



THE HISTORIC CHESHIRE CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

Vice Presidents

The Rt Revd Bishop of Chester
The Rt Revd Bishop of Birkenhead

Trustees and Grants Committee

The Revd Peter Barber, Chair of the Chester and Stoke-on-Trent District Methodist Church
The Ven Ian Bishop, Archdeacon of Macclesfield
Sir Wm. A Bromley Davenport KCVO
Mr Ben Chapman
The Ven Mike Gilbertson, Archdeacon of Chester
Mr Derek Lawson
Mr Phillip Posnett
Lord Wade of Chorlton
Mr David Walton
Mr Christian Wewer

Hon Secretary

Mrs Dianne Arden

Hon Treasurer

Mr Michael Caputo

Development and Fundraising Committee

Mr Phillip Posnett
Mr Vincent Whitehead
Mr John Freeman
The Ven Mike Gilbertson, Archdeacon of Chester
Mr John Headon
Mrs Dianne Arden
Mr John Ebo (Fund-raiser) (from July 2014)

Bankers

HSBC, Chester.

Charitable Status

The Historic Cheshire Churches Preservation Trust is a charity, registered with the Charities Commission, Registered Number 213837.

THE HISTORIC CHESHIRE CHURCHES PRESERVATION TRUST

THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

Introduction

Income to the Trust in 2014 was below the threshold required for detailed reporting to the Charity Commission (and for independent examination). As a result the Trustees are now able to present a brief report of activities during the year together with plans for the future. In carrying out their duties and in the awarding of grants the trustees paid due regard to the guidance of the Charity Commission regarding public benefit.

Structure, governance and management

The governance of the trust is set out in a Trust Deed dated 10 July 1953 (and amended 27 November 1992). The trustees met on three occasions during the year, whilst sub-committee meetings were held to conduct business between meetings.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Trust are set out in the Trust Deed: the preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification and reconstruction of churches in the Diocese of Chester, and of monuments, fittings, fixtures, stained glass, furniture, ornaments and chattels in such churches, and of the churchyard belonging to any of such churches. Churches of all denominations are included in these objectives.

Achievements

During the year to 31 December 2014, the Trust paid grants to six churches to assist with repair, restoration and maintenance projects:

St Pauls, Seacombe	£20,000
St Martins, Ashton Mersey	£1,000
St Mary's, Astbury	£3,000
St Oswalds, Brereton	£2,500
All Saints, Thelwall	£1,000
Sts Peter, Paul & Philomena, New Brighton	£2,500
Total	£30,000

The payment to St Pauls, Seacombe was restricted and related to grants awarded under the WREN scheme in previous years. All other payments were made from unrestricted funds. At the end of the year there remained committed grants of £12,206.32 made up of £10,706.32 of new unrestricted grants, and £1,500 of unrestricted grants made in the previous year.

Financial Review

The total incoming resources for the year were £7,070 which is below the threshold required for independent examination of the report and accounts and for submission of the report and accounts to the Charity Commission. After the net award of £14,206 in grants and other costs, the assets of the Trust reduced by £10,783 to £13,231.

As noted above, there remained £13,231 of unrestricted funds available for grants at the end of the year.

Development and future plans

During the year Mr John Ebo was appointed to the position of Fund-raiser to take forward and implement the Fund-raising strategy which was developed in 2013. It sets out priorities for the areas where the limited resources of the Trust should be focused, to improve income through a combination of new events, donations from individuals, organisations and grant-giving trusts in addition to the traditional means of fund-raising including the Ride & Stride event, and support from the Friends of HCCPT.

Thanks

I would like to thank my fellow trustees and the officers and members of the development committee for their contributions and support during 2014.

Finally I would like to thank David Stewart for maintaining and updating the website.

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Date:

Phillip Posnett, Chair