

THE FRIENDS OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE

England & Wales · Charity number 1163174

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-08-18

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Francis Howard Miles Thomas
32 Friar Gate
Derby
DE1 1BX

Phone 07932107553

Website www.friargatebridge.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:(1) TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL, NATURAL AND MAN-MADE ENVIRONMENT BY PROMOTING THE HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE ("THE BRIDGE") IN DERBY.(2) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC, IN PARTICULAR IN RELATION TO THE HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE OF THE HERITAGE OF THE BRIDGE BY DEVELOPING PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE ARCHITECTURE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF THE BRIDGE BY MEANS OF PUBLICATIONS, PUBLIC LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS AND CO-OPERATION WITH SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND OTHER BODIES AND SOCIETIES.

Activities: To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and man-made environment by promoting the historical and architectural heritage of Friar Gate Bridge (the Bridge) in Derby.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Derby City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£460	£7	-	-
2024-08-31	£250	£6	-	-
2023-08-31	£280	£157	-	-
2022-08-31	£390	£137	-	-
2021-08-31	£410	£163	-	-
2020-08-31	£987	£10	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
FRANCIS HOWARD MILES THOMAS	Chair	2015-08-18
Dr Katharine Cox		2024-10-09
MANDY ANNE COONS		2018-01-22
Malcolm Holden		2016-11-07
Michael John Walsh		2025-03-25
Professor Cecile Wright		2026-02-04

THE FRIENDS OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1163174

Accounts

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Financial accounts

for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

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for the Year Ended 31st August 2025

- 1 Income and Expenditure Account**
- 2 Balance Sheet**

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 August 2025

	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.25</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.24</u> <u>£</u>
Income		
Membership	230	190
Donations	130	10
Fundraising activities	100	50
	<u>460</u>	<u>250</u>
 Expenses		
PayPal fees	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
 Surplus for the year	 <u><u>453</u></u>	 <u><u>244</u></u>

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Balance Sheet

	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.25</u> £	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.24</u> £
Current assets		
Bank account	5,560	5,223
Paypal account	116	-
Current liabilities		
Creditors	-	-
Net current assets	<u>5,676</u>	<u>5,223</u>
Represented by		
Accumulated funds		
Opening reserves	5,223	4,979
Surplus for the year	<u>453</u>	<u>244</u>
Closing reserves	<u>5,676</u>	<u>5,223</u>

**The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Trustees' Annual Report
For the period 01/09/24 to 31/08/25**

Reference and administration details

Charity Name: The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Registered Charity Number: 1163174

Charity Principal Address: 32 Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1BX

Names of Charity Trustees who manage the charity:

Mandy Coons

Professor Katharine Cox (appointed 13.06.25)

Alistair Hodge (removed 16.09.24)

Malcolm Holden

Councillor Kathy Kozlowski (appointed 14.10.25; resigned 11.12.25)

Howard Thomas Chair

Michael Walsh (appointed 13.06.25)

Councillor Professor Cecile Wright (appointed 04.02.26)

Names and addresses of advisers:

Solicitors Smith Partnership, Celtic House, Derby. DE1 1LS

Treasurer Vacant position

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document: Constitution

How the charity is constituted: Charitable incorporated organization

Trustee selection methods: Elected by general meeting

Objective and activities

Summary of objects of the charity

1.1 The objects of the CIO are:

1.1.1 to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and man-made environment by promoting the historical and architectural heritage of Friar Gate Bridge ("the Bridge") in Derby.

1.1.2 to advance the education of the public, in particular in relation to the history and architecture of the heritage of the Bridge by developing public interest in the architecture, history and heritage of the Bridge by means of publications, public lectures and exhibitions and co-operation with schools and other educational establishments and other bodies and societies.

A cloudy year, with a silver lining

The year ending August 31st 2025 was, once more, frustrating, until events at the very end produced rays of hope. These have continued to develop over the last nine months.

The Friends' friends

We continued to liaise with other stakeholders and interested parties to see what future the Bridge might have and how to achieve it.

Wavensmere Homes suggested we talk to Down to Earth Derby, who have landscaped Wavensmere's sites in Derby plus created Electric Daisy in the city. We duly made contact with their Jamie Quince Starkey and Steven Howard, who were very keen to contribute.

Wavensmere also gave our trustees a guided tour of the Goods Yard site, allowing us to fully appreciate the magnitude of their task.

The University of Derby introduced us to their DUST project (Derby's Urban Sustainable Transition) which featured the Bridge in plans for a greener, more connected and prosperous future for the city.

The University also set some of their construction and engineering students a project on the Bridge; and although we never heard the results, we were very glad this influential institution is engaging its students locally.

