



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date	Period end date
From	1 September 2023	To 31 August 2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

The Friends of Colerne Church

Other names charity is known by

None

Registered charity number (if any)

1157116

3 Box View

Colerne

Chippenham

Postcode

SN14 8DH

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	Raymond Leonard BARKER	Chairman		The Trustees
2	Lavinia Mary WILSON			The Trustees
3	Peter John BROOKES	Treasurer		The Trustees
4	Sarah Jane Margaret Alexander EDMONDS			The Trustees

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
None		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Managing Committee:

Chairman - Ray Barker;

The Trustees;

Other Committee Members - Margaret Edmonds, Karen Brzezicki, Rob Featherstone, Robert Jones, Sue Jones, Serena Gambarini, Beverly Youdan, Simon Youdan and Ffion Prestidge.

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation dated 1 March 2014 and approved 19 May 2014.
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	The Charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed by a resolution passed at a meeting of the charity trustees in accordance with the requirements of the constitution

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Review of Major Risks

The majority of the Friends activities do not require any significant commitment of funds and the financial risks are therefore low. An exception is the Bonfire where the cost of fireworks etc. (approximately £1900 this year) might not be recovered if the weather on the night was very bad. If the Bonfire were to be cancelled the stocks would have to held over to the following year as they are not on a sale or return basis. The Trustees consider this financial risk justified in the light of the potential to generate income in good years and because of the value of the event to the village as a whole.

The bonfire and fireworks have always been recognised as the greatest source of safety risks. A thorough review of the risk assessment, environmental impact and the insurer's safety recommendations is carried out each year before the display.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The objects of the CIO are to advance the Christian religion for the benefit of the public by:

Raising funds towards the cost of any repairs or restoration required to the fabric or structure of the Parish Church and Churchyard of Colerne;

Organising and encouraging the provision of voluntary labour to carry out repairs and maintenance to the Church and Churchyard, or to take part in related fund raising activities;

Encouraging the attendance of people living within the Parish of Colerne at the services of the Church.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The main activities of the Friends are to organise fundraising events to support present or future repairs or restoration of the church and churchyard.

The Trustees have assessed these activities against the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and consider that they are fully consistent with both the guidance and the objects of the Charity.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Grant-making Policy

At the end of the year the bank balance is £93,158. This money stands available to be spent on repairs or restoration whenever necessary. The normal process is for the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to request a grant for specific items of work from the Friends. If the Trustees consider the request is covered by the Friends objects then the money is paid to the PCC who manage the work.

Investment Selection Policy and Banking Arrangements

The Friends do not hold investments.

The Friends current account is a Treasurer's Account with Santander. The majority of funds are held in a Bath Building Society (BBS) Charity Account. The interest rate at the end of the period is 2.89%.

At the end of this financial year approximately 95% of the funds are held in the Charity account and 5% in Santander.

Volunteers

All officers, members and other active supporters are volunteers. There are no paid associates. The Trustees are very grateful for all the voluntary support.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Income and Fund Raising

The money donated to the Friends is a major source of funds for the PCC to maintain the church and churchyard for the benefit of all the local community.

The gross income for the year was £20,147, which is consistent with previous years; and the net income after costs and expenses (not including grants) was £14,608.

The contributions of the principal activities were as follows.

May Fair 2024.

The May Fair took place on 12 May. In 2023 (Coronation year) the Fair began with a parade of local voluntary organisations and it was decided to repeat this in 2024. A number of local organisations took part in the parade and ran stalls during the Fair.

The May Fair was again very well attended on what proved to be one of the few warm days of the early summer and raised £6,073, a similar amount to the previous (record) year.

The Friends would like to thank the many people who helped in this achievement by operating stalls, helping with the arrangements and donating prizes.

Bonfire Night 2023.

The 2023 bonfire night and fireworks display raised £5660, beating the previous record in 2021 by £400. Overall it was agreed that the evening was a great success attracting many family groups to an enjoyable village event, which is what the Friends always aim to achieve rather than seeking solely to maximise profit.

The Trustees and Committee give special thanks to all those who worked so hard this year to build an impressive bonfire and provide a spectacular fireworks display.

The Trustees thank Mr and Mrs Harvey for allowing us the use of their field despite the considerable disruption this causes. We would also like to thank the residents of Eastrip Lane for bearing with the intrusion on the night.

The Trustees thank Hunter French for their generous sponsorship of the event.

The Trustees and Committee have continued to review the environmental impact of this event and believe that the precautions and controls they have put in place strike a reasonable balance between the impact on the environment and the benefit to the community. This consideration will be reviewed as part of the planning for all future events.

