

THE FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY'S OLD BASING

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES
AND ADVISERS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

Trustees (Members of the Executive Committee)

The Rev. Jo Mulliner, President

Mr. Ian Kershaw, Chair

Mr. Matt Jarret, Vice Chair (from 17th January 2023)

Mrs. Elizabeth Fourie, Treasurer

Mrs. Jane Whiter (Vice Chair to 17th January 2023)

Ms. Kathleen Manley,

Mrs. Julia Wright

Mrs. Judy Wallis

Mr. Alan Jones (PCC representative until 30th March 2023)

Mrs. Jan Secker-Walker

Mrs. Penny Potter (PCC representative from 30th March 2023)

Mr. Chris Hawkins (Co-opted from 16th August 2023)

Charity Registered Number 1051202

Principal Office

22 Priory Gardens

Old Basing

Basingstoke RG24 7DS

e-mail igfkershaw@btinternet.com

Website www.friendsofstmaryschurcholdbasing.org

Bankers

NatWest

Basingstoke, Old Market Square Branch

3 London Street

Basingstoke RG21 7NS

Independent Examiner

Colin Ball

Russets, The Street, Old Basing, Basingstoke RG24 7BY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The members of the Executive Committee (the Trustees) present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Friends of the Parish Church of St. Mary's Old Basing was registered as a charity on 4th December 1995. The charity is governed by a constitution dated 14th November 1995 as amended since that date.

The charity is established to beautify and assist in the maintenance of the fabric of the Parish Church of St. Mary's Old Basing and to preserve and protect it as a place of Christian Worship.

We seek to maintain the church as an icon of village life at the centre of the community.

The preservation of this Grade 1 listed building receives no direct funding from central or local government or the Church of England.

The burden of maintaining the fabric rests with the Parochial Church Council (the PCC).

In March 1991 the PCC had to launch a four year Restoration Appeal to fund work and realised they needed help from the community of Old Basing and Lychpit for that and future work.

The Friends came in to existence to provide this help.

Since 1995 The Friends have made grants totalling £214,377 to the PCC.

Every five years the building is surveyed. Between formal inspections the PCC watches carefully for any problems with the building. The Friends aim to maintain funds to cover a request for help from the PCC to deal with any repairs needed. They do this by organising fund raising activities.

The Friends have made financial contributions large and small over the years.

We have helped with the restoration of the tombs in the chancel and the font, the restoration of the church clock, refurbishment of the parish kitchen,

drainage to the church and parish room, major electrical work and repairs to the east window of the church.

Two major examples are:

The church has had an organ since 1830. The current Bevington organ was installed in 1878. In 1999 it was realised this required a major overhaul. In January 2003 work started at a revised estimated cost of £78,574. The Friends contributed £72,699.

Following the Quinquennial Inspection of February 2017 very substantial repairs were required and the Friends contributed £80,000 to the total costs.

The Committee confirms that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and considering any expenditure.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

EVENTS IN 2023

The year opened with our annual **Spring Quiz** on 25th March in the Parish Room. We thank Chris Beadle for all his hard work in setting the questions and acting as Quizmaster. Yet again he found questions to challenge us. Some were easy, some hard and some downright impossible. He has agreed to mastermind another quiz in 2024.

On 16th May Alan Turton gave a very interesting talk after the Annual General Meeting in the Parish Room "**Hunting the Golden Calf – 350 years of Treasure Hunting and Archaeology at Basing House**" using his encyclopaedic knowledge of the less known residents of the house.

Sven and Trixie Godesen invited us to use their garden for a **Salmon and Bubbles Garden Party** on Saturday 9th September. We were blessed with fine weather and guests were able to sit and talk or wander in the garden and enjoy the drink and canapés against the background of live music organised by Dean Hallett. We thank Sven and Trixie for letting us use the garden and for their hard work in bringing it to perfection. We also thank Dean and his family and friends for providing the live entertainment.

The major event of the year was the pantomime **The Tail of Dick Whittington** held in the Village Hall with two performances held on Saturday 25th November and one on Sunday 26th November.

The pantomime was sponsored by LMW Chartered Accountants and by Spencer & Peyton Limited Funeral Directors and Monumental Masons. Their sponsorship enabled us to meet the substantial costs incurred in hiring the Village Hall.

We have held pantomimes in 2003, 2006, 2018 and 2023. The aims of these pantomimes have been not only to raise funds but also to build the community spirit in Old Basing and Lychpit and we believe we have succeeded in both aims.

The pantomime was written by Rowena Hackett and Rosemary Kershaw in full collaboration with Tim Shaw and was based on an original script by Charlie Palmer kindly let by the Steventon Players. It was produced and directed by Rosemary Kershaw.

The set was designed by David Stevens with costumes by Claire Roberts and lighting by Howard Simpson.

The Director of Music was Stuart Hicken and we were supported by the Basing Singers and their accompanist Richard Walshaw

The cast of thirty five started rehearsing at the end of August.

They were supported by a backroom team of forty eight.

With the numbers involved it is impossible to name everyone in this report. We do however thank them all for the time they spent in rehearsals, scene painting and at the performances and for their commitment to this very successful venture. Every performance was to a full house and we received nothing but praise.

EXPENDITURE

It does cost money to stage these events. We are very fortunate in the support we receive locally, in donations for raffle prizes and the use of the parish room and local gardens. Alan Turton, Chris Beadle, Dean Hallet and The Basing Singers all provided their services free of charge.

The net income from the Quiz Night was £573 being £633 from ticket sales less £60 expenses.

The net income from the garden party was £1,013 being £1,419 ticket sales less £406 expenses.

After the sponsorship mentioned above of £1,200 the net income from the pantomime was £5,265 being ticket sales of £7,780 less expenses of £2,515

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Accounts (prepared on a receipts and payments basis) and the Independent Examiner's Certificate are included in this report at Pages 14 to 17.

The charity continues to receive income from the two One Hundred Clubs it operates. Each member of a One Hundred Club pays £2 per month for each unit they purchase. Their units are entered in to a monthly draw and the winner of each club receives a prize of £100. In the year subscriptions for the two clubs totalled £3,286 and prizes paid out £1,500. A further £900 was paid out by cheques which had not been cashed at the year end.

The One Hundred Clubs were based on there being 200 units sold in total for the two clubs. In December 2023 the number of units sold had fallen to 134. The Executive Committee has therefore decided to recommend to the Annual General Meeting to be held on 7th May 2024 that the two existing clubs be amalgamated with effect from 1st July 2024 and after that date there will be one monthly prize of one half of the monies subscribed to the new club in the previous month.

In addition to 45 life members there were 16 (last year 22) individual memberships and 45 (last year 43) family members bringing in a subscription income of £835 (last year £865).

Events are open to anyone and we intend to try to increase our membership base by recruiting new members in 2024.

In addition to the sponsorship for the pantomime we received generous voluntary donations of £1,180 from individuals.

We received interest of £584 on money deposited with the bank.

We paid £245 for our website and e-mail subscription, £307 for our liability insurance and £35 for a year's data protection registration fees with the Information Commissioner.

Tickets for events can be paid by card. We paid out of the ticket income £78 to Sumup who provide the facility.

We were asked by the PCC for financial help in carrying out drainage works to the east of the church. The problem was that until investigations had been carried out the final cost could not be estimated. Our funds allowed the Committee to guarantee to meet the possible cost based on a "worst case estimate". In fact the actual cost for the drainage works and experts fees was far less at £3,797 and this has been paid to the PCC.

In the year total income was £15,806 and total expenditure £8,944 as shown in the accounts increasing our funds in the year by £6,862.

As at 31st December 2023 we held the following balances:

NatWest Bank 100 Club Account	£11,237
NatWest Bank Current Account	£9,886
NatWest Bank Business Savings Account	£30,069
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	£16,578
Total	£67,770

These funds are held to meet future needs which may arise at any time. The Committee feels that in those circumstances it is appropriate to maintain the money in guaranteed bank deposit accounts.

Reserves Policy

The funds of the charity are required to meet appropriate requests from the Parochial Church Council. Such requests may be made at any time within the five year cycle arising from the Quinquennial Inspection. Therefore the Committee invests in bank deposit funds retaining sufficient funds to meet the estimated costs of organising events on a bank current account.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

Membership of the Friends is open to all who are interested in furthering the work of the Friends and who have paid the annual subscription.

The current subscription rates (which have been unchanged for many years and which the Committee does not intend to change this year) are:

Individual	£10
Family	£15
Life (single)	£150
Life (couple)	£200

The policy and general management of the affairs of the Friends is directed by the Executive Committee.

The membership of the Executive Committee is made up of:

The Honorary Officers: the incumbent of the benefice of St. Mary's Old Basing and the Chair, a Vice Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Publicity Officer (who hold office for one year but who are eligible for election).

Two members of the Parochial Church Council appointed by the Parochial Church Council annually;

Not less than six or more than nine members elected for three years by the Annual General Meeting of the Friends. One third of the committee retires annually but members are eligible for re-election.

Going concern

The Committee has considered all available information as to the future of the charity and the guidance issued as to going concern and liquidity risks. They are satisfied that the current and likely future assets of the charity are such that it will be able to continue in operation. They have identified no material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about its ability to continue as a going concern.

Risk Management

The Committee has considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems and procedures to manage those risks.

