

FRIENDS OF YORK WALLS

England & Wales · Charity number 1159300

Details

Other names	FOYW
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2014-11-20
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	50 Grey Towers Drive Nunthorpe Middlesbrough TS7 0LT
Phone	01642317309
Email	friendsofyorkwalls@gmail.com
Website	http://www.yorkwalls.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS:THE SOCIETY IS ESTABLISHED FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES IN YORK AND THE SURROUNDING AREA WHICH SHALL HEREINAFTER BE REFERRED TO AS "THE AREA OF BENEFIT":(1) TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN THE HISTORY, NATURAL HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE AREA OF BENEFIT.(2) TO SECURE THE PRESERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF FEATURES OF HISTORIC PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE AREA OF BENEFIT IN PARTICULAR THE HISTORIC DEFENCES AND YORK CITY WALLS.

Activities: In the last year we have secured a 30 year lease for Fishergate Postern Tower from the City of York Council. We are now in the process of applying for funding and obtaining statutory consents to carry out repairs to the tower and create more permanent displays for visitor. We continue to open the tower and other areas of York's city walls to the public to promote their use and conservation.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- City Of York

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£7,817	£11,065	-	-
2023-12-31	£9,134	£18,066	-	-
2022-12-31	£7,179	£7,160	-	-
2021-12-31	£22,799	£7,723	-	-
2020-12-31	£7,121	£2,319	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
William James Hill	Chair	2019-09-03
Barry James Crump		2023-09-05
Rachel Hollingworth		2023-10-03
Samantha McDermott		2016-01-18

Accounts

FRIENDS OF YORK WALLS

TRUSTEES REPORT 2024

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

1 Structure, Governance and Management

The Friends of York Walls was established in 2010. It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation first registered on 20 November 2014, registration number 1159300. The charity was established with objects and powers, and is governed under the terms of its Constitution.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Bill Hill (Chair)
Samantha McDermott (Honorary Secretary) – till March 2024
Simon Mattam
Alan Fleming
Barry Crump
Rachel Hollingworth
Laura Patrickson

The trustees served on the Management Committee.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All the trustees guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees have assessed the financial risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to them and to other major risks.

2 Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as expressed in its articles/constitution are:

- 1 To educate the public in the history, natural history and architecture of the historic defences of York and its city walls.
- 2 To secure the preservation, protection and improvement of their features.

The Fishergate Postern Tower has been the venue for the regular activities of the charity along with the walls more generally.

The Friends of York Walls have the aims to:

1. Influence the management, care and presentation of York's City Walls and defences for the benefit of local residents and visitors.
2. Organise and undertake practical work and public events in cooperation with the City of York Council and other like-minded groups or individuals.
3. Encourage people generally to utilise the Walls as an amenity.
4. Identify opportunities for potential improvement of the Walls.
5. Establish links with local residents.
6. Monitor and act where appropriate to protect the historical views from and towards the Walls.
7. Act as a pressure group, when necessary, to help secure high standards of maintenance of York's Walls and fortifications.
8. Identify opportunities for possible improved access, both physical and intellectual.
9. Explore the potential of engaging the public in the history of the Walls in new ways.
10. Establish Fishergate Postern Tower as a historical attraction.
11. Explore fundraising avenues such as grants and bequests.
12. Involve schools.
13. Create resource packages, leaflets and other material to help people appreciate the Walls.
14. Arrange walks and talks.
15. Participate in and foster local cultural events.
16. Support other like-minded organisations.
17. Consult with those interested in the Walls.
18. Develop the Friends website, Instagram, Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) accounts.
19. Communicate with members via email addresses and newsletters.
20. Raise the public profile of the group by generating local media coverage.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

3 Achievements and Performance in 2024

3.1 Opening Fishergate Postern Tower to the public

The tower was visited by 6,756 people compared with 6,800 in 2023.

The donations made by visitors to the Tower in 2024 were £3,635 compared with £3,692 in 2023, confirming that the organisation has a steady income to assure its viability.

3.2 Planting wildflowers on the ramparts – Growing Greener Spaces grant

The aim of this project is to increase the critical mass of pollinator-friendly wildflowers on the ramparts, thus adding to their visitor interest and through this, adding to visitor engagement with the heritage of the ramparts and walls.

It also contributes to implementing the City of York Council's Pollinator Friendly Strategy for York, and to developing the concept of Citizen Scientist in collaboration with St Nicks.

Planting on the ramparts next to Fishergate Postern Tower continued experimenting with which flowers could out-compete the grass.

3.3 Guided Walks

These were continued, confirming our role of providing well-researched, accurate guided walks, but bespoke tailored to what visitors want.

3.4 Redesign of Timeline Display in Fishergate Postern Tower

The work of consulting with the public on the new design proposals for this display continued through the year. The visitor reaction was 98% in favour of moving to a new design, and supported the white on black colour way by a ratio of 2:1.

The process of implementing a new design with will continue into 2025.

3.5 Masons' Marks

Further examination of the walls inside Fishergate Postern Tower revealed another 20 mason marks in the building taking the total to 85 marks identified, covering 9 different shapes.

The top floor was photographed and the images used to initiate the planned database of all the marks. This work will continue into 2025. Once completed the database will be made available to the public and academic community on our website, and is then donated to York Explore Archives so that it has a long-term and secure home.

A new departure this year was to put forward two event days in the University of York's Festival Ideas programme featuring opportunities for the public to hunt for mason marks in Fishergate Postern Tower. This brought in nearly 100 local residents.

3.6 Artists' Works

The process of commissioning local artists to create a work with some aspect of the City Walls as their subject matter continued. We now have 21 works including paintings, watercolours, prints and textiles. We also have 6 works by past artists.

All of the works were put on display for Friends of York Walls to see at the Annual Friends Meeting in October, and digital copies are now on the website with a brief note about each work.

The next step is to acquire a suitable hanging system and then put the collection on display in Fishergate Postern Tower to enrich the visitor experience.

Acquisition of further works is being paused.

3.7 Annual Friends Meeting

An Annual Friends Meeting, the first since COVID, was held in October at the Bedern Hall, attended by 45 members, including some of the founding members from 2010, which was a great honour.

The occasion was taken to welcome John Oxley as an Honorary Trustee of the Friends of York Walls, in thanks for his informing supporting work when in office, including facilitating our acquisition and the lease of Fishergate Postern Tower.

The meeting also featured an input from Barry Crump, our new Trustee, bringing links with the University of York and a valuable new academic gravitas to the work of the organisation.

3.8 Friends of York Walls main website and 'Sponsor a Stone' scheme

The FOYW website was initially produced in 2010 and continues to provide a very useful information resource on York's City walls and the activities of the Friends of York Walls. During 2024 the website was viewed over 140,000 times by a worldwide visitor base of almost 75,000.

Year on year since it started the site has been visited many times, and a major milestone was reached on 14th October 2024 when the one millionth view took place!

The City Walls Trail home page regularly receives over 250 hits per day, achieving a total of 90,000 hits over the past year, underlining what a substantial piece of work it is and how valuable visitors find it. Its URL is to be found referred to in many places, a symptom of the respect in which it is held by other organisations in the tourism field.

The website continues to host the “Sponsor a Stone” scheme, started in 2012, where anyone can pick a specific stone on the west or north wall of FPT and for a £20 minimum donation they get a personalised certificate and listing against their selected stone. In 2024 15 stones were sponsored. Most dedications were of an “In Memoriam” or “special occasion” nature.

The website also provided a platform for presenting the new artworks which has been acquired as part of the ongoing arts project. The website also now holds an accessible copy of every known historical map of York.

3.9 York City Walls Audio Trail

The audio trail of the walls, was first created in July 2022, using the Guide.AI platform, and has now had two full years of operation.

During 2024, 750 new people downloaded the trail compared with 766 the previous year, confirming that it is proving continually popular with visitors. Each new user’s download provides the Friends with a donation of 80p, and over the year this generated £476.00.

Users down-load the Audio Trail APP and the York City Walls Audio Trail for a one-off fee of £1.99 and for this they get the 27 map points and over 100 minutes of informative audio.

3.10 Annual Leaflet

Our Annual Leaflet, with its map of the walls, had a print run of 12,000 again. This is to meet demand from Visit York (it is one of their most ‘in-demand leaflets’) and the of our ‘help-yourself’ box in Bootham Bar, which we keep stocked for about 60 days a year. We supply the only maps which show the full route of the ‘City Walls Trail’, the official circular walking trail marked with distinctive brass studs.

3.11 E-Newsletter

Our e-newsletter had 6 issues, reaching 500 plus people each issue. These cumulatively form a valuable record of our activities and past issues are accessible through our website.

3.12 Twilight Walks

Two twilight walks were held in the Autumn attended by 40 members of the public. They covered the section of the walls between Bootham Bar and Monk

Bar, and have attracted wide praise for the charm of being able to experience the walls and views of the Minster at night.

3.13 Links with York University

The Deputy College Manager delivered an 15 minute introductory talk about the walls as part of the International Student Welcome event for all new international students at the University (these typically have hundreds of attendees) as well as Walls Talk and Tour for new postgraduate students which visited Fishergate Postern Tower.

The inclusion of the Mason Mark events in the University's Festival of Ideas Programme was a useful start to raising the profile of the Friends and Fishergate Postern Tower amongst the academic community in York.

3.14 Festival of the Walls

The FoYW Festival did not take place in 2024 and its future as an additional event during the year, given other pressures, is under review.

4 Financial Review

- 4.1 The charity continues to be in a financially resilient position with £17,000 in the bank and a reliable income flow of £5,000+ a year.
- 4.2 The Management Committee has reiterated its commitment to ensuring that unrestricted funds of £10,000 are held as a reserve to ensure a continuing robust financial position, but otherwise envisages the cash in hand should be used to further the objects of the charity as set out in its plans for the future below.

5 Plans for the Future

The plans for the future are to focus on:

- a) Continue with the mainstream work of the charity which is the implementation of 21 Open Days at FPT and promotion of knowledge of the Walls of York and their heritage.
- b) Working with the local authority to respond to whatever conclusion they come to about refurbishment of the roof of Fishergate Postern Tower, and repointing of the interior with lime mortar to reduce spalling of the stone.
- c) Building on the work to plant pollinator friendly flowers on the rampart next to Fishergate Postern Tower, working with the Council and St Nicks, the latter helping to develop the expertise of local people in becoming Citizen Scientists on the plants on the ramparts.

