

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 06922371 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1130452

Strategic Report, Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2019
for
Masonic Hall Ipswich Limited

Finnigan & Co
37 Lower Brook Street
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP4 1AQ

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

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Masonic Hall Ipswich Limited

**Strategic Report
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

The trustees present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2019.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 16 April 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

K J Larcombe - Trustee

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2019. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Our charity's objectives as set out in the company's memorandum of association are:

- (a) For the public benefit to preserve and maintain the fabric and structure of the Freemasons Hall, Soane Street, Ipswich, IP4 2BG.
- (b) To advance the education of the public in the principles of Freemasonry, in particular, but not exclusively, by the establishment and maintenance of a Masonic Heritage Centre.

Freemasons Hall is a Grade II listed building, which was purpose-built and opened in 1876. At the time of its completion it was no doubt a fine example of the builders craft and ever since that time Ipswich Freemasons have met there and planned their charitable activities.

Unfortunately, their financial focus for many years was almost totally concerned with raising money in order to give it away to various charitable causes. For quite inexplicable reasons, the need to allocate some of their resources to keeping their Masonic centre in good order and making provision for the future appears to have escaped their notice. Regrettably, as a consequence, this Grade II listed building, which is sited in a designated conservation area of Ipswich, has been the victim of unintended neglect over an extended period of time. This unintended lack of consideration for the future has now been recognised and replaced by a policy which takes a fuller account of future needs.

Our aim remains to transform Freemasons Hall into a building which can look back on a rich history, which can be viewed as a distinctive part of Ipswich's heritage and available, not only as Masonic Centre, but for the wider use of the community. We believe that we have made considerable progress in this regard. An opinion which has been reinforced by very favourable comment from our Masonic tenants and visitors but we still believe that this is "work in progress".

The use of Ipswich's Freemasons Hall by the wider public has always been possible. However, with the passing of the years it has become a progressively less attractive venue for hire by the general public in comparison with any competitor because of its lack of modern facilities. And of course, it has to be admitted, that the wider public have not really been made aware of its availability. The need to raise public awareness of (i) the principles of Freemasonry; (ii) the very positive contribution that Freemasonry makes to society; (iii) the sheer physical existence of Freemasons Hall as an asset available to the wider community are seen as absolute priorities.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The Trustees can look back on 2019 with satisfaction in as much as we have been faced with further problems but no problems that we have not been able to tackle competently and successfully. This has come about as a result of establishing substantial reserves through sound financial control and prudence. This has enabled the company to take some significant steps towards our goal of continued consolidation and further improvement to the structure of the building and ultimately the facilities available to those using the building.

Further dry rot in the kitchen, but this time on a smaller scale, necessitated further treatment at a cost of some £3,000 but we now feel that all possible sources have been dealt with and there should be no recurrence. The opportunity was taken in the summer break to have a complete redecoration and "facelift" of the Bar area. This included not only repainting but new carpets and curtains plus re-upholstery of the furniture, at an overall cost of £9,000.

We had already taken the necessary steps as reported in 2018 to obtain Planning Approval and Listed Building Approval in order to carry out the necessary work required to bring the toilets and cloakroom accommodation up to modern standards. In 2016 the many Masonic Groups renting the building for their programme of meetings had attended an Extra-ordinary General Meeting where it was agreed that the Board should proceed with planning for a "demolish and rebuild" programme to put in place the necessary plans for new toilets and cloakroom facilities. The necessary Planning approval has subsequently been granted. A start has been made on this programme. The lowering of the ceiling in the kitchen Wash-up" room to enable connection with the proposed extension has been completed at a cost of £17,000 and a start has been made on the very difficult but necessary task of providing a Disabled Toilet facility. This will over-run into 2020 and will involve an estimated overall cost of some £15,000. This wide-ranging programme will lead to a deficit on the 2019 annual accounts but it is all part of our planned programme of improvements. The financing of these works will come from retained surpluses.

Ipswich freemasons now have a venue which they feel is one in which they can take much pride as a historic masonic meeting place. The Trustees have to a large extent achieved their primary objective of maintaining and preserving (and improving where feasible) the fabric and structure of Ipswich's Freemasons Hall. They have kept up a continuous programme of building work which has, to a very large extent, ensured the future integrity of the original building and a continuous programme of measures which have made enormous improvements to the decorative state of the premises. At the same time we have endeavoured to ensure that the building complies with current regulatory standards in regard to Health & Safety, Fire Safety, and Environmental Health requirements. They now feel that Ipswich's Freemasons Hall has a viable future and will continue to be an integral part of Ipswich's architectural heritage.

We are now focussing on the toilet and cloakroom accommodation. These are areas of major concern in as much as they do not conform to what would be seen as a desirable standard for a community asset such as Freemasons Hall. The plans for high quality facilities are in place but the financial implications are very considerable. The phased programme which is now under way and has seen a substantial start in 2019 will now require a very strong fundraising programme, initially for some £290,000, for the next phase - the demolish and initial rebuild phase. The Masonic Groups who wanted to see these improvements take place will now have to raise the extra money to meet the bill. The amount required is beyond the scope of the company to raise on its own. It should be pointed out that utilisation of the Gift Aid Scheme through a Members Lottery has raised £44,000 which has been designated "solely for Development and Improvement" and most of this is still available.

