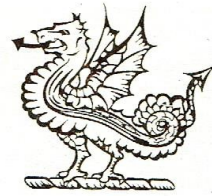




# The Friends of Milton Regis Court Hall

Registered Charity No. 1156115



## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR 2024

### **Name and identification of the Charity:-**

The Friends of Milton Regis Court Hall CIO, registered under Charity No. 1156115. The registered address is 11 Farm Crescent, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 4QD.

### **Trustees of the Charity as at the date of this report are:-**

Mrs Alison Dursley (Chair), Dr Michael K Baldwin (ret.Chair), Mr Michael Nicholls (Treasurer), Mr Keith Robinson and Mrs Janet Halligan.

### **Other Trustees during 2024.**

There were no other Trustees during 2024.

### **Organisation and Structure of the CIO.**

The Trustees are the supreme authority within the CIO. Michael Baldwin and Keith Robinson stood down at the AGM, which was held on Friday 26th April, but they were re-elected unanimously. Alison Dursley was elected as trustee and Chair.

The remaining Trustees were not due for re-election. In accordance with the Governing Document of the CIO, future Trustees are nominated by the existing Trustees, for approval or rejection at the next AGM..

The Trustees are assisted by a Committee, which usually meets approximately six times per year. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, physical meetings were supplemented with virtual meetings by email contribution. The schedule of meetings was maintained, using email and telephone communication. The Trustees are members of that Committee and the Chairman or his deputy chair meetings of the Committee. Committee decisions are usually made on a unanimous basis, though majority decisions are allowed. Future new Trustees will normally have proved their commitment to the CIO by service as Committee Members.

The governance of the Committee is according to procedural documents produced by the Trustees and agreed by the Committee. These procedures are in accordance with the Governing Document of the CIO. The Governing Document is in accordance with the "Association" model constitution issued by the Charity Commission.

### **Financial Reserves:-**

The normal routine outgoings of the CIO are modest, about £1,250 per year. As at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024 our reserves were **£22,579.03**. At the end of the year reserves were

**£23,398.57.** The Charity is thus on a sound financial footing. The major items of expenditure for 2024 were insurance, fire equipment and electricity. Income for 2024 was £2,045.96.

We hold no funds in trust for other organisations.

### **Activities carried out to meet the Public Benefit requirement of the CIO:-**

The Objects of the Friends of Milton Regis Court Hall are:-

1. To preserve and maintain, for the benefit of the public, the 15th Century Court Hall at Milton Regis, Kent.
2. To advance education by operating a museum of local history for the benefit of the public in the 15th Century Court Hall at Milton Regis, Kent.

Following the major renovation work carried out in 2016, the Court Hall is in good repair and we are confident that the first of the aims is being achieved. The need for minor repairs to the roof, walls etc, which are the responsibility of Swale Borough Council has been drawn to their attention.

The Court Hall was open to the public on all Saturdays from April until the end of September and on Wednesdays during August, fulfilling our obligations to meet the second objective. A total of **551** visitors attended, all without charge except for groups of psychic investigators who wanted access at night. Our web site also contains a lot of information about the Court Hall. The public has free access to the outside of the building at all times. It is a centre point for Milton Regis., with pleasant landscaping and seating.

The Friends participated in the “Wheels of Time” scheme in 2024. Inaugurated by Ashford Museum, the scheme encourages children (and their parents) to visit museums in Kent.

We have tried to get school groups to visit the Court Hall but none came to fruition. We will try again in the new year.

Due to its history, the Court Hall has become something of a celebrity place to visit by psychic groups. We are happy to arrange night-time visits.

## Financial Report 2024

INCOME	2024	2023	EXPENDITURE	2024	2023
Subscriptions / Membership	£407.50	£337.50	Repairs / Maintenance	£377.40	£154.56
Fund raising special events	£0.00	£0.00	incl. storage facility, display plinths & replacement vacuum cleaner		
Donations	£739.70	£660.97	Equipment	£0.00	£0.00
Grants and company donations	£500.00	£0.00	Conservation / Displays	£0.00	£0.00
Credit from Elec. Business Support Fund			Printing & Postage	£0.00	£0.00
Sales, shop and other	£163.34	£178.20	Utilities	£189.95	£153.71
Interest	£235.42	£193.83	Insurance	£500.17	£338.95
Gift Aid	£0.00	£0.00	Stock Purchases	£53.90	£26.00
			Other	£105.00	£50.00
			incl. "Wheels of Time" and "Historic Swale"		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,045.96</b>	<b>£1,370.50</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,226.42</b>	<b>£723.22</b>

### BALANCE SHEET

	2024	2023		2024	2023
				(31/12/24)	(31/12/23)
Accumulated Funds at 1st Jan.	£22,579.03	£21,931.75	Deposit Account	£16,464.62	£16,229.20
Excess Income over Expenditure	£819.54	£647.28	Current Account	£6,593.90	£6,349.83
			Uncleared cheques & pay-ins	£0.00	£0.00
			Cash	£30.00	£0.00
			Credit with Utility Company	£310.05	£0.00
<b>Accumulated Funds at 31st Dec.</b>	<b>£23,398.57</b>	<b>£22,579.03</b>		<b>£23,398.57</b>	<b>£22,579.03</b>

### MUSEUM SHOP ACCOUNT

	2024	2023		2024	2023
Opening Stock	£306.28	£351.59	Closing Stock	£322.37	£306.28
Purchases	£53.90	£26.00	Sales	£163.34	£178.20
Donation (cost) for Books etc.	£0.00	£0.00		<b>£485.71</b>	<b>£484.48</b>
	£360.18	£377.59	Profit/(Loss)	£125.53	£106.89