- d) Preparing and publishing the results of the work on the geology of the walls, creating leaflets, media posts and information boards which enable visitors to engage more deeply with this aspect of the walls.
- e) Creating a display in Fishergate Postern Tower of the collection of art works now established, to enrich the visitor experience of the tower.
- f) Continue to improve the quality of the displays in Fishergate Postern Tower, including the time-line, the maps on the top floor and redesigning the ground floor.
- g) Completing the record of the masons' marks in Fishergate Postern Tower using photography and digital drawings, thus creating a database for use by the public including the academic community.
- h) Taking forward the development of school packs and other ways to engage young people in the heritage of the walls.
- i) Continuing the project focusing on the families who have lived next to the walls in the Walmgate area, using this as a means of increasing the engagement of local people in the heritage of the walls and Fishergate Postern Tower.
- j) Initiating a project to create a display of all the historical maps of the area round Fishergate Postern Tower, and using this as a means of attracting local people to visit and engage with the heritage of the walls.
- k) Pressing ahead with the project to imagine what form of turret might have been on the top of Fishergate Postern Tower before the current tiled roof was installed and creating a visual display of the results.
- l) Seeking grant funding for projects which engage local people in practical activities related to the walls and their heritage.
- m) Recreate a portcullis in the postern gate, supported by explanatory models.
- n) Enhancing the quality of displays on the top floor of Fishergate Postern Tower, including information about the roof and the conversion of the space in the early 1600s into a dovecote.
- o) Continuing initiatives like the Festival of Ideas events, and new ones, which build links with the universities in York.
- p) Take steps to secure maximum benefits from our membership of Visit York.
- q) Review the current guided walks offer including the form of the offer and how it is promoted.

- r) Review the brass stud trail and address any gaps and points of potential confusion for users.
- s) Review the York Walls Festival and decide whether to include it in the annual programme, and if so, in what form.

Bill Hill
Chair, on behalf of the Management Committee
October 2025
Revised 30/10/25



Friends of York Walls CIO

Treasurer's Report 2024

Overview

The Friends of York Walls CIO had a further good year. Our core operations made a surplus of £2,731 in 2024 (£4,486 in 2023). This enabled us to continue to implement several projects that broadened the range of our contribution to the knowledge and understanding of the city defences and to the community of people who have an interest in them.

This report is split into two. The first covers the core activities of the FoYW and is a good guide to our basic finances. It includes the operation of the Fishergate Postern Tower (FPT) and related external events, such as the annual 'Twilight Walls'.

The second part covers our one-off projects, some of which are partially externally funded, and are best looked at individually.

The combined finances of both parts together are shown in the attached Profit/Loss account and Balance Sheet. The overall outcome for the year was that we made a loss of £3,248 (£8,932 loss in 2023), comprising an operational gain of £2,731, offset by project spending of £5,979 - mainly the 'Art' (£4,604) and 'Growing Greener Spaces' (£1,554) projects.

Our total financial assets, as of Dec 31 2024 were therefore reduced by £3,248 to £18,812. The Trustees are retaining this for unforeseen problems or opportunities.

The table below summarises the outcomes. A detailed listing of transactions is also available on request. If you have any queries, please contact Richard Hanage richard@hanage.com

		2024	2023	2022
Operations	HMRC 'gift aid'	831	1,154	971
	Open day donations	3,918	3,672	4,062
	Other donations	1,806	1,832	1,346
	Other operations income	956	1,323	633
	Festival income (net)	306	90	1,089
	Operations total income	7,817	8,071	5,923
	less operations expenses	5,086	3,585	3,107
	Operations surplus	2,731	4,486	2,816
	Covid support	0	0	0
Totals	Total operations surplus	2,731	4,486	2,816
	less projects net spend	5,979	13,418	2,797
	Total surplus	- 3,248	- 8,932	19
Assets	Cumulative assets	18,812	22,060	30,992

1.0 Operations

Operations Surplus

The 'Operations surplus', which is a measure of the basic health of the FoYW, fell to £2,731 (down from £4,486) mainly due to the cost of the Annual Meeting (£1,634) and printing new stocks of the "Walking Guide to York City Walls" book for distribution (£499), partially offset by savings in other areas.

Operations income was a little lower at £7,817 (down from £8,071). Donation income continued strong at £5,724 (up from £5,504) which is very encouraging as it reflects our reputation and contribution to the heritage of the city and the positive response of visitors to the Fishergate Postern Tower.

Open day donations were £3,918 (up from £3,672) reflecting good visitor numbers and distribution of maps and books were again weaker at £261 (down from £459) perhaps due to so much material being on-line – including from our own Audio Guide.

Regular supporter annual donations were weaker at £291 (down from £396). This is unfortunate as we need more gift-aid donations, because the tax we can reclaim on bucket donations is limited to ten times the gift-aided donations. However stones sponsorship donations were much higher at £960 (up from £367). Guided Walks donations were, at £100, much lower than the previous £415

The probability of reduced eligible donations in tax year 2023/24 is reflected in a reduced 'Gift Aid' of £800 (estimated), which is received a year in arrears

The very successful Twilight Walls event, which provides a unique experience for our visitors, brought in a useful surplus over four nights of £306.

The Guide.AI 'Audio Guide to York City Walls' generated £476 of "revenue share" for the year 2024. This represented 595 downloads - a success as an educational aid, as well as being popular with visitors

Finally, we earned £219 interest on our savings account – a reduction from £434 in 2023.

The continued robust FPT Open Day income is a tribute to our volunteers and shows that any time we want to bring in extra income we can do so by opening the FPT more often at weekends – weather and volunteers permitting.

Operations expenses were much higher at £5,086 (up from £3,585). The biggest item was the very enjoyable 'Friends Meeting' at Bedern Hall (£1,634) followed by publicity and marketing at £1,370 (down from £2,100). In addition £499 was spent on a new stock of the "Walking Guide to York City Walls" book, and Wi-Fi services, plus upgrading the website (£487). A total of £443 was also spent on displays and interpretation (down from £715).

Overall the operations expenses were well under control and led to an operations surplus of £2,731, down from £4,486 in 2023 but still a substantial contribution to funding future development projects.

2.0 Development Projects

Any external project funding we receive is entered into the accounts in full in the year that it is received, along with any match funding we are committed to providing. Any unspent funding at the end of each year is carried over as a 'Unspent project income' on the balance sheet to the

following year. When the project is completed any over/underspend is treated as operations expenses. In this way the projects do not impact on the normal profit/loss account until they are closed. Also, any unspent funding is treated as restricted asset.

The projects described below were financially active in 2024. A list of financially inactive projects is also included below.

Externally Funded Projects

External funding of £300 was received from York BugLife during 2024 for the Growing Greener Project..

Unspent funding of £4,033 was carried forward from 2023 and a similar amount (£3,939) was carried forward from 2024 to 2025 – nearly all from the ‘Walmgate Family History’ and ‘Twins Diary’ projects.

Growing Greener Spaces (York CVS: £1,500 and Buglife: £300 plus FoYW matching: £1,500). The remainder (£78) of the 2023 funding was carried forward 2024. Total spending in 2024 was £1,633, partially offset by the £78 carry forward and the £300 Buglife grant, leaving a project deficit of £1,255 for 2024. A further expenditure claim of £960 is expected to be in the 2025 accounts, of which £430 was incurred in 2024.

Twins Diary. (Fishergate ward: £1,000)

There has been no spending on this project which has now been combined with the ‘School Packs’ project. The whole initial £1,000 funding is therefore carried over to 2025.

Geology of the Walls. (Curry Fund: £1,000 plus FoYW matching: £1,000). This project has been offered a grant of £1,000 by the Curry Fund which will be paid on project completion. There has been no spending in 2024 so the prior over-spend of £4 remains unchanged.

Walmgate Family History (Two Ridings Community Dulverton Fund: £2000 plus FoYW matching: £1,000). This project had only just started in 2023, with a spend of £45. As a result, there was a £2,955 carry forward to 2024. Only £16 was spent in 2024 so £2,939 is carried over to 2025.

Self-funded projects

Artworks project. This project purchases art related to the walls for future display. It has no external funding. It is intended to be internally funded by ear-marking extra income generated by, for instance, running extra open days and the remainder has been funded from the operations surplus. About 14 artworks were purchased in 2024 at a total cost, including framing etc, of £4,604

Historical Maps project. This project, which is at an early stage, aims to collect and display maps of the area around the Postern Tower and complement the Walmgate Family History project. Only £120 has been spent so far, but more will be needed in the future to collect and display digital images of the maps.

Financially inactive projects

The following projects may have been active during 2024, but did not generate any income, expenditure or carry forward: Masons Marks, Bean and Gone Display, Heritage Open Day, Portcullis Model, FPT Roof Display, School Packs and Walls Lichens.

3.0 Concluding thoughts

The FPT Open Days continue to be a good steady earner, making at least £150/day. We need to ensure that we have the volunteers to sustain this.

We have a large surplus of £18,812 (down from £22,060), some of which could be spent (wisely), as a smaller reserve is probably sufficient.

Unspent project income is almost unchanged at £3,939 (down from £4,033) perhaps reflecting a continuing shortage of people resources to implement projects.

Richard Hanage 8 September 2025

Friends of York Walls
UK Balance Sheet - Standard
As of 31 December 2024

	<u>31 Dec 24</u>	<u>31 Dec 23</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Other Current Assets		
Expected Income	1,030.40	1,154.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,030.40	1,154.00
Cash at bank and in hand		
Cash	101.41	840.32
Charity Bank	10,000.00	0.00
HSBC Current	3,020.83	6,024.55
HSBC Save	7,715.84	17,496.81
PAYPAL New	883.09	578.10
Total Cash at bank and in hand	21,721.17	24,939.78
Total Current Assets	22,751.57	26,093.78
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Unspent project income	3,939.28	4,033.31
Total Other Current Liabilities	3,939.28	4,033.31
Total Current Liabilities	3,939.28	4,033.31
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>18,812.29</u>	<u>22,060.47</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILIT...	<u>18,812.29</u>	<u>22,060.47</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>18,812.29</u>	<u>22,060.47</u>
Capital and Reserves		
Additional Net Assets	10,218.87	19,150.73
Initial Assets	11,841.60	11,841.60
Profit for the Year	-3,248.18	-8,931.86
Shareholder funds	<u>18,812.29</u>	<u>22,060.47</u>