While we lost the only Council officer whose remit included liaising with us Friends, we were heartened by the continued interest and support of Nadine Peatfield, until June Deputy Leader of the City Council before becoming its Leader.

Mike Wingfield, of Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust was helpful with suggestions on applications for funding for the tourism feasibility study we sought.

Our other activities

Much of our time and energy, particularly Malcolm Holden's, was spent seeking funding for the tourism feasibility study. However, feasibility studies were not in favour with funders and all results were negative.

We continued to deliver talks to general interest groups, including The Freemen of the City of Derby.

When considering applying to English Heritage to have the Bridge's listing raised from Grade II to II*, we established that Friar Gate bridge is by far the most elaborate iron railway bridge in the country. Derby Civic Society gave us some information which may have helped an application, but we decided against it, in case a II* listing restricted future uses.

Financial review

The figures for this period remain straightforward and modest as demonstrated by the annual accounts.

Brighter Future

Towards the end of the year, we were boosted by the arrival of three new trustees. Nadine Peatfield introduced Councillor Kathy Kozlowski, Professor Katharine Cox became the University representative , and Michael Walsh (Mick) joined, a company MD with decades of experience in the rail industry.

Much was to change as a result of these appointments and the AGM in June will bring members up to date.

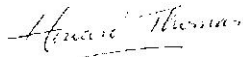
The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge remains the co-ordinating body, encouraging interest and effective actions by other stakeholders. As ever, we would welcome new trustees, especially those with experience in engineering, heritage or charity governance. Volunteers would be welcomed, particularly for administration and communications..

The Chair has reached the maximum term allowed under our constitution. He would like to offer profound thanks to our members for their continued support and to the trustees who have put so much time and effort towards the restoration future utilisation of the iconic, exquisite and important structure, which is Friar Gate Bridge,

Declaration

The report has been prepared by the Chair on behalf of the trustees.

Signature:



Full name: Francis Howard Miles Thomas

Position: Chair

Date: 16th May 2026

THE FRIENDS OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1163174

Accounts

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for the Year Ended 31st August 2024

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- 2 Balance Sheet**

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Income and Expenditure Account

For the year ended 31 August 2024

	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.24</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.23</u> <u>£</u>
Income		
Membership	190	270
Donations	10	10
Fundraising activities	50	-
	<u>250</u>	<u>280</u>
Expenses		
Printing, advertising and office	-	105
PayPal fees	6	11
Room hire	-	-
Book purchase	-	41
	<u>6</u>	<u>157</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>244</u>	<u>123</u>

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Balance Sheet

	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.24</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.23</u> <u>£</u>
Current assets		
Bank account	5,223	5,395
Current liabilities		
Creditors	-	416
Net current assets	<u>5,223</u>	<u>4,979</u>
Represented by		
Accumulated funds		
Opening reserves	4,979	4,856
Surplus for the year	<u>244</u>	<u>123</u>
Closing reserves	<u>5,223</u>	<u>4,979</u>

**The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Trustees' Annual Report
For the period 01/09/23 to 31/08/24**

Reference and administration details

Charity Name: The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Registered Charity Number: 1163174

Charity Principal Address: 32 Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1BX

Names of Charity Trustees who manage the charity:

Mandy Coons

Alistair Hodge (removed 16.09.24)

Malcolm Holden

Howard Thomas Chair

Names and addresses of advisers:

Solicitors Smith Partnership, Celtic House, Derby. DE1 1LS

Website Human Interface Publications, 14 MacKenzie Street, Derby.
DE22 3DD

Treasurer Vacant position

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document: Constitution

How the charity is constituted: Charitable incorporated organization

Trustee selection methods: Elected by general meeting

Objective and activities

Summary of objects of the charity

1.1 The objects of the CIO are:

- 1.1.1 to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and man-made environment by promoting the historical and architectural heritage of Friar Gate Bridge ("the Bridge") in Derby.
- 1.1.2 to advance the education of the public, in particular in relation to the history and architecture of the heritage of the Bridge by developing public interest in the architecture, history and heritage of the Bridge by means of publications, public lectures and exhibitions and co-operation with schools and other educational establishments and other bodies and societies.

Restoration – What lies at the end of the road?

At the beginning of this year we met with Wavensmere Homes to discuss their plans to develop the Friar Gate Goods Yard and we learned that they were dealing with the whole site, including the listed commercial buildings. While we were surprised at the proposed removal of the arches, including those very close to the Bridge we understood that viability of this site relied on maximising land usage. Such reliance also meant that vehicular access onto the bridge itself was not possible. Wavensmere had provided pedestrian access via

wide and attractive steps, and, following our comments, they amended their plans to incorporate a ramp to allow disabled access.

