

THE FRIENDS OF IDE HILL CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1200715

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-10-18

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

Contact

Address 2 The Pantyles
Nightingale Lane
Ide Hill
Sevenoaks
TN14 6BX

Phone 01732750436

Email friendsidehillchurch@gmail.com

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S PURPOSE IS TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY:THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF ST MARY'S CHURCH IDE HILL AS A BUILDING USED FOR THE PRACTICE OF THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION;THE MAINTENANCE OF THE PUBLIC CHURCHYARD ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHURCH;ENABLING THE SAYING OF SERVICES PROMOTING THE TEACHINGS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH WHICH ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, WHETHER THEY ARE BELIEVERS IN THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, ANOTHER FAITH OR NO FAITH;THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF RELIGIOUS ARTEFACTS AND ITEMS USED IN CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS SERVICES, RITUALS AND PRACTICES;THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF RELIGIOUS STAINED GLASS WINDOWS AND OTHER RELIGIOUS WORKS OF ART WITHIN THE CHURCH; RAISING FUNDS FOR THE ABOVE PURPOSES;PASSIVE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH BY LEAVING THE BUILDING AND CHURCHYARD OPEN FOR PEOPLE TO ENTER AND BENEFIT FROM PERSONAL SPIRITUAL CONTEMPLATION AFFORDED BY THE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR OF THE CHURCH; ANDINCREASING PUBLIC LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND THE ROLE THAT THE CHURCH BUILDING HAS PLAYED IN THIS.

Activities: Our activities involve raising the profile of the church, encouraging the use of the building and fundraising for major schemes which will enhance the features and accessibility of the church for allcomers. These activities are all designed to ensure the church remains available to future generations to enjoy and a lasting asset for the Church and the community of Ide Hill.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£21,626	£7,749	-	-
2024-09-30	£5,712	£2,859	-	-
2023-09-30	£18,895	£1,069	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Lynne Marie Rutherford	Chair	2022-08-16
Andrew Michael Scott		2022-08-16
Deborah Seaton		2022-08-16
Elizabeth Ann Denbigh		2022-08-16
Jane May Rossi		2022-08-16
PENELOPE JANE FILMER BELLE		2022-08-16
Sarah Jane Fribbens		2025-09-16
Thomas Niven		2026-02-03

THE FRIENDS OF IDE HILL CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1200715

Accounts

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
AGM 17th March 2026
Chairman's Report

The purpose of The Friends is to strengthen the role of Ide Hill Church as an asset for the Church and the Community of Ide Hill for all to enjoy for generations to come.

This report covers the period from **1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025**, and this is our third AGM since becoming a registered charity in October 2022.

Tonight we remember Anne Beasley with great fondness and appreciation for her role as an original Trustee of The Friends. Anne worked tirelessly with the Diocese to get the Faculty for our Flushing Hill project. The faculty arrived in the post on the day after her Cremation, which was a very emotional moment for us all. We will be honouring her memory and we are working closely with Paul on the appropriate memorial plaque. I think of Anne every time I look up at our beautiful windows, a reminder of all the research she did on them to produce the lovely booklet which visitors and locals alike take away with them.

We have had 2 new Trustees join us – a warm welcome to Sarah Fribbens and Tom Niven. Thanks and appreciation go to Sally Bawn who has resigned as Trustee as she has moved away.

We continue to raise awareness of The Friends, and to explore creative ways to welcome people who would not normally come into the church through various activities such as our annual Christmas Tree Festival, auction and music evening, followed by the Christmas Tree carol service which is attended by nearly one hundred children and adults. The 2024 CTF raised an incredible £4492 ! Thanks must go to all the tree decorators, the performers, supporters, everyone who helped organise, Auctioneer PJ and the sponsors, especially the Montreal Estate who hand picked the lovely trees from their estate. Unfortunately we could not hold the Christmas Tree Festival, concert, auction and service at the end of 2025 as the church was closed for the building works, but we will be back this year with a bumper celebration!

In February 2025 we held a Love Concert in collaboration with the Ide Hill Book Club. This brought a different audience into the church, raising more awareness of The Friends and the work we do. Music ranged from Adele's "Make you feel my Love" to Puccini's O Mio Babbino Caro. The music was interspersed with extracts from books that the Book Club had read, such as The Alchemist, Captain Corelli's Mandarin, Wolf Den and Still Life. The concert raised £1200 towards our Flushing Hill project.

We held a garden party jointly with The Friends of St Mary's Sundridge, and thanks to the generosity of Fern and Bob Ogle who opened their

beautiful garden to visitors we added to the funds of both Friends' charity accounts.

