



Annual Report 2015

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Chairman's Review of 2015

The past twelve months have been a year of transition, which commenced with Peter Cookson in the chair up to the 2015 AGM, though preparing to hand over the reins. From the AGM onwards, the Executive has been strengthened by the addition of Martin Lodge as Vice Chair, and Karl Gilbert as Secretary, though it is fair to say that issues in the Treasurer hand-over to Emma Horsfield were far from satisfactory. However, Emma and the addition of Dr. Claire MacDonald to the Executive have seen a shift in representation, added to which the average age of the Board of Trustees has been reduced, which will be our continued direction of travel.

The production quality of our materials has increased as a result of a grant from Wakefield MDC, and separately our website (the third version in the society's history) has been relaunched, added to which our PR output has seen a significant improvement in both quantity and quality.

In order to make optimum use of the new team at the top, the breadth of engagement with senior elected members and directors as well as access to other officers in Wakefield MDC has been significant, on subjects as varied as highways infrastructure, rail, tourism, raising the profile of the town, and the emerging Area Council's model, as well benefiting from the provision of a meeting room for our Conservation, Environment and Planning Committee. We have not had the time and resources to secure positive results on everything that we and others in the town would like to see, though we are not deterred, and our 'wish list' remains an active and fluid tool upon which we can build in 2016 and 2017. Our engagement on rail has also been extended to access to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and train operating companies.

The Trustees have refreshed our strategy and governance, which is an ongoing responsibility, and we have engaged more broadly on what other people would like to see us doing, which has included both members and non-members.



Outside of Pontefract, we have engaged with other civic societies through meetings, talks and walks arranged by Civic Voice and the Yorkshire Association of Civic Societies (YHACS), in locations as varied as Harrogate, Ilkley, Skipton, and Bristol, and we had the pleasure of hosting the October YHACS meeting, with the support of Pontefract Heritage Group. It was in St. Giles Church that Cllr Denise Jeffery said *"The local authority needs proactive civic societies like Pontefract, who are a critical friend, and it's good to be working with Paul and his team"*. I was also fortunate to represent Pontefract Civic Society at the pilot launch of a new online toolkit – 'Beauty In My Back Yard' (BIMBY), which was hosted by HRH The Prince of Wales at St. James' Palace.

Rewarding and worthwhile events by Mid Yorkshire Chamber of Commerce and Historic England, plus reaching out to Welcome to Yorkshire evidences our desire to reposition Pontefract Civic Society as a significant and influential voice for the town.

For a week in June, Pontefract celebrated its connection with the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, though it has not all been plain sailing as a result of the monument project being beset with delays and issues with planning, highways, building control, and also a lower than anticipated level of grant support. Whilst the monument will be delivered in 2016 to enhance Bridge Street as a civic space, the whole process has been a significant distraction. On a more positive note, 2015 ended with the unveiling of the John de Lacy blue plaque, funded by Friends of Pontefract Castle.



Other more positive environments have benefited from our support in helping the Friends of Friarwood Valley Gardens deliver the playground, we provided funds for a rose bed, and revitalised the town's love for The Crescent Cinema by facilitating a visit and public meeting, followed by a standalone group forming, which is set for the long haul. We have also made our mark on the streets of Pontefract through our successful Christmas Display Competition, and we are more visible via our display boards in the bus station.

We closed our 2015 Executive meeting by thanking Allan Blaza and Derek Vaux for their respective contributions to the Executive in their co-opted roles, though we know they are continuing to work for us in the background.

Our ambition for both the development of Pontefract Civic Society and all facets of the town is undiminished, though we still have a need to add to our resources with more active and dynamic members to work with the Executive, our three committees, and individual projects. 2015 has been a year of transition, embedding our core activities whilst shifting the tiller. Our focus for 2016 must continue to secure a better deal for Pontefract, continued successful growth in membership and improvement in finances, such that 2016 will see even more being delivered as we embark upon the right direction for tomorrow's civic society.

