



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date		
From	1	Aug	2020	To 31 Jul 2021

## Section A Reference and administration details

**Charity name** Chester Orchestral Society

**Other names charity is known by** Chester Philharmonic Orchestra

**Registered charity number (if any)** 1181355

**Charity's principal address** c/o Mrs Susan Taylor

77 Mill Lane

Upton

**Postcode**

**CH2 1BS**

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mr Gordon Kennedy	Chairman		Members of Society
2	Mrs Alex Stubbs	Secretary		Members of Society
3	Mrs Susan Taylor	Treasurer		Members of Society
4	Mrs Susan Smale	Librarian		Members of Society
5	Prof Paul Middleton	Chair, Music Committee		Members of Society
6	Mrs Marjorie Jones			Members of Society
7	Mrs Eunice Moss			Members of Society
8	Dr James Warwick			Members of Society
9	Dr Jemma Wright			Members of Society
10	Mrs Jane Holmes		16 Nov 2020	Members of Society

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Independent financial examiner	Mrs Alison Raynes, January 2017	13 Hallside Park, KNUTSFORD, WA16 8NQ

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

N/A

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by Society members at AGM or appointed by Trustees.

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

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

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

Chester Orchestral Society is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation that runs Chester Philharmonic Orchestra.

The Trustees of the Society are the members of the Main Committee, all of whom have signed that they are eligible to be charity trustees under current regulations. The Trustees meet regularly, usually 4 times a year, to discuss, implement and approve actions related to Society business. The Main Committee members are all elected by Society members at an Annual General Meeting held in late November. To assist in the musical activities of the Society, the Main Committee appoints a separate Music Committee with members chosen from the Society who have particular, relevant knowledge or expertise with respect to musical repertoire. The Chairman of the Music Committee is also a member of the Main Committee to ensure good communication. All operational aspects of the Society, including reporting, finance, membership, ticket sales, publicity and concert management are the responsibility of the Main Committee.

New Trustees are generally trained by former post-holders who in past years have generally remained playing members of the Society. The Chairman takes overall responsibility for ensuring that Trustees are aware of their Charity Commission obligations.

All Trustees and committee members give their time freely and on a voluntary basis.

The Society is a member of Making Music, a national organisation that represents and supports over 2,900 voluntary and amateur music groups throughout the UK.

## Section C Objectives and activities

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

The object of Chester orchestral Society is to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means that the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

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

The Society runs Chester Philharmonic Orchestra, a non-professional orchestra drawing its members, aged from 18 to 70+ from the North West of England and North Wales. Members pay an annual subscription to the Society and rehearse weekly from September to June. The orchestra performs 4 main concerts a year, open to the paying public. In addition, the orchestra collaborates in joint concerts with other local amateur music organisations. We aim to perform music that is both interesting and challenging to players and audiences alike, with a mix of familiar and unfamiliar works.

The Trustees consider that the aims and activities of Chester Orchestral Society fulfil the public benefit requirement of the Charities Act, 2011.

The activities of the Society provide the following main public benefits:

- An orchestra with the opportunity for people to be involved in a creative, enjoyable and fulfilling educational activity by rehearsing and performing concerts whilst developing orchestral repertoire and musical technique.
- Orchestral concerts for people to be presented with exciting, high quality performances that are a pleasurable experience but will sometimes challenge and educate them by extending their musical knowledge.

The Charity's beneficiaries are all those in the Chester region and elsewhere who wish to experience its activities as performers or audiences.

The following people specifically benefit from Chester Orchestral Society:

- Non-professional orchestral players who join as members of the Society and rehearse and perform in concerts.
- Any member of the public who attends concerts mounted by the Society.

In addition, young professional musicians benefit from the opportunities provided by the orchestra for them to gain exposure and educational experience as soloists and conductors.

Opportunities to benefit as players and audiences are promoted by ensuring that subscriptions and tickets are priced only to ensure that the Society does not incur financial loss and are subsidised wherever possible by other donations and fundraising activities. There are discounted playing membership rates for students and instalment options by agreement with the Treasurer for playing members experiencing financial hardship. Reduced ticket prices are available through an Associate Membership subscription scheme and heavily discounted tickets provided for all students and children.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

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

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

Members, including Trustees, contribute freely of their time in relation to Society playing activities and volunteer to undertake additional tasks connected with running the orchestra, including providing refreshments for members at rehearsals, ticket selling, promotion of events, more formal committee tasks and concert management. In addition, a number of friends and relatives of members provide additional voluntary support, including programme and ticket selling and clearing up after concerts. Without such volunteers, to whom the Society is very grateful, the orchestra could not function.

Other volunteers include extra non-professional players for concerts who, although not members of the Society, perform in concerts for no fee.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Due to Covid and in line with the Government regulations, rehearsals and planned concerts had to be cancelled.

One concert, with a smaller orchestra and socially distanced audience was performed in July, once the regulations permitted. This was appreciated both by the audience and those players able to perform.

