

THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BROMSGROVE

England & Wales · Charity number 1184596

Details

Other names FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S, BROMSGROVE

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-07-25

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

Contact

Address St John's Church Office
14 Kidderminster Road
Bromsgrove
B61 7JW

Phone 01527878801

Email friends.stjohns.church@gmail.com

Website www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT TO ASSIST IN THE PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE FABRIC OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BROMSGROVE, TOGETHER WITH ITS ASSOCIATED PROPERTIES.

Activities: The Charity raises funds for the maintenance and enhancement of the ancient church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire and assists in the management of projects to deliver these benefits that secondarily benefit the residents of Bromsgrove District.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Worcestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£48,340	£32,911	-	-
2023-12-31	£13,527	£2,958	-	-
2022-12-31	£30,936	£28,482	-	-
2021-12-31	£5,608	£5,039	-	-
2020-12-31	£13,456	£2,819	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Joanne Slade	Chair	2019-07-25
Hilda Patrica Roxborough		2019-07-25
Sheila Vincent		2019-07-25

THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BROMSGROVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1184596

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report to 31st December 2024

Registered Charity Number 1184596



Trustees

Trustees in position until 5th April 2025.

- Joanne Slade (Chair)
- Sheila Vincent (Secretary)
- Hilda Roxborough (District Church Council Secretary)

Mrs Shan Moule was removed as a Trustees on 31st October 2024, due to her poor health she was not able to continue as a trustee. We are very grateful for the contribution Shan made over many years.

Focus for 2024 – The Spire Appeal and Project at St John’s Church, Bromsgrove

Following successfully raising awareness and fundraising during 2023, the focus for 2024 was to get all the permissions in place, raise the required funding and start the project on the spire. This turned out to be too ambitious, but a successful year was achieved and a date for the works to begin set for February 2025.

National Lottery Heritage Fund Award



In early January 2024 the Friends of St John’s received fantastic news from the National Lottery Heritage Fund – a grant award of £249,975 had been made for the Spire Appeal to repair and restore the top of the spire and carry out a Heritage Engagement and Enhanced Learning project for the benefit of Bromsgrove residents and visitors.

[Celebration time as Bromsgrove's Friends of St John's Church get £250,000 Heritage Lottery grant to restore spire - The Bromsgrove Standard](#)

Funding applications to other local and national charitable trusts began in earnest!

Fully Funded Digital Survey

In February a team from the University of Wolverhampton and the National Brownfield Institute spent two days at St John’s. They surveyed the ancient building, inside and out, with state-of-the-art equipment and produced a 3D Cloud Point survey along with a 3D Matterport internal virtual tour. These surveys were then used by the Architect and Structural Engineer to produce the technical drawings for the faculty and tender documents.

The 3D Virtual Tour will enable access to the inside of the church from anywhere in the world via the internet.

[State of the art digital survey's boost St John's Spire Appeal - The Bromsgrove Standard](#)

Thanks and Recognition

The Friends team were honoured to receive thanks and recognition from Sir Sajid Javid MP and Bromsgrove District Council via Chairman of the Council Cllr Sam Ammar for securing a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Sir Sajid, a long-standing supporter of the Friends of St John’s, visited the team to personally congratulate them on their efforts to secure the National Lottery Heritage Fund award and to learn about the plans for the urgent work to restore the spire.

Prior to the Council meeting in January, Chairman of the Council Cllr Sam Ammar presented Friends Chairman Jo Slade with a council plaque. In her opening comments she thanked the team at Friends of St John’s, on behalf of the council, for the dedicated months of volunteer time and resulting award of £250,000. She said St. John’s was of great significance to the town, but had been listed on Historic England's “Building’s At Risk” register due to issues on the spire – the tallest in Worcestershire.



Architect, Structural Engineer, Temporary Spire Repairs

Stephen Oliver of Oliver Architecture was appointed as project architect and Ian Coney of C2Designs remains as the appointed Structural Engineer.

In early March steeplejacks replaced the steel bands which hold the cracking top section of the spire together as they had become tight with additional movement. Resin in the cracks was removed and reapplied. These temporary repairs were funded by the Bromsgrove Rotary via the Len Giles Trust.

Both the steeplejack visit, and the grant from Bromsgrove Rotary received excellent media coverage – including front page photo on the Bromsgrove Standard for the steeplejacks.



Faculty for the Spire and Tower Parapet Work

All documents for the faculty were submitted to the DAC in Worcester, and were reviewed at the meeting on 25th April. The DAC were in favour of the restoration work on the spire taking place as per the submitted Architect and Structural Engineer's drawings. A 28 day notice period began on 26th April and all documents are available to view in the Parish Office. On 30th May the completed Certificate of Publication was uploaded to the faculty system. The faculty documents were then made available for review by the Registrar who in time, passed them on to the Chancellor for the final decision.

On 2nd July confirmation was received that the Chancellor had granted a faculty (given permission) for the restoration works to the spire top to take place.

Contractor and Project Timeline

At the same time as faculty documents were submitted, the documents were also sent to six contractors who were given the opportunity to tender for the work on the spire. A deadline of 6th June was given for tender submissions.

As it was not possible to instruct a contractor until the faculty has been granted, we waited until for news from the DAC before discussing the returned tenders. On Monday 8th July a meeting was held on Zoom with Stephen Oliver and Anna Praulitis (Oliver Architecture) Ian Ceney (c2designs) and the Friends of St John's Trustees to discuss the tenders received. This resulted in a meeting with our preferred contractor, Mike Curry, on 30th July.

At the meeting, it became clear that our ambition to complete the restoration work during 2024 was no longer achievable. With the project expected to take 30 weeks on site, even if the scaffold build was to start immediately, the restoration work would not begin until the winter. The lime mortar used to secure the new sandstone spire top would not be able to dry out and cure sufficiently at that time of year due to weather conditions and the likelihood of low temperatures. It was concluded that any start date in 2024 would not produce the best outcome for the work.

Following the advice given by the Architect and Structural Engineer, the Trustees agreed that, in the best interests of the project and the longevity of the repairs, the project start date should be moved to February 2025 so that the work on the spire top could take place during the late spring and summer, when the weather conditions and temperature should be most appropriate for the required work.

A meeting was held on 28th September with the proposed contractor Phillips & Curry Ltd, Architect Stephen Oliver and Structural Engineer Ian Ceney. A further meeting was scheduled for Thursday 16th January 2025, when we hope to finalise the program of works and costs, appoint the contractor and confirmed the start date.

