

# THE CHESHIRE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASON'S FUND OF BENEVOLENCE

England & Wales · Charity number 512541

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Trust

**Registered** 1982-04-15

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

## Contact

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**Address** 2 Oakhill Close  
West Derby  
Liverpool  
L12 0JR

**Phone** 07479075464

**Email** [secretariat@cheshiremarkmasons.co.uk](mailto:secretariat@cheshiremarkmasons.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** FOR THE RELIEF OF SUCH POOR AND DISTRESSED BROTHER MARK MASTER MASONS OR THEIR POOR AND DISTRESSED WIDOWS AND CHILDREN OR TO OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUCH MASONIC CHARITIES OR TO OR FOR SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, SOCIETIES AND OBJECTS AS ARE PROPERLY CHARITABLE IN ENGLISH LAW.

**Activities:** To assist in the relief of distress of Cheshire Mark Master Masons and their dependents, to make grants to other Masonic Charities and non Masonic charities

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

## Geography

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- Cheshire East
- Cheshire West & Chester
- Tameside
- Trafford
- Wirral

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-10-31	£53,286	£24,436	-	-
2024-10-31	£45,743	£61,423	-	-
2023-10-31	£58,040	£52,579	-	-
2022-10-31	£44,114	£39,754	-	-
2021-10-31	£43,059	£28,800	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
ALBERT EDWARD CROSS		
Austin Westbury Bamber		2024-07-01
DAVID ALLDRED		2014-10-11
Richard Alexander		2023-01-12
Ronald Adrian Davies		2024-07-01

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number 512541 (England and Wales)

**FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE  
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**



# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	A E Cross (Chairman) D Alldred R Alexander A Bamber A Davies	
<b>Other officers</b>	G R Horstman D Walsh  J Miller  B Travers C E Lewis D L Berry MBE H Waddell S C Simpson	Provincial Grand Master Deputy Provincial Grand Master Assistant Provincial Grand Master Provincial Grand Registrar Secretary Treasurer Provincial Grand Almoner Grants Administrator
<b>Charity number (England and Wales)</b>	512541	
<b>Principal address</b>	2 Oakhill Close West Derby Liverpool L12 0JR	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Xeinadin North West Limited First Floor, The Foundation Herons Way Chester Business Park Chester Cheshire CH4 9GB	
<b>Bankers</b>	Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	

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# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

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# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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)".

### **Objectives and activities**

The object of the Charity is the relief of distressed Mark Master Masons and their dependents and such other Charitable Institutions, Societies and objects as the Trustees shall determine, and to distribute charitable grants to worthy causes in the Province of Cheshire.

The management of the Charity is under the control of the Trustees who are assisted by the committee members.

There have been no changes in the objectives and organisation of the Charity since the last report.

### *Public benefit*

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

### *Usage of traditional masonic fund raising activities.*

Significant activities include proceeds of raffles at formal dinners, a 1000+ club, fund raising dinners and lodge contributions.

### *Social investments*

Social investment is for the betterment of the people of Cheshire.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### *Grant making policy*

All grants are considered by the committee and approved or rejected based on compliance with the charity's objectives and available funds.

### *Volunteers*

All time given to the charity by individuals is on a volunteer basis.

### **Achievements and performance**

#### *Significant activities and achievements against objectives*

The trustees consider the performance of the Fund to be satisfactory enabling the objectives of the Charity to be met.

### **Financial review**

The charity continues to enjoy good support from the members of the Province of Cheshire Mark Masons and their friends, which along with the consistent income stream from the designated fund investments generated income during the year £53,286 (2024: £45,743). This has enabled the trustees to distribute £20,206 (2024: £57,172) to Masonic and non-Masonic causes during the year.

The trustees are satisfied with the charity's state of affairs and of its ability to continue to operate in its present capacity with total funds of £626,388 (2024: £564,059) at the balance sheet date.

### *Going concern*

The Trust is a going concern, does not have any borrowings and always maintains a liquid surplus.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025**

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### *Reserves policy*

The fund accumulated over many years from donations received and fund raising activities organised by the Mark Master Masons of Cheshire was established as a Designated Fund on 31 October 2005. This fund now provides income for distribution to worthy causes and individuals within the remit of the Trust Deed over the three-year rolling cycle. The Trustees have confirmed their commitment to maintain this Designated Fund into the future so as to safeguard the availability of funds for distribution.

There are no funds in deficit.

### *Principal funding sources*

The principle funding source is the members of Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire.

### *Investment policy*

The Charity's investments are managed by Investec under a full discretionary management agreement aimed at maximising the return on investments, whilst maintaining the capital value.

