

Glencraig Parish Church

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st December 2022

Charity Number: NIC102368

Glencraig Parish Church

Charity Name: Glencraig Parish Church
Charity Registration Number: NIC102368
Contact Address: 6 Seahill Road, Holywood BT18 0DA

Trustees

Rev Catherine Simpson
Jackie Bates (end of term 26/04/22)
Christine Beale (appointed 26/04/22)
Irene Davidson (appointed 26/04/22)
James Douglas (appointed 26/04/22)
Ian Duncan
Tony Gregg
Claire Gregson (end of term 26/04/22)
Philippa Hastings
Phil Houston (end of term 26/04/22)
Hazel Johnston
Derek Kinnen (end of term 26/04/22)
David McIlhagger
Clive Penton
Lauren Penton
Heather Pollock (appointed 26/04/22)
Ian Richardson
Mark Smyrl
Violet Tregenna
Frank Williams

Principal Officer-bearers

Rector: Rev Catherine Simpson
Church Treasurer: James Douglas assisted by Tony Gregg
Church Secretary: Lauren Penton assisted by Philippa Hastings

Independent Examiner	Bankers
Michael McCarter FCA	Ulster Bank Ltd
Jackson Andrews Chartered Accountants	Belfast City 2 Office
6 Mandeville Mews	
Portadown	
BT62 3NS	

Glencraig Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for Glencraig Parish Church for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (SORP 2015 (FRS 102)).

Trustees of the Charity

The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are shown on page 1.

Objectives and Activities

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland

The principal function of Glencraig Parish is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of Glencraig Parish, 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, Glencraig Parish 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 Glencraig Parish.

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 activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

We have continued to face all the challenges of emerging from the Covid-19 global pandemic and the consequences as we return to a more stable/normal pattern of church life. This has meant that the Mission and Ministry of the Parish has continued to be impacted by the pandemic and then the consequences of the war in Ukraine and cost of fuel. Restrictions continued to impact numbers at Church services until Spring 2022; when restrictions and the wearing of face-coverings eased. We returned to worship services and all events in person. Pastoral support continued to be available by phone, on doorsteps, in gardens and over zoom and now in person again. As the year passed people became more comfortable with pastoral support to be provided in people's homes, restaurants and in other face to face contexts. During 2022 visitations to nursing homes and hospitals became more normal. By Summer of 2022 the church activities had resumed into a more 'normal' pattern.

As 'lockdowns' and restrictions on the normal day to day running of the parish, eased, we began to look to the future. Meeting again without social distancing and other numerical restriction although good hygiene is still encouraged and hand sanitising stations still in place. In June 2022 the Select Vestry decided to invest into the future appointing a Community Outreach Worker to assist the parish as we sought to invite others back into the church hall and church services. Having experienced an increased activity with families and children during lockdown online and in the hall service, we moved in September to two services, one in the church 10.00am (Traditional) and another in the hall

11.30am (less formal) this was to create two distinct opportunities for worship one more family friendly, to suit the now changing needs of the parish and community.

During the first half of 2022 the priority was to build and re build community. This has been done in a variety of ways including hosting a variety of community activities and outreach opportunities. Our Select Vestry Meeting, Bible study, Alpha courses and other ministries returned to in person as did Tots and Co (toddler group) and our bowlers, and in Spring 2022 as a response to the unfolding economic crisis, we hosted Christians Against Poverty Money Course with significant numbers attending outside of our church family. In the later part of 2022, we increased our capacity to run events and activities to support and reach the community. This included Jubilee events, which raised money for the charity Bishops' Appeal in their support of the people in Ukraine. This was done by hosted an organ recital. At the passing of our late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, we held community opportunities to gather to give thanks for her life. In the Autumn of 2022 we relaunched children ministries with HTG:Kids, meeting weekly as part of the 11.30am Morning Worship (Café Style service). The two services are sandwiched by tea/coffee gatherings to encourage intergenerational conversations.

In Autumn of 2022 we hosted a community gathering event with the Knitted Bible Exhibition and raised money not only for ourselves, but for a local charity B:Positive. This Harvest initiatives helped to re-establish that the church is open for the community as we hosted each class from our local schools for class RE lessons. At Christmas the year ended with a flurry of activities for the community, including Messy Christmas, the return of the Community Carol Services and reconnection with the local Schools Carol Services.

The Rector continues to support the community pastorally not just local church members but the wider Seahill community. She gives support to the bereaved and to those going through medical challenges, treatment, walked with those facing death and generally were available to people as they navigated some of life's challenges through the ongoing fall-out from the Global pandemic and its impact (and that of world political instability) on the economy.

We as a Parish believe the local setting and the local people are, a high priority and throughout 2022 we ran a variety of community engagement projects aimed at providing encouragement, support and a place of safety where strong relationships and friendships can be fostered and encouraged. Stop and Chat which had started during the Lockdown outside, became a weekly fixture, hosted by the Community Outreach Worker and a team nurtured by her. The aim of this warm space is to be a safe place for people (funding was made available for this through the Mindmatters RCB /COI). We are aware of many facing mental health challenges in our community, this space is open for tea/coffee and chats every Thursday morning and afternoon. In 2022 a variety of ministries returned or have been launched including Craftzone for ladies and in early 2023 we have plans to launch a similar monthly space for men.