**Paul Cartwright
Chairman**

Key Achievements

Review of Policies and Processes

The Executive have introduced revised policies in 2015 to cover:

- Equality and Diversity
- Health and Safety
- Complaints
- Trading
- Conflict of Interest
- Risk Management

Changes to the constitution are proposed. Mostly these are minor or procedural in nature. However, the Executive recommends a change to the election of Trustees to follow guidance from the Charity Commission on the Trust Deed:

Clause 9(v) - *The first Trustees are those individuals named at the beginning of this deed There is no need to include sub clause (v) if the Trustees will continue in post until they retire There are, however, benefits in including fixed periods of appointment, not least by ensuring that the appointments are regularly reviewed If this sub-clause is included, we recommend that you "stagger" the terms of office of the first Trustees to ensure that they do not all go out of office at the same time For example, if there are three Trustees, one might be appointed for five years, one for four years and one for three years*

Christmas Display Competition

In an attempt to put some sparkle into Christmas, Pontefract Civic Society launched a Christmas Display Competition.

The judging panel: Cllr Denise Jeffery (WMDC Deputy Leader), Rob Clayden (local artist/photographer), Eve Hodgson (King's High School) and Josh Newton (Carleton High School) visited 13 businesses on 17th December accompanied by Paul Cartwright (Chair, Pontefract Civic Society).

The judges were particularly impressed with shops that had done more than just use their stock with added decorations and especially, by those that had included a creative theme or a setting.

The winner of the competition was Flowerworks and runners up were Southgate Kitchen & Bathroom Studio and Hark Interiors and Goodworth Bros. All three received a framed certificate from Pontefract Civic Society.

"We wanted to test the water with this pilot initiative, and we're pleased that over a dozen shops decided to enter the competition and we thank them for their participation. With this success we hope to repeat the competition in 2016 with more shops taking part, which will make the town a brighter shopping experience. We may even add a similar competition at a different time of year." Paul Cartwright





Press and Public Relations

We have received significant coverage in the Pontefract and Castleford Express in 2015 and have had a number of articles published in the Yorkshire and Humberside Civic Society (YHACS) Newsletter.

The Society has made optimum use of social media to initiate and contribute to conversations. Our events are promoted on social media sites and in the *What's On* section of the Wakefield Visitor Guide.

Thanks to Helen Quarmby, Bus Station Manager, we now have a double display cabinet at Pontefract Bus Station.

Keeping Members Informed

We have issued 7 newsletters in 2015 an increase of 57% on 2014. The newsletter was rebranded in December from *Pride in Pontefract* to *Pontefract Voice*

Our website has been fully reviewed, revised and redesigned

We held a Member's Meeting in June to consider three main topics:

1. The results of the *Tell Us What You Think* exercise
2. The PCS Newsletter
3. Our future events

We have made considerable progress in implementing the view expressed by Members at that meeting for example providing a facility for other organisations to promote their activities through our newsletter.

Making our Voice Heard

We have developed good working relationships with Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (WMDC) at both strategic and operational levels. These included meetings with Joanne Roney CEO and Councillor Denise Jeffery, Deputy Leader.



We were one of the 13 Civic Societies invited to attend the launch of *Beauty in My Back Yard* (BIMBY) in the presence of HRH The Prince of Wales. An initiative of Prince's Foundation for Building Community, BIMBY includes a *Housing Toolkit*, a simple and practical, step-by-step method, empowering communities to work with local authorities and developers to create a regional BIMBY Housing Manual.

It is specifically designed to give certainty to house builders, who can be sure of their housing's popularity, whilst granting security to the community and local authority that new building projects will be in keeping with local preferences and needs.

Our Trustees (2015)

Chairman Peter Cookson (to 17th March) Paul Cartwright (from 17th March)

Secretary Paul Cartwright (to 17th March) Karl Gilbert (from 17th March)

Treasurer Stephen Lofthouse (to 17th March) Emma Horsfield (from 17th March)

Vice Chair Paul Cartwright (to 17th March) Martin Lodge (from 17th March)

Conservation, Environment & Planning Chair Peter Taylor

Land Use & Transport Chair Peter Cookson

Publicity, Events & Administration Chair Mike Skidmore

Co-opted Derek Vaux

Co-opted Dr Colin White

Co-opted Allan R Blaza

Report of the Trustees for the Period Ending 31st December 2015

The Trustees, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December, 2014.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the SORP accounting policies set out by our Treasurer, Emma Horsfield.

