

## MAGHERACULMONEY CHURCH OF IRELAND

### TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for Magheraculmoney Parish for the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of the Christian faith.

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

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

During the year 2023, activities continued to more closely reflect those before the Covid pandemic, as the year progressed. The Sunday morning services in the parish church of St. Mary's, aim to nurture, support and develop the Christian faith within the congregation.

Life Groups met again through 2023. The life groups undertake worship, bible study, prayer and fellowship together, encouraging outreach of love and care into the wider community.

The regular activities of the parish are aimed at engaging with all age groups. Children's church for 3-14 years old to seek to provide age-appropriate bible teaching to the children, and a foundation based on Christian values, youth clubs and youth life groups supporting those from 11 years old up. Friends in the Afternoon providing social activities for our senior community and Mothers Union for the ladies seeking similar inclusion. These groups met throughout 2023. Our mums and toddlers' group, to support parents in the wider community, has yet to restart since the Covid 19 pandemic.

The parish engages with the wider community through its outreach in the Parish Centre, linking in with the Fountain Centre and the Courthouse Kesh Ltd. In the Fountain Centre, the groups using the facility include Scouts, Guides and Rangers, The Fountain Youth Club, Youth Life Groups and Badminton Club. All except the latter, are for children or young adults, giving them the opportunity to meet to develop educationally, physically, spiritually and in doing so enable community growth. The Badminton Club is open to all age groups in the community. Within the Fountain Centre are offices for the administration and youth work aspect of parish life where one member of staff is currently based.

Through its link with The Courthouse Kesh Ltd the parish works with its members in a range of services including a foodbank, befriending and self-help for all in the community, financial management in conjunction with Christians Against Poverty, health and well-being services, programs for farming families, facilities for use of local organisations and café drop-in for all requiring snack food.

As the church and parish centre are located some two miles from Kesh, the Fountain and Courthouse centres are more centrally located, more easily accessible and are all well equipped to facilitate outreach. This objective fits well with the parish vision of loving God, loving each other and loving those outside the church.

#### **Financial Review**

Through freewill offering the parishioners continue to support the parish financially.

The trustees policy on reserves is to ensure that all ministry needs are met and reserves are used at the earliest opportunity.

## **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 end 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***

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 incumbent (and curate if / when appointed) each receive a stipend in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland and details of office and locomotory allowance.

### ***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, any curate assistant ("the curate"), 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 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. In 2023 the Select Vestry met 8 times during the year. Attendance at 8 of these meetings was in excess of 85%.

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

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in the Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in the United Kingdom (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK, including Charities SORP (FRS 102) "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)" and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the United Kingdom and United Kingdom Law) Under that law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the statement of financial activities of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and identify the standards in question, subject to any material departures being 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 Parish will continue as a going concern.

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 financial position of the Parish and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the provision of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. 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.

#### **Statement as to disclosure to our independent examiner**

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

- there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

#### **Independent Examiner**

The independent examiner, Hassard McClements Limited have indicated their willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning their reappointment will be proposed at the Annual Easter Vestry Meeting.

On Behalf of the Trustee

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Mrs Frances Spence

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Mrs Tanya McKeever

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024