

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

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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.

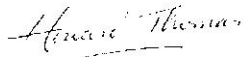
The Friends of Friar Gate Bridge remains the co-ordinating body, encouraging interest and effective actions by other stakeholders. As ever, we would welcome new trustees, especially those with experience in engineering, heritage or charity governance. Volunteers would be welcomed, particularly for administration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