Structure, governance and management

Pontefract Civic Society is a registered charity governed by constitution. The organisation is viable by self-generated income from subscriptions and events. Project funding is developed through grant opportunities. There are no plans to recruit an Executive Director, and we intend on the trustees continuing to manage the charity on a voluntary basis.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

As set out in the Constitution, the Chair of Trustees is nominated by the membership. The trustees are set out in this report and are those in place at AGM. The board of trustees has the power to co-opt trustees, as necessary; until such time that those with constitutional roles can be voted in at the AGM.

Trustee induction and training

The Trustees maintain a good working knowledge of charity and charity law and best practice. Attendance at charity training courses as deemed applicable.

Organisation

The Charity is controlled by a board of Trustees. The day to day running of the charity is divided amongst these trustees with specific roles and responsibilities as required.

Charitable objectives and activities

The Society is established for the public benefit for the following purposes in the area comprising Pontefract and District which area shall hereinafter be referred to as "the area of benefit":-

- (i) To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting the area of benefit.
- (ii) To educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area of benefit.
- (iii) To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in the area of benefit.

Public benefit

In furtherance of the said purposes, but not otherwise, the Society through its Executive Committee shall have the following powers:-

- 1. To promote civic pride in the area of benefit.
- 2. To promote research into subjects directly connected with the objects of the Society and to publish the results of any such research.
- 3. To act as a co-ordinating body and to co-operate with the local authorities, planning committees and all other statutory authorities, voluntary organisations, charities and persons having aims similar to those of the Society.

4. To promote or assist in promoting activities of a charitable nature throughout the area of benefit.
5. To publish papers, reports and other literature.
6. To make surveys and prepare maps and plans and collect information in relation to any place, erection or building of beauty or historic interest within the area of benefit.
7. To hold meetings, lectures and exhibitions.
8. To educate public opinion and to give advice and information.
9. To raise funds and to invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation and otherwise; provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds for its primary purpose. To acquire, by purchase, gift or otherwise, property, whether subject to any special trust or not.
10. Subject to such consents as may be required by law, to sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account all or any of the property or funds of the Society as shall be necessary.
11. Subject to such consents as may be required by law, to borrow or raise money for the purposes of the Society on such terms and on such security as the Executive Committee shall think fit, but so that the liability of individual members of the Society shall in no case extend beyond the amount of their respective annual subscriptions.
12. To do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said purposes.

We do this by organising membership events, and reaching out to non-members to attend public talks and meetings in accessible locations and venues.

A number of free public meetings are organised and publicised, which ensures the Society remains accessible, financially viable and sustainable.

Risk management

The trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

1. An annual review of the risks
2. The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate risk
3. Implementation of the procedures designed to minimise any potential impact should those risks materialise

Role and contribution of volunteers

Pontefract Civic Society celebrates its commitment to a diverse and skilled volunteer team. Volunteers contributed many hours to the organisation within our remit during 2015. Without this help our organisation could not survive.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities showed a deficit of £1,848.00

Reserves policy

In accordance with the advice of the Charity Commission, the charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves at levels of approximately 12 months of budgeted unrestricted expenditure, to meet unforeseen costs and statutory obligations.

