

Table Church
Company limited by guarantee
Trustees Report/ Directors Report
Year ended 31st May 2023

The Trustees are pleased to present their fifth annual directors' report together with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31st May 2023. This report has also been prepared to meet with the requirements for a directors report and accounts for the purposes of the Companies Act.

The Directors/ Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Mr David Spence

Dr Ashley Craig

Mr Stefan Kennedy (resigned 21st September 2023)

Risk Management

The trustees actively review any major risks, which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining a certain level of cash reserves will be important for the financial security of the charity; when combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems, the directors believe that this will provide sufficient resources for the incoming year. The trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the Charity and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the most significant risks.

Overview of Table Church

The purpose of Table Church is to (i) to advance the Christian religion for the benefit of the public in the area of benefit in accordance with the statements of belief appearing in the schedule; (ii) to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Tandragee particularly, and NI generally (hereinafter called "the area of benefit") without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or political, religious or other opinion by establishing a place of worship for the Christian religion; (iii) the advancement of the Christian religion mainly, but not exclusively, by means of broadcasting Christian messages of an evangelistic and teaching nature; (iv) To advance the Christian religion in the area of benefit for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature on the Christian religion to enlighten others about the Christian religion; (v) providing services of worship, religious teaching, facilities or services to allow believers to practice their faith or follow its doctrines, producing or making available literature explaining the doctrines involved and how to find out more about them Distribution of sacred texts in the area of benefit; and, (vi) associating together the said inhabitants and the local authorities voluntary and other organisations in the area of benefit in a common effort to relieve poverty and advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of welfare for the recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

The direct benefits flowing from our purposes include the facilitation of regular public worship, that provides for the spiritual wellbeing of society and educates and encourages people in their Christian faith through Bible teaching, prayer and worship. The outcome of putting Christian teaching into practice will be the adoption of a moral framework which encourages people to be good citizens and will also result in increased family stability. Our local community will benefit as we aim to deal with issues of addiction and sexual exploitation through services and events held at our centre and in other locations. We aim to alleviate those in poverty through the establishment of a hardship fund. Another direct benefit is the education of members of the community regarding the Christian faith and life. The welfare of the local community will be improved as we provide facilities for recreation and socialising. These benefits are demonstrated by the members of the public who attend our weekly worship gatherings and other events, and the feedback they provide. Another indication of these benefits is the reduction in, and prevention of, addiction and associated behaviour, as well as feedback from those whose hardships have been alleviated. The enhanced welfare of the local community is evidenced by people participating in recreational and social activities that provide an alternative to isolation or anti-social

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behaviour and lead to an improvement in social, emotional and physical wellbeing of participants. There is no harm arising from the purposes of Table Church.

The charity's beneficiaries are the inhabitants of Tandragee particularly and Northern Ireland generally. Currently there is no private benefit flowing from any of our purposes. Due to continued growth of the church and the concomitant benefits to the local community it was necessary to recruit a part-time Pastor/ teacher (see note 11 and 12 for further details).

The Trustees have had regard to the Northern Ireland Charity Commission's Public benefit requirements, as demonstrated though the following overview of the years activities:

Table Church operation

This report provides an overview of the work of Table Church for the year ended 31st May 2023.

Table Church had a Board of 3 Trustees in the year to 31st May 2023, who also served as Directors. One of the key strengths of Table Church is its volunteer base, with 20 volunteering on a regular basis.

Ministry Work

The following ministries were operating in the year ending 31st May 2023:

- Sunday morning meeting – breakfast, praise, preaching; 40 regular attendance
- Table Kids – ministry to primary school age children on Sunday mornings (at least one Sunday per month)
- Creche
- Hardship Fund – the church has a hardship fund with the aim of helping people who are struggling financially.
- Community Meals – monthly meals continue to take place providing opportunity for connection and community.

