

DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 282790

ACCOUNTS

For the year 31.12 2024

DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 282790

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DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Trust Information

REGISTERED CHARITY NO:	282790
PRESIDENT:	H M Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset
VICE-PRESIDENTS:	The Lord Bishop of Salisbury The Bishop of Sherborne Sir Philip Williams Bt, DL G A L-F Pitt-Rivers OBE The Archdeacon of Dorset The Archdeacon of Sherborne Mrs V L-F Pitt-Rivers CVO The Viscount Hood R D Allan Major General J O C Alexander CB,OBE P F Moule
CHAIRMAN:	His Honour D E B Grant
TRUSTEES:	Mrs S-A Barrett Mrs S Bruce-Payne R B Blaber Dr T P P Connor Mrs L Jones His Honour D E B Grant J Turnbull S D Norman J A M A Selfe J T Smith Sir Andrew Graham Bt, CB, CBE T Sweet-Escott M W M Warren The Reverend Canon A J W Rowland T J Wickson J T Smith
HON SECRETARY:	J A M A Selfe
HON TREASURER:	R B Blaber
BANKERS:	Lloyds Bank PLC 1-2 High West St Dorchester Dorset DT1 1UG Central Finance Board CCLA Investments Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4ET
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	PKF Francis Clark Chartered Accountants Towngate House 2-8 Parkstone Road Poole Dorset BH15 2PW

DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31.12.2024

Structure, Governance and Management

The Dorset Historic Churches Trust is constituted by Deed of Trust dated 1 March 1960 as varied by a scheme of the Charity Commissioners dated 21 January 2004 and by a Deed of Amendment dated 30 May 2007, and is a registered charity, number 282790. Its registered address is Suite 1, Mey House, Bridport Road, Poundbury, Dorset, DT1 3QY. Our former President Mr Angus Campbell CVO retired as Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset in November 2024 and his successor Mr Dooley FRCOG LVO has assumed the role.

The power to appoint Trustees is in the Trustees themselves with reserve powers in the President. A list of the current Trustees is on page 1 together with those former Trustees who now hold the non-executive position of Vice-President.

Objectives and Activities

The object of the Trust is to assist financially with the preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification and reconstruction of churches in the administrative county of Dorset and of monuments, fittings, fixtures, stained glass, furniture, ornaments and chattels in such churches and of the churchyard belonging to any such churches. The Trustees decide as a matter of policy from time to time, published on their website, which of those things shall be aided by grants made by them.

The Trustees are the governing body (of at least 4 but no more than 20 people) who meet at least 3 times a year and are responsible for deciding which churches should receive grants and how much these should amount to. Applications for grants are handled in the first instance at Deanery Area level and each Deanery Area has a representative. The Deanery Area Representatives also help to distribute the paperwork essential to the administration of an annual Sponsored Ride + Stride. An administrator initiates and supervises this fund-raising event.

Preparation of accounts

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention modified to include the revaluation of investments and in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP).

Achievement and Performance

Grants totalling £130,550 have been approved for the repair of 26 churches. 20 grants totalling £113,722 have been paid in the year.

£41,000 being the 50% return from Ride + Stride has been paid back to parishes. Some churches and other donors elect to remit all 100% of their funds raised under Ride + Stride to the Trust.

The annual Ride + Stride Cycle Ride raised a total of £90,000 of which, on receipt and if requested, half, excluding Gift Aid is donated to the participating churches for their own direct use. A claim for Gift Aid recoverable from HM Revenue & Customs will be submitted in 2025 bringing the total raised above £98,000..

The Charity has no endowments or restricted funds and the whole income and capital of the Trust Fund is available to be applied by the Trustees in their absolute discretion on the charitable purposes of the Trust.

In accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act and Accounting Regulations the Investments of the Trust are shown in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at market value.

The Trustees have wide investment powers under the Deed. The majority of investment funds are held by CCLA Investment Management Ltd, One Angel Lane London EC4 R 3AB, in COIF and CBF Church of England funds. (Note 1)

The Trust's assets are invested in a diversified portfolio of funds and cash deposits.

Income

The Trust has been fortunate to have received some sizeable donations and legacies in 2024 totalling £50,000 and continues to achieve outstanding returns from the annual Ride + Stride Event. The sums raised continue to provide a significant contribution to the Trust's funds. We are extremely grateful to all the parishes putting so much effort into making this such a success. Investments managed by CCLA, were overall 4% up on 2023.

DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Trustees' Report on the year ended 31 December 2024 - continued

Expenditure

Grants approved are up from 2023 (£131,000 v £107,000) .

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' present intention to aim to maintain a reserve in the region of at least £300,000. The Trustees believe that, in general, the Trust's funds should be directed to awarding grants to fulfil its objectives, rather than being accumulated. To maintain some assurance of continued ability to make grant payments in the region of £125,000 per annum, with the potential to support unexpected and urgent major projects, the present level of reserves has been adopted but this is to be kept under review by the Trustees.

Risk Assessment

The Trustees are responsible for considering the risks which may impact upon the Charity. The position was again reviewed in detail by the Trustees in 2024. A risk register is in place and reviewed thrice yearly.

Public Benefit

The object of the Trust is set out above and a list of grants approved in the year as set out in the notes to the accounts.

