

Charity Commission for NI Registration Number: NIC105433



**FIRST CARRICKFERGUS CONGREGATION
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended
31st December 2024**

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024.

1.1 REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name	First Carrickfergus Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland																	
Other names used by the charity	First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church First Presbyterian Church, Carrickfergus First Carrickfergus First Carrick North Street																	
Northern Ireland Charity Number	NIC105433																	
Operational Address	North Street Carrickfergus Co Antrim BT38 7AE																	
Members of the Board of Trustees (Kirk Session)	<table> <tr> <td>Rev Dr Cecil Grant (<i>teaching elder</i>)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Neil Anderson</td> <td>Mr W Terence Hogg</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs Carol Carson</td> <td>Mr E Raymond Leeman</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr James L Davison</td> <td>Mr Peter Mann</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr William S Doherty</td> <td>Mr Thomas McFadden</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs Pamela Forsythe</td> <td>Mr Trevor Norris</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Thomas Galway</td> <td>Mr Robert Penney</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr Graham Hart</td> <td>Mrs Sharon Primrose</td> </tr> </table>		Rev Dr Cecil Grant (<i>teaching elder</i>)		Mr Neil Anderson	Mr W Terence Hogg	Mrs Carol Carson	Mr E Raymond Leeman	Mr James L Davison	Mr Peter Mann	Mr William S Doherty	Mr Thomas McFadden	Mrs Pamela Forsythe	Mr Trevor Norris	Mr Thomas Galway	Mr Robert Penney	Mr Graham Hart	Mrs Sharon Primrose
Rev Dr Cecil Grant (<i>teaching elder</i>)																		
Mr Neil Anderson	Mr W Terence Hogg																	
Mrs Carol Carson	Mr E Raymond Leeman																	
Mr James L Davison	Mr Peter Mann																	
Mr William S Doherty	Mr Thomas McFadden																	
Mrs Pamela Forsythe	Mr Trevor Norris																	
Mr Thomas Galway	Mr Robert Penney																	
Mr Graham Hart	Mrs Sharon Primrose																	

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Office Bearers	Rev Dr Cecil Grant. MINISTER
	Mr W Terence Hogg. CLERK OF SESSION
	Mrs Leslie Oliver. SECRETARY OF CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE
	Mr Neil Anderson. TREASURER

OTHER INFORMATION

Independent Examiner	Nigel V. Skillen FCA Diamond & Skillen Ltd 89a Larne Road Carrickfergus BT38 7NH
Bankers	Danske Bank Limited Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS

1.2 The purpose and objectives of North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church

Our vision is to become a loving, accepting fellowship of believers who passionately worship God and reach out to the community in a relevant way. Our ultimate purpose is to put into practice those features of a Christian Church identified in the Bible and showing God's love, care and compassion to all with whom we come into contact. Formally, our purpose is summarised in the PCI Code (the Governing document of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland) as follows:

*'3. (1) **The visible Church** consists of all those throughout the world who profess to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation and to live obedient to God's Word, together with their children.*

*(2) **The visible Church** was established by the Lord Jesus Christ for the glory of the Father and the advancement of His Kingdom in the world. These great purposes are to be accomplished by the proclamation of the Gospel, by witness-bearing to the truth as it is in Jesus Christ and by the promotion of Christian fellowship and mutual edification among all believers.'*

It is challenging due to the nature of our purpose, and with the necessary attention to personal privacy, to articulate performance and achievements in ways comparable to other enterprises. Later in this report, we have attempted to represent performance and achievement by the general descriptive measure of the public benefit services and activities provided, the extent of volunteer participation and the level of attendance and participation by members and the wider public.

1.3 Governance and Management Structure

The Board of Trustees of North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church is referred to in the Presbyterian Church context as the **Kirk Session** which is made up of the ordained minister and the Ruling Elders. Ruling Elders are elected by congregational vote based on a list prepared by the Session of persons nominated by the congregation. The present Elders, and past Elders who served during the reporting year, are listed above. The Kirk Session is chaired (moderated) by a Teaching Elder who is normally the Ordained Minister called to the Church.

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI) form of governance the corporate oversight of North Street First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church is the responsibility of the Carrickfergus Presbytery which superintends the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of PCI. The Presbytery consists of the active ministers of congregations within the Presbytery, retired ministers, one elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation and other individuals allowed by the Code of PCI.

