

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society

Directors' Annual Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and activities

The principal objectives of the charity are:

- To promote the appreciation and enjoyment of good architecture of all periods;
- To encourage the preservation of buildings and groups of buildings of artistic merit or historic interest;
- To encourage public awareness and appreciation of the beauty, history and character of local neighbourhoods and their surroundings.

The activities undertaken during the year are detailed in the activities and performance.

Public benefit

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society continues to create high levels of public benefit through its key activities (see 'achievements and performance' section for more detail). The public benefits are as follows:

- The advancement of built heritage through the provision of capital and other regeneration work to buildings throughout Northern Ireland;
- The advancement of education by encouraging public awareness and appreciation of the beauty, history and character of local neighbourhoods and the architecture and buildings within them through the provision of lectures and information; and
- The advancement of citizenship and community development through the provision of capital regeneration work to buildings throughout Northern Ireland and encouraging public awareness and appreciation of the beauty, history and character of local neighbourhoods and the architecture and buildings within them.

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Achievements and performance

The following achievements and performance reflect the main expenditure in the year:

Projects

- Heritage at Risk - This major ongoing project funded and delivered in partnership with the Department for Communities, Historic Environment Division registered 97 additional properties during the year.
- Hands on Heritage - Work has continued to progress with this project with the development of a heritage recording and reporting app, short guides and an online toolkit which supports public participation in the protection of built heritage in Northern Ireland.
- Heritage Angel Awards- Work has started that will culminate in an awards ceremony in Spring 2024. This is a major province wide award programme run by UAH which highlights success in the built heritage sector. It is supported by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation and by the Department of Communities.
- EHOD. Involvement in European Heritage Open Day Activity in conjunction with HEARTH and Belfast City Council.
- Doorways tell Stories. In conjunction with Belfast City Council produced a virtual and actual tour looking at Historic Doorways and their history.

Events

Events included a programme of lectures which were available to enjoy both in person and on-line. There was also a programme of visits to places of interest which were generally over-subscribed and popular.

Publications

Research and planning was ongoing with a view to bringing forward publication next year. *Perspective Magazine* - UAH continued with the bi-monthly articles for the *Royal Society of Ulster Architects 'Perspective Magazine'* on built heritage issues and heritage buildings of note. In addition to the above print publications regular social media postings on a variety of platforms and newsletters both physical and digital were produced throughout the year.

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Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end are listed on page 1.

Financial Review

The results for the year are set out on page 8. Net movement in funds was £4,450 for the year compared to £2,946 for the previous year. At the year end the balances of restricted and unrestricted funds held were £257,756 and £42,170 respectively.

Reserves policy

The Directors' aim to maintain sufficient free reserves to enable the Charity to maintain its charitable activities at its current level and, if possible, to increase it.

Structure, governance and management

Ulster Architectural Heritage Society is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 10 February 1999. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated February 2009, updated 2016.

The Committee when complete consists of not more than 12 individuals including the Chairman, with, in addition, Vice-Chairman, the Honorary Secretary or Honorary Secretaries and Honorary Treasurer. All members of Committee and Officers are members of the charitable Company.

Recruitment and Appointment of Committee Members

Committee make-up is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure skills, knowledge and experience meets the needs of the charitable company. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies arising on the Committee or amongst the Officers, and shall have power to co-opt not more than 3 additional voting members during one year, and to co-opt further members who may attend the meetings of the Committee in an advisory and non-voting capacity. New Committee members complete an induction process and are provided with policies and procedures.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

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Directors' Annual Report

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

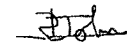
The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Special provisions relating to small companies

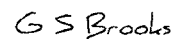
This report has been prepared having taken advantage of the small companies exemption in the Companies Act 2006.

13 May 2024

Approved by the trustees of the charity on and signed on its behalf by:



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Dr David J Johnston
Chair



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Geoffrey S Brooks ACMA
Treasurer