

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2024

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Downpatrick District Masonic Charity Committee for the year ended 31st December 2024

Objectives and Activities

The principal function of the Downpatrick District Masonic Charity Committee is to raise funds through the various Masonic Lodges situated within its District. It does so by promoting the benefits of fundraising to the Lodges, assisting them with collecting information about potential beneficiaries identifying other sources of income for those beneficiaries such as rate rebates or other forms of income support. It does this through dedicated individuals within each lodge.

Potential beneficiaries are identified by the respective lodges and application forms completed and forwarded to the Charity Committee. These are reviewed by the Charity Committee, collated and forwarded to the Down Masonic Widows Fund.

The Committee receives all funds raised by the Lodges, collates, claims tax relief and distributes to respective Masonic Funds for distribution to beneficiaries.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

There has been a slight decrease in gift aided donation and non-gift aided contributions. All funds raised were passed on to respective Masonic Charities the principle fund being the Down Masonic Widows Fund who supported twenty six Widows from the District.

The various Lodges in addition to contributions to the Committee raised and distributed £355.00 to Other Non-Masonic Charities as well as giving £400.00 directly to their own widows.

Financial Review

- The Committee received £14,493.81 in Gift Aided Contributions and £3,496.70 in non-Gift Aided Contributions. A claim for gift aid to HMRC realised £6,064.60. £24,055.11 was distributed to seven Masonic Charities the main recipient of which was the Down Masonic Widows Fund.
- The Committee intends to distribute as much of its receipts as possible less expenses. It is not intending to levy any costs on Lodges for administration as it has sufficient funds within its Committee Account to meet those costs for the foreseeable future.
- The Committee received £150.00 through the Provincial Charity Committee from the Victoria Jubilee Fund to help meet the costs of Trustees Liability Insurance

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the budgets for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the The Downpatrick District Masonic Charity Committee can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 2024 can be signed off as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

The Downpatrick District Masonic Charity Committee is governed by the Constitution and Rules as amended and adopted at a meeting held on the 23rd of March 2016 at the Masonic Hall, English Street, Downpatrick.

Recruitment and Appointment of Committee Members (Trustees)

In accordance with the Constitution and Rules the members as defined in that Constitution and Rules appoint annually the following to be the Board of Trustees.

President
Chairman
Treasurer
Secretary

Downpatrick District Masonic Charity Committee

References and administrative details

Charity Name: **Downpatrick District Masonic Charity Committee**

Charity Registration Number: **NIC 101336**

Contact Address: **Mr H. Bennett
30 Drumaness Road
Ballynahinch
BT24 8LT**

Trustees

Mr Noel Wilson Sufferin	President
Mr William James George	Chairman
Mr John Harold William Bennett	Secretary
Mr Norman Uel Stewart	Treasurer

Principal Office-bearers

President:	Mr Noel Wilson Sufferin
Chairman:	Mr William James George
Secretary	Mr John Harold William Bennett
Treasurer:	Mr Norman Uel Stewart

Independent Examiner

**Mr Diarmuid McNulty
Galwally House
2 Drumkeen Complex
Upper Galwally
Belfast
BT8 6FY**

Bankers

**Ulster Bank
1A Main Street
Ballynahinch
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