The Worcestershire Freemasons Charity

Registered Charity No. 1204423)

The Charitv of Worcestershire Craft and Roval Arch Freemasons

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

THE WORCESTERSHIRE FREEMASONS CHARITY
Charity Number 1204423

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Trustees

A T Robertson (Chair)
H N Painter (Treasurer)
D L Dey (Secretary)
C F D Vendy
W F G Tucker
P V Firminger

All trustees served throughout the period. P A Taylor, who was a Trustee as at 1 January 2025, resigned in December 2025.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is governed by the provisions of a Trust Deed dated 19 January 2023.

Three Trustees hold office while they act as Almoner, Charity Steward and Treasurer of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Worcestershire. Up to a further four trustees can be appointed by the Provincial Grand Master of Worcestershire for a period not exceeding 5 years. In selecting trustees for appointment, the Provincial Grand Master has regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

On appointment, each Trustee receives a copy of a booklet entitled "Guidance for Trustees" which includes a copy of the Trust Deed, Guidance on Conflicts of Interest, reference to Guidance issued by the Charity Commission including the "5 Minute Guides for Trustees" and "The Essential Trustee", and details of the trustee indemnity policy. New Trustees also receive a copy of the latest published financial statements, the latest management accounts and the minutes of the last Board Meeting. New Trustees meet with the Chair and, if they are an Office Holder, they will be briefed by the outgoing Office Holder.

The Trustees meet at least four times per year working to a set agenda covering, *inter alia,* finances, investments, and reserves, grant making, risk management and fund raising.

In the year, no fees or reimbursements of expenseswere received by the Trustees.

Objectives and activities

The Worcestershire Freemasons Charity is the public face of "Freemasonry in the Community". Its principal objectives are, for the public benefit, to:

- relieve sickness and preserve health, advance education, and prevent or relieve poverty and financial hardship, amongst such persons as the Trustees consider from time to time to be in need of assistance;
- further such other purposes (being exclusively charitable) as the Trustees may from time to

time in their absolute discretion consider appropriate.

In furthering these objectives, the Trustees will consider applications from any geographical area within England, but preference will be given to the counties of Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Staffordshire. The Trustees welcome applications from registered charitable bodies but, at their discretion, applications from other voluntary bodies and individuals will be considered. The goal is to make grants to a wide range of beneficiaries, particularly grassroots and small-to-medium-sized registered charities and voluntary organisations in the primary geographical areas of benefit. Details on how to apply for a grant, together with the relevant forms, are available on the Charity's website.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to and complied with the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and setting grant-making policies.

Review of achievements and how they have delivered public benefit

In this, the first full year of operation of the Charity, it has made grants totalling in excess of £40,000 to 61 charities and similar good causes. The emphasis has been on supporting local charities where relatively small contributions can make a considerable difference.

Aiding the Community (Total grants - £5000)

A grant of £1000 was made to the *Tenbury Transport Trust,* whose aim is to reduce isolation and loneliness and keep communities together by providing a minibus service to Tenbury and other local towns. Volunteers do weekly shopping for those unable to do so and provide a wheelchair accessible car service. A grant of £750 was made to *The Men's Shed in Pershore, a* rural town of some 9000 inhabitants, of whom nearly half are aged 50 and over, the Shed is open to all but it targets older men who may be at risk of isolation and/or poor well-being. Smaller grants included those to

- food banks
- Maggs Day Centre
- Amazing Opportunities

Helping those with disabilities (Total grants - £3600)

The charity *Discover U* received a grant of £1500 towards funding its activities. Based in Wollaston the charity works with disabled people to break down barriers to employment. It does so by running programmes which provide work related experience to those disadvantaged by learning and physical disability.

Smaller grants were made to other charities, including

- Smilers Club
- Aspie
- Headway

Youth and education (Total grants - £9300)

Grants of £1500 and £1000 were made to *Jigsaw Youth Theatre* and *Redditch Youth and Community Enterprise*, respectively. *Jigsaw* is a place where creative young people meet to devise, direct, write and perform their own original theatre. In addition, *Jigsaw* provides education in a wide range of production skills including set design, prop construction and costume. *RYCE* aims to reduce

isolation, antisocial behaviour and poor mental health. It does so by providing safe, positive and engaging activities for young people aged 8-19. These take the form of weekly sessions, workshops and holiday activities offering sports, arts, life skills and personal development to over 50 persons per week.