Future plans and developments

The main priority is to create a blend of experience and 'younger blood', supplemented by relevant governance controls and trustee training, to deliver operational plans:

- To continue working in partnership with public & private stakeholders
- To increase our membership with a broader demographic and encourage active participation
- To review investment opportunities
- To work on specific projects of benefit for the town as a whole

On behalf of the Board
Karl Gilbert
Honorary Secretary

Our Committees

Conservation, Environment & Planning Committee:-

Peter Taylor (Chair), Claire MacDonald (Vice Chair), Karl Gilbert (Secretary), Norman Blackburn, Allan R Blaza, Paul Cartwright, Christine Cartwright

Land Use & Transport Committee

Peter Cookson (Chair), Anthony Dee (Vice Chair), Derek Vaux (Secretary), Sir Bill O'Brien

Publicity, Events & Administration Committee

Mike Skidmore (Chair), Colin White (Vice Chair), Karl Gilbert (Secretary), Allan R Blaza, Paul Cartwright, Mollie Garbett, Martin Lodge

Land Use and Transport (LUT) Committee Report

There has been much to occupy our minds during 2015. To the general public the most obvious changes around the town have been the rapid development of house building on various sites and the completion of the long-awaited re-design of Townend junction. Building in Ackworth road, Prince's Park, Ferrybridge Road, The Maltings, Spittal Hardwick Lane and other small sites has probably added a couple of hundred houses to the Pontefract stock and this is likely to continue apace during 2016. Continuation or completion of these sites, together with new ones authorised in Cobbler's Lane and Mill Dam will continue to exert pressure on our infrastructure. The Society has tried to anticipate the likely effects of development in order to lobby for infrastructure changes to be implemented pro-actively but it seems almost always the case that large organisations respond reactively. This may be inevitable up to a point, since the funding on which infrastructure changes are based often does not become available until after building has taken place.

Although the Townend junction re-build took much longer than anticipated, most comment on the final outcome seems to be favourable. The traffic flow does seem to be better on the whole, though there are likely still to be problems at peak times – but most places have such problems and Pontefract is no exception. The Junction will, no doubt, be monitored and there may well be further work that needs to be done to optimise the flow.

We have also responded to three consultations throughout the year: to the House of Lords on the Built Environment, to Rail North on the allocation of the new Northern Rail Franchise and to Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (WMDC) on the Retail and Town Centre Local Plan. In the case of this last consultation, it was effectively further comment on WMDC's draft plan, to which we had originally made a very substantial contribution in the form of a document compiled by Adrian Pope. We were pleased to see the large amount of common ground between the Society and the Authority but this is very much

work in progress. It is important to see this as a live document, rather than a perfunctory exercise to be filed away and not acted on. In particular, we need to look at ways in which the Horsefair connection between Bridge Street (where the Magna Carta Monument will stand) and the Castle (where extensive work is underway) can be much enhanced



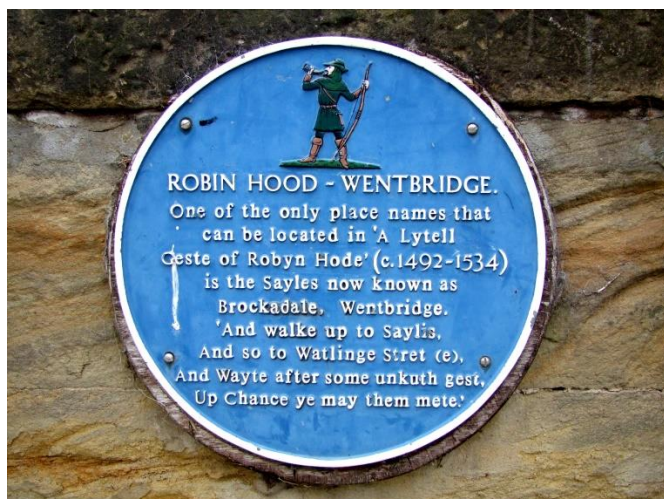
On the Railway Scene, we have responded to the Franchise process in both written contributions and in face-to-face conversations with all the Franchise aspirants. However, plans submitted by the winning bidder-Arriva-have proved disappointing and offer no more than the minimum improvement required by the Department for Transport (DfT).

Pontefract remains uniquely disadvantaged in its service provision but we are not prepared to accept this position without further in-depth discussion. We have been pointedly critical of the outcome and are due to meet with Arriva early in the New Year to discuss the position and we are still hopeful of further service enhancement. It is worth noting that, notwithstanding this dissatisfaction with the Franchise proposals, we have widespread support at Local Authority and Combined Authority levels and that our proposals and theirs show a remarkable level of agreement.

Finally, we have had numerous meetings throughout the year with relevant officers at local and Combined Authority levels to discuss our concerns and we expect these to continue into 2016. There is still much to do.

Peter Cookson
Chair
LUT Committee

Publicity, Events & Administration (PEA) Committee Report



On the 3rd **February** our first talk of the year was given by that notable historian, Eric Houlder. And what an interesting talk it was. Headed- '*Was Robin Hood a Yorkshireman?*' There was a large gathering of interested people in the small ballroom of Carleton Grange. (Nearly all our talks are held in that venue). The fact that Eric was giving the talk, no doubt was partly the reason. Suffice to say it became evident as the evening progressed that Robin Hood could well have been born in Yorkshire.

I won't go into details as Eric will no doubt be giving the talk again to another enthralled audience, equally sceptical at the beginning then, like us, convinced that one of our National folk heroes was indeed a Yorkshireman.

In the middle of **March**, on the 17th, the Society held its annual AGM which included the Design Awards. The meeting and awards have been covered in other Society Newsletters in a far better way than I possibly could.

On the 14th **April**, thanks to the efforts of Peter Cookson, Sean English, the General Manager for Grand Central Railway, gave a very interesting talk on the development and present situation of Grand Central. To those of us not familiar with the running of railways, the talk was a bit of an eye opener. Grand Central have a franchise with Network Rail, therefore their timetable is not always as they would desire. Still, I have used them and the train was spot on time.

On Monday 11th **May** we had a talk given by Jo Hill, the Townscape Heritage Officer for WMDC. The talk, held in the ecclesiastical surroundings of St Giles was interesting, but unfortunately it appeared that not too many people have an interest in the Town Centre Initiative. Those of us that want improved shop facades and pleasant colour schemes welcome the initiative and also the work that Jo and others are doing to further that.

July 7th offered a day at the races. The King Richard III Handicap Stakes being the highlight of the day.

July had another event associated with the Civic Society. Our Vice Chairman, Martin Lodge, organised a social Night which involved a much as you can eat meal for £10. It was held in the Guides' 'hut' Carleton Park Road. Again, the room was full and the food cooked on site was delicious.

On the 23rd of July we had organised an evening trip to Archbishop Holgate Almshouses in Hemsworth. What a beautiful setting the Almshouses reside in. Before our tour we were given an interesting and informative introductory talk accompanied by coffee and biscuits.



After our tour we sat and listened to the personal history of Robert Holgate and the Hospital he founded, plus the beginnings of the foundation of the Almshouses. The site even had its own mortuary, although not used today of course.

On Tuesday 4th Simon Tomson, Excavation Field Director for Pontefract and District Archaeological Society gave a talk entitled *Finding Pontefract's Black Friars*. St Richard's Friary in Pontefract was one of 56 Dominican Friaries in England by 1300. As you may well know, part of this friary was under the old A&E Department. Excavations took place in 2011/2012. Simon tends to spice up his talks with clever and funny comments. That is why, not only because of his wealth of knowledge, he is extremely interesting to listen to.

The weekend 11th to 13th **September** was Heritage Open Days. Spread over the weekend visits included the Masonic Hall, the Town Hall, St. Joseph's Church, the double helix staircase in All Saints and to the Castle. The helix staircase is one of only two in the country. The Nelson Room is unique with its plaster cast of the scene on Nelson's flagship, the Victory (believe it or not this massive cast was brought up from London in pieces on a cart). Allan Blaza conducted that tour and there was quite a bit of personal history available. And not forgetting that the Town Hall was used for the first ever secret parliamentary ballot in England. Most Heritage Day events went extremely well and were attended, showing that many people do have an interest in the history and heritage of Pontefract. St Joseph's Church was also a building that was open for visits

On the 10th **October** Yorkshire & Humberside Association of Civic Societies visited Pontefract. As our guests they were made most welcome with refreshments in St Giles. Our Chairman, Paul Cartwright, welcomed them and gave a resume of our Society's achievements and activities. They were highly appreciative of the effort made to ensure they enjoyed their visit.

November saw the last talk. Entitled *The Longest Retreat from Burma*. Unfortunately the talk was limited to 30 people. Although in the end we had 33 attend. After the talk we were treated to pie and peas cooked in the kitchen at the Grange by Roy the steward there. Colonel Gerald Delaney gave the talk. As I said last year, Gerald is a retired Army Officer. His talk this time contained personal experiences of himself and his family, his Father being an officer in the York & Lancs Regiment. In 1941 the regiment was in Burma and the Japanese were seriously thinking of invading that country. Burma, at the time, contained large oil fields.

Finally, on Tuesday 1st **December**, we had the annual Christmas Dinner in the Oak Room, Rogerthorpe Manor Hotel. The management did us proud with a splendid display and an equally splendid meal.

All in all we've had a very successful year and hopefully next year we will have one of equal success.

Mike Skidmore
Chair
PEA Committee

Conservation, Environment and Planning (CEP) Report

The Conservation Environment and Planning Group focuses its attention on activities and development within the town centre and Conservation areas paying particular attention to issues relating to the history and heritage of the town.

The group attempts to monitor changes and makes comments on planning applications. Changes take place slowly and are often small in scale but together can have an important impact.

There are relatively few empty shop units in the centre and several small businesses have been attracted. In previous years several new cafes have opened up. This year it has included estate agents, a boutique, a pie shop, a bakery and a butcher's.

After a cautious start Townscape Heritage Initiative schemes have come to fruition particularly in Gillygate, at the end of Ropergate and the entrance to Beastfair/Cornmarket. A spin off perhaps from the schemes has been numerous privately funded proposals involving new shop fronts, signage or simply painting. All have made an impact and add to a flourishing indoor market and outdoor market.



Unfortunately concerns remain about empty buildings and unused floor space of a number of large key buildings in the centre. The Society is committed to encouraging and supporting renewal schemes. The CEP group hope to focus attention towards bringing these buildings back into use. This has led to the formation of a new group called Crescent Project.

The CEP group is anxious to attract funding for additional Blue Plaque schemes, to improve public spaces and access from the ginnels as well as street furniture and planting. The Conservation areas merit quality features in order to make the centre more attractive.

Activities organised by the group included a Christmas shop front display competition which was well supported and the annual Design Awards.

With Council assistance, Heritage Open Days have been supported and this year Yorkshire Day was celebrated as well as the Magna Carta anniversary.

All have contributed to a busy year, but there are still lots that can be done.

Once again I would like to thank members of the sub-committee for their contributions and ideas and their continued interest.

Peter Taylor
Chair
CEP Committee

Secretary's Report

On taking on the role of Honorary Secretary after the last AGM, came with it was Secretary for two committees (CEP and PEA), which at times has been a struggle, though there are many more positives, which started by bringing the Society's website in-house, with a new 'look and feel', together with additional features and functionality. Time has also been invested in creating a suite of leaflets with a gradual move towards heritage colours in their presentation; these included the 2015 Calendar of Events, Welcome to Pontefract, Heritage Open Days, Membership 2016, and Calendar of Events 2016. I have also coordinated the planning of all meetings for the Executive and all three committees, to avoid overlap for some attendees. For those members not on email, I have delivered essential information, though we do encourage everyone to move towards email contact.

Added to the website theme, new email addresses for Officers and distribution lists for committees and all members have been established. Similarly, I have also supported the initial web and IT set up for The Crescent Project.

As membership renewals have taken place, our membership directory has been maintained, and it is encouraging to see the increase achieved in 2015, on the back of an increase in 2014. For 2016, we have registered with Golden Giving for processing membership fees, which further streamlines the renewal and automated payment process; membership numbers are shown below.