The viability report we had from Lathams Heritage Architects in 2018 had identified linking activity on the Bridge to that on the Goods Yard as being a key factor in providing the sustainability required by most funders likely to support the restoration of the Bridge. At this stage last year it was not obvious how any linkage would be achieved.

On a positive note, we had a full and constructive meeting with Councillor Nadine Peatfield, then Deputy Leader of Derby City Council and also the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Tourism; together with two of her officers. We explained our frustration at successive administrations' lack of interest in the Bridge and of action to preserve or develop it. We acknowledged the Council's lack of spare funds and asked only for moral and practical support for our endeavours. We pointed out that the current administration, thanks to the revised election schedule and unlike previous administrations, had four years in which to ensure progress, or be seen as not caring for heritage.

Councillor Peatfield told us of a Council tourism project to celebrate Derby's inventors and agreed to consider Andrew Handyside. We were asked to send relevant information to two Council officers, which we duly did without receiving any response. There was a further exchange of mutual contacts.

At the end of the year, arising from his work with another heritage body, one of our members, Mike Wingfield, turned our attention to developing the Bridge as a tourist attraction and told us how we could obtain a feasibility study.

Education

We continued to meet our educational remit through giving talks to general interest groups and societies at their meetings. Others were arranged for after the end of this reporting year.

Through our trustee Alistair Hodge, representing the University, we were again investigating ways to collaborate with the University's students, but Mr Hodge went very quiet and we found he had left the University without telling us.

Outside interference caused a disruption to our news and information on social media and we are grateful to Jayne Courts-Robinson of Human Interface Productions for persevering and restoring her work on this and our website on our behalf.

Other activities

We sought advice and support from various bodies on presenting to Historic England the case for raising the status of the Bridge from Grade II to II*. We had previously delayed our approach to Historic England to help the Goods Yard developers, since a successful application may have restricted the Goods Yard site's uses and made the planned development unviable.

Financial review

The figures for this period remain straightforward and modest as demonstrated by the accounts. We are actively investigating sources to fund development and are making applications as appropriate.

The Future

While we are pleased to see the serious activity taking place adjacent to Friar Gate Bridge, it is apparent that no other party is committed to the future of the Bridge itself. Therefore, the Friends of Friar Gate Bridge has the key role in ensuring the Bridge's long-term interests are properly served.

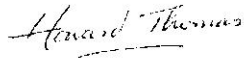
We need extra support from new trustees and volunteers to ensure the Bridge has a future.

From a very early stage the Chair has said he would prefer to serve under someone with more contacts and experience, particularly in heritage. No one has been forthcoming but the Chair's term as a trustee has come to an end under the constitution and he will retire no later than the next AGM,

Declaration

The report has been prepared by the Chair on behalf of the trustees.

Signature:



Full name:

Francis Howard Miles Thomas

Position:

Chair

Date:

30th January 2025

THE FRIENDS OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1163174

Accounts

**The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Trustees' Annual Report
For the period 01/09/22 to 31/08/23**

Reference and administration details

Charity Name: The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Registered Charity Number: 1163174

Charity Principal Address: 32 Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1BX

Names of Charity Trustees who manage the charity:

Mandy Coons

Alistair Hodge

Malcolm Holden

Howard Thomas Chair

Names and addresses of advisers:

Solicitors Smith Partnership, Celtic House, Derby. DE1 1LS

Website Human Interface Publications, 14 MacKenzie Street, Derby.
DE22 3DD

Treasurer Vacant position

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document: Constitution

How the charity is constituted: Charitable incorporated organization

Trustee selection methods: Elected by general meeting

Objective and activities

Summary of objects of the charity

1.1 The objects of the CIO are:

1.1.1 to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and man-made environment by promoting the historical and architectural heritage of Friar Gate Bridge ("the Bridge") in Derby.

1.1.2 to advance the education of the public, in particular in relation to the history and architecture of the heritage of the Bridge by developing public interest in the architecture, history and heritage of the Bridge by means of publications, public lectures and exhibitions and co-operation with schools and other educational establishments and other bodies and societies.

Restoration – Progress, a circuitous road

We continued to liaise with Clowes Developments over their proposals for the adjacent Friar Gate Goods Yard, which they had made public at our last AGM: their resulting activities having been identified in Latham's viability report as being a key factor in providing the sustainable activity required by most funders likely to support the restoration of the Bridge. We received regular updates on their extensive preparatory work and on their considerable expenditure to make safe and preserve the listed buildings on the Goods Yard.