Whilst the ultimate guide for North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church is the Bible, the Code (or Constitution Document) of the PCI (latest amendment in June 2023), forms the governance document through which we seek to meet our obligations to church members, the public and our statutory obligations and good practice aspirations under the Charities and other legislation. See <https://www.presbyterianireland.org/Resources/General-Assembly/The-Code.aspx>

At North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church a Clerk of Session is elected from amongst the elders. The Kirk Session meets at least six times each year. Several Kirk Session Ministry Groups have been set up to expedite the work of the Kirk Session and each reports, and submits proposals, to Kirk Session on a regular basis.

Whilst the Kirk Session has overall responsibility for the governance of the church, selected tasks are delegated to the Congregational Committee (CC). The day to day management of the church and its activities is delegated to the Staff Ministry Team. To facilitate communication and consistent decision making all members of Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the CC, the Committee is chaired by the Minister and the CC minutes are a fixed item on the Kirk Session agenda. Staff workplans, budgets and proposals are reviewed by Kirk Session and subgroups of Kirk Session meet with staff to review progress and performance.

1.4 Achievements and Performance (Public Benefit Report)

The Trustees are aware of the importance of achieving public benefit as described in the North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church entry on the CCNI Register and welcome the guidance given in the CCNI documents. We consider that working for the public benefit has been a core activity of North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church since its foundation in 1621 and it fits naturally within our current vision. It is a continuous thread in discussions and decision making at governance meetings.

In addition to the essential work of our five full and part-time paid employees, unpaid volunteers contribute a significant number of hours per week in delivering a wide range of activities and services.

This is the source of energy through which our public benefit is delivered, and the Trustees express their sincere thanks to all our staff and volunteers.

FIRST CARRICKFERGUS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER 2024



The public benefit services delivered by North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church are listed in Table (i), and a statistical description of the level of participation is shown in Table (ii).

Sunday Services	GB Juniors (8-10 years)	Thursday Fellowship
Sunday Evening Missionary Services	GB Seniors (11-13 years)	Tots & Co
Midweek Wednesday Worship	GB Brigaders (14+ years)	Young Adults
Baptismal Services	GB Former Members	Saturday Night Live (Youth Fellowship and Ministry)
Wedding Services	Badminton Club	Outreach Ministry - provision of support to families under financial pressures
Funeral Services	Indoor Bowling Club	Pastoral visits to homes, hospitals, Retirement Homes and Care Homes
Easter, Christmas, Harvest and Remembrance Services	Crèche	Special fundraising appeals
Prayer Meetings	Holiday Bible Club (Summer Programme, 5-11 years)	Community use of halls
Alpha Courses	Kids Crew (children's Sunday morning programme)	Provision of a publicly available defibrillator
Core Groups	Needle & Natter	Fitness classes
BB Anchor Boys (4-8 years)	Women's Ministry Group	Big Church Day and Church Lunches
BB Junior Section (8-11 years)	Men's Ministry Group	
BB Company Section (11-14 years)	Audio Visual Team	
BB Senior Section (15-18 years)	Music Ministry Team	
GB Explorers (3-7 years)		

- Further details on these organisations and activities are available on our website www.firstcarrickpres.co.uk, our Facebook page and from our regular publications and the weekly printed and emailed announcements.
- Several of our organisations and activities are provided for children and young people. The essential Safeguarding and child protection is facilitated through the PCI Taking Care programme for which we have a member identified as a Designated person.

Table (i): Public benefit services provided by North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church

	2024	2023
Number of families under the pastoral care of the church	269	295
Number of persons - <i>under 18 years</i>	67	98
- <i>19 - 64 years</i>	299	333
- <i>Over 65 years</i>	236	238
- <i>TOTAL</i>	602	669
	Average Weekly participants	Average Weekly participants
Sunday Services - <i>Morning</i>	165	150
Average number of weekly online views (YouTube)	180	200
Bible Studies and Fellowship meetings (excluding Sunday Services)	165	150
Sunday School & Bible Class activities	32	20
Non-uniformed organisations for children and young people	75	60
Uniformed organisations for children and young people	110	142
Youth Week, Summer Programme: 60 young people annually		
Holiday Bible Club, Summer Programme: 150 children annually		
Table (ii). Level of participation in organisations and activities as a general descriptive measure of impact		

The Church made external donations of £23,476 (2023: £26,866) to worthy causes and projects during this financial period.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities and Corporate Governance

The organisation has been registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

The Elders are responsible for their annual report and for the preparation of financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Organisation and of the net movement in funds of the Organisation for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Elders are required to:-

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures 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 organisation will continue to function.

