

# FRANT SCHOOL TRUST

Registered Number: 306491

## REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### Managing Trustees:

Juliet Nightingale  
Kyle Laidler  
Reverend Brendan Martin

The Managing Trustees are the Incumbent of the Benefice of Frant with Eridge and the Churchwardens for the time being, of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Albans, Frant.

### Custodian Trustee:

The Chichester Board of Finance

### Independent Examiner:

Duncan Hardy  
Hazelhurst  
Down Lane  
Frant  
TN3 9HP

### Office Address:

St Alban's Church Office  
Church Lane  
Frant  
Tunbridge Wells  
TN3 9DX

Telephone: 01892 750638

# **FRANT SCHOOL TRUST**

**Year ended 31 December 2023**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

The Trust is administered and managed by the Managing Trustees, subject and in conformity with a Scheme approved by the Charity Commissioners dated 12th April 1990.

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

The Trustees remained the same until May 2023 – namely the Reverend Brendan Martin, Jane Emler and Juliet Nightingale. In May, Jane Emler was replaced by Kyle Laidler.

The Trustees met on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

The property, 11 Great Durgates Close, Wadhurst, continues to be managed by the Tunbridge Wells Agent Belvoir. The property is let on a Shorthold Tenancy Agreement to Dudley Joiner and Thelma Joiner. The rent was £1,625 which was increased in October 2023 to £1,675. In November an inspection of the property was carried out by Simon Reid of Belvoir, who reported that it was being well cared for by the tenants and was in good order.

Four payments were received from M&G Charities in February, May, August and December 2023, this had been held in trust by Chichester Diocese as the result of the reverter being overturned and the money reinvested as part of the trust. The capital sum of £129,599.62 was returned by the Diocese to the trust on 9 May 2024 and will be accounted for in the following years accounts.

## **A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE TRUST**

The Frant School Trust predates any diocesan or county involvement and came about we believe at the time of the building of the original School in 1816 with the Rector and Wardens as trustees. The school was subsequently rebuilt in 1852 and again in 2010.

This trust owned School House that the headmaster lived in, and also owned Frant School which was latterly leased by East Sussex County Council when it became a Church of England aided school. When the school was rebuilt in 2010 the trustees of the Frant School Trust sold the school and the money used towards the purchase of the land of the new school. Chichester Diocese Board of Finance were designated Custodian Trustee and the Frant School Trust Trustees (the Rector and Warden's) became Managing Trustees.

The School House had a reverter in that it had to be used for the purposes of Education in Frant and could not be simply rented out for money. However it happened that there was a small flat as part of this house that was rented out on the open market at one time, and therefore when it was sold, the cost of the flat (roughly £130,000) was held in trust by Chichester Diocese as a reverter. The rest was able to continue to be used by the Trust and the house was sold and reinvested in another property.

We successfully petitioned Chichester Diocese in 2022 that the reverter which had been vested in the diocese for some 12 years or more no longer applies and that it should be released back to us in order to be able to have funding to build a preschool at Frant CE School. If we cannot get the preschool going at Frant we will look at other ways of investing the income according to the purposes of the Charity.

This reverter held by the diocese was not invested but simply held all those years until 2023, when they said to us that according to their policies it must be invested, so we as trustees gave the permission for it to be invested in M&G which is why for the first time there was additional income. We did not set up a separate account for this investment, but was I believe held in a sub investment account as part of wider diocesan investments, and the money was given directly to us starting in 2023.

The full and final payment of the reverter money came into the trust after the accounts closed in 2023, and at that point full current assets of the charity, including the house will be made clear in the 2024 accounts. It maybe necessary at that point to look at any changes that need to be made following the finalising of the vesting of the land and buildings:

*"The vesting of the land and buildings known as Frant School and the School House property and the maintenance of its status as a school and the management of School House, is still in the process of change with the sale of School House & the cessation of the school. The changes will be presented to the Charity Commission in due course to assess their accordance with the Charity Commission Scheme."*  
Charity Commission Website.

## **THE PURPOSE OF THE TRUST**

The Application of Income is made clear in the trust's documents:

Subject to payment of the expenses aforesaid [in the application of income] the Managing trustees shall apply the income of the Charity in either or both of the following ways:

- (1) In providing at the school of the Charity such special benefits of any kind not normally provided by the local education authority as the Managing Trustees may from time to time be agreed between the School Governors and the Managing Trustees after consultation with the local education authority.

- (2) In otherwise promoting the education of children and adults who are resident in the Parish of Frant.

## **EXPENDITURE MADE BY THE TRUST 2023**

### **1) Frant Preschool**

The trustees are keen to support and expand the work of Frant School, and as such have undertaken preliminary work to see whether it might be possible to build a preschool on the School site, and under the management and governance of the school.

This was taken forward by the rector (who is ex officio governor) along with the one of the acting executive head of Frant School and the governors. A small working party was put together to take this proposal forward.

