

The Religious Society of Friends
(Quakers) In Ireland, Grange
Preparative Meeting

Annual Report & Accounts for year ended 31st
December 2022

Grange Preparative Preparative Meeting

Trustees (at 31st December 2022)

Katherine M Stephenson. (Clerk of Trustees)

Trevor R Haydock

Derek G Hobson

William C Greeves

Registered Address

Grange Friends Meeting house

21 Dreemore road

Grange

Dungannon

BT71 7EL

Charity number

NIC. 107089

Email:- grangequakers@gmail.com

Bankers

Danske Bank

Trustees' Report for year ended 31st December 2022

Introduction

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and in line with the guidance produced by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Constitution and governance

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) In Ireland, Grange Preparative Meeting is governed by its governing document which was agreed by the Preparative Meeting on 1st April 2018. The Meeting was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 15th June 2018.

The Trustees, of whom there should be not less than two, are appointed at the Annual General Meeting. They are appointed for a period of up to three years and are eligible for re-appointment for a further two terms. Trustees who served during the year ending 31st December 2022 were as follows:

Kaherine M Stephenson (Clerk of Trustees)

Trevor R Haydock

Derek G Hobson

William C Greeves

The Trustees are responsible for the policies, activities and assets of the charity. No Trustee received any remuneration for services as a member of the Board of Trustees and the charity has no employees.

The Trustees have put in place a data protection policy and a child protection policy, both of which are reviewed annually.

Purposes of the charity

Grange Preparative Meeting is established by Grange and Richhill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends in Ireland. It is primarily a Meeting for Worship that practises in accordance with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends, also known as Quakers.

We are based in a grade B listed Meeting House in a rural setting between Dungannon and Moy, Co Tyrone. There are two meeting houses set in approximately an acre which includes a burial ground. The old meeting house, built in 1756 has a number of rooms and a kitchen and adjoins the caretakers cottage, with some outbuildings including an old stable and barn. The newer meeting house was built in 1816 and has recently undergone a major restoration project to provide a new roof and reinforcement of the balcony to bring this back into use.

There is a Premises Committee, which works to ensure the maintenance and upkeep of the property and the burial grounds. There is a bungalow adjoining the graveyard which was built in 1960, primarily for use for retired missionaries..

The purpose of our charity, as set out in our governing document, is the advancement of the general religious purposes of the Religious Society of Friends by the following means, in so far as they are exclusively charitable:

i. Strengthening the Christian understanding and religious development of the Quaker meeting both in the geographical area of the Preparative Meeting and beyond;

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- ii. Contributing financially and practically to the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
- iii. Providing for the pastoral care of individual Members and Attenders including assistance to those in need

Several of our members reside outside our area in Northern Ireland or overseas but still wish to retain an affiliation to the Meeting. At 31st December 2022 we had around 40 different members attending at some time during the year with a weekly average of 16 members and attenders. During the year we have welcomed over 34 visitors to meeting both from other Meetings in Ireland and some Friends who came with a travelling minute from Yellow Springs Monthly Meeting, Ohio, USA

Our activities during 2022

Meeting for Worship was held each Sunday morning during 2022. These were open to members of the public as well as our own members and attenders.

WhatsApp Meetings also continued this year on a less formal basis to provide spiritual nourishment to those still unable to meet in public spaces post-Covid 19.

Pastoral care for our members continued and we have been encouraged spiritually and socially by our engagement with the local community on a number of occasions.

Our annual tithe and free will offerings this year have been used to support the work of Christian and Quaker missions involved in the relief of suffering after disasters such as floods and earthquakes during the year.

We thank God for his love and protection throughout the year, and although our numbers are small, we continue to share fellowship and encouragement among our members and the wider community.

Looking forward

In 2023, we look forward to a year where Covid-19 restrictions are behind us and we can operate a full programme of activities for the welfare of our members.

Public Benefit

The Trustees of Grange Preparative Meeting are pleased to confirm that they have complied with their duty to have regard to the public benefit requirement statutory guidance of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Our public benefit has been demonstrated in a number of ways over the past year:

- We hold regular Meeting for Worship every Sunday morning which are open to members of the public as well as our own members and regular attenders. These Meetings provide spiritual nourishment and deepen the Christian experience and understanding of those who attend;
- We provided financial support to a range of other charities from regular and special collections at our Meetings - in 2020 donations were made to - Tearfund N.I, I.Q.F.A. The leprosy Mission, the Tearfund Palestine flood relief appeal fund, and donated food to the local food bank in Dungannon

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- We have engaged with the local community which we hope will make the Meeting House more visible and encourage others to join with us for fellowship and support;
- We provide family visits to share fellowship and encourage other members in times of joy, upon the occasion of marriage or the birth of a child, and difficult times of sickness and bereavement.

Financial Review


Our financial statement for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 is attached to this report shows that we had an opening balance in the Meeting house Account 32 on the 1st January 2022 of. £39,252.67 and a closing balance on 31st December 2022 of £43,777.84

The restoration fund for the Meeting House Project had an opening balance of on 1st January 2022 OF £9349.88 and a closing balance on 31st December 2022 of £9364.83

Declaration

The Annual General Meeting of the Trustees was held in Grange Friends Meeting House 23rd April 2022.

This report is approved and is signed on behalf of the Trustees.



Katherine M Stephenson

Clerk of Trustees

Katherine M Stephenson

Clerk of Trustees