Friends of York Walls

Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

January through December 2024

	Jan - Dec 24	Jan - Dec 23
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
OPERATIONS INCOME		
Donations		
Donations - Audio Guide Share	476.00	430.40
Donations - Book Distribution	260.50	458.50
Donations - Buckets	2,675.52	2,509.59
Donations - Contactless	1,242.43	1,162.41
Donations - Other	453.86	367.59
Donations - Publishing	0.00	287.00
Donations - Stones	960.00	366.69
Donations - Supporters	291.41	396.14
Donations - Walks & Talks	100.00	415.00
Total Donations	6,459.72	6,393.32
Festival Income	696.60	1,153.26
HMRC Gifts Aid Income	831.09	1,154.00
Interest Earned	219.03	434.19
Total OPERATIONS INCOME	8,206.44	9,134.77
PROJECTS (FUNDED) GRANTS		
2020 Growing Greener Spaces	300.00	0.00
2023 Walmgate Family History	0.00	2,000.00
Total PROJECTS (FUNDED) GRANTS	300.00	2,000.00
Total Income	8,506.44	11,134.77
Expense		
Festival Expenses	390.61	1,062.89
OPERATIONS EXPENSES		
Annual Meeting	1,633.77	0.00
Books/Maps/Images	130.00	0.00
Display/interpretation	443.14	715.00
Electricity	70.10	5.95
Health & Safety	36.00	30.00
HSBC Fees	61.20	60.00
Insurance Expense	96.00	41.40
Office Expense	11.70	0.00
Paypal Fees	17.39	8.01
Product Purchase	499.50	0.00
Publicity & Marketing	1,370.00	2,099.90
Rent and Rates	230.54	216.34
Repairs and Maintenance	0.00	130.01
Venue expenses	0.00	143.88
WiFi & Website	486.62	135.16
Total OPERATIONS EXPENSES	5,085.96	3,585.65
PROJECTS (FUNDED) EXPENSES		
2020 Twins Diary	0.00	0.00
2021 Growing Greener Spaces	1,554.35	0.00
2022 Walls Geology	0.00	607.50
2023 Walmgate Family History	0.00	3,000.00
Total PROJECTS (FUNDED) EXPENSES	1,554.35	3,607.50
PROJECTS (SELF-FUNDED) EXPENSES		
2023 Electrics	0.00	10,832.59
2024 Historical Maps	120.00	0.00
Art Collection	4,603.70	978.00
Total PROJECTS (SELF-FUNDED) EXPENSES	4,723.70	11,810.59
Total Expense	11,754.62	20,066.63
Net Ordinary Income	-3,248.18	-8,931.86
Profit for the Year	-3,248.18	-8,931.86

Accounts

FRIENDS OF YORK WALLS

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Simon Mattam
Alan Fleming
Barry Crump
Rachel Hollingworth
Laura Patrickson

The trustees served on the Management Committee, which had in addition the following members:

Penny Heptonstall (Honorary Treasurer)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All the trustees guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees have assessed the financial risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to them and to other major risks.

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4. Identify opportunities for potential improvement of the Walls.
5. Establish links with local residents.
6. Monitor and act where appropriate to protect the historical views from and towards the Walls.
7. Act as a pressure group, when necessary, to maintain high standards of maintenance of York's Walls and fortifications.
8. Identify opportunities for possible improved access, physical and intellectual.
9. Explore the potential of Fishergate Postern and the Red Tower.
10. Establish Fishergate Postern Tower as a historical attraction.
11. Explore fundraising avenues such as grants and bequests.
12. Involve schools.
13. Create resource packages, leaflets and other material to help people appreciate the Walls.
14. Arrange walks and talks.
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16. Support other like-minded organisations.
17. Consult with those interested in the Walls.
18. Develop the Friends website, Instagram, Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) accounts.
19. Communicate with members via email addresses and newsletters.
20. Raise the public profile of the group by generating local media coverage.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

3 Achievements and Performance in 2023

3.1 Opening Fishergate Postern Tower to the public

The tower was visited by 6,800 people compared with 6,003 in 2022.

The donations made by visitors to the Tower in 2023 were £3,700 compared with £3,627 in 2022, confirming that the organisation has a steady income to assure its viability.

3.2 Planting wildflowers on the ramparts – Growing Greener Spaces grant

The aim of this project is to increase the critical mass of pollinator-friendly wildflowers on the ramparts, thus adding to their visitor interest and through this, adding to visitor engagement with the heritage of the ramparts and walls.

It also contributes to implementing the City of York Council's Pollinator Friendly Strategy for York, and to developing the concept of Citizen Scientist in collaboration with St Nicks.

Planting on the ramparts next to Fishergate Postern Tower continued experimenting with which flowers could out-compete the grass.

3.3 Guided Walks

These were continued, confirming our role of providing well-researched, accurate guided walks, but bespoke tailored to what visitors want.

3.4 Redesign of Timeline Display in Fishergate Postern Tower

As part of our strategy of gradual improvement of the standard of visual displays in the Tower, work continued with the designer Dianne Turner to revise the Timeline Display on the second floor. The main developments were to create two colour ways of the Roman panel then consult on them with visitors and volunteers. This work will continue into 2025.

3.5 Geology of the Stone used in the Walls

We secured a grant from the Geologists Association Curry Fund towards researching the geology of the stone used in the walls. This enabled us to work with a group of specialists including Dr Liam Herringshaw, geologist and palaeontologist who runs Hidden Horizons, Dr Dav Smith from the University of York (Building Archaeologist), and Professor Mike Rogerson from the University of Northumberland (Specialist in Carbonates) from the University of Northumberland. We also had inputs from the Head Stonemason at York

Minster, John David, and from the Council's Bar Walls Manager and Council's stonemason team.

3.6 Masons' Marks

The work on the geology of the stones of the tower brought renewed attention to the masons' marks in the building, triggered by our experts finding several we hadn't spotted in the past. A thorough survey was instigated and we now have 65 marks identified, covering 7 different shapes.

Our aim is to form a comprehensive database of the marks, which is then made available to the public and academic community on our website, and is then donated to York Explore Archives so that it has a long-term and secure home.

3.7 Artists' Works

We continued this project, which is to commission local artists to create a work with some aspect of the City Walls as their subject matter. This has included works from the past, and also the commissioning of local artists to generate new works. The results will be put on display in Fishergate Postern Tower to enrich the visitor experience.

3.8 Interactive Virtual Tour of Fishergate Postern Tower

This was created at no financial cost to us and is available free on our website. Users choose to move to places around and inside the tower. In each place they can look all around them, zooming in on details and choosing to call onto screen short description of each place along with extra information about the special features they can see.

3.9 Friends of York Walls main website and 'Sponsor a Stone' scheme

The FOYW website was initially produced in 2010 and continues to provide a useful information resource on York's City walls and the activities of the Friends of York Walls. During 2023 the website was viewed over 130,000 times by a worldwide visitor base of almost 72,000

Work is continually needed to update the website's detailed guide to the City Walls Trail, a guide that City of York Council direct visitors to at the start of their own web pages on the walls. In 2023 all the text was checked and revised.

The York City Walls Trail sections of the website received some 90,000 hits in 2023, more than 250 a day, underlining what a substantial piece of work it is and how valuable visitors find it.

The website continues to host the "Sponsor a Stone" scheme, started in 2012, where anyone can pick a specific stone on the west or north wall of FPT and

in return for a £20 minimum donation they get a personalised certificate and listing against their selected stone. In 2023 17 stones were sponsored with an income of £400. Most dedications were of an “In Memoriam” or “special occasion” nature.

3.10 York City Walls Audio Trail

The audio trail of the walls, which was first created in July 2022, had its first full year of operation in 2023.

Users down-load the Audio Trail for a one-off fee of £1.99 and for this they get the 27 map points and over 100 minutes of informative audio. Each new user's download provides the Friends with an income of 80p.

During 2023 766 people downloaded the trail, establishing that it is proving popular with visitors. These downloads generated an income £443.20.

3.11 Annual Leaflet

Our Annual Leaflet with its map of the walls had an increased print run to 12,000 mainly to meet demand from Visit York (it is one of their most ‘in-demand leaflets’) and the demands of our ‘help-yourself’ box in Bootham Bar which we keep stocked for about 60 days a year. We supply the only maps which show the full route of the ‘City Walls Trail’, the official circular walking trail marked with distinctive brass studs.

3.12 E-Newsletter

Our e-newsletter had 9 issues, reaching 500 plus people each issue. These cumulatively form a valuable record of our activities and past issues are accessible through our website.

3.13 Twilight Walks

Two twilight walks were held in the Autumn attended by 40 members of the public. They covered the section of the walls between Bootham Bar and Monk Bar, and have attracted wide praise for the charm of being able to experience the walls and views of the Minster at night.

3.14 Links with York University

Links with the university have been strengthened through the initiative from the Deputy College Manager of the Graduate College/Associate Lecturer to include a visit to Fishergate Postern Tower as part of postgraduate orientation in September. Arising directly from this visit, two students became volunteers contributing to our projects on the Time Line and Turret.

The Deputy College Manager also delivered a 15 minute introductory talk about the walls as part of the International Student Welcome event for all new

international students at the University (these typically have hundreds of attendees) as well as Walls Talk and Tour for new postgraduate students.

3.15 Electrical Installation at Fishergate Postern Tower

During 2023 the electrical installation at Fishergate Postern Tower was finalised and approved by all the relevant authorities, including City of York Council and Historic England.

The installation was professionally carried out in November 2023 and included permanent supplies to all floors, emergency lighting and additional lighting installations.

The major outlay was just over £11k, which was funded from reserves of the Friends, but it has produced significant improvements to the lighting in the tower, increase visitor safety, reduced fire risk, and is all-round a good investment for the future.

3.16 Tower 39 Opened as part of York Unlocked

Tower 39, the corner tower 200 meters south of Fishergate Postern Tower, was opened as part of York Unlocked, and visitors were able to see details of the construction of this 14th century building. It has surviving stonemason marks too, which were highlighted for visitors and a proper record made for future research.

4 **Financial Review**

- 4.1 The charity continues to be in a financially resilient position with £25,000 in the bank and a reliable income flow of £5,000+ a year.
- 4.2 The Management Committee has reiterated its commitment to ensuring that unrestricted funds of £10,000 are held as a reserve to ensure a continuing robust financial position, but otherwise envisages the cash in hand should be used to further the objects of the charity as set out in its plans for the future below.

5 **Plans for the Future**

The plans for the future are to focus on:

- a) Continue with the mainstream work of the charity which is the implementation of 21 Open Days at FPT and promotion of knowledge of the Walls of York and their heritage.
- b) Working with the local authority to respond to whatever conclusion they come to about refurbishment of the roof of Fishergate Postern Tower, and repointing of the interior with lime mortar to reduce spalling of the stone.

