



Dear Town Councillors.

On behalf of the Faringdon Folly Tower Trust, I would like to thank you for awarding us a grant of £3,500 in 2020. This has proven to be particularly valuable during the current difficult circumstances.

I'm sure that you are aware that we were not able to open the Tower during 2020 and we expect that it will continue be closed until well into 2021. As a result, we have had a loss of income of over £8,000 over the last 12 months.

Of course, it is essential that we have to continue to prioritise safety items. The grant has helped us to fund safety work on trees in the woodland amounting to £2,616, We have also had to maintain the safety systems inside the tower (£498) and pay the premium on our annual insurance bill of £2,266.

During the last 12 months we have been pleasantly surprised by the huge number of visitors to the woodland, which is especially popular with families with young children. As a result, there has been a significant amount of "wear and tear" and we now need to address this to keep the woodland in good order.

We are now looking forward to the time we can get back to welcoming visitors into the Tower. We hope to start by allowing private bookings from the beginning of June, followed by open days later in the year.

On behalf of the trustees and Folly Team, many thanks for your support during these difficult times.

With kind regards

E Williams

Eddie Williams

Faringdon Folly Tower Trust

Registered Charity No. 284795 - Staffed by volunteers

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