

THE FRIENDS OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY, CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1186760

Details

Other names	THE FRIENDS OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2019-12-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	St. Laurences Church Union Street Chorley PR7 1EB
Phone	01257231360
Email	office@stlaurencechorley.co.uk
Website	https://www.friendsofstlaurencechorley.org/

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:(1) TO PROMOTE THE CONSERVATION, REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, IMPROVEMENT, UPKEEP, BEAUIFICATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY AND OF MONUMENTS, FITTINGS, FIXTURES, STAINED GLASS, FURNITURE, ORNAMENTS, ORGANS, BELLS IN SAID CHURCH THROUGH IT'S SUPPORT OF THE WORK OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL.(2) SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AS ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE FOR THE PUBLIC OF THE INHABITANTS OF THE PARISH OF CHORLEY.

Activities: Friends of St Laurence Church, Chorley, aim to bind Church and Community together. 2020 was a challenging year however we maintained communications with the Community by issuing newsletters and emails to Friends; arranging a series of Concerts (curtailed); producing a book, 'Chorley, St Laurence', The story of a Parish Church; and maintaining a Website and Social Media platforms.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Lancashire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£8,634	£592	-	-
2023-12-31	£69,352	£66,335	-	-
2022-12-31	£39,980	£45,928	-	-
2021-12-31	£7,115	£1,154	-	-
2020-12-31	£8,482	£1,053	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Canon NEIL KELLEY	Chair	2019-04-24
Bernard Oakley		2019-04-24
James Laidler		2019-04-24

THE FRIENDS OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY, CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1186760

Accounts

Friends of St Laurence's Church, Chorley

Chair's Report 2024

Dear Members.

In January 2024 I was pleased and honoured to be voted in as the new Chair of the Friends of St Laurence's Church (FoSL). I thank all our membership for their support during the year, both in terms of their financial contribution and their help and advice when I've needed it.

For 2024 the PCC tasked FoSL with two projects. To look at ways of helping access to the first-floor meeting and function room for those with mobility difficulties and to look at fund raising for repair of the stained glass window in the belfry tower.

Both these tasks have been the focus of our meetings over the past year. Initially we had been advised that a platform lift was perhaps the best option and investigations were made regarding building requirements and the associated costs. Two companies were contacted and similar costs were quoted. The potential cost of the lift and the construction of the lift shaft are in the region of £50,000. Not only is this a substantial amount of money, but the Committee were concerned about the amount of disruption the building works would cause and the loss of one of the toilets to the church. The Committee has decided to look at other options, in particular a chair lift. Stannah have carried out a survey and we await their report.

With regards our second project, members will be aware of the exhibition of photographs of the Stained Glass Windows which are on view until the end of January. Our hope is to raise awareness of the importance of these windows and the work that is required to preserve them. Copies of these photographs are for sale in the Church Shop. For this project we are looking at costs around £12,000. My thanks to Brian Clarke, photographer and Treasurer of FoSL for all his efforts in putting it together and building on a legacy of information and knowledge shared by David Thistlethwaite, Linda Merrington and the late Marion Rawnsley.

For both these projects we hope to take advantage of available grant funding.

During the year FoSL has made funding contributions towards the purchase of the new donations box and the payments for new Seasonal Banners for the Church Shop which we feel sure will promote church

income. We have also agreed to sponsor and support the promotion of Community Working Together with entry once again into the Community Garden Event at Chorley Flower Show in July.

You the members are the backbone of the Friends, without your continued support and membership we would not have the basic funding we need to push forward with major projects. I hope that you will continue to support our efforts on behalf of the church and renew your membership for 2025.

Another group I must thank are the Standish Stitchers. The specific items made by this group are sold in the shop and all the proceeds from sales are donated to the Friends. I cannot underestimate the importance of their contribution. My personal thanks to Anne Wray and her team.

I would like to finish by thanking the Officers and Committee Members of the Friends for their continued support, their advice and their council this past year. Fund raising is not getting any easier and their thoughts and ideas on how to achieve results are crucial to our ongoing progress. All of us are volunteers, all of us have other commitments, but we are all totally committed to helping St Laurence's Church to the best of our ability.

Thank you

Alistair Morwood

Chair of FoSL

January 2025

Friends of St Laurence Chorley
Statement of Accounts 31st December 2024

	Income	Expenditure
	£	£
Income		
Family Subscription (34 members)	£1,275.00	
Individual Subscription (21 members)	£1,100.00	
Donations (Corporate)	£0.00	
Donation (Just Giving)	£980.70	
Donations (Other)	£258.46	
Sales (Standish Stitchers and Books)	£1,481.80	
Subscription by Installment (2 members)	£78.00	
Gift Aid - HMRC	£442.49	
Total	£5,616.45	
 Expenditure		
Steffany Collette (Web Consultant)		£142.80
Insurances		£400.00
Contribution to Donation Box		£48.78
New Banner		£48.78
Total		£591.58
Opening Balance Brought Forward		£3,017.08
Total Income		£5,616.45
Sub total		£8,633.53
Expenditure		£591.58
Current Balance		£8,041.95

Examined and found correct.