Expected Project Timeline

It is expected that the project work will take place for 31 weeks during 2025. The approximate timeline is:

- * Early February Project to start with scaffold build (12 weeks)
- * May Rebuild, repair and restoration works to take place (8 to 12 weeks)
- * July Scaffold to be dismantled (6 to 8 weeks)
- * Early September Spire top restoration project Completed

Planning Permission for the rebuilding of the Spire Apex

On 6th September permission was granted by Bromsgrove District Council to rebuild the 2.6m spire apex at ground level, in the memorial garden on the south side of the tower. The rebuilt Apex would be a legacy for the Spire Project and for the many people who had built the church and been involved in restorations over the years.

Funding Requirement

Following the news that the project could not take place during 2024, and with the tenders received, the budgeted costs were amended to take inflation and additional contingency into account. These considerations increased the expected costs to £440,000 plus VAT. An additional £80,000 brought about by the delay in commencing the work.

With the faculty awarded, applications were made to the National Churches Trust, the Benefact Trust and the Garfield Weston Foundation. Before the end of the year, grants were awarded from the National Churches Trust for £19,315 and a £10,000 Wolfson Fabric Repair Grant from the Wolfson Foundation.

The Wolfson*
Foundation

Claire Walker, Chief Executive of the National Churches Trust, said *"The National Churches Trust is delighted to be able to support St John the Baptist church to enable them to carry out urgent repairs to their magnificent spire. Not only will this protect the important heritage, but it will help to keep the church building open and serving local people."*



As of 31st December 2024 the total raised now stands at £385,000 – surpassing the original target figure of £360,000 (plus VAT) What a shame the costs keep rising!

Concerns over Listed Places of Worship VAT Scheme

As soon as Bradley Thomas was elected as the Member of Parliament for Bromsgrove in June 2024 we enlisted his help! Friends, along with everyone else in the Church Restoration Industry had concerns regarding the Listed Places of Worship VAT Grant Scheme, and were lobbying the government.

Via MP Bradley Thomas we have received two letters from Sir Chris Bryant dated 2nd September and 13th November. We were encouraged when MP Bradley Thomas spoke of our plight in the House of Commons before Christmas. Both Mr Thomas and Marsha De Cordova, the Second Church Estates Commissioner highlighted the issue faced by St John's as they spoke in favour of extending the Listed Places of Worship VAT Grant Scheme.

At the start of the project Friends has expected the VAT of £77,000 would be covered by the scheme. We remain hopeful that the government will extend the scheme beyond the current end date of 31st March 2025.

Ecological Surveys – Bats in the Belfry!

Friends employed local ecologist Karen Parker BSc.(Hons), MSc., MCIEEM from Hellier Parker Ecological Services to undertake a bat survey at the church. Karen first visited St John's on Friday 23rd August to survey the inside of the church and again on 10th September in the evening to carry out an emergence survey. She reported that there was some evidence of three species of bats and a licence was required before work can commence. An application was made to Natural England and a licence granted without question. Consequently, there was nothing to delay to the commencement of the work. The contractors were made aware that they must call the Ecologist if they find any evidence of bats during the works.

We have long been aware of a pair of Peregrine Falcons who feed from the church spire. There is often evidence of their feeding, in the form of feathers and bones found in the church yard, and on the tower top.

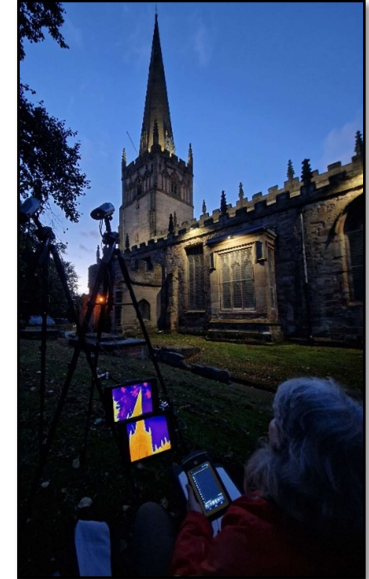
It is not expected that the birds will be disturbed by the works taking place, but we will monitor their activity.

Events Held during 2024

Friday 10th May: **Lunch with Bromsgrove's MP Sir Sajid Javid.**

This event turned out to be the final public engagement undertaken by Sir Sajid as the town's MP prior to the General Election where he did not stand for re-election. The event was sponsored by two local companies Ormerod Rutter Accountants and The Dry Spy. 45 guests represented the business community in Bromsgrove and other interested parties. 4 students from St John's Middle School assisted in welcoming and chatting to guests, and they each asked a question at the end of Sir Sajid's talk. The event raised £2,000 and gained good press coverage.

Four Heritage Engagement and Enhanced Learning Days were held in April and May with students from Chadsgrove Specialist College. During three of the visits the students, who all have severe mental and physical disabilities, learnt about the history of the building and its artefacts, played the organ with the help of church organist Steve Cowperthwaite, helped with cleaning and gardening to develop life skills, and met with members of the Friends community to help develop social and community skills. It was a joyful experience for everyone.



On Monday 20th May the team from the University of Wolverhampton spent a day at St John's for an **Outreach Day** where they introduced their surveying equipment, including the Boston Dynamics robot SPOT to three groups of students from Chadsgrove Specialist College, St John's Middle School and Bromsgrove School.

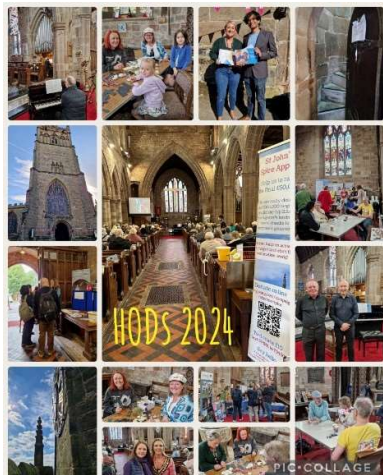


On Saturday 25th May, a **Spring Open Day** was held in association with the Cake & Coffee Concert at St John's Church, where students from the Harp Department at Birmingham Conservatoire entertained the audience. 72 people climbed the tower to ring the bells and see the views, many enjoyed the crafting corner and had a go on the organ. Reporter Nina Das Gupta from BBC Hereford & Worcester climbed to the tower top, ringing the bells and interviewed visitors. Representatives from Bromsgrove Society and Norton Collection Museum attended with their displays and church historian Simon Henderson chatted to visitors about the building, its history and the people who have used it over the past 800 years. We were joined by our Evaluation Consultant Janine from Engaging Heritage who chatted to attendees about their experience. Our favourite comment of the day was "*climbing the tower was even better than Warwick Castle*". A team of 27 volunteers gave up their time to support the Spire Appeal where over 200 people came out to enjoy the concert, church and the views. Donations totalled £425.

On Saturday 20th July the Summer Open Day was held as part of the Bromsgrove Festival. The Summer Open Day was held to showcase heritage crafts and skills in partnership with Avoncroft Museum, Norton Collection Museum and Bromsgrove Society. More than 150 visitors were welcomed to the Grade 1 listed building and over 100 people, including Bromsgrove's newly elected MP Bradley Thomas, climbed the 100-step spiral staircase to the top of the tower to enjoy the far-reaching views, many ringing the bells from the bell chamber too. Visitors came from far and wide. Many walked to church from homes in Bromsgrove, some came from further afield in the district and throughout the Midlands. Visitors had also travelled from the South of England, London, France, Germany, Canada and New Zealand to enjoy our local heritage. Inside the church they participated in the heritage crafts available, including building a model of the church, making clay bricks with the team from Avoncroft who were also showing attendees how historic wattle and daub walls were formed. To top off a wonderful, uplifting day, over £1000 was added to the Spire Appeal in donations.



The Friends team spent the day at Avoncroft to "build a church" on 8th September. Taking our heritage to join with the heritage buildings and stories which are celebrated at the Museum in Bromsgrove. This project was supported by the ReNEW Small Grant Scheme, co-ordinated by Bromsgrove District Council's Cultural Compact.



The following weekend we held HODs in St John's after the first Cake & Coffee Concert of the new season with Alastair Moseley and Steve Cowperthwaite playing Delightful Duets. Over 270 people came to St. Johns Church during the day. 84 people climbed the tower to ring the bells and have a look at the views. Lots of people were engaged in the Crafty Corner with "make and take" activities. We were thrilled to have the support of two fabulous STEM Ambassadors and our Structural Engineer Ian Ceney who together demonstrated the effects of wind speeds on the spire with a polystyrene model. Avoncroft Museum for joined us again. 27 volunteers gave a total of 102 volunteer hours for the event.

Many visitors came in clutching the HODs booklet for Bromsgrove and Redditch created in collaboration with BDC and the Cultural Compact. Phil and Sophia Jones Hammersley made a video about the day. £910 was raised from donations.

Christmas Markets Friday 22nd November

We had a fantastic day at the Bromsgrove Christmas Markets on Friday. Lots of lovely traders with super gifts, treats and decorations. We were treated to a wonderful "Sign and Sing" performance from the Chadsgrove Educational Trust Specialist College students. They performed to a large audience of shoppers and friends including Chairman of the Council Cllr Sam Ammar and Bradley Thomas MP for Bromsgrove and the villages. We love to give the students a platform each year at the Christmas Markets.

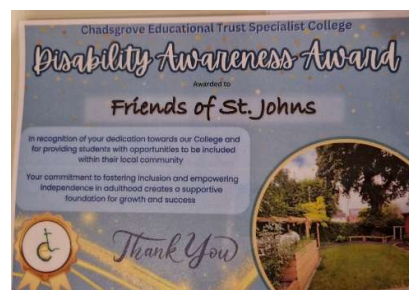


Sadly, the events on Saturday 23rd November were cancelled due to forecast storms.

The event was funded by Worcestershire County Councillor Josh Robinson, so we were able to refund traders for Saturday pitches, and the event still made £1000 for the Spire Appeal.

Community Awards

Friends Chairman Jo Slade was invited to attend an event at Chadsgrove Specialist College during Disability Awareness Week. During their study time the students all voted on the awards. They presented Jo with two awards. One for the Friends of St John's and one to Jo who they gave their Community Champion Award to.



Event and Engagement Summary

It has been a wonderful year of positive engagement with an increased and diverse audience. Our collaborative work with both existing partners and newly established connections has proved to be very success in achieving our aims and engaging with a wider audience.

Extension of Grant Expiry Date with NLHF

We were pleased to be given an extension to the Grant Expiry Date from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The new project completion date is 27th March 2026.

Website, Social Media, Press & Publicity

A new website www.stjohnsfriends.co.uk went live, with information about the charity, our projects and links to social media pages and an option to make a donation.

www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove page has over 1300 followers. Our following on X (formerly Twitter) [@FriendsStJohns](https://twitter.com/FriendsStJohns) has reduced to less than 700 followers. People are moving to other platforms. Instagram [@CelebrateBromsgrove](https://www.instagram.com/CelebrateBromsgrove) (Shared with Bromsgrove Society) has 950 followers. A new LinkedIn page has been launched for the Friends of St John's and has been useful for interactions with funders.

Articles about Friends of St John's projects and activities appear regularly in community magazine, Completely Bromsgrove, newspapers The Bromsgrove Standard and Bromsgrove Advertiser, and other media channels online including the BBC.

Financial Position

A total of £48,305.95 was received during 2024, and expenditure amounted to £32,910.89 (see below).

Ways to Support

There are many ways to support the Spire Appeal project. You Can contact the team by email at friends.stjohns.church@gmail.com or make a donation via www.justgiving.com/campaign/stjohns-spire or follow on social media www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove X (Twitter) [@FriendsStJohns](https://twitter.com/FriendsStJohns) Instagram [@CelebrateBromsgrove](https://www.instagram.com/CelebrateBromsgrove) or start a 100 Club or join the fundraising team.

Our Positive Ambition

We are excited for what 2025 will bring. It looks like we will see the Spire Appeal Project come to fruition with the 31 week construction program beginning in early February. We are hopeful that our partnership with MP Bradley Thomas will bring forward positive outcome for the Listed Places of Worship VAT Scheme and that we will be successful in our last two applications to charitable trusts.

We look forward to hosting different events during the works and engaging with our established and new audiences, both at St John's and within the wider community. We will continue to showcase our efforts on social media and hope to be able to raise the profile of our key funders, to whom we are incredibly grateful.

Spire Appeal at St John's Bromsgrove

Restoring Worcestershire's tallest church spire.

Friends of St John's supporting the ongoing maintenance, restoration and improvements at Bromsgrove's landmark, historic church building. Registered with the Charity Commission Number 1184596



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date: 1 January 2024
 Period end date: 31 December 2024
 From To

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name: The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove

Other names charity is known by: Friends of St John's, Bromsgrove

Registered charity number (if any): 1184596

Charity's principal address: St John's Church Office
 14 Kidderminster Road
 Bromsgrove
 Postcode: B61 7JW

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	Joanne Slade	Chair		
2	Sheila Vincent	Secretary		
3	Hilda Patricia Roxborough			
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bankers	Lloyds	120 Lewisham High St, London, SE13 6JG

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document <small>(eg Trust Deed, Constitution)</small>	Constitution
How the charity is constituted <small>(eg Trust Resolution, Company)</small>	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods <small>(eg Appointed by elected by)</small>	Appointed

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.

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Section C Objectives and activities

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

<p>The object of the CIO is for the public benefit to assist in the preservation, maintenance, repair and improvement of the fabric of The Church of St. John The Baptist, Bromsgrove, together with its associated properties.</p>

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 charity has spent 2024 concentrating on fundraising for the Spire Appeal and raising the profile of the Spire Appeal through Heritage Engagement and Community Events. The Spire Appeal aims to restore the spire at St John's Church.