Other grant beneficiaries include

- Crackerjacks
- Merry Hill Open Award
- Go Beyond Charity

The Armed Forces Covenant (Total grants - £ 4300)

This is a commitment to those who serve, or have served, in the armed forces including their families. The support includes education, healthcare, housing, employment and financial advice. In conjunction with the Provincial Grand Lodge of Herefordshire, a grant of £2550 (£5100 in total) was made to enable the purchase of first-aid training equipment for use by army cadets in Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Several hundred cadets will be trained each year throughout the two counties. Further grants were made to

- Royal British Legion
- SSAFA
- Stepway

Health and healthy living (Total grants - £15300)

Grants were made to charities addressing the two most common cancers for men and women; £2750 was given to both *Ladies Fighting Breast Cancer* and *The Kidderminster and Worcester Prostate Group*. Support by way of a grant of £1500 was given to *Becoming Families*, a charity which supports expectant mothers (and fathers!) on preparing for D-Day and the days and nights which follow. *While Coventry Warwickshire and Worcestershire MIND* received £1000 to help them to offer peer support counselling and other courses to those with mental health issues.

Further recipients of grants include

- Special Steps
- Head Start Malvern
- CHAPS (prostate cancer testing)
- Hereford and Worcester First Responders
- St Richard's Hospice

As stated above, our aim is to make a difference and the following excerpts from letters are a good measure of our success in achieving that goal:

> *As a small charity we have no statutory funding and fundraise every penny we spend …. The funds you have raised for us will be put towards our Family Support Weekends for 2025. The CCAA Committee are extremely grateful for your amazing support.* {CCAA Kids with Arthritis}

This is to thank the Worcestershire Freemasons Charity for your recent kind donation of £500 … This is a significant sum of money, and will help us continue our vital work in supporting Armed Forces Veterans and their families across Worcestershire. We …. are immensely grateful for your support. {SSAFA Worcestershire}

The Trustees are grateful for the support received from Charity Stewards, Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters, and other masonic orders in Worcestershire as, without this generous help, the Trustees would not have been able to help our local communities to the extent outlined above.

Financial Review

The charity is primarily reliant on donations from masonic Lodges and Chapters in Worcestershire and investment income from deposits and its investment portfolio. In the year, there was a positive cashflow into the General Fund of £15576. Restricted funds also increased thanks to the fund raising efforts of the Teddies Loving Care (TLC) team, and a donation from the Leslie and Ivy Pountney Trust (LIPT), which comes with conditions as to how it is to be used.

Reserves policy

At 31 December 2025 the Charity had restricted reserves of £30193 which relate to TLC and LIPT. In addition, it had unrestricted reserves of £103 900 (including the investment in COIF Funds) which the Trustees consider are adequate to fund the Charity's foreseeable activities.

Accounting responsibilities of the Trustees:

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011and other relevant legislation.
The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Charity at any time, are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity, and for taking reasonable steps for the detection and prevention of irregularities in its affairs.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

A T Robertson

Chair of Trustees 24 September 2026

THE WORCESTERSHIRE FREEMASONS CHARITY
Charity Number 1204423

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE WORCESTERSHIRE FREEMASONS CHARITY

We report to the Trustees on our examination of the accounts of the Worcestershire Freemasons Charity for the year ended 31st December 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 9.

Responsibilities and basis of Report

As the charity's Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an Independent Examination is needed.

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

Independent examiners' statement

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records.

We 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.

JL Potter FCA

B J Hair 24th September 2026

THE WORCESTERSHIRE FREEMASONS CHARITY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Year ended 31.12.2024
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Donations	53203	31500	84703	95700
Gift Aid	3321	116	3,437	333
Legacies	-	-	-	
Investment income	1039		1,039	507
Deposit account interest	276		276	797
Total receipts	57839	31616	89,455	97337
PAYMENTS				
Grants	40241	-	40241	3000
Other charitable activities		2464	2464	4421
Postage and stationery	446		446	656
Insurance	296		296	270
Administration	780		780	125
	41763	2464	44227	8472
Asset and investment purchases	-	-	-	40000
Total payments	41763	2464	44227	48472
Net receipts/(payments)	16076	29152	45228	48865
Transfers between funds	-500	500	-	
	15576	29652	45228	48865
Cash Funds as at 31 December 2024	48324	541	48865	-
Cash Funds as at 31 December 2025	63900	30193	94093	48865
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025				
Bank current account	22		22	677
Bank deposit accounts	63878	30193	94071	48188
	63900	30193	94093	48865
Investment Assets - CCLA Coif Funds	40000	-	40000	40000

THE WORCESTERSHIRE FREEMASONS CHARITY
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

NOTES

1. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Teddies Loving Care	2122	541
LIP Trust	28071	-
	30193	541