The Elders are responsible for ensuring that the Organisation keeps proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Charities legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Organisation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that:

- The Organisation is operating efficiently and effectively;
- All assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition and are properly applied;
- Proper records are maintained and financial information used within the Organisation, or for publication, is reliable; *and*
- The Organisation complies with relevant laws and regulations

Statement as disclosure to our reporting accountant

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

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the charity's reporting accountant is unaware; *and*
- the Elders, having made enquiries of fellow Elders and the charity's reporting accountant that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the reporting accountant is aware of that information.

Internal controls

The Kirk Session has overall responsibility for ensuring that North Street, First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church has a system of internal control. Such a system of control can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against errors or fraud. Controls are concerned with safeguarding the church's assets and maintaining the integrity of accounting controls.

Risk Review

The Trustees recognise their responsibility for the identification, assessment and management of risk.

The Trustees have implemented systems and procedures to manage identified risks and there is a strong culture of risk assessment for all activities undertaken by the charity. The principal risks are in relation to the likelihood of reputational damage and financial risks associated with the expectation of ongoing financial support from members. These risks are mitigated by the Trustees, and the Congregational Committee, regularly monitoring the various activities of the congregation at stated meetings and by encouraging members in their regular giving.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE DUTY TO HAVE REGARD TO THE CHARITY COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND'S GUIDANCE ON PUBLIC BENEFIT

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the Charity's purpose and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries. No harm and no private benefit flowed from the purposes of the charity.

FINANCIAL REVIEW and RESERVES POLICY

The Elders believe that the Organisation should hold financial reserves because:

- It has little endowment funding and is currently dependent for income upon donations from year to year which are subject to review; *and*
- It requires protection against and the ability to continue operating despite unforeseen setbacks; *and*
- It requires the ability to be able to take advantage of change and opportunities to further its objectives.

The Elders believe that the level of unrestricted reserves represented by investments and net current assets should be the equivalent of between three and preferably six months' operating costs calculated and reviewed annually. Reserves should be built up to the desired level in stages consistent with the charity's overall financial position and its need to maintain and develop its charitable activities.

Such unrestricted reserves constitute, in total, a balance of £40,460 (2023: £23,750).

During the year ended 31st December 2024, operating costs (on unrestricted funds only) were in the region of £164,000 per year. Accordingly, the target reserve balance of between £41,000 (3 months) and £82,000 (6 months). The current level of reserves therefore is below the terms of the Reserves Policy.

The Elders are taking action in an effort to increase income and control operating costs in order to build the reserves to a level that is within the terms of the Reserves Policy.

Details of the Charity's funds are shown in Note 15. An analysis of the Charity's net assets between the funds is given in Note 13. The Elders consider that sufficient resources are held in an appropriate form to enable each fund to be applied in accordance with any restriction imposed.

EMPLOYEES

The Charity aims to be an organisation that employees enjoy working for and where they feel supported and developed. Employees are kept fully informed about its strategy and objectives, as well as day to day news and events. Regular information about the organisation is available through meetings and e-mails. All employees are encouraged to give their views and suggestions on performance and strategy.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Nigel Skillen of Diamond & Skillen was appointed as the charity's independent examiner.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 28th May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr W Terence Hogg
Trustee
Clerk of Session



Mr N Anderson
Trustee
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTH STREET FIRST CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on pages 3 to 18.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 ("the Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Article 65(3) of the Act and that an independent examination is needed. Per the information provided to us to carry out our examination, the charity's gross income did not exceed £500,000 this year but did exceed £250,000 and did not exceed £500,000 last year.

I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Chartered Accountants Ireland.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Article 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, *and*
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, *and*
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Article 63 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008; *or*
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; *or*
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Nigel Skillen FCA
Diamond & Skillen Ltd
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland
89a Larne Road
Carrickfergus
Co Antrim
BT38 7NH

