



Larchfield Community Development Association

Trustees' Annual report and Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities

For the year ended 31st August 2024

Larchfield Community Development Association
Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2024

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Larchfield Community Development Association
References and administrative details

Charity Name: **Larchfield Community Development Association**

Charity Registration Number: NIC 103278

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

Trustees

Mr Edgar Brownlie
Mr Robert Brownlie
Miss Patricia Halliday
Mr James Halliday
Mr Robert Harron
Miss Valerie Harron
Miss Heather Magowan
Mr Brian McCallister Jnr
Ms Sharon McKnight

Principal Office-bearers

Chairman: Mr Brian McCallister Jnr
Vice Chairman: Mr Robert Brownlie
Hon Secretary: Ms Sharon McKnight
Asst Secretary: Miss Patricia Halliday
Hon Treasurer: Miss Valerie Harron
Asst Treasurer: Miss Patricia Halliday

Independent Examiner

Aubrey Campbell, Aubrey Campbell & Co., 631 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 7GT.

Bankers

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

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2024

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Larchfield Community Development Association for the year ended 31st August 2024.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of Larchfield Community Development Association is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Annahilt, Aughnaleck, Cabragh, Duneight, Legacurry & Magheradartin areas and their environs and those who have associations with, or roots in the locality, without distinction of age, sex, race, political or religious or other opinion. It will do so by associating with the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of the social welfare, education, recreation or other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants. In addition, the Association aims to advance the knowledge and appreciation of a diverse range of cultures.

The promotion and advancement of our programme has been achieved throughout the year by actively engaging with our local council, voluntary organisations and the inhabitants of the area ensuring facilities are provided in the interests of social welfare, education and recreation with the emphasis on supporting and improving the lives of those living in the area and beyond.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

The Association normally meets on the third Thursday of each month in Legacurry Orange Hall, Glebe Road, Hillsborough. These meetings can take the form of a formal members event led by the Chairman, discussing Association business; a speaker coming to impart information on a specific subject; a visit to a place of interest that holds some historical, educational or cultural content; or a social occasion. These meetings are open to all members and the wider community of all ages, race and religion to allow achievement of our charitable purpose.

Social welfare, education and recreation are all core to the advancement of our activities. We provide support, friendship and interaction between those who attend our activities and events and this reduces social isolation and is of benefit to all.

- September 2023 saw yet another very successful Family Fun Day, Vintage Rally and Road Runs for cars and tractors, financially supported by Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council.
- In October the speaker cancelled at the last minute however Patricia was able to lead a discussion following a recent LCCC event she and Len had attended. The highlight of the evening was a 'boxful' of give-aways she had collected from various stands.
- November was our charity presentation evening when Maureen O'Dowd, Practice Educator in Neonatal in the Royal Maternity Unit gave us a very informative talk on the work of the Neonatal Department. A cheque for £3,500.00 was presented to Maureen and Alison Harrison-Mitchell by the Association, being the proceeds of fundraising events during the year. Alison has raised thousands of pounds for the Unit over the last sixteen years. During November NIPANC issued an invitation to the Association for two representatives to attend their inaugural "Thank you" reception for many who had supported them financially and practically. Patricia Halliday and Len Wilson represented the Association.
- December saw the Christmas party for Association members and members of the community.
- Due to weather conditions we had to postpone our evening with the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.
- At the end of January we were privileged to be invited to the Mayor's Parlour by Mayor of LCCC, Councillor Andrew Gowan who also gave us a conducted tour of the Council Chamber and associated areas.
- March was busy with a dinner in the hall for volunteers and seniors, Community Festival (Rally) planning meeting and a Big Breakfast fundraiser for the Association.
- March also saw the distribution of hampers of food and other essentials to over sixty households in the community as a result of funding again from the Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Community Hardship Fund.
- The April meeting theme was fraud and Scams, with Edgar Brownlie and Patricia Halliday stepping in at the last minute to give a presentation and lead discussion.
- In May we had the Annual Family BBQ and the monthly meeting concentrated on planning for the Rally.

- In June we had a very enjoyable tour round the RUC GC Memorial Gardens. Also in June Valerie Harron and Patricia Halliday attended a Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council Volunteers Week event in The Island Centre.
- The monthly walks in HRP Hillsborough Castle grounds as part of the Community Access Scheme commenced in April. Thanks to Sharon, Heather and Patricia our CAS leaders.
- The Gardening Club met in May and June planting plants and tidying the grounds.
- Planning for the 2024 Community Festival (Family Fun Day, Vintage Rally and Road Runs) continued during the summer.
- In August we visited The Argory house and grounds followed by an evening meal at Lisburn Golf Club. This once again provided a tremendous opportunity for members of the community and volunteers to come together for a relaxing social occasion.

Our thanks are expressed to Patricia Halliday who put together the various grant applications and also for the tremendous work she put into arranging most of the programme and activities.

Our thanks are also expressed to the Management Committee of Legacurry Hall for the ongoing use of their facilities.

Financial Review

We wish to thank Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council for their continued support of our activities during the year. The LCCC support is crucial to our on-going programme. In addition to the Community Support Grant we received monies under the Community Festival Fund and the Community Hardship Fund.

The balance at 31st Aug 2024 across both accounts was £14,548.48. £5481.12 of this is grant money yet to be spent and £190.00 is charity funds, both being carried forward into the 2024-25 year. There is £1383.82 Unrestricted funds held in Number 2 Account in case of need prior to receipt of grants.

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 Association can continue its activities and that the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2024 can be signed off as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

The first Constitution was adopted by members of the Association at a Special General Meeting on 16 December 2004. A revision was adopted at an EGM held on 15 June 2017. The Committee members are the Charity Trustees.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Committee/ Trustees are elected by the Association members on an annual basis and serve to the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. Committee meetings are held as required between Association meetings. Sub-committees and/or Officers meet as necessary to progress activities.

Pay and remuneration

The Association has no employees.

Organisational Structure

The Trustees are responsible for the day to day management of the Association following guidance from the Association members. There are nine trustees from which the Vice Chairperson, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer are elected. The office of Chairperson is elected by the Association members and will not be held by any one person for more than three consecutive years. Other positions are appointed by the Trustees as required.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st August 2024 (Cont'd)

The Association meets monthly and the Trustees meet on various other occasions to progress much of the administrative function in order to keep the monthly meetings interesting and maximise time for speaker input and fellowship/socialising. In 2023-24 the Trustees met both in-person and on occasions informally.

Compliance with Public Benefit

The Association has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the actives entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Association'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 Association's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Association. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Association and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

B. McCallister

Brian McCallister Jnr
Chairman

Valerie Harron

Valerie Harron
Hon Treasurer

Date 28 / 10 / 24