

# **The Friends of Dorset Opera**

## **ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the year ended

30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Registered Charity No. 284784

# **The Friends of Dorset Opera**

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**

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The Trustees submit their report and the financial statements of the Friends of Dorset Opera for the year to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

### **STATUS AND OBJECTIVES**

The Friends of Dorset Opera ("the Friends") is a registered charity (No 284784) established by a Trust Deed dated 14<sup>th</sup> April 1982. Its objective is to raise funds by public subscription to be paid by way of annual grant to Dorset Opera Festival (registered charity No 1105318).

The Friends' registered address is Willow Barn, Stalbridge Weston, Sturminster Newton DT10 2LA.

### **REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES**

The Friends continued to support Dorset Opera Festival. The Trustees made a grant of £5,000 in support of the Festival's 2023 productions of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* and Massenet's *Le Roi de Lahore*. This grant was comparatively modest because first Dorset Opera Festival were not in need, and secondly the Trustees will seek to make as large a grant as possible in 2024, it being the Festival's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

### **PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Friends provide public benefit by supporting Dorset Opera Festival, which itself benefits the public.

### **INVESTMENT POWERS, POLICY AND PERFORMANCE**

The Trustees have the power to invest the money of the Charity not immediately required for its purposes in such investments or property as they think fit. Currently cash reserves are held in a low risk deposit account which gives immediate access to these funds.

### **RESERVES POLICY**

The charity works closely with Dorset Opera Festival and may, as required, build up a level of reserves to help meet any longer term productions undertaken by the Festival. A small level of cash reserves is normally maintained to cover unforeseen circumstances.

### **TRUSTEES**

The following Trustees have held office during the year:-

Mrs Rosamond Cassidy (Chairman)

Mr Peter Baillie

Mr Nicholas Block

Mrs Sarah Bignell (appointed 09/09/23)

Lady Garnier

Captain Timothy Lee RN (retired 09/09/23)

Miss Augusta Miller (retired 09/09/23)

The Trustees have the power to appoint new or additional trustees by resolution at a meeting of the Trustees.

By order of the Trustees



Rosamond Cassidy - Chairman of the Trustees

24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF DORSET OPERA

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of **The Friends of Dorset Opera** (the Trust) for the year ended 30 September 2023.

## **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 all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust 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 accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement 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 report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Henry Digby ACA (13<sup>th</sup> Baron Digby)**  
**Minterne House**  
**Minterne Magna**  
**Dorchester DT2 7AU**

Date 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

# The Friends of Dorset Opera

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
RECEIPTS		
Subscriptions and donations received, including those under Gift Aid and Deeds of Covenant	23,641	24,496
Income tax repayments in respect of subscriptions and donations	5,421	5,781
Deposit interest	<u>975</u>	<u>145</u>
	<u>30,037</u>	<u>30,422</u>
PAYMENTS		
2022 Grant to Dorset Opera Festival		35,000
Advance on 2023 Grant to Dorset Opera Festival		2,560
Balance of £5,000 grant to Dorset Opera Festival	2,440	
Administrative expenses	<u>4</u>	<u>2,006</u>
	<u>2,444</u>	<u>39,566</u>
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)	27,593	-9,144
Cash Funds held at previous year-end	<u>16,709</u>	<u>25,853</u>
Cash Funds held at this year-end	<u>44,302</u>	<u>16,709</u>

**Note:** A claim for recovery of £103 (2022 £140) of Income Tax in respect of subscriptions and donations paid between 6<sup>th</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 remained to be submitted.

# The Friends of Dorset Opera

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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	2023 £	2022 £
MONETARY ASSETS		
Cash at bank - NatWest Current Account	7,886	368
- COIF Deposit Account	<u>36,416</u>	<u>16,341</u>
	<u>44,302</u>	<u>16,709</u>

## ACCOUNTING POLICIES

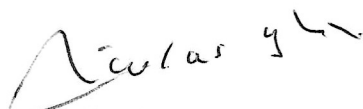
The Trustees have taken advantage of Section 42(3) of the Charities Act 1993 as amended by the Charities Acts 2006, which allows a small charity to present the accounts on a receipts and payments basis, together with a statement of assets and liabilities.

There was no significant income or expenditure outstanding at the end of the year.

Approved on behalf of the Trustees on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023



Rosamond Cassidy  
**Chairman of the Trustees**



Nicholas Block  
**Hon Treasurer**