28th May 2025

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
INCOME						
<i>from donations and legacies</i>						
• Grants and Donations	3	146,260	67,423	-	213,683	224,910
<i>from charitable activities</i>						
• Other charitable income	3	1,019	1,061	-	2,080	2,128
<i>from other activities</i>						
• Gift Aid tax refunded	3	24,737	10,649	-	35,386	31,581
• Other income	3	3,223	15,588	-	18,811	12,095
<i>from investments</i>						
• Investment income	3	2,206	305	-	2,511	1,928
Total income		177,445	95,026	0	272,471	272,642
EXPENDITURE						
<i>on raising funds</i>						
• Promotional costs		645	-	-	645	1,617
<i>on charitable activities</i>						
• Employee costs	4.1 / 4.2	98,363	24,668	-	123,031	122,770
• Premises costs	4.1	22,417	25,827	-	48,244	108,254
• Travel and training costs	4.1	7,217	165	-	7,382	7,094
• General administration costs	4.1	4,416	546	-	4,962	10,059
• Programme costs	4 / 5	27,725	55,784	-	83,509	97,435
<i>on other items</i>						
• Legal and professional fees	4	1,291	-	-	1,291	4,713
• Other expenses	4	1,720	982	-	2,702	647
Total expenditure		163,794	107,972	0	271,766	352,589
Net surplus / (deficit) for the year		13,651	(12,946)	0	705	(79,947)
Depreciation	10	-	-	-	0	-
Transfers between funds	9	3,059	(3,059)	-	0	-
Net movement in funds for the year		16,710	(16,005)	0	705	(79,947)
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>						
• Fund balances b/f at 1st January		23,750	280,849	43,650	348,249	428,196
• Fund balances c/f at 31st December		40,460	264,844	43,650	348,954	348,249

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.
 All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.
 The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (BALANCE SHEET)
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
• Tangible assets	10	-	-
		0	0
INVESTMENTS			
• Investments		29,000	29,000
		29,000	29,000
CURRENT ASSETS			
• Receivables	11	-	-
• Cash and cash equivalents		319,954	323,358
		319,954	323,358
PAYABLES: amounts falling due within one year	12	-	(4,109)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		319,954	319,249
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		348,954	348,249
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted income funds:			
General funds	15	10,314	(36,911)
Children's Ministry fund (<i>designated</i>)	15	302	303
Messy Church fund (<i>designated</i>)	15	844	844
Estate of I Dick (<i>designated</i>)	15	-	30,000
Investment fund (<i>designated</i>)	15	29,000	29,000
Other funds (<i>designated</i>)	15	-	514
		Total unrestricted	40,460
			23,750
Restricted income funds:			
Building & Maintenance Fund	15	217,218	223,086
United Appeal & Other Worthy Causes Fund	15	-	-
Outreach Fund	15	27,623	34,480
Benevolent Fund	15	5,457	4,970
Congregational Organisations	15	14,546	18,313
		Total restricted	264,844
			280,849
Endowment funds:			
Endowment Funds	15	43,650	43,650
		Total endowment	43,650
			43,650
TOTAL FUNDS		348,954	348,249

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 2 to 19 were approved by the Kirk Session on 28th May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr W Terence Hogg
 Trustee - Clerk of Session



Mr N Anderson
 Trustee - Treasurer

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Net cash (outflow) from operating activities	16	(5,915)	(80,926)
Returns on investment and servicing of finance	17	2,511	1,124
Expenditure on non-current assets (capital expenditure)	10	-	-
(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents for the year		(3,404)	(79,802)
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds			
(Decrease) in cash for the year		(3,404)	(79,802)
Net cash and cash equivalents at 1st January 2024		323,358	403,160
Net cash and cash equivalents at 31st December 2024		319,954	323,358

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

1.1 Statement of compliance

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with 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) (effective from 1st January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 (insofar as this applies to the Charity).

North Street First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

1.2 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure. The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity

1.3 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The Kirk Session's policy is to undertake ongoing review of the 'Going Concern' status of the charity, taking note of the organisation's reserves policy and the projected availability of funds to enable the organisation to fulfil its responsibilities. A statement on the outcome of the ongoing review is given at note 18 on page 19.

1.4 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires the Trustees to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

1.5 Revenue

Items of revenue are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of revenue have been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- it is probable that the revenue will be received; *and*
- the amount can be measured reliably

Revenue received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for revenue recognition are met.

Grants receivable

Grants receivable which relate to the year are credited to revenue within the Statement of Financial Activities, with unspent balances being carried forward to subsequent years within the relevant fund.

Specific debts are recognised where approved grant expenditure exceeds grant revenue received to date.

Grant revenue relating to future periods is carried forward under payables.

1.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

1.7 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Kirk Session in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes. The fund comprises the accumulated surpluses and deficits of unrestricted income and expenditure.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of administering such funds are charges against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

1.8 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on raising funds comprises the costs of marketing and promoting the charity and its activities;
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the direct costs allocated to the performance of activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs;
- Expenditure on other items represents those items not falling into any other heading.

