

**Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

**Annual Report and Accounts**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**Charity No: 1107992**

# **Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

## **Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023**

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**Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

**General Information  
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**Registered Charity Number:** 1107992

**Registered Address:** 22 Holway Avenue  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 3AR

**Trustees:** D W Argile  
P Tighe Chairman  
Mrs G Braycotton  
Mr P Hanratty  
Mr V Kearney

**Independent Examiner:** Mr R Zelazik BA(Hons)  
Penlan Villa  
Holway Hill  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 2HB

**Bankers:** Santander UK plc  
Bootle  
Merseyside  
L30 4GB

## **Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

### **Annual Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31 March 2023**

Registered Charity Number: 1107992

The Charity is governed by its Trust Deed.

Registered Address: 22 Holway Avenue  
Taunton  
Somerset  
TA1 3AR

Trustees:	D W Argile	
	P Tighe	Chairman
	Mrs G Braycotton	
	Mr P Hanratty	
	Mr V Kearney	

#### **Basis of Preparation**

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis and in accordance with the statutory requirements, the Charity's Trust Deed and the Charities Act 2011.

#### **Aims, Objectives and Public Benefit**

The objects of the Charity are the preservation, repair, restoration, maintenance and improvement (either by means of alteration or by means of addition for the public benefit) of the fabric of St George's RC Church, Taunton, the old pre-school nursery, the old school, the rectory and parish centre and the contents, major fittings and ornaments, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the organ chimes, statues, monuments, brasses, vestments and grounds and ancillary charitable purposes.

The Friends of St Georges RC Church – Taunton has as its main aim and purpose the raising of funds to support the parish priest in his work, and the Roman Catholic and wider community of Taunton by maintaining and improving St Georges Church, the old pre-school nursery, the old school, the rectory, parish centre and grounds.

The trustees in considering these aims and purposes have considered the Commission's guidance on Public benefit and the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

The Victorian Church as a Grade II\* listed building is important as the main centre of Roman Catholic worship in Taunton and surrounding area, as well as being part of the cultural and historic heritage of the town.

## **Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

### **Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023**

#### **Achievements and Performance (Continued)**

As well as being a place of worship for the Roman Catholic community, the church hosts ecumenical events from time to time; and is used as a venue for concerts. The church is kept open almost all day every day for private worship or for any member of the public for private prayer or just as a place for quiet, intimate and peaceful reflection.

In addition to use by the parish, the parish centre and ancillary buildings are available for hire and are used by many local organisations, not linked to the church, including The Women's Institute, the NHS and various clubs.

#### **Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Charities Act 1993 requires the Trustees to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They 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.

#### **Review of the Year**

Friends of St George's Trust was started in 2005 as a charity for the preservation, repair, restoration maintenance and improvement of the fabric of St George's Church and associated property. Since then, through the generosity of parishioners, the trustees have raised funds to install the window at the north end of the church, the cleaning and repair of the stained glass window above the altar and fund many other repairs and improvements.

During the year 2022/23 the Trust was asked by the parish priest for funding to cover the cost of replacement and restoration of certain brasses. The Trust was also asked to assist with the funding of the refurbishment and upgrading of the Church lighting system (£26,926) and the removal of asbestos as revealed by the quinquennial survey carried out in the year (£39,000). The last two items were not paid out during the year, however, a transfer to restricted funds has been made to reflect the commitment.

The Trust is supported by parishioners who contribute by standing order or by joining the 200 Club. The Trust is also supported by both legacies and donations at funerals.

On behalf of the Parish Congregation and the Parish Priest, may I thank all the parishioners who contribute to this worthy charity. Personally, I would like also to thank my fellow trustees for their time and skills in maintaining the Trust.

**Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

**Annual Report of the Trustees  
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**Reserves Policy**

The Trustees recognise the requirement to establish a reserves policy. Due to the age and fabric of the church and buildings to which the charity has a responsibility, the trustees feel it is prudent to maximise the levels held in general reserves to cover unexpected and unscheduled expenditure on repairs. Any major planned project will have a specific restricted fund set up in order to ring fence funds for that activity.



.....  
Paul Tighe  
Chairman of Trustees  
[Paultighe55@yahoo.com](mailto:Paultighe55@yahoo.com)  
01823 271049

Date 28.09.2023

## **Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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

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

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

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



Robert Zelazik BA(Hons)  
Penlan Villa  
Holway Hill  
Taunton  
TA1 2HB

Date 10.10.2023

# **Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

## **Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Receipts</b>				
Donations and legacies	11712	-	11712	14482
Regular monthly donations	4744	-	4744	4924
200 Club subscriptions	912	-	912	780
Interest	1754	-	1754	104
HM Revenue & Customs repayment – Gift Aid	1122	-	1122	1395
Loan repayments received - Capital	5582	-	5582	8981
- Interest	1465	-	1465	1005
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Total Receipts</b>	27291	-	27291	31671
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Payments</b>				
Charitable activities				
- Church lighting repairs and materials deposit for relighting upgrade	5904	-	5904	-
- Church brasses and restorations	1669	-	1669	-
- 200 Club prize money	370	-	370	420
Bank charges	2	-	2	7
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Total Payments</b>	7945	-	7945	427
	_____	_____	_____	_____
Surplus/(Deficit) of Receipts over Payments	19346	-	19346	31244
Cash Funds at Previous Year End	53417	65926	119343	88099
	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Cash Funds at 31 March 2022</b>	72763	65926	138689	119343
	=====	=====	=====	=====



**Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities  
at 31 March 2023**

	<b>Unrestricted 2023 £</b>	<b>Restricted 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Investments				
Loan to St George's Church	26595	-	26595	32177
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash at bank	72763	65926	138689	119343
Gift Aid Tax Reclaimable	1045	-	1045	1122
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Current Assets	73808	65926	139734	120465
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Loan	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>	<u>100403</u>	<u>65926</u>	<u>166329</u>	<u>152642</u>

These accounts have been approved by the trustees and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr P Tighe  
Chairman

28.09.2023  
Date



Mr D W Argile

## Friends of St George's RC Church Taunton

### Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

#### 1 Accounting Policies

##### *Accounting Basis*

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

#### 2 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

No remuneration has been paid to any of the trustees during the year (2022 - £nil).

#### 3 Independent Examiner's Fee

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent Examiner's Fee	-	-
	—	—

#### 4 Unrestricted and Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are the unexpended balances of funds raised for specific purposes within the Charity's objectives and which must be applied for those purposes only. All funds raised by the charity prior to 1 April 2010 were for the purposes of installing a new stained glass window and the redecoration of the church in celebration of the church's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The balance of funds held at 31 March 2010 was therefore restricted to that specific purpose. At 31 March 2023 £65,926 was allocated to help finance the refurbishment and upgrading of the church lighting system and the removal of asbestos as revealed by the quinquennial survey carried out in the year.

Unrestricted funds are the free funds of a Charity, which are not designated for a particular purpose, and can therefore be used in furtherance of the general objects of the Charity.