Clowes worked with the City Council on a bid for a contribution from the Government's Levelling Up Fund towards the Goods Yard. Simultaneously we supported the Council on a separate bid for Levelling Up funds for the Bridge. After several months' delay, we found that both bids had been unsuccessful.

We were surprised to find a preliminary planning proposal to demolish the arches adjacent to the Bridge but in April it was announced that Clowes had moved away from their essentially commercial development of the Goods Yard and were collaborating with Wavensmere Homes. Wavensmere would be building houses on the majority of the site while Clowes restore the heritage buildings (the warehouse and engine shed) for commercial and other uses. Once Wavensmere have worked up their proposals we would meet with them.

The failure of Derby City Council to openly acknowledge its ownership of the Bridge, or discuss its future, continues to aggravate. It appears that many councillors do not even understand that the Council owns the Bridge and has legal obligations, given that it is a listed structure. Prior to the City Council elections in May, we wrote to all the candidates asking for their plans for the Bridge if they were elected: only one replied

Education – revived and revised

We continued to meet our educational remit through offering to give talks to general interest groups and societies at their meetings. We had some postponements and others were arranged for after the end of this reporting year.

As always, we provided comment and content to the Derby Telegraph. We also provided a two-page article for a new, newspaper-styled publication, Derby Uncovered, the mouthpiece of a local heritage organization.

Through our trustee Alistair Hodge, representing the University, we are once again investigating ways to collaborate with the University's students.

We continued to post news and information on social media and our website. We are grateful to Jayne Courts-Robinson of Human Interface Productions for her work on these matters on our behalf.

Other activities

We continued to hold back on presenting to Historic England the case for raising the status of the Bridge from Grade II to II* since a successful application may have restricted the Goods Yard site's uses and made the planned restoration project unviable. We believe development of the Goods Yard site will improve the prospects for restoring the Bridge.

This year also saw the announcement that Derby is to be the home of the headquarters of Great British Railways, and we are using this as a lever in appropriate situations.

Financial review

The figures for this period remain straightforward and modest as demonstrated by the accounts. Our membership numbers remain static. We are grateful for members' continuing financial support: we shall need all the funds we can muster as we move forward.

In a bizarre set of circumstances, created by the bank internally, we were forced by Barclays to open an account with another bank, which we did successfully with Lloyds.

The Future

Visible progress remains extremely slow but there is serious activity adjacent to Friar Gate Bridge from which we should be able to benefit. Whatever activities are finally decided by developers of the Goods Yard and by the City Council, the Friends of Friar Gate Bridge will be key to ensuring the Bridge's long-term interests are properly served, since every other party is, at best, keeping it at arm's length.

We have entered a critical phase of activity and, more than ever, need more support from new trustees and volunteers to ensure success.

Declaration

The report has been prepared by the Chair on behalf of the trustees.

Signature:



Full name: Francis Howard Miles Thomas

Position: Chair

Date: 10th January 2024

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Financial accounts

for the Year Ended 31st August 2023

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

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for the Year Ended 31st August 2023

- 1 Income and Expenditure Account**
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The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Income and Expenditure Account

	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.23</u> £	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.22</u> £
Income		
Membership	270	300
Donations	10	10
Fundraising activities	-	80
	<u>280</u>	<u>390</u>
Expenses		
Printing, advertising and office	105	94
PayPal fees	11	13
Room hire	-	30
Book purchase	41	-
	<u>157</u>	<u>137</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>123</u>	<u>253</u>

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Balance Sheet

	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.23</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Year ended</u> <u>31.08.22</u> <u>£</u>
Current assets		
Bank account	5,395	5,126
Current liabilities		
Creditors	416	270
Net current assets	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,856</u>
Represented by		
Accumulated funds		
Opening reserves	4,856	4,603
Surplus for the year	123	253
Closing reserves	<u>4,979</u>	<u>4,856</u>

THE FRIENDS OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1163174

Accounts

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The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

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- 2 Income and expenditure account**

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Balance Sheet
For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

	31.08.22	Comparative 31.08.21
Current assets		
Bank account	5,126	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ 4,608
PayPal account	-	141
	5126	4,749
Current liabilities		
Creditors	270	146 -
Net current assets	4,856	4,603
Represented by		
Accumulated funds	-	-
Opening reserves	4,603	4,356
Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	253	247
	4,856	<u>4,603</u>

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Income and expenditure account
For the Year Ended 31 August 2022

	For the year ended 31.08.21 £	For the year ended 31.08.20 £
Income		
Membership	300	340
Donations	10	-
Fundraising activities	80	70
	390	410
 Expenses		
Printing, advertising and office	94	47
Pay pal fees	13	17
Insurance	-	99
Room hire	30	-
	137	163
 Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	 253	 247

