

**St John's Church of Ireland,**

**Newtownhamilton**

**Trustees' Annual Report, Statement of Receipts and Payments**

**and Assets and Liabilities**

**for the year ended 31 December 2020**

**Charity Number: 104087**

St John's Church of Ireland, Newtownhamilton

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

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**St John's Church of Ireland, Newtownhamilton**

**References and administrative details**

Charity Name: Newtownhamilton/StJohns/Armagh/ChurchofIreland

(Commonly known as St John's, Newtownhamilton)

Charity Registration Number: NI 104087

**Contact Office:**

38 Kidds Road,  
Newry  
County Down  
BT35 6PY

**Trustees:**

Richard McBride	Ruth Copeland	William McCombe
Norman Cooke	Gillian McCombe	Valerie Watt
Allen Jones	Judith McCombe	Valerie Taylor
Jim McCombe	Wayne Hawthorne	Dorothy McConnell
Mark Watt	Herbert Armstrong	

**Principal Office – Bearers**

Clergy: Vacant  
Church Warden – Clergy: Mr Wayne Hawthorne  
Church Warden – People: Mr Mark Watt

**Bankers:**

Ulster Bank  
86 Hill Street  
Newry  
County Down  
BT34 1BT

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020**

The Trustees present the Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for St John's Church of Ireland, Newtownhamilton.

### **Objectives and Activities**

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

The principal function of St John's Church of Ireland, Newtownhamilton is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of St John's 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, St John's 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 John's Church of Ireland, Newtownhamilton.

### **Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit**

The usual programme of activities listed in previous years was not possible for the majority of the year due to public health restrictions which came into force in March 2020 due to the Covid-19 worldwide pandemic.

There were periods during the year from March to December where the public health restrictions allowed for public worship. During these times Morning worship was held at 10.15am on Sunday's.

In the course of 2020 the following took place:

Christian Baptism: 1

Christian Burial: 1

During this extraordinary year, when physically meeting was unavailable, a special effort was made to maintain contact with parishioners and the wider community in a variety of ways. Meetings for prayer were held via 'Zoom' and services broadcast online. For those parishioners who were unable to avail of live online communication methods, services were recorded and posted out to parishioners.

These activities fulfil our objectives and charitable purpose and 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.

### **Financial Review**

The charity had a Surplus of £1,026 for the year ended 31 December 2020. The Charity continues to be in a reasonably healthy financial state as at 31 December 2020 with total cash funds of £75,279. 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 2020 can be signed off as a going concern.

## **Reserves Policy**

The Select Vestry's policy is to retain a level of free reserves or general reserves which matches its needs at the current time and in the foreseeable future. The main reason for holding reserves is to ensure that the charity has enough resources to fund its programme and to hold sufficient resources to meet its commitments. The Trustees believe that this reserves policy is both responsible and prudent.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity**

The Parish is administered in accordance with The Constitution of The Church of Ireland published by The General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

Chapter III 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)**

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, and have been identifiable contributors, 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, known as the Easter Vestry. This is held not earlier than twenty seven days before, and not later than 20 days after Easter. The General Vestry meeting may not be held within the period from the Sunday next before Easter (Palm Sunday) to Easter Day. 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.

### **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 (or Rural Dean), 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 Rural Dean 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. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the church wardens.

Trustees do not receive remuneration, reward or other private benefit for carrying out their Trustee responsibility.

### 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 Trustee' 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 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

*Gillian McCausland*

*William J McErube*

Date *1/9/2021*