Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust

# The Trust Report
# for the period 1 April to 31 December 2025

In 1984, Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust was established for the following purposes:

For the public benefit in the area comprising the towns of Frinton-on-Sea and Walton-on-the-Naze and the surrounding area, which area shall hereinafter be referred to as the "area of benefit":

i. To promote civic pride and secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in the area of benefit.
ii. To educate the public in the geography, history, natural history, and architecture of the area of benefit, to give advice and information, hold meetings, lectures and exhibitions.
iii. To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit.

In furtherance of these aims, the Trust continues to consolidate historical knowledge of the local area and provide public access to the archives, artefacts and exhibits that tell the story of our community's past. The Trust's collections are displayed in *Crossing Cottage*, the original railway gate-keeper's home, *The Trevor Bright Railway Museum*, housed in the old lever hut, and the new Museum and Heritage Centre at 120 Pole Barn Lane.

With the change of the Trust's year end to 31 December this report will cover a nine-month period. The new Constitution to convert the Charity to a CIO was submitted to the Charity Commission during the year and at the year-end had not been agreed due to a backlog at the Commission. Subsequently, the Trust received notification on 7 April 2026 that the Constitution was approved and the Trust is now a CIO.

**Summary of the year's activities – 1 April 2025 to 31 December 2025:**
The officers and executive committee met regularly every two months during the year and the Trust issued three Newsletters during the period, keeping the membership up to date with events and progress of the Trust.

The Trust's volunteers continued to maintain *Crossing Cottage* and garden with projects funded by our wonderfully managed and well supported Cottage Garden Fayres. and our maintenance and gardening teams of volunteers have managed to make our community garden a lovely space to enjoy. The new vegetable patch has proved a great success and provided much organic produce for sale to our visitors. The Trust supported Frinton in Bloom by hosting the judges of the Anglia in Bloom competition and were delighted to win It's Your Neighbourhood Awards for the Cottage Garden, level 5, and the Railway Garden, level 4, which the Trust maintains on behalf of Frinton & Walton Town Council. We must thank David Foster for his support.

The Trust arranged an outing for its members during the period to Benton End and the Deanery Tower in Hadleigh, the latter being hosted by Roger Kennell, and the members enjoyed a Mid-Summer Barbeque in the Cottage Garden. The winter lecture series proved to be poorly attended, however, the new Quiz Night in September proved popular as did the Christmas lunch at Frinton Golf Club.

As a response to the request from Tendring District Council to arrange a free children's activity during the summer, the Trust hosted a Dinosaur Event in the Cottage Garden over two days in August. Lots of people, including many, many children, had a wonderful day, interacting with the dinosaur puppets supplied by Rent-a-Dinosaur. The Trust qualified for a grant from the UK Prosperity Fund through TDC of £1,000.

This year saw the 85th anniversary of the loss of an RAF Hawker Hurricane fighter aircraft, shot down during the Battle of Britain, and the 80th anniversary of the loss of a Royal Canadian Air Force Handley Page Halifax four engine bomber, just a few weeks before the end of war in Europe. Both aircraft fell at the Naze, just a few hundred yards apart, with no survivors from either aircraft. To commemorate the loss of the nine airmen from these two aircraft, the Trust arranged for a 'flypast' at the Naze by aircraft from the RAF's Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, a Lancaster, Hurricane and Spitfire, were due to be at the Clacton air show on 24 August. Unfortunately, with an hour to go the Trust was notified that the Memorial Flight's Lancaster had a problem with one of its engines and also, the wind was out of limits for the 81-year-old Hurricane, so that just left the Spitfire. Half an hour later and a further update announced that the Spitfire had developed a problem and so, with apologies, there would be no 'flypast' that day. Naturally it was a disappointment, but not unexpected for vintage aircraft of that age, which was made clear when the flypast was booked.

**The Heritage Centre and Museum at 120 Pole Barn Lane:**
The new museum, after opening for the Easter and May Bank Holidays, opened for the summer at the weekends. We recorded over 1,200 visitors from April to the end of September and although free to enter, took £1,321 in donations. There were two exhibitions: one on how the local geology affected what grew and lived along this coastline and the other, on the area's development from early settlers to the present day. The Trust is very grateful to the team of volunteer stewards who kept the Museum open Saturdays, Sundays and bank holidays throughout the season.

**Digitization of the Trust's Archive:**
This project, funded by the grant from NLHF, has been progressing. Peter Vadden continues to Project Manage the grant and has been assisting the Trust in its application to convert to a CIO.

Meetings with Museums Essex continued throughout the year, attended by the Chair, John Barter, and the Honorary Secretary. Linda Ellis. John has also participated in various meetings organised by Community Voluntary Services Tendring and also attended meetings of the Hamford Water Management Committee. The Trust continues to work with other local organisations that are beneficial to our area such as The Naze Protection Society, Frinton-in-Bloom, Clacton Victoria County History and Tendring Recorders. In addition, this year the Trust was invited to exhibit at the first Festival of Essex Archaeology & Heritage at Cressing Temple Barns in July and also Peter Vadden and Rachel Baldwin, on behalf of the Trust, provided a presentation entitled "Bringing Life to the Museum and the Museum to Life". The organisers estimated that over 1,000 people attended the Festival and certainly we gave out hundreds of Trust leaflets and quite a few subsequently came to visit the Trust's sites in Frinton.

