

Blandford Historic Buildings Trust 2018 Annual Report

Our Condition Survey of more than 500 buildings in central Blandford having been completed at the end of 2017, the year started with work on assessing the findings systematically and putting them into a structured database using Excel. The Survey Report was completed in March and distributed to the Trustees and other interested parties, including the North Dorset Conservation Officer, the Blandford and District Civic Society Committee, Blandford Museum and members of the Conservation Area Appraisal Working Group. Other outputs from the Survey were a Proposed Local List of Heritage Assets, a paper dealing specifically with buildings rated as being at High Risk and a note on Issues Arising from the Survey. Also in March we prepared a note on two architects, Nathaniel Ireson and Francis Cartwright who, in addition to the famous Bastard Brothers, had made significant contributions to the rebuilding of Blandford following the Great Fire of 1731.

In April, Peter Brachi retired as a Trustee on rotation and was reappointed at a meeting of the two remaining Trustees. In the same month a significant donation was received to provide the Trust with some working capital. Some of this was used in May to hire the Woodhouse Gardens Pavilion for an upcoming meeting of the South West Heritage Trust Network hosted by the Trust, at which we presented an item on our survey of Blandford and a display of photos about the History and Buildings of Blandford, and Peter Brachi led a walking tour of the Town Centre for the participants.

We received a draft Report for the Conservation Area Appraisal in June to which we responded with some comments and suggestions. At that stage it did not include a Management Plan. Later in the year we were informed that the whole CAA exercise had been put on hold because the Local Authority were also working on a similar exercise for Gillingham and had given it priority.

In July an outline Planning Application was published seeking to demolish Nordon, an imposing Arts and Crafts building of Historical and Architectural significance and until recently the Headquarters of North Dorset District Council, in order to build 40 “affordable” homes. Despite objections, both written and verbal, by the Trust, the Civic Society, Historic England and local residents, discussions flowed over into 2019 and are still continuing.

SAVE Britain’s Heritage, a conservation organisation, contacted us in September asking for contributions and updates to their annual Buildings at Risk publication. In December we provided them with a report on fifteen buildings in Blandford which we considered to be at High Risk and three of those buildings have now been included.

John Imber

Trustee, Blandford Historic Buildings Trust

October 2019

Blandford Historic Buildings Trust
Accounts for the Year to 31 December 2018

Income and Expenditure Account

| Income | £ | Expenditure | £ |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| Donations | 2,050.00 | HTN Subscription | 50.00 |
| | | Hire of Pavilion | 53.17 |
| | | Land Registry Fees | 18.00 |
| Total | <u>2,050.00</u> | | <u>121.17</u> |
| | | Excess of Income over Expenditure | 1,928.83 |

Balance Sheet at 31 December

| | 2017 | £ 2018 |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Funds at Lloyds Bank | 0.00 | 1,928.83 |
| Petty cash | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total funds | <u>0.00</u> | <u>1,928.83</u> |

Independent Examiner's Report

The Trust's income in the year to 31 December 2017 being less than £10,000 an examiner's report is not required.