

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 Markethill/Mullabrack, St Johns, Armagh, Church of Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Objectives and Activities

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

The principal function of Markethill/Mullabrack, St Johns, Armagh, Church of Ireland is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Markethill/Mullabrack, St Johns, Armagh, Church of Ireland 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, Markethill/Mullabrack, St Johns, Armagh, Church of Ireland 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 the Markethill/Mullabrack, St Johns, Armagh, Church of Ireland.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

The high point of our week is on a Sunday when we meet together for worship, prayer and to listen and learn from God's word. During the week we provide pastoral care and support to over 1000 people in the Markethill and Hamiltonsbawn area of Co Armagh particularly through home and hospital visits. We support mission and outreach work in this country and overseas through partnering with individual churches and mission agencies, providing financial assistance and on occasions, personal volunteers.

We have numerous groups and clubs running in our church halls which cater for all ages and many interests. Boys Brigade, Girls Friendly Society, Bowling Club, Pilates Class, Mothers Union, Parent & Toddlers/Babies, Youth Fellowship, Sunday Schools, Children's and Youth Summer schemes.

These activities fulfil our objectives and charitable purpose and have provided public benefit. Through our activities we aim to contribute not only to the spiritual well-being of people but their physical, practical, social and emotional needs also. Our activities are open to all and are free at the point of use. There are no fees charged. Our charity is funded by voluntary donations and contributions.

We have mitigated any potential harm from the activities e.g. We uphold the standards of the Church of Ireland's Child protection policy – "Safeguarding Trust" which includes undertaking Risk Assessments of rooms, buildings and events.

Financial Review

- The charity had a deficit of receipts over payments of £8,036 for the year ended 31 December 2022.
- The charity continues to be in a healthy financial state as at 31 December 2022 with total cash funds of £109,713
- The charity aims to retain sufficient reserves to meet its expected future expenditure requirements as well as potential future capital 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 31 December 2022 can be signed off as a going concern.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

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

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 which may be served.

Pay and remuneration

The Incumbent (Rector) of the Parish stipend is paid directly by the Diocese, and receives a stipend in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland together with approved office and locomotory allowances.

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, any curate assistant ("the curate"), the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the general vestry elected at the General Vestry.

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. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the churchwardens. In 2022 the Select Vestry met 8 times during the year and the average attendance was 71%.

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 actives 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 financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in the United Kingdom (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK, including Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". Under that law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the statement of financial activities of the charity for that period.

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In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and identify the standards in question, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Parish will continue as a going concern.

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 financial position of the Parish and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the provision of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. 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.

Statement as to disclosure to our examiners

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's examiner is unaware and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the company's examiner is aware of that information.

Independent Examiner

The examiner, Joanne O'Brien, has indicated her willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning their reappointment will be proposed at the next Annual Easter Vestry Meeting.

On Behalf of the Trustees



Trustee 1: Matthew McCracken



Trustee 2: Jonathan Hull

Date: 02/09/2023