Fundraising was focused on applications to charitable trusts and was kick started following the award of grant funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Grants and funding totalling £23,700 was received, along with individual donations and income gained from organised events. In addition, some charitable organisations pledged support for the Spire Appeal.

A professional team was appointed to manage the contract works and permissions were gained from statutory bodies to allow the work on the Grade I listed building to take place.

Events organised included:

Lunch with Sir Sajid Javid

Heritage Engagement and Enhanced Learning in collaboration with the University of Wolverhampton for students from Chadsgrove Specialist College, St John's Middle School and Bromsgrove Prep School.

Open Days in collaboration with Church Concerts

Open Day during the Bromsgrove Festival

Heritage Open Days event in collaboration with Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove Society and STEM Ambassadors

Bromsgrove Christmas Markets in the High Street for 2 days in late November.

In carrying out the objectives as described, the trustees have complied with their duty in section 5 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

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.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

- Secured funding in awards and pledges of £385,000 towards the Spire Appeal
- Organised a lot of community engagement events both in the church and in the town
- Worked in Collaboration with local charities and organisations to better promote ourselves and those we were working with and reach a more diverse range of people
- Secure excellent local and national media coverage
- Work in collaboration with our MP to assist in lobbying the government on an issue of National concern for historic, listed church buildings.

Section E**Financial review**

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We aim to always have sufficient funds both to meet ongoing commitments and any unforeseen circumstances.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

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.

The charity holds a reserve fund of at least 6 months running costs.

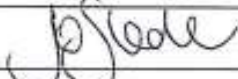

Section F**Other optional information**

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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

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Joanne Slade	Sheila Vincent
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary
Date	29 th October 2025	



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of** The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove

**On accounts for the year
ended** 31 December 2024 **Charity no
(if any)** 1184596

Set out on pages 1 to 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 May 2022.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report** As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn 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:  **Date:** 29/10/25

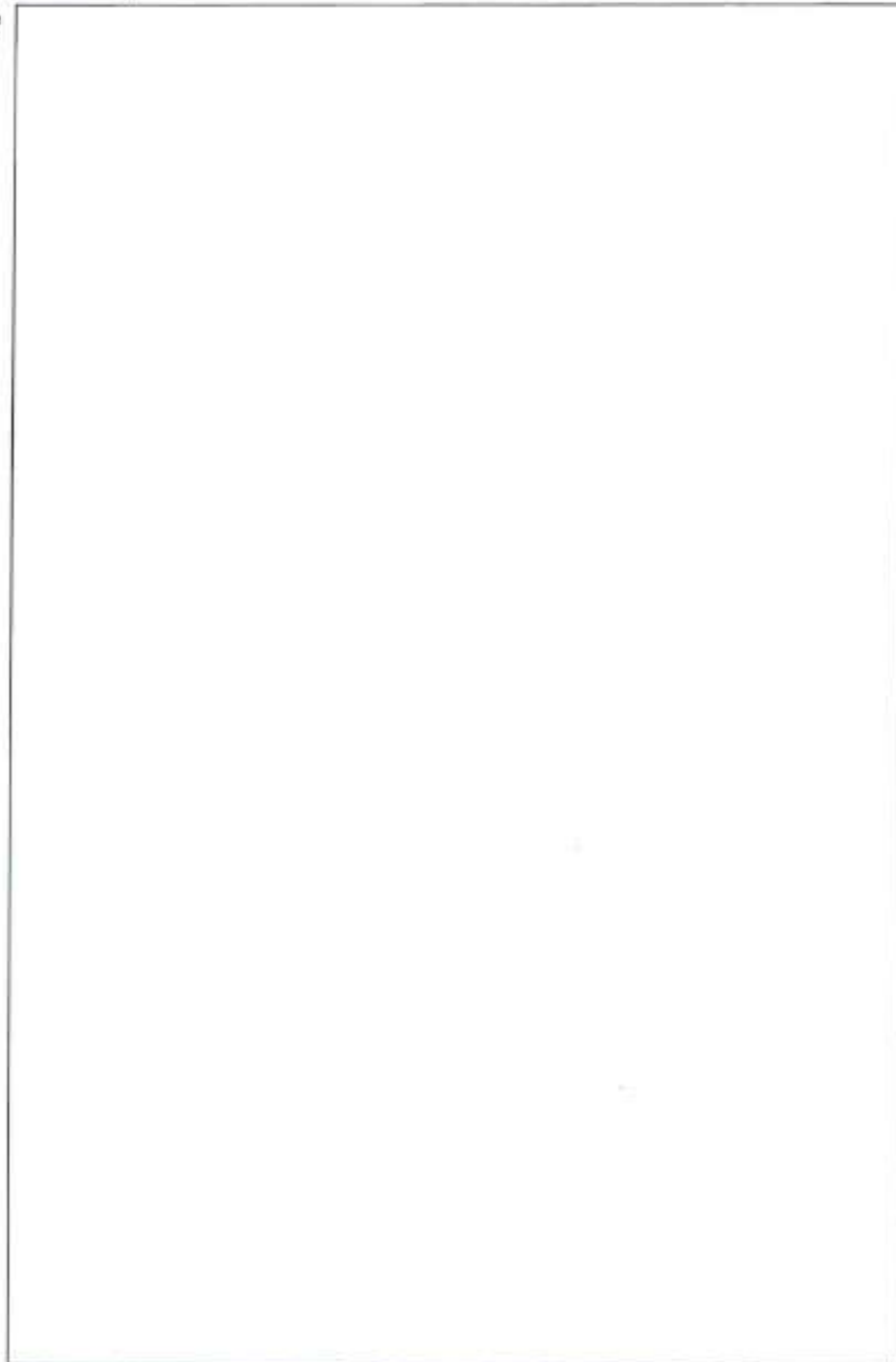
Name: Julian Dyer

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

Address: Ormerod Rutter Limited, The Oakley, Kidderminster Road
Droitwich
WR9 9AY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.



THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BROMSGROVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1184596

Accounts

Trustees

Trustees in positions until 5th April 2025.

- Joanne Slade (Chair)
- Sheila Vincent (Secretary to Friends and District Church Council member)
- Shan Moule (District Church Council member)
- Hilda Roxborough (District Church Council Secretary)

Focus for 2023

The Friends of St John's focus for 2023 was to organise profile raising events and to concentrate on the application to National Lottery Heritage Fund for a grant towards the Spire Appeal. Over the course of the year, the budgeted cost of the Spire Appeal increased to £360,000 plus vat, due to inflation and the increased cost of building supplies.

