

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 the Parish of Camus-Juxta-Mourne 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 the Parish of Camus-Juxta-Mourne is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Parish, 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. These are fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity. This is mainly achieved by using the offices, rights and services of the Church of Ireland which is part of the universal Anglican Communion.

As a result of activity in the pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the Parish of Camus-Juxta-Mourne 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 Parish.

Review 2022: A note from the Rector

Last Summer we had the privilege of visiting the Grand Canyon. The Grand Canyon is in America, in the State of Arizona to be exact. Arizona is a State with a very interesting history. One of its most famous towns is Tombstone.

Do you happen to know where the phrase "born the wrong side of the track" comes from? Do you know where the term "deadline" comes from?

Both come from the days of Tombstone, a town was divided north / south by the railway track that went through. On the south side you could carry guns and all sorts of stuff went on. On the north side there were no guns. That's where the churches were. That's where the families lived. Signs indicated the deadline. Walk across that line carrying a gun you're dead. There were no guns in the northern part. If you're born on the wrong side of the track you'd live where all the bad stuff was going on.

St.Luke's Episcopal Church in Tombstone, Arizona, was built by Rev. Endicott Peabody during the time when Wyatt Earp was the sheriff. Rev. Peabody was the Rector. Wanting to build the church, he went into the saloon where Wyatt Earp was playing poker. Wyatt Earp was a deacon in the church. He even wore his guns in church.

When Rev. Peabody said he needed money to build the church, Wyatt Earp was one of the first contributors. He had won a pile of money, so he took the money and gave it to the church. He told everyone else in the saloon playing poker to give their winnings. The church is still there today, not far from the OK Coral.

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

The Parish previously held shares in a listed company (Meggitt Plc) from which it received an annual dividend. In 2022, Meggitt Plc was acquired by another company and all shareholders received a one off payment as compensation for their holding with the result that no future dividend would be received. The Parish received £20,130 as a one off payment.

Sadly several families suffered bereavements during 2022 and the Parish is grateful to all who arranged for donations to be given to the Parish.

It is interesting to note where the main sources of income into the Parish are generated from:

| Source | % of total income |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Freewill Offerings | 46.6% |
| Gift Aid and Legacy Trusts | 32.6% |
| Fundraising Activities | 7.0% |
| Rental Income | 5.3% |
| Donations in Memory | 1.9% |
| Other Income | 6.6% |
| | 100.0% |

It is encouraging that fundraising activities have been able to resume as they form such a crucial part of the Parish's income. Please do support the fundraising efforts and anyone with fundraising suggestions, no matter how great or small, please speak with a member of the vestry.

Expenditure

The "standard" basic Diocesan assessment levied on parishes in the Diocese of Derry is in the region of £61,000. Given the size of our Parish, the assessment which this Parish is required to meet is subsidised and the 2022 assessment was £44,406. The assessment cost for the Parish in 2023 will be £46,733.

Repairs, maintenance and the running costs of Parish properties continue to be a significant area of expenditure totalling almost £21,000. The Parish has not been immune to rising energy costs with the cost of electricity in the Church building for heat and light increasing sharply.

Assets

Alongside the Church building, the Hall and the Rectory, the Parish also owns another property located within the Bowling Green. This is the former sexton's house and currently generates a small rental income.

Looking ahead, it is likely significant repairs will be required to the Parish hall in respect of the roof and floor. The Vestry are already exploring a number of options.

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

The Parish also holds a number of accounts and deposits where funds are held seeking to maximise the return on investments whilst also maintaining security of the funds. It is felt that Santander Bank, Danske Bank, The Northern Ireland Central Investment Fund for Charities (administered by the Northern Ireland Government) and the RCB provide security for the Parish's funds.

Overview

The Vestry has recommended it should at all times hold a minimum value of six months of Diocesan Assessment as unrestricted reserves

The vestry take very seriously its stewardship role overseeing the Parish finances and seek to ensure that expenditure is closely monitored and money is spent in a wise, responsible and necessary fashion.

As at 31 December 2022 the Parish is considered to be financially viable, holding an adequate level of funds in reserve and showing no cause for concern.

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the plans 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.

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.

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

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

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.

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 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.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Rev. John White (Rector)
Date: 8 - 11-2023


.....
Mr Philip Smith (Honorary Treasurer)
Date: 8 - 11-2023