



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 24/8/23 Period start date To 23/08/24 Period end date

Charity name: Friends of the Newport Ship (FONS)

Charity registration number: 1105449

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the charity as set out in the governing document are:

- To promote and support the conservation of the Newport Medieval Ship together with all artefacts and, when fully conserved, their effective public display and, if practical, with other maritime relics from the Severn Estuary.
- To facilitate research into the Ship, the possible methods of display and conservation of the vessel and the dissemination of the results of this research to the wider world.
- To promote greater awareness of the Newport Medieval Ship and to foster understanding and appreciation of Newport's maritime heritage.

The main activities of the charity are:

- Provide free guided tours of the Ship Centre
- Acquire funds via membership subscriptions, donations, sale of merchandise and fees for delivery of talks.
- Publish written material on the charity, its activities and research relating to the Ship.
- Support Newport City Council (NCC) and its curator in their activities relating to the promotion and conservation of the Ship

The trustees of FONS are all aware of the guidance from the Charity Commission on public benefit. We have regard to this guidance in all our activities.

Achievements and Performance

In the year 2023/24 the following has been achieved:

- Continuation of opening the Ship Centre to the public every Friday and Saturday from March to November, providing a free guided tour by volunteers
- Successful application for a grant to provide audio-guides to the visiting public, as an alternative to a personal tour
- Fundraising by a "Crowdfunding" initiative to provide 50% of the cost of a new animation of the story of the Ship
- Purchasing further replica items for the displays in the Ship Centre

- Supporting the summer Medieval Fayre which received 900 visitors
- Financing the printing of a new Guide to the Newport Ship (3rd ed.) with greatly improved text and illustrations.
- Giving a large number of external talks to groups to promote the project

Financial Review

The charity is in a strong financial position. Some significant expenditure was incurred during the year in the purchase of the new guide books and the audio sets to assist visitors as they progressed around the ship display. This was one off expense fully approved by the trustees to further promote the conservation of the ship in line with objectives of the constitution. The total assets of the charity are all owned outright, there are no liabilities.

The accounts for 2023/24 have been independently examined to a high standard (report attached).

The trustees consider that it is appropriate to maintain a minimum figure of reserves whilst considering further expenditure to promote the ship and its maritime heritage to the general public. Whilst the significantly large visitor centre where the ship is in storage is currently fully funded by Newport Council, who employ the curator, the objective is for the ship to be eventually displayed in a new museum which, together with the refurbished transporter bridge, will provide two major tourism attractions in the city.

The trustees consider a minimum amount of reserves of £35,000 is appropriate.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity's governing document is its Constitution revised in November 2021. FONS is an unincorporated association. Nominations for vacancies for trustees are proposed and seconded prior to the Annual General Meeting when the election by members takes place. Trustees are appointed for a 3-year term. Further details on voting methods, quorum etc. are available to be found in the Constitution. The four officers are elected via the same procedure.

Reference and Administrative details

The name of the charity is "Friends of the Newport Ship" known as FONS. The registered number of 1105449.

Registered Address:

Newport Medieval Ship Centre
Unit 20, Estuary Road,
Queensway Meadows Industrial Estate
Newport NP19 4SP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	John Charles Ferris	Chair		FONS members
2	Rosalie Sian King	Vice-Chair		FONS members
3	Neil Robert Fowler	Treasurer		FONS members
4	Elizabeth Aiken	Secretary		FONS members
5	Catherine Grace Humby			FONS members
6	Jeffrey Grosvenor			FONS members
7	Elaine Marilyn Davey			FONS members
8	James Gareth Davies			FONS members
9	Liz Gulliver			FONS members
10	David Leigh			FONS members

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)		
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc)		
Date		



Friends of the Newport Ship

1105449

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

Period start date
24th August 2023

To

Period end date
23rd August 2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Receipts				
Subscriptions	£4,295		£4,295	£4,140
Donations	£7,907		£7,907	£5,255
Sales	£9,615		£9,615	£7,658
Speaker fees	£1,766		£1,766	£1,449
Grants		£20,000	£20,000	
Other Fundraising		£2,263	£2,263	£265
Interest	£948		£948	£358
Gift Aid	£0		£0	£0
Sub total	£24,532	£22,263	£46,795	£19,126
Total receipts	£24,532	£22,263	£46,795	£19,126
Payments				
Insurance	£409		£409	£400
Travel expenses			£0	£966
Stationery, postage and telephone	£1,671		£1,671	£994
AGM and Committee meetings	£483		£483	£85
Conservation, displays	£2,990	£11,457	£14,447	£1,509
Equipment & stock	£8,566		£8,566	£1,383
Printing	£12,987		£12,987	£1,560
Publicity	£4,730		£4,730	£6,263
Website	£1,356		£1,356	£1,104
Library	£790		£790	£348
licences	£30		£30	£192
Accountancy & bank charges	£99		£99	£220
Subscription & lottery costs	£536		£536	£80
Sub total	£34,646	£11,457	£46,103	£15,104
Asset and investment purchases,				
Increase in merchandise stock			£12,902	£3,358
Peter Power painting			£6,278	£6,278
Total payments	£34,646	£11,457	£46,103	£15,104
Net of payments	£10,114	£10,806	£692	£4,022
Cash funds last year end	£53,966		£53,966	£49,831
Cash funds this year end	£43,852	£10,806	£54,657	£53,966

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	last year
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
Cash funds	Bank and cash in hand	£17,915	£10,806	£13,732
	Float & Paypal	£275		£1,219
	Total cash funds	£18,190	£10,806	£14,951
		Unrestricted funds		Last year
		to nearest £		to nearest £
Other monetary assets	Monmouthshire BS	£21,628		£35,680

Section B Balance sheet



Friends of the Newport Ship

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
Fixed assets				
Painting		£6,278	£6,278	£6,278
Total fixed assets		£6,278	£6,278	£6,278
Current assets				
Debtors			£0	£0
(Short term) investments	£21,628		£21,628	£35,680
Cash at bank and in hand	£18,190	£10,806	£28,996	£14,951
of which:			£0	£0
Cash - ship float	£250		£250	£250
Cash- shop & events float	£25		£25	£31
Money Manager Account	£0		£0	£189
Paypal	£0		£0	£749
Stock and work in progress	£16,450		£16,450	£3,548
Total current assets	£56,268	£10,806	£67,074	£54,179
Net current assets/(liabilities)	£56,268	£10,806	£67,074	£54,179
Total assets less current liabilities	£56,268	£10,806	£67,074	£54,179
Net assets	£56,268	£17,084	£73,352	£60,457
Funds of the Charity				
Unrestricted funds	£56,268		£56,268	£54,179
Restricted income funds		£17,084	£17,084	£6,278
Total funds	£56,268	£17,084	£73,352	£60,457
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees				Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

FRIENDS OF THE NEWPORT SHIP

**On accounts for the year
ended**

23RD AUGUST 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1105449

Set out on pages

1 AND 2

**Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent
examiner's statement**


My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:		Date:	2 nd December 2024
	Name: ROBERT JOHN EVANS		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	ACMA		
Address:	ROYAL OAK COTTAGE,		
	GOETRE, USK		
	NP15 1QP		

Section B	Disclosure
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Once again, a clear and well kept set of financial records which reflect well upon the treasurer, the team of volunteers manning the Ship Centre and those conducting talks and visits.

Gift Aid has not been claimed on donations for several years and the amount outstanding is large enough to be a material influence on the accounts. A claim should be submitted in the current year.