

## **St Brigid's Women's Group**

### **Members report**

The Management Committee present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024.

#### **Objectives and activities**

St Brigid's Women's Group was established in October 1999, to empower women living in the Carnhill Area (SOA Carnhill 1&2). A small group of local women came together to discuss ways in which women within the Carnhill estate could move forward, improve their life chances & effect positive change for themselves & their community. The group is based within Carnhill, an area that is particularly deprived & impoverished especially in terms of employment opportunities. Poverty & unemployment in Carnhill have exacerbated a whole range of social problems, including family breakdown, poor health, youth disaffection, drugs & crime. The recent deprivation indices have ranked Carnhill in the top 10% of wards in NI suffering for multiple deprivation, child poverty, income deprivation & health deprivation. Since October 1999, the group have rented a small room within the local parish hall. With help from small grants, local fundraising & donations in kind the group has been able to deliver various courses such as Tia Chi, Aqua Aerobics, Swimming Lessons, Zumba Gold, Healthy Eating, Creative writing, Knitting / Crocheting, Arts & Crafts, Personal Development, Community Development training & visits to Stormont to talk to political parties to discuss the issues that effect them & their community. For local children each year we set up a summer scheme & a bus trip to the beach for the local residents i.e. parents, children, grandparents etc.

#### **Management Committee**

The members of the charity for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the members.

The members serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Mrs Mary Harley  
Mrs Jean Cooke  
Mrs Helen McGrellis  
Mrs Detta McGuinness  
Mrs Ann McIntyre  
Mrs Teresa Deeny  
Mrs Ann McPhillips  
Mrs Patricia O'Reilly

#### **Public benefits**

The direct benefit which flows from this purpose is the increased level of social inclusion for members of St Brigid's Women's Group and the promotion of volunteering and development and inspiring civic values and community activity within the Greater Shantallow Area. These benefits are evidenced through increased numbers of women attending weekly meeting & activities, increased numbers in volunteers & volunteering

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### Members report

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opportunities, feedback from the committee & volunteers involved with training & events, focus groups & evaluation/monitoring carried out for all work carried out. There is no harm flowing from this purpose. Beneficiaries of this purpose are residents (Women, parents & Volunteers) within the Greater Shantallow Area. A private benefit may arise to committee members who may from time to time avail of training programmes in matters such as governance, but this is necessary for professional standards to be maintained to carry out the work of St Brigid's Women's Group & to ensure the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries.

### Risk Management

The members have assessed the major risks to which the organisation is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the association, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to the major risks.

### Financial review

The financial performance is summarised in the enclosed accounts.

### Members Responsibilities In Relation To The Financial Statements

The members are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the members to prepare the financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the members are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The members are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the necessary legislation. The members are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By Order of the Management Committee:

Member M Harley

Date: 21-1-25

Member Ann Mc Intyre

Date: 21-1-25