Our influence on the whole area is wide ranging but we need more volunteers and much more help with raising funds for our ongoing work.

It is generally accepted that the Trust has a bright future but it needs better publicity, more members and more volunteers to undertake regular tasks.

**Membership Report**
As of 31 December, 2025, the end of the Trust's membership year, membership stood at 372. Over the years, numbers rise and fall slightly but in the long term our core membership tends to remain quite constant.

**Financial Report – Statement of Receipts and Payments Attached**
At the year-end, 31 December, 2025, there was an Excess of Receipts over Payments of £4,559.53 (March 2025 – £3,422.23). Reserves stood at £83,274.00 (March 2025 - £78,714.47) being Total Assets of £211,067.66 (March 2025 - £206,442.10) less Total Liabilities of £127,793.66 (March 2025 - £127,727.63).

President: David Thorpe of Mearns
Officers: John Barter, Chair; Ian Heard, Vice Chair; Alan Southgate, Treasurer; Linda Ellis, Honorary Secretary
Trustees: John Barter, Rachel Baldwin, Kelly Oxborrow, Margaret N. Sandell, Michael W. Talbot,

Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust  Charity Registration No: 289885
Registered Office:  Crossing Cottage, Station Approach, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9JT
Website:  fwheritage.co.uk

# FRINTON & WALTON HERITAGE TRUST

## RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS

## 1st April 2025 to 31st December 2025

| | Receipts | | Payments | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2025 | 2024/2025 | 2025 | 2024/2025 |
| **General** | | | | |
| Membership Subscriptions | £ 3,666.50 | £ 4,344.50 | | |
| Donations | £ 845.91 | £ 3,338.43 | | |
| Sales (excluding new Frinton Postcards Book ) | £ 1,286.25 | £ 882.78 | | |
| Stock for Resale (excluding Frinton Postcard book) | | | £ 281.16 | £ 108.44 |
| Postcards from Frinton's Sea Front book | £ 1,032.95 | £ 1,620.86 | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| Socials & Outings | £ 4,915.80 | £ 8,398.63 | £ 3,794.42 | £ 5,970.08 |
| Talks & Research | £ 200.00 | £ 498.60 | £ 905.00 | £ 145.60 |
| Architectural Walks - history walks | £ 350.00 | £ 1,152.00 | £ 0.00 | £ 274.73 |
| Interest | £ 77.00 | £ 273.15 | | |
| Grants & Project Funding | £ 1,050.00 | £ 0.00 | | |
| Gift Aid | £ 725.45 | £ 965.80 | | |
| Postage, Stationery & Newsletter | | | £ 1,541.61 | £ 1,734.80 |
| Website Services | | | £ 0.00 | £ 2,490.97 |
| Affiliation & Licence Fees | | | £ 110.00 | £ 128.00 |
| Archives & Artefacts | | | £ 0.00 | £ 600.00 |
| Storage Archives & Artefacts | | | £ 19.95 | £ 1,265.08 |
| Equipment | | | £ 102.05 | £ 370.99 |
| Fittings & Equipment Register | | | £ 79.99 | £ 0.00 |
| Hall hire - AGM & Committee Meetings | | | £ 90.00 | £ 140.00 |
| Insurance | | | £ 543.49 | £ 509.70 |
| Card Machine Charges | | | £ 8.57 | £ 15.91 |
| Sundries | | | £ 106.00 | £ 11.67 |
| **Frinton Cottage/Garden/Railway Museum** | | | | |
| Spring/Autumn Fairs & Open Days | £ 4,717.83 | £ 4,214.87 | £ 257.45 | £ 223.76 |
| Plant & Produce Sales | £ 646.32 | £ 554.45 | | |
| Donations | £ 730.36 | £ 957.89 | | |
| Lettings | £ 263.14 | £ 355.57 | | |
| Picket Fence Donations | £ 0.00 | £ 2,150.00 | | |
| Picket Fence Expenditure | | | £ 757.96 | £ 1,759.22 |
| Garden Supplies | | | £ 225.34 | £ 713.28 |
| Garden Maintenance | | | £ 107.47 | £ 4,046.11 |
| Cottage Consumables | | | £ 304.63 | £ 197.94 |
| Cottage & Railway Museum Maintenance | | | £ 151.92 | £ 804.63 |
| Exhibition Cost & Fittings | | | £ 44.49 | £ 7.56 |
| Railway Artefacts | | | £ 0.00 | £ 53.38 |
| Electricity | | | £ 559.01 | £ 1,531.02 |
| Rates | | | £ 0.06 | £ 0.02 |
| Cottage Renovation (Archive rooms) | | | £ 2,528.57 | £ 0.00 |
| **Museum & Heritage Centre** | | | | |
| Loan & Loan Repayments | £ 0.00 | £ 10,000.00 | £0.00 | £ 15,000.00 |
| Special Donations | £ 1,817.59 | £ 0.00 | | |
| Lettings/Room Hire | £ 75.00 | £ 0.00 | | |
| Sales | £ 51.45 | £ 0.00 | | |
| Grants & Project Funding | £ 1,000.00 | £ 16,156.00 | | |
| National Lottery Heritage Funding | £ 29,124.85 | £ 170,341.16 | | |
| Legal & Professional Fees | | | £14,129.80 | £ 24,576.00 |
| Centre Renovations | | | £699.72 | £ 103,993.42 |
| Fittings & Equipment Register | | | £693.51 | £ 22,931.28 |
| Centre Consumables | | | £925.92 | £ 0.00 |
| Social Expenditure & Special Events | | | £6,480.82 | £ 430.00 |
| Centre Maintenance | | | £360.98 | £ 0.00 |
| Digitisation costs | | | £6,130.42 | £ 12,325.08 |
| Exhibition Cost & Fittings | | | £4,689.96 | £ 18,914.62 |
| Utilities (water & electricity) | | | £235.31 | £ 319.60 |
| Broadband | | | £224.91 | £ 204.93 |
| Rates | | | £0.10 | (£ 290.89) |
| Insurance | | | £325.31 | £ 575.53 |
| Card Machine Charges | | | £0.97 | £ 0.00 |
| **Stock value adjustment** | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 | £600.00 | £ 700.00 |
| **Excess of Payments over Receipts** | £ 0.00 | (£ 0.00) | | |
| **Excess of Receipts over Payments** | | | £4,559.53 | £ 3,422.22 |
| | **£ 52,576.40** | £ 226,204.69 | **£ 52,576.40** | £ 226,204.69 |