The Spire

The top 2.25m section of the spire at St John's, the tallest in Worcestershire, urgently needs to be removed and replaced. The iron vane rod, which is encased in sandstone, has rusted. The rusting has caused the stonework to crack. This is evident on the east and west elevations with the solid top section of the spire. The cracking spire top is secured with eight stainless steel bands and the cracks are filled with resin to hold the stone together. The annual spire inspection undertaken by Dawson Steeplejacks in November 2023, revealed that the resin was falling out and the cracks were expanding. The bands and resin will be renewed in early 2024.

Building At Risk

The church remains on Historic England's "Buildings At Risk" Register.

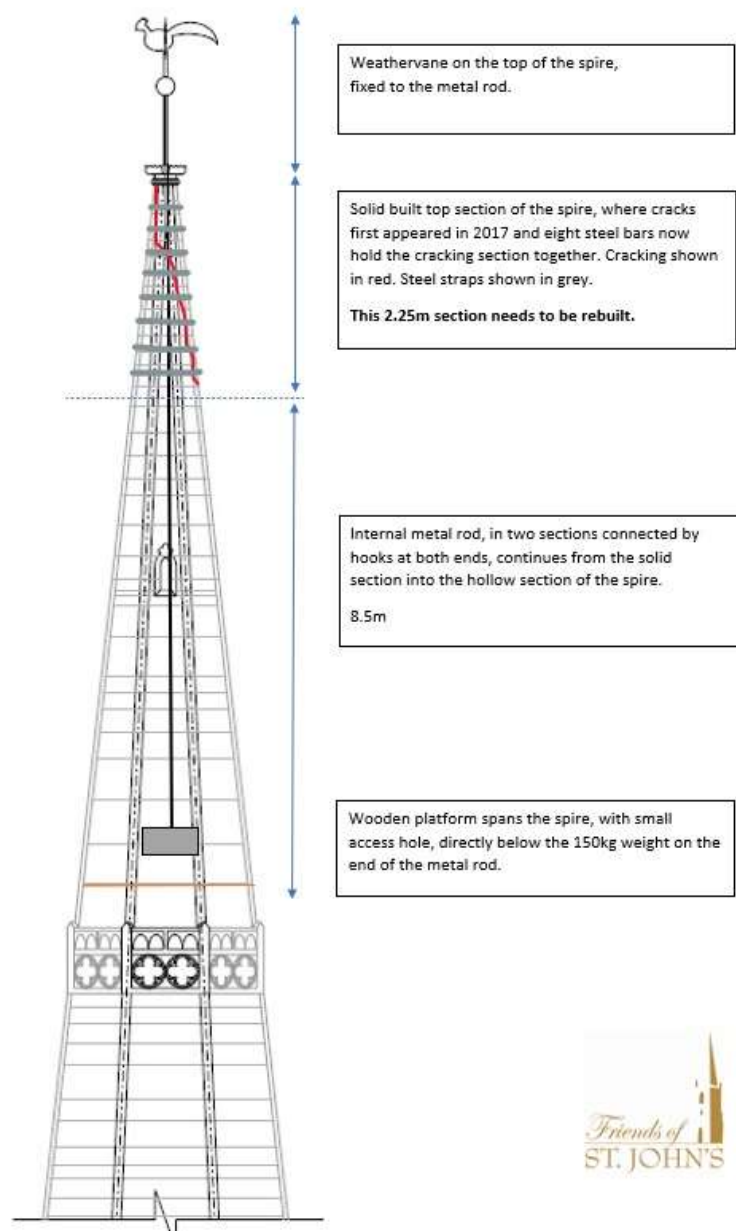
Spire Appeal Project and Funding

On 2nd November 2023 an application for funding was submitted to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for £249,975 towards the anticipated cost of £360,000 plus vat. Letters of support for the application were received from the Rt.Hon. Sir Sajid Javid MP for Bromsgrove, Cllr Mrs Sam Ammar, Chairman Bromsgrove District Council, the Venerable Nikki Groarke Archdeacon of Dudley, Leigh Blakeman Chadsgrove Specialist College and Jane Earl Chair North East Worcestershire Cultural Compact.

Additional sources of local and national funding have been identified, but no applications will be made until news is received from the NLHF.

Architect and Faculty

Following the retirement of the church's long-standing Architect Richard Lamb, Friends need to appoint a new architect to take on the spire project. Once an architect is appointed the application for a faculty from the Worcester Diocese can be made. The capital work required is a like for like replacement, using a non-ferrous metal rod and new sand stone. The DAC are fully aware of the need and the scope of the project. A full faculty is required. This will take time and it is hoped that the process won't delay the urgent work being undertaken before the winter of 2024.



Events and Initiatives Organised

Friends held an open day in the summer which attracted many people who climbed the tower and had a go on the organ. The Heritage Open Day in September was equally successful. Local organisations supported the Spire Appeal through their events. Consensus Opera's night at Avoncroft Museum and the Housman Society's 50th Anniversary Celebration Concert at Routh Hall were held in aid of Friends. The Bromsgrove Carnival organising committee chose Friends as a charity to support at their community event.

Towards the end of the year many local individuals and organisations raised funds on behalf of the Spire Appeal, following publicity gained from the submission of the application. The Orchestra of St John performed The Snowman at Christmas in Routh Hall, Bromsgrove School, local residents Jeff & Jules Evans asked for donations in lieu of gifts for their 40th Wedding Anniversary and Bromsgrove's Got 2 Sing Christmas Concert raised funds for the Spire Appeal. Everyone had their fingers crossed for the application!



The 100 Club was launched to encourage fundraising by individuals and small groups who pledge to raise a minimum of £100. A pre-loved clothes sale and a Christmas table-top sale were the first two contributors, which together raised over £1,100.

Bromsgrove Christmas Markets, held on High Street in November, in conjunction with Bromsgrove District Council, were as popular and successful as ever! Thousands of people visited. Friends raised almost £2000, raised the profile of the Appeal and supported a number of local charities through this community event.

Friend's Heritage Engagement survey received over 130 responses and was used in the application to National Lottery Heritage Fund. Friends were happy to support the churchyard clean-up day, the Railway Society conference, the earthquake appeal concert and the monthly Cake and Coffee Concerts. Friends is an active member of Bromsgrove Arts Alive and we are represented on Bromsgrove District Council's Cultural Compact and ReNEW project.

Social Media, Press & Publicity

www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove page has over 1200 followers. X (formerly Twitter) [@FriendsStJohns](https://twitter.com/FriendsStJohns) has over 700 followers. Instagram [@CelebrateBromsgrove](https://www.instagram.com/CelebrateBromsgrove) (Shared with Bromsgrove Society) has 925 followers.

Articles about Friends of St John's projects and activities appear regularly in community magazine, Completely Bromsgrove, newspapers The Bromsgrove Standard and Bromsgrove Advertiser, and other media channels online including the BBC.