	2015	2014	2013
Corporate - Silver	2	1	1
Corporate - Bronze	3	2	2
Junior	0	0	0
Couples 1	16	14	11
Couples 2	16	14	11
Individuals	46	42	42
Honorary	1	1	1
Total Membership	84	74	68

Karl Gilbert
Honorary Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report since taking over in the summer of 2015, followed a delayed handover, which also included an independent examination of the 2014 Annual Accounts.

I am pleased to confirm that all expenditure has been correctly dual authorised, prior to processing payments promptly, when due, and properly allocated/accounted for. I would like to thank Ian Wood for an effective independent examination of our 2015 Annual Accounts.

An upward trend in new members, as well couples contributing (existing and new) has made a positive contribution to 2015 income.

Our income in 2014 (£5,766) and 2015 (£8,552) has been distorted due to one-off activities, as a result of events in 2014, and a grant for the Magna Carta monument in 2015. The same is true in expenditure. The monument project is currently in the region of £28k of which just over £7k has already been spent, and is in the 2015 accounts with transfers between accounts to cover invoices. All other aspects of the Society's expenditure are in line with earlier years.

In December, 2015, the Trustees agreed to close the COIF investment account, with funds being transferred to Barclays.

Towards the end of 2015, the Society started to use the Golden Giving website to receive subscriptions. This is a very simple means of ensuring the Society's income is Gift Aided, the administration of which is undertaken via the website provider, which gives a very welcome boost to income at a time when we're seeking additional income streams. I would encourage you all therefore to make use of this payment process where possible, which is simple, secure, and of course beneficial to the Society's finances.

In 2016 and beyond, the Trustees will be required to attract additional income to support new projects and for ongoing running costs, as part of a broader portfolio of activities being driven by the Chair. Further legacy income is of interest to the Trustees, as part of future financial planning.

Emma Horsfield (supported by Paul Cartwright)
Treasurer

Pontefract Civic Society
Charity Commission number 513509

Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2015

Income	2015	2014	2013
Annual subscriptions received	£ 1,127	£ 717	£ 935
Blue plaques	£ 348	£ -	£ 462
Grants	£ 5,995	£ 1,269	£ -
Donations	£ 162	£ 74	£ 146
Events revenue	£ 920	£ 3,706	£ 860
Legacies	£ -	£ -	£ -
Sub-Total	£ 8,552	£ 5,766	£ 2,403
Income from monetary assets			
Transfers between accounts	£ 5,309	£ -	£ -
Bank interest	£ 12	£ 12	£ 12
Total Income	£ 13,873	£ 5,778	£ 2,415
Expenditure	2015	2014	2013
Direct charitable expenditure:			
Civic Voice	£ 80	£ 80	£ -
YHACS	£ 50	£ 50	£ 50
Events & meetings	£ 1,449	£ 3,322	£ 574
Donations	£ 120	£ 131	£ 550
Sub-Total	£ 1,699	£ 3,583	£ 1,174
Other Expenditure incurred:			
Membership refunds	£ -	£ 12	£ -
Insurance	£ 245	£ 245	£ 245
Printing & Postage	£ 219	£ 201	£ -
Blue Plaques and Guides	£ 348	£ 1,195	£ 58
Grants exp (non-Magna Carta)	£ 596	£ 96	£ -
Magna Carta	£ 7,304	£ -	£ -
Transfers between accounts	£ 5,309		
Grants exp (Yorkshire Day)	£ -	£ 1,000	£ -
Town Plan (production/printing)	£ -	£ -	£ 182
Website	£ -	£ -	£ 20
Sub-Total	£ 14,022	£ 2,749	£ 505
Total expenditure incurred	£ 15,721	£ 6,332	£ 1,679
Overall Excess/Deficit of Income over Expenditure	-£ 1,848	-£ 554	£ 736

Statement of Assets of Liabilities as at 31 December 2015

Monetary Assets	2015	2014	2013
Barclays Community A/c (current)	£ 4,719	£ 1,269	£ 1,835
Barclays Business Saver A/c (investment)	£ 18,603	£23,842	£ 23,830
COIF A/c (investment) - A/c closed 2015	£ -	£ 59	£ 57
Totals	£ 23,322	£25,170	£ 25,722

Reconciliation of cash movements to bank balances

Opening bank balances	£ 25,170	£25,722	£ 24,986
Total cash receipts	£ 13,873	£ 5,778	£ 2,415
Less: Expenditure	£ 15,721	£ 6,330	£ 1,679
Total cash inflow	-£ 1,848	-£ 552	£ 736
Closing bank balances	£ 23,322	£25,170	£ 25,722

Treasurer: E Horsfield (2015)

I have examined the Receipts and Payments for the Year 2015 and found it to be in accordance with the records and vouchers produced.