- c) Building on the work to plant pollinator friendly flowers on the rampart next to Fishergate Postern Tower, working with the Council and St Nicks, the latter helping to develop the expertise of local people in becoming Citizen Scientists on the plants on the ramparts.
- d) Preparing and publishing the results of the work on the geology of the walls, creating leaflets, media posts and information boards which enable visitors to engage more deeply with this aspect of the walls.
- e) Continue to establish a collection of art works using the walls and towers as their subject matter/inspiration, including images from the past and commissions to contemporary artists and designers.
- f) Continue to improve the quality of the displays in Fishergate Postern Tower, including the time-line, the maps on the top floor and redesigning the ground floor.
- g) Undertake a detailed record of the masons' marks in Fishergate Postern Tower using photography and digital drawings, thus creating a database for use by the public including the academic community.
- h) Taking forward the development of school packs and other ways to engage young people in the heritage of the walls.
- i) Continuing the project focusing on the families who have lived next to the walls in the Walmgate area, using this as a means of increasing the engagement of local people in the heritage of the walls and Fishergate Postern Tower.
- j) Initiating a project to create a display of all the historical maps of the area round Fishergate Postern Tower, and using this as a means of attracting local people to visit and engage with the heritage of the walls.
- k) Pressing ahead with the project to imagine what form of turret might have been on the top of Fishergate Postern Tower before the current tiled roof was installed and creating a visual display of the results.
- l) Seeking grant funding for projects which engage local people in practical activities related to the walls and their heritage.
- m) Recreate a portcullis in the postern gate, supported by explanatory models.

Bill Hill
Chair, on behalf of the Management Committee
September 2024



Friends of York Walls CIO

Treasurer's Report: 2023

Overview

Having fully recovered from the problems of Covid, the Friends of York Walls CIO had a further good year. Our core operations made a surplus of £4,486 in 2023 (£2,816 in 2022). This enabled us to implement several projects that broadened the range of our contribution to the knowledge and understanding of the city defences and to the community of people who have an interest in them.

This report is split into two. The first covers the core activities of the FoYW and is a good guide to our basic finances. It includes the operation of the Fishergate Postern Tower (FPT) and related external events, such as the annual 'Twilight Walls'.

The second part covers our one-off projects, some of which are partially externally funded, and are best looked at individually.

The combined finances of both parts together are shown in the attached Profit/Loss account and Balance Sheet. The overall outcome for the year was that we made a loss of £8,932 (£19 gain in 2022), comprising a large operational gain of £4,486, offset by project spending of £13,418 (mainly the electrical installation project)

Our total financial assets, as of Dec 31 2023 were therefore reduced by £8,932 to £22,060. The Trustees are retaining this for unforeseen problems or opportunities.

The table below summarises the outcomes. A detailed listing of transactions is also available on request. If you have any queries, please contact Richard Hanage richard@hanage.com

		2023	2022	2021
Operations	HMRC 'gift aid'	1,154	971	316
	Open day donations	3,672	4,062	2,869
	Other donations	1,832	1,346	822
	Other operations income	1,323	633	424
	Festival income	1,153	167	937
	Operations total income	9,134	7,179	5,368
	<i>less</i> Festival expenses	1,063	1,256	2,717
	<i>less</i> operations expenses	3,585	3,107	3,506
	Operations surplus	4,486	2,816	-855
	Covid support	0	0	17,431
Totals	Total operations surplus	4,486	2,816	16,576
	<i>less</i> projects net spend	13,418	2,797	1,500
	Total surplus	- 8,932	19	15,076
Assets	Cumulative assets	22,060	30,992	30,973

1.0 Operations

Operations Surplus

The 'Operations surplus', which is a measure of the basic health of the FoYW, showed an excellent gain at £4,486 (up from £2,816 in 2022).

Operations income was very strong at £9,134 (up from £7,179). Donation income continued strong which is very encouraging as it reflects our reputation and contribution to the heritage of the city.

Open day donations were £3,672, (down from £4,062) partly due to some of the takings being earmarked for the 'Art' project – see below. Sales of maps and books were also a little weaker at £459 (down from £573).

Regular donations from supporters were also a little weaker at £390 (down from £445). We need more of these, with gift aid declarations, as the tax we can reclaim on bucket donations is limited to ten times the gift-aided donations.

Donations from walks was, at £415, much lower than the unexpectedly high figure of £721 last year. The donations also include a very generous £287 from sales commission arising from Simon Mattam's 'Walking Guide to York City Walls'.

The increased eligible donations in tax year 2022/23 were reflected in a further increased 'Gift Aid' of £1,154 (estimated), which is received a year in arrears. Income from sponsored stones was much improved at £367 (up from £180)

The very successful Twilight Walls event, which provides a unique experience for our visitors, brought in a useful £1,153 of ticket income over four nights, though this was mainly offset by £1,063 of costs.

The 'Audio Guide to York City Walls' generated £430 income and very few costs. A success financially as well as being popular with visitors.

Finally, we earned £434 interest on our savings account – a very welcome improvement on prior low interest income.

The continued robust FPT Open Day income is a tribute to our volunteers and shows that any time we want to bring in extra income we can do so by opening the FPT more often at weekends – weather and volunteers permitting.

Operations expenses were still well under control at £3,585 (up from £3,107). This figure hides some large differences item by item. For instance we spent £2,100 (up from £352) on publicity and marketing – mainly printing leaflets and some student work on our social media. We also spent £715 on displays/interpretation (up from £472) but spent nothing on office/computer expenses (down from £598).

2.0 Development Projects

External project funding we receive is entered into the accounts in full in the year that it is received, along with any match funding we are committed to providing. Any unspent funding at the end of each year is carried over as a 'Unspent project income' on the balance sheet to the following year. When the project is completed any over/underspend is treated as operations expenses. In this way the projects do not impact on the normal profit/loss account until they are closed. Also, any unspent funding is treated as restricted asset.

Externally Funded Projects

During 2023 we received a new grant of £2,000 from the Two Ridings Dulverton Fund for the 'Walmgate Family History' project and are committed to £1,000 matched funding.

Unspent funding of £1,650 was carried forward from 2022 but a much larger amount (£4,033) was carried forward to 2024 – nearly all from the 'Walmgate Family History' and 'Twins Diary' projects.

Growing Greener Spaces (York CVS: £1,500 and Buglife: £300 plus FoYW matching: £1,500). Total spending in 2023 was £572, leaving £78 to be carried forward to 2024.

Twins Diary. (Fishergate ward: £1,000)

There has been no spending on this project so the whole £1,000 is carried over to 2024.

Geology of the Walls. (Curry Fund: £1,000 plus FoYW matching: £1,000). This project has been offered a grant of £1,000 by the Curry Fund which will be paid in 2024 on project completion. In the meantime a further £608 has been spent from FoYW funds bring the total to £2004 – an over-spend of £4.

Walmgate Family History (Two Ridings Community Dulverton Fund: £2000 plus FoYW matching: £1,000). This project has only just started, with a spend of £45. As a result, there is a £2,955 carry forward to 2024.

Self-funded projects

Artists' Works project. This project purchases art related to the walls for future display. It has no external funding and is internally funded mainly by ear-marking extra income generated by, for instance, by staffing extra open days. Earmarked new funds in 2023 were £368 and spend was £978. Overall, at end 2023 we had a total income of £1,213 and total expenditure of £1,563.

Electrical installation. The electrical installation project was completed successfully in November 2023. It has greatly improved the building and enhanced safety on the spiral stairs. The costs were £10,832 for the contractor, plus £557 of other costs.

3.0 Concluding thoughts

The FPT Open Days continue to be a good steady earner, making at least £150/day. We need to ensure that we have the volunteers to sustain this.

Even after completing the electrical project, we have a large surplus of £22,060, (down from £30,992), some of which could be spent (wisely), as a smaller reserve is probably sufficient.

Unspent project income is sharply higher at £4,033 (up from £1,650) perhaps reflecting a shortage of people resources to implement projects.

Richard Hanage 7 May 2024

Friends of York Walls
UK Balance Sheet - Standard
As of 31 December 2023

	<u>31 Dec 23</u>	<u>31 Dec 22</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Other Current Assets		
Expected Income	1,154.00	194.33
Total Other Current Assets	1,154.00	194.33
Cash at bank and in hand		
Cash	840.32	1.41
HSBC Current	6,024.55	3,089.59
HSBC Save	17,496.81	29,062.62
PAYPAL New	578.10	294.42
Total Cash at bank and in hand	24,939.78	32,448.04
Total Current Assets	26,093.78	32,642.37
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Unspent project income	4,033.31	1,650.04
Total Other Current Liabilities	4,033.31	1,650.04
Total Current Liabilities	4,033.31	1,650.04
NET CURRENT ASSETS	22,060.47	30,992.33
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILIT...	22,060.47	30,992.33
NET ASSETS	<u>22,060.47</u>	<u>30,992.33</u>
Capital and Reserves		
Additional Net Assets	19,150.73	19,131.59
Initial Assets	11,841.60	11,841.60
Profit for the Year	-8,931.86	19.14
Shareholder funds	<u>22,060.47</u>	<u>30,992.33</u>

Friends of York Walls

Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 23	Jan - Dec 22
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
OPERATIONS INCOME		
Audio Guide Income	430.40	0.00
Donations		
Donations - Buckets	2,509.59	2,975.76
Donations - Contactless	1,162.41	1,086.15
Donations - Other	367.59	0.00
Donations - Publishing	287.00	0.00
Donations - Stones	366.69	180.00
Donations - Supporters	396.14	445.00
Donations - Walks & Talks	415.00	721.00
Total Donations	5,504.42	5,407.91
Festival Income	1,153.26	166.58
HMRC Gifts Aid Income	1,154.00	971.39
Interest Earned	434.19	59.42
Product Sales	458.50	573.00
Total OPERATIONS INCOME	9,134.77	7,178.30
PROJECTS (FUNDED) GRANTS		
2020 Growing Greener Spaces	0.00	300.00
2023 Walmgate Family History	2,000.00	0.00
Total PROJECTS (FUNDED) GRANTS	2,000.00	300.00
Total Income	11,134.77	7,478.30
Expense		
Festival Expenses	1,062.89	1,256.00
OPERATIONS EXPENSES		
Books/Maps/Images	0.00	439.36
Display/interpretation	715.00	472.38
Electricity	5.95	16.85
Fraudulent DDs	0.00	0.00
Health & Safety	30.00	0.00
HSBC Fees	60.00	60.80
Insurance Expense	41.40	272.60
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	95.30
Office Expense	0.00	598.41
Paypal Fees	8.01	0.00
Phone & Broadband	135.16	210.16
Project over/under spend.	0.00	3.61
Publicity & Marketing	2,099.90	351.60
Rent and Rates	216.34	204.80
Repairs and Maintenance	130.01	183.91
SumUp Fees	0.00	17.72
Venue expenses	143.88	179.08
Total OPERATIONS EXPENSES	3,585.65	3,106.58
PROJECTS (FUNDED) EXPENSES		
2019 Heritage Sharing	0.00	0.00
2020 Twins Diary	0.00	0.00
2021 Growing Greener Spaces	0.00	300.00
2022 Walls Geology	607.50	1,395.86
2023 Walmgate Family History	3,000.00	0.00
Total PROJECTS (FUNDED) EXPENSES	3,607.50	1,695.86
PROJECTS (SELF-FUNDED) EXPENSES		
2022 Home Schooling Project	0.00	950.00
2023 Electrics	10,832.59	0.00
Art Collecton	978.00	450.72
Total PROJECTS (SELF-FUNDED) EXPEN...	11,810.59	1,400.72
Total Expense	20,066.63	7,459.16
Net Ordinary Income	-8,931.86	19.14
Profit for the Year	-8,931.86	19.14