Once again we hosted a MacMillan Coffee morning in September, which brought many visitors into the church, most of whom stayed for the whole event, enjoying the coffee, cake and fellowship. We were pleased to be able to give £224 to MacMillan and we will be hosting one again this year. Ride and Stride, which raises money for Friends of Kent Churches was supported by The Friends in the form of providing refreshments for visitors to the church. Thanks to the efforts of our Riders and Striders, they raised almost £2000, of which 50% comes back to us. It was lovely to see the Toys Hill striders join in.

Thank you to the Ide Hill Community Shop who made a donation of £4250 towards project Flushing Hill. And to the Village Hall Trust who donated £600. We had very generous donations from members of our congregation who wish to remain anonymous and we really appreciate them.

We are grateful to Jane Wiltshire who managed to obtain grants from The Friends of Kent Churches and The Benefact Trust. So much work goes into the applications. Thank you Jane.

The church was closed from November 10th for the building works to take place, and I am delighted to say that the completion date of February 27th was achieved.

As most of the funding and expenditure for the project falls into the 2025/2026 Financial year, and will be reported on at our next AGM, I can report that we were able to raise all the funding required for the project. We did get back just over £9000 in VAT from the Listed Places of Worship Grant scheme. They have now run out of money, so we have had to fund the rest of the VAT ourselves. Thanks go to Robert Skone-James who managed to get the above amount before the scheme closed!!

Thank you to Lynette for her support and trust in us. The support from the community and the members is also truly appreciated.

To the Trustees, thank you for your support and commitment during what has been an emotional year, with the loss of Anne, and a challenging year to get the project up and running in order to complete it on time. We are a great team.

One last notice: Tickets for the Spring Concert will go on sale at the end of this month. The theme is of course "Water" and it will be a collaboration with the Ide Hill Book Club. Jennie and Fiona are already practicing with the organ and cello. It is on Saturday 25th April at 7 pm. If you would like to reserve tickets before they sell out, just drop an email to friendsidehillchurch@gmail.com

Thank you

Lynne Rutherford
Chairman

The Friends of Ide Hill Church

Financial Report for the Annual General Meeting

For the Year Ended September 2025

1. Overview

The charity's finances remain stable and well-managed, with income and expenditure reflecting a year focused on supporting the church's ongoing needs and progressing the Flushing Hill project. The committee is grateful for the continued generosity of members, donors, and the wider community.

2. Income Summary

Total income for the year amounted to **£21,626**, representing a combination of regular giving, membership subscriptions, fundraising activities, and two significant one-off donations.

Key income sources:

- **Membership subscriptions** — £1,095
- **General donations** — £5,820
- **Fundraising events** — £4,711
- **Two major donations** totalling £10,000, given to support the Flushing Hill Project

3. Expenditure Summary

Total expenditure for the year was **£7,749**, with spending focused on both routine support for the church and the initial phases of the Flushing Hill Project.

Main expenditure categories:

- **Fundraising event costs** — £893
- **Administrative costs** (insurance, printing, banking fees) — £675
- **Flushing Hill Project expenditure** — £6,180

The Flushing Hill Project costs this year related to architectural fees. Much of the income and expenditure in relation to this project fall into the 2026 accounts however a be detailed in the chairwoman's report.

The committee extends sincere thanks to the two donors whose substantial contributions significantly strengthened the project's financial foundation.

5. Reserves/Cash Position

At the commencement of the year the charity held £20,679 in cash and reserves, following the years activity, the closing was £34,557. The current cash position is £36,221 which includes £3.7k of gift aid

6. Independent Examination Requirements

The receipts in the year remain below £25k therefore an independent review is therefore not necessary, however should anyone require this to be conducted it can be arranged.

7. Conclusion

The committee is pleased to report a financially sound year, marked by strong community support and considerable progress toward the Flushing Hill Project. The Friends remain committed to enhancing the facilities and supporting the ongoing life of the church.

The Friends of Ide Hill Church			
Profit and Loss Oct24 to Sept25			
Income			
Donation		5819.89	
Fundraising		4710.78	
Flushing Hill Donation		10000.00	
Membership		1095.00	
			21,625.67
Expenditure			
Flushing Hill Expenditure		-6180.44	
Advertising		-199.34	
Computer		-19.08	
Fundraising		-892.73	
Bank Charges		-46.80	
Insurance		-289.31	
Refreshments		-59.08	
Miscellaneous		-61.40	
			- 7,748.18
Retained Funds			13,877.49

The Friends of Ide Hill Church			
Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2025			
Assets			
Assets			-
WIP			-
Bank			34,556.82
Debtors			
Liabilities			
Creditors			
Suspense			-
Net Worth			34,557
Equity			
Profit and Loss			13,877
Retained Profit			20,679
Check			-