James Lawler
JAMES LAWLER
 7/5/2025

THE FRIENDS OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY, CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1186760

Accounts

FRIENDS OF ST LAURENCE CHORLEY

Binding Church and Community Together

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023

Organ Project

Following the completion of repairs to the roof over the organ chamber in October 2022 we were able to embark on repairs to the organ itself in 2023. David Wells Organ Builders completed three major jobs, starting in July and finishing September, covering repairs and refurbishment of the bellows, the great under action and the swell organ. The total cost, excluding VAT, was £46,593 of which £36,000 was contributed by FOSL and the balance from the Parish. In round numbers £60,000 has been spent on the organ in 2022/23, £40,000 from FOSL. More details are to be found in the Treasurers Report. The repairs to the bellows which were in imminent danger of collapse were particularly urgent and we can take considerable satisfaction from this result.

We received grants totaling £1,500 from two specialist charities, The Pilling Trust and The On Organ Fund used a balance of £7,834 from a £20,000 grant from Chorley Council for all of which we are most grateful. Unfortunately, our application for a £10,000 grant from the Church Buildings Foundation was unsuccessful, on the grounds previous refurbishments meant that the organ was no longer in its original state.

Video project

We now have 12 short videos posted on the FOSL website. Subjects and performers are as follows:

The Future for the Church – Fr Neil Kelley

The St Laurence Ministry – Tony Checker, Cornelius Ashgar

The Organ project – Alan Winstanley

The Belfry – David Thistlethwaite

Taste Café – Rachel Gilkes, Chris Hedges

Food Parcel Service – Karen Pemberton, Cheryl Winstanley

Open Table – Rob and Betty Kelly

Debt Counselling – Rachel Gilkes, James Laidler

The Standish Stitchers – Jane Morwood, Sandra Dickinson, Anne Wray

Development Strategy – James Laidler

Fundraising for the Friends – Brian Clarke, Michael Welsh

Oliver Cooper, Chorley's Church Champion – Bill Walker, Michael Welsh

This video library provides a comprehensive picture of the different services, sacred and secular that St Laurence's offers and introduces some of the remarkable people, volunteers and staff, who provide them. There is scope for more to be added covering the Wellness Hub and the Parish Nurse and perhaps interviews with some of the users, the format is flexible. These videos are a resource for

promoting the Church and its activities to a much wider audience. They make a powerful case for supporting our dynamic parish church, the more they can be shared with people outside the regular congregation the better;

We are extremely fortunate that Jack Pemberton agreed to make these videos for us. The library is an eloquent testimony to the quality of his creative work and technical virtuosity. The committee is most grateful to Jack for the time and effort he has given to this project.

Recruitment

In April we mounted an initiative to introduce FOSL to the wider Church family with leaflets, a presence at all three weekend services and a special sermon by Fr Neil, we also had a stand on Heritage Sunday. The results of these efforts were disappointing; it is evident that FOSL lacks salience beyond its core membership and we need to work harder to persuade the wider community that involvement with the Friends as members and activists is an obvious way to express their support for the Church and sustain and expand its activities. We need help from younger people who understand modern communications, in particular social media, to help us reach out to the wider community and families who are moving into the Chorley area.

Future Projects

The PCC has requested FOSL to undertake two new projects – access to the first floor rooms over the refectory and repairs to the belfry window. The committee has adopted a revised case for support and an outline plan which will be submitted to the Annual General Meeting. Provided that we maintain our subscription income we should have a reserve of around £5,000 to launch these projects.

Future Funding

Following the completion of the first phases of the Organ Project we shall have to rebuild our finances before committing further expenditure. Experience has shown that, given increasing pressures on the cost of living, crowd funding appeals, individual donations and ad hoc events cannot produce the kind of sums we will need so we will have to identify new sources of corporate and charitable support. Fortunately, we have a good track record on which to build.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my fellow officers Jane Morwood and Brian Clarke for their unfailing support and hard work throughout the year, they have been excellent team players always ready to go the extra mile. Thanks also to the committee for their counsel and keeping us on the straight and narrow and to all FOSL members without whom none of the above would have been possible. The incoming Chairman will face some formidable challenges but will have a first class team to help overcome them. I wish you all the very best for the future of FOSL and St Laurence's Church.

Michael Welsh

January 2024

The Friends of St Laurence, Chorley - Charitable Trust.