Accounts

FRIENDS OF YORK WALLS

TRUSTEES REPORT 2022

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

1 Structure, Governance and Management

The Friends of York Walls was established in 2010. It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation first registered on 20 November 2014, registration number 1159300. The charity was established with objects and powers, and is governed under the terms of its Constitution.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Bill Hill (Chair)
Samantha McDermott (Honorary Secretary)
Simon Mattam
Alan Fleming

The trustees served on the Management Committee, which had in addition the following members:

Basil Jones
Penny Heptonstall (Honorary Treasurer)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All the trustees guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees have assessed the financial risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to them and to other major risks.

2 Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as expressed in its articles/constitution are:

- 1 To educate the public in the history, natural history and architecture of the historic defences of York and its city walls.
- 2 To secure the preservation, protection and improvement of their features.

The Fishergate Postern Tower has been the venue for the regular activities of the charity along with the walls more generally.

The Friends of York Walls have the aims to:

1. Influence the management, care and presentation of York's City Walls and Defences for the benefit of local residents and visitors.
2. Organise and undertake practical work and public events in cooperation with the City of York Council and other like-minded groups or individuals.
3. Encourage people generally to utilise the Walls as an amenity.
4. Identify opportunities for potential improvement of the Walls.
5. Establish links with local residents.
6. Monitor and act where appropriate to protect the historical views from and towards the Walls.
7. Act as a pressure group, when necessary, to maintain high standards of maintenance of York's Walls and fortifications.
8. Identify opportunities for possible improved access, physical and intellectual.
9. Explore the potential of Fishergate Postern and the Red Tower.
10. Establish Fishergate Postern Tower as a historical attraction.
11. Explore fundraising avenues such as grants and bequests.
12. Involve schools.
13. Create resource packages, leaflets and other material to help people appreciate the Walls.
14. Arrange walks and talks.
15. Participate in and foster local cultural events.
16. Support other like-minded organisations.
17. Consult with those interested in the Walls.
18. Develop the Friends website, Instagram, Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) accounts.
19. Communicate with members via email addresses and newsletters.
20. Raise the public profile of the group by generating local media coverage.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

3 Achievements and Performance in 2022

3.1 Opening Fishergate Postern Tower to the public

The tower was visited by 6,003 people compared with 4,916 in 2021 and 3,281 in 2020 (years of reduced openings because of COVID). The 2022 figure achieved our target of 6,000, just!

The donations made by visitors to the Tower in 2022 was £3,627 compared with £2,817 in 2021. The 2022 figure exceeded our target for 2022 of £3,550.

3.2 Planting wildflowers on the ramparts – Growing Greener Spaces grant

The aim of this project is to increase the critical mass of pollinator-friendly wildflowers on the ramparts, thus adding to their visitor interest and through this, adding to visitor engagement with the heritage of the ramparts and walls.

It also contributes to implementing the City of York Council's Pollinator Friendly Strategy for York, and to developing the concept of Citizen Scientist in collaboration with St Nicks.

Progress was made into this project using the grant of £1,500 from the Growing Greener Spaces scheme towards the cost of wildflower plants and equipment, and a grant from Buglife who facilitated volunteers from local business for a planting day in October. This took place on an area of the ramparts next to Fishergate Postern Tower and established a foothold on which to build in 2023.

3.3 Guided Walks

These were continued, confirming our role of providing well-researched, accurate guided walks, but bespoke tailored to what visitors want.

3.4 Redesign of Timeline Display in Fishergate Postern Tower

As part of our strategy of gradual improvement of the standard of visual displays in the Tower, we began working with the designer Dianne Turner to revise the Timeline Display on the second floor. This work will continue into 2024.

3.5 Geology of the Stone used in the Walls

We secured a grant from the Geologists Association Curry Fund towards researching the geology of the stone used in the walls. This enabled us to work with a group of specialists including Dr Liam Herringshaw, geologist and palaeontologist who runs Hidden Horizons, Dr Dav Smith from the University of York (Building Archaeologist), and Professor Mike Rogerson from the University of Northumberland (Specialist in Carbonates) from the University of

Northumberland. We also had inputs from the Head Stonemason at York Minster, John David, and from the Council's Bar Walls Manager and Council's stonemason team.

Study days were held on the walls and in Fishergate Postern Tower and the results will be written up into information leaflets and postings to provide visitors with well-researched guides to enhance their experience of the walls.

3.6 Masons' Marks

The work on the geology of the stones of the tower brought renewed attention to the masons' marks in the building, triggered by our experts finding several we hadn't spotted in the past. A thorough survey was instigated and we now have 65 marks identified, covering 7 different designs. The opinion of Dav Smith is that they are all contemporary with the construction of the building in 1504, and therefore constitute an important source of historical information.

Our aim is to form a comprehensive database of the marks, which is then made available to the public and academic community on our website, and is then donated to York Explore Archives so that it has a long-term and secure home.

3.7 Artists' Works

We began a new project to acquire a collection of artists' works which have some aspect of the City Walls as their subject matter. This has included works from the past, and also the commissioning of local artists to generate new works. The results will be put on display in Fishergate Postern Tower to enrich the visitor experience.

3.8 Interactive Virtual Tour of Fishergate Postern Tower

This was created at no financial cost to us and is available free on our website. Users choose to move to places around and inside the tower. In each place they can look all around them, zooming in on details and choosing to call onto screen short description of each place along with extra information about the special features they can see.

3.9 Updated online guide to the City Walls Trail

Work is continually needed to update our website's detailed guide to the City Walls Trail, a guide that City of York Council direct visitors to at the start of their own web pages on the walls. In 2020 all the text was checked and revised.

This section of the website received some 90,000 hits in 2022, more than 250 a day, underlining what a substantial piece of work it is and how valuable visitors find it.

3.10 York City Walls Audio Trail

In July 2022 the travel guide app Guid.AI invited the Friends of York walls to produce an audio trail around York's City Walls using their free app.

The Guide.AI app gives the author full control over the structure and text input of their guide – so it was relatively simple but long task to populate the guide using the text from the existing York Walls Trail information already on the Friends of York Walls website.

The information is broken down into 27 map points with associated pictures. These sections are indicated by "Map Points", and a "List View", on a detailed map of York, with associated GPS links. The Guide.AI software then turns the text input into spoken words using AI. The audio guide gives an introduction to each section, with more details available on the Friends' website. Users download the Audio Trail for a one-off fee of £1.99 and for this they get the 27 map points, over 100 minutes of informative audio and the full text. Each new user's download provides the Friends with an income of 80p.

The Audio Trail went live in November 2022 and in the first two months had 60 downloads, so an income of £32.

3.11 Annual Leaflet

Our Annual Leaflet with its map of the walls had an increased print run to 10,000 mainly to meet demand from Visit York (it is one of their most 'in-demand leaflets') and the demands of our 'help-yourself' box in Bootham Bar which we keep stocked for about 60 days a year. We supply the only maps which show the full route of the 'City Walls Trail', the official circular walking trail marked with distinctive brass studs.

3.12 E-Newsletter

Our e-newsletter had 9 issues, reaching 500 plus people each issue. These cumulatively form a valuable record of our activities and past issues are accessible through our website.

3.13 York Walls Festival 2022

The main Festival took place over the Spring Weekend at the end of April and also continued as a summer event in August. A highlight was an evening at the Mansion House to celebrate the exchange of photographs with Nanjing in China, on display in the venue. This included a talk by Barry Crump from the University of York on the City Walls in York. Barry also contributed an extended version of this talk in the York Festival of Ideas in June 2022, labelling it as part of the York Walls Festival, achieving an audience of 250 people.

The festival and linked events like the Twilight Walks are organised by Baz Jones and received funds and general support from the Friends. We are very grateful for the energies he puts into the Festival.

3.14 Twilight Walks

Two twilight walks were held in the Autumn attended by 40 members of the public. They covered the section of the walls between Bootham Bar and Monk Bar, and have attracted wide praise for the charm of being able to experience the walls and views of the Minster at night.

3.15 Links with York University

Links with the university have been strengthened through the initiative from the International Student Coordinator to include a visit to Fishergate Postern Tower in the student welcome week in September. Arising directly from this visit, two students became volunteers contributing to our projects on the Time Line and Turret.

4 Financial Review

- 4.1 The charity continues to be in a financially resilient position with £30,000 in the bank and a reliable income flow of £5,000 a year.
- 4.2 The Management Committee has reiterated its commitment to ensuring that unrestricted funds of £10,000 are held as a reserve to ensure a continuing robust financial position, but otherwise envisages the cash in hand should be used to further the objects of the charity as set out in its plans for the future below.

5 Plans for the Future

The plans for the future are to focus on:

- a) Continue with the mainstream work of the charity which is the implementation of 21 Open Days at FPT and promotion of knowledge of the Walls of York and their heritage.
- b) Working with the local authority to bring about the refurbishment of the roof of Fishergate Postern Tower, installation of proper electrical circuits and improved lighting, and repointing of the interior with lime mortar to reduce spalling of the stone.
- c) Building on the first steps taken in 2022 to plant pollinator friendly flowers on the rampart next to Fishergate Postern Tower, working with the Council and St Nicks, the latter helping to develop the expertise of local people in becoming Citizen Scientists on the plants on the ramparts.