Partnership with agencies

- thirtyone:eight (formerly known as the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service) – the church holds membership with thirtyone:eight and has found them to be an invaluable help on numerous occasions; all volunteers are Access NI checked and safeguarding training has taken place.
- Evangelical Alliance – the church is a member of Evangelical Alliance UK.
- Tobar – the church is a member of the Tobar network of churches in Ireland.
- Methodist Church – we have forged a stronger connection with Tandragee Methodist Church by regular participation in their 50 Days of Prayer initiative between Easter and Pentecost in 2023.
- Armagh Banbridge Craigavon Council (ABC) – we continue to liaise with local councillors for advice and support in planning events.
- Links Counselling:
 - The church continues to cover the cost of rent and ongoing bills for Links Counselling to have a permanent base in Tandragee.
 - This is now open most days with two counsellors using the premises and providing much needed support for local people.
 - The Links counsellors have also facilitated several six-week grief groups within the church building to provide comfort, community and support for those who have experienced bereavement.

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Donations

- The church makes contributions to visiting speakers.
- Donations were made to:
 - Links Counselling
 - YWAM (Turkey earthquake aid)
 - Reach Mentoring
 - Red Church Melbourne
 - Forge Ireland (training for church planters)
 - Craigavon Food Bank
 - Home For Good (foster care)

Publicity

- The church has a website (tabletandragee.org).
- The church has a social media presence via Facebook and Instagram
- Sunday sermons are recorded and posted on Soundcloud and Apple podcasts with approx. 7,000 listens during the year 1/6/22 to 31/5/23

The Future

In going forward the Trustees have identified a number of areas they would like to focus on:

- Counselling – a member of the leadership team is continuing training with Biblical Counselling UK, with the intention of being able to offer more effective pastoral care.
- Links Counselling – a larger premises is being sought due to expansion of this work
- Donations – the church intends to continue to support charities and mission work, both local and global.
- Youth work – the church hopes to resume work among disaffected youth in the town as soon as volunteer capacity allows for it.
- Community fun days – we are planning to run family fun days as a gift to the local community and a means of meeting more people.
- Community space – the church is investigating options for creating an ‘in between’ space to enable more contact with the local community.
- Working with young men – we are looking to establish helpful connections with disillusioned and disaffected young men in the town who are trying to get free from addictions and associated mental health struggles.
- Participation in other community events – we hope to be involved in helping with some events run in the town by ABC Council as a means of simply using our resources and volunteers to be a blessing to the community.
- Collaboration with other churches – we hope to strengthen the connection with Tandragee Methodist Church and others as we will need to work together to effect change in our community.
- Discipleship – we plan to establish a ‘small group’ structure within the church to strengthen relationships, develop leadership and provide pastoral care for one another.
- Prayer room – we are seeking to establish a prayer room in the premises and collaborate with 24-7 Prayer Ireland in their ‘Year of Prayer for Ireland’ initiative in 2024. We would like for this to be a shared space used by other churches as well.

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Financial Overview (all of which were unrestricted):

Total Incoming Resources £ 36,942 (2022; £ 34,244)

Total Resources Expended £ 37,053 (2022; £ 32,576)

(Deficit)/ Surplus for the year £(111) (2022; £ 1,668)

No funds held by the charity were in deficit either during the year or at the year end.

Registration Details:

Registered Northern Ireland Charity No: 106866

Registered Limited Company No: NI645639

HMRC Charity Number NI00690

Company Law requires the Trustees/ Directors to prepare the financial statements for each financial year. The Trustees/ Directors have taken the decision to prepare the financial statements in accordance with UK GAAP (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). According to Company Law, these accounts must not be approved by the Trustees/ Directors unless they are satisfied that these accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and its income and expenditure.

In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

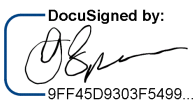
- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to resume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enabled them to ensure that the financial statements company 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 preventions and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 19th February 2024, and signed on its behalf by:

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Mr David Spence
Director