### *Major risks*

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The Charity is constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 12 March 1982 and constitutes an unincorporated charity. It is a Registered Charity (No: 512541).

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

A E Cross (Chairman)

D Alldred

R Alexander

A Bamber

A Davies

### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

New trustees are appointed by the board of trustees as arising. As all appointees are experienced in charitable work, no formal induction and training is deemed necessary.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

### *Organisational structure*

The organisation consists of trustees and committee members. Details of trustees and other officers are provided in the Legal and Administrative Information section.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



A E Cross (Chairman)

**Trustee**

1 April 2026

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire (the charity) for the year ended 31 October 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

#### Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



**Alastair J Jeffcott BA FCA**  
Xeinadin North West Limited

1 April 2026

First Floor, The Foundation  
Herons Way  
Chester Business Park  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH4 9GB

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	24,687	19,426
Other trading activities	3	57	256
Investments	4	28,542	26,061
<b>Total income</b>		<u>53,286</u>	<u>45,743</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	2,831	2,524
Charitable activities	6	21,605	58,899
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>24,436</u>	<u>61,423</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	<u>33,479</u>	<u>53,271</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		62,329	37,591
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Fund balances at 1 November 2024		<u>564,059</u>	<u>526,468</u>
<b>Fund balances at 31 October 2025</b>		<u>626,388</u>	<u>564,059</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2025

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		2025		2024	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Investments	13		573,815		540,371
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	250		350	
Cash at bank and in hand		53,173		24,128	
		<u>53,423</u>		<u>24,478</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	(850)		(790)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>52,573</u>		<u>23,688</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>626,388</u>		<u>564,059</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Unrestricted funds	16		626,388		564,059
			<u>626,388</u>		<u>564,059</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 1 April 2026

*A E Cross*

A E Cross (Chairman)

Trustee

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025*

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire is constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 12 March 1982 and constitutes an unincorporated registered charity.

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### *Charitable activities*

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### *Raising funds*

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### *Grant provisions*

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

#### 1.6 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

#### 1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

### 2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Donations and gifts	24,687	19,426

### 3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Other income	57	256

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

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### 4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Income from listed investments	28,542	26,061

### 5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	2,831	2,524

### 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Masonic benevolence 2025 £	Masonic benevolence 2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Donations	20,206	57,172
Other costs	316	721
	20,522	57,893
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)</b>		
Support	1,083	1,006
	21,605	58,899
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	21,605	58,899

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

### 7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Administration costs	100	-
Bank charges	-	20
Subscriptions	-	179
Room hire	45	49
Postage and stationery	278	128
Governance costs	660	630
	<u>1,083</u>	<u>1,006</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Masonic benevolence	<u>1,083</u>	<u>1,006</u>

### 8 Net movement in funds

	2025 £	2024 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	660	630
	<u>660</u>	<u>630</u>

### 9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

### 10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

### 11 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	<u>33,479</u>	<u>53,271</u>

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

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#### 12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

#### 13 Fixed asset investments

	<b>Listed investments £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 November 2024	540,371
Additions	102,426
Valuation changes	33,479
Disposals	(102,461)
	<hr/>
At 31 October 2025	573,815
	<hr/>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 October 2025	573,815
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 October 2024	540,371
	<hr/> <hr/>

#### Fixed asset investments revalued

The historic cost of listed fixed asset investments was £507,936 (2024: 505,482).

#### 14 Debtors

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Other debtors	250	350
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

#### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accruals and deferred income	850	790
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

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### 16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	<b>At 1 November 2024</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>Gains and losses</b>	<b>At 31 October 2025</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General funds	564,059	53,286	(24,436)	33,479	626,388
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Previous year:</b>	<b>At 1 November 2023</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources expended</b>	<b>Gains and losses</b>	<b>At 31 October 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
General funds	526,468	45,743	(61,423)	53,271	564,059
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

### 17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number 512541 (England and Wales)

**FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE  
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024**



# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	A E Cross (Chairman) D Alldred R Alexander A Bamber A Davies	(Appointed 17 April 2024)
<b>Other officers</b>	G R Horstman D Walsh  J Miller  B Travers C E Lewis D L Berry MBE H Waddell S C Simpson	Provincial Grand Master Deputy Provincial Grand Master Master Assistant Provincial Grand Master Provincial Grand Registrar Secretary Treasurer Provincial Grand Almoner Grants Administrator
<b>Charity number (England and Wales)</b>	512541	
<b>Principal address</b>	2 Oakhill Close West Derby Liverpool L12 0JR	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	Xeinadin North West Limited 2 Hilliards Court Chester Business Park Chester Cheshire CH4 9QP	
<b>Bankers</b>	Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT	

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# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

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# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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)".

#### **Objectives and activities**

The object of the Charity is the relief of distressed Mark Master Masons and their dependents and such other Charitable Institutions, Societies and objects as the Trustees shall determine, and to distribute charitable grants to worthy causes in the Province of Cheshire.

The management of the Charity is under the control of the Trustees who are assisted by the committee members.

There have been no changes in the objectives and organisation of the Charity since the last report.

#### *Public benefit*

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

#### *Usage of traditional masonic fund raising activities.*

Significant activities include proceeds of raffles at formal dinners, a 1000+ club, fund raising dinners and lodge contributions.

#### *Social investments*

Social investment is for the betterment of the people of Cheshire.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### *Grant making policy*

All grants are considered by the committee and approved or rejected based on compliance with the charity's objectives and available funds.

#### *Volunteers*

All time given to the charity by individuals is on a volunteer basis.

#### **Achievements and performance**

##### *Significant activities and achievements against objectives*

The trustees consider the performance of the Fund to be satisfactory enabling the objectives of the Charity to be met.

#### **Financial review**

The charity continues to enjoy good support from the members of the Province of Cheshire Mark Masons and their friends, which along with the consistent income stream from the designated fund investments generated income during the year £45,743 (2023: £58,040). This has enabled the trustees to distribute £57,172 (2023: £43,000) to Masonic and non-Masonic causes during the year.

The trustees are satisfied with the charity's state of affairs and of its ability to continue to operate in its present capacity with total funds of £564,059 (2023: £526,468) at the balance sheet date.

#### *Going concern*

The Trust is a going concern, does not have any borrowings and always maintains a liquid surplus.

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# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024**

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### *Reserves policy*

The fund accumulated over many years from donations received and fund raising activities organised by the Mark Master Masons of Cheshire was established as a Designated Fund on 31 October 2005. This fund now provides income for distribution to worthy causes and individuals within the remit of the Trust Deed over the three-year rolling cycle. The Trustees have confirmed their commitment to maintain this Designated Fund into the future so as to safeguard the availability of funds for distribution.

There are no funds in deficit.

### *Principal funding sources*

The principle funding source is the members of Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire.

### *Investment policy*

The Charity's investments are managed by Investec under a full discretionary management agreement aimed at maximising the return on investments, whilst maintaining the capital value.

### *Major risks*

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The Charity is constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 12 March 1982 and constitutes an unincorporated charity. It is a Registered Charity (No: 512541).

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

A E Cross (Chairman)

D R Hinde

(Resigned 17 January 2024)

D Alldred

R Alexander

A Bamber

A Davies

(Appointed 17 April 2024)

### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

New trustees are appointed by the board of trustees as arising. As all appointees are experienced in charitable work, no formal induction and training is deemed necessary.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

### *Organisational structure*

The organisation consists of trustees and committee members. Details of trustees and other officers are provided in the Legal and Administrative Information section.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



A E Cross (Chairman)

**Trustee**

11 April 2025

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire (the charity) for the year ended 31 October 2024.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



**Alastair J Jeffcott BA FCA**  
Xeinadin North West Limited

11 April 2025

2 Hilliards Court  
Chester Business Park  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH4 9QP

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	19,426	32,690
Other trading activities	3	256	29
Investments	4	26,061	25,321
<b>Total income</b>		<u>45,743</u>	<u>58,040</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	2,524	2,502
Charitable activities	6	58,899	50,077
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>61,423</u>	<u>52,579</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	<u>53,271</u>	<u>(19,491)</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds</b>		<u>37,591</u>	<u>(14,030)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Fund balances at 1 November 2023		<u>526,468</u>	<u>540,498</u>
<b>Fund balances at 31 October 2024</b>		<u>564,059</u>	<u>526,468</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Investments	13		540,371		491,839
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	350		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		24,128		38,349	
		<u>24,478</u>		<u>38,349</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	(790)		(3,720)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>23,688</u>		<u>34,629</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>564,059</u>		<u>526,468</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Unrestricted funds	16		564,059		526,468
			<u>564,059</u>		<u>526,468</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 11 April 2025

*A E Cross*

A E Cross (Chairman)  
Trustee

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire is constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 12 March 1982 and constitutes an unincorporated registered charity.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### *Charitable activities*