After the 2023 bonfire it was noted that there had been a significant increase in attendance since the end of the pandemic. Previously numbers were estimated to be between 700 and 1000 but from 2021 onward this has risen to about 1400. Our insurance was based on approximately 1000 attendees so the increase was reported to the insurance company who agreed to extend the cover to 1500 in 2024 in return for an additional premium of £112.

Subscriptions. The total subscription income was £840. In addition £494 was reclaimed in Gift Aid on subscriptions and donations for the year to April 2024.

Donations. £1,949 was received in donations during the year. (Note that these donations are now shown in the accounts under the Bonfire and May Fair).

Deposit Account Interest. The reserves are now held in a Bath Building Society Charity Account. £2153 was received in interest.

Expenditure

The cost of running our events came to a total of £4846.

The cost of insurance was £674 – the principal administrative expense.

Grants to the PCC

As agreed at the Trustees' meeting on 31 January 2024 the Friends made two major grants to the PCC during the year totalling £12,950.

West Window Repair

For quite a few years the very large window, probably installed in the 1867 restoration, has been on the list of Fabric items needing attention. The main reason was very noticeable distortion due to the need for re-leading causing bending of the window and bowing away from the support bars. Additionally, some of the glass diamonds had become cracked and lost their paint, and the whole window was coated in almost 150 years of 'grime'.

The Church Council agreed to go ahead with a full restoration, and selected J H Stained Glass, based in Kingswood, Bristol who removed the window, cleaned the glass, replaced the cracked and broken diamonds and renewed the all the lead.

The Friends made a grant of £10,000 towards the overall cost of £17,000.

Clock Repair

A grant of £2,949 was made to fund repairs to the church clock, including the replacement of the auto winder system on the strike side.

Pathway Replacement

The Trustees' meeting also approved a grant in the order of £10,000 towards the repair of the pathway from the West door to the South door to make it suitable for wheelchair use. However, unexpected contractor delays have meant that the work did not take place during this reporting period.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

When income exceeds expenditure in the current year it is the Trustees' policy to build a reserve towards a major item of future expenditure. These reserves are in no way binding and the money is still available to be spent should a serious problem be found elsewhere in the church or churchyard.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The Friends committee always aim to ensure that costs and expenses are kept to a minimum. For every £1 received this year, 72p will be available for grants, which is in line with figures for previous years.

Many large charities now state the amount available for grants as a percentage of income "after expenses" and a figure around 90% is common. If expenses are taken to be the cost of running events plus insurance and licensing costs then the figure for the Friends this year is effectively 100%. This is achieved by the generous donation of time and resources by the Committee and the many volunteers who support the Friends.

Section F

Other optional information

The Trustees would like to thank Karen Sayers for carrying out the examination of the accounts.


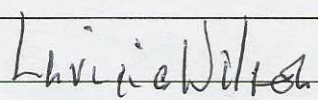
The Trustees were sad to hear of the death of Janet Austin during the year. Janet and her husband Barrie (who was treasurer through the 1990s) were strong supporters of the Friends.

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	RAYMOND BARKER	LAVINIA WILSON
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR OF TRUSTEES	TRUSTEE
Date	18 November 2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of Colerne Church

1157116

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/09/2023

To

31/08/2024

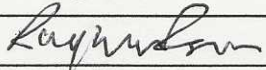
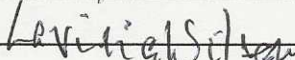
Section A Receipts and payments

	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					
May Fair	7,698	-	-	7,698	7,417
Fireworks	8,880	-	-	8,880	7,113
Subscriptions - Standing Order	840	-	-	840	370
Subscriptions - Other	80	-	-	80	155
Donations	1	-	-	1	1,062
Gift Aid	494	-	-	494	551
May Fair 22 Late receipts	-	-	-	-	156
Bath Building Society Interest	2,153	-	-	2,153	508
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	20,147	-	-	20,147	17,331
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	20,147	-	-	20,147	17,331
A3 Payments					
May Fair Expenditure	1,625	-	-	1,625	1,092
Fireworks Expenditure	3,221	-	-	3,221	3,396
Support Costs	694	-	-	694	582
Grants Paid	12,950	-	-	12,950	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	18,489	-	-	18,489	5,071
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	18,489	-	-	18,489	5,071
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,658	-	-	1,658	12,260
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	91,501	-	-	91,501	79,240
Cash funds this year end	93,158	-	-	93,158	91,501

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in Hand	-	-	-
	Santander Current Account	6,216	-	-
	Bath Building Society	86,942	-	-
	Total cash funds	93,158	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets			Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	RAYMOND BARKER	18/11/24
	LAVINIA WILSON	18/11/24