Registered Charity Number 1186760

Treasurer's Report – Year Ended 31st December 2023



Dear Friends

I have prepared the accounts for discussion at this year's Annual General Meeting. These have been independently reviewed by James Laidler, Treasurer of St Laurence's Parochial Church Council.

After the Covid pandemic, I am pleased to report that the membership has been maintained and indeed increased by one to 62 members. This year, our income has come from:

- Membership Subscriptions
- Donations (Direct and via the Just Giving website)
- VAT Recovery
- Grants

The income shown has been inflated by the late payment of the first instalment of the Chorley Council CIL grant (£12,166), which was allocated to the organ roof works contract in 2022. The remainder of the £20,000 grant was allocated to the first organ refurbishment contract.

I am expecting that approximately £400 can be received in Gift Aid funds, but this will now happen in 2024 due to the difficulty of dealing with HMRC and getting them to accept me as Treasurer. Also, this year, we have not sought or received any corporate funding.

From the accounts, you can see that we have paid for several refurbishment contracts on our organ. The first of these, for the replacement of the reservoirs cost £35,919.60 less £5,986.60 VAT we reclaimed. This was totally funded by FoSL. Two more contracts were let, each in the amount of £10,008.00 including VAT. These were funded by the PCC, using FoSL as agents. There was also a small payment made for the balance of the organ protection works, left over from the previous year.

The remaining small items of expenditure are for our web consultant, and to Tom Wray for a banner used on the Heritage Day, and for Jack Pemberton for some software to enable him to edit the many excellent videos that have been prepared this year.

So, in summary we started out this year with £7,466.26 and have ended up with £3,017.08.

We need your subscriptions and donations as they provide the float for us to spend money on the website, pay insurances and other day to day costs. We have two projects in mind for 2024 and beyond, which will be discussed by your committee to establish costs and possible timescales. Each of these will require substantial fund raising and successful grant applications.

This has been my second year as your Treasurer, and it has been a privilege to act in this capacity. It has been an exciting year as we have managed to carry out a number of projects.

Brian Clarke

Hon Treasurer, The Friends of St Laurence, Chorley

Friends of St Laurence Chorley
Statement of Accounts for Financial Year 1st January to 31st December 2023

	Income	Expenditure
Income	£	£
Family Subscription (34 members)	£1,275.00	
Individual Subscription (26 members)	£1,300.00	
Donations (Corporate)	£0.00	
Donation (Just Giving)	£48.85	
Donations (Other)	£336.46	
Sales (Standish Stickers and Books)	£360.45	
Subscription by Installment (2 members)	£72.00	
VAT Refund	£9,322.60	
Grant Aid - HMRC	£0.00	
OnOrgan Grant	£500.00	
Pilling Trust Grant	£1,000.00	
Chorley Council CIL Grant	£20,000.00	
PCC Funding for Organ Works	£27,670.60	
	Total	
	£61,885.96	
Expenditure		
Steffany Collette (Web Consultant)		£100.00
David Wells Organ Builders (Job No 1504)		£587.16
David Wells Organ Builders (Job No 1523)		£35,919.60
David Wells Organ Builders (Job No 1529)		£10,008.00
David Wells Organ Builders (Job No 1545)		£10,008.00
Insurances		£136.50
Roller Banner (Anne Wray)		£53.29
Repay PCC VAT Refund (Jobs 1523 and 1529)		£7,654.60
Jack Pemberton - Editing Software		£199.99
Repay PCC VAT Refund (Job No 1545)		£1,668.00
	Total	
		£66,335.14
Opening Balance Brought Forward		£7,466.26
Total Income		£61,885.96
Sub total		£69,352.22
Expenditure		£66,335.14
	Current Balance	£3,017.08

Accounts examined and agreed to be an accurate record

James Laidler, Treasurer
St Laurence's Parochial Church Council
January 2024

THE FRIENDS OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY, CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1186760

Accounts

THE FRIENDS OF ST LAURENCE, CHORLEY

Binding Church and Community Together

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 22nd JANUARY 2023

Chairman's Report for 2022

The year has been dominated by the first Phase of our Organ Project which involved extensive repairs to the organ chamber roof and was successfully completed early in October. The total cost including professional fees was £36,251 so somewhat less than our £40,000 budget - a very satisfactory result. We are most grateful to Walker Conservation Services who carried out the work, David Wells, Organ Builders, who installed the protective sheeting for the organ and Mike Darwell and his partners in John Coward, Architects.

We were fortunate to receive grants totaling £12,000 from the National Churches Trust and the Wolfson Foundation and a generous contribution of £20,000 towards the cost of materials from Chorley Borough Council's CIL Fund of which £7,800 remains to be carried forward to the next phase of the project. I would like to acknowledge and thank our corporate donors, G A Petfoods, E H Booth and Co Ltd, Chorley Building Society and B Livesey and Co and the many individuals who contributed either directly or via our web site raising more than £2,000 in response to our appeal.