# FRINTON & WALTON HERITAGE TRUST

## Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2025

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Assets** | | | |
| **Fixed Asset** | | | |
| Museum & Heritage Centre | | **£ 153,047.87** | |
| **Current Assets** | | | |
| Stock | £ 5,200.00 | | |
| Debtors/Prepayments | £ 10,911.36 | | |
| Bank accounts | £ 41,908.43 | | |
| Petty cash & Float cash | £ 0.00 | | |
| **Total Current Assets** | | **£ 58,019.79** | |
| **Total Assets** | | | **£ 211,067.66** |
| **Liabilities** | | | |
| **Current Liabilities** | | | |
| Creditors | | **£ 12,793.66** | |
| **Long term liabilities** | | | |
| Loan re Museum & Heritage Centre Building | | **£ 115,000.00** | |
| **Total Liabilities** | | | **£ 127,793.66** |
| **Net Assets** | | | **£ 83,274.00** |
| **Equity** | | | |
| Retained Income (excess receipts over payments )for the period | | | **£ 4,559.53** |
| Retained Income Balance Brought Forward | | | **£ 78,714.47** |
| **Retained Income as at 31st December 2025** | | | **£ 83,274.00** |

### Additional Information

**Subscriptions:** Subscription income has been revised for prepaid income re subscription period running from 1st January 2026 to 31st December 2026.

**Stock value adjustment:** The reduction in stock is in respect of sales during the Year.

**Museum & Heritage Loan:** An Accrual provision still remains for repayment of £5k

**Fittings & Equipment:** Purchase this year have been offset by the monies (accrual) held over from the previous year for a map/artwork for the new centre. An accrual provision remains in place for this purchase.

**Funding**: The Trust is very grateful for a grant from The Woodroffe Benton Foundation that funded First Aid training for the volunteers.
The Trust also received funding from Tendring District Council towards the cost of the very successful Dinosaur Day.
The National Lottery Heritage Fund continues to finance the completion of the renovation of the new Heritage Centre and the commmencement of the Digitisation Project .

**Funds held in Reserve account:** £7,615.61 funds are being held in a reserve account to be used for specific purposes.

**Cottage Renovations:** Refurbishment work has been undertaken to the upstairs Archive Rooms within this financial Year.

**Lottery Funding:** A debtor has been raised relating to the lottery funding request raised in December for funds anticipated to be received by May 2026 of £9,139.

### Notes to the Accounts

I have examined the above accounts and consider that they represent true and accurate accounts for the Year ending 31st December 2025.

**Treasurer:**

**Date:** 31st March 2026

**Independent Examiner:**

**Date:** 31st March 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

## Section A Independent Examiner's Report

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Report to the trustees/ members of** | FRINTON AND WALTON HERITAGE TRUST | | |
| **On accounts for the year ended** | 31/12/2025 | **Charity no (if any)** | 289885 |
| **Set out on pages** | (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets) | | |

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2025.

**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 section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Signed:** |  | **Date:** | 31/03/2026 |
| **Name:** | DAWN HEARD | | |
| **Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):** | | | |
| **Address:** | 10 BODMIN ROAD<br>CHELMSFORD<br>ESSEX CM1 6LH | | |

| Section B | Disclosure |
| --- | --- |
| | Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners). |
| **Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose**. | Not Applicable |