

St Luke's Parish Church, Loughgall

Trustees Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities

For the Year ended 31st December 2023

Charities Number: NIC104069

St Luke's Parish Church, Loughgall

Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023

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St Luke's Parish Church, Loughgall

References and administration details of the Charity

Charity Name: Loughgall – St. Lukes Church
Charity Registration Number; NIC104069
Contact Address: St. Lukes Rectory, 2 Main Street, Loughgall, BT618HZ

Trustees

Mrs Wendy George, Mr James Crawford, Mr David Anderson, Mr Andrew Sleeth, Mrs Claire Sleeth, Mr Philip Currie, Ruth Currie, Mrs Alison Sharpe, Mrs Denise Gilpin, Mr James Gilpin, Mr Leonard Downes, Mrs Doreen Heaney, Mrs Jane Ogilby, Mr Trevor Sharpe, Mr Roy Jones, Mr Kyle George.

Principal Office Bearers

Rector: Revd. Peter Robert Smith MTh
Rector's Churchwarden: Mr Gary Heaney
People's Churchwarden: Mrs Claire Sleeth
Church Secretary: Mrs Wendy George
Church Treasurer: Mrs Alison Sharpe

Independent Examiner

WHR Accountants Ltd – 56 Upper English Street, Armagh, BT61 7LG.

Bankers

Ulster Bank
7 Upper English street
Armagh
BT61 7BL

St Luke's Parish Church, Loughgall

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for St. Luke's Parish Church for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and Activities

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of religion.

The principal function of St. Luke's Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion. 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, St. Luke's Parish Church has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage and maintenance of which is undertaken by the select vestry of St. Luke's Parish Church.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Throughout 2023, regular Sunday morning services were held in St. Luke's Parish Church for the advancement and expression of Christian religion. Special services were also held during the seasons of Holy Week, Harvest and Christmas.

There was a weekly morning service during the seasons of Lent and Advent. On Sundays in January, March, May, September, and November, Café Church services were held in the church hall with breakfast items served in advance of a Family Service with guest speakers on given Sundays. This is the best attended service with a wide appeal to those in the community who feel uncomfortable attending in-church services.

Outreach to the local community continued in the form of Easter Eggs and Christian Literature distributed during Holy Week and Christmas Selection Boxes at Christmas. A free Community Fun Event was provided in the Rectory Gardens in May which was very well attended by those within the local community.

Regular collections took place for the food bank. Donations of food items used for the decoration of the church at the Harvest Services were distributed to the local Simon Community Hostel in Armagh. Men's hygiene items and towels were also donated by parishioners to the local Simon Community Hostel. Essential items for babies and new mums were distributed via Baby Basics Appeal.

St. Lukes Parish Church continues to engage constructively with children and young people through the Sunday school integrating those involved into the life of the Parish through the reinforcement of Christian values. The Youth Fellowship has continued to enjoy various outings and events reinforcing Christian ethos and values.

St. Lukes Parish adheres to the Church of Ireland's "*Safeguarding Trust*" policy for the protection of children and vulnerable adults. Church members attend training sessions to ensure awareness to best practice.

The parish maintains artefacts, materials and historic buildings for the benefit of the public and in particular for those appreciative of longstanding Christian heritage. The Parish restricts access to Church buildings for public safety reasons – any visitors who wish to access same for viewing purposes are accompanied by a member of the Church.

St Luke's Parish Church, Loughgall

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (cont.)

Financial Review

Receipts for the Parish from various sources came to £71,004.47 with payments of £ 63,321.20 resulting in:-

The Bank and Cash Balance as at 31 December 2023 was £89,990.18 (of this balance £24,119.32 were unrestricted funds, £65,870.86 restricted funds and £0 endowment funds).

It is the Trustee's Policy to hold sufficient reserves to cover the on-going running costs of the Parish and any major Church Property maintenance issues that may arise.

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 31 December 2023 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, allowing 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 that may be served.

Organisational Structure

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

St Luke's Parish Church, Loughgall

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (cont.)

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 agreed by the members. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the churchwardens. In 2023 the Select Vestry met 6 times with an average attendance of 12 members.

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 are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the Statement of Receipts and Payments and 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.

The trustees 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



Trustee: 2



Date

