

**THE FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH, SHILLINGTON.
TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2023
AGM – 25TH APRIL 2024**

As set out in the FOAS Constitution the objective of the Association is to assist with *the restoration, improvement and maintenance of the Fabric of All Saints Church, Shillington*.
The function of the committee is to raise funds to achieve this by:

- Inviting members to contribute annual subscriptions.
- Applying for and securing grants towards the cost of works.
- Organising fundraising events.

Annual subscriptions received for the year amounted to £4,136. This sum is slightly less than last year and does not include Gift Aid. The period end for claiming Gift Aid has been changed for this accounting period, thus funds received will appear in the accounts for 2024. The recovery of funds through Gift Aid is substantial and we are very grateful for members or donators who are able to submit the necessary tax declarations.

In addition to subscriptions, we were very grateful to receive a £5,000 legacy donation from John Whitehall's estate as mentioned in the Chairman's report for last year's AGM. Again, many thanks to Liz Allan for this support. We were also fortunate to receive a donation of £4,300 from Zoe Glenister in memory of her husband Paul. Paul was a larger than life, fun character. Paul was a builder and keen to keep the '*building on the hill*' standing. Heartfelt thanks to Zoe for supporting Friends of All Saints Church in memory of Paul.

Obtaining Grants continues to be a challenge however we secured £7,500 in the year distributed against projects as set out in the accounts. Grants were received from Shillington Parish Council, B L Robinson Trust and Jill Franklin Trust. We have also been awarded grants from Francis Coales Charitable Foundation and Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust both in the amount of £5,000 towards the North Door Stonework. These sums will be paid upon completion of the work.

Fundraising events are now back in full swing and raised a total of £9,623.

Sunday Teas, which is proving to be a village favourite for weekly meetings, conversation, tea and cake, raised a massive £2,871. Thank you to all the volunteers for their time and excellent baking.

The 24-hour music event held in the church raised £2,728. This was a great success not only raising much needed funds but it also demonstrated a tremendous community spirit that hopefully can be built on for other village events. The event involved huge numbers of people over the 24 hours, musicians, support teams and volunteer helpers all giving their time for which we are hugely grateful.

The Village Hall was the venue for an old favourite 'Race Night' in February and a 70's Disco in November. These events were both a success and made a combined total of £2,652.

A raffle was held at Shillingfest raising £143 and July saw the return of Flying Teddies which despite the strong winds raised £152.

We have continued to support Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trusts Bike n' Hike. With the assistance this year of Andrew Elliman on his penny farthing the event raised over £600 shared with the Trust.

Moving on to expenditure, we completed works to the value of £13,678 as shown in the accounts. This brings the total project expenditure for the last 2 years to £46,000. This figure is less than initially projected. The focus has been to carry out the masonry works to the North Door however this has been hampered by not securing the balance of grant funding. We are now in a position to move forward with these works as noted in the Spring 2024 Newsletter and The Chairman's Report.

As mentioned in the Chairman's Report The Friends Website was completed in 2023. The accounts show a net expenditure of £1,910, this being the remaining payments and PCC contribution reflected in the accounts for 2022.

On matters of 'House Keeping' we now operate our Bank Accounts via Online banking. This is making payment tracking a lot easier and facilitates bank transfers which is fast becoming the only method companies and organisations will accept payment.

The restoration, improvement and maintenance of the Fabric of All Saints Church is and will continue to be crucial for its survival. We continue to source funds from Trusts and charities however there is strong competition to 'win' these grants. We welcome ideas and information regarding other possible avenues for securing funding to allow important and sometimes critical works to be undertaken.

Not wishing to reiterate now 'worn out phrases' for the rising cost of living only to say that Friends of All Saints Shillington are not immune to this and are impacted too by increased costs. More importantly with this environment of rising prices I would like to mirror the thanks and appreciation as the Chairman's Report. This continued support be it financial, time and or skills is invaluable to us and our work. Thank you.

In conclusion, this has been my first year in the Treasurer role. I would like to thank the committee for welcoming me to the 'team.' I would also like to thank Peter Carroll for his time at the end of 2022 explaining and handing over the various functions of the role. This has provided me with a clear and positive start to 2023.

