

GORTALOWRY HOUSE PROJECT LIMITED

Registered number: NI31871

Trustees' Report

The director/trustees present their report and unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Objective and activities

Gortalowry House Projects Limited provides a neutral venue, rent rooms to local community and charitable organisations under the general ethos of those providing support for the community. This includes migrant workers, childcare facilities, advice and support groups. Training organisations use our building regularly to provide a range of both personal and career enhancement training. Alongside this some recreational groups use our facilities, including a local children's dance group, a gardening club and inter-church forum. There are a number of groups who use small room for individual counselling and advice on everything from mental health to drug and alcohol abuse.

Given the level of expertise that has arisen over the years we do provide additional support at no charge to a number of local community and charitable groups in help with governance and policies and procedures to ensure that they are in a position to move forward within their organisations.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The advancement of Education Gortalowry House is a community resource building whose primary aim is to provide a neutral venue for the community to assist them towards working together across the traditional political division in our community. This meant that since our building was opened in June 2000, and even before when we were in the mobile units, we provided a useful resource for the community. Gortalowry House believes that over the past years we have built and maintained a useful community resource not only in the fabric of the building itself but in the skills and expertise that the many individuals connected to the building have.

There are a range of Tenants and Casual users and they work endlessly to support the local community through advice, service and assistance. We provide rooms for a range of community organisations including childcare organisations, migrant workers and their families, grief and bereavement groups, training organisations, support groups for illness including MS, Mindwise and Epilepsy Action, Resident associations, Welfare and Advice groups, Church Forum, Speakers Club, Food Bank Group, Women's aid, Gardening Club and other local voluntary and community groups. There are rooms for individual counselling services including Relate, Dunlewey Substance Abuse Group, Zest, Youth Justice Agency as well as Independent counsellors. Gortalowry House does charge a small fee for this hire, although for some groups that have limited resources we will discuss reduction of charges for a period to allow them to get established.

The staff and management committee of Gortalowry House have worked alongside other local groups, helping with governance, Operational matters and on occasions with practical help in organising events, loan of crockery, tables and chairs and other equipment, the advancement of Education particularly involving lifelong learning. There are a variety of Training sessions held within Gortalowry House, general organised on behalf of local groups or training organisations, they include Northern Childcare Partnership, Community Foundation, Diversity Challenges and other organisations Gains from this range of training may include the following benefits for the community:

- increase in knowledge,
- Working alongside others,
- increase of self confidence and self-esteem,
- provide training specific to career development, and

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group development including capacity building, looking at governance and assisting where necessary.

The recent AGM report demonstrated the range of organisations who utilise Gortalowry House.

Financial review

The company is a not for profit charitable organisation whose purpose is to provide a neutral venue to local community and charitable organisations.

The charity aims to maintain funds at a level equivalent to three months expenditure. The Trustees consider reserves of this level ensure that in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue current activities while considering how additional funds can be raised.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to those.

Trustees Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 29 January 1997. The company was established by a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

D Barry O'Hagan
Trevor Rollins
Elizabeth Baxter resigned 23 December 2022
William Stewart
Patrick McGuckin

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board on 10 May 2023 and signed on its behalf.

All the members of Gortalowry House Project Limited have consented to the preparation of the Unaudited Abridged Report of Accounts statement of the financial position for the current year in accordance with Section 444 (2A) of the Companies Act 2006.



Barry O'Hagan
Director