Income Received

Friends Subscriptions, Donations, books sold	£ 4,945.92
Grant from Bromsgrove Carnival	£ 1,550.00
Gift Aid Received	£ 997.37
Income for events (after expenses)	£ 1,989.88

Friends of St John's Accounts to 31st December 2023

Registered Charity 1184596

The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove

Summary of Account 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

Balance Carried Forward from 31.12.2022 **£19,725.70**

Item	Income	Expenditure	Totals
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General Donations

Friends Subscriptions	£1,281.05		£1,281.05
One off donations	£2,551.37		£2,551.37
100 Club Donations	£1,113.50		£1,113.50
Grant Received from Bromsgrove Carnival	£1,550.00		£1,550.00
Gift Aid	£997.37		£997.37

General Expenditure

Ormerod Rutter Accountants		£360.00	-£360.00
Subscriptions		£15.00	-£15.00
Insurance		£380.75	-£380.75
HSBC Bank Fees		£15.00	-£15.00
Website		£43.00	-£43.00
Sundry Expenses		£0.00	£0.00

Events Organised

Consensus Opera	£500.00		£500.00
Housman Concert	£1,000.00		£1,000.00
OSJ Snowman	£400.00		£400.00
Christmas Markets November	£4,133.88	£2,144.00	£1,989.88

TOTAL	£13,527.17	£2,957.75	£10,569.42
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Closing Balance at 31.12.2023 **£30,295.12**

HSBC Year End Balance	£0.00
Lloyds Current Account Year End Balance	£9,250.23
Lloyds Online Savings Year End Balance	£100.89
Lloyds Fixed Savings Year End Balance	£20,000.00
PayPal Year End Balance	£944.00
	£30,295.12

Project Costs	Total Project Spend	Contribution from DCC Church Funds	Grants made to St John's Church DCC by the Friends of St John's
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

Grants and Funding Received

Bromsgrove Carnival	£1,550.00
100 Club Projects	£1,113.50
Housman Celebration Concert	£1,000.00
Consensus Opera Evening	£500.00
Christmas Markets	£1,989.88
OSJ Snowman 2022 & 2023	£400.00
Listed Places of Worship VAT grant	£0.00
	£6,553.38

Notes

The HSBC bank was closed. All standing order from regular supporters were move to Lloyds or cancelled.

Friends income £13,500 - no independent examiners report is required. HMRC do not require a tax submission.

No contributions were made towards the church maintenance as all efforts were put into the Spire Appeal Fundraising

Looking Forward – the first quarter of 2024

In early January 2024 the Friends of St John's received fantastic news from the National Lottery Heritage Fund – a grant award of £249,975 had been made for the Spire Appeal to repair and restore the top of the spire and carry out a Heritage Engagement and Enhanced Learning project for the benefit of Bromsgrove residents and visitors to the town and church.

[Celebration time as Bromsgrove's Friends of St John's Church get £250,000 Heritage Lottery grant to restore spire - The Bromsgrove Standard](#)

Funding applications to other local and national charitable trusts began in earnest!

Fully Funded Digital Survey

In February a team from the University of Wolverhampton and the National Brownfield Institute spent two days at St John's. They surveyed the ancient building, inside and out, with state of the art equipment and produced a 3D Cloud Point survey along with a 3D Matterport internal virtual tour. These surveys will be used by the Architect and Structural Engineer to produce the technical drawings for the faculty and tender documents. The 3D Virtual Tour will enable access to the inside of the church from anywhere in the world via the internet.

[State of the art digital survey's boost St John's Spire Appeal - The Bromsgrove Standard](#)



Thanks and Recognition

The Friends team have been honoured to receive thanks and recognition from Sir Sajid Javid MP and Bromsgrove District Council via Chairman of the Council Cllr Sam Ammar for securing a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Sir Sajid, a long-standing supporter of the Friends of St John's and the work we do to restore and maintain the ancient, landmark church, visited the team to personally congratulate us on our efforts to secure the National Lottery Heritage Fund award and to learn about the plans to successfully achieve the urgent work.

Prior to the Council meeting in January, Chairman of the Council Cllr Sam Ammar presented Friends Chairman Jo Slade with a council plaque. In her opening comments she thanked the team at Friends of St John's, on behalf of the council, for the dedicated months of volunteer time and resulting award of £250,000. She said St. John's was of great significance to the town, but had been listed on Historic England's "Building's At Risk" register due to issues on the spire – the tallest in Worcestershire.

Architect, Structural Engineer and Temporary Spire Repairs

Stephen Oliver of Oliver Architecture has been appointed as project architect and Ian Coney of C2Designs remains as the appointed Structural Engineer.

In early March steeplejacks replaced the steel bands which hold the cracking top section of the spire together as they had become tight with additional movement. The resin in the cracks was removed and reapplied. These temporary repairs were funded by the Bromsgrove Rotary via the Len Giles Trust.

Ways to Support

There are many ways to support the Spire Appeal project. You Can contact the team by email at friends.stjohns.church@gmail.com or make a donation via www.justgiving.com/campaign/stjohns-spire or follow on social media www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove X (Twitter) @FriendsStJohns Instagram @CelebrateBromsgrove or start a 100 Club or join the fundraising team.

Our Positive Ambition

The team are confident that the outstanding funding can be found, and a contractor engaged for the work to be undertaken in 2024, before the winter.

Become a friend today

Supporting the ongoing maintenance, restoration and improvements at Bromsgrove's landmark, historic church building.
Charity Registered with the Charity Commission Number 1184596

THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BROMSGROVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1184596

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report to 31st December 2022

Registered Charity Number 1184596



Trustees

Founding Trustee Dr. John Jackson died on 28th February 2022. His name was removed from the register on the Charity Commission.

Remaining trustees agreed to stay in their positions for a further three years from 6th April 2022.

- Joanne Slade (Chair)
- Sheila Vincent (Secretary)
- Shan Moule (District Church Council member)
- Hilda Roxborough (District Church Council Secretary)

Quinquennial Inspection Report (QIR)

Inspecting Architect Richard Lamb carried out the QIR on 18th & 20th May 2022. The report highlighted issues with the fabric of the building. On receipt of the QIR, the Diocesan Church Building Officer at Worcester passed the report to the Church Architect at Historic England. Following an inspection, the church was placed on the "Building's At Risk" Register.

The Spire

An inspection in February 2022 by Dawson Steeplejacks found that the cracks on the top of the spire, again needed to be filled with new resin. The steel straps did not need replacing. The work was carried out in April.

In November and December 2022 Dawson Steeplejacks inspected the spire on the inside. No evidence of cracking on the inside was seen, suggesting that the cracking is only in the solid section of the spire where the internal metal stabilising rod is believed to be rusting. Restrictions were placed on bell ringing.