The major Christian festivals such as Easter, Harvest and Christmas are times when many people outside of our usual Sunday attendees engage in our activities. We endeavour to share God's love to all as we share time together, offering opportunities to meet and have fun together. We ceased a hybrid setting, to gently encourage people to return to regular weekly service, regular correspondence continued to be sent and a concerted effort is made to engage with children, young people and their families with a regular pattern of children and family programs each Sunday.

Reaching Out

This has been achieved through services, pastoral care in person and on the telephone. We continue regular pastoral visits, letter writing, Christmas / Easter Card, invitations to Alpha, Parish Picnic, Stop and Chat, youth events, Bible study (Connect Together), Praying Together, Pastoral meetings, Stop & Chat, Tots & Co, Teddy Bears picnic and by supporting North Down Storehouse. Connections with Camphill Community, Rockport School and Glenraig Integrated Primary have been maintained. Over the last few years some global partnerships have been created including SAMS in Argentina, as we support the Garden project, and locally as we work and partner with Christians Against Poverty and Scripture Union NI. As a parish have benefited from these local and global partnerships. In 2022 we had significant footfall through the parish for Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas with approximately 1000 people through the doors for these three significant times.

Glencraig Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

Serving

This year we served our local community in a variety of ways including two people serving on the Board of Governors of the local primary school. We hosted Stop & Chat, Parish Picnic Lunch, Christmas and Easter Events/Services, Jubilee community events, the passing of Her Majesty Community response, The Knitted Bible, Tots&Co, Christmas Community events, included Messy Christmas and the return of the schools who joined us for Carol Services and relaunching a Community Carol Service. As a church we are there for people in their difficulties and tragedies as well as sharing their joys when they bring children for baptisms or services of thanksgiving, when they are getting married or when they invite us to share in other life events.

It was our hope in 2021 that 2022 would be a year when we would serve the community, in which we live, as we rebuilt community cohesion post pandemic. We hoped to begin to reconnect and build on community relationships already established as well as creating new ones. We hoped to develop outreach programmes, to parents/carers and preschool children, children and youth ministry. It is our hope in 2023 to consolidate the good work established in 2022 and to build upon it, for example to launch a Church Community Choir and to host a Community fun day.

Discipling

Helping people live well with Jesus at the centre of their lives is at the heart of this local church and as such in 2022 new programmes have been established to encourage people to grow in faith and develop as followers of Jesus Christ. Connect groups returned in person in the form of a Book Group and we ran Alpha course. We connected to the Diocese for Young Peoples and Children events. We have been focusing on mental health/the bible and how to be resilient. Our special events at major festivals in 2022 included Easter, The Queen's Jubilee, Our late Majesty's passing, Harvest/Knitted Bible Exhibition, Remembrance Day and a variety of Christmas events including a Community Carols service, Messy Christmas and Family Carol Service.

Financial Review

During the year ended 31 December 2022, the Parish had total income of £98,075 (2021: £122,644). This figure included £5,604 (2021: £43,077) from donations and bequests. Total expenditure in the year was £112,413 (2021: £120,777).

The net expenditure for the year was £14,338 (2021: net income of £1,867)

Reserves policy

The trustees in Autumn 2019 established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity are needed to meet the working capital requirements of the charity and to enable the charity to effectively manage any unforeseen risk or financial difficulties.

They also agreed to restrict legacies received to ensure that they would further the objectives of the charity.

At 31 December 2022 the balance of unrestricted funds is £109,649 and the balance of restricted funds is £657,892. The trustees are satisfied that the level of reserves is sufficient to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant shortfall in income levels. The trustees will continue to review the reserves policy to ensure that the policy reflects the needs of the charity in a changing environment.

Glencraig Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

Plans for future periods

We will continue to serve the community, in which we live, as we rebuild post pandemic. With the appointment of the Community Outreach Worker as she establishes teams for Stop & Chat, tea/coffee between services and gathers people into opportunities for connection. We aim to build on school relationships and community engagement opportunities by running parenting courses, continuing to grow Stop & Chat, continuing to expand ladies gathering monthly and adding in mens gatherings in early 2023. We hope to continue to build on the good relationship with Christians Against Poverty as we support our community. We aim to consolidate and grow our family and children ministry as we reconnect and building on community relationships already established as well as creating new ones. We will continue to develop outreach programmes, to parents/carers and preschool children, children and youth ministry.

Going forward, we will continue to reach out to those in need across the world. We plan to help financially, projects in Argentina, (SAMS Ireland) and via (Tearfund and Christian Aid in areas of need across the world including emergency situations globally) as well as supporting the local CAP Centre in Primacy.

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 end 31 December 2022 can be signed off as a going concern.

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

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.

Pay and remuneration

Acting in her role as Rector of Glencraig Parish Church, the Reverend Catherine Simpson receives a stipend and office and locomotory allowance in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. No other charity trustees receive any remuneration from Glencraig Parish Church.

Organisational Structure

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day-to-day management of the parish. The Select Vestry consists of the clergy serving in the parish, the Churchwardens, the Glebewardens 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. The 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.

Glencraig Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

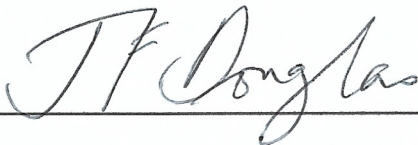
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in the Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Parish will continue as a going concern.

Approved by the trustees on 18/4/23 and signed on their behalf by



Name: James Douglas Treasurer