

## **DUNGIVEN PARISH CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

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The trustees of Dungiven Parish Church present their report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st December 2023.

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

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

The principal function of the Dungiven Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of Dungiven Parish Church 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, Dungiven 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 Dungiven Parish Church.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE & PUBLIC BENEFIT**

#### **Worship**

Worship services are held each Sunday at 10am which include different types of worship such as Morning Prayer, Holy Communion, Family Service. The church is open prior to the service for prayer with the Prayer Group or for individual prayer and reflection. During Advent and Lent weekday services are held. We have regular joint services throughout the year with other parishes in the area. Services are recorded and made available to anyone who may be unable to attend due to health, mobility or other reasons. All services follow the teaching and practice of the Church of Ireland.

Sunday School is held weekly during school term time, educating children in Christianity. A crèche also runs alongside for younger children.

### **WEEKLY/MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

A weekly bible study session is held in the parish for closer study of the Bible.

Youth group meetings are held regularly on Sunday evenings aimed at engaging with the younger members of the congregation.

We provide premises and support to a weekly bowling club which provides activity and fellowship for parishioners and non-parishioners alike. Mothers Union also meet monthly and regularly use the Church for special services.

Meal Run Ministry meet monthly. A meal delivery service which delivers meals to anyone in the local community in need, ie the sick, bereaved, elderly and infirm. Not only does this ensure these vulnerable people receive proper meals but is also regular contact to check on their wellbeing.

The Church and associated organisations/activities are fully compliant with the Safeguarding Trust policies of the Church of Ireland for the protection of children.

### **PASTORAL CARE**

Throughout the year the church offers pastoral care, prayers and support for parishioners and members of the local community and their families in distress, whether through sickness, bereavement or financial difficulty. This can be carried out by a number of methods, including home visits, hospital visits and practical assistance.

### **MISSION & OUTREACH**

Dungiven Parish Church is committed to reaching out to our local community. We were delighted to once again host the Cancer Research UK 'Big Breakfast' fundraising event for it's 5th year, this was greatly supported by all members of the community regardless of religion. September 2023 also saw the return of our Annual Vintage Rally & Family Fun Day. This was a much needed and welcomed day that brought many from community and beyond. In December 2023 the Church was pleased to provide a venue for blood donation sessions for the whole community.

Throughout 2023 Dungiven Parish donated £1,313.75 through special collections to various charities along with payments to charities from general funds totalling £3,504.00

**DUNGIVEN PARISH CHURCH  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - CONT'D**

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**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Church held net cash funds at year end of £167,528.67

The Church holds an investment account which is retained for specific purposes. This is detailed in Note 3.

**GOING CONCERN**

The Trustees have reviewed budgets for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Church can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023 can be signed off as a going concern.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity**

Chapter 111 of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial Organisations.

The Church is a registered charity - Charity Registration number NIC104862 . The Select Vestry members are the Charity Trustees.

**APPOINTMENT OF SELECT VESTY (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 church wardens, the glebe wardens and other members of the general vestry elected at the General Vestry.

The select vestry is chaired by the 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.

**COMPLIANCE OF THE PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Parish has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that 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.

**Signed on behalf of the Trustees**

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Date..... 12/3/24