

# **The Covenham St Bartholomew Heritage Trust**

## **Second Annual Report of the Trustees for the year ending 30 June 2021**

### **Objectives and Public Benefit**

The objects of the CIO are:

- (I) For the public benefit to secure the preservation, conservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification and reconstruction of the church of Covenham St Bartholomew, Lincolnshire and of fixtures and fittings in such church and;
- (II) To use the said church for such religious and other charitable purposes as shall be permissible under the Redundancy scheme providing for the appropriation of the said church under the procedures of the Pastoral Measure 1983 as superseded by the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.

### **Achievement and Performance**

The Covenham St Bartholomew Heritage Trust was first registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 17 June 2019. It incorporates the former charity of the same name established by the late John Bowles in 1988, charity number 700816, which was formally dissolved by the Charity Commissioners on 14 December 2019.

The constitution of the CIO limits voting rights solely to the trustees. Laura Clark agreed to become the 4th trustee in 2020 and was duly elected for a term of 3 years. The constitution also provides for meetings via electronic means, which is the usual form of trustees' meetings as being the most cost-effective and time-efficient. Due to the continuing restrictions during the Covid pandemic during the past year, Trustees have again held only one face-to-face meeting and have otherwise relied on electronic communications.

The year 2020-21 has been most eventful. In 2019 Trustees reported that St Bartholomew's had been placed on the Buildings at Risk register and that the south transept was in such a precarious situation that action had to be taken to fence it off and close it to visitors following a letter from Lincs Building Consultancy ordering immediate action.

Immediately prior to the 2020 AGM, trustees were alerted to the Covid19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response fund administered by Historic England simultaneously by Hanna Good, Historic England's Heritage at Risk Projects Officer for the Midlands and also through an article in The Church Times. Trustees immediately agreed to register an Expression of Interest which had to be submitted by 28<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Having passed that first stage we were then invited to prepare for a full application, which had to be submitted by the end of August 2020. On 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020 we were informed we had been successful in securing the maximum possible grant of £25,000 + £950 for VAT, subject both to stringent conditions and the provision of another £5,000 from the Charity's own

funds. The grant was awarded to commission 1) a condition survey; 2) an ecology report, 3) to re-roof the south transept roof and 4) consolidate the south transept walls. One of the chief conditions was that the conservation work had to be completed within an exceptionally tight timeframe of 5 weeks, starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 and concluding on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

Following competitive tendering, the Morton Partnership was appointed to oversee the project, with conservation accredited engineers Edward Morton and Lucy Newport acting as lead professionals. Rather than invite tenders for the conservation work, we were permitted by Historic England to initiate the pilot scheme of a not-for-profit conservation heritage skills training project pioneered by accredited heritage roofer Richard Jordan of Jordan Conservation Roofing Ltd and architect Sarah Moore. This involved recruiting trainees from a bursary programme offered by the Historic Environment Skills (HES) project run by the Heritage Skills Centre in Lincoln to carry out the work alongside professional craftspeople. Consequently far more was achievable for the amount of funding than would normally have been possible. Trustees were also grateful for the help and co-operation of Phil Parker, ecologist, who conducted the operational bat survey and obtained the prerequisite bat licence. We were delighted that the project was completed successfully and on time as a result of well co-ordinated teamwork by many people. Once the scaffolding had been erected, all existing slates and the ceilings of the south transept were removed, the roof timbers thoroughly inspected then repaired and/or reinstated and wall plates introduced to protect the rafters. The roof was then completely re-slatted, utilising about 50% of existing slates – the remainder being hand-cut in the traditional way under the supervision of Sarah-Mae Jordan – then masonry consolidation was carried out on the movement cracks and heads of the walls, particularly the south gable.

The net result is that the south transept, which was in imminent danger of collapse, has now been saved and looks resplendent in its conserved state. A further advantage was the valuable experience the practical work provided for trainees on the Traditional Pre-1919 Buildings course and the on-site educational experience for visiting SPAB Scholar and Craft Fellows.

In April 2021 trustees met at the church with a number of the professionals involved in the project, together with Emilie Wales, the East Lindsey Historic Environmental Officer and Amanda White, Historic England Heritage at Risk Surveyor, to 'sign off' the work. All agreed the project had been hugely successful.

Unfortunately, because of the strict covid restrictions whilst work was taking place, it was not possible to proceed with either the planned open days for specialist interest groups and the general public, nor the launch of the Friends of St Bartholomew, but trustees hope these can go ahead as soon as possible.

An update on the lead theft: in January 2021 4 men were jailed for a total of 22 years for theft of lead from 36 churches, including that of Covenham St Bartholomew. They were aided by borrowing a van from a person working for Amazon, so trustees contacted Amazon to see if they would like to contribute towards the repairs. As a result, they have added this charity to their list of charities on Amazon Smile. Anyone now registering via <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1183927-0> will now have

a small percentage of each purchase donated to this charity; not a great deal, but it all helps. Trustees are grateful to Ali Fazakerley for continuing to maintain a similar platform on Give as You Live.com.

In carrying out the business of The Trust, trustees pay due regard to the advice of The Charity Commission relevant to the administration of the Charity.

### **Financial Review**

Income for 2020-21 was £32572.44 and expenditure was £31,483.80. The reason for the tremendous increase in income since 2019-20 was almost entirely due to direct payment of £25,950 from the Historic England Covid19 Emergency Heritage at Risk Response Fund, all of which was paid out directly. There are several regular standing orders and the charity is registered as a recipient on the 'Give as You Live' and 'Amazon Smile' platforms.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The charity is controlled by its governing document and is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

Registered Charity number 1183927

### **Principal Address**

Ashtree House, Main Road, Covenham St Bartholomew, Louth LN11 0PF

### **Trustees**

Mrs Diane Seddon *(for 2 years from June 2019 to June 2021)*

Mr Ian Fazakerley *(for 3 years from June 2019 to June 2022)*

Mrs Anne Gray *(for 4 years from June 2019 to June 2023)*

Ms Laura Clark *(for 3 years from June 2020 to June 2023)*

### **Bankers**

Barclays LLP, Leicester. LE87 2BB

Approved by the Trustees .....

Signed .....(Trustee)

<b>Covenham St Bartholomew Heritage Trust</b>	<b>2020 - 2021</b>	<b>Income (£)</b>	<b>Expenditure (£)</b>	<b>Running Balance (£)</b>
<b>Opening Balance June 2020</b>		5095.85		
<b>July</b>	Standing Orders	45.00		5140.85
<b>August</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Direct Credit Paypal	499.84		5690.69
<b>September</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Plant Sales and Donation (Fazakerley)	47.00		5787.69
<b>October</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Cash Deposit to Bank	45.00		
	Payment to Phil Parker (Bat Survey Supplementary)		44.90	
	Plant Sales (Laura Clark)	65.00		
	Direct Credit from Historic England	19463.00		
	CGE Ecology - Bat Survey		713.50	24652.29
<b>November</b>	Clarendon Building - Storm Damage Repair to main roof		288.00	
	Jordan Roofing (Includes £103.20 for the toilet hire)		9831.10	
	Morton Partnership		2700.00	
	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Direct Credit - Everyclick	28.87		11912.06
<b>December</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Jordan Roofing		8514.30	
	Direct Credit - Everyclick	22.03		
	Fazakerley - Donation	48.90		3518.69
<b>January 1 to 29 2021</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		3568.69

<b>January 30 - Feb 26th</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Direct Credit Amazon	14.27		3632.96
<b>Feb 27th - March 31st</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Direct Credit - Everyclick	16.12		
	Direct Credit from Historic England	6487.00		10186.08

<b>Covenham St Bartholomew Heritage Trust</b>	<b>2020 - 2021</b>	<b>Income (£)</b>	<b>Expenditure (£)</b>	<b>Running Balance (£)</b>
<b>April 2021</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Philip Waller Consultants		600.00	
	Morton Partnership		2451.02	
	Jordan Roofing		6148.58	
	Direct Credit - Everyclick	16.83		1053.31
<b>May</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Direct Credit Paypal	117.92		
	Direct Credit Amazon Europe	9.81		1231.04
<b>June</b>	Standing Orders	50.00		
	Payment to Access Underwriting Public Liability		192.40	1088.64
<b>Closing Balance June 2021</b>				1088.64
<b>Total of Income and Expenditure</b>		32572.44	31483.80	

## Independent Examiner's Report

Mr George R Lill

8 Margaret Place  
New Waltham  
Grimsby  
NE Lincolnshire  
DN36 4NR  
01472 822927 / 07804 872274

30-07-2021

I George Lill have examined the accounts of Covenham ST Bartholomew Heritage trust Accounts , Registered Charity No 1183927 from July 2020 until July 2021 and found them to be true and accurate record.

  
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George Robert Lill

Covenham St Bartholomew Heritage Trust - Accounts July 2020 to End June 2021

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Opening Balance June 2020			5095.85			
July		Standing Orders	45.00		5140.85	
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June		Standing Orders	50.00			
		Payment to Access Underwriting Public Liability		192.40	1088.64	
July		Standing Orders	50.00			
		Direct Credit - Fazakerley - Donation	10.00			
Closing Balance July 2021					1148.64	
Total of Income and Expenditure			32632.44	31483.80		