

## **Straid Congregational Church**

**Charity registration number: 106873**

**Date registered: 06/03/2019**

### **Trustee's report**

The trustee's present their report and financial statements for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. The trustees confirm that they are aware of and have had regard to the Commission's Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### **Charitable purposes**

The purpose of this church is to glorify God. It seeks to attain this aim through the public worship of God and the preaching of the Scriptures. This purpose is effected through the organisation and support of programmes which promote the presentation of the Christian gospel and Christian discipleship. The scope of this effort is local, national and global.

### **Summary of activities**

Sunday services

Junior church

Sunday school

Weekly Bible study and prayer times

Men's meetings (Men for Life)

Women's meetings (Straid Congregational Women)

Friday night youth and children's programmes (Pathfinders, Open Door)

Youth Fellowship

Mums and Tots

Missionary meetings

Holiday Bible Club

### **Public benefit reporting**

We seek to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, as outlined in the scriptures, so that those in the local community will hear the Good News of Salvation. The benefit which flows from our

purpose is that through attending Sunday Services and midweek Bible Study Meetings, the regular congregation along with visitors will get to know God in a deeper, fuller and personal way.

In 2020 our year began with our usual schedule of open church meetings taking place as listed above. These activities provided substantial public benefit within the local community and further afield. Beneficiaries include those who are in attendance at the regular meetings and to those for whom aid and assistance is provided across the globe through our missionary support.

With the onset of the pandemic in March 2020 and the inability to meet in person our Audio-Visual Team rapidly put in place measures to allow those with internet access to live stream our services via Zoom and YouTube. DVD recordings of the services were provided for those unable to access online services. In many cases this allowed those who ordinarily would not be able to get out to services the opportunity to attend. In particular during two lockdowns it has been of substantial public benefit for people to be able to share in fellowship and prayer in this way.

In addition the church website became central to sharing with our congregation and community and was substantially developed over the past year. We expect this to be of ongoing benefit as we seek to glorify God in our community and nation.

It was our privilege to support the work of the Newtownabbey Food Bank with regular donations of food and other essentials which helped many who were struggling in our local communities.

## **Future plans**

We are hopeful with the lifting of lock-down regarding the resumption of normal activities of the church in person, however we are so grateful to God for all his blessings over this difficult time. It is the intention of the trustees to continue and develop the activities of the church to fulfil our charitable purpose.

## **Results**

The results for the year and financial position at the end of year 2020 are in the attached financial report. In summary:

Total income: £123,145

Total expenditure: £90,512

There are no funds held by the Charity which are in deficit and therefore no action is required.

## **Charitable trustees for the year 2020**

Rev Paul Bradley

Mr Thomas Strange

Mr David Cathcart

Mr Chris McIlroy

**Mr Ralph Gilmour**

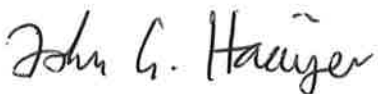
**Mr John Haaijer**

**Mr Brian Morton**

**Mr Michael Ewart**

**Dr John Strange**

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and signed by:

1. 

**Mr John Haaijer**

**Church Secretary**

2. 

**Mr Thomas Strange**

**Church treasurer**