**The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Trustees' Annual Report
For the period 01/09/21 to 31/08/22**

Reference and administration details

Charity Name: The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Registered Charity Number: 1163174

Charity Principal Address: 32 Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1BX

Names of Charity Trustees who manage the charity:

Mandy Coons

Dr. Catherine Feely (resigned 22.03.22)

Alistair Hodge (from 04.04.22)

Malcolm Holden

Howard Thomas Chair

Names and addresses of advisers:

Solicitors Smith Partnership, Celtic House, Derby. DE1 1LS

Website Human Interface Publications, 14 MacKenzie Street, Derby.
DE22 3DD

Treasurer Vacant position

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document: Constitution

How the charity is constituted: Charitable incorporated organization

Trustee selection methods: Elected by general meeting

Objective and activities

Summary of objects of the charity

1.1 The objects of the CIO are:

1.1.1 to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and man-made environment by promoting the historical and architectural heritage of Friar Gate Bridge ("the Bridge") in Derby.

1.1.2 to advance the education of the public, in particular in relation to the history and architecture of the heritage of the Bridge by developing public interest in the architecture, history and heritage of the Bridge by means of publications, public lectures and exhibitions and co-operation with schools and other educational establishments and other bodies and societies.

Restoration – Progress, slow but real

We reported last year that we had opened a communications conduit between The Friends and Clowes Developments, who were finally working up plans to develop the Friar Gate Goods Yard: such development being a key factor in providing the sustainable viability required by most funders likely to support the restoration of the Bridge. We continued to liaise closely with Clowes Developments over their plans and were rewarded in April when, at our AGM, they revealed their outline masterplan for the first time to the outside world.

This meeting was considered sufficiently significant to warrant the attendance of two representatives of the other key stakeholder, Derby City Council, including Steve Hassall, Council Cabinet member for Regeneration. Representatives of Derby Civic Society, Derby University and Derbyshire Heritage Buildings Trust also attended, all being surprised and delighted by Clowes' presentation.

We continued to monitor Clowes' progress including making informal site visits.

The twelve months from August 2021 to August 2022, therefore, showed slow but real progress from the restoration point of view, and what we reported last year was now in the public eye.

Education – revived and revised

We have an educational remit which in the past we have exercised through a schools' STEM project programme, delivered for us by Rolls-Royce personnel, and through talks to general interest groups and societies given by ourselves at their meetings. Covid restrictions created major upheaval at Rolls-Royce and, despite enquiries, we have been unable to recover the schools programme. We managed to deliver talks to interest groups' meetings, although these were far less frequent than pre-Covid. Clowes sent us the slides they had used at their presentation on the Goods Yard plans and we created a new talk showing future possibilities for the Bridge as well as covering its history. We also developed a shorter version for organisations wanting a 20 minute talk rather than 40.

We continued to post news and information on social media, our website and the Derby Telegraph. We are grateful to Jayne Courts-Robinson of Human Interface Productions for her work on these matters on our behalf.

Other activities

We continued to hold back on presenting to Historic England the case for raising the status of the Bridge from Grade II to II* since a successful application may have restricted the Goods Yard site's uses and made the planned restoration project unviable.

Once again there was a sting in Covid's tail as we lost our trustee, Dr Cath Feely, Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Derby, to its deleterious effects. We thank Cath for her refreshing view of and valued contribution to our activities and wish her good health and success.

We were very pleased to welcome to our board and representing the University, Alistair Hodge, the Head of Humanities and Journalism. As well as being a senior manager of the University, Alistair has been in business for over 30 years as a local history publisher (Carnegie Press), with a particular enthusiasm for, and knowledge of, industrial history and archaeology.

We are considering producing a book majoring on Friar Gate Bridge and Andrew Handyside.

Financial review

The figures for this period remain straightforward and modest as demonstrated by the accounts.

Our membership numbers remain static. We are grateful for members' continuing financial support and expect to invest soon in a worthwhile exercise to further the Friend's objectives.

The Future

While circumstances make visible progress extremely slow currently, your trustees are more confident than ever that there is serious activity around and beneficially involving Friar Gate Bridge. Whatever activities are finally decided by developers of the Goods Yard and by the City Council, the Friends of Friar Gate Bridge will have a key role to play in ensuring the Bridge's long-term interests are properly served.

We are definitely entering a different phase of activity and, as ever, would very much welcome new trustees and volunteers to help us in our endeavours.

Declaration

The report has been prepared by the Chair on behalf of the trustees.

Signature:



Full name:

Francis Howard Miles Thomas

Position:

Chair

Date:

29th January 2023

THE FRIENDS OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1163174

Accounts

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Reference and administration details

Charity Name: The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Registered Charity Number: 1163174

Charity Principal Address: 32 Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1BX

Names of Charity Trustees who manage the charity:

Mandy Coons

David Cross (resigned 31/08/2020)

Dr. Catherine Feely

Malcolm Holden

Howard Thomas Chair

Names and addresses of advisers:

Solicitors Smith Partnership, Celtic House, Derby. DE1 1LS

Website Human Interface Publications, 14 MacKenzie Street,
Derby.

DE22 3DD

Treasurer Vacant position

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document: Constitution

How the charity is constituted: Charitable incorporated
organization

Trustee selection methods: Elected by general meeting

Objective and activities

Summary of objects of the charity

1.1 The objects of the CIO are:

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1.1.2 to advance the education of the public, in particular in relation to the history and architecture of the heritage of the Bridge by developing public interest in the architecture, history and heritage of the Bridge by means of publications, public lectures and exhibitions and co-operation with schools and other educational establishments and other bodies and societies.

Restoration - Progress under wraps

Following our major successes in the first two months of 2020, i.e., in having a senior City Councillor tell our Annual General Meeting that he considered the Bridge to be important to the City and then getting all the major stakeholders around the same table, the following two years have

been very frustrating. Because of Covid, the quarterly meetings, which the stakeholders had agreed to hold after February's round-table meeting, never took place.

We knew after a few months that Clowes Developments/CWC Holdings were progressing, as they had told us they would, with putting together a masterplan for Friar Gate Goods Yard also including the Bridge. However, the City Council asked Clowes not to discuss the matter with the outside world, including us at Friends of Friar Gate Bridge, until they said so.

There were Covid-related lockdowns until March 2021 which continued to hamper many activities: Clowes' progress was slower than they would have wished, but there were signs of activity on the site which we pointed out on social media.

Meanwhile, each of the other main stakeholders had its own battles to fight with the effects of the pandemic. The City Council had several, most of which were well documented. Another stakeholder, The Cathedral School (at the furthest end of the Goods Yard from the Bridge) was preoccupied with preparing to move in, and the University had to grapple with keeping students educated and happy.

While we could have decided to plough our own furrow and work up a bid for funding our own project for the Bridge in isolation, we decided against this. First, as mentioned in Latham's viability report which we commissioned, we would have a much better chance of initial success and of achieving a long-term sustainable solution if we worked in conjunction with one or more of these other parties. Secondly, the main source of funding, Heritage Lottery Fund, was concentrating on keeping afloat those heritage assets dependent on income and affected by the pandemic and, consequently, was avoiding new schemes. Finally, the City Council was giving us no guidance at all on what activity they might welcome or allow on the Bridge so any time, and Friends' money, invested on working up a bid was highly likely to be wasted.

The twelve months from August 2020 to August 2021 was, therefore, incredibly frustrating from the restoration point of view but progress was being made away from the public eye.

Education - severely restricted

We have an educational remit which in the past we have exercised through a schools' STEM project programme, delivered for us by Rolls-Royce personnel, and through talks to general interest groups and societies given by ourselves at their meetings. Covid restrictions in schools and major upheaval at Rolls-Royce made it impossible for their people to deliver our STEM programme while teachers had their work cut out delivering their standard education programme to their pupils. Meetings for interest groups were cancelled throughout the year and, although we delivered the odd presentation by Zoom, weak internet connections spoiled the results, so these were discontinued.

We continued to post news and information on social media, our website and the Derby Telegraph. We are grateful to Jayne Courts-Robinson of Human Interface Productions for her work on these matters on our behalf.

Other activities

We prepared a case for Historic England for raising the status of the Bridge from Grade II to II* but held back from making the application since a successful application may have restricted the site's uses and made the planned restoration project unviable.

Our fourth AGM took place through Zoom on 8th March 2021. Beyond essential business, there was only brief discussion among the small number attending,

Fundraising was, of course, severely restricted. Your Chair had even purchased, at his own expense, some collection boxes for local shops only for Covid to make using cash a rarity.

A further casualty of the Covid-driven Rolls-Royce upheaval was your board of trustees who lost David Cross. David was a very valuable member of our board who left Rolls-Royce and for domestic reasons had to change his priorities. We thank him for his services and wish him and his family success and happiness.

Financial review

The figures for this period remain straightforward and modest as demonstrated by the accounts.

Given our limited ability to meet people it is understandable that our that our membership numbers are not increasing. We are grateful for members' continuing financial support and hope to report soon that the accumulated funds, which we have been careful not to waste, will have been invested in a worthwhile exercise to further the Friend's objectives.

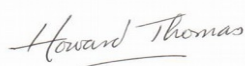
The Future

Despite the continuing restrictions and difficulties of the past two years your trustees are more confident than ever that there will be serious activity around and beneficially involving Friar Gate Bridge. Whatever activities are finally decided by CWC or the City Council, the Friends of Friar Gate Bridge will have a key role to play in ensuring the Bridge's long-term interests are properly served.

We believe we are entering a different phase of activity and would very much welcome new trustees and volunteers to help us in our endeavours.

Declaration

The report has been prepared by the Chair on behalf of the trustees.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Howard Thomas". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned at the bottom of the page, below the declaration text.

Signature:

Full name: Francis Howard Miles Thomas
Position: Chair

Date: 27th January 2022

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Financial accounts
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

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for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

- 1 Balance sheet**
- 2 Income and expenditure account**

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Balance Sheet
For the Year Ended 31 August 2021

	31.08.21	Comparative 31.08.20
Current assets		
Bank account	4,608	4,186
PayPal account	141	170
	<u>4,749</u>	4,356
Current liabilities		
Creditors	146	-
Net current assets	<u>4,603</u>	<u>4,356</u>
Represented by		
Accumulated funds	-	-
Opening reserves	4,356	3,379
Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	247	977
	<u>4,603</u>	<u>4,356</u>

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Income and expenditure account
For the Year Ended 31 August 2021

	For the year ended 31.08.21 £	For the year ended 31.08.20 £
Income		
Grant received	-	-
Membership	340	400
Donations	-	140
Fundraising activities	70	447
	<u>410</u>	<u>987</u>
 Expenses		
Consultancy	-	-
Printing, advertising and office	47	-
PayPal fees	17	10
Insurance	99	-
Website	-	-
	<u>163</u>	<u>10</u>
 Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	 <u>247</u>	 <u>977</u>

THE FRIENDS OF FRIAR GATE BRIDGE

England & Wales - Charity number 1163174

Accounts

**The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Trustees' Annual Report
For the period 01/09/19 to 31/08/20**

Reference and administration details

Charity Name: The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Registered Charity Number: 1163174

Charity Principal Address: 32 Friar Gate, Derby, DE1 1BX

Names of Charity Trustees who manage the charity:

Mandy Coons

David Cross

Dr. Catherine Feely

Elizabeth Heaton – resigned after the year end

Malcolm Holden

Gordon Inglis – resigned during the year

Howard Thomas Chair

Names and addresses of advisers:

Solicitors Smith Partnership, Celtic House, Derby. DE1 1LS

Website Human Interface Publications, 14 MacKenzie Street, Derby.
DE22 3DD

Treasurer Vacant position

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document: Constitution

How the charity is constituted: Charitable incorporated organization

Trustee selection methods: Elected by general meeting

Objective and activities

Summary of objects of the charity

1.1 The objects of the CIO are:

1.1.1 to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical, natural and man-made environment by promoting the historical and architectural heritage of Friar Gate Bridge ("the Bridge") in Derby.

1.1.2 to advance the education of the public, in particular in relation to the history and architecture of the heritage of the Bridge by developing public interest in the architecture, history and heritage of the Bridge by means of publications, public lectures and exhibitions and co-operation with schools and other educational establishments and other bodies and societies.

Progress despite disruption

The main thrust of our efforts in this year was to try to get other stakeholders to engage in serious discussion about a future use for the Bridge. We saw these stakeholders as being Derby City Council (who own the Bridge), CCWC Holdings - Clowes Developments (who own the adjacent Goods Yard), Derby University (who own adjacent property) and Derby Cathedral School (whose new building lies at the far, western, end of the Goods Yard). The

reason for engaging the other stakeholders is that while The Friends could press on with our own ideas (and we do have one not mentioned in Latham's viability report) we would have a much better chance of success and of achieving a long-term sustainable solution if we work in conjunction with one or more of these parties.

Following two private meetings with Councillor Matthew Holmes (Deputy Leader of Derby City Council and Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning) and Robin Wood (Cabinet Member for Tourism and Culture), Matthew Holmes agreed to address our AGM. Councillor Holmes duly came and for the first time gave a public acknowledgement from a Council representative that the Bridge was an important gateway for the city and needed to be restored.

Your trustees followed up by organizing a stakeholder meeting at the end of February, hosted by Professor Keith McLay at the University and attended by Councillors Holmes and Wood and also by Robert Hepwood (a director of CWC) in addition to your trustees. Mr Hepwood told us that CWC were determined to start developing the Goods Yard site sooner rather than later and were working on a masterplan. It was agreed by all parties that this positive, constructive dialogue should continue on a quarterly basis.

