

4.0 Management January 2019

4.1. History of Friends of Hornsey Church Tower

The FoHCT was founded in 1989 to ensure a future for the historic Tower of St. Mary Hornsey and to encourage the maintenance of the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance as a place of quiet recreation for the local community. Since 1989 the FoHCT have worked to rescue the Tower from dereliction and to enhance the Churchyard by sympathetic management which takes account of its special character. A number of grants have been obtained to enable restoration works to the Tower to be carried out. Grants have also been obtained for improvement works to the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance and for restoration of a listed tomb. Regular volunteer work to the Tower, Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance takes place, which includes maintenance work on the Tower, repairs to tombs, clearing of undergrowth, gardening and litter-picking. Comprehensive tomb recording has been undertaken in conjunction with the Hornsey Historical society and a report carried out by FoHCT in 2012.

4.2 Responsibilities

The responsibility of the FoHCT is to act as agent to the Rector of Hornsey to assist in respect of maintenance, repair and improvement works to the Tower, Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance. Final responsibility for maintenance of the Tower remains with the Parochial Church Council of St Mary with St George Hornsey (PCC). This includes the commissioning of quinquennial structural reports and for taking the necessary action noted in these reports. The PCC is also responsible for maintaining building insurance and for paying the electricity bills and for installing and adequately maintaining fire extinguishers. FoHCT maintain insurance for public liability, contents and items held elsewhere. In conjunction with the PCC and FoHCT an organisation, 'The Intimate Space', has been set up to manage the hiring of the chapel by outside groups and individuals and for paid-for use of other parts of the Tower to raise revenue that is passed to FoHCT. FoHCT maintain health and safety policies for Tower and Churchyard. The London Borough of Haringey (LBH) has taken responsibility for maintenance of Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance. Haringey's Commercial and Operations Business Unit are responsible for the maintenance of the closed Churchyard. Maintenance is delivered through a number of external and internal arrangements. Grounds maintenance and tree works are provided by the council's internal Parks Service, litter picking and bin emptying is through the Veolia waste contract. Paths, walls, and street lights are managed as part of the council's highways contract. A Council designated cycle path runs through the Churchyard between the High Street and the Temple Road/Glebe Road entrances. A draft Management Agreement between LBH and the Parochial Church Council of St Mary with St George, Hornsey, has been drawn up by LBH setting out details of the Council's duties and responsibilities in connection with the management of the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance. See appendix 6.16.

4.3 Aims

Since 1989 FoHCT has worked to rescue the Tower from dereliction and to enhance the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance by sympathetic management which takes account of their special character. FoHCT aim to continue this work and to encourage both the Church, as owner of the site, and Haringey Council, as the body which undertakes maintenance of Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance, to actively endorse and support appropriate management policies in the future. FoHCT seeks to find ways of achieving funding to assist with the upkeep and improvement of Tower, Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance.

4.4 Objectives

- Increase membership of the FoHCT and encourage more active participation in its activities.
- Continue maintenance and improvements to Tower.
- Continue assisting with the maintenance of Churchyard.
- Continue assisting with the maintenance of Garden of Remembrance, with continuation of careful replanting of shrubs, grasses and perennials.
- Increase appreciation of the site through improved publicity, e.g. website, twitter, notice and interpretation boards, presence at local events etc.
- Continuing management of FoHCT website.
- Continue to develop a broad range of cultural activities at the site.
- Work with 'The Intimate Space' to facilitate the hiring of the chapel and for other paid for uses of the Tower.
- Encourage links with local schools and other organizations, such as local community groups.
- Seek support from local councillors for further assistance from London Borough of Haringey.
- Explore fundraising opportunities.
- Make greater use of the Tower for cultural and educational activities.
- Creation of a small museum area in the crypt.
- Identification and labelling of trees.

4.5 Constraints

4.5.1 Generally

Any significant work to the Tower or within Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance would require planning consent under the terms of their inclusion in the Hornsey High Street conservation area. Alterations to the Tower would require Grade II* listed building consent in addition to planning consent and the granting of a faculty. Two tombs are also statutorily listed, Grade II. Significant alterations within the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance would require the granting of a faculty. Trees within both are protected by dint of being within the conservation area.

4.5.2 Friends of Hornsey Church Tower

FoHCT activities are constrained by having a limited number of people available with time and inclination to spend on its activities and by a budget dependent on the limited income derived from membership payments and donations; from events organised by the Friends and The Intimate Space, and from grants for specific undertakings.

4.5.3 The Church

The ownership of the Tower and Churchyard is something of a liability to the Parochial Church Council of St Mary with St George because it is peripheral to the main parochial responsibilities, which are centred at the parish church on Cranley Gardens, approximately one mile away. Imaginative work between FoHCT and PCC is required to ensure a positive future for both Tower and Churchyard.

4.5.4 The Council

Haringey Council is constrained by having very limited funding available for maintenance of the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance.