

CULLYBACKEY ELIM PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Purpose

The principal purpose of Cullybackey Elim Pentecostal Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to Biblical principles.

Achievements and Performance

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on provision of public benefit and are confident that the Church fully satisfied this requirement during the year 2023 through its activities.

Cullybackey Elim Pentecostal Church, entered into the year 2023, seeking to bring honour to Our Great God and to promote and uplift the name of his precious Son, The Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday morning services during the month of January continued, between 11:30am and 1:00 pm. Sunday evening services had not yet recommenced since the first COVID lockdown in April 2020. We still await the appointment of a new Pastor. Various guest speakers, very ably, lead in our services each Sunday morning. The Services are audio recorded and are available to listen to a short time after each Service.

On Sunday the 5th of February 2023 Pastor Trevor Gillanders was installed as our new Pastor. He is supported by his wife Esther. A huge contingent from Pastor Trevor's previous Church gathered with us for the Induction Service and for lunch in the Church Hall afterwards.

Our evening Gospel Services recommenced on Sunday the 12th February 2023 from 6pm to 7pm. led by Pastor Trevor. Children's Church continues as normal during the morning Service and is aimed at teaching young people about the Christian faith. S.C.A.T.E. (childrens outreach to Cullybackey village), continues each Tuesday evening from 7pm to 8pm. Youth fellowship also continues every other Sunday night from 7.30pm and caters for young adults.

A two-week Gospel mission and outreach to Cullybackey village and surrounding district commenced on Sunday the 16th of April 2023 taken by Pastor Trevor. Large crowds attended each night. The Mission was deemed a tremendous success, and numbers attending our fellowship began to increase.

Ladies fellowship meetings are organised on the third Wednesday of each month. These meetings are generally well attended and are complimented with a guest speaker each night. A Ladies conference took place in our Church on Saturday the 17th of June. An address was given by Esther Gillanders. This event was extremely well attended and a lunch was served afterwards.

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On 2nd July 2023 a members vote to elect Elders and Deacons took place after the morning service.

Holiday Bible Club commenced on the evening of Monday the 7th of August to Friday the 11th August 2023. Lots of children attended this event each evening. On the 9th of September our Youth Club recommenced and runs every other Saturday night and caters for teenagers. On Sunday the 8th of October the Bible Class recommenced which runs from 10:30 am to 11:15am. This completes a full program of Church activities, many of which had been put on hold during and after the COVID pandemic.

Initial reports from these departments have been extremely encouraging. We thank those Departmental Heads/Leaders/Helpers, who give of their talent and time to enable these important ministries to go ahead throughout the year. The midweek prayer meeting and Bible study also continues and takes place each Thursday evening from 8pm to 9:30pm.

A meeting for all Trustees, was held in the Church on the 10th of March 2024. During this meeting the 2023 Trustees report was read, discussed, finalised and passed. The Annual General Meeting was held on 30th of March 2023. A Treasurers report was given for the year 2022 at the AGM, which was well attended by Church members.

Pastoral care and support for those who suffered bereavement within the Church family was carried out and where possible visitation of the sick in homes or in hospital continued during 2023.

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Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, Its Trustees and Advisers

Administrative Details

Charity name: Cullybackey Elim Pentecostal Church.
Church address: 62, Shellinghill Road, Cullybackey. BT42 1NR.
Website: www.cullybackeyelim.com

Trustees

The Charity Trustees are made up from members of the Church Oversight who are currently Elders or deacons and also two retired Elders. One of which, Alister Dunlop, is at this time serving in overseas missions.

Induction and Training of Trustees

Following appointment, each newly appointed Trustee, receives an induction pack containing copies of Charity Commission for Northern Ireland publications: Running Your Charity. Trustees are also encouraged to access further information available on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland Website.

The Trustees in office at 31st December 2023 were:-

Mr James Dunlop (Elder)	(Church Secretary/Health & Safety Officer)
Mr Robin Gordon (Elder)	
Mr Robert Swann (Elder)	
Mr Alister Dunlop	(Currently on overseas missions)
Mr Stephen Spence (Deacon)	
Mr Alistair Gordon (Elder)	
Mr Samuel Hutchinson	
Mr Philip Brown (Elder)	(Church Treasurer/Safeguarding Officer)

Payment to Trustees

No Trustee received payment for undertaking Trustee duties. Where Trustees purchase items on behalf of the Charity these costs are re-imbursed.

