

**St Columba's Parish Church, Ballynascreen**

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

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Charities Number: NIC 104701**

## **Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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## References and administrative details

Charity Name: St Columba's Parish Church, Ballynascreen  
Charity Registration Number: NIC 104701  
Contact Address: The Rectory  
12 Rectory Road  
Tobermore  
Magherafelt  
BT45 5QP

## Trustees

Rev Rosie Diffin  
Mr James Henderson  
Mrs Margaret Henderson  
Ms Margaret Johnston  
Ms Ann McKeown  
Ms Kathleen McKeown  
Ms Mary McKeown  
Mr David Wallace (resigned Nov. 2024)  
Mrs Lucinda Hughes  
Mr Thomas Hughes  
Mr John Andrews (Sen.)  
Mr John Andrews (Jun.)  
Mrs Violet Andrews  
Mr Stanley Hepburn  
Mr Andrew Hepburn

## Principal Office-bearers

Clergy: Rev. Rosie Diffin  
Honorary Secretary: Ms Margaret Johnston  
Honorary Treasurer: Ms Kathleen McKeown  
Rector's Church Warden: Vacant  
People's Church Wardens: Mr Stanley Hepburn

## Independent Examiner

W McGillian & Co. Ltd  
5 Tobermore Road  
Draperstown  
Magherafelt  
BT45 7AG

## Principal Bankers

Ulster Bank  
20 Broad Street  
Magherafelt  
BT45 6JR

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The Trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for St Columba's Parish Church, Ballynascreen, Draperstown for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Objectives and Activities**

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

The principal function of St Columba's Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of St Columba's Parish Church, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, 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 Columba'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 Columba's Parish Church.

### **Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit**

As a church we provide a weekly service of Morning Prayer and a once per month service of Holy Communion. We also provide for baptisms, weddings, funerals and pastoral support.

Our Child Protection Policy is in accordance with the Safeguarding Trust policies of the Church of Ireland.

As a parish we are active in raising funds and supporting the work of mission societies. We have mission partners whom we directly support as a parish.

### **Financial Review**

Financial reports are reviewed throughout the year and a review on completion of the annual accounts.

Total receipts for the year (£20,299) were greater than total payments (£19,301) increasing the total cash funds held by £998. Net assets at the year-end were £416,551 (31/12/2024)

### **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 2024 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 which may be served.

### **Pay and Remuneration**

The Rector is not paid directly by the Parish. A monthly assessment is paid to the Diocese which comprises Stipend, Locomotory Allowance, Employer's National Insurance and Employers Clergy Pension Contributions.

### **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 Church Wardens and generally not more than twelve other members elected at the General Vestry.

The Select Vestry is chaired by the Incumbent. 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 Incumbent. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the Chairperson, the Secretary or the Church Wardens.

### **Compliance with Public Benefit**

St Columba's Parish Church 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. There continues to be no private gain to any individual member.

### **Statement of Trustees' 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 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**

**Ms Kathleen McKeown**  
Treasurer

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**Rev. Rosie Diffin**  
Rector

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of St Columba's Parish Church, Ballynascreen**

I report on the accounts of St Columba's Parish Church, Ballynascreen for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 13

### **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.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- 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.

**for and on behalf of W McGillian & Co. Ltd  
Financial Accountants**

**Date**

5 Tobermore Road  
Draperstown  
Co Londonderry  
BT45 7AG

**Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted 2024	Restricted 2024	Endowment 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b>Receipts</b>						
Donations	2	15,966	884		16,850	20,698
Other Receipt	3	200	-		200	953
Rental of Land		700	-	-	700	700
RCB Grant		-			-	-
Bank Interest		644	161	-	805	633
Grave Fee		50	-	-	50	-
Investment Income	9	1,694	-		1,694	1,576
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>19,254</u>	<u>1,045</u>	-	<u>20,299</u>	<u>24,560</u>
<b>Payments</b>						
Diocesan Assessment		10,852			10,852	11,138
Running Costs	4	841	-	-	841	1,683
Rectory Costs	5	800	-	-	800	1,065
Maintenance Costs	6	1,312		-	1,312	6,171
Charitable Donations	7	-	1,000		1,000	890
Administration Costs	8	3,828	-	-	3,828	3,278
Support of A & J Quill		-	240		240	-
Support of C Holmes			173		173	-
Choir/payment		100	-		100	240
Bishop's Appeal			70		70	264
Bank Charges		85	-	-	85	82
<b>Total Payments</b>		<u>17,818</u>	<u>1,483</u>	-	<u>19,301</u>	<u>25,061</u>
<b>Surplus/Deficit of Receipts and</b>		<u>1,436</u>	<u>(438)</u>	-	<u>998</u>	<u>(501)</u>