1.9 Non Current Assets (Fixed Assets)

Fixed Assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. The costs of minor additions or those costing below £5,000 are not capitalised. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life. The estimated lives and residual values are shown below:

	<u>Expected useful life</u>	<u>Residual Value</u>
• Land.....	Indefinite.....	n/a
• Buildings.....	50 years.....	£985,000
• Furniture, fixtures and equipment.....	10 years.....	£nil
• Motor Vehicles.....	4 years.....	£nil
• Computers, software and technical.....	4 years.....	£nil

1.10 Receivables

Trade and other receivables are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

1.11 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes bank deposits, cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 Payables and provisions

Payables and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Payables and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. Legal status of the charity

North Street First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church is a Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. It is a charity registered in Northern Ireland no. NIC105433.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

3 INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
from grants, donations and legacies:					
• Freewill offering	133,340	-	-	133,340	114,197
• Loose collections	3,956	-	-	3,956	1,597
• Legacies/bequests received	-	-	-	0	7,267
• Other donations	549	7,042	-	7,591	16,234
• Building & Maintenance donations	-	16,368	-	16,368	16,631
• United Appeal donations	-	12,239	-	12,239	12,412
• Outreach donations	-	19,973	-	19,973	36,368
• Special collections					
• Presbyterian Childrens Society	1,600	-	-	1,600	1,669
• Tear Fund	3,640	-	-	3,640	4,243
• Poppy Appeal	368	-	-	368	381
• Carol Service <small>(2024: Macmillan 2023 :Chest, Heart Stroke)</small>	733	-	-	733	475
• Leaving gift	528	-	-	528	-
• Loose - Childrens Ministry	369	-	-	369	-
• BB / GB Enrolment Service	-	532	-	532	-
• DEC - Turkey Syria Earthquake	-	-	-	0	5,250
• Grants received	1,177	11,269	-	12,446	8,186
	<i>sub-total</i>	<i>146,260</i>	<i>67,423</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>213,683</i>
224,910					
from charitable activities:					
• Bookstall & tuck shop sales	1,019	1,061	-	2,080	2,128
• Other charitable income	-	-	-	0	-
	<i>sub-total</i>	<i>1,019</i>	<i>1,061</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2,080</i>
2,128					
from other activities:					
• Gift Aid tax refunded					
• Building & Maintenance	-	3,443	-	3,443	3,536
• United Appeal	-	2,356	-	2,356	2,403
• Outreach	-	4,335	-	4,335	975
• Other	-	515	-	515	3,536
• FWO/general	24,737	-	-	24,737	21,131
• Use of premises income	1,815	-	-	1,815	1,343
• Organisations' membership / dues	-	5,590	-	5,590	5,452
• Other income	1,408	9,998	-	11,406	5,300
	<i>sub-total</i>	<i>27,960</i>	<i>26,237</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>54,197</i>
43,676					
from investments:					
• UK bank interest received	-	225	-	225	14
• Income on bequests invested	2,206	80	-	2,286	1,914
	<i>sub-total</i>	<i>2,206</i>	<i>305</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2,511</i>
1,928					
GRAND TOTALS	177,445	95,026	0	272,471	272,642

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

4.1 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
on raising funds:					
• Promotional materials	645	-	-	645	1,617
<i>sub-total</i>	645	0	0	645	1,617
on charitable activities:					
Employee costs:					
• See note 4.2	98,363	24,668	-	123,031	122,770
Premises, equipment & insurance costs:					
• Ground rent. rates and water rates	575	903	-	1,478	1,386
• Insurance	5,770	-	-	5,770	5,505
• Electricity	5,111	-	-	5,111	6,804
• Gas	9,090	-	-	9,090	7,954
• Repairs and Property projects	237	14,703	-	14,940	76,328
• Cleaning	982	9,740	-	10,722	10,277
• Other premises expenses	652	480	-	1,132	-
Travel and training costs:					
• Training	93	85	-	178	40
• Minister and employee's expenses	7,124	80	-	7,204	7,054
General administration costs:					
• Printing, postage and stationery	1,872	177	-	2,049	4,796
• Telephone, computer and internet	2,545	369	-	2,914	1,580
• Subscriptions	-	-	-	0	3,683
Programme costs:					
• Programme costs (see note 5)	27,725	55,784	-	83,509	97,435
<i>sub-total</i>	160,139	106,989	0	267,128	345,612
on other items:					
Legal and professional fees:					
• Independent examiner fees	1,291	-	-	1,291	4,713
• Other governance costs	-	-	-	0	-
Other expenses:					
• Bank charges	64	584	-	648	647
• Sundry expenses	1,655	399	-	2,054	-
<i>sub-total</i>	3,010	983	0	3,993	5,360
GRAND TOTALS	163,794	107,972	0	271,766	352,589