Custodian Trustee

Premises owned by the Church are held under trust by, "Custodian Trustees" whose sole function is to hold the property assets of the Church. Custodian Trustees do not serve on Oversight unless also elected to the Office of Elder or Deacon.

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Advisers

Bankers: Ulster Bank, 49 Wellington Street, Ballymena. BT43 6AD.

Independent Examiner: James Gillespie, Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants, 22-30 Broadway Avenue, Ballymena. BT43 7AA.

Insurance Adviser: Congregational, Integra Insurance Solutions Ltd., Currer House, Currer Street, Bradford. BD1 5BA.

Solicitors: Anderson Agnew & Co. 14 Mill Street, Ballymena. BT43 5AE.

Structure, governance and management

Cullybackey Elim Pentecostal Church is constituted by a Trust Deed dated the 6th of February 1988 as an unincorporated association and is an independent Fellowship with no affiliations to any other Church or Association. It is governed by its Constitution which was formally adopted on the 10th of May 2013.

Cullybackey Elim Pentecostal Church is registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, number NIC 107452.

Management

The Oversight would usually meet once a month to discuss the day to day running of the Church, and to make decisions concerning the regular activities within the Church and also outreach programs.

Reports from the various Church departments are conveyed to Church members via the Annual General Meeting, when a financial report is also presented. Matters requiring a Church Members Meeting, other than the appointment of Pastors, are on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the Church Members Meeting has a casting vote. Approval of a Church Members Meeting is required for significant projects, such as a building programme or prior to commencing any major new undertaking.

Volunteers play a key role in the various Departments of the Church. It would be difficult to quantify the significance of this support as much of the work is done behind the scenes. However, Cullybackey Elim Pentecostal Church could not function in the way that it does, without the enormous support of these faithful workers.

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Risk Management

The Trustees have conducted an assessment of the risks to which the Charity is exposed and have reviewed systems and procedures to mitigate such risks. Risk assessment covering fire, health & safety and the safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults is an ongoing concern and is reviewed at least annually or before any new major undertaking. During 2023 a fire risk assessment was carried out by Fire Safety Networks, Northern Ireland. It is expected that the findings and recommendations of this report will be acted upon during 2024. Two Trustees act as Health & Safety Officer and Safeguarding Officer.

Financial Review

The Church is funded by voluntary gifts and donations and use is made of the Gift Aid Donations Scheme. The Church does not seek funds from other sources.

Total income for the year was £146,348 compared with £73,903 in the previous year.

Total expenditure for the year was £100,864 compared with £43,215 in the previous year.

The church was without a Pastor for the whole of the 2022 year, but with the installation of Pastor Trevor Gillanders on 5th February 2023 the levels of both income and expenditure increased significantly.

As a result of the both income and expenditure increasing by similar amounts, the surplus for the year of £27,410 was in line with that for the previous year of £30,688.

The Church uses Restricted and Unrestricted Funds in its accounting policy. Restricted funds are used for money donated to the Church for specific purposes e.g. Missions, Youth Ministries etc. Unrestricted Funds from general offerings are used for all other purposes. Any shortfalls in the Restricted Funds are made up by transfers from the Unrestricted Funds.

Reserves Policy

A policy on reserves has been reviewed and agreed by the Trustees. The income of the Church is stable and the risk associated with any sudden significant reduction of income is regarded as unlikely. In the event of an unexpected financial need the Trustees are confident that Church members would respond accordingly. The Trustees are satisfied that a figure equating to approximately six months expenditure is an appropriate level of reserve balance at the present time. Cash balance at year end exceeded the level of Reserve required.

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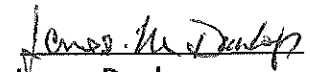
Funds Held as Custodian Trustees on behalf of Others

Cullybackey Elim Pentecostal Church does not hold any funds as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

Approved by the Trustees at a meeting on the 10th March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Philip Brown
Trustee and Treasurer



James Dunlop
Trustee and Secretary