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### *Raising funds*

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### *Grant provisions*

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

#### 1.6 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

#### 1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

### 2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	19,426	2,690
Legacies	-	30,000
	<u>19,426</u>	<u>32,690</u>

### 3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Other income	<u>256</u>	<u>29</u>

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

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### 4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Income from listed investments	26,061	25,321

### 5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	2,524	2,502

### 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Masonic benevolence 2024 £	Masonic benevolence 2023 £
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Donations	57,172	43,000
Other costs	721	3,960
	<u>57,893</u>	<u>46,960</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)</b>		
Support	1,006	3,117
	<u>58,899</u>	<u>50,077</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	<u>58,899</u>	<u>50,077</u>

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

### 7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Administration costs	-	1,878
Bank charges	20	93
Subscriptions	179	216
Room hire	49	135
Postage and stationery	128	237
Governance costs	630	558
	<u>1,006</u>	<u>3,117</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Masonic benevolence	<u>1,006</u>	<u>3,117</u>

### 8 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	<u>630</u>	<u>558</u>

### 9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

### 10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

### 11 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	<u>53,271</u>	<u>(19,491)</u>

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

#### 12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

#### 13 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 November 2023	491,839
Additions	55,669
Valuation changes	53,040
Reclassification	(4,034)
Disposals	(56,143)
	<hr/>
At 31 October 2024	540,371
	<hr/>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 October 2024	540,371
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 October 2023	491,839
	<hr/> <hr/>

#### 14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other debtors	350	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

#### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	790	3,720
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

#### 16 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 November 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	At 31 October 2024 £
General funds	526,468	45,743	(61,423)	53,271	564,059
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

### 16 Unrestricted funds

(Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 November 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 31 October 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	540,498	58,040	(52,579)	(19,491)	526,468

### 17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).



**THE CHESHIRE PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE OF MARK MASTER MASON'S FUND OF BENEVOLENCE**

England & Wales - Charity number 512541

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# Accounts

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Charity registration number 512541

**FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE  
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023**

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Trustees</b>	A E Cross (Chairman) W J Astbury D R Hinde D Aldred R Alexander	(Appointed 12 January 2023)
<b>Other officers</b>	G R Horstman, Provincial Grand Master A W Bamber, Committee Member K J Gray, Committee Member K Mayer, Committee Member M A Jones, Secretary (to July 2023) C E Lewis, Secretary (from July 2023) R G Hewitt, Treasurer (to March 2023) D L Berry MBE, Treasurer (from March 2023) S C Simpson, Committee Member B W Mayhou, Deputy Secretary D N Wild, Committee Member	
<b>Charity number</b>	512541	
<b>Registered office and principal address</b>	The Provincial Office 46 Northbrook Road Wallasey CH44 9AP	
<b>Independent examiner</b>	McLintocks (NW) Limited 2 Hilliards Court Chester Business Park Chester Cheshire CH4 9PX	
<b>Bankers</b>	HSBC Macclesfield Branch 14 Castle Street Macclesfield Cheshire SK11 6AF	Co-operative Bank PO Box 250 Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

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# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

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# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023**

---

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the trust's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 1 January 2019).

### **Objectives and activities**

The object of the Charity is the relief of distressed Mark Master Masons and their dependents and such other Charitable Institutions, Societies and objects as the Trustees shall determine, and to distribute charitable grants to worthy causes in the Province of Cheshire.

The management of the Charity is under the control of the Trustees who are assisted by the committee members.

There have been no changes in the objectives and organisation of the Charity since the last report.

### *Usage of traditional masonic fund raising activities.*

Significant activities include proceeds of raffles at formal dinners, a 1000+ club, fund raising dinners and lodge contributions.

### *Public benefit*

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the trust should undertake.

### *Social investments*

Social investment is for the betterment of the people of Cheshire.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### *Grant making policy*

All grants are considered by the committee and approved or rejected based on compliance with the charity's objectives and available funds.

### *Volunteers*

All time given to the charity by individuals is on a volunteer basis.

### **Achievements and performance**

#### *Significant activities and achievements against objectives*

The trustees consider the performance of the Fund to be satisfactory enabling the objectives of the Charity to be met.

### **Financial review**

The charity continues to enjoy good support from the members of the Province of Cheshire Mark Masons and their friends, which along with the consistent income stream from the designated fund investments generated income during the year £58,040 (2022: £44,114). This has enabled the trustees to distribute £43,000 (2022: £35,000) to Masonic and non-Masonic causes during the year.

The trustees are satisfied with the charity's state of affairs and of its ability to continue to operate in its present capacity.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

---

#### *Going concern*

The Trust is a going concern, does not have any borrowings and always maintains a liquid surplus.

#### *Reserves policy*

The fund accumulated over many years from donations received and fund raising activities organised by the Mark Master Masons of Cheshire was established as a Designated Fund on 31 October 2005. This fund now provides income for distribution to worthy causes and individuals within the remit of the Trust Deed over the three-year rolling cycle. The Trustees have confirmed their commitment to maintain this Designated Fund into the future so as to safeguard the availability of funds for distribution.

#### *Funds in deficit*

There are no funds in deficit.

#### *Principal funding sources*

The principle funding source is the members of Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire.

#### *Investment policy*

The Charity's investments are managed by Investec under a full discretionary management agreement aimed at maximising the return on investments, whilst maintaining the capital value.

#### *Major risks*

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The Charity is constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 12 March 1982 and constitutes an unincorporated charity. It is a Registered Charity (No: 512541).

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

A E Cross (Chairman)

W J Astbury

D R Hinde

D Alldred

R Alexander

(Appointed 12 January 2023)

J R T Cavanagh

(Retired 18 March 2023)

#### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

New trustees are appointed by the board of trustees as arising. As all appointees are experienced in charitable work, no formal induction and training is deemed necessary.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

#### *Organisational structure*

The organisation consists of trustees and committee members. Details of trustees and other officers are provided in the Legal and Administrative Information section.

**FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023**

---

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

*A E Cross*

A E Cross (Chairman)  
Trustee

22 March 2024

# **FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE**

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023***

---

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 trust and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the trust for that year.

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; and
- 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 sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire (the trust) for the year ended 31 October 2023.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the trust you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the trust's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

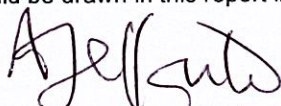
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



**Alastair J Jeffcott BA FCA**  
McLintocks (NW) Limited

2 Hilliards Court  
Chester Business Park  
Chester  
Cheshire  
CH4 9PX

Dated: 22 March 2024

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	2	32,690	20,000
Other trading activities	3	29	2,820
Investments	4	25,321	21,291
<b>Total income</b>		<u>58,040</u>	<u>44,111</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	2,502	2,631
Charitable activities	6	50,077	37,120
Total expenditure		<u>52,579</u>	<u>39,751</u>
Net losses on investments	10	(19,491)	(55,084)
<b>Net expenditure and movement in funds</b>		<u>(14,030)</u>	<u>(50,724)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>			
Fund balances at 1 November 2022		540,498	591,222
<b>Fund balances at 31 October 2023</b>		<u>526,468</u>	<u>540,498</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Investments	12		491,839		511,923
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand		38,349		31,733	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	13		3,720		3,158
Net current assets			<u>34,629</u>		<u>28,575</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>526,468</u>		<u>540,498</u>
<b>The funds of the trust</b>					
Unrestricted funds			<u>526,468</u>		<u>540,498</u>
			<u>526,468</u>		<u>540,498</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 22 March 2024.

*A E Cross*

A E Cross (Chairman)  
Trustee

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire is constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 12 March 1982 and constitutes an unincorporated registered charity.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the trust's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 1 January 2019). The trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trust has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the trust. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the trust.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the trust is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the trust has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the trust has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

#### *Charitable activities*

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

#### *Raising funds*

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### *Grant provisions*

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

#### 1.6 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

#### 1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### *Basic financial assets*

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the trust's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

### 2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Legacy income	30,000	20,000
Other donations	2,690	-
	<u>32,690</u>	<u>20,000</u>

### 3 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Trading activity income: other	29	2,820
	<u>29</u>	<u>2,820</u>

### 4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Income from listed investments	25,321	21,291
	<u>25,321</u>	<u>21,291</u>

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

### 5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		
Other fundraising costs	2,502	2,631

### 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Masonic benevolence 2023 £	Masonic benevolence 2022 £
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Donations	43,000	35,000
Other costs	3,960	-
	<u>46,960</u>	<u>35,000</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)</b>		
Support	3,117	2,120
	<u>50,077</u>	<u>37,120</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	<u>50,077</u>	<u>37,120</u>

### 7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Administration costs	1,878	1,312
Bank charges	93	59
Subscriptions	216	162
Room hire	135	-
Postage and stationery	237	37
Governance - Independent Examiner's fees	558	550
	<u>3,117</u>	<u>2,120</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>		
Masonic benevolence	<u>3,117</u>	<u>2,120</u>

### 8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration, benefits or had expenses reimbursed from the trust during the year.

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

### 9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Total	-	-

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000. Key management personnel were not remunerated.

### 10 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	(19,491)	(55,084)

### 11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

### 12 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 November 2022	511,923
Additions	45,099
Valuation changes	(16,642)
Disposals	(48,541)
At 31 October 2023	491,839
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 October 2023	491,839
At 31 October 2022	511,923

### 13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	3,720	3,158

# FUND OF BENEVOLENCE OF MARK MASTER MASONS OF CHESHIRE

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

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#### 14 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 November 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 31 October 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	540,498	58,040	(52,579)	(19,491)	526,468
	<u>540,498</u>	<u>58,040</u>	<u>(52,579)</u>	<u>(19,491)</u>	<u>526,468</u>
Previous year:	At 1 November 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 31 October 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	591,222	44,111	(39,751)	(55,084)	540,498
	<u>591,222</u>	<u>44,111</u>	<u>(39,751)</u>	<u>(55,084)</u>	<u>540,498</u>

#### 15 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

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# Accounts

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Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of  
Cheshire  
Annual Report and Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 October 2022

# **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

## **Contents**

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Statement of Financial Activities	9
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# **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

## **Trustees' Report**

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 October 2022

### **Objectives and activities**

#### ***Objects and aims***

The object of the Charity is the relief of distressed Mark Master Masons and their dependents and such other Charitable Institutions, Societies and objects as the Trustees shall determine.

The management of the Charity is under the control of the Trustees who are assisted by the committee members.

There have been no changes in the objectives and organisation of the Charity since the last report.

To distribute charitable grants to worthy causes in the Province of Cheshire.

#### ***Objectives, strategies and activities***

##### ***Yearly Objective***

To fulfill the objects and aims of the charity.

Usage of traditional masonic fund raising activities.

Significant activities include proceeds of raffles at formal dinners, a 1000+ club, fund raising dinners and lodge contributions.

#### ***Public benefit***

Support of worthy causes such as children's hospices and the Samaritans.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### ***Social investment policies***

The betterment of the people of Cheshire.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

#### ***Grant making policies***

All grants are considered by the committee and approved or rejected based on compliance with the charity's objectives and available funds.

#### ***Use of volunteers***

The charity does not use volunteers.

# **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Financial review**

The charity continues to enjoy good support from the members of the Province of Cheshire Mark Masons and their friends, which along with the consistent income stream from the designated fund investments generated income during the year £44,114 (2021 - £43,059). This has enabled the trust to distribute £35,000 (2021 - £24,000) to Masonic and non-Masonic causes during the year.

The trustees are satisfied with the charity's state of affairs and of its ability to continue to operate in its present capacity.

### ***Policy on reserves***

The fund accumulated over many years from donations received and fund raising activities organised by the Mark Master Masons of Cheshire was established as a Designated Fund on 31 October 2005. This fund now provides income for distribution to worthy causes and individuals within the remit of the Trust Deed over the three-year rolling cycle. The Trustees have confirmed their commitment to maintain this Designated Fund into the future so as to safeguard the availability of funds for distribution.

### ***Funds in deficit***

There are no funds in deficit.

### ***Principal funding sources***

The principle funding source is the members of Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire.

### ***Investment policy and objectives***

The Charity's investments are managed by Investec under a full discretionary management agreement aimed at maximising the return on investments, whilst maintaining the capital value.

### **Going concern**

The Trust is a going concern, does not have any borrowings and always maintains a liquid surplus.

### **Structure, governance and management**

#### ***Nature of governing document***

The Charity is constituted under a Deed of Trust dated 12th March 1982 and constitutes an unincorporated charity. It is a Registered Charity (No: 512541).

#### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

New trustees are appointed by the board of trustees as arising.

#### ***Induction and training of trustees***

As all appointees are experienced in charitable work, no formal induction and training is deemed necessary.

# **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

## **Trustees' Report**

### ***Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration***

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

### ***Organisational structure***

The organisation consists of trustees and committee members.

The Trustees during the year were:

A E Cross- Chairman

W J Astbury

J R T Cavanagh

D Alldred

D R Hinde.

Committee members:

The Committee Members during the year were:-

R A McMillan (to March 2022)

D R Sellers (to March 2022)

G R Horstmann (from March 2022)

A W Bamber

K J Gray

D N Wild

K Mayer

S C Simpson

C Hambleton – Secretary (to March 2022)

M A Jones – Secretary (from March 2022)

D R Meacher-Jones - Treasurer (to March 2022)

R G Hewitt – Treasurer (from March 2022)

B W Mayoh – Deputy Secretary

# **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

## **Trustees' Report**

### **Relationships with related parties**

#### **Cheshire Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons**

The charity receives donations and the proceeds of fund raising activities from members of the Provincial Grand Lodge and all members are also members of Provincial Grand Lodge.

