

**Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT, STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**Charity number 104041 CCNI 0019674**

**Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

**Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

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**Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

**References and administrative details**

**Charity Name:** St Matthew's Church, Parish of Richhill

**Charity Registration Number:** NIC104041

**Contact Address:** c/o 14 Woodcroft Avenue, Richhill, BT61 9JW

Trustees are the members of the Select Vestry

Rev Gary McMurray – Chairperson

Garfield McCoy Rector's Church Warden appointed 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Danielle Turton appointed Peoples' Church Warden 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Mr Billy Attwell

Mrs Mary Caldwell

Mrs Tanya Campbell

Mr Timothy Campbell

Mr Gerry Piddock

Mrs Flo McNally

Mr Gary McNally resigned towards the end of the year

Mrs Lorraine Hall

Mr Lawson Burnett

Mrs Carol Burnett

Mrs Linda Pillow

Mr John Davies resigned 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

**References and administrative details contd/**

**Principal office-bearers:**

Chairman: Revd Gary McMurray, Rector of St Mathew's Church Richhill

Mr Garfield McCoy Rector's Church Warden

Mrs Danielle Turton Peoples' Church Warden

Mr Billy Attwell Honorary Treasurer

Mrs Mary Caldwell Honorary Secretary

**Independent Examiner:**

Andrew Gilpin ACCA

WHR Accountants

26 The Square

Moy

DUNGANNON

Co Tyrone

BT71 7SG

**Bankers:**

Danske Bank

Armagh

## **Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

The trustees present their Annual Report and Statements of Receipts, Payments, Assets and Liabilities for St Matthew's Church, Parish of Richhill, for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The Charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is:

- (i) The advancement of Christian religion, by promoting, through the work of St Matthew's Church, Parish of Richhill the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. St Matthew's is a gospel-centred church reaching out to our community and our world with the love of Christ.
- (ii) 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.

The purposes of St Matthew's Church, Parish of Richhill, are: -

- (i) Bringing together in a fellowship of loyalty and devotion all who care for St Matthew's Church, Parish of Richhill, and its continuing witness to the glory of God.
- (ii) Assisting in the maintenance and preservation of the Church and its buildings.

#### **Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit Activities in 2023**

The Parish has continued to meet the public benefit requirement, e.g. public worship, support for the provision of public worship and other activities through which Christian witness and outreach are delivered.

Towards the end of 2022 the Trustees were still following the Church of Ireland policies and protocols, when on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023 the House of Bishops decided, that from Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023 that we cease from using individual cups and return to using the Common Cup. This movement went very smoothly, encouraged by Church attendance and anecdotal evidence indicated that attendances had not yet returned to pre Covid and the number of communicants had not decreased.

The dedicated team of leaders and volunteers who had worked face to face with the various church groups and organisations while some had returned others were making tentative preparations to do so.

All leaders and volunteers of the various organisations are vetted by Access NI. The benefits of public worship include contributing to spiritual wellbeing of participants, and reinforcement of Christian values. The Church has also a Facebook page.

The Parish has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

During the course of the year the Trustees continued their usual support to St Matthew's, while the parishioners continued their support for the parish through their Free Will Offering also, and the Craigavon Foodbank.

As we look to the future, we want to continue to live out our Mission Statement – that, St Matthew's is a Gospel-Centered Church reaching out to our community and our world with the love of Christ.

## Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023/contd

#### Financial Review - Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Income	£	£
Weekly and Annual Subscriptions		66,664.04
Refund of Tax on Gift Aid		8,706.27
Collections – Loose		2,289.24
Special		756.19
Income from Bequests		1,206.54
Sundry Income:		
Sunday School Collections	297.30	
In Lieu of Flowers	745.00	
Sundry Donations	11,420.00	
Youth Worker	350.00	
Bank Interest	81.71	
Magazine Adverts	900.00	
Sundry	701.91	
Fundraising	9,104.58	
		<hr/>
		23,600.50
		<hr/>
		103,222.78
<b>Expenditure:</b>		
Diocesan Charges	63,771.12	
Stationery and Printing	1,749.87	
Light and Heat	10,574.13	
Repairs	5,362.58	
Insurance	3,643.56	
Rates	1,195.85	
Sundry Expenses	2,294.53	
Sexton's Fees	4,286.04	
Charities/Missionary Societies	5,993.50	
Bank Charges	460.76	
Sunday School Expenses	156.13	
Organ Fees and Expenses	175.00	
Rectory Repairs	680.00	
Special Collections	756.19	
NI Water	404.00	
		<hr/>
		101,503.26
		<hr/>
Surplus for year		1,719.52
		<hr/>
Opening Balance due by Danske Bank		7,204.46

#### Notes:

- 1 Closing balance in bank includes £8,425.27 Paraguay Fund
- 2 Closing balance in bank includes provision for £14,000 to be received from HM Revenue and Customs in respect of gift aid refunds for 2 years.
- 3 Closing balance in bank provides for an amount of £34,020.18 due in respect of Diocesan Charges not paid at the year end.