Spire Appeal Project and Funding

In June 2022 a proposal was accepted by the DCC to concentrate efforts on the restoration need of the spire. An application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for £250,000 towards the anticipated cost of £300,000 was to be made. Additional funding would be required from local and national sources. The focus for 2023 will be The Spire Appeal at St John's.

Repair Projects

Both projects to repair the nave roof beam and northeast end pinnacle on the aisle roof were completed during 2022. The Friends were responsible for the project investigations, overseeing the repair work, fundraising and managing the costs of both projects. The final cost of the project was £20,680.92. With grants received, Friends funded £18,997.84 and St John's DCC made a contribution of £1,683.08. Considerable publicity was gained from the work, which increased the engagement with the public.

Income Received

Friends Subscriptions, Donations, books sold	£ 1,397.75
Grants from Charitable Trusts	£ 23,415.76
• Bromsgrove Rotary	
• BDC Community Fund	
• Bromsgrove Court Leet	
• Recovery Through Creativity Grant	
• Listed Places of Worship VAT grant	
Gift Aid Received	£ 237.95
Income for events (after expenses)	£ 2,546.89

Events

During 2022 Friends were involved in an operatic event held at Avoncroft Museum, a Showcase Day in the church in June, Heritage Open Day in September, the Creative Arts Showcase in October and organised the Bromsgrove Christmas Markets on 18th & 19th November. Friends supported the Service of Remembrance for Her Majesty the Queen, the Coronation of His Majesty the King, a churchyard clean up day, a Celebration Concert hosted by the Town Crier, Cake and Coffee concerts, laid a wreath at the November Service of Remembrance and supported Christmas services.

Social Media, Press & Publicity

www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove page has over 980 followers. X (formerly Twitter) [@FriendsStJohns](https://twitter.com/FriendsStJohns) has over 700 followers. Instagram [@CelebrateBromsgrove](https://www.instagram.com/CelebrateBromsgrove) (Shared with Bromsgrove Society) has 800 followers.

Articles about Friends of St John's projects and activities appear regularly in Completely Bromsgrove, The Bromsgrove Standard and Bromsgrove Advertiser. Friends is an active member of Bromsgrove Arts Alive and we are represented on the Heritage Corridor and Cultural Compact projects headed by Bromsgrove District Council.

Become a friend today

Raising funds through community based events for the ongoing maintenance, restoration and improvements at Bromsgrove's landmark and historic church building.

www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove Twitter [@FriendsStJohns](https://twitter.com/FriendsStJohns)
Charity Registered with the Charity Commission Number 1184596

Friends of St John's Accounts to 31st December 2022

Registered Charity 1184596

The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove

Summary of Account 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

Balance Carried Forward from 31.12.2021 **£17,271.75**

Item	Income	Expenditure	Totals
General Donations			
Friends Subscriptions	£695.00		£695.00
One off donations	£605.75		£605.75
Book Sales	£97.00		£97.00
Grant Aid Received from Trusts	£23,415.76		£23,415.76
Contribution to costs from DCC Funds	£1,683.08		£1,683.08
Gift Aid	£237.95		£237.95
General Expenditure			
Nave & Pinnacle Project		£20,680.92	-£20,680.92
Spire Project		£5,080.56	-£5,080.56
Spire Lights		£768.00	-£768.00
HSBC Bank Fees		£60.00	-£60.00
Leaflet design and print		£140.00	-£140.00
Sundry Expenses		£98.00	-£98.00
Events Organised			
Cosi Fan Tuti April	£505.00		£505.00
Showcase Day June	£466.25	£160.00	£306.25
Kevin's Celebration Concert July	£500.00		£500.00
Heritage Open Day September	£78.05		£78.05
Creative Arts Stall October	£52.59		£52.59
Christmas Markets November	£2,600.00	£1,495.00	£1,105.00
TOTAL	£30,936.43	£28,482.48	£2,453.95

Closing Balance at 31.12.2022 **£19,725.70**

HSBC Year End Balance	£1,310.43
Lloyds Year End Balance	£17,977.06
PayPal Year End Balance	£438.21
	£19,725.70

Project Costs	Grants made to St John's		
	Total Project Spend	Contribution from DCC Church Funds	Church DCC by the Friends of St John's
Nave & Pinnacle Project	£20,680.92	£1,683.08	£18,997.84
Spire Project	£5,080.56	£0.00	£5,080.56
Spire Lights	£768.00	£0.00	£768.00
	£26,529.48	£1,683.08	£24,846.40

Grants and Funding Received	
Bromsgrove Rotary Club / Len Giles	£7,000.00
BDC Community Fund	£4,950.00
Coffee & Cake Concerts	£623.74
Court Leet Donation	£1,000.00
Recovery Through Creativity Grant	£6,000.00
Listed Places of Worship VAT grant	£3,842.02
	£23,415.76

Notes

Friends will close the HSBC bank as soon as all standing order supporters move to Lloyds
 Friends income exceeds £25,000 - an independent examiners report is required.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31/12/2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1184596

Set out on pages

(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 31st December 2022.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed:

Date:

25/10/23

Name:

Colm McGraw

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

ICAEW FCA

Address:

The Oakley, Kidderminster Road, Droitwich
WR9 9AY

THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BROMSGROVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1184596

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report to 31st December 2021 Registered Charity Number 1184596



In February 2021 Dawson Steeplejacks carried out work repair works which has been identified in their annual inspection of December 2020. The cracks on the top of the spire which had re-opened were filled with new resin. The steel straps did not need replacing.

In May, when the church reopened, Rev Ray Khan noticed a large crack had appeared in one of the Nave Roof Beams and the Friends took on the project to investigate and oversee the repair work. An inspection of the external roofs in July 2021 highlighted a problem with the northeast end pinnacle on the aisle roof. The Friends took on the project to investigate and oversee the repair work.

With the assistance of Architect Richard Lamb of Hook Mason and Structural Engineer Ian Ceney from C2Designs work on both projects began, with Red Spider Hire as the main contractor. Both projects should be completed by Spring 2022 with the estimated cost of £20,000. Pledged Funding for Nave Beam and Pinnacle repairs have been received from Bromsgrove District Council for £4,950 and Bromsgrove Rotary Club for £7,000.

The roof inspection included a representative from Hambleside Danelaw, the manufacturer of the roof covering, who have committed to repair the roofs under a guarantee and at no cost to the church.

Friends organised the Bromsgrove Christmas Markets for a sixth time in the High Street on 19th & 20th November. The two days were extremely well supported and well received by all who attended. All traders recorded their best year ever! Friends are thrilled to organise this event for the Bromsgrove community.

Friends supported the Service of Remembrance for HRH Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh, the churchyard clean up, cake and coffee concerts and laid a wreath at the November Service of Remembrance.

Due to the continued restrictions in place during the covid-19 pandemic Friends were not able to hold any open days or support Orchestra of St John's as no concerts were held.

