

**Brooklands Gospel Centre**

**Trustees Report for the 12 month period ended  
5 April 2024**

**Signed on behalf of the Trustees**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. McNaughten', written in a cursive style.

**William McNaughten**

# Brooklands Gospel Centre

## Trustees Report for the 12 month period ended 5 April 2024

The Trustees of Brooklands Brethren Assembly (the Assembly) submit their annual report and financial statement for the 12 month period ended 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

### Reference and Administrative details

#### Charity name and Number

Brooklands Brethren Assembly (known as Brooklands Gospel Centre)

Registered Charity NIC 103022

HMRC Charity Reference No. XN 48584

#### Address

Brooklands Crescent

Dundonald BT16 2PJ

#### Correspondence Address

34 Greengraves Road

Dundonald BT16 1UZ

#### Trustees

Robert Hair

Philip Magee

Edward McIntosh

William McNaughten

Andrew Morrison

William Patterson

Ernest Russell

Norman Wilson

#### Elders

William McNaughten (resigned July 2023)

Norman Wilson

**Bankers** - First Trust Bank

**Independent Examiner** – Denise Teer FCA

**Solicitors** – Hewitt & Gilpin Solicitors, Thomas House, 14-16 James Street South, Belfast BT2 7GA.

# Brooklands Gospel Centre

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Assembly is an independent local church constituted by a Trust Deed executed on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1976.

Although the Trustees have legal responsibility for the affairs of the Assembly, the day-to-day spiritual care and practical matters are overseen by the Elders. The Trustees meet at least once per year and the Elders meet at least once per month to discuss Assembly matters.

The Trust Deed provides for the appointment, retirement, and removal of Trustees.

The Assembly registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

The Assembly has appointed Denise Teer FCA as honorary independent examiner of the financial statements. The Trustees would thank Denise for her willingness to fulfil the role and for the time taken to examine the Assembly records and prepare her report.

## **Risk**

**Financial** – The Assembly relies entirely on the income received from freewill offerings, without which the Assembly would not be able to achieve its charitable objectives. These offerings are sufficient to cover the costs associated with the current level of activities, however, should there be a reduction in offerings, the Trustees would implement a cost reduction programme to ensure the financial stability of the Assembly. The Assembly also holds cash reserves to meet unexpected necessary expenditure.

The Trustees are thankful for the continued generous level of giving by the members.

**Reputational** – Activities with children constitute the main risk. This is mitigated through a Child Protection Policy which is actively and routinely monitored.

**Health** – As a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, the Assembly continued to implement a Covid Protection Policy based on a detailed Risk Assessment which was kept under continual review.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The Trust was established for the advancement of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the public in accordance with biblical principles and practice (as outlined in the First Schedule of the Trust Deed). The Trust considers that promotion of the Christian faith has a transformative and beneficial effect on society both locally and worldwide.

The Assembly organises a range of activities including (but not restricted to):

- Celebration of the Lord's Supper
- Prayer Meetings
- Bible Teaching & Bible Studies
- Public services for the explanation of the teachings of Jesus Christ
- Reports of missionary activities within UK and abroad
- Children's activities
- Ladies activities including fellowship and craft.

## **Brooklands Gospel Centre**

The Assembly provides financial and practical support to several Christian workers within the UK and abroad.

### **Achievements and Performance**

The objectives of the Assembly are spiritual and qualitative and are therefore, in many respects, difficult to measure. However, the following comments are worthy of consideration:

- The Assembly has been pleased to share the Gospel in a variety of ways, within its own building, with adults and children. During the year there have been regular attendances at these meetings and the Assembly engages with the local community to encourage others to avail of the opportunity to attend and benefit.
- The Assembly continues to support missionary activities in Northern Ireland and throughout the world.
- To assist in promoting good community relations, and support the legal authorities, the Assembly regards the encouraging of good Christian ethical behaviour as an important part of all teaching and this applies to both adult and children's activities.
- The Assembly makes gifts in cases of identified needs both locally and internationally, including disaster relief.

The Assembly has had regard to the statutory guidance in respect of the Public Benefit Requirement published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

### **Financial Review**

The Trustees are content with the financial results for the year with Cash Surplus of £4,199 being recorded (2023 Cash Surplus £4,285). The Assembly continues to maintain a healthy cash position (£37,388 at the year-end).

An annual report is delivered to the Assembly to explain in detail the income and expenditure associated with the operations of the Assembly.

The Trustees have established the position of Treasurer for the Assembly which is held by a suitably qualified and experienced person. Controls are in place to manage the finances and help to prevent and/or detect fraud or error. Management accounts are reported quarterly to the Elders for approval.

### **Taxation Status**

The Assembly, being a charity recognised by the HMRC, has no liability to taxation on its charitable activities.