As required by section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 the Trustees have considered the guidance published by the Charity Commission in respect of public benefit. They believe that the Charity's object, as set out above, falls within the definitions of charitable purposes in the Act and that the activities as set out above contribute to meeting that object.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity

Charity
and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by :

S D Norman
on behalf of the Trustees

Date: 7 March 2025

DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented within those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met: or
- 2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Adrian Way FCA FCCA (a director of)
PKF Francis Clark
Chartered Accountants
Towngate House
2-8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW
Date: 10 March 2025

DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
for the 12 months to 31st December 2024

	2024		2023	
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income				
Donations & Legacies	50,427		23,378	
Friends Subscriptions	8,480		7,735	
Parochial Church Councils	730		1,053	
		59,637		32,166
Activities For Generating Funds				
Ride & Stride Previous Year	1,223		580	
Ride & Stride Current Year	89,658		84,714	
		90,881		85,294
Gift Aid		15,553		13,742
Friends Events	5,095		3,955	
Friends Events Expenditure	-2,196		-1930	
		2,899		2,025
Sales of notecards		310		199
Investment Income		11,410		9,625
Deposit Account Interest		7,845		5,475
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£188,535		£148,526
PAYMENTS				
Ride & Stride				
50% Return To Churches	41,055		39,336	
Honoraria	1,800		1,800	
Brochures, Publicity & Friends Annual Events	1,888		2,096	
Printing and Postage	356		518	
Administration	-		-	
Bookkeeping	663		1,200	
		45,762		44,950
Grants				
Grants paid in the year		113,722		104,000
Support Costs				
Annual Report	1,359		3,465	
Postage, Stationery and Travel	528		670	
Marketing & Website	438		159	
Insurance	450		450	
Just Giving Fees	515		562	
Bank Charges	343		377	
Bookkeeping	942		635	
Meetings	795		326	
		5,370		6,644
Governance				
Independent Examiners		1,674		1,607
TOTAL PAYMENTS		£166,528		£157,201
Net movement in cash funds		22,007	-	8,675
Sale and Purchase of Investments		60,000	-	84,000
Cash funds last year end		211,217		303,892
CASH FUNDS THIS PERIOD END		£293,224		£211,217

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	As at 31 Dec 2024	As at 31 Dec 2023	
Cash Funds			
Lloyds Bank Main Account	48,217	15,528	
Lloyds Bank Ride & Stride	3,093	40,854	
CBF Deposit Account	241,814	129,735	
Nationwide Building Society	100	25,100	
		293,224	211,217
Investment Assets			
CBF Investment Fund	279,821	332,373	
COIF Charities Global Equities Fund	93,558	88,580	
Total Assets	£666,603	£632,170	
Liabilities			
Grants Awarded But Not Drawn	158,328	149,000	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES	£508,275	£483,170	

GRANTS

Church	Outstanding at 31.12.2023 £	Approved in period £	Paid in year £	Written back in period £	Outstanding £	Year Granted
Corsham St Mary	5,000				5,000	2019
West Orchard St Luke	1,500			1,500	-	2020
Gussage St Michael	12,000				12,000	2020
Wimborne St John	4,500				4,500	2020
Weymouth St Paul	7,000		7,000		-	2021
Affpuddle St Laurence	3,000			3,000	-	2021
Shapwick St Bartholomew	6,000		6,000		-	2021
Lychett Minster	7,000				7,000	2022
Okeford Fitzpaine St Andrew	6,000		6,000		-	2022
Radipole St Aldhem	5,000				5,000	2022
Pimperne St Peter	9,000				9,000	2022
Okeford Fitzpaine St Andrew	5,000		5,000		-	2022
Stock Gaylard St Barnabus	5,000		3,000	2,000	-	2022
Ashmore St Nicholas	12,000		12,000		-	2022
Iwerne Minster St Mary	6,000		6,000		-	2023
Wyke Regis All Saints	15,000		15,000		-	2023
Steeple St Michael	15,000				15,000	2023
Chaldon Herring St Nicholas	15,000		3,722		11,278	2023
Broadway St Nicolas	10,000				10,000	2023
Worth Matravers		5,000	5,000		-	2024
Church Knowle		12,000	12,000		-	2024
Owermoigne		8,000			8,000	2024
Beer Hacket		5,000	4,000	1000	-	2024
Okeford Fitzpaine		5,000			5,000	2024
Stoke Abbott		5,000	5,000		-	2024
Weymouth Holy Trinity		5,000	5,000		-	2024
Wraxall St Mary		2,500	2,500		-	2024
Alderholt St James		5,000			5,000	2024
Fontmell Magna St Andrew		6,000	6,000		-	2024
Ibberton St Eustace		5,000			5,000	2024
Kinson St Andrew		5,000			5,000	2024
Loders St Mary Magdelene		500	500		-	2024
Melbury Abbas St Thomas		6,000			6,000	2024
Radipole St Anne		1,000	1,000		-	2024
Salway Ash Holy Trinity		7,000			7,000	2024
Shillingstone Holy Rood		4,000	4,000		-	2024
Tolpuddle St John the Evangelist		6,000			6,000	2024
Wareham St Martin		5,000	5,000		-	2024
Chickerell Christian Worship		5,000			5,000	2024
Allington St Swithun		12,000			12,000	2024
Caundle Marsh St Peter & St Paul		750			750	2024
Cheselbourne St Martin		2,500			2,500	2024
Church Knowle St Peter		4,000			4,000	2024
Powerstock St Mary		3,300			3,300	2024
Sydling St Nicholas		5,000			5,000	2024
	£149,000	£130,550	£113,722	£7,500	£158,328	