- d) Preparing and publishing the results of the work on the geology of the walls, creating leaflets, media posts and information boards which enable visitors to engage more deeply with this aspect of the walls.
- e) Continue to establish a collection of art works using the walls and towers as their subject matter/inspiration, including images from the past and commissions to contemporary artists and designers.
- f) Continue to Improve the quality of the displays in Fishergate Postern Tower, including the time-line, the maps on the top floor and redesigning the ground floor.
- g) Undertake a detailed record of the masons' marks in Fishergate Postern Tower using photography and digital drawings, thus creating a database for use by the public including the academic community.
- h) Taking forward the development of school packs and other ways to engage young people in the heritage of the walls.
- i) Initiate a project which focuses on the families who have lived next to the walls in the Walmgate area, using this as a means of increasing the engagement of local people in the heritage of the walls and Fishergate Postern Tower.
- j) Initiating a project to create a display of all the historical maps of the area round Fishergate Postern Tower, and using this as a means of attracting local people to visit and engage with the heritage of the walls.
- k) Pressing ahead with the project to imagine what form of turret might have been on the top of Fishergate Postern Tower before the current tiled roof was installed and creating a visual display of the results.
- l) Seeking grant funding for projects which engage local people in practical activities related to the walls and their heritage.
- m) Recreate a portcullis in the postern gate, supported by explanatory models.

Bill Hill
Chair, on behalf of the Management Committee
October 2023



Friends of York Walls CIO

Treasurer's Report: 2022

Overview

Now that we have recovered from the problems of Covid, the Friends of York Walls CIO has had a very good year. Our core operations, which lost £855 in 2021, made a surplus of £2,816 in 2022. This enabled us to implement several projects that broadened the range of our contribution to the knowledge and understanding of the city defences and to the community of people who have an interest in them.

This report is split into two main parts.

The first part covers the core activities of the FoYW and is a good guide to our basic finances. It includes the operation of the Fishergate Postern Tower (FPT) and related external events, such as the annual 'Twilight Walls'. The second part of the report covers our one-off projects, which are often partially externally funded and are best looked at individually.

The combined finances of both parts are included in the attached Profit/Loss account and Balance Sheet. The overall outcome for the year was that we made a very small operational surplus of £19 and our total financial assets, as of Dec 31st 2022 were £30,992. We therefore have a large surplus, some of which needs to be spent (wisely) as it is eroding fast due to inflation. The inflation loss, at say 10%, is roughly equal to all the Open Day donations. On the other hand, it seems wise to keep substantial reserves for unforeseen problems or opportunities and more particularly for partially foreseen leaps in costs from City of York Council and electrical suppliers

See table below. A detailed listing of transactions is also available on request. If you have any queries, please contact Richard Hanage richard@hanage.com

1.0 Operations

		2022	2021	2020
Operations	HMRC 'gift aid'	971	316	1,253
	Open day donations	4,062	2,869	1,397
	Other donations	1,346	822	1,278
	Other operations income	633	424	228
	Festival income	167	937	
	Operations total income	7,179	5,368	4,156
	less Festival expenses	1,256	2,717	-
	less operations expenses	3,107	3,506	3,035
	Operations surplus	2,816	-855	1,121
	Covid support	0	17,431	2,500
Surplus	Total operations surplus	2,816	16,576	3,621
	less projects net spend	2,797	1,500	-
	Total surplus	19	15,076	3,621
Assets	Cumulative assets	30,992	30,973	15,897

Operations Surplus

The 'Operations surplus', which is a measure of the basic health of the FoYW, showed an excellent gain at £2,816 (up from a loss of £855 in 2021) as we recovered from closures and cancellations due to Covid.

Operations income was very strong at £7,179 (up £1,811). Donation income was especially strong. This is very encouraging as it must reflect our reputation and contribution to the heritage of the city.

Open day donations were £4,062 (up £1,193) due to the increased openings (21 days) - because of Covid we did not open in 2021 until May (16 days). Sales of maps and books were also strong at £573 (up £152).

Regular donations from supporters were also very strong at £445 (up £245) and donations from walks was greatly increased at £721 (up £526) reflecting the commitment of our expert guides.

Increased donations in tax year 2021/22 were also reflected in a greatly increased 'Gift Aid' of £971, received a year in arrears. Income from sponsored stones was £180 (up £30)

Finally the very successful Twilight Walls event also brought in a useful £167, as well as providing a unique experience for our visitors.

The robust FPT Open Day income is a tribute to our volunteers and shows that any time we want to bring in extra income we can do so by opening the FPT more often at weekends – weather and volunteers permitting.

Operations expenses were well under control at £3,107 (down £399) but this hides some large differences item by item. For instance we have not replenished our stock of maps and books for sale, saving over £1,000 and have spent over £500 less on publicity and marketing.. On the other hand we have spent a lot more on books/maps/materials for displays (up £700) and on office and computer-related equipment for surveys etc. (up £500).

Festival expenses were down £1,461 reflecting reduced scope in 2022 but this was partially offset by reduced income, down £770.

2.0 Development Projects

External project funding we receive is entered into the accounts in full in the year that it is received, along with any match funding we are committed to providing. Any unspent funding at the end of each year is carried over as a 'Unspent project income' on the balance sheet to the following year. When the project is completed any over/underspend is treated as operations expenses. In this way the projects do not impact on the normal profit/loss account until they are closed. Also, any unspent funding is treated as restricted asset.

Externally Funded Projects

During 2022 we received a grant of £300 (Bug Life) for 'Growing Greener Spaces' and did not have to commit any extra match funding. We also had a promise of £1,000 from the Curry Fund for 'Geology of the Walls' which will require matched funding of a further £1,000. In addition, £3,978 unspent funding was brought forward from 2021. Unspent funding of £1,650 was carried forward to 2023, a decrease of £2,328. We appear to be much better now at utilising project funds!

Sharing Heritage (Heritage Lottery Fund: £10,000 plus FoYW matching : £2,000). During 2022 the project was closed with an overspend of just £3.61. We are very grateful to Heritage Lottery Fund for their support.

Growing Greener Spaces (York CVS: £1,500 plus FoYW matching: £1,500). An additional £300 grant was received from Buglife during 2022. Total spending in 2022 was £1,642, leaving £650 to be carried forward to 2023. We are very grateful to York CVS and Buglife for their support.

Twins Diary. (Fishergate ward: £1,000)

There has been no spending on this project so the whole £1,000 is carried over to 2023.

Geology of the Walls. (Curry Fund: £1,000 plus FoYW matching: £1,000). This new project has been offered a grant of £1,000 by the Curry Fund which will be paid in 2023 on project completion. In the meantime £1,396 has been spent from FoYW funds. We are very grateful to the Curry Fund for enabling this project to start.

Self-funded projects

Art project. This new project purchases art related to the walls for future display. It has no external funding and is internally funded by ear-marking extra income generated by volunteers who are willing for this income to fund the project, for instance by staffing extra open days. Earmarked funds are £637 and spend in 2022 was £451 leaving £186 unspent.

Home Schooling Project. This project was funded by us with a contribution from the parents of the young people involved. The total cost to us in 2022 was £950. The project is now closed.

3.0 Concluding thoughts

The FPT Open Days continue to be a good steady earner, making at least £150/day. We need to ensure that we have the volunteers to sustain this, and perhaps increase the numbers of openings.

We have a large surplus of £30,992 which needs to be spent (wisely) as it is eroding fast due to inflation. The inflation loss, at say 10%, is roughly equal to all the Open Day donations.

We have several very interesting projects in hand and must ensure that we have the resources to implement them – plus any new ones we commit to.

Penny Heptonstall & Richard Hanage 8 Nov 2023

FRIENDS OF YORK WALLS

England & Wales - Charity number 1159300

Accounts

FRIENDS OF YORK WALLS

TRUSTEES REPORT 2021

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

1 Structure, Governance and Management

The Friends of York Walls was established in 2013. It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation first registered on 20 November 2014, registration number 1159300. The charity was established with objects and powers, and is governed under the terms of its Constitution.

The trustees who served during the year were:

Bill Hill (Chair)
Samantha McDermott (Honorary Secretary)
Glen McGowan
Simon Mattam
Alan Fleming
Emily Greenway

The trustees served on the Management Committee, which had in addition the following members:

Basil Jones
Penny Heptonstall (Honorary Treasurer)
Martin Hetherington (until October 2020)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All the trustees guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

2 Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as expressed in its articles/constitution are:

- 1 To educate the public in the history, natural history and architecture of the historic defences of York and its city walls.
- 2 To secure the preservation, protection and improvement of their features.

The Fishergate Postern Tower has been the venue for the regular activities of the charity along with the walls more generally.

The Friends of York Walls have the aims to:

1. Influence the management, care and presentation of York's City Walls and Defences for the benefit of local residents and visitors.
2. Organise and undertake practical work and public events in cooperation with the City of York Council and other like-minded groups or individuals.
3. Encourage people generally to utilise the Walls as an amenity.
4. Identify opportunities for potential improvement of the Walls.
5. Establish links with local residents.
6. Monitor and act where appropriate to protect the historical views from and towards the Walls.
7. Act as a pressure group, when necessary, to maintain high standards of maintenance of York's Walls and fortifications.
8. Identify opportunities for possible improved access, physical and intellectual.
9. Explore the potential of Fishergate Postern and the Red Tower.
10. Establish and reopen Fishergate Postern as a historical attraction.
11. Explore fundraising avenues such as grants and bequests.
12. Involve schools.
13. Create resource packages, leaflets and other material to help people appreciate the Walls.
14. Arrange walks and talks.
15. Participate in and foster local cultural events.
16. Support other like-minded organisations.
17. Consult with those interested in the Walls.
18. Develop the Friends website, Facebook and Twitter accounts.
19. Communicate with members via email address and newsletters.
20. Raise the public profile of the group by generating local media coverage.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

3 Achievements and Performance in 2021

3.1 Opening Fishergate Postern Tower to the public

The tower was closed because of the COVID pandemic until May, but nevertheless was visited by 4,916 people over the remainder of the year. This compares with 3,281 in the previous year, a year also affected by COVID closures. We have set a target for visitor numbers in 2022 of 6,000.

The donations made by visitors to the Tower on Open Days are an important source of regular income to the charity and therefore need to be monitored. The income in 2021 was £2,869. The target for 2022 is £3,550.

3.2 Organising the Fourth York Walls Festival

This took place in August 2021 and included a number of new features, including:

- the creation of a grass labyrinth based on a Roman design;
- A guided tour of the ramparts with the City Ecologist taking in wildflower and bats;
- Night time opening of a section of the walls.

New partners joined the Festival, which continued to attract public interest and social media interchanges.

3.3 Planting wildflowers on the ramparts – Growing Greener Spaces grant

The Friends were awarded a grant of £1,500 from the Growing Greener Spaces scheme towards the cost of wildflower plants for the ramparts. This is a project which aims to:

- a) Increase the critical mass of pollinator friendly plants on the ramparts.
- b) Foster visitor interest in the ramparts as a result.
- c) Use the momentum thus created to increase public awareness of the historical importance of the ramparts.

