

Killinchy Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church.

NI Charity Registration No. 101372

Trustees' Annual Report.

Principle address of the charity: 30 Comber Road, Killinchy, BT23 6PB.

List of our current Charity Trustees: Mr Neil Brown, Mr David Osborne, Mr James Osborne and Mr Richard Stewart.

Over the year, our Church services have been conducted by our current minister, as well as several visiting ministers. Our minister organises the church's preaching rota for our services, every quarter. It has been a blessing and delight to watch our church membership continue to grow steadily, as well as some members return to the meeting house. With new members joining us steadily, we continue to make an impact in the surrounding area: especially with social events and fundraising events. This increases social inclusion and community cohesion.

Our minister cares to all in our community. We are a progressive spiritual voice within our community and surrounding area, with our religious philosophy being one which offers access to all, regardless of personal circumstances, race, gender or sexual orientation. Our Church motto is "Here be no man a stranger; no holy cause be banned."

Strong links with the local churches in the area are maintained and this greatly benefits the people living within the geographical area of Killinchy. The Church structure follows the Presbyterian format of Church governance. The minister is a 'teaching elder', who is part of the Church Session. The Session consists of elders, who are the 'spiritual overseers' of the organisation. Under the Session, is the Congregational Committee. They are proposed and seconded at the Annual General Meeting. The Congregational Committee are responsible for the every-day practical running of the Church building. The Committee consists of a Treasurer, who can report that the Church is presently in sound financial standing at the end of the financial year. The Congregational Committee also has a 'Health and Safety' representative, an Honorary Secretary, as well as several other stakeholders. The Church Secretary deals with all administrative duties, alongside the minister. Church correspondence is dealt with by the secretary, as well as the minutes of Session and Committee meetings, notwithstanding the collation of all our annual reports from the various Church groups for printing and distribution at our AGM.

Both Session Members and Committee Members carry out duties relating to the Church and the local community: participation in social events and many annual church services. We recognise the immense support shown to us by the local community. The local community being present and attending many of our church events helps us to grow as a charity. We continue to be represented in the local Primary school, having a 'Board of Governor'.

The Church Hall, known locally as the 'Bishop Hall' continues to be a great asset to the surrounding area.

The Trustees acknowledge the benefit to the public and ensure that the Church work enriches the lives of church members, their families, youth organisations, as well as the wider community. In doing this, the church desires, as is its charity purposes, to promote this, in all that we do.

Killinchy Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church is governed by Trust Deed and by 'The Constitution and Code of Discipline' of the NSPC of Ireland.

Our charities Constitution and Code of Discipline was published by authority of Synod May 1997.

This is the document that we adhere to, the Constitution as framed in 1910.

Our Constitution has 8 Constitutional points.

In summary they are: 1. that the Old and New Testaments are the Rule of Christian Faith and Duty under the teachings of Jesus, 2. it is the inalienable right of every Christian to search the records of divine truth for his/ her own instruction and guidance, to form their own opinions with regard to what they teach, and to worship God in sincerity, agreeably to the dictates of his/ her own conscience, without privation, penalty, or inconvenience inflicted by their fellow-man, 3. A 'deeds not creeds' philosophy should be acknowledged, 4. emphasis on the Shema teaching and Jesus' instruction to love one another, 5. Our governance is Presbyterian, 6. each congregational member is encouraged to seek out truth and all ministers of other denominations are invited to sit, 7. deliberate with affectionate intercourse at any time, 8. God's blessing is asked on our denomination.

The Trustees of Killinchy N-SP Church confirm that they have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of this Church. In evaluating public benefit, the Trustees note that membership of the church is open to all who share an interest in a faith community. Whilst we would encourage those with interest to join with us, we also strive to make our services and facilities available to non-members.

Finally, Killinchy N-SP Church in being a charity; is at the heart of our community. Many of the 12 descriptors listed online are the purposes of our charity/Church and we know what it means to have charitable purposes which are for public benefit.

This concludes the Trustees Report.

Signed: R J Stewart

PRINT NAME: Richard J Stewart

Signed: Neil Brown

PRINT NAME: NEIL BROWN