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Ms Kathleen McKeown \_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee

Rev Rosie Diffin \_\_\_\_\_  
Rector

Date:

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
<b>Cash Funds</b>						
Bank Accounts		46,622	12,662	-	59,284	58,286
Cash on Hand		-	35	-	35	35
<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	<b>10/11</b>	<b>46,622</b>	<b>12,697</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>59,319</b>	<b>58,321</b>
<b>Investment Assets</b>						
	<b>12</b>					
Investments in RCB Unit Trusts		-	-	263,974	263,974	246,755
Investments in CIT Unit Trusts		-	-	12,382	12,382	11,294
NFU Mutual Mixed Portfolio		55,918	-	-	55,918	52,732
<b>Total Investment Assets</b>		<b>55,918</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>276,356</b>	<b>332,274</b>	<b>310,781</b>
<b>Assets retained for the Parish's own use</b>						
Fixtures & Fittings		5,000	-	-	5,000	5,000
Church Plantation (small area of land beside church)		20,000	-	-	20,000	20,000
<b>Total Assets retained for the Parish's own use</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>127,540</b>	<b>12,697</b>	<b>276,314</b>	<b>416,593</b>	<b>394,102</b>
<b>The funds of the parish</b>						
Endowment funds				276,356	276,356	258,049
Unrestricted funds		127,540			127,540	123,401
Restricted funds			12,697		12,697	12,652
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>127,540</b>	<b>12,697</b>	<b>276,356</b>	<b>416,593</b>	<b>394,102</b>

**Signed on Behalf of the Trustees**

**Ms Kathleen McKeown**  
Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_

**Rev Rosie Diffin**  
Rector

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

### 1. Accounting policies

Set out below are the principal accounting policies which have been adopted in the compilation of the Receipts and Payments Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

#### (a) Receipts and Payments Account

All items of income and expenditure included within the Receipts and Payments Account have been accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

#### (b) Statement of Assets and Liabilities

##### (i) Assets retained for the Parish's own use

The assets of the Parish, retained for its own use comprise:-

- Church Buildings
- Small piece of land known as the Church Plantation
- Fixtures and fittings

The two Church Buildings are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These Heritage assets are not included in the statement of assets and liabilities as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the parish.

Fixtures and Fittings in the churches are recognised at an estimate valuation provided by the Trustees.

The Church Plantation has limited use to the Parish and is valued accordingly by the Trustees. The Mid Ulster Council uses part of it as a children's play area and pays an annual rent for its use.

##### ii) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprising investment in RCB/CIT Unit Trusts as well as in NFU Mutual are stated at fair value at each year end date. Investments in unquoted investments are recorded at cost and are assessed annually for impairment.

##### iii) Endowment Funds

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion: the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

**2. Donations**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
Freewill Envelopes	7,498	-	7,498
Annual Sustentations	900	-	900
Mission Focus	-	884	884
Loose Collections	2,220	-	2,220
Carol Service Collection	751	-	751
Gift Aid-Small Donations and Planned giving	3,397	-	3,397
Miscellaneous Donations	1,200	-	1,200
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>15,966</u></b>	<b><u>884</u></b>	<b><u>16,850</u></b>

**3. Other Receipts**

Compensation: Ulster Bank	200	-	200
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>200</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>200</u></b>

**4. Church Running Costs**

Church oil	491	-	491
Electricity	96	-	96
Water Rates	162	-	162
Visiting Speakers	92	-	92
Service of Fire Extinguishers	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>841</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>841</u></b>

**5. Rectory Costs**

Heating Oil	322	-	322
Electricity	236	-	236
Telephone	242	-	242
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>800</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>800</u></b>

**6. Maintenance Costs**

Church Repairs: Gutters	150	-	150
Servicing of Boiler	136	-	136
Grass Cutting	1,026	-	1,026
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>1,312</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>1,312</u></b>

**7. Charitable Donations**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	2024	2024	2024
CMJ Ireland	-	200	200
CMS Ireland	-	200	200
Crosslinks	-	200	200
SAMS	-	200	200
Faith Mission	-	200	200
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>1,000</u></b>	<b><u>1,000</u></b>

**8. Administration Costs**

Expenses of Office	221	-	221
Insurance	1,972	-	1,972
Audit Fee	432	-	432
Copyright Licence	246	-	246
Gift Aid Administration Fee	178	-	178
Printing of Church Envelopes	148	-	148
Purchase of Microphone	431	-	431
Kilcronaghan Connect Outing	200	-	200
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>3,828</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>3,828</u></b>

**9. Investment Income**

RCB COI Trustees	232	-	232
RCB Unit Trusts	<u>1,462</u>	-	<u>1,462</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b><u>1,694</u></b>	<b>-</b>	<b><u>1,694</u></b>

**10. Total Cash Funds**

	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>
Bank Current Account	46,622	874
Organ Repair Fund	-	2,976
St Anne's Business Reserve		<u>8,812</u>
<b>Total Bank</b>	<u>46,622</u>	<u>12,662</u>
<b>Cash Accounts</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>35</u>
	<b><u>46,622</u></b>	<b><u>12,697</u></b>

**11. Movement in Funds**

	<b>At 1 Jan 2024</b>	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Outgoing Resources</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>At 31 Dec 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Charities	990	884	1,000	-	874
Organ Repair Fund	2,940	36	-	-	2,976
St Anne's Fund	8,721	125		-	8,846
<b>Total restricted</b>	<u>12,651</u>	<u>1,045</u>	<u>1,000</u>		<u>12,696</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	45,669	19,253	18,301	-	46,621
	<u>45,669</u>	<u>19,253</u>	<u>18,301</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,621</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b><u>58,321</u></b>	<b><u>20,298</u></b>	<b><u>19,301</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>59,319</u></b>

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Charities Fund – Monies for donations to charitable and missionary organizations

Organ Repair Fund – a fund to provide the maintenance of the church organ

St Anne's Fund – a fund for the running and repair of St Anne's

## 12. Investment Assets

	NFU Mutual Mixed Portfolio	CIT Unit Trusts	RCB Unit Trusts	Total
	£	£	£	£
Opening value at 1 Jan 2024	52,731.76	11,294.04	246,755.32	310,781.12
Changes in valuation	<u>+3,186.69</u>	<u>+1,088.18</u>	<u>+17,218.41</u>	<u>+21,493.28</u>
Closing value at 31 Dec 2024	<u>55,918.45</u>	<u>12,382.22</u>	<u>263,973.73</u>	<u>332,274.40</u>

## 13. Assets retained for the Parish's own use

	Fixtures & Fittings	Plantation Land	Total
	£	£	£
Opening cost at 1 Jan 2023	5,000	20,000	25,000
Additions	-	-	-
Closing cost at 31 Dec 2023	<u>5,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>

## 14. Reconciliation of Charity Funds

Balance b/f at 1 Jan 2024	394,102
Add Surplus for 2024	<u>998</u>
	395,100
Increase in Value of Investments	<u>21,493</u>
Balance b/f at 31 Dec. 2024	<u>416,593</u>

## 15. Transactions with the Trustees

The parish paid expenses of £800 relating to the running costs of the Rectory which is occupied by the Rector.

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the Charity during the year

## 16. Governance Costs

Governance costs of £432 were incurred during the year which relates to fees paid to the independent examiner. Governance costs are included within Administration costs in the Receipts and Payments Accounts.