Meetings of the various committees, including a new sub committee to oversee our Covid response, took place virtually.

In addition, to boost morale during lockdown and keep members involved with the orchestra, some virtual sessions were arranged where members and conductors shared recordings of music in a 'Desert Island Discs' format.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Society seeks to have sufficient income to cover expenditure during a given playing season. Due to the variability and uncertainty of audience numbers, we aim to maintain a reserve sufficient to cover the next three to four planned concerts. Annual budgets are prepared to inform financial planning and decisions made by the Trustees over the use of reserves to support activities. Any funds surplus to requirements are held in an interest bearing deposit account and are reviewed on a regular basis.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

No funds were in deficit at any stage during the financial year.

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

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

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

Normally, funds are raised mainly by member subscriptions (which help offset the costs associated with running regular weekly rehearsals), ticket sales (including the Associate Membership scheme) and donations (including concerts with other organisations and member fund-raising). In 2020/21, due to Covid-19 having resulted in a shortened previous season, no subscriptions were taken from members. In addition, credits for some Associate tickets were specifically carried forward to 2021/22 to use against future tickets through the scheme.

Expenditure for rehearsals held with various smaller orchestral groups were paid for out of reserves and the smaller Summer 2021 concert was funded from both reserves and ticket sales. Three of our regular conductors were paid a fee for sharing their Desert Island Discs via zoom. These activities all fell within our charitable aims of furthering education and the public appreciation of music so were appropriate usages of our funds.

Note that the 2020/21 Receipts and Payments accounts for the Society do not include the ticket income or hire expenditure for the Cathedral concert in July as these transactions occurred in August 2021, after the end of the orchestra's financial year.

Overall, the financial position of the Society is such that it is able to plan and run a more normal season for 2021/22, whilst being aware that the ongoing effects of Covid require careful monitoring and vigilance in order to react where necessary to changing circumstances and remain financially secure.


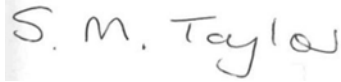
**Section F****Other optional information**

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**Section G****Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

<b>Signature(s)</b>		
<b>Full name(s)</b>	Gordon Clark Kennedy	Susan Margaret Taylor
<b>Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)</b>	Chairman	Treasurer
<b>Date</b>	27 Oct 2021	


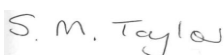


Charity Name Chester Orchestral Society		No (if any) 1181355		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	Period start date 01-Aug-20	To	Period end date 31-Jul-21	

## Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Ticket & programme sales	-			-	7,923
Concert fees	-			-	1,000
Member subs	-			-	6,893
Associate member subs	-			-	1,795
Bank interest	3			3	15
Gift Aid	-			-	1,223
Fund raising	-			-	339
Miscellaneous	-			-	1,829
Transfer from old unincorporated charity	-			-	32,947
Ear-marked donations	-			-	-
	3	-	-	3	53,963
<b>A2 Asset &amp; investment sales</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£3</b>	<b>£53,963</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Professional artists: conductors/soloists/extras	1,834			1,834	6,081
Concert Hall costs	-			-	4,541
Rehearsal Hall costs	1,068			1,068	1,666
Instrument costs	-			-	856
Music costs:hire/postage	134			134	1,734
Printing & advertising	230			230	1,076
Fund raising	-			-	516
Making Music subscription & insurance	497			497	407
Bank fees	81			81	55
Miscellaneous	300			300	210
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>4,143</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,143</b>	<b>17,142</b>
<b>A4 Asset &amp; investment purchases</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>4,143</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,143</b>	<b>17,142</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 4,140</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 4,140</b>	<b>36,821</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>37,821</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,821</b>	<b>1,000</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>33,681</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,681</b>	<b>37,821</b>

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	CAF Cash Account	2,163	-	-
	CAF Gold Account	31,518	-	-
	Uncleared cheques	-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>33,681</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Music	Unrestricted	-	53
	Double Bass & bow	Unrestricted		179
	Staging & conductor's stand	Unrestricted	-	144
	Timpani/percussion	Unrestricted		886
	Keyboard amplifier	Unrestricted		384
	Note: 10% depreciation per year		-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	<b>Creditors</b>			
	Concert July 2021	Unrestricted	2,089	Aug 2021
	Associate member concert tickets	Unrestricted	711.00	2021/22
	Provision (No invoices received)	Unrestricted	2,140	
	<b>Total Creditors</b>		<b>4,940</b>	
	<b>Debtors</b>			
	Concert July 2021	Unrestricted	1,925	Aug 2021
	<b>Total debtors</b>	Unrestricted	<b>1925.00</b>	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Gordon Kennedy, Chairman	01-Nov-21	
		Susan Taylor, Treasurer		



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name  
Chester Orchestral Society

On accounts for the year  
ended

31st July 2021

Charity no  
(if any)

1181355

Set out on pages

1 and 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2021.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

*Alison Raynes*

Date:

2/11/21

Name:

Alison Raynes

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

Address:

13 Hallside Park

Knutsford



**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**