Frant School Trust have made initial investments towards the Preschool including professional fees for an architect to do drawings for the preschool and planning permission for the proposal.

The preschool would benefit in a number of ways:

- Frant Nursery was closed a number of years ago, and there is a need for local provision.
- To enable seamless transition for Children into reception class at school which we believe will be beneficial for their education.
- To enable parents to drop off younger children at the similar time/place as school children.
- To ensure pupil intake into reception as we believe if we have them in younger, they will stay at the school into reception, ensuring a full cohort each year which is necessary for the ongoing funding the school requires.
- To increase our mission and service to our community as a Church to support younger families.

### **2) The Youth and Families Minister**

The reason we have supported the work of the Youth and Families Minister was that it was a very effective way of enabling education in Frant to young people and across ages:

- Helping with Frant School assemblies and lessons.
- Helping to support the school at lunchtimes.
- Helping with the school residential trip.
- Running Forest School Activities for the school, which was especially good for those children who struggled with friendships and education generally, learning team building, boosting confidence and teaching new skills.

- Running the church Holiday Clubs in the year with over 30 children attending, where children are taught Forest School Skills, archery, group activities, and about the Bible.
- Running the village Youth Club, which is one of the few activities that pulls in youth across the village, and as part of that teaches the children about the Bible and how to live well.
- Helping with the Little Fishes toddler group, teaching the children songs and bible stories.

This has been a big investment for the trust, and has shown real benefit for the Frant community for education. There will be very few children in the village who have not been positively impacted by the good work of the Youth and Families Minister.

During the year grants were made for the following:-

	£
Frant Primary School Leavers Bibles	193.60
Frant Friendship Group	750.00
St Albans Church grant towards Children and Families Minister	12,271.00
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Total	£13,214.60
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Signed on behalf of the Trustees



The Reverend Brendan Martin

28.10.2024

# FRANT SCHOOL TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Year ended 31 December 2023

	This Year £	Last Year £
<b><u>Unrestricted Funds</u></b>		
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Rents receivable	19700	20396
Diocesan Reverter	7481	-
Interest receivable	1200	264
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b><u>£28381</u></b>	<b><u>£20660</u></b>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
Grants for charitable purposes	13214	10337
Property outgoings (note 2 and 4)	8012	5258
Professional charges (note 5)	872	500
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b><u>£22098</u></b>	<b><u>£16095</u></b>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year</b>	<b>£6283</b>	<b>£4565</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2022</b>	<b><u>£61724</u></b>	<b><u>£57159</u></b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	<b><u>£68007</u></b>	<b><u>£61724</u></b>

# FRANT SCHOOL TRUST

## BALANCE SHEET

31 December 2023

	This Year £	Last Year £
<b>Current assets</b>		
<b>Cash funds</b>		
Church of England Charities Deposit Fund	0	27383
Bank balances	<u>69383</u>	<u>35570</u>
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>£69383</b>	<b>£62953</b>
Debtors and payments in advance	1058	965
Rents in arrears	-	-
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>£70441</b>	<b>£63918</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Creditors and provisions	(2434)	(2195)
Rents received in advance	-	-
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>£(2434)</b>	<b>£(2195)</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>£68007</b>	<b>£61723</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
Unrestricted funds	<u>£(68007)</u>	<u>£(61723)</u>
Approved by the Trustees:		

The Reverend Brendan Martin

Juliet Nightingale

Dated

2024

# FRANT SCHOOL TRUST

Year ended 31 December 2023

## Notes to and forming part of the Accounts

### (1) Land and Buildings

The following properties are owned by the Trust and vested in the Custodian Trustee:-

Land together with the buildings known as 11 Great Durgates Close, Wadhurst, which was purchased in September 2011 and which will form the basis of rental income for the future years.

(2) No Trustee, nor any person connected therewith, was in receipt of any remuneration or expenses from the Trust during the year.

(3) The Trust does not have any employees.

(4) Property costs reflect expenses incurred net of refunds and sums due from persons for whom costs have been incurred by the Trust

(5) Professional charges represent cost incurred satisfying the Trusts compliance requirements. Should there be the risk of extra costs being incurred a provision is made, which is periodically adjusted when actual costs have been incurred

**FRANT SCHOOL TRUST**

**Year ended 31 December 2023**

**Report of the Independent Examiner**

Report to the trustees of Frant School Trust on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 set out on pages two to five inclusive.

**Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner**

The trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The trustees of the charity consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Charities Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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**FRANT SCHOOL TRUST**

**Year ended 31 December 2023**

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:-

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed**

Duncan Hardy  
Hazelhurst  
Down Lane  
Frant  
TN3 9HP



**Dated**

28 October

2024

# **FRANT SCHOOL TRUST**

**Registered Number: 306491**

## **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

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