



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date		
From	1	Aug	2021	To 31 Jul 2022

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)
Mr Gordon Kennedy	Chairman	To 15 November 2021	Members of Society
Mrs Diana Anderson	Chairman	From 15 November 2021	Members of Society
Mrs Alex Stubbs	Secretary		Members of Society
Mrs Susan Taylor	Treasurer		Members of Society
Mrs Susan Smale	Librarian	To 15 November 2021	Members of Society
Mrs Sally Slater	Librarian	From 15 November 2021	Members of Society
Prof Paul Middleton	Chair, Music Committee		Members of Society
Mrs Marjorie Jones			Members of Society
Mrs Eunice Moss			Members of Society
Dr James Warwick			Members of Society
Mrs Jemma Clark			Members of Society
Mrs Jane Holmes			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

Our first full “post Covid “ concert was a performance of Mahler’s 4th symphony with Richard Howarth conducting and April Frederick as soloist in November 2021 . The concert also included some of Canteloube’s songs of the Auvergne and there was a good player and audience support. We were pleased to welcome back most of our previous members as well as several new players.

We performed in two Christmas concerts in late December run by Chester Music Society Choir and Graham Jordan Ellis. These were less well attended than normal due to ongoing Covid concerns and other events in Cathedral in the same period.

The March 2022 concert included a performance of Sibelius’ 2nd Symphony and Dvorak’s cello concerto with David Chatwin and Findlay Spence and had an average sized audience

The Spring concert in April 22 was badly affected by Covid with our soloist, several players and many audience members all having to pull out after contracting the virus. Despite this we gave a good performance of Malcom Arnold’s English Dances and Elgar’s Enigma variations under the guidance of Daniel Parkinson. Due to Duncan Anderson’s incapacity Bartok’s viola concerto had to be replaced at the last minute with a performance of Beethoven’s quintet for piano and winds. CPO is fortunate to have a quintet that was able to present a polished performance of this work at very short notice and the response from the rather small audience was very positive.

In June 22 we had a much anticipated concert featuring Sheku Kanneh-Mason playing the Haydn cello concerto in D. The orchestra is very grateful to Lionel and Mary Clarke for their initial contact with Sheku and his family, and their generous sponsorship of the concert which also featured a very good performance of Brahms 4th symphony. Unsurprisingly we attracted one of our largest ever audiences .

Overall the 2021-22 season was a successful one for CPO with a high playing standard maintained and a number of new members joining the society.

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.

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), donations (from members and sponsors), fund-raising (from concerts with other organisations and member activities) and Gift Aid on eligible donations. In 2021/22, credits for some Associate tickets were used that had been carried forward from 2019/20 when we were unable to run a full programme due to Covid-19.

All expenditure was related to mounting orchestral rehearsals and concerts with professional soloists and conductors and the associated administrative tasks required. These activities all fell within our charitable aims of furthering education and the public appreciation of music so were appropriate usages of our funds.

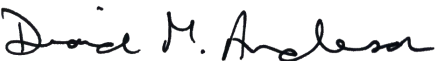
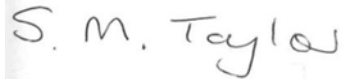
Despite uncertainties over the year connected with Covid-19 that resulted in variable audience numbers and player availability for our concerts, overall the Society maintained a healthy financial position. Thus, we have been able to continue to plan a full season of concerts for 2022/23 whilst being 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

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Diana Mary Anderson	Susan Margaret Taylor
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chairman	Treasurer
Date	25 Oct 2022	



Charity Name	No (if any)
Chester Orchestral Society	1181355

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01-Aug-21		31-Jul-22

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Ticket & programme sales	18,325			18,325	-
Concert fees	1,000			1,000	-
Member subs	6,704			6,704	-
Associate member subs	2,815			2,815	-
Bank interest	20			20	3
Gift Aid	1,181			1,181	-
Fund raising	1,147			1,147	-
Miscellaneous	100			100	-
Ear-marked donations	85			85	-
Sub total	31,376	-	-	31,376	3
A2 Asset & investment sales	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	£31,376	£0	£0	£31,376	£3
A3 Payments					
Professional artists: conductors/soloists/extras	9,456			9,456	1,834
Concert Hall costs	11,654			11,654	-
Rehearsal Hall costs	1,260			1,260	1,068
Instrument costs				-	-
Music costs:hire/postage	2,940			2,940	134
Printing & advertising	2,441			2,441	230
Fund raising	210			210	-
Making Music subscription & insurance	193			193	497
Bank fees	98			98	81
Miscellaneous	259			259	300
Sub total	28,511	-	-	28,511	4,143
A4 Asset & investment purchases	722	-	-	722	-
Total payments	29,233	-	-	29,233	4,143
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,144	-	-	2,144	- 4,140
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	33,681	-	-	33,681	37,821
Cash funds this year end	35,824	-	-	35,824	33,681

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash account	5,256	-	-
	Gold account	30,538	-	-
	Uncleared cheques	-	-	-
	Unbanked cash	30	-	-
	Total cash funds	35,824	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Music	Unrestricted	-	48
	Double Bass & bow	Unrestricted	-	161
	Staging & conductor's stand	Unrestricted	-	130
	Timpani/percussion	Unrestricted	-	798
	Keyboard amplifier (Jan 2019)	Unrestricted	-	346
	Percussion instruments (Oct 2021)	Unrestricted	-	262
	Bass drum trolley (April 2022)	Unrestricted	-	460
			-	-
	Note: 10% depreciation per year		-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Creditors			
	Conductor, Wind July	Unrestricted	200	Paid Aug 22
	Librarian expenses	Unrestricted	64	Paid Aug 22
	Provision (Invoices not yet received)	Unrestricted	4,190	
	Income in advance for Oct 2022	Unrestricted	85	Received Jul 22
	Total Creditors		4,538	
	Debtors			
	Gift Aid from donation		250	received Aug 22
	Provision (Income not yet confirmed)		100	
	Total Debtors		350	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Diana M. Anderson

S. M. Taylor

Diana Anderson, Chairman

Susan Taylor, Treasurer

25-Oct-22



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 2022

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 31/07/2022.

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:

26/10/22

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.