The result of all these efforts is that the organ is now secured against leaking rainwater and other structural risks enabling us to proceed to the next phase of the project, urgently needed repairs to the instruments itself. It is a considerable achievement for a small organization starting from scratch.

In addition, FOSL has published a second book, *Chorley St Laurence, A Serving Church* that describes the range of services, sacred and secular that St Laurence's provides to the local community maintaining a centuries old tradition. We hope the book will introduce St Laurence's to a wider audience as more and more families move into the area. Thanks are due to Paul Turner who wrote the text and Thomas Wray who designed the layout and oversaw production. Paul also provided the text for a series of 12 panels covering the life and times of Myles Standish in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the voyage of the *Mayflower* which was celebrated in Chorley in 2021. Elizabeth Goodman supervised the artwork, the panels can be viewed in the space between the Lady Chapel and the Refectory entrance

Towards the end of the year, we started work on an ambitious project to produce a series of short videos illustrating the different activities undertaken by clergy and volunteers in supporting the more vulnerable people in our community in addition to the routine work of the Parish. Our ambition is to end up with a video library covering all aspects of the Church's work, introducing the people who provide the services and illustrating the reality of our vision of a church that is open most of the time and available to everyone who needs it. The first four videos covering the Organ, the Debt Counselling Service, the Taste Café and the Food Parcels are posted on our website, we hope to add to them at a rate of 2/3 per month for the rest of the year. Jack Pemberton has displayed a remarkable talent in designing and producing the videos and we are most grateful to him and to Steffany Collette who has helped us expand the website and add new material. I hope more and more people will visit it.

Looking ahead our next major challenge is to raise the £40,000 required to carry out the next phase of the Organ Project – repairing and re-furbishing the bellows and the great under action – the bellows are in a particularly fragile state and in danger of collapse, if this were to happen the organ would be seriously compromised so it is extremely important that we get this work which was originally scheduled in 2006 done as soon as possible. We currently have £25,000, including the balance of the grant for materials from Chorley BC's CIL Fund available, and are preparing submissions to three charities with a particular interest in maintaining traditional church organs to help us with the balance. We are planning to launch a public appeal in April and hope that you will all be able to help with that. If all goes according to plan we should be in a position to carry out the work in July/August.

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I would like to thank my fellow officers, Jane Morwood and Brian Clarke, for their contributions and support on the straight and narrow. throughout the year, along with Cllr Alistair Morwood, were instrumental in raising the funds required for the organ roof repairs.

Very sadly we have lost the services of Marion Rawnsley who died in October; despite her illness Marion was a constant source of encouragement and support and a leading contributor to our book St Laurence Chorley, The Story of a Parish Church; she will be sorely missed.

Members of the Committee have been a constant source of ideas and practical suggestions as well as keeping FOSL on the straight and narrow, I thank them for their service. We will need more committee members if we are to expand our activities, volunteers who are prepared to lend a hand would be warmly welcomed.

Last but not least, I wish to thank all our members for their continued support and encouragement, particularly those who have already renewed their subscriptions. FOSL depends on the engagement of the membership and it is down to them that I am able to report on a successful year in which we have delivered our first major project. We need more members if we are to maintain our momentum, so please encourage your friends and neighbours to join the Friends and help deliver more successes for St Laurences Church in the future.

Michael Welsh

January 2023

The Friends of St Laurence Chorley
Statement of Accounts for Financial Year 1st January to 31st December 2022

	Income	Expenditure
	£	£
Income		
Family Subscription (36 members)	1,350.00	
Individual Subscription (23 members)	1,150.00	
Donations (Corporate)	5,000.00	
Donation (Just Giving)	1,442.47	
Donations (Other)	1,863.30	
Book Sales	7.00	
Subscription by Installment (2 members)	66.00	
Credit from Chorley BC for PCC	£500.00	
Loan from PCC	£10,000.00	
VAT Refund	£5,669.72	
Grant Aid - HMRC	£931.60	
National Church Trust Grant	£12,000.00	
Total	39,980.09	
 Expenditure		
Steffany Collette (Web Consultant)		200.00
PCC Fee Return		25.00
Insurances		105.00
Church Room Hire		24.00
Architects' Fees		1,908.60
Debit to PCC (Chorley BC)		500.00
Construction Costs - Organ Roof		31,355.28
Printing Costs - Serving Church Booklet		389.00
David Wells Organ Builders (70%)		1,370.04
PCC Myles Standish Boards		51.51
Repay PCC Loan		10,000.00
Total		45,928.43
Opening Balance Brought Forward		£13,414.60
Total Income		39,980.09
Sub total		53,394.69
Expenditure		45,928.43
Current Balance		7,466.26
Expected Sources of Funding		
Chorley Council CIL Fund - Organ Roof	(Expected Dec 22)	12,166.00
Chorley Council CIL Fund - Organ Projects	(Before end 2023)	7,834.00
Total		20,000.00
Expected Invoice		
Balance of David Wells Cost (30%)		587.16
Expected Balance going forward		26,879.10

The Friends of St Laurence Chorley
Statement of Accounts for Financial Year 1st January to 31st December 2022

	Income	Expenditure
Income	£	£
Family Subscription (36 members)	1,350.00	
Individual Subscription (23 members)	1,150.00	
Donations (Corporate)	5,000.00	
Donation (Just Giving)	1,442.47	
Donations (Other)	1,863.30	
Book Sales	7.00	
Subscription by Installment (2 members)	66.00	
Credit from Chorley BC for PCC	£500.00	
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VAT Refund	£5,669.72	
Grant Aid - HMRC	£931.60	
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Total	39,980.09	
Expenditure		
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Total		20,000.00
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Balance of David Wells Cost (30%)		587.16
Expected Balance going forward		26,879.10

Maura
 HON EXAMINER

The Friends of St Laurence, Chorley - Charitable Trust.

Registered Charity Number 1186760

Treasurer's Report – Year Ended 31st December 2022



Dear Friends

I have prepared the accounts for discussion at this year's Annual General Meeting. These have been independently reviewed by James Laidler, Treasurer of St Laurence's Parochial Church Council.

Covid has had an effect on the work and finances of FOSL but to a lesser extent than the previous two years. This increase in activity can be seen in the financial statement before you. Unlike previous years, the majority of our income this year has come from a number of sources:

- Membership Subscriptions
- Donations (Direct and via the Just Giving website)
- Corporate Donations
- Gift Aid Recovery (with thanks to Mark Baybutt)
- VAT Recovery
- Grants

The accounts show a loan from the PCC of £10,000 to enable us to make a timely payment to the Building Contractor carrying out the organ roof repairs. This loan has now been repaid. This loan was necessary as the promised grants from both Chorley Council and the NCT were not processed as fast as we hoped. The NCT grant has now been received and the first instalment of the Chorley Council funding is expected early this month.

In terms of expenditure, our major outlay has been for the work associated with the repair of the roof over the organ. This includes paying for Building Contractor, Architect and Organ Protection Contractor. We have also incurred costs associated with developing the website (Steffany Collette), printing costs of the new "Serving Church" booklet and costs in the preparation of the Myles Standish Boards. As a condition of our Chorley Council CIL grant, we will have to increase the cost of insurance as they require us to increase our cover.

So in summary we started out this year with £13,414.60 and have ended up with £7,466.26, having spent nearly £46,000 on the items listed above.

We need your subscriptions and donations as they provide the float for us to spend money on the website, pay insurances and other day to day costs. As Michael has pointed out, we have our next project on the first phase of refurbishing the organ. The budget for this is £40,000 of which we have £27,000 available from present funds and grants promised. We are already planning our applications for further funding from a number of sources and hopeful we can fill the gap. But we still need your help by introducing new members and getting involved where you can.

This has been my first year as your Treasurer and it has been a privilege to act in this capacity. It has been an exciting year as we have managed to carry out our first major project.

Brian Clarke

Hon Treasurer, The Friends of St Laurence, Chorley

THE FRIENDS OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY, CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1186760

Accounts

FRIENDS OF ST LAURENCE, CHORLEY

Agenda Item 3 Annual Meeting of 23 January 2022

Binding Church and Community Together

Minute of Chairman's Report for 2021 (presented verbally by Michael Welsh Chairman and Trustee)

Review of the year 2021

FoSL activities remained suspended at the beginning of the year, as we continued with Covid – 19 restrictions. Communications and updates have continued with Friends throughout the year, mainly by email and newsletter.

Our book, 'Chorley St Laurence, the Story of a Parish Church', published in December 2020, continues to be distributed. A second book is in preparation, Paul Turner providing the text, to be published later in 2022.

Our committee continues to oversee our objectives, and project groups are charged with specific tasks, prioritised by the PCC, namely:

- Organ Chamber Roof repair, followed by Organ restoration, Window restoration
- Fundraising
- Website development, Crowdfunding/Just Giving and providing web content (a series of short videos about the Church which would create a library of films, attracting the 'traffic' we need for future investment)
- Communications, conveying St Laurence's Church and Friends' activities into the public domain, promoting the Website, and contacting other Groups
- Sponsorship, both business and private

Organ Chamber Roof

The £40,000 tender figure (ex VAT) has increased from the earlier estimate. We have £10,000 available from FoSL funds therefore for the next few months our entire focus will be on the challenge of raising £30,000 by the end of May so that we can carry out the work to repair the roof over the organ chamber, and then go on to repair and upgrade the organ itself. The intention is not to let the Contract Works until we are confident that we have the available funds. This will leave a working balance of £2,500 in our account.

Our approach shall be to Charities (matched funding through grants £20,000), Business and Individual Sponsorship (15no @ £1000), leaving a funding gap of £5000. To date we have received £3,800 in donations.

The task is an enormous challenge, but one I believe we can fulfill. By renewing our membership subscriptions; signing up one more Friend; and by identifying local contacts who may assist us with fundraising ideas, sharing our ambition, or making a significant donation.

It is important that we act sooner rather than later as damage to the organ affects the other uses of our Church building.

Since October 2021 we have applied to the diocese for the necessary Faculty, had a very constructive meeting with the Deputy Leader of Chorley Council and notified the contractor that we intend to proceed with the work in June provided we raise the money required. Jane (Morwood) has researched the application procedures for our three selected charities so the way is now clear to embark on this major fund-raising effort. This AGM will mark the “kick off.”

Subscriptions/Fundraising

Obviously, there is no question of our raising funds of this magnitude from subscriptions but the income you provide remains extremely important as it gives us the wherewithal to finance our fund raising operations and most importantly to maintain the web site. It also strengthens our case to charities and business sponsors that we can point to an active and committed membership which is a significant source for funds. The fact that we can contribute £10,000 from our own resources to the project testifies to the importance of your generous support so I very much hope you will feel able to renew your membership and encourage others to join.

Subscriptions for 2022 are due by end January, the individual subscription is £50, couples £75. A number of you pay by standing order for which many thanks; otherwise, you can make a bank transfer or send a cheque to me at 181 Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods, Chorley, PR6 8AG. Details of our account at Barclays are:

Account Name: The Friends of St Laurence, Chorley

Sort Code: 20 51 08

Account No: 90936820

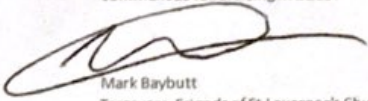
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jane Morwood', written in a cursive style.

Friends of St Laurence - Summary Accounts to 31st December 2021

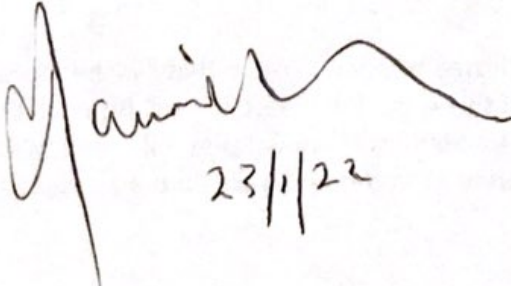
Income	In £	Ex £
Donations (Organ)	2,902.15	
Family Subscription	1,500.00	
Individual Subscription	1,450.00	
Donations (PS)	565.00	
Donation (PayPal)	265.00	
Book Sales	250.00	
Individual Subscription by Installment	78.00	
Donations	105.32	
Goodbox	-	
Total	<u>7,115.47</u>	
Expenditure		
John Coward - Architect (Organ Roof)		(1,048.80)
Insurances		(105.00)
Total		<u>(1,153.80)</u>
Opening Balance Brought Forward		7,428.93
Total Income		7,115.47
Sub total		<u>14,544.40</u>
Expenditure		<u>(1,153.80)</u>
Closing Balance Carried Forward		<u><u>13,390.60</u></u>

Represented by	Barclays Bank Account Balances (Friends and Stitchers)	Standish Stitchers Adjustment	FOSL Account Balance
Bank Balance	13,414.60	(24.00)	13,390.60
Total	<u>13,414.60</u>	<u>(24.00)</u>	<u>13,390.60</u>
<hr/>			
Standish Stitchers Reserve		£ 24.00	24
Total			<u>13,414.60</u>

Notes:
The Friends Treasurer is making a bulk claim for gift aid, back dated on all donations received since the group commenced fundraising in 2019.


Mark Baybutt
Treasurer, Friends of St Laurence's Church
13th January 2022

ACCOUNTS EXAMINED AND APPROVED
TO BE AN ACCURATE RECORD


23/1/22

Friends of St Laurence's Church Chorley – Charitable Trust
Registered Charity Number 1186760

Treasurers Report – Year Ended 31st December 2021

Dear Friends,

As we approach this year's Annual General Meeting, I have prepared the accounts statement for last year which has been independently reviewed by James Laidler.

Whilst the Covid Pandemic has continued to disrupt events and gatherings this year, our finances have increased in the year, largely from donations and subscriptions.

The largest portion of our income has been from donations, whilst some have come through different channels and for different purposes, donations have totalled £3,837. The bulk of which is in aid of the Organ fund.

Subscriptions are our second largest income stream which total £3,028.

Our last source of income this year has been from the sale of the St Laurences's history book which the Friends have compiled and had printed which has raised £250 this year.

In terms of Gift Aid on donations we have received, an application has been made to HMRC to register the charity for this purpose. Once approved a claim will be submitted and back dated to the opening of the charity which should result in a substantial contribution this year.

In terms of expenditure, we have contributed £1,048 to the Organ Roof project to pay for Architects Fees, and insurances which total £105 for the year.

We started the year with £7,428.93, have had income totalling £7,115.47, expenditure of (£1,153.80) which leaves a closing balance of £13,390.60.

I would like to record thanks to all our friends for their continued financial support, particularly in continuing subscriptions and also to all those who have made donations to our cause.

Towards the end of last year I indicated to our Chairman that I wished to step down as Treasurer after 3 years which is at this AGM. I'm pleased to say Brian Clarke has agreed to take over as Treasurer which will be put to this Annual General Meeting as a motion for approval. I extend my thanks to Brian for offering to take up the position and to Michael for facilitating a transfer.

Mark Baybutt
Treasurer (hon) Friends of St Laurence's Church
21st January 2022

gifts
and
form
submitted,
Gift Aid
Form on
the website?

THE FRIENDS OF ST. LAURENCE CHURCH, CHORLEY, CHARITABLE TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1186760

Accounts

Baybutt, Mark

To: Jane Morwood
Subject: RE: Annual Report and letter to members

From: watercrook@btinternet.com <watercrook@btinternet.com>

Sent: 01 February 2021 11:21

To: watercrook@btinternet.com <watercrook@btinternet.com>

Subject: Annual Report and letter to members

Please find attached the Chairman's Report for 2020, a financial statement of the end year position provided by our Treasurer, Mark Baybutt and approved by James Laidler and a covering letter to all FPSL members.

MW

**Watercrock
181 Town Lane
Whittle-le-Woods
Chorley, Lancashire PR6 8AG**

**01257 276992
Email:watercrock@btinternet.com**

1 February 2021

Dear FOSL Member

I have emailed you my report on the year's activities and the Treasurer's end of year financial statement for 2020 which are being circulated on behalf of your committee. It will come as no surprise that the Covid pandemic and its consequences have brought our activities to a virtual standstill and this has been a deeply frustrating experience for all concerned.

However, as you will see from the financial statement, we ended the year with a balance of £7,428 the bulk of which came from your subscriptions. Our 2021 financial year commenced on January 1 and subscriptions are due by January 31st and at the time of writing 10 single members and 11 couples have renewed their subscriptions or indicated their intention to do so, this is slightly more than half our 2020 membership. Our current balance, excluding money being held for the Standish Stitches, is £8,697 so if renewals continue, we can expect to increase our resources to something close to £10,000 which in all the circumstances would be a very creditable performance.

I have had a preliminary discussion with Fr Neil about the possibility of financing a project from one of our appeals, the obvious candidate is the repair of the roof above the organ loft which is a pre-requisite for upgrading the organ itself. The original estimate for carrying out this work was £6,600 but this may have altered over time so we would need a revised figure. There are other possibilities, and a final decision would have to be agreed between your committee and the PCC. In the meantime, I would welcome your views and particularly whether you would be in favour of allocating a substantial sum to a project of this nature leaving sufficient funds in our balances to finance Cathedral Classics and other fund-raising projects once this becomes feasible. Since the bulk of this money has come from FOSL members it is only right that you should be involved in deciding how it should be spent.

Looking to the future, as soon as restrictions are lifted and we are able to resume our activities, we will call a general meeting of FOSL members and the committee will submit a program of activities and objectives for the balance of the year. This is likely to include:

- Revival of the Cathedral Classics Recitals and associated events,
- Approaches to selected charities for assistance with our two appeal objectives,
- Promotion of the book Chorley St Laurence to the wider community through bookshops and other outlets,
- Review of the web site and social media platforms with a view to updating and extending their reach,

and no doubt much more!

Many thanks to those of you who have already renewed your subscriptions – your continued support is very much appreciated. To those who have yet to do so the due date is January 31st, your contributions will be as welcome as they are necessary to keep us in business; our ability to finance a project like the organ roof in spite of the difficulties is compelling evidence of the importance of your support in enabling our Church to continue its historic role in our local community.

