

COISTE GHAELOIDEACHAS CHROMGHLINNE (CGC)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022.

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 1st January 2015)

Objectives and activities

Coiste Ghaeloideachais Chromghlinne (CGC) promotes the use of the Irish language and Irish culture in the Crumlin area, this area has high levels of social isolation and is affected by a widespread shortage of community facilities.

CGC seeks to provide services focused on the Irish language in order to benefit children, families and extended families in consolidating the learning and development of the Irish language and the development of sensitivity and insight into other cultural traditions.

Significant activities

CGC benefits the local community through the activities promoted in its management of Naíonra/Naiscoil Ghleann Darach and in its support to Gaelscoil Ghleann Darach. Naíonra/Naiscoil Ghleann Darach provides a much needed, voluntary non-denominational pre-school playgroup facility for 3–4-year-old children through the medium of the Irish language. We welcome children from all communities and are the only voluntary provider for children in their penultimate school year in the local area.

The Naiscoil, which is hosted in the family centre (Ionad Teaghlaigh Ghleann Darach) continues to flourish, catering for the educational and developmental needs of 24 children and employing 2 staff (Bernie Reid and Seana McCabe).

CGC oversee the day to day running of the Family Centre, Ionad Teaghlaigh Ghleann Darach. This caters for the needs of the community in Crumlin and the surrounding areas. The overall aim of the centre is to deliver a range of educational and community programmes throughout the year. These activities play an integral part in the maintenance of a community spirit within Crumlin and include Irish language and music classes, youth facilities, conference facilities, drama activities, educational attainment and employability sessions. The CGC continue to work closely with other local groups within the wider Crumlin area to organise events to raise the profile of the Irish language within the local community and fundraise. Thanks to all those who have supported these events and we would also like to acknowledge those who have worked very hard to ensure all these events were successful and enjoyable.

Public benefit

The trustees believe that the organisation provides a public benefit through its efforts to promote community development and the Irish language. This is achieved by undertaking a range of projects within its local community.

The trustees are fully aware of the guidelines from the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland to comply with the Charities Act (NI) 2008, and believe they are operating entirely within those guidelines.

COISTE GHAELOIDEACHAS CHROMGHLINNE (CGC)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Financial review

In October 2021, we held our first in-door event from pre-covid days. Children from the Gaelscoil and other schools enjoyed a great Halloween disco which raised much needed funds for the Ionad.

In November we worked alongside council and Crumlin Residents Collective to provide families in need with food and fuel during the pandemic.

With a rise in Covid numbers, and the introduction of restrictions this caused a fear within families to socialise. Our numbers for the Caifé and classes dropped rapidly. In February of that year we have now re-opened the Caifé as a coffee dock selling pre-made sandwiches scones and tray bakes. We will continue to run the Caifé on the basis of an additional aspect of our classes and events here at the family centre, as it would be senseless to try and compete with main street coffee shops and would contradict with the aims and objectives of the organisation as a whole.

The Department of Communities awarded £30k and the work was completed by March 2022. This paid for a new floor for the halla, new outdoor equipment for both Naíscóil and Caifé, a list of repairs to Naíscóil and the long-awaited repairs of the roof.

In the summer of 2022, we held two summer schemes, and were awarded festivals grant from Peace IV for the month of August to run a Pagan Lúnasa Festival.

During the months of March through to June 2022 we used the DFC Capital Grant of £23,000 to repair the roof which had been leaking for the previous five years. As it turned out the roof was never fully completed from the original build. A partially new roof was fitted. We also had a new floor laid in the halla mór, an outdoor awning at the front of the building, 6 picnic benches, outdoor play equipment for the Naíscóil garden and general repairs to doors and locks to the inside of the building and Naíscóil.

In the first quarter of 2022 staff worked on promotions, offers and daily advertising through social media to encourage numbers into the new Caifé. Other than set times of activities and events the Caifé struggled to get numbers. In June because of a lack of finance to fund a 'restaurant' type Caifé we changed to a coffee dock serving scones and traybakes.

