

COMBER COAL FUND COMMITTEE
6 DECEMBER 2024

Attendance

Crosbie McVeigh Laura McAleese
Cyril Johnston Michael McClean

1. Cyril Johnston, Chairman, welcomed everyone to The Stables. The meeting commenced with a memorial tribute to our friend and fellow Committee member, Barbara Bailie, who passed away on 15 September 2024. Barbara's enthusiasm and local knowledge will be much missed in The Comber Coal Fund.
2. The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2023 were read and agreed to be a true record of the meeting.
3. Apologies were received from Rev Ian Gilpin and Jonny Andrews.
4. Cyril presented the financial statement for the year ended 30 November 2024. This showed that the Coal Fund remains in a healthy condition and it was agreed that we could again provide 2 bags of coal to each beneficiary this year. The current balance of the Fund is £3,026.32 and the cost of providing 2 bags of coal to each of the beneficiaries will be £1612 which is less than last year as the number of households receiving coal has been reduced to 26. This will leave a balance of £1414 in the bank. Unfortunately, coal is no longer the main fuel source and has been replaced by oil and gas in private and social housing. We will keep the situation under review in the next year whilst also trying to identify potential beneficiaries.
5. The Fund has been generously supported by local churches and schools - St Mary's, Killinchy Street; Comber Primary School; Comber Methodist Church; Comber Non-Subscribing Church; John Andrews & Co Ltd; and Andrews Memorial Primary School.
6. The Secretary will approach Rev Nicky Hazely, Comber Methodist Church regarding their future representation on the Coal Fund Committee.
7. Thanks were expressed to Corken Fuels for their assistance in the distribution of the coal to beneficiaries.
8. This being all the business the meeting was closed.

Laura McAleese,
Secretary