The funds of the charity are invested in the CBF Church of England Deposit Fund and in a current and deposit accounts with NatWest Bank. They consider those deposits to be secure.

The risk that there might be unauthorised withdrawals of funds is met by the requirement that any withdrawal over £200 requires the signature of two honorary officers.

A risk assessment is carried out for every event and we hold a public liability insurance with Ecclesiastical Insurance.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The need for the charity remains as important now as it was when the Friends came in to existence in 1995.

The committee organised an Open Meeting in the Church on 5th December 2023 when we received many helpful suggestions and offers of help for the future.

The general view was that we should:

- Improve our communications with members;
- Raise our profile in Old Basing and Lychpit
- Add younger people to the Committee
- Think of new events more attractive to young families and children
- As current events are centred on Old Basing start holding events in Lychpit

Unfortunately Judy Wallis and Jane Whiter have decided to stand down as committee members on 7th May 2024 and tragically Alan Jones died on 11th January 2024.

Judy and Jane have been involved with the Friends for many years. Alan joined the Friends as a representative of the PCC and when he ceased to be a member of the PCC was elected to the committee by the members.

Their hard work and valuable advice will be much missed although Jane will continue to be involved in the organisation of an event scheduled for 13th December. We thank them for their service.

For many years the position of Secretary has been vacant. Julia Wright (who has been a member of the committee for many years) has now been appointed to the post.

Peter Guthrie, Gary Taylor and Bridget Innes-Ker volunteered to join the Committee and were formally co-opted on 22nd January 2024.

Two others have indicated they will be putting their names forward for election at the 2024 AGM.

There is no doubt that we will receive requests for financial help in 2024. Any work on a Grade 1 listed building is expensive involving specialist advice and contractors in an inflationary financial climate.

Our plan for 2024 is to raise funds by increasing awareness in the community of what we do and by arranging a programme of fund raising events for 2024 and hope that they will be supported by everyone in Old Basing.

In the light of the comments made at the Open Meeting the Committee held a “brainstorming session” on 5th February when a number of exciting events were suggested. These are now being considered by sub-committees but at present we have arranged:

The ever popular Quiz Night with Chris Beadle as Quizmaster on 11th May in the Parish Room;

An Antiques Road Show in Lychpit Community Hall on Friday 2nd August;

A talk on St. Nicholas in the Church on Friday 13th December;

More details and other events will follow.

We are conscious that our contact with members has been very poor. We now have a member of the committee who understands e-mail and he is setting up new arrangements.

We are also taking steps to improve our financial management and controls and to claim Gift Aid on donations by introducing a cloud based computer record.

If you have any queries about this report please contact the Chair, Ian Kershaw 01256 355500 igfkershaw@btinternet.com

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES


The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the members of the Executive Committee on 12th April 2024
and signed on their behalf by:



Ian Kershaw

Chair



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Friends of the Parish Church of St. Marys Old Basing

10/1202

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2023

To

31/12/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership Subscriptions	835	-	-	835	865
Subscriptions to 100 Club	3,286	-	-	3,286	3,536
Donations to General Fund	1,180	-	-	1,180	1,210
Donations to Pantomime Expenses	-	1,200	-	1,200	-
Income from events	9,921	-	-	9,921	4,673
Interest received	584	-	-	584	209
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	15,806	1,200	-	17,006	10,493
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	15,806	1,200	-	17,006	10,493
A3 Payments					
100 Club Winners	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,800
Website Subscription	245	-	-	245	-
Insurance	307	-	-	307	308
Grant for church maintenance	3,797	-	-	3,797	312
Expenses of Events	2,982	1,200	-	4,182	1,221
Expenses for card payments (Sumup)	78	-	-	78	-
Statutory fees	35	-	-	35	80
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	8,944	1,200	-	10,144	3,721
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	8,944	1,200	-	10,144	3,721
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,862	-	-	6,862	6,772
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	60,908	-	-	60,908	-
Cash funds this year end	67,770	-	-	67,770	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds			
Nat West 100 Club A/c	11,237	-	-
NatWest Current A/c	9,886	-	-
NatWest Business Savings A.c	30,069	-	-
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	16,578	-	-
Total cash funds	67,770	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

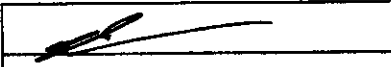
	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			
Details	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			
Details		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			
Details		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			
Details		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Ian Kershaw	12/4/24

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Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

THE FRIENDS OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY'S OLD BASING

On accounts for the year ended

31ST December 2023

Charity no (if any)

1051202

Set out on pages

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Colin Ball

Date:

12/4/24

Name:

COLIN BALL

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

ACIS

Address:

Russetts, The Street

Old Basing, Basingstoke

RG24 7BY

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).