Some sports matches are described as a 'game of two halves'. Our year from September 2019 to August 2020 was very definitely a year of two halves. Having achieved this major breakthrough, along came COVID-19. Members will not be surprised to find that our activities were greatly disrupted from March until the end of the year, although the good news is that this progress does not appear to have been lost, merely delayed.

The trustees do not wish to make excuses for lack of concentration on Friar Gate Bridge. Two trustees are over the age of 70 and, therefore, were advised to shelter more than most. Two chair community societies, one is a senior manager with Rolls-Royce and one a senior lecturer at the University. Unfortunately, all had immediate pressures elsewhere keeping others safe, fed, employed or educated.

We have also lost two trustees. Gordon Inglis, former head teacher at Derby Cathedral Scholl resigned from the School and our board through ill health and Elizabeth Heaton has left to devote more time to personal matters. We are grateful to both for their immense efforts while they were in office.

Other activities

Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust continued to liaise with us and we are grateful for their support and advice, particularly in dealing with Historic England about the case for raising the status of the Bridge from Grade II to II*.

Our volunteer, Peter Mosley, continued to make his entertaining presentations to interested groups until COVID-19 restrictions curtailed such meetings. Peter has now moved to the South Coast and your Chair has taken over the role, currently giving the presentation via Zoom.

We held our third AGM on 20th January 2020. In addition to hearing Councillor Holmes, members and guests received a presentation from Kieran Lee from the Friends of Bennerley

Viaduct. The progress made at Bennerley has been impressive and it was apparent that an interested owner and a supportive local authority helped enormously in smoothing the path.

We were developing new ideas for fundraising and events around the Bridge but, other than another successful and enjoyable horse racing evening at Rykneld Bowling Club, these activities were curtailed, too. Thanks go to Malcolm Holden and Mandy Coons for this event.

Cath Feely produced a specification for a student volunteer to work on researching documentation relating to Friar Gate Bridge and communicating their findings. That project again had to be temporarily shelved.

Financial review

The figures for this period remain straightforward and modest as demonstrated by the accounts.

Membership has dropped slightly to just over 40. The financial support we receive from members is invaluable in two ways. First it gives us some funds to work with and secondly it is a concrete indicator to major funders that there is community involvement supporting our objectives. We are disappointed that we do not have more members but appreciate that many interested people would like to see some more obvious progress before subscribing. Nevertheless, we would appreciate the input of other professionals or experienced volunteers who are skilled in generating new members or customers. We also hope that current members will renew their membership since we do have activities planned which will require expenditure.

It is clear that in order to raise substantial funds we need to devote time and effort to approaching companies and organizations of all descriptions who might be interested in providing financial assistance. Again, we would welcome any assistance via introductions to potential funders and/or representation for us in discussions.

The Future

Despite the difficulties of the past twelve months your trustees are very optimistic that, as the country finds its feet again, there will be serious activity around Friar Gate Bridge on which we intend to capitalize. CWC have already signalled that they plan to make progress developing the Goods Yard this year: we welcome this and have arranged a meeting where we will advocate for the inclusion of Friar Gate Bridge in those plans. Whatever activities are formulated by CWC or the City Council, the Friends of Friar Gate Bridge will have a key role to play in ensuring the Bridge's long-term interests are properly served. We would welcome new trustees and volunteers to help us in our endeavours.

Declaration

The report has been prepared by the Chair on behalf of the trustees.

Signature:



Full name: Francis Howard Miles Thomas

Position: Chair

Date: 16th February 2021

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Financial accounts

for the Year Ended 31st August 2020

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

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for the Year Ended 31st August 2020

- 1 Balance sheet**
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The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge

Balance Sheet

For the Year Ended 31st August 2020

		Comparative
	31.08.20	31.08.19
Current assets		
Bank account	4,186	3,319
PayPal account	170	60
	<u>4,356</u>	<u>3,379</u>
 Current liabilities		
Creditors	-	-
Net current assets	<u>4,356</u>	<u>3,379</u>
 Represented by		
Accumulated funds	-	-
Opening reserves	3,379	5,968
Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	977	(2,589)
	<u>4,356</u>	<u>3,379</u>

The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge
Income and expenditure account
For the Year Ended 31 August 2020

	For the year ended 31.08.20 £	For the year ended 31.08.19 £
Income		
Grant received	-	-
Membership	400	520
Donations	140	280
Fundraising activities	447	503
	<u>987</u>	<u>1,303</u>
 Expenses		
Consultancy	-	2,800
Printing, advertising and office	-	69
PayPal fees	10	24
Insurance	-	99
Website	-	900
	<u>10</u>	<u>3,892</u>
 Surplus / (Deficit) for the period	<u>977</u>	<u>(2,589)</u>