



ANNUAL REPORT

The Enrolled Freemen of Grimsby,
Pasture's Committee 2022-2023

Written by: Sara Morris
Chair of The Enrolled Freemen of Grimsby Pasture's Committee
and Chair of the trustees of The Enrolled Freemen

This report is to accompany the accounts drawn up by the Treasurer, Carrie Jensen,
of Forrester Boyd



Welcome to the new style report to accompany the accounts for the Enrolled Freemen of Grimsby. I hope by introducing this new style, it will be more readable and engaging.

It's been a tumultuous year again, as we move away from the restrictions of covid, the aftereffects are still rippling through our communities. The cost-of-living crisis is resulting in an increase in everything from food to energy bills. All of which have had a huge impact and created a strategic headache for the development of the charity. The investment portfolio has also suffered some losses due to the global downturn. We do however review this and engage a specialist for advice to ensure that our investments work well for the Freemen.

The staff in the market and the trustees are moving the day to day running of the charity's interests forward. They have been working on new ways to increase footfall on the market and engage more with the community, attracting new people and working with local partners to develop the land adjacent to the market.

The drive over this last year has been to change our ways of working which has resulted in restructuring the market staff roles to include cleaning, security, and maintenance roles, whilst having the main functions operated by Alana and Chris, overseen by Sean. This is working well and resulting in some cost savings. We have also said goodbye to our Clerk to the Enrolled Freemen, Jonathan Goolden. Since 1849 the role of Clerk has been engaged through a local solicitor, the most recent of which has been Jonathan who is a partner at Wilkin Chapman LLP Solicitors.

Jonathan has been instrumental in the development of the site next to the market where the YMCA now proudly sits as well as introducing us to a wider business and community network, and we humbly thank Jonathan for his dedication and hard work. Replacing Jonathan in the Clerk capacity is Claire Etheridge, who has recently taken up this responsibility, being directly employed by the Freemen, and having her own office on the market – this again is set to result in reducing our costs.

Continued...

This is my first year as chair and want to take this opportunity to thank Steve White, who has been the chair for a number of years; for his help and support



over this last year - a year full of positive and managed change. I would also like to thank the Pastures Committee Trustees who have also been very supportive. The Pastures Committee and key officers meet once a month on a Tuesday, in addition we now have a more robust schedule of subcommittee meetings, each headed by its own chair, finance, market and the estates. If you have any specific questions regarding the accounts the Treasurer, will be attending the Annual General Meeting to answer them.

The Pastures Development Company Limited (PDC) the charities wholly owned subsidiary has also seen changes and now meets quarterly to manage the outcomes of the business hub (upstairs business offices on the market). The hub was part funded by the European Social Fund, and there are specific requirements that the PDC continues to meet, monitor, and manage. The current directors, Steve Wakefield, Steve White, and Richard Bellamy continue to manage the hub outcomes. The good news is that the offices have seen high occupancy levels, and we hope that this continues to be the case.

Thanks must go to the market staff, especially Sean, Chris, and Alana for being the first point of call for anything and everything related to the market and our wider estate. I do hope that you call in and say hello at some point. The market really is vibrant, and I am sure the traders would like your business.

Best wishes,

Sara Morris

Chair of The Enrolled Freemen of Grimsby Pasture's Committee

18th April 2023

The Enrolled Freemen Newsletter Spring 2022 – Spring 2023

Spring 2022



Market manager of 20 years, Steve Gotts retires. The market staff, trustees, and traders, plus our local MP Lia Nici held a celebration to thank him for his work over the years. Steve has seen many changes in the market. Although different to the bygone years of the market, it is still vibrant with a good community and food offer to accompany the traditional stalls of fruit, veg meat etc.

Summer 2022



Love Your Local Market campaign.

A family funfair, carnival themed day, complete with Ferris wheel, stilt walkers and games resulted in one of the busiest events of 2022 for Love Your Local Market.

Summer 2022 continues with blue skies:



Farmyard Funday.

Blue skies, short sleeves and warm weather was the concluding event of Love Your Local Market Campaign - Farmyard Funday. The day included Nunny's farm, mascots, face paint and more.

The market was so busy with people taking part in the activities. A lot of planning went into making this event memorable for our whole community.

Winter 2022

Not even the Grinch could steal the fun!

There was plenty to do over the Christmas festivities, and not even the Grinch could steal the fun. Children came to the grotto, spoke with Santa, and left with a goody bag. The market staff utilised all their skills in making the grotto a very special place to visit. The stall holders had a variety of speciality goodies for sale too.



A host of goods from meat to cheese, from veg to pies, from apples to fish.



With free 2-hour parking on offer, the market was truly very busy selling a host of goods from meat, to cheese, from veg to pies, from apples to fish. It was also a good time to get your shoes re-heeled, a new key for Santa cut and some hand-crafted gifts to put under the tree. The food offer has

developed tremendously and has a good name for itself with all traders having a 5-star hygiene rating.

Winter 2022 continues....

The Food Court.

The Food Court has received some investment from the Enrolled Freeman and is now home to a variety of food outlets, Beast Burger dishing out award winning burgers, Joella's with their German food touch and foot long fries! Plus, much more.



There is also Vine Café, Courtyard Café, and the famous Pea Bung, all offering lovely home-made food. Whilst we have lost some traders due to the cost-of-living crisis, coming out of the pandemic the food court has an excellent offer and is a place to hold a variety of other community focused events.



The Pea Bung

In addition to investing in the food court, there has been significant investment in the form of a state-of-the-art fryer for the Pea Bung. This cost more than £25,000 but was absolutely necessary for the family run business.

The Pea Bung is always busy and is steeped in history within the town. It has indeed become part of the street and the town's heritage.

Why not visit? There is room to sit and enjoy haddock and chips served with a smile and a cup of tea.

Spring 2023

Easter Weekend 2023. Freeman Street Market held an Easter Event on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th of April 2023, with mascots, face painting, church hymns, and an Easter hunt where 400 Easter Eggs were given away to the local community.



Marking an historical event - Charter Day, 821 years ago in 1201.



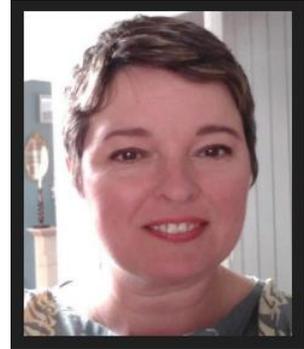
Charter Day at Freeman Street Market on Saturday 11th March 2023.

An exhibition was presented, along with stories from the Vice Chair of the Pastures Committee (Steve Wakefield) and a jazz music performer. The exhibition was up for a couple of weeks, so lots of people got the chance to have a look in the Enrolled Freeman book, which has a full register of names going back in our history.

Spring 2023 continues....

Message from our new Clerk to The Enrolled Freeman – Claire Etheridge.

I am honoured to take up this historic role on behalf of the Enrolled Freeman of Grimsby. I believe I am the first Clerk to be directly employed by the Enrolled Freeman and the first female clerk!



I am not an Enrolled Freeman, but I do live in Grimsby and have lived in North East Lincolnshire all my life. I hope to do this role justice, and for those that know me already, you know that I will work hard to help make good things happen. More than anything I am here to support the Enrolled Freeman and to help our charity survive and thrive.

Before taking up this role in January I worked with many charities, community groups and not for profit organisations within North East Lincolnshire, helping them to build and increase their infrastructure and capacity. For many years I supported with their governance, funding, business planning, and in their discussions with the local authority and health services. If I was asked for help, I would be there, if I could not help, I would find someone who could. I lost track over the years of how many community organisations I supported... I feel like I have now come full circle and I will be putting all that experience and knowledge into good use for the Enrolled Freeman.

I look forward to supporting the trustees, staff, and you the Enrolled Freeman in the years to come.

Do you have family members who are eligible to be admitted to the Freedom of Great Grimsby - the pastures roll of the Enrolled Freeman of Grimsby?

Families are rightly proud to be Freeman – not every town or city has Freeman, we are one of the unique few. Help us to preserve your family's heritage and Grimsby's heritage by entering the roll.

To request admission to the Freedom of Great Grimsby – to the roll, is straight forward.

You can do so via this web link - [Enrolled Freeman of Grimsby | NELC \(nelincs.gov.uk\)](https://www.nelincs.gov.uk) If you need help, or have any queries then get in touch with the Clerk to the Enrolled Freeman – claire@freemanstreetmarket.co.uk or 01472 426450.

We will soon be working with the council to make the process simpler.

