



Annahilt Parish Church Diocese of Dromore

Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland as
Hillsborough/Annahilt & Magherahamlet/The Church Of The Ascension,
Annahilt/Down & Dromore/Church Of Ireland

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31st December 2022

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References and administrative details

Charity Name: Annahilt Parish Church

Charity Registration Number: NIC103246

Contact Address: 35 Cabra Road
Hillsborough
Co Down
BT26 6NB

Trustees

David Brown
Aubrey Campbell (From 15.5.2022)
Robert (Bert) Carlisle
Stephen Chapman
Leslie Clarke
Edwina Crawford
Ian Dunn
John Erwin
David Guiney (To 15.5.2022)
Patricia Halliday
William Harrison (To 15.5.2022)
Colin Hassard
Helen Hill (From 15.5.2022)
Trevor Hill
Rev. Canon Robert Howard
Dr David Keith
William Mathers
Avril McKeown
Colin Robinette (To 15.5.2022)
Norman Watterson (From 15.5.2022)

Principal Office-bearers

Incumbent:	Rev. Canon Robert Howard
Hon Secretary:	Colin Hassard
Hon Treasurer:	Patricia Halliday
Churchwarden - Rector's:	Aubrey Campbell
Churchwarden - People's:	Norman Watterson

Independent Examiner

Steven Patterson BSc (Hons) ACA
12 Steps Road
Magheralin
BT67 0QZ

Bankers

Danske Bank
62-66 Bow Street
Lisburn
Co Antrim
BT28 1YS

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees present the annual report and statements of receipts and payments and assets and liabilities for Annahilt Parish Church for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Objectives and Activities

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland (as approved by General Synod in 2015) is the advancement of religion. The principal function of Annahilt Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of Annahilt 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, Annahilt Parish Church has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage, maintenance of which is undertaken by the select vestry.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

In 2022 the Parish's official membership (those households who are subscribers) stood at 111 family units. However, there are additional households who have called on the Rector's ministrations although they have no formal link with the Parish or who wish to identify with the Parish without making any official commitment. Pastoral care which generally entails visits and ministry at home and / or in hospital, especially during illness, occasions of bereavement or at other times of crisis is always provided whether people are officially members of the parish or not. There were 2 baptisms, 2 Marriages and there were 4 Funerals.

Each of the following parochial activities implemented the advancement of religion in our community.

Worship and prayer were paramount during 2022 which contributed to the spiritual well-being of participants and the reinforcement of Christian values. At the principal Sunday service, the sacrament of Holy Communion was normally celebrated twice monthly, an All Age / Family Service was also usually held one Sunday each month while the Office of Morning Prayer was normally conducted on other remaining Sundays. There was a Service on Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day.

With the easing of coronavirus pandemic restrictions services in Church were resumed during Holy Week. (Monday to Thursday before Easter). A special Service of Thanksgiving took place in the morning to mark the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen. In the afternoon a special interdenominational Service, 'Picnic and Praise'. This consisted of a 'Songs of Praise' type service with music led by Baillie's Mills Accordion Band which was followed by a Picnic. Later in the month members of the Select Vestries and other parishioners from both Annahilt and Magherahamlet attended Services in both Churches to mark the 40th Anniversary of the Parochial Grouping. On 11 September there was a Service of thanksgiving for the life of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and to mark the Accession of King Charles III was held. The following week there was a special Service to mark the 70th Anniversary of The Mothers' Union Branch in the Parish followed by a celebratory lunch in the Parochial Hall with Magherahamlet MU members who were celebrating their 60th Anniversary. The Guest of Honour was the Bishop's wife, Mrs Hilary McClay who also preached at the Service. The traditional Harvest Festival Services were held on the last Sunday in September. The Archbishop of Armagh & Primate of All Ireland, the Most Revd John McDowell, presided and preached at the Morning Service. The Baillie's Mills Accordion Band led the music at the evening service. Afterwards the Harvest Supper was held in the Parochial Hall for the first time since the pandemic restrictions and was very well supported. The annual Christmas Carol Service also took place. A long-standing reciprocal arrangement was continued whereby the Minister of Legacurry Presbyterian Church preached at the First Communion of Christmas in the Parish Church on Christmas Eve, and the Rector preached at the Watchnight Service in Legacurry on New Year's Eve.

