

McAllister Conservation Trust
7, Brone Park
GARVAGH
Co Derry
BT51 4BJ

NIC 109140

McAllister Conservation Trustees' Annual Report for year 6th Aug 2023 - 5th Aug 2024

McAllister Conservation Trust governance

The trust is registered with Northern Ireland Charities Commission. There is a Board of Trustees, comprising five persons - four resident in Northern Ireland and one in England. To date there have been four meetings a year, mainly to plan and guide the initial setting up and preparatory work of the Trust. The Trust is governed by a Trust Deed, drawn up in November 2021 and submitted to the Northern Ireland Charities Commission immediately thereafter. The Commission approved the Trust Deed and granted charitable registration in September 2022.

McAllister Conservation Trust objects and purposes

- Advancement of environmental protection and improvement, through developing sustainable environments to benefit biodiversity and species enrichment.
- Promotion of sustainable development and enhancement of knowledge and practice of sustainable farming methods and country side management.
- Advancement of education by raising awareness and knowledge of environmental issues among the local and wider community.

Public Benefit Requirement

Since it is not yet fully operational, McAllister Conservation Trust has not been able to put into effect any aspects of its charitable aims and objectives in the period under review. Once operational, the Trust will adhere fully to all available guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. In the period under review no material or other benefits, accrued to any trustee, and no private benefit flowed from the work of the Trust.

Main Activities and achievements

In the period under review, trustees continued to liaise with the Woodland Trust in relation to the planting and welfare of the woodland at Brone, Garvagh. This comprises some 23 acres and 12,000 trees approx. Three of the trustees have been actively involved with securing of gates and laneways, as well as tidying/clearing several of the fields prior to planting. They have also tidied and cleaned overgrown and unkempt hedges around two fields that have been retained for traditional farming/grazing purposes and arranged for the fencing and proper demarcation of various parts of the overall site and clearing up the McAllister family-home site. This work has been undertaken on a voluntary basis, and trustees do not seek/expect remuneration. However, some of them have incurred costs involved with the work, including payment for diggers, fencing, insurance and some legal fees arising from settlement of the will. It is anticipated that, once funds are available to the Trust, all such necessary and reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

Public Benefit arising from activities

In light of the comments contained in the foregoing section, there is as yet no verifiable public benefit arising from the Trust's activities.

Financial Position

The trustees have opened a bank account with Ulster Bank Ltd., Belfast, this account containing a nominal sum of £100 to date. There have been no payments into or out of the account.

Names of Trustees during 2023-24

The following individuals acted as trustees during this period:-

- *Mr James O'Kane*
- *Mrs Rosemary Price*
- *Ms William James O'Kane*
- *Mr Adrian O'Kane*
- *Mr Andrew Price*

Signed this date, 30th Sept 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. J. O'Kane', is written over a horizontal dashed line.

William James O'Kane - Chairman and Trustee