With kind regards and good wishes



Michael Welsh

Chairman Friends of St Laurence's Church

Note

Subscription payments to FOSL can be made by bank transfer or standing order:

Account Name The Friends of St Laurence Church

Account No 90936820

Sort Code 20 51 08

or by cheque made out to the Friends of St Laurence Church and mailed to me at this address

FRIENDS OF ST LAURENCE'S CHURCH, CHORLEY

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The Covid 19 pandemic has overshadowed everything during the past twelve months and in common with other volunteer fund raising organisations our activities have been brought to a standstill. Since March 2019 we have been unable to organise any events and your committee has been unable to meet though we have kept in touch by email. For much of the year the Church itself which is normally the fulcrum for FOSL's activities has been closed for most of the and with the country in various stages of lock down we have not been able to pursue external fund-raising opportunities or exploit our newly won charitable status. It has been a very frustrating not to say depressing experience for all of us.

On March 4 we held a launch concert for our Cathedral Classics series of organ recitals which was expected to be a major fund-raising exercise involving monthly recitals by leading cathedral organists. We were fortunate to secure the patronage of Amanda Roocroft who undertook to appear for us at a special concert in November. The launch which was a pilot for the series proper went well, and some tickets were sold. On March 22 the first national lock down was declared and with great reluctance we were compelled to put the whole program into cold storage. We hope to revive it when restrictions permit but this will mean starting again from scratch.

On the plus side we were able to produce our book, Chorley Saint Laurence, the Story of a Parish Church, which went on sale in December and can be purchased on-line at the Church Shop for £5.00 per copy, FOSL members have been offered a free copy with their first purchase – 2 for the price of 1. At the time of writing, we have distributed 67 copies, including 12 free copies for contributors and out of area subscribers and 10 under the members offer scheme. The contribution to FOSL is approximately £3.00 per copy; the initial print order was 500 copies so there is some way to go.

The book provides a history of the Church since earliest times showing how it has evolved architecturally and functionally over the centuries. The underlying theme is that St Laurence's has been at the centre of local life since the days when Chorley was a tiny hamlet on top of a hill overlooking the River Chor and as such is a fundamental element in the identity of the Town. The services, both religious and secular, which are offered today have a pedigree that runs directly back to the Middle Ages. The Church belongs to the whole community and we all have a responsibility to preserve these historic buildings and continue to adapt them to meet the needs of today. There are sections dealing with the stained glass, the organ, bells and other artefacts so that visitors as well as the regular congregation can have a better idea of what they are seeing and what might otherwise have been overlooked.

Producing and publishing the book during a period of lock down required a major effort and I am grateful to all our contributors who are listed on the title page; a special thank you to Tom Wray who undertook the herculean task of design and layout and produced a brilliant result.

Anne Wray and her team have been operating the website and social media platforms on a care and maintenance basis reflecting the lack of activity during the lock down. The infrastructure remains in place ready to be exploited when circumstances permit, and we shall need more volunteers to help with content.

Mark Baybutt's financial report is being circulated with this report. As you will see, in spite of the lockdowns we have managed to increase our balances by £3,300 in the course of the year a result

that speaks volumes for the loyalty and commitment of FOSL members. As a result, we should be able to embark on at least one substantial maintenance project in 2021.

It remains for me to thank my fellow officers, Mark and Jane and all committee members for their support and encouragement during what has been an exceptionally difficult year; we all look forward to better times in the year to come.

Michael Welsh

January 28th 2021

Friends of St Laurence - Summary Accounts to 18th December 2020

	In £	Ex £
Income		
Family Subscription	1,670.00	
Individual Subscription	1,200.00	
Goodbox	561.84	
Cathedral Classics	407.11	
Cathedral Classics Sponsorship	300.00	
Book Sale	129.00	
Individual Subscription by Installment	72.00	
Donations	32.60	
	Total	
	<u><u>4,372.55</u></u>	
Expenditure		
Credits - Advertising		(150.00)
Insurances		(105.00)
VAT for Credits		(30.00)
Cathedral Classics Printing		(186.99)
Cathedral Classics Catering		(237.90)
St Laurences Book Printing		(299.00)
JustGiving Fees		(44.37)
	Total	
		<u><u>(1,053.26)</u></u>

Opening Balance Brought Forward	4,109.64
Total Income	4,372.55
Sub total	<u>8,482.19</u>
Expenditure	(1,053.26)
Closing Balance Carried Forward	<u><u>7,428.93</u></u>

Represented by	Barclays Bank Account Balances (Friends and Stitchers)	Standish Stitchers Adjustment	FOSL Account Balance
Bank Balance	7,937.81	(508.88)	7,428.93
Total	<u><u>7,937.81</u></u>	<u><u>(508.88)</u></u>	<u><u>7,428.93</u></u>
<hr/>			
<i>Standish Stitchers Reserve</i>		£ 508.88	508.88
Total			<u><u>7,937.81</u></u>

Notes:

JustGiving Online Balances from previous statement have been transferred to the Barclays Account less fees.

Mark Baybutt
Treasurer, Friends of St Laurence's Church
20th January 2021