4.2 Staff costs and numbers

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Wages, salaries and Stipends	76,813	23,936	100,749	107,299
Pulpit and Music supply	1,506	-	1,506	-
Employers National Insurance	6,978	-	6,978	2,169
Defined contribution pensions (NEST)	435	732	1,167	1,272
Defined benefit pensions (PCI pension plan)	12,631	-	12,631	12,030
	98,363	24,668	123,031	122,770

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000

The average number of persons, including part-time staff, employed on UK contracts was 5 (2023: 5)

The charity contributes to the National Employer Savings Trust for defined contribution pension arrangements for employed staff.

The charity contributes to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI) pension plan for the minister. This is a defined benefit pension plan however as part of a wider scheme it is not possible to identify separately the fund relating to this charity. In accordance with The Charity SORP (FRS102) this scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

5 Breakdown of amounts shown as Programme Costs in note 4.1

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Charitable distributions:					
Bequests redistributed	248	-	-	248	-
Carrickfergus YMCA	50	1,200	-	1,250	1,200
Christians Against Poverty	-	50	-	50	-
Earl Haig Fund	368	-	-	368	381
Leprosy Mission	-	50	-	50	-
Macmillan Cancer Support	733	270	-	1,003	-
Mission Africa	-	240	-	240	-
Mission Focus donations	-	1,980	-	1,980	2,025
NI Air Ambulance	-	200	-	200	-
NI Cancer Fund for children	-	270	-	270	-
NI Chest, Heart & Stoke	-	-	-	0	475
Parkinsons Charity	-	100	-	100	-
Presbyterian Children's Society	1,889	-	-	1,889	1,669
PW Projects	-	311	-	311	-
RNLI	-	50	-	50	-
Samaritans Purse	-	20	-	20	-
Senior Gateway Club	-	500	-	500	650
Storehouse	-	500	-	500	650
Sunnylands Primary School	-	-	-	0	87
Tear Fund	3,665	-	-	3,665	4,243
The Cithrah Foundation	-	530	-	530	650
Turkey / Syria Earthquake	-	-	-	0	5,250
United Appeal	-	13,036	-	13,036	14,754
Other special collections	67	-	-	67	687
<i>sub-total</i>	<i>7,020</i>	<i>19,307</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>26,327</i>	<i>32,721</i>
Charitable distributions - outside UK / Ire:					
Overseas Projects	-	-	-	0	-
<i>sub-total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Charitable Grants made:					
Mission Focus distributions	-	2,256	-	2,256	2,090
Benevolent Fund Grants	-	63	-	63	-
Grants to entities	-	51	-	51	10,682
<i>sub-total</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2,370</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>2,370</i>	<i>12,772</i>
PCI Assessments:					
PCI Assembly assessments	14,462	-	-	14,462	13,889
Carrickfergus Presbytery Fees	1,060	-	-	1,060	1,017
<i>sub-total</i>	<i>15,522</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>15,522</i>	<i>14,906</i>
Other charitable expenditure:					
Worship resources	3,419	4,843	-	8,262	4,515
Goods purchased for resale	1,144	1,166	-	2,310	933
Catering costs	620	2,173	-	2,793	1,295
Organisations' Programme costs	-	25,539	-	25,539	29,421
Sundry donations and expenses	-	386	-	386	872
Other	-	-	-	0	-
<i>sub-total</i>	<i>5,183</i>	<i>34,107</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>39,290</i>	<i>37,036</i>
GRAND TOTALS	27,725	55,784	0	83,509	97,435

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

6 Net incoming resources for the year

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
<i>Net incoming resources are stated after charging:</i>					
Independent Examiner - remuneration	1,291	-	-	1,291	3,700
Independent Examiner - other	-	-	-	0	410
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	0	-
	1,291	0	0	1,291	4,110

7 Trustee remuneration and Related Party Transactions

The total amount donated to the Charity without conditions from trustees and officers (primary related parties) and secondary related parties was £37,561 (2023: £37,560).

No trustee received any remuneration as a result of their Trusteeship of the Charity.

One Trustee was employed by the Charity and received reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses during the year (2023: 1). The details are as follows:

- Rev Dr Cecil Grant - Employed as Minister of the Congregation - Salary £52,630, Employer pension contribution £12,631, Exp allowance £7,036, Mileage £0

The following transactions took place with secondary related parties during the year:

- Mrs Rosalind Hart - Employed as Church Administrator - spouse of Mr Graham Hart (trustee) - Salary £14,540, Employer pension contribution £436, Exp allowance £0, Mileage £0.
- Mrs Anita Hogg - Employed as Music Director - spouse of Mr W Terence Hogg (trustee) - Salary £9,784, Employer pension contribution £0, Exp allowance £0, Mileage £0.