To enter the Pastures Roll you will be asked to attend a fabulous ceremony in October at the Town Hall called the Mayor's Court. Details will be provided if you are to be admitted.

The Expression "enrolled Freeman" shall mean the Freeman whose Names are included in the Pastures Roll for the Time being in force;

The Future of The Enrolled Freeman

One of the highlights of the year has been Enrolling Alana into the Enrolled Freeman. Please read below the extract from the Grimsby Telegraph:



The 21-year-old former Waltham Toll Bar Academy student appreciated the significance of her appointment.

"It is an honour to be the first woman to be appointed by The Enrolled Freeman of Grimsby," she said.

Alana joined the team at The Hub on Freeman Street Market four years ago as assistant administrator. Her enhanced role incorporates social media, writing minutes and supporting tenants in its business offices and stallholders on Freeman

Street Market.

"It is an exciting time. The market and business hub are thriving and there are interesting discussions around potential developers for the vacant land on Freeman Street."

Chair of the Freeman Sara Morris, the first woman to be appointed to the role, congratulated Alana.

"She is a young person who has taken the role of apprentice seriously. She has made the job her own. The Enrolled Freeman have not appointed an apprentice since before the Second World War and that was, of course, a man. She is now an Enrolled Freeman of Grimsby in her own right and she will be able to pass that title down through her own family. It is a historic moment that has taken a long time to get to; several hundred years actually!"

WANTED – Pasture Committee members.

The Enrolled Freeman of Grimsby needs your help.

As Enrolled Freeman and members of the charity you can be on the Board - the Pastures Committee. You can help to guide the charity in the right direction, to achieve its aims and benefit The Enrolled Freeman and the wider community.

Do you have:

- Skills, ideas, and knowledge that can help us to develop and build on our strengths?
- A small amount of time to spend with our great staff team developing ideas, being innovative and building our Freeman community?
- Time to attend our monthly committee meeting?

And finally, are you an Enrolled Freeman?

YES – then get in touch, we want to hear from you.

Every year in June the Pastures Committee is formed – we need your support now.

Contact Claire – Clerk to the Enrolled Freeman to find out more:

Claire@freemanstreetmarket.co.uk / 01472 426450

Benevolent Fund - help when you most need it.

As has been said in previous reports, if you require any assistance, please apply to the Benevolent Fund through either the Clerk or the Treasurer. To apply you must be an Enrolled Freeman and be in extreme financial hardship with one of the following needs:

- the payment of an outstanding household utility bill, (usually gas or electricity)
- the replacement/repair of cooking facilities, (e.g., a new basic cooker if the existing one is not able to be repaired,
- facilities to enable one to keep warm, (e.g., a portable heater)
- essential repairs to property.

Each case will be considered on its own merits. The decision of the Benevolent Fund Committee is final. The Fund is not available for general financial assistance.

Please do not be afraid to ask, there was only one request last year, and in this time of significant cost of living increases we are aware help may be needed. Contact: Claire – claire@freemanstreetmarket.co.uk / 01472 426450 if you need assistance.

We have a change to our seal:



The Freemen have, after consultation with The Royal College of Arms, received a Grant of Armorial Bearings which comprises a Viking ship above a fish in front of a net to encapsulate our historical traditions.

The Latin motto translates as “In Every Time” to describe our longevity. We shall be using this from now on in place of the old Havelok Seal which we had been using with permission of the Council.

Developments for the future.

A workshop took place on November 18th, 2022, and again on the 24th of February 2023. The turn out for both workshops was incredible, bringing people together to consider what can be done with the site next to the YMCA. Presentations were given on the work organisations are doing to improve Freeman Street and the East Marsh.



At the February Workshop, Positive Places presented their idea for the site and the potential for developments to take place in the future. This was well received from the attendees and along with a Grimsby Retail in Partnership presentation discussing the security of Freeman Street. The vision for a safer, more active Freeman Street was seen to be achievable using the ideas from the workshop.



A final message:

Thank you for reading.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual General Meeting 2023, on Monday 5th June noon, at the Market Hub, Grimsby. There will be lunch available for all those Freeman that attend.

You should have received your official invite alongside this newsletter.

P.S Don't forget it is the Freeman Street Market 150th Anniversary this year. Please support your local market so that we can continue celebrating in years to come.

