

## MAGUIRESBRIDGE CHURCH OF IRELAND

### TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees present the Annual Report and Statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

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

The principal function of Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland 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 pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland 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 Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland.

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

Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland fulfils its purposes in the support and advancement of the Christian religion through weekly services, inclusive of Holy Communion, Morning Prayer, Family Services, Contemporary worship, additional services (evening) and those of the churches calendar year at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Services continue to see steady numbers with increases at the seasonal services and special services held. The Parish Offers pastoral care and assistance where feasible, to all within the parish family and those within the parish boundary, with visitations to homes, hospital, residential and nursing homes and the provision of home communion to the sick, elderly and housebound.

Members of the parish family, including a number of the present Trustees, are actively involved within the wider community - serving on Boards of Governors, with the rector delivering assemblies on a monthly basis. The Church works closely with the other groups/organisations and assists in supporting community events, led by the rector and others.

The Trustees' (who have a responsibility for the upkeep of church property, Church, Graveyard, Rectory and Parish hall), continue to carry out remedial repairs to the surrounds of the parish church and rectory. The Trustees' also carried out routine maintenance to the hall, to ensure that all facilities are welcoming, safe and usable by members and the wider public.

The aforementioned activities, as described, provide evidence of how Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland continues to implement its charitable purposes, the advancement of religion, and meets the Public Benefit requirement.

Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland, have through the implementation of the Church of Ireland Safe Guarding Trust, mitigated the potential for harm from its activities.

#### **Financial Review**

- The principal source of income of Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland continues to be from Donations and Plate Collections.
- The principal expense of Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland is in respect of payments regarding Diocesan Costs/Assessment.

- Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland had an excess of receipts over payments of £6,819 for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland continues to be in a healthy financial state as at 31 December 2023 with total cash funds of £155,587.
- Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland 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 its planned expenditure 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 2023 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.

#### **Diocesan Assessment**

The Diocesan Assessment is £45,150 (2022: £22,165).

#### **Organisational Structure**

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 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 members of the clergy officiating in the Parish. The 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 Church Wardens.

### **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.

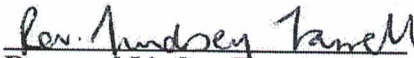
### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**


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.

### **Signed on behalf of the Trustees**

  
Reverend Lindsey Farrell

  
Mr Edwin Morrison

Date: 30/2/2024