

FRIENDS OF DUKINFIELD OLD HALL CHAPEL  
[www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk/dukinfieldoldhallchapel.htm](http://www.tamesidehistoryforum.org.uk/dukinfieldoldhallchapel.htm)

Ansaphones:  
0161-330 8730  
0845 458 1976  
Textphone:  
07532 209 249  
e-mail:  
[roy.parkes1@ntlworld.com](mailto:roy.parkes1@ntlworld.com)

Secretary:  
Roy Parkes  
c/o 8 Taunton Avenue  
Ashton-under-Lyne  
Greater Manchester  
OL7 9DS

ANNUAL REPORT 1 NOVEMBER 2011 to 31 MARCH 2012

Para 1: The Constitution was adopted on 1 November 2011, after a year of discussion by a Steering Group authorised to be established by the Tameside Local History Forum on 28 September 2010. At their last meeting the Steering Group recorded their grateful thanks to Barbara Lowndes of the Tameside Association of Voluntary Youth and Community Organisations (TAVYCO), for her hard work in preparing the Constitution and her skilled advice on many matters.

Para 2: As well as preparing the Constitution, the Steering Group had discussed the condition of the Chapel. A letter of introduction was sent to The Globe Industrial Estate and Bardsley Construction Limited (the owners) on 21 January 2011. The letter reminded and thanked the owners for their co-operation with the annual Heritage Open Days which, since 2005, had allowed a guided visit to members of the public, each September. The letter informed the owners of our intention to set up a Friends' organization with charitable objects and the aim to fund raise to stabilise the physical structure and improve opportunities for access thereto, and interpretation.

Para 3: A meeting was held with the Conservation Officer, Tameside Council, Catherine Jones, on 8 March 2011 at which the then existing planning permission for stabilisation was discussed. Granted on 8 December 2008 for three years only, the Conservation Officer said no information had been received as to when and if the permission would be implemented. The meeting also discussed the wide range of individuals and bodies who could be approached for support.

Para 4: A letter was received from Bardsley on 11 August 2011, explaining the ownership of the building, offering to transfer that ownership to a charitable trust at nil cost, and quoting a cost of £150k for its stabilisation.

Para 5: During November and December 2011 representations were made to the owners, the Conservation Officer, English Heritage and the Greater Manchester Building Preservation Trust that the planning permission should simply be renewed for a further period. However the consensus of the advice received was that a new planning application would be necessary, so the 2008 permission has now expired.

Para 6: During November 2011 Tameside Council were informed of the setting up of the Friends and a letter of good wishes was received from Councillor Jacqueline Lane, Assistant Executive Member for Heritage and Tourism.

Para 7: A meeting was held on 13 December 2011 with Simon Horsfall of Bardsley Construction Ltd, and the Conservation Officer, during which Mr Horsfall further explained the ownership complexities but stressed the willingness of the owners to sell at nil cost to them and the purchasers and to help facilitate any moves to seek funding for stabilisation and improved access. It was decided that the Friends should make an approach to the Greater Manchester Building Preservation Trust to see whether they would take on ownership of the building and responsibility for the major expenditure which would be

necessary. An approach was also authorised to Councillor John Taylor to see whether the Friends could participate in his annual history and photographic exhibition at Dukinfield Library, in May 2012.

Para 8: Gay Oliver as Web Manager to the Tameside Local History Forum added a page about the Friends soon after we were established and gave considerable help to the Secretary by regularly adding updating material and photographs.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 1 NOVEMBER 2011 to 31 MARCH 2012

Four individual membership subscriptions of £5 each were paid in, and were retained by the Secretary pending the finalisation of banking arrangements.

Roy Parkes  
Secretary  
11 November 2012

AN INITIATIVE OF THE TAMESIDE LOCAL HISTORY FORUM

ESTABLISHED 1 NOVEMBER 2011 WITH THE HELP OF TAMESIDE ASSOCIATION OF  
VOLUNTARY YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED BY TAMESIDE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL and  
BY GLOBE SQUARE LLP