The members of the Select Vestry see their main challenges as the need to manage the Church's finances to maintain the fabric of the Church buildings and pay increased running costs. As we review the year that is past, major structural work was carried out on the Church Tower as well as replacing the living room ceiling in the Rectory. There is much to make us thankful to God. We rejoice in the grace of God and the generosity of so many to bring the tower work to completion. We rejoice in the new ministries that have begun – Messy Church and Youth Fellowship, and for the continuation of the organisations that are thriving. The commitment and dedication of so many to use their time, talents, and treasure to serve the Lord is greatly appreciated and will be fully recognised on the Last Day by him. There is much to make us thankful.

Yet we recognise the challenges that we face - the ongoing cost of sustaining the parish and making some head way on clearing our debt to the diocese. The need for more to step up in service, particularly at this time in Sunday School. The constant demands of maintaining our buildings.

As we look to the future, we do so in the name and with the power of the Living One who has conquered death. The power that raised Jesus from the dead is at work in us who believe – and so we give of ourselves to our Saviour and King. To him be the glory. Amen.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

Chapter 111 of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial organisations. The Select Vestry members are the Charity Trustees.

#### Recruitment and appointment of Select Vestry (Trustees)

Vestry members: In pursuant to Chapter 3, part 1, Section 3 of the Constitution, the General Synod requires that any member of the Church of Ireland over the age of 18 years registered or claiming to be registered as a resident or an accustomed member and must be an annual subscriber of a sum not less than £50 per annum. Contributions made through an envelope system are deemed to be qualifying subscriptions to the Sustentation Fund of the parish of which he or she wishes to be a vestry member. Allowing them to attend and vote at meetings of the general vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually and there is no limit on the number of terms which they may serve.

Pay and remuneration- The incumbent of the Parish receives a stipend paid via the Diocesan Office together with telephone and locomotory allowances as approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

Organisational Structure - The Select Vestry is responsible for the day-to-day management of the parish, which consists of the member of the clergy serving in the parish, who is Chairperson of the Select Vestry, the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the vestry elected at the General Easter Vestry.

**Structure, Governance and Management continued/**

The Select Vestry is chaired by the incumbent or another 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 agreed by the members. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the Rector's warden. In 2023 the Select Vestry met 11 times during the year, with an average attendance of approximately 93%. The General Easter Vestry was held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

Compliance with Public Benefit: The parish has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

**Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

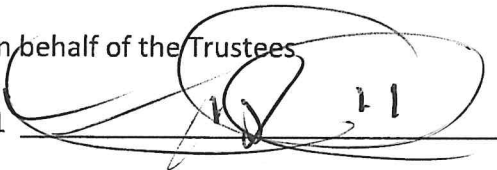
The Trustees (Select Vestry members) are responsible for the preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

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

Trustee 1

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. J. J.', written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed in a large, hand-drawn oval.

Trustee 2

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. J. J.', written over a horizontal line.

Date

16<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Charity Trustees of  
Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner:**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit, and is eligible for Independent Examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report:**

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

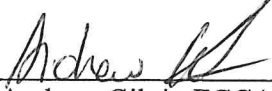
My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew Gilpin FCCA  
WHR Accountants Ltd  
Independent Examiner  
26 The Square  
Moy  
Dungannon  
BT71 7SG

17/10/2024  
Date

**Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

**Statement of Receipts and Payments – Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Receipts</b>				
<b>Voluntary Receipts</b>				
Donations and Gift Aid	89,080	19,171	108,251	94,141
Legacy	1,206	-	1,206	1,182
Fundraising/Appeals	9,104	-	9,104	-
Other	2,994	4,805	7,799	3,547
Bank Interest	82	-	82	35
<b>Total receipts</b>	<u>102,466</u>	<u>23,976</u>	<u>126,442</u>	<u>98,905</u>
<b>Payments</b>				
Grants and Donations	5,993	756	6,749	1,166
Governance Costs	94,754	-	94,754	95,071
Repairs	-	13,740	13,740	-
<b>Total payments</b>	<u>100,747</u>	<u>14,496</u>	<u>115,243</u>	<u>96,237</u>
<b>Net receipts</b>	1,719	9,480	11,199	2,668
Transfers to/(from) funds	-	-	-	-
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<u>1,719</u>	<u>9,480</u>	<u>11,199</u>	<u>2,668</u>

Approved by the trustees on 28 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



W Attwell  
Trustee



M Caldwell  
Hon Secretary

**Armagh/Richhill/St. Matthews/Armagh/Church Of Ireland**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities – Year Ended 31 December 2023**


	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Funds Reconciliation</b>				
Cash at bank and in hand 31.12.22	6,625	-	6,625	3,957
Surplus for the year	1,719	9,480	11,199	2,668
<b>Cash at bank and in hand 31.12.23</b>	<u>8,344</u>	<u>9,480</u>	<u>17,824</u>	<u>6,625</u>
 <b>Bank and Cash Balances</b>				
Bank Current Accounts			<u>17,824</u>	<u>6,625</u>

**Fixed Assets**

Assets retained for the Church's own use comprise the following properties and are stated at insured values.

Church Buildings and Contents	3,400,110	2,942,227
Church Hall and Contents	1,119,577	968,807
Rectory: Annareagh Road, Richhill	746,384	645,871
Land	15,000	15,000
	<u>5,281,071</u>	<u>4,571,905</u>

Approved by the trustees on 28 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



W Attwell  
Trustee



M Caldwell  
Hon Secretary