From July, in line with the ethos of Ionad Teaghlaigh Ghleann Darach and Coiste Ghaeloideachas Chromghlinne, our focus continued to be on the promotion of Irish language and culture and on forging links and working relationships with other community groups and key stakeholders in the area. At present we work closely with Naomh Séamas CLG, Crumlin United and Crumlin Men's Shed. We have also now secured working relationships with Crumlin Angling Association and Lough Neagh Boating Heritage Boating Association. This helps us further the objectives as defined in our constitution and also enables us to score higher points when applying for community grants.

62 children participated in our summer scheme in a range of activities (through the medium of Irish and bilingually) including yoga, pizza-making, sport, arts & crafts, treasure hunts, and a trip to Tannaghmore Gardens & Animal Farm during the week-long summer scheme which was deemed by children and parents to be a huge success, and an opportunity for children to continue with their Irish language education outside of school.

Volunteers from Crumlin Men's Shed put up our polytunnel in July 2022. They also donated a planter and painted some of our outdoor structures in the play area in preparation for Féile Lughnasadh. They are committed to advising and engaging with us in the maintenance of the polytunnel as a long-term project. We have since applied for a grant from the Community Foundation which will enable us to develop this further.

A family festival was held in August and was inspired by the ancient pagan and Celtic tradition which marks the end of summer and the beginning of the harvest season. The one-day event included face-painting and a bouncy castle for young children, Irish dancing in the main hall and four hours of traditional and other music on the outdoor stage. We offered a range of international cuisine representing the diversity of communities in Crumlin. Children from the local GAA and soccer clubs participated in a sports blitz and we included archery to represent one of the ancient games of Ireland. Margaret McCann, a local artist, who specialises in pagan and historical costumes provided the decorations and artwork and greeted visitors in character. In addition, members of the Lough Neagh Heritage Boating Association came to showcase their skills in the ancient crafts of boat building and weaving. The event exceeded our expectations, in terms of numbers of visitors (estimated to be between 250-300 people throughout the day) and in the positive feedback we received. A series of talks included in the festival programme was re-scheduled for October.

COISTE GHAELOIDEACHAS CHROMGHLINNE (CGC)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Induction and training of new trustees

During the period under review the committee met monthly. New members are appointed by nominations made in writing by any existing members. At the General Meeting members are appointed by election.

Risk management

The principles of good governance are embedded within all aspects of Coiste Ghaeloideachas Chromghlinne's operations with management and staff being keenly aware of the Board's responsibility of ensuring that the organisation protects itself from financial exposure and reputational damage. A close working relationship is maintained between the Board and management to ensure that operationally staff are aware of the standards required of them by the Board and the Board are always in a position to provide guidance and support to management in the discharge of their duties. This two-way relationship is the key feature of Coiste Ghaeloideachas Chromghlinne governance arrangements and is a key strength in the company.

A conscientious approach to ensuring that contractual project requirements are achieved has been maintained at all times both in the accounting period being reported on and since Coiste Ghaeloideachas Chromghlinne establishment. Very tight financial controls on expenditure and all financial commitments are maintained at all times and project staff have been trained and have become experienced in budgetary controls. In both these areas i.e., Project delivery and financial controls management all staff have established close working relationships with funding organisations to ensure all mandatory standards are consistently achieved. Board representatives also actively engage with funding bodies.

The Board, management and staff are fully aware that the nature of the work in which Coiste Ghaeloideachas Chromghlinne is involved can bring with it a high level of scrutiny to ensure all activities are fully compliant with funding requirements and, therefore, beyond reproach. The Board of Coiste Ghaeloideachas Chromghlinne, therefore, greatly reassured of the company's compliance with the highest standards of governance on the basis that all monitoring and evaluation of project delivery demonstrates achievement of all funders' objectives and that funders' audits and vouching of financial expenditure and the Independent Examination confirms compliance with both probity and regularity in the use of monies received.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Coiste Ghaeloideachas Chromghlinne (CGC) for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

COISTE GHAELOIDEACHAS CHROMGHLINNE (CGC)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Stephen Wallace

.....
STEPHEN WALLACE

Trustee

Dated: ...24/05/2023.....

David Kennedy

.....
DAVID KENNEDY

Trustee

Dated: ...24/05/2023.....