THE FRIENDS OF IDE HILL CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1200715

Accounts

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting
held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday 18th March 2025 in Ide Hill Church

Trustees Present: Lynne Rutherford, in the Chair
Anne Beasley
Debbie Seaton
Jane Rossi
Liz Denbigh

Apologies for absence were received from Andy Scott, Jane Belle, Sally Bawn (Trustees) and the following members: Derry and Jane Wiltshire, Barbara Baker, Neil Arnott, Avis Simons, Angie Chapman, Robert and Susan Skone-James, Joanna Campbell and Trudi Broughton

1. Welcome

Lynne welcomed those present and reminded everyone that this AGM covered the second year of the Friends' charity.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th February 2024 were approved.

3. Annual Statement of Accounts

Debbie introduced her financial report (attached to these minutes). They show an income of £5,712 and expenditure of £2,860. This figure includes a payment of £1,512 to Thomas Ford and Partners Architects for preliminary work on project Flushing Hill. The surplus for the year was £2,852. The bank balance at end October 2024 was £20,679. The current bank balance is £26,119.

Adoption of the accounts for the period from October 2023 to September 2024 was proposed by Liz Denbigh, seconded by Paul Beasley and unanimously agreed by members present.

3. Chairman's Report

Lynne read her Chairman's report (attached to these minutes).

4. Retirement and appointment of Trustees

In accordance with the Friends' Constitution Jane Belle, Andy Scott and Liz Denbigh retired as Trustees at this meeting. All had offered to be reappointed. The reappointment of Jane Belle was proposed by Jane Rossi and seconded by Mike Denbigh. The reappointment of Andy Scott was proposed by PJ Rutherford and seconded by Sarah Arnott, the reappointment of Liz Denbigh was proposed by Barbara Couch and seconded by Liz Gandon. All appointments were unanimously agreed by members present.

5. Rev Lynette

Rev Lynette thanked all Trustees and members of the Friends for their support for Ide Hill church, both in looking after and enhancing facilities in the building but also in supporting the church's mission in the parish. Lynne thanked her for her words of encouragement.

Anne Beasley

Secretary

20.03.25

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
AGM 18th March 2025
Chairman's Report

The purpose of The Friends is to strengthen the role of Ide Hill Church as an asset for the Church and the Community of Ide Hill for all to enjoy for generations to come.

This report covers the period from 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024, and this is our second AGM since becoming a registered charity in October 2022.

I would like to start by remembering 2 of our founder members, Brook Marshall and Maggie Meredith, who both passed away in 2024. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

We continue to raise awareness of The Friends, and to explore creative ways to welcome people who would not normally come into the church through various activities such as our annual Christmas Tree Festival, auction and music evening, followed by the now annual Christmas Tree carol service which is attended by nearly one hundred children and adults. The 2024 CTF raised an incredible £4492 ! Thanks must go to all the tree decorators, the performers, supporters, everyone who helped organise, and the sponsors, especially the Montreal Estate who hand picked the lovely trees from their estate.

In November we held a Quiz Night in the Village Hall which was attended by 87 quiz enthusiasts and which raised just over £2000. In September we hosted a MacMillan Coffee afternoon in the church, which was very well attended by members of the community. We were able to give £326 to MacMillan, and we are planning to do this again this year as it raises funds for a worthy cause and at the same time creates awareness for The Friends.

We once again provided refreshments for Ride and Stride, which raised money for Friends of Kent Churches. Thanks to the efforts of Neil Arnott, Jane Rosam and Trudi Broughton and team, they raised a total of £2215, of which 50% comes back to us, giving St Mary's Ide Hill £1107. This year, we will be brainstorming how we can increase participation, especially amongst our young people.

Thank you to the Ide Hill Community Shop who generously made funds available for us to purchase a coffee machine from Kingdom Coffee, which uses fairtrade coffee. This now means we can provide a really good cup of coffee after church services, promoting fellowship – in fact we have noticed that members of the congregation stay a bit longer to have a second cup and great conversations with each other!

You will see from our Treasurer's report that we are in a strong financial position and we can report progress on Project Flushing Hill (the installation of a toilet and tea station in the church). After some delay, we received approval from the DAC, for the toilet to be sited on the south side and the tea station on the north side. We are working with Architects Thomas Ford and have received drawings and a schedule of works. We are currently exploring drainage and water supply options, and we are pleased to report that the Faculty for the project has been submitted. Thank you to Anne Beasley for all your hard work on this. There is a lot of paperwork involved! Thank you also to Jane Wiltshire who has taken on the task of applying for grants once the Faculty is approved. We estimate the total cost of the project to be between £75 000 and £90 000, as long as there are no major issues with water supply.