The Parochial Hall is a very useful facility which has again more than proved its worth in advancing Christian activity in our parish. Its use will no doubt continue to develop in a post-covid situation. Sunday School resumed meeting during the Church Service. The Parish Indoor Bowling Club also resumed its normal schedule of activity. The Mothers' Union Branch also resumed its meetings.

On account of the uncertainty concerning Lockdown and various other public health restrictions the annual dinner to celebrate Burns' Night in January in the nearby Larchfield Estate and Grounds was unable to take place. However, the traditional Christmas Fair at the beginning of December did take place and was both a great social and financial success.

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The monthly collection of items for the local food-bank continued and proved to be of immense benefit for those in our community who are less fortunate than others.

Representatives of the Parish also received the Bishop and others supporting him on his 'Big Cycle Ride' in support of Bishops' Appeal.

The Report following the 2019 Quinquennial Inspection of the Church and Rectory was on the agenda of the Select Vestry and its recommendations continue to be acted upon. The construction of toilet facilities at the rear of the Church building began and was near completion at the end of the year. The tarmac at the front driveway into the Rectory was extended to double the size. A new burglar alarm was also installed in the house. The routine maintenance of the Parochial Hall continued throughout the year. The Select Vestry remain committed to the upkeep and development of all parochial property and assets for the future benefit of the Parish and the public.

Various steps were taken throughout the year to ensure that the Parish is compliant with new GDPR regulations.

Financial Review

The Parish currently holds cash balances of £182,340 at the year end, comprising of unrestricted funds of £38,559 restricted funds of £142,014 (Parish) and £1,767 (Bowling Club).

Total Parish payments exceeded income in the year and returned a net deficit of £12,692. These figures however need further explanation for two items relating to Unrestricted Funds:

- (1) Grant income from Dept of Communities for £25,476 (unrestricted) in respect of loss of income and unavoidable expenditure April 2021-March 2022 due to Covid-19.
- (2) Toilet project construction costs to date are £29,522 (£27,085 from unrestricted & £2,437 from restricted) and £885 architects fees for new entrances project (from unrestricted). The £27,970 unrestricted funds comprised of bequest monies and other monies from prior years', earmarked by the Select Vestry for Special Projects.

Excluding the grant and the unrestricted funds spent towards the toilet project, the deficit in the general Parish finances would have been in the region of £18K. That however did include £10,118 Net spent on a number of items of Rectory Maintenance.

While projections for 2023 also show a considerable deficit the Select Vestry and Finance Committee are at present planning a FWO renewal campaign during 2023 to stabilise the financial situation from 2024. The Select Vestry is cognisant of the fact that the Parish has a declining and ageing parishioner base and will continue to prudently manage the financial resources of the Parish. We have been very grateful for the funds from the Dept. of Communities over the last three years which have kept the Parish solvent and enabled us to defer a renewal of giving campaign although we are conscious of the fact that the country is now experiencing a cost of living crisis.

The proposed new entrances to the church and hall and related works are progressing slowly through the various agencies and stages. The ramp access to the church and work to the Parochial Hall have been put on hold at present.

The Treasurer continues to seek appropriate opportunities for grant-aid towards special projects.

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 2022 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. This allows 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

The Stipend paid to the incumbent is in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. The Incumbent of the Parish of Annahilt is shared with the Parish of Magherahamlet. Stipend and related costs and costs relating to the running of the Rectory are split between the Parishes on a $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ basis respectively. Locomotory allowance is above that approved by the General Synod in view of the distance between the two Parishes. The Stipend and related costs contained in the attached accounts (see note 6) relate only to the Annahilt portion.

Organisational Structure

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Parish. The Select Vestry consists of the Incumbent of the Parish, the churchwardens, the glebewardens and not more than twelve other members of the General Vestry elected at the General Vestry meeting.

The Select Vestry is chaired by the incumbent or other member of the clergy officiating in the Parish. 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 (generally on a monthly basis). Special meetings may be convened at any time by the Chairperson or the churchwardens. The Select Vestry met eleven times during the year and the average attendance was 65%.

Compliance with Public Benefit

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



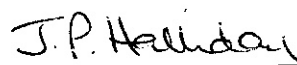
Colin Hassard

Hon Secretary

Trustee

Date:

21/3/2023



Patricia Halliday

Hon Treasurer

Trustee

Date:

21/3/2023