



St Katharine's Parish Church

2-4 Dunlambert Park, Belfast BT15 3NJ

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31st December 2023

Charities Number: NIC102178

Revision

Not Applicable

St Katharine's Parish Church

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St Katharine's Parish Church

References and administrative details

Charity Name: St Katharine's Parish Church

Charity Registration Number: NIC102178

Contact Address: 2-4 Dunlambert Park,
Belfast
BT15 3NJ

Trustees

Reverend William Taggart
Mr A Hughes
Mr C Parkes (Deceased 2023)
Mr N McConnell
Mr S McClure
Mrs D McClure
Miss E L Parkes

Principal Office-bearers

Clergy: Reverend William Taggart
Church Honorary Treasurer: Mr A Hughes
Church Honorary Secretary: Mr C Parkes (Deceased 2023)
Church Honorary Secretary: Mr N McConnell

Independent Auditor

Mrs G McBride
Unit B1.13 Portview Trade Centre
310 Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 1HE

Bankers

Ulster Bank
Connswater Branch
Belfast
BT5 4AF

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2023

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for St Katharine's Parish Church for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Objectives and Activities (the wording supplied for Charitable Objectives and Activities were approved by General Synod in 2015.)

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of religion.

The principal function of St Katharine's Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of St Katharine's Parish Church the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to and engaging with society as a whole and offering support for those needing help are fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity.

As a result of activity in the pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, St Katharine's Parish Church has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage and maintenance of which is undertaken by the select vestry of St Katharine's Parish Church.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

St Katharine's Parish Church continued to provide weekly worship and prayer, provided pastoral care, mission and outreach work. St Katharine's Parish Church has continued to meet the Public benefit requirement in support the advancement of the Christian religion. Through the activities of the Parish the advancement of religion e.g. public worship, support for the provision of public worship and other activities through which Christian witness and outreach have been delivered. Benefit has been provided through Christian worship contributing to the spiritual well-being of the congregation, and the reinforcement of Christian values. St Katharine's Parish Church has mitigated any potential harm from its activities e.g. Child protection policy and restricted access to unsafe areas.

The Parish has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives, as well as providing public benefit.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2023 (continued)

Financial Review

As of 31st December 2023, St Katharine's Parish Church's general No 01 current account with the Ulster Bank had a positive balance of £19,351.47. St Katharine's Parish Church holds one further account with the Ulster Bank which is for Buildings Maintenance works with a positive balance of £8,063.48.

In September 2017 the trustees had decided to sell the church rectory, 24 Landsdowne Road in order to settle an accrued debt with the Diocese of Connor. Church of Ireland granted permission to sell the rectory which was completed on 16th August 2018 and the funds transferred directly to the RCB (Representative Church Body). The debt to the Diocese was settled and the remaining funds are invested by the RCB with St Katharine's Parish Church being permitted to draw down amounts for capital projects if required. Such a capital project was required in October 2023 when radiators were replaced within the Church, £22,892.82 was transferred into our No. 2 Account – Buildings Maintenance Fund and subsequently paid out to the contractor who completed the works.

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 Parish can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023 can be signed off as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. The Select Vestry members are the Charity Trustees

Recruitment and Appointment of Select Vestry (Trustees)

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18 and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the general vestry of the parish, allowing them to attend and vote at meetings of the general vestry and to stand for election to the select vestry.

Meetings of the general vestry are held at least once a year. The Select Vestry is elected as part of this General Vestry meeting. The Select Vestry will hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually and there is no limit on the number of terms which may be served.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2023 (continued)

Pay and remuneration

The Incumbent of St Katharine's Parish Church, Rev Canon William Taggart's stipend was paid directly by the Parish, £34,407.00, this amount is in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. A locomotory allowance of £6,999.96 was also paid directly by the Parish, this amount is in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. A further payment of £6,000.00 for housing allowance of £500.00 per month is also paid directly by the Parish in lieu of providing a rectory.

Organisational Structure

The select vestry is responsible for the day to day management of the parish. The select vestry consists of the member of the clergy serving in the parish, the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the general vestry elected at the General Vestry.

The select vestry is chaired by the incumbent. Select vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding how parish funds are to be applied.

The select vestry meets at times fixed by the members or by the diocesan synod. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the churchwardens. In 2023, the Select Vestry were able to meet six times during the year and the average attendance was 87%.

Compliance with Public Benefit

The Parish has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the actives entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

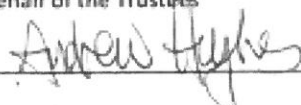
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with Income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Parish's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Parish. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Parish and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1



Trustee 2