Once the Faculty has been approved we will start the consultation and communication process to ensure everyone is kept informed of progress.

I would like to close by thanking Lynette for her support and trust in us. To you, the members, and the support from the community, it is truly appreciated.

To the Trustees, thank you for your wise counsel and enthusiasm. We are a great team.

Thank you

Lynne Rutherford
Chairman

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
Profit and Loss Oct23 to Sept24

Income		
Donation	1339.29	
Fundraising	4203.90	
Gift Aid	169.07	
		5,712.26
Expenditure		
Computer	-19.08	
Insurance	-212.84	
Fundraising	-596.51	
Professional Fees	-1512.00	
Machinery and plant	-469.29	
Sundry	-50.00	
		<u>- 2,859.72</u>
Retained Funds		2,852.54

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2024

Assets	
Assets	-
WIP	-
Bank	20,679.33
Debtors	
Liabilities	
Creditors	
Suspense	-
Net Worth	20,679
Equity	
Profit and Loss	2,853
Retained Profit	17,827

THE FRIENDS OF IDE HILL CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1200715

Accounts

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
Profit and Loss 18/10/22 to 30/09/23

Turnover		
Donation	10800.42	
Fundraising	7700.51	
Subscription	395.00	
		18,895.93
 Expenditure		
Repairs and Renewals	0.00	
Food/Drinks	-142.05	
Computer	-17.49	
Advertising	-68.60	
Fundraising	-841.00	
		<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/> - 1,069.14
 Retained Funds		 17,826.79

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2023

Assets		
Assets		-
Bank		17,826.79
Debtors		
 Liabilities		
Creditors		
Suspense		-
 Net Worth		 17,827
 Equity		
Profit and Loss		17,827
Retained Profit		
 Check		 -

The Friends of Ide Hill Church
AGM 15th February 2024
Chairman's Report

This report covers the period from 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023, and this is our first AGM since becoming a registered charity in October 2022.

Since our last AGM in 2023, one of our trustees, Dave Upton, resigned due to work and family commitments. I would like to thank all our current trustees, who remain the same as last year, for their incredible support and contribution to furthering the aims of The Friends. As a reminder, our strategic purpose still remains ***to strengthen the role of Ide Hill Church as an asset for the Church and the Community of Ide Hill.***

Over the past year we held various events to raise funds and to raise awareness. In December 2022 we held our annual Christmas Tree Festival, auction and music evening and raised £3595. In April 2023 we held a barn dance in the Village Hall. The purpose of this event was to involve the community and to create awareness of The Friends. It was a huge success and children and grownups of all ages danced the evening away. Although not a fundraiser, we still made a profit of £150! In June we held a summer concert called The Celli Vecchi, which was the brainchild of Jennie Brown, who pulled together a quartet of professional cellists as well as local pianist Fiona Worthy. This evening of wonderful music raised a further £750 for the Friends.

Other events held fall into the next financial year, however I would like to mention the Great Ide Hill Bake off, which was organised by Sharon Taylor who gave so generously of her time. It was a resounding success!

We also received a very generous donation of £2000 from the Cross Campbell Charitable trust in memory of Angela Cross/Campbell and we will liaise with the Trustees to ensure that her memory is honoured.

Thanks must go to Treasurer Debbie Seaton, who has registered us with HMRC, enabling us to submit our first Gift Aid claim. I would also like to encourage you if not already done, to set up your £10 annual membership as a standing order as it is easier to track.

Now back to our strategy. Given our aim of ensuring that our church building is accessible to all, we are delighted to tell you that the preliminary plans have now been drawn up for an accessible toilet and a tea station. Progress on this is subject to DAC approval, and public consultation, which will take place once approval has been obtained from the Diocese and the budget approved by the PCC.

Thanks to the generosity of our members and supporters, we are in a strong financial position to start to apply for grants for our project, which

is aptly named "Project Flushing Hill". As of 1 February 2024 we have £21 000 in our bank account. Our first invoice for Flushing Hill has come in for architect's fees, and I would like to assure you, as members, that we have good governance in place around the paying of invoices.

We have created a stakeholder map in order to manage concerns and expectations around the proposed improvements to the building and once all the approvals mentioned have been obtained, we will start the communication process.

So, exciting times ahead!

I would like to close by thanking Lynette for her support - she came into the role of Priest-in-Charge when The Friends was already up and running and steaming ahead with events, and has placed her trust in us to do the right thing.

To you, the members, and all the involvement from the community, we appreciate it and cannot thank you enough.

We hope to see you all at our information and consultation meetings over the coming months.

Thank you

Lynne Rutherford
Chairman