

Registered Charity No. 1187173.

FRIENDS OF SHENSTONE TOWER
a Charitable Incorporated Organisation
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR
12 MONTHS TO 31st DECEMBER 2020

FRIENDS OF SHENSTONE TOWER

Charity Information

Trustees

Jeremy David Cotton
Joseph James David Matile
Rev Elizabeth Chamberlain
David Salter
Paula Ball
Ray Chamberlain
Rita Hancocks
Stuart Jones
Shirley O'Mara
Bronwen Ross
Karen Welch

Chairman

Treasurer appointed 9th January 2020:
Ex Officio as Vicar of St John's Shenstone
Nominated by Shenstone Parish Council

Independent Examiner

K H Goldsworthy
Incorporated Financial Accountant
Goldsworthy & Co
30 Fotherley Road
Shenstone
Lichfield
WS14 0NJ

Principal Office

24A Main Street
Shenstone
Lichfield
Staffordshire
WS14 0LZ

Registered Charity Number

1187173

FRIENDS OF SHENSTONE TOWER

The report of the trustees for the 12 months to 31st December 2020:

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the 12 months to 31st December 2020. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and Reporting Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102); (effective 1st January 2015);

Objectives and Activities of the Charity

Restore, preserve, repair, maintain and improve for the wider public, the historic grade-2* listed (at risk) old church tower (list entry number 10388300) specifically to: develop the community use of the tower for the advancement of the education of the public; as an intimate centre for the arts; as a historical learning centre and as a viewing platform on the established Shenstone Heritage Trail. During 2020 we have raised funds to achieve our objective of repairing the Tower and opening it for the public; and in the latter part of the year we started the project to repair the Tower. The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and have made decisions with due regard to this guidance.

Achievements and Performance

The main achievements for this year are as follows:

1. We set up and registered our charity on 2nd January 2020. We have a constitution, a full complement of Trustees, and have established policies for the management of the Charity.
2. We established the cost of repairing and opening the Tower to the public. The repair costs had previously been estimated by Historic England. This set a target for fund-raising, and we set to raising funds from the community and from grant funders. We have been successful and completed raising funds to meet our estimated costs in July 2020. This enabled us to make a formal application to Historic England for a grant to meet 80% of the repair costs; this was granted on 27th July 2020. We will still need to raise further funds to meet future costs on matters such as maintenance and opening the Tower, but we could now start the project.
3. We tendered for an Architect and appointed Mark Parsons of ASAP Architects LLP in September 2020.
4. Our Architect has prepared fully detailed plans for the work to repair and preserve the Tower and allow it to be opened for the public. Before he could gain access to draw up plans, most of the vegetation was removed from the outside of the walls, and Tower was cleared of detritus.

5. We have also completed a Bat survey which found that there were no bats roosting within the Tower.

6. In December we advertised for conservation builders to express an interest in the work, which will lead onto a full tender for the work in 2021.

In all this, it is important to note that Historic England have given significant guidance to the whole project and we could not have managed this without them.

Fund Raising

As noted under Achievements and performance, we have completed raising funds to meet the estimated costs for the repair and the opening of the building to the public. There are 3 main sources of funds:

1. The local community have been very supportive of this project and we have raised significant funds from the village and wider community, including local businesses.

2. Lichfield District Council and Shenstone Parish Council have both made generous grants towards the work.

3. We have approached a number of grant funders and are delighted to report support from HS2, Garfield Weston, Pilgrim's Trust, Leche Trust and Bells Whisky.

4. Finally we could not have raised the funds without Historic England's support to meet 80% of the repair cost.

In all our fund-raising we have been cognizant of the Charity Commission and Fundraising Regulator's guidance; and we are registered with the Fundraising Regulator. All our funds are raised to support our objectives of repairing and opening the Tower for the public.

Financial Review

The accounts show income of £31,012 and expenditure of £18,091. This includes donations including gift aid of £19,522, and the first Historic England grant of £11,490. The expenditure shows some costs in raising funds and operating the charity and the groundworks and professional fees in preparing the Tower and drawing up the plans.

The budget for the project as a whole shows that we have funds pledged that cover the estimated costs of the complete project. This income and expenditure will materialise throughout 2021 and 2022. The principal risks facing the charity are laid out in our Risk management register which is updated annually. The main risk is that the estimate of the cost of the project or our funding varies from the budget.

The charity has a reserves policy and we aim to carry sufficient reserves to complete the project and then limited reserves to ensure timely ongoing occasional maintenance, and to buffer the ongoing expenditure of the charity.

The charity has an investment policy to keep any funds in its Unity bank savings account.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a Charitable incorporated organisation with a constitution for voting members in addition to its Trustees.

A third of Trustees retire at each annual general meeting and then elections are held for new Trustees. Trustees can stand for re-election. The intention is that no Trustee will serve more than 9 years unless the Trustees unanimously ask them to continue and they agree.

All Trustees receive a copy of the constitution, all policies, and a latest annual report and statement of accounts. They will have an induction organised by the Chairman and sign a declaration of eligibility to serve as a Trustee.

The Charity has an Executive committee which includes all Trustees. The Executive may form sub-committees to carry out specific tasks or duties, and they will report back to the Executive.

The Charity works closely with the Vicar of St John's who is an Ex Officio Trustee and Shenstone Parish Council who nominate a Trustee.

Future Plans

The charity has raised sufficient funds to start the work to conserve and open the building to the public; the charity will now progress this work to completion and expects this to be completed in 2022.

The precursor to this work is to obtain permission for the plans from the Diocese and Lichfield District Planning, and then to sign a lease for the Tower from the Diocese.

After the year end, we have tendered the conservation work and the cost is significantly above the original estimate and our funds and pledged grants. We are now looking to see if we can raise more funds to meet this higher cost.

FRIENDS OF SHENSTONE TOWER

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT 12 MONTHS TO 31st DECEMBER 2020

	£
<u>INCOME</u>	
Grants	11,490
Donations	17,266
HMRC Gift Aid	2,256
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>31,012</u>

EXPENDITURE

Groundworks	5,100	
Professional Fees	12,010	
Insurance	198	
Marketing and Promotion	485	
Subscriptions	154	
Bank Charges	121	
Admin Expenses	23	18,091

EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE 12,921

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

The assets and liabilities of the charity

Current Assets:

Cash at Bank and in hand 12,921

12,921

The funds of the charity

Unrestricted Income Funds 12,921

Total Charity Funds **12,921**



J D Cotton - Chairman

Approved by the Trustees on 18th May 2021

FRIENDS OF SHENSTONE TOWER

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF SHENSTONE TOWER

I Report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of Shenstone Tower for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

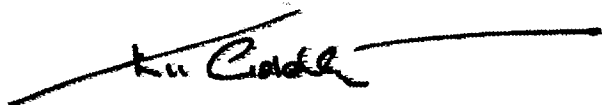
I report in respect of my examination of the Charities accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out of my examination I have followed all applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act

Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination and I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect :

- 1 Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act or
- 2 The accounts do not accord with those records or
- 3 The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirements that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



K H Goldsworthy FFA, RPA, FTA
Goldsworthy & Co
Incorporated Financial Accountants
30 Fotherley Road
Shenstone
Lichfield
WS14 0NL

Date 15 June 2021