The following trustees received reimbursement from the charity where they had paid charity liabilities from personal funds whilst acting as agent for the charity:

- Rev Dr Cecil Grant received £30 (2023: £1,040) by way of reimbursement from the charity where they had paid charity liabilities from personal funds while acting as agent for the charity.
- Mr Trevor Norris received £91 (2023: £135) by way of reimbursement from the charity where they had paid charity liabilities from personal funds while acting as agent for the charity.
- Mr Neil Anderson received £474 (2023: £755) by way of reimbursement from the charity where they had paid charity liabilities from personal funds while acting as agent for the charity.
- Mr Stephen Doherty received £652 (2023: £nil) by way of reimbursement from the charity where they had paid charity liabilities from personal funds while acting as agent for the charity.
- Mr Raymond Leeman received £321 (2023: £300) by way of reimbursement from the charity where they had paid charity liabilities from personal funds while acting as agent for the charity

No other trustee or other person connected to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year (2023 - Nil).

North Street First Carrickfergus Presbyterian Church is a member of Carrickfergus Presbytery who in turn is a member of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland (PCI). During the 2022 financial year, Presbytery Fees of £1,060 (2023: £1,017) were paid to Carrickfergus Presbytery and PCI Assessments amounting to £14,462 (2023: £13,889) were paid to the PCI by the charity.

The minister's stipend is paid by PCI and assessed on the Congregation.

8 Taxation

As a charity, the Church is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or 2256 of the Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

9 Transfers between the funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment Funds £	Totals 2024 £
To General fund from Designated Fund <i>Removal of designation on Estate of E Dick funds</i>	30,000 (30,000)	- -	- -	30,000 (30,000)
To General fund from Bowling club <i>Allocation of funds towards heat and light expense</i>	500	(500)	-	0
To General fund from Former Members Association <i>Allocation of funds towards heat and light expense</i>	50	(50)	-	0
To General fund from Thursday Fellowship <i>Allocation of funds towards heat and light expense</i>	200	(200)	-	0
To General fund from Tots & Co <i>Allocation of funds towards heat and light expense</i>	200	(200)	-	0
To General fund from Youth club <i>Allocation of funds towards heat and light expense</i>	300	(300)	-	0
To General fund from Mission Focus <i>Allocation of funds towards general Church Funds</i>	100	(100)	-	0
To General fund from Outreach Fund <i>Reimbursement of payroll costs</i>	1,457	(1,457)	-	0
To Childrens' Ministry Fund from Outreach fund <i>Allocation of restricted outreach funds to set against general fund expenses for Childrens' ministry</i>	500	(500)	-	0
To Youth Ministry Fund from Childrens' Ministry Fund <i>Refund of specific expenditure made by Youth Ministry on behalf of Childrens' ministry</i>	(38)	38	-	0
To Youth Ministry Fund from Tuck Shop Fund <i>Refund of specific expenditure made by Youth Ministry on behalf of Tuck Shop</i>	(210)	210	-	0
To United Appeal fund from Mission Focus fund <i>Allocation of funds towards Mission Africa contribution</i>	- -	240 (240)	- -	240 (240)
To Mission Focus fund from Outreach Fund <i>Allocation of funds from Outreach Fund to Missions</i>	- -	1,200 (1,200)	- -	1,200 (1,200)
To Empowered Group From Outreach Fund <i>Allocation of funds from Outreach Fund to Empowered Group</i>	- -	150 (150)	- -	150 (150)
To Youth Club Fund from Youth Ministry Fund <i>Allocation of funds from Youth Ministry to Youth Club</i>	- -	70 (70)	- -	70 (70)
To Youth Ministry Fund from Youth Club Fund <i>Closure of Youth Club Fund - funds reallocated to Youth Ministry (under CyPres)</i>	- -	1,378 (1,378)	- -	1,378 (1,378)
	3,059	(3,059)	0	0

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

10 Non Current Assets

The Charity owns the Church building , halls and grounds at North Street, Carrickfergus and also the Church Manse. The trustees estimate that the cost of the properties owned as accounted for over all time would be in the region of £985,000. For information, the Church and Halls are insured at £6,388,016 and the Manse is insured at £402,156 as at 31st December 2024. It is deemed that all fixtures and fittings will have been fully amortised to the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with the depreciation policy stated in note 1.9 and thus there is no net book value of these assets recognised