A list of wildflower plants were agreed with the City Ecologist, plants which were native to the UK, non-invasive, and which were rich in pollen and nectar. A start was made on purchasing seeds and plugs from this list, ready for planting out in 2022.

Negotiations were initiated with the responsible sections of the local authority on how best to mesh wildflower planting with the practice of mowing the ramparts at intervals through the year.

3.4 Guided Walks

The charity's profile in offering guided walks of the walls was increased, backed up by the preparation of display books with reference materials to provide in-depth information if groups wished it. The aim is to position the Friends as a provider of well-researched, accurate guided walks, but bespoke tailored to what visitors want.

3.5 Walled Towns Heritage Network

The Friends maintained contact with this network, but the proposed symposium in York was postponed because of the COVID pandemic. Similarly a Twins Diary project which was to be implemented by St George's RC Primary School from March has been postponed until 2023.

4 **Financial Review**

In the year under review the national lockdown and precautions specified because of the COVID 19 pandemic meant that Fishergate Postern Tower was closed from January until May, reducing the income from donations.

However this was offset by COVID related grants received to help the organisation's resilience over the period and as a result the charity is now in a stronger financial position.

At the end of the financial year the charity had unrestricted funds of £30,973, which included £10,000 earmarked by the trustees as a reserve to ensure that the charity continues in a robust financial position, and help build resources towards refurbishing the roof.

The charity's principal sources of funds and how these have supported the key objectives are outlined below:

Income raised through the Charity's own activities

- Donations during the open days at Fishergate Postern Tower
- Sponsored stones
- Other donations
- Sale of books, maps and other literature
- Grants.

5 **Plans for the Future**

The plans for the future are to focus on:

- a) Working with the local authority to bring about the refurbishment of the roof of Fishergate Postern Tower, installation of proper electrical circuits and improved lighting, and repointing of the interior with lime mortar to reduce spalling of the stone.

- b) Working with the Council and Historic England to implement wildflower planting on the ramparts in an area to be managed by the Friends of York Walls.
- c) Developing plans for interpreting the ecological aspects of the ramparts, including a nature trail.
- d) Continuing the 'York Walls Festival' as an annual event, but changing its timing to earlier in the year.
- e) Strengthening the capacity of the Friends to offer guided walks of the walls, supported by relevant resources.
- f) Building up resource materials on the geology of the walls, engaging with experts, leading to a geology trail for the walls and towers.
- g) Establishing a collection of art works using the walls and towers as their subject matter/inspiration, including images from the past and commissions to contemporary artists and designers. The aim is to enrich the visitor experience and provide stimulus material for people engaging in practical art classes based on the walls.
- h) Collect visitor feedback on a more systematic basis and use this to inform planning of the interior of Fishergate Postern Tower.
- i) Improve the quality of the displays in Fishergate Postern Tower, including the time-line, the maps on the top floor and redesigning the ground floor.
- j) Undertake a thorough survey of Fishergate Postern Tower to find as many Mason's marks as possible and use the results as a basis for visitor information and academic study.
- k) Taking forward the development of school packs and other ways to engage young people in the heritage of the walls.
- l) Seeking grant funding for projects which engage local people in practical activities related to the walls and their heritage.
- m) Recreate a portcullis in the postern gate, supported by explanatory models.
- n) Build the profile of the Friends and the York Walls Festival on social media and the internet.
- o) Develop a programme of recruitment of volunteers and committee members.

Bill Hill
Chair of the Management Committee
October 2022



Friends of York Walls CIO

Treasurer's Report: 2021

Overview

This report is split into two main parts.

The first part covers the core activities of the Friends of York Walls (FoYW) and is a good guide to our basic finances. It includes the operation of the Fishergate Postern Tower (FPT) and also external events, such as the annual 'York Walls Festival'. The second part covers the externally funded projects, which are best looked at individually.

The combined finances of both parts are included in the attached Profit/Loss account and Balance Sheet. The overall outcome for the year was that we made a profit of £15,072 (mainly due to the 'covid support grant' from the City of York Council (CYC) and our total assets, as of Dec 31st 2021 were £30,970. Most of this reserve has been put aside with the roof repair project in mind as well as other improvements/repairs we have planned for the Tower. Given the current high rate of inflation the sooner we can (wisely) spend this reserve the better. It is already shrinking (in real terms) by about £3,000 per year.

The 'balance sheet' and 'profit/loss account' for the period are attached. A detailed listing of transactions is also available on request..

If you have any queries, please contact Richard Hanage richard@hanage.com

1.0 Operations

		2021	2020	2019
Operations	HMRC 'gift aid'	316	1,253	-
	Open day donations	2,869	1,397	1,867
	Other donations	822	1,278	2,451
	Other operations income	424	228	410
	Festival income	937		
	Operations total income	5,368	4,156	4,727
	less Festival expenses	2,717	-	325
	less operations expenses	3,506	3,035	1,185
	Operations surplus	-855	1,121	3,217
	Covid support	17,431	2,500	
Totals	Total operations surplus	16,576	3,621	3,217
	less project matching	1,500	-	2,000
	Total surplus	15,076	3,621	1,217
Assets	Cumulative assets	30,973	15,897	12,276

The 'Operations surplus', which is a measure of the basic health of the FoYW, was a loss of £885 (down £2,301). Although there were higher Open Day donations (£2,869) these were

offset by lower other donations (down £456) and HMRC gift aid (down £937). As all the 2021 open day donations are eligible for 25% gift aid the HMRC figure should be higher in 2022.

Operations expenses were up by £471 due to a large purchase of books and maps for sale, partially offset by less spending on displays in the Tower.

The 2021 Walls Festival cost £2,717, which was partially offset from income from activities (eg guided walks) and especially £788 from 'Twilight Walls' in the autumn. Note that Festival income in 2019 was not separately identified.

2.0 Development Projects

Please note that project funding we receive is entered into the accounts in full in the year that it is received, along with any match funding we are committed to providing. Any unspent funding at the end of each year is carried over as a 'Unspent project income' on the balance sheet to the following year. When the project is completed any over/underspend is treated as operations expenses. In this way the projects do not impact on the normal profit/loss account until they are closed, and any annual unspent funding is treated a restricted asset.

Overview of projects

During 2021 we received a grant of £1,500 (York CVS) and committed to £1,500 match funding. In addition, £3,482 unspent funding was carried forward from 2020. Overall project spending was £2,564, and unspent funding of £3,978 was carried forward to 2022, an increase of £1,414. We appear to be better at attracting funding than spending it.

Sharing Heritage project (Heritage Lottery Fund: £10,000 plus FoYW matching : £2,000). During 2021 we spent £1,556 of the £12,000 total project funding. The remaining £986 was transferred to 2022, and the project was closed early in 2022. We are very grateful to the Heritage Lottery Fund for their grant of £10,000 for this important project.

Growing Greener project (York CVS: £1,500 plus FoYW matching: £1,500). Total spending in 2021 was £1,008, leaving £1,992 to be carried forward to 2022. We are very grateful to York CVS for their grant of £1,500 for this project

Twin Diary project. (Fishergate ward: £1,000) There has been no spending on this project so the whole £1,000 is carried over to 2022.

Concluding thoughts

The FPT Open Days are a good steady earner, making at least £150/day. We need to ensure that we have the volunteers to sustain this, and perhaps increase the numbers.

We have a large surplus (£30,973) which needs to be (wisely) spent as it is eroding fast due to inflation. The inflation loss, at 10%, is roughly equal to all the Open Day donations.

The net cost of the Festival was £1,780. Do we want to try to reduce this by more fund-raising events (such as 'twilight walls').

Penny Heptonstall & Richard Hanage 26 July 2022

Friends of York Walls

Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

January through December 2021

	Jan - Dec 21	Jan - Dec 20
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
OPERATIONS INCOME		
CYC Covid Support	17,431.00	2,500.00
Donations		
Donations - Buckets	2,065.01	1,272.33
Donations - Contactless	804.27	124.50
Donations - Other	35.00	803.00
Donations - Publishing	242.50	0.00
Donations - Stones	150.00	290.00
Donations - Supporters	200.00	105.00
Donations - Walks & Talks	195.00	80.00
Total Donations	3,691.78	2,674.83
HMRC Gifts Aid Income	315.51	1,252.84
Interest Earned	2.60	0.60
Product Sales	421.50	227.49
Total OPERATIONS INCOME	21,862.39	6,655.76
PROJECT GRANTS RECEIVED		
2020 Growing Greener	1,500.00	0.00
2020 Twins Diary	0.00	1,000.00
2020 Youth Theatre	0.00	1,500.00
Total PROJECT GRANTS RECEI...	1,500.00	2,500.00
SPECIAL EVENT INCOME		
Festival Income	937.12	0.00
Total SPECIAL EVENT INCOME	937.12	0.00
Total Income	24,299.51	9,155.76
Expense		
OPERATIONS EXPENSES		
Display/interpretation	200.23	1,206.71
Electricity	14.59	12.39
Equipment	55.00	0.00
Health & Safety	230.69	0.00
Insurance Expense	157.00	143.64
Membership fees	0.00	10.00
Miscellaneous Expense	59.23	-14.99
Office Expense	55.81	85.79
Paypal Fees	6.74	19.15
Phone & Broadband	300.00	0.00
Product Purchase	1,183.50	149.75
Project over/under spend.	0.00	60.00
Publicity & Marketing	869.25	744.34
Rent and Rates	204.80	204.80
Repairs and Maintenance	15.86	26.00
SumUp Fees	12.75	3.02
Unidentified Loss/Gain	-26.09	0.00
Venue expenses	166.88	145.05
Total OPERATIONS EXPENSES	3,506.24	2,795.65
PROJECT EXPENSES		
2019 Heritage Sharing	0.00	0.00
2020 Roof Repairs	0.00	240.00
2020 Twins Diary	0.00	1,000.00
2020 Youth Theatre	0.00	1,500.00
2021 Growing Greener	3,000.00	0.00
Total PROJECT EXPENSES	3,000.00	2,740.00
SPECIAL EVENT EXPENSES		
Festival Expenses	2,716.74	0.00
Total SPECIAL EVENT EXPENSES	2,716.74	0.00
Total Expense	9,222.98	5,535.65
Net Ordinary Income	15,076.53	3,620.11
Profit for the Year	15,076.53	3,620.11

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30/10/22

Accrual Basis

Friends of York Walls

UK Balance Sheet - Standard

As of 31 December 2021

	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		
Cash	1.41	1.41
HSBC Current	3,832.41	4,295.68
HSBC SAVE	31,003.20	15,000.60
PayPal NEW	114.42	0.00
Paypal OLD	0.00	141.01
Total Cash at bank and in hand	34,951.44	19,438.70
Total Current Assets	34,951.44	19,438.70
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Unspent project income	3,978.25	3,542.04
Total Other Current Liabilities	3,978.25	3,542.04
Total Current Liabilities	3,978.25	3,542.04
NET CURRENT ASSETS	30,973.19	15,896.66
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	30,973.19	15,896.66
NET ASSETS	30,973.19	15,896.66
Capital and Reserves		
Additional Net Assets	4,055.06	434.95
Initial Assets	11,841.60	11,841.60
Profit for the Year	15,076.53	3,620.11
Shareholder funds	30,973.19	15,896.66

Accounts

FRIENDS OF YORK WALLS

TRUSTEES REPORT 2020

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

1 Structure, Governance and Management

The Friends of York Walls was established in 2013. It is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation first registered on 20 November 2014, registration number 1159300. The charity was established with objects and powers, and is governed under the terms of its Constitution.

