-or-leave-it offer with no opportunity to negotiate on the price.

If Friends of Lyne Kirk do not accept this offer, the Church of Scotland will immediately put Lyne Kirk building on the open market, which may result in it falling into private ownership and being lost as a place of Christian worship.

If Friends of Lyne Kirk are successful in buying the building, the Charity will endeavour to preserve and maintain it as a functioning church building. The congregation of Lyne & Manor Parish will continue to be able to worship there as before, and the building will remain open to the public as a place of architectural interest and private spiritual reflection.

The timing of this offer is very tight, and in order to be successful with the purchase, Friends of Lyne Kirk must raise funds to cover the full asking price and the legal fees of the purchase by the middle of January 2025.

Whilst this is an onerous undertaking, the Trustees of Friends of Lyne Kirk believe it can be achieved with the goodwill and support of the local community and are currently in the process of appointing a solicitor to enable the Charity to submit a formal acceptance to the offer granted by the Church of Scotland.

The Charity has opened a bank account to receive donations and the details are as follows:

Royal Bank of Scotland
Account name : Friends of Lyne Kirk
Sort Code : 83-26-09
Account no: 00796645

Cheques should be made payable to Friends of Lyne Kirk and can be given to any one of the Charity's Trustees or posted to the Charity's registered address at : Manortoun, Manor, Peebles, EH459JN

Friends of Lyne Kirk are currently awaiting a reference number from HMRC to enable the Charity to claim gift aid to increase the value of donations received from UK tax payers by 25% at no further cost to the donor, but until this reference number is received it is not able to provide donors with gift aid forms.

In the meantime, anyone wishing to gift aid their donation can still make their donation to Friend of Lyne Kirk and the Trustees will ensure they receive a gift aid form as soon as the forms become available.

A website is currently under construction and will be used to provide supporters of Friends of Lyne Kirk with on-going news and updates on the Charity's progress. Whilst we await the launch of this website the Trustees would be delighted to hear from you to answer any questions you may have and to share our plans for the Charity's future.

For telephone enquiries please call Linda Haldane on 01721-740306

or email : friendsoflynekirk@gmail.com