11 Receivables

	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Gift Aid tax reclaims due	-	-
Sundry debtors	-	-
	0	0

12 Payables: amounts falling due within one year

	Totals 2024 £	Totals 2023 £
Sundry payables and accruals	-	4,109
	0	4,109

13 Analysis of charity net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Totals 2024 £
Non Current Assets	-	-	-	0
Investments	29,000	-	-	29,000
Current Assets - receivables	-	-	-	0
Current Assets - cash and cash equivalents	11,460	264,844	43,650	319,954
Payables	-	-	-	0
	40,460	264,844	43,650	348,954

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

14 Financial Commitments

At 31st December 2024 the charity has no annual commitments under non-cancellable leases nor any other financial commitments that are not recognised in the accounts (2023: £nil). First Carrickfergus Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has entered into a number of long term contracts for the supply of services all of which are cancellable.

15 Statement of Funds

	At 1 Jan 24 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	At 31 Dec 24 £
General reserve	(36,911)	175,464	(161,046)	32,807	10,314
Children's Ministry fund <i>(designated)</i>	303	1,646	(2,148)	500	301
Messy Church Fund <i>(designated)</i>	844	-	-	-	844
Estate of E Dick <i>(designated)</i>	30,000	-	-	(30,000)	0
Investment fund <i>(designated)</i>	29,000	-	-	-	29,000
Youth Tuck Shop fund <i>(designated)</i>	339	335	(852)	178	0
Other funds <i>(designated)</i>	175	-	(175)	-	0
Total unrestricted funds	23,750	177,445	(164,221)	3,485	40,459
Building & Maintenance Fund	223,086	20,021	(25,888)	-	217,219
United Appeal Fund	-	14,595	(14,835)	240	0
Outreach Fund	34,480	24,308	(27,860)	(3,305)	27,623
Benevolent Fund	4,970	550	(63)	-	5,457
Congregational Organisations	18,313	35,552	(38,900)	(420)	14,545
Total restricted funds	280,849	95,026	(107,546)	(3,485)	264,844
Endowment funds	43,650	-	-	-	43,650
Total endowment funds	43,650	0	0	0	43,650
Total funds	348,249	272,471	(271,767)	0	348,953

- *The general reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes*
- *The Childrens' Ministry fund holds funds designated by the Trustees for use in Childrens' Ministry*
- *The Messy Church fund holds funds designated by the Trustees for use in Messy Church*
- *The Estate of I Dick is an unrestricted bequest which the Trustees are holding in a separate fund pending allocation to a specific project or expenditure*
- *The Investment fund holds funds designated by the Trustees to match the NS&I investments*
- *The Youth Tuck Shop fund holds funds designated by the Trustees for use in the Youth Tuck shop*

Summary of the Aim and Use of Restricted Funds

- *The Building and Maintenance Fund - holds funds to provide for both the ongoing management/maintenance of church property and to provide a reserve of funding for major capital projects*
- *The United Appeal fund - holds donations received for the PCI United Appeal Scheme and other worthy causes until they are paid over to those charities once a year*
- *The Outreach fund - holds funds...*
- *The Benevolent fund - holds donations*
- *Congregational Organisations are attached to the Church. This fund holds the transactions of the 3rd Carrickfergus BB Company, The Badminton Club, etc.. so that the accounts can be consolidated in accordance with Charity legislation. Also see note 19*

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024 (cont'd)

16 Reconciliation of changes in resources to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net (outgoing) resources before depreciation and investment income	(1,806)	(81,071)
(Increase) in receivables	-	-
Increase / (decrease) in payables	(4,109)	145
Net cash (outflow) from operating activities	(5,915)	(80,926)

17 Returns on investment and servicing of finance

	2024	2023
	£	£
Investment income from UK Sources	2,511	1,124

18 Going concern

The Kirk Session considers that the charity has sufficient funding in place to continue its operations in the near future and thus deems the use of the going concern basis to be appropriate.

19 Restricted fund - Congregational Organisations

The charity accounts include the consolidation of the accounts of the Congregational Organisations (3rd Carrickfergus Boys' Brigade Company, Girls Brigade, Badminton Club, Bowling Club etc.). During the year there were 7 transactions between the main charity bank and the Congregational Organisations' bank accounts and these transactions have been treated as transfers between the funds. Further information on these transactions can be found in note 9.