Jim Robertson.
Treasurer.

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FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH, SHILLINGTON

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR PERIOD ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2023

FUNDS AT BANK		AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022	£	AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021	£
	Add	Drinks Stock carried forward	30,223 103		38,463 292
TRANSACTIONS:-		2023	30,326	2022	38,755
Subscriptions, donations, legacies and similar receipts.					
Members subscriptions		£ 4,136		£ 4,555	
Gift Aid Claim		0		1,882	
Other Donations		95		77	
Legacy - John Whitehall		5,000		-	
Donation in memory of Paul Glenister		4,300		-	
Payment to Herts Young Homeless (2022 event)		-145	13,386	-	6,514
Receipts from activities undertaken to generate funds.					
Sunday Teas		2,871		2,489	
Film Show (Grease 2022) - Matching Payment 'Whitbread'		750		1,023	
Race Night		1,190		-	
24 Hour Music		2,728		-	
Shillingfest		143		379	
Flying Teddies		152		-	
Bike N Hike (50% share)		319		253	
70's Disco		1,462		-	
Jazz on The Lawn		-		3,126	
Fynius Fogg Concert (In the Church)		-		1,269	
Skittles Evening		-		940	
Allowance for 'rounding' pence		8	9,623	-	9,479
Grants received towards works to Church and Churchyard.					
Shillington Parish Council	Boundary wall	1,000		500	
B L Robinson Trust	Boundary wall	5,500		-	
Jill Franklin Trust	North Door	1,000		-	
Francis Cole Charitable Foundation	West Wall	-		4,000	
National Churches Trust	Downpipes	-	7,500	2,500	7,000
A. TOTAL INCOME			30,509		22,993
Administration expenses.					
Website Design Contribution		-		500	
Website Hosting & Maintenance.		166		-	
AGM Costs		102		115	
Public Liability Insurance		96		96	
Advertising Leaflets		-		170	
Parish Magazine Contribution		-		100	
Bank Charges / SumUp fees		151	515	92	1,073
Expenditure on the Church.					
Contractors / Artisans:					
Masonry works (Totterhoe Stone Restoration)		739		20,864	
Works to Boundary Wall (Corinthian Stone)		10,811		7,312	
Water ingress repairs, South Aisle (G J Kinns)		864		-	
Historic Seating Survey (Anthony Beech Conservation Ltd)		-		540	
Steeplejack to repair flagpole (Shared 50:50 with PCC)		-		350	
Tower Downpipe repairs (C.E.L.)		-	12,414	295	29,361
Architects (Michael Dales Partnership) Fees:					
West End walling repairs		80		374	
Boundary wall		1,184		832	
North Door Repair		-		1,522	
Buttress Repair & Levelling Entrance		-		248	
Tower Downpipe Repairs		-	1,264	70	3,046
Development Project. (see note 1 below.)			13,678		32,407
Website Design, Video Tour of Church, Walking Tour					
Leaflet, Launch Event.	Net Payment	1,910			
B. TOTAL EXPENDITURE			16,103		33,480
C. NET PAYMENTS (A - B)			14,406		-10,487
D. NET ASSETS					
		AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023	44,732	AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022	28,268
Reconciliation:					
HSBC Bank Accounts			44,453		30,223
Drink Stock carried forward			279		103
Payments remaining on Website grant from National Heritage Lottery			-		-2,813
PCC Contribution to above			-		900
Monies collected to be passed to Herts Young Homeless			-		-145
			44,732		28,268

See Note 1 below

NOTES:

- The Development Project was funded by The National Heritage Lottery with small contributions from The Parish Council and Friends of All Saints. The Lottery Funding and Friends contribution were received in 2022. The majority of transactions occurred in 2022 as reflected in the reconciliation figures for 2022 and the Net payment made in 2023.
- The current cash balance at 31st December 2023 has been accrued for our next major project - restoring the North Door Arch. We are now in a position to proceed with these works in 2024

CHAIRMAN

TREASURER