#### ***Major risks and management of those risks***

##### ***Major Risk***

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

#### **Trustees**

W J Astbury

J R T Cavanagh

A E Cross

D R Hinde

D Alldred

#### **Other Officers**

A W Bamber, Committee Member

K J Gray, Committee Member

K Mayer, Committee Member

C Hambleton, Secretary (to March 2022)

M A Jones, Secretary (from March 2022)

D R Sellers, Committee Member (to March 2022)

G R Horstmann, Committee Member (from March 2022)

D R Meacher-Jones, Treasurer (to March 2022)

R G Hewitt, Treasurer (from March 2022)

R A McMillan, Committee Member (to March 2022)

S C Simpson, Committee Member

B W Mayhou, Deputy Secretary

D N Wild, Committee Member

#### **Principal Office**

The Provincial Office

36A Chester Road

Sandycroft, Deeside CH5 2QN

**Charity Registration Number**

512541

**Bankers**

HSBC  
Macclesfield Branch  
14 Castle Street  
Macclesfield  
Cheshire  
SK11 6AF

**Independent Examiner**

A J Jeffcott BA FCA  
McLintocks (NW) Limited  
Accountants  
2 Hilliards Court  
Chester Business Park  
Chester  
CH4 9PX

**Financial instruments*****Objectives and policies***

The Charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

***Cash flow risk***

The Charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The Charity uses foreign exchange forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts to hedge these exposures.

Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

***Credit risk***

The Charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The Charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies.

The Charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

***Liquidity risk***

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the Charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.

Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

**Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others**

None

**Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

**Trustees' Report**

**Reappointment of examiner**

A J Jeffcott BA FCA of McLintocks (NW) Limited has signified his willingness to accept re-appointment as Independent Examiner.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the Charity on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A E Cross

A E Cross  
Trustee

## Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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 applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the Charity on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A E Cross  
A E Cross  
Trustee

## Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 October 2022 which are set out on pages 9 to 21.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity'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 can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

  
.....  
A J Jeffcott BA FCA

McLintocks (NW) Limited  
Accountants  
2 Hilliards Court  
Chester Business Park  
Chester  
CH4 9PX

Date:

## Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 October 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies		20,000	20,000
Other trading activities		2,820	2,820
Investment income	4	21,294	21,294
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>44,114</b>	<b>44,114</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	2,634	2,634
Charitable activities	5	35,000	35,000
Other expenditure	6&7	2,120	2,120
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>39,754</b>	<b>39,754</b>
Net gains / (losses) on investments	10	(55,084)	(55,084)
Net movement in funds		(50,724)	(50,724)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		591,222	591,222
Total carried forward	12	540,498	540,498

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies		25,021	25,021
Other trading activities		-	-
Investment income	4	18,038	18,038
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>43,059</b>	<b>43,059</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	2,466	2,466
Charitable activities	5	24,000	24,000
Other expenditure	6&7	2,334	2,334
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>28,800</b>	<b>28,800</b>
Net gains / (losses) on investments	10	78,636	78,636
Net movement of funds		92,895	92,895
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		498,327	498,327
Total funds carried forward	12	591,222	591,222

All of the Charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 12.

**(Registration number: 512541)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments	10	511,923	544,641
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		31,733	50,877
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>(3,158)</u>	<u>(4,296)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>28,575</u>	<u>46,581</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>540,498</u>	<u>591,222</u>
<b>Funds of the Charity:</b>			
<b>Income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>540,498</u>	<u>591,222</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	12	<u>540,498</u>	<u>591,222</u>

The financial statements on pages 9 to 21 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

..... A E Cross  
A E Cross  
Trustee

# Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

#### Basis of preparation

Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

#### Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The Charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

#### Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### Income and endowments

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

#### *Donations and legacies*

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

#### *Grants receivable*

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

# **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022**

### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

### **Raising funds**

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

### **Charitable activities**

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

### **Grant provisions**

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

### **Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the Charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and Trustee's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

### **Taxation**

The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

### **Fixed asset investments**

Fixed asset investments, other than programme related investments, are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are charged or credited to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period of disposal.

Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the market value at the year end.

### **Fund structure**

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds are resources set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

## **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022**

#### **Financial instruments**

##### ***Classification***

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

##### ***Recognition and measurement***

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the Charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the Charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the Charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

## Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022

#### *Debt instruments*

Debt instruments which meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method:

(a) The contractual return to the holder is (i) a fixed amount; (ii) a positive fixed rate or a positive variable rate; or (iii) a combination of a positive or a negative fixed rate and a positive variable rate.