The Income and Expenditure Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2015 and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2015 set out above are as approved by the Executive Committee.

Signed: **I Wood**

Signed: **P Cartwright**

Date: 08 February, 2016

Date: 8th February 2016.

Independent Examiner

Chairman PCS

Design Awards 2015



Improvement Award - An altered or significantly refurbished existing building on all floors that has vastly improved the attractiveness or character of the property. This award recognises the effort of an owner or tenant to improve and enhance the building without achieving any of the awards above. This award should be presented to buildings within the enlarged town centre. - **Winner: 1 Market Place**



Residential Award - A single dwelling site or multiple dwellings on a residential estate with elevations in keeping with the historical character of the town. An obvious effort will have been made by the architects to create attractive distinctive dwellings. - **Winner: Hallberg House, Wakefield and District Housing**



Regeneration Award - A building that has undergone a change of use, and which the new usage will act as a catalyst to improve the unique character of the town, encourage retail expansion, increase town centre usage, or facilitate tourism. - **Winner: Reeds Rains, Beastfair**



Special Commendation - An award given to a specific property, owner/tenant, organisation or person, in recognition of the motivation, work and cost given improving or enhancing a property or public space. - **Winner: Friends of Friarwood Valley Gardens**



Commercial/Civic Award - A newly designed or refurbished commercial, civic or public building as a result of a new build or significantly altered existing building. - **Winner: Pontefract Squash & Leisure Club, Stuart Road**



Countess of Rosse Façade of the Year Award - A newly designed or significantly altered ground floor facade which enhances or surpasses the character and quality of the adjacent ground floor facades. This award applies specifically to the retail or office ground floor façade in a Conservation Area - **Winner: Suzi's Boutique, Beastfair**

2016 Events

January 2016	February 2016	March 2016
	Tuesday 16th February 7:15pm Design Awards & AGM Carleton Grange	Tuesday 1st March 7:15pm Talk: Windmills & Watermills, particularly around Pontefract Eric Houlder Carleton Grange
April 2016	May 2016	June 2016
Tuesday 19th April 7pm Talk: Northern Powerhouse & Leeds City Region what does the future hold for Pontefract? Joanne Roney - CEO, WMDC Carleton Grange Saturday 30th April Tour de Yorkshire visits Pontefract	Tuesday 10th May 7pm Talk: The Style, History and Influence of Art Deco Kevin Trickett - President Wakefield Civic Society, Chair Yorkshire & Humber Association of Civic Societies Carleton Grange	Sunday 12th June The Polypipe Pontefract Grand Prix Tuesday 21st June Talk: Engineering and Technology of Water Power at Castleford Mills Andrew Rollinson Carleton Grange
July 2016	August 2016	September 2016
Tuesday 5th July 7:30pm Talk: National Friaries Simon Tomson Carleton Grange Saturday 9th July Picnic at the Castle (day) Proms at the Castle (evening) Sunday 10th July Pontefract Liquorice Festival	Monday 1st August Yorkshire Day Friarwood Valley, town centre and castle	Thursday 8th to Sunday 11th September Heritage Open Days Various locations
October 2016	November 2016	December 2016
Tuesday 4th October 7pm Talk: Scandals, Spite and Shuttlecocks - The story of Wentworth Woodhouse David Winpenny - Chair Ripon Civic Society Carleton Grange		

All information correct at time of going to print. Please visit the Pontefract Civic Society website for confirmation/information on any changes

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- Martin Lodge

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