What lies ahead - 2022

The focus for 2022 will be:

1. To complete the nave beam and pinnacle repair projects
2. Launch a website for Friends
3. Promote Friends to encourage membership and engagement with projects
4. Aim to obtain 10 Corporate Supporters.

We will continue to monitor the option for funding through National Lottery Heritage Fund, with the Spire restoration project the main focus of fundraising. The church's quinquennial report is due in 2022 and we anticipate the repairs to the spire top to be the most urgent item requiring action from that report.

Social Media, Press & Publicity

www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove page has over 920 followers. Twitter [@FriendsStJohns](https://twitter.com/FriendsStJohns) has over 600 followers. Instagram [@CelebrateBromsgrove](https://www.instagram.com/CelebrateBromsgrove) (Shared with Bromsgrove Society) has 750 followers. Articles about Friends of St John's projects and activities appear regularly in Completely Bromsgrove, The Bromsgrove Standard and Bromsgrove Advertiser.

Friends is an active member of Bromsgrove Arts Alive and we are represented on the Heritage Corridor and Cultural Compact projects headed by Bromsgrove District Council.

Become a friend today

Raising funds through community based events for the ongoing maintenance, restoration and improvements at Bromsgrove's landmark and historic church building.

www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove Twitter [@FriendsStJohns](https://twitter.com/FriendsStJohns)
Charity Registered with the Charity Commission Number 1184596

Friends of St John's Accounts to 31st December 2021

Registered Charity 1184596

The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove

Summary of Account 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021

Item	Income	Expenditure	Totals
Balance Carried Forward from 31.12.2020			£16,702.81
ACTIVITY DURING 2021			
General Donations			
Friends Subs	£695.00		£695.00
Grant Aid Received from Trusts	£732.50		£732.50
Gift Aid			£0.00
PayPal Account	£360.72		£360.72
General Expenditure			
Sundry Expenses		£132.38	-£132.38
Grants Made to St John's		£732.50	-£732.50
Website Fees		£285.00	-£285.00
Building Project Costs		£2,694.00	-£2,694.00
Professional Fees		£0.00	£0.00
Events Organised			
Christmas Markets	£3,820.00	£1,195.40	£2,624.60
TOTAL	£5,608.22	£5,039.28	£568.94
Closing Balance at 31.12.2021			£17,271.75
HSBC Year End Balance	£8,711.03		
Lloyds Year End Balance	£8,200.01		
PayPal Year End Balance	£360.71		
	£17,271.75		
Grants Made to St John's Church & Projects Funded			
Organ Repairs	£732.50		
Spire Annual Survey	£2,088.00		
Nave Beam Project	£606.00		
	£3,426.50		

THE FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, BROMSGROVE

England & Wales - Charity number 1184596

Accounts

Trustees Annual Report to 31st December 2020

Registered Charity Number 1184596

On 25th July 2019 The Friends of St John's was registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation number 1184596.

The Heritage Future Project was officially launched with Bromsgrove MP Sajid Javid at a lunch in March 2019 and the National Lottery Heritage Fund invited Friends to submit an application for £1.2million with a submission deadline of August 2020.



In the Autumn and Winter of 2019 The Friends organised an evening with Philip Bowen who talked about the Gunpowder Plot, the Bromsgrove Christmas Markets for a fifth year and supported the Orchestra of St John with their season and the joint "Snowman concert" in December which sold out for a third year.

Friends started 2020 with high hopes of succeeding in our challenge to raise £1.5 million for our ambitious Heritage Future Appeal which had launched in 2019 with a lunch hosted by Bromsgrove MP Sajid Javid, who had agreed to be the Appeal Patron.

Sadly, work on the 10,000-word application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund came to an end when we received news that our invitation to apply for £1.2million (deadline August 2020) had been retracted. The funds were to be redeployed to help heritage sector survival / recovery needs caused by the pandemic for existing heritage assets and our project no longer fitted the criteria.

All fundraising activity came to a standstill due to the global pandemic.

Throughout the Autumn of 2020 we worked (via Zoom) with Bromsgrove District Council and the Market Manager in the hope that we could hold a "Festive Market" in place of the cancelled Christmas Markets and town centre Light Switch On. Sadly, the second lockdown caused plans to be abandoned as markets were not able to operate under the government restrictions in place at the time.

In December 2020 the annual steeplejack inspection of the spire top revealed the need to upgrade the repairs (carried out December 2017) by refilling the cracks with new resin and replacing the steel straps. (This work was completed and paid for in February 2021).

Friends assisted the Bromsgrove District Council project to renew the churchyard lights at St John's.

Marketing & Social Media

Friends have featured in the Better Bromsgrove Summer and Winter Magazine and in most editions of Completely Bromsgrove magazine along with lots of coverage in the Bromsgrove Standard and Advertiser, both in print and online.

www.facebook.com/FriendsStJohnsBromsgrove page has over 800 followers.

Twitter @FriendsStJohns has over 600 followers.

Instagram @CelebrateBromsgrove (Shared with The Bromsgrove Society) has 580 followers.

Fundraising Channels

During 2020 Friends registered to receive donations via Facebook using PayPal and added a donate button to our page, set up a PayPal account and registered with Donr to create campaigns to fundraise through text messages.

What lies ahead - 2021

The focus for 2021 will be fundraising to rebuilding of the spire top.

We will continue to monitor the option for funding through National Lottery Heritage Fund and hope that our project will meet the criteria of future schemes.

Become a friend today

Friends of St John's Accounts to 31 December 2020

Registered Charity 1184596

The Friends of the Church of St John the Baptist, Bromsgrove

Summary of Accounts from 25 July 2019 to 31 December 2020

Item	Income	Expenditure	Totals for Accounts
Opening Balance on 25th July 2019			£6,066.37
General Donations and Events			
Friends Subs	£950.00		£950.00
Donations	£1,617.12		£1,617.12
Income from Events organised	£5,067.63		£5,067.63
Grant Aid Received from Trusts	£5,250.00		£5,250.00
Gift Aid	£570.89		£570.89
General Expenditure			
Grants Made to St John's		£1,600.00	-£1,600.00
Sundry Expenses		£180.00	-£180.00
Hook Mason Fees		£1,039.20	-£1,039.20
<hr/>			
TOTAL	£13,455.64	£2,819.20	£10,636.44
Friends Funds Raised to year end 31 December 2020			£10,636.44
Closing Balance 31.12.2020			£16,702.81
<hr/>			
HSBC Year End Balance	£8,752.80		
Lloyds Year End Balance	£7,950.01		
<hr/>			
	£16,702.81		
<hr/>			
St John's Grants Made			
External Lights	£500.00		
Organ Repairs	£500.00		
Spire Annual Condition Survey	£500.00		
Charity Database Access	£100.00		
<hr/>			
	£1,600.00		