The trustees who served during the year were:

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Glen McGowan
Simon Mattam
Alan Fleming
Emily Greenway

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None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All the trustees guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

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2 Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity as expressed in its articles/constitution are:

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- 2 To secure the preservation, protection and improvement of their features.

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7. Act as a pressure group, when necessary, to maintain high standards of maintenance of York's Walls and fortifications.
8. Identify opportunities for possible improved access, physical and intellectual.
9. Explore the potential of Fishergate Postern and the Red Tower.
10. Establish and reopen Fishergate Postern as a historical attraction.
11. Explore fundraising avenues such as grants and bequests.
12. Involve schools.
13. Create resource packages, leaflets and other material to help people appreciate the Walls.
14. Arrange walks and talks.
15. Participate in and foster local cultural events.
16. Support other like-minded organisations.
17. Consult with those interested in the Walls.
18. Develop the Friends website, Facebook and Twitter accounts.
19. Communicate with members via email address and newsletters.
20. Raise the public profile of the group by generating local media coverage.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

3 Achievements and Performance in 2020

3.1 Opening Fishergate Postern Tower to the public

The tower was closed because of the COVID pandemic from March to July, but nevertheless was visited by 3,281 people over the year.

3.2 Organising the Third York Walls Festival

This took place in August 2020. Because of the national restrictions arising from the COVID 19 pandemic, the event was virtual only, but nevertheless attracted a great deal of interest and social media interchanges.

3.3 Heritage Lottery Fund Sharing the Heritage of York Walls

Activities made possible through the grant secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £10,000 continued, enabling the Friends to:

- Produce a newly formatted version of the Annual Leaflet targeting public display locations such as Visit York.
- Commission ideas for enhancing the Timeline Display in Fishergate Postern Tower.

3.4 Walled Towns Heritage Network

The Friends maintained contact with this network, but the proposed symposium in York was postponed because of the COVID pandemic. Similarly a Twins Diary project which was to be implemented by St George's RC Primary School from March has been postponed until 2022.

4 Financial Review

In the year under review the national lockdown and precautions specified because of the COVID 19 pandemic meant that Fishergate Postern Tower was closed from March until July, reducing the income from donations.

However this was offset by COVID related grants received to help the organisation's resilience over the period and as a result the charity is now in a stronger financial position.

At the end of the financial year the charity had unrestricted funds of £17,404 which included £12,000 which has been earmarked by the trustees as a reserve to ensure that the charity continues in a robust financial position, and help build resources towards refurbishing the roof.

The charity's principal sources of funds and how these have supported the key objectives are outlined below:

Income raised through the Charity's own activities

- Donations during the open days at Fishergate Postern Tower
- Stones donations
- Other donations
- Sale of books, maps and other literature
- Grants.

5 Plans for the Future

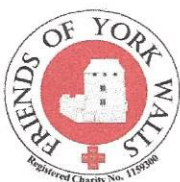
The plans for the future are to focus on:

- a) Seek further grant funding to implement the Heritage Strategy for Fishergate Postern Tower.
- b) Take forward the development of school packs.
- c) Seek grant funding for projects which engage local people in practical activities related to the walls and their heritage.
- d) Implement the 'York Walls Festival' as an annual event.
- e) Recreate a portcullis in the postern gate, supported by explanatory models.
- f) Visit other walled cities to gather ideas to bring back to York on ways of enriching the visitor experience of city walls.
- g) Arrange guided training in searching archives so that members of the Friends (and the general public) can undertake searches for information which might add to the interpretation of the walls.
- h) Work with the Council's Ecologist to develop plans for interpreting the ecological aspects of the ramparts, including a nature trail and area managed by the Friends of York Walls.
- i) Build the profile of the Friends and the York Walls Festival on social media and the internet.
- j) Repoint the interior of Fishergate Postern Tower with traditional lime mortar.
- k) Refurbish the roof tiles on Fishergate Postern Tower to remove moss and ensure weather proofing.
- l) Install electrical sockets and lighting throughout Fishergate Postern Tower.
- m) Develop a programme of recruitment of volunteers and committee members.

- n) Strengthen the capacity of the Friends to offer guided walks of the walls, supported by relevant resources.

These aspirations will be the subject of bids for targeted funding to enable them to be implemented.

Bill Hill
Chair of the Management Committee
September 2021



Friends of York Walls

Treasurer's Report: 2020

Overview

Below is a summary of the accounts for 2020. More details are on pages 2 and 3.

		2020	2019	2018
Operations	HMRC 'gift aid'	1,253	-	-
	Open day donations	1,397	1,867	1,563
	Other donations	1,278	2,451	1,285
	Other operations income	228	410	287
	CYC Covid support grant	2,500		
	Operations total income	6,656	4,727	3,136
	less operations expenses	1,553	1,185	2,197
	Operations surplus	5,102	3,542	939
Projects	Projects grants	2,500	10,000	2,858
	less projects expenses	765	12,000	6,859
	less project income cf	2,035		
	Projects surplus	- 300	- 2,000	- 4,001
Total	Total surplus	4,802	1,542	- 3,062
Assets	Cumulative assets	17,404	12,602	11,059

The finances of the FoYW are in good shape. The end-year net assets are now £17,404 – an excellent gain from £12,602 the previous year. In addition, we carried over £2,035 of unspent project funding to 2021. The assets are held in the HSBC and PayPal accounts.

Operations

The operations surplus, which is a measure of the basic health of the FoYW, was £4,802, up from £1,542 in 2019. However, this gives a false impression as we received a CYC Covid Support grant of £2,500 and an HMRC gift-aid tax refund of £1,253. Without these extra items the operations surplus would have been a less satisfactory £1,049 – but still reasonable considering the long periods of lock-down.

Projects

We received grants from Guildhall ward (£1000) and Fishergate ward (£500) for a Youth Theatre project, which was slightly overspent. A further grant of £1000 from Fishergate ward was received late in the year for the Twins Diary project. As this will take place in 2021 the grant has been carried forward to 2021, along with unspent £1,035 of the Heritage Lottery Fund project grant. In addition, £240 was spent on a survey of the roof in preparation for the planned refurbishment project.

Detailed accounts for the period are attached.

If you have any queries, please contact Richard Hanage richard@hanage.com

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31/03/21

Accrual Basis

Friends of York Walls
UK Balance Sheet - Standard
As of 31 December 2020

	31 Dec 20	31 Dec 19
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Other Current Assets		
Expected Income	0.00	655.71
Total Other Current Assets	0.00	655.71
Cash at bank and in hand		
Cash	1.41	1.41
HSBC Current	4,295.68	15,551.08
HSBC SAVE	15,000.60	0.00
Paypal	141.01	133.33
Total Cash at bank and in hand	19,438.70	15,685.82
Total Current Assets	19,438.70	16,341.53
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Unspent project income	2,034.87	3,739.98
Total Other Current Liabilities	2,034.87	3,739.98
Total Current Liabilities	2,034.87	3,739.98
NET CURRENT ASSETS	17,403.83	12,601.55
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILI...	17,403.83	12,601.55
NET ASSETS	17,403.83	12,601.55
Capital and Reserves		
Additional Net Assets	759.95	-782.29
Initial Assets	11,841.60	11,841.60
Profit for the Year	4,802.28	1,542.24
Shareholder funds	17,403.83	12,601.55

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31/03/21
Accrual Basis

Friends of York Walls

Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison

January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 20	Jan - Dec 19
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
OPERATIONS INCOME		
2020 CYC Covid Support	2,500.00	0.00
Donations		
Donations - Buckets	1,272.33	1,866.64
Donations - Contactless	124.50	0.00
Donations - Other	803.00	1,974.51
Donations - Stones	290.00	275.00
Donations - Supporters	105.00	125.00
Donations - Walks & Talks	80.00	76.14
Total Donations	2,674.83	4,317.29
HMRC Gifts Aid Income	1,252.84	0.00
Interest Earned	0.60	0.00
Product Sales	227.49	409.50
Total OPERATIONS INCOME	6,655.76	4,726.79
PROJECT GRANTS RECEIVED		
2019 Heritage Sharing	0.00	10,000.00
2020 Twins Diary	0.00	0.00
2020 Youth Theatre	1,500.00	0.00
Total PROJECT GRANTS RECEI...	1,500.00	10,000.00
Total Income	8,155.76	14,726.79
Expense		
OPERATIONS EXPENSES		
Display/interpretation	706.71	56.97
Electricity	12.39	10.78
Insurance Expense	143.64	143.64
Membership fees	10.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Expense	-14.99	69.37
Office Expense	85.79	0.00
Paypal Fees	19.15	7.78
Product Purchase	149.75	0.00
Publicity & Marketing	71.17	261.00
Rent and Rates	204.80	276.97
Repairs and Maintenance	17.00	70.40
SumUp Fees	3.02	0.00
Venue expenses	145.05	287.64
Total OPERATIONS EXPENSES	1,553.48	1,184.55
PROJECT EXPENSES		
2018 Door Repair	0.00	0.00
2018 FPT Interior Revamp	0.00	0.00
2018 Initial Electrics	0.00	0.00
2019 Heritage Sharing	0.00	12,000.00
2020 Roof Repairs	240.00	0.00
2020 Youth Theatre	1,560.00	0.00
Total PROJECT EXPENSES	1,800.00	12,000.00
Total Expense	3,353.48	13,184.55
Net Ordinary Income	4,802.28	1,542.24
Profit for the Year	4,802.28	1,542.24