(b) The contract may provide for repayments of the principal or the return to the holder (but not both) to be linked to a single relevant observable index of general price inflation of the currency in which the debt instrument is denominated, provided such links are not leveraged.

(c) The contract may provide for a determinable variation of the return to the holder during the life of the instrument, provided that (i) the new rate satisfies condition (a) and the variation is not contingent on future events other than (1) a change of a contractual variable rate; (2) to protect the holder against credit deterioration of the issuer; (3) changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law; or (ii) the new rate is a market rate of interest and satisfies condition (a).

(d) There is no contractual provision that could, by its terms, result in the holder losing the principal amount or any interest attributable to the current period or prior periods.

(e) Contractual provisions that permit the issuer to prepay a debt instrument or permit the holder to put it back to the issuer before maturity are not contingent on future events, other than to protect the holder against the credit deterioration of the issuer or a change in control of the issuer, or to protect the holder or issuer against changes in levies applied by a central bank or arising from changes in relevant taxation or law.

(f) Contractual provisions may permit the extension of the term of the debt instrument, provided that the return to the holder and any other contractual provisions applicable during the extended term satisfy the conditions of paragraphs (a) to (c).

Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year on initial recognition and which meet the above conditions are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

With the exception of some hedging instruments, other debt instruments not meeting these conditions are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Commitments to make and receive loans which meet the conditions mentioned above are measured at cost (which may be nil) less impairment.

#### *Investments*

Investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary or preference shares (where shares are publicly traded or their fair value is reliably measurable) are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in subsidiaries and associates are measured at cost less impairment. For investments in subsidiaries acquired for consideration including the issue of shares qualifying for merger relief, cost is measured by reference to the nominal value of the shares issued plus fair value of other consideration. Any premium is ignored.

## **Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022**

#### ***Derivative financial instruments***

The Charity uses derivative financial instruments to reduce exposure to foreign exchange risk and interest rate movements. The Charity does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value at the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in statement of financial activities immediately unless the derivative is designated and effective as a hedging instrument, in which event the timing of the recognition in statement of financial activities depends on the nature of the hedge relationship.

#### ***Fair value measurement***

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

## Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022

#### 2 Income from donations and legacies

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations and legacies;			
Donations from individuals	-	-	25,021
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants from other charities	20,000	20,000	-
	20,000	20,000	25,021

#### 3 Income from other trading activities

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Events income;			
Other events income	2,820	2,820	-
	2,820	2,820	-

#### 4 Investment income

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Other income from fixed asset investments	21,294	21,294	18,038
	21,294	21,294	18,038

#### 5 Expenditure on raising funds

##### a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>Total 2021</b>
	<b>General</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations	35,000	35,000	24,000
	35,000	35,000	24,000

## Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022

#### b) Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Other investment management costs; Amounts payable to investment managers	2,634	2,634	2,466
	<u>2,634</u>	<u>2,634</u>	<u>2,466</u>

#### 6 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Other resources expended	1,640	1,640	1,914
	<u>1,640</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>1,914</u>

#### 7 Governance costs

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Independent Examiner's remuneration	480	420
	<u>480</u>	<u>420</u>

#### 8 Trustees remuneration

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022

#### 9 Taxation

The Charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 10 Fixed asset investments

	2022 £	2021 £
Other investments	511,923	544,641
 <b>Other investments</b>		
	Listed investments £	Total £
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>		
At 1 November 2021	544,641	544,641
Revaluation	(55,084)	(55,084)
Additions/Disposals	22,366	22,366
	511,923	511,923
 <b>At 31 October 2022</b>	 511,923	 511,923
 <b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 October 2022	511,923	511,923
At 31 October 2021	544,641	544,641

#### 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals and other creditors	3,158	4,296

#### 12 Funds

	Balance at 1 November 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Valuation Movement £	Balance at 31 October 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Unrestricted general funds	591,222	44,114	(39,754)	(55,084)	540,498
<b>Total funds</b>	591,222	44,114	(39,754)	(55,084)	540,498

**Fund of Benevolence of Mark Master Masons of Cheshire**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 October 2022**

**13 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	
	<b>General funds</b>	<b>Total funds</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fixed asset investments	511,923	511,923
Current assets	31,733	31,733
Current liabilities	(3,158)	(3,028)
Total net assets	<u>540,498</u>	<u>540,628</u>