



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date		
From	1	September	To	31	August
		2024			2025

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, 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 community 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.

Funds in the Bath Building Society currently exceed the £85k limit that is covered under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme by about £20k. The risk is considered acceptable at present because of the low chance of bank failure and the likely use of funds for grants in the coming year.

We recognise the introduction of The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, and are considering its implications for our public events.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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 £108,974. 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 2.44%.

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 £22,023, which is consistent with previous years; and the net income after costs and expenses (not including grants) was £15,816.

The contributions of the principal activities were as follows.

May Fair 2025.

The May Fair took place on 17 May. As in the past two years the Fair began with a parade of local voluntary organisations. This year the parade was led by the Marshfield Band whose playing was much appreciated. The committee would like to thank Karen Prees for sponsoring the band.

The May Fair was better attended than ever on a perfect summer afternoon. The Fair raised £7,281, a 15% increase on the previous record takings.

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 2024.

The 2024 bonfire night and fireworks display raised £5286, very close to the record set in 2023. Overall it was agreed that the evening was a great success attracting many family groups to an enjoyable community 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 Euridge Manor 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.

Subscriptions. The total subscription income was £580. In addition £814 was reclaimed in Gift Aid on subscriptions and donations for the year to April 2025.

Donations. £3,492 was received in donations during the year. (Note that most of these donations are now shown in the accounts under the Bonfire and May Fair).

Section D

Achievements and performance

Deposit Account Interest. The reserves are held in a Bath Building Society Charity Account. £2,547 was received in interest.

Expenditure

The cost of running our events came to a total of £5,514.

The cost of insurance was £674, which is the principal administrative expense.

Grants to the PCC

The PCC did not ask for any grants during the year. The Trustees have approved a grant of £10,000 for work on the pathway to the South door but this has been unavoidably delayed until next year.

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.

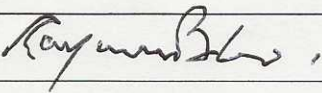
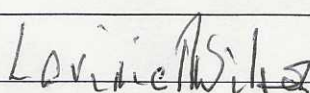
Section F**Other optional information**

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

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	10 November 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of Colerne Church

1157116

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	01/09/2024	To	31/08/2025
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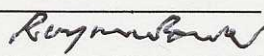
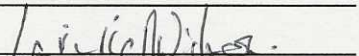
Section A Receipts and payments

	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	8,783	-	-	8,783	7,698
Fireworks	9,298	-	-	9,298	8,880
Subscriptions - Standing Order	580	-	-	580	840
Subscriptions - Other	-	-	-	-	80
Donations	1	-	-	1	1
Gift Aid	814	-	-	814	494
May Fair 22 Late receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Bath Building Society Interest	2,548	-	-	2,548	2,153
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	22,023	-	-	22,023	20,147
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	22,023	-	-	22,023	20,147
A3 Payments					
May Fair Expenditure	1,502	-	-	1,502	1,625
Fireworks Expenditure	4,012	-	-	4,012	3,221
Support Costs	694	-	-	694	694
Grants Paid	-	-	-	-	12,950
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	6,208	-	-	6,208	18,489
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,208	-	-	6,208	18,489
Net of receipts/(payments)	15,816	-	-	15,816	1,658
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	93,158	-	-	93,158	91,501
Cash funds this year end	108,974	-	-	108,974	93,158

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	6,484	-	-
	Bath Building Society	102,489	-	-
	Total cash funds	108,974	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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 asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	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
	R BARKER	10/11/25
	L WILSON	10/11/25