The Trustees have not lost sight of their secondary objective of educating the Ipswich population on the principles of Freemasonry. As yet the possibility of opening a dedicated Masonic Heritage Centre must wait upon the provision of suitable premises to house it. This will be an integral part of any future demolition and building project.

The Trustees continue to bring the benefits of Freemasonry as a social force for good to the notice of the wider public. We have continued and expanded our efforts to make our work known with our continued participation in Ipswich's Heritage Weekend. Freemasons Hall was opened to the public on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th September 2019 and provided an exhibition describing the range of masonic charitable activities. Stewards were available to answer any and all queries. It attracted much favourable comment from the hundreds of visitors who attended. It served to highlight the very positive message that Freemasonry is a major deliverer of charity both nationally and locally and as such is a very positive and constructive influence in the community.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

This statement complies with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. We have reviewed this guidance when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The Trustees consider that their planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Reserves

The Trustees plan to build up the company reserves as indicated to ensure (i) necessary repairs and maintenance can always be undertaken with expedition and (ii) that a longer-term strategy to provide improved facilities to Freemasons Hall remains viable. This will ultimately give it the necessary standing with the local community and make it an attractive proposition for the wider general public to hire and use for their social requirements.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The directors of the company are also the charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. The charity may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to be a director and determine the rotation in which any additional directors are to retire.

Induction and training of new trustees

New trustees are advised of their role and responsibilities by current trustees. Each is encouraged to use the Charity Commission website to remain fully abreast of their role.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

06922371 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1130452

Registered office

8/10 Soane Street
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP4 2BG

Trustees

K J Larcombe Director
P N Matthews Retired
A C Page Retired
K D Payne Retired (appointed 29.5.19)
R R Player Retired (appointed 29.5.19)
A A Tydeman Retired
H Watson Director/engineer

Independent Examiner

Finnigan & Co
37 Lower Brook Street
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP4 1AQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 16 April 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Masonic Hall Ipswich Limited (Registered number: 06922371)

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

A C Page - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Masonic Hall Ipswich Limited**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Masonic Hall Ipswich Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I 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.

Mr P D Finnigan
FCCA
Finnigan & Co
37 Lower Brook Street
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP4 1AQ

Date:

Masonic Hall Ipswich Limited**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

		31.12.19 Unrestricted fund £	31.12.18 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Donations and legacies		75,578	80,600
Other trading activities	2	<u>6,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Total		<u>81,578</u>	<u>85,600</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Raising funds		63,340	58,387
Other		<u>42,554</u>	<u>-</u>
Total		<u>105,894</u>	<u>58,387</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(24,316)</u>	<u>27,213</u>
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		115,490	88,277
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>91,174</u></u>	<u><u>115,490</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 December 2019

	Notes	31.12.19 Unrestricted fund £	31.12.18 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	6	2,400	3,599
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	193	-
Cash at bank		<u>105,218</u>	<u>111,891</u>
		105,411	111,891
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(16,637)	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>88,774</u>	<u>111,891</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		91,174	115,490
NET ASSETS		<u>91,174</u>	<u>115,490</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		<u>91,174</u>	<u>115,490</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>91,174</u>	<u>115,490</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2019.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.
- (b)

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2019

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 16 April 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:

A C Page - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and the settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 33% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.19	31.12.18
	£	£
Social lotteries	<u>6,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.19	31.12.18
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,199</u>	<u>1,800</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2019 nor for the year ended 31 December 2018.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2019 nor for the year ended 31 December 2018.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	80,600
Other trading activities	<u>5,000</u>
Total	<u>85,600</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Raising funds	58,387
NET INCOME	<u>27,213</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	88,277
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>115,490</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019	<u>13,624</u>	<u>7,548</u>	<u>21,172</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 January 2019	11,276	6,297	17,573
Charge for year	<u>782</u>	<u>417</u>	<u>1,199</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>12,058</u>	<u>6,714</u>	<u>18,772</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2019	<u>1,566</u>	<u>834</u>	<u>2,400</u>
At 31 December 2018	<u>2,348</u>	<u>1,251</u>	<u>3,599</u>

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.19 £	31.12.18 £
Other debtors	<u>193</u>	<u>-</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.19 £	31.12.18 £
Other creditors	6,893	-
Net pay	(128)	-
Accruals and deferred income	<u>9,872</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>16,637</u>	<u>-</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	115,490	(24,316)	91,174
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>115,490</u>	<u>(24,316)</u>	<u>91,174</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,578	(105,894)	(24,316)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,578</u>	<u>(105,894)</u>	<u>(24,316)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.18 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.18 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	88,277	27,213	115,490
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>88,277</u>	<u>27,213</u>	<u>115,490</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	85,600	(58,387)	27,213
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>85,600</u>	<u>(58,387)</u>	<u>27,213</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.18 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	88,277	2,897	91,174
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>88,277</u>	<u>2,897</u>	<u>91,174</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	167,178	(164,281)	2,897
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>167,178</u>	<u>(164,281)</u>	<u>2,897</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2019.

This document was delivered using electronic communications and authenticated in accordance with the registrar's rules relating to electronic form, authentication and manner of delivery under section 1072 of the Companies Act 2006.