

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100024

Details

Known as	Ballymena Congregational Church
Status	Received
Registered	2014-09-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	32 Tullymore Park Ballymena County Antrim. BT42 2au BT42 2AU
Phone	028 2564 0877 07719671937
Email	rscott801@hotmail.co.uk
Website	www.ballymenacongregational.com

Activities

Purposes: The purpose of the organisation is set out in the trust deed. It states that it is 'to promote the public worship of God and other religious and philanthropic purposes'.

What the charity does: The advancement of religion, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Counselling/support, General charitable purposes, Religious activities, Sport/recreation, Welfare/benevolent

Who the charity helps: Children (5-13 year olds), General public, Men, Older people, Preschool (0-5 year olds), Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£68,433	£69,681	£0	3
2024-12-31	£67,585	£58,781	£0	4

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Denis Scott		
Mr Rodney Scott Med Bahons Pgce Pqh(Ni)		
Mr William Logan		

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

Accounts

Ballymena Congregational Church
Statement of Account for the year ended 31/12/2025

Income

Balance on hand	£127,312.26
FWOs	£47,147.00
Gift Aid scheme	£10,167.55
Gifts	£2,000.00
Plate collections	£2,588.00
M&E Antrim grants	£2,106.54
Mission gifts	£1,511.00
Organization subs	£1,061.75
Bank interest	£1,501.77
Christmas Day	£350.00

Expenditure

<u>Salaries</u>	<u>£28,662.38</u>
Minister & expenses	£18,835.20
HMRC	£6,137.78
Organist	£1,753.40
Pianist	£1,416.00
Pulpit supply	£520.00

Church Expenses

<u>£20,968.92</u>	
Insurances	£3,190.18
Power NI	£4,464.00
Building Survey	£4,668.00
Seasonal gifts / catering	£1,947.21
Organization assists	£1,234.53
Maintenance & repairs	£1,977.50
AV upgrade and maintenance	£1,619.17
British Telecom	£919.09
Sermon Audio fees	£564.50
Church Finance Supply Co.	£147.16
Water rates	£237.58

Manse Expenses

<u>£5,315.23</u>	
Maintenance & repairs	£1,515.00
Oil & boiler services	£1,568.66
British Telecom	£915.49
Rates & Ground rent	£714.84
Power NI	£601.24

Other Expenses

<u>£14,776.88</u>	
Missionary Gifts	£11,097.22
Personal & Charitable gifts	£1,902.00
Tables/kitchenware	£458.16
Outreach Ventures	£436.99
Recording Licence fees	£378.40
Bank fees	£156.30
CUI fees	£110.00
Music books	£101.61
Sundries	£136.20

Balance on hand 31/12/2025 **£126,022.46**

Total **£195,745.87**

Total **£195,745.87**

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

Accounts

Ballymena Congregational Church
Statement of Account for the year ended 31/12/2024

Income

Balance on hand	£118,509.71
FWOs	£48,585.00
Gift Aid scheme	£10,390.61
Gifts	£3,170.00
Plate collections	£3,093.00
Bank interest	£1,889.59
Christmas Day	£457.00

Expenditure

<u>Salaries</u>	<u>£27,261.50</u>
Minister & expenses	£17,350.00
HMRC	£5,943.50
Organist	£1,680.00
Pianist	£1,344.00
Caretaker	£694.00
Pulpit supply	£250.00

Church Expenses **£13,776.14**

Insurances	£3,009.60
Power NI	£3,355.00
Seasonal gifts / catering	£1,918.59
Organization assists	£1,709.87
Maintenance & repairs	£1,820.18
British Telecom	£858.14
AV expenses and maintenance	£167.15
Sermon Audio fees	£580.22
Church Finance Supply Co.	£142.02
Water rates	£215.37

Manse Expenses **£8,071.50**

Maintenance & repairs	£3,824.34
Oil & boiler services	£2,023.48
British Telecom	£859.10
Rates & Ground rent	£714.84
Power NI	£649.74

Other Expenses **£9,673.51**

Missionary Gifts	£7,350.00
Personal & charitable gifts	£1,300.00
Outreach Ventures	£321.60
Recording Licence fees	£361.40
Bank fees	£145.51
CUI fees	£195.00

Balance on hand 31/12/2024 **£127,312.26**

Total **£186,094.91**

Total **£186,094.91**

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

Accounts

Ballymena Congregational Church
Statement of Account for the year ended 31/12/2023

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Balance on hand	£108,191.28	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>£29,544.72</u>
FWOs	£49,665.00	Minister & expenses	£16,795.60
Gift Aid scheme	£10,281.67	HMRC	£6,220.22
Gifts	£8,320.00	Caretaker	£2,787.00
Plate collections	£3,562.10	Organist	£1,653.75
Bank interest	£1,418.06	Pianist	£1,323.15
Cost of living grant	£600.00	Pulpit supply	£765.00
Good Company sub	£72.00		
		<u>Church Expenses</u>	<u>£14,734.98</u>
		Insurances	£2,687.13
		Power NI	£5,287.00
		Seasonal gifts / catering	£2,384.77
		Planning Application	£1,755.00
		British Telecom	£788.68
		Maintenance & repairs	£641.09
		AV expenses and maintenance	£522.16
		Sermon Audio fees	£498.11
		Church Finance Supply Co.	£130.34
		Water rates	£40.70
		<u>Manse Expenses</u>	<u>£5,182.75</u>
		Oil & boiler services	£2,438.00
		Rates & Ground rent	£656.68
		PNI	£619.26
		British Telecom	£774.41
		Maintenance & repairs	£694.40
		<u>Other Expenses</u>	<u>£14,137.95</u>
		Missionary Gifts	£10,493.79
		Personal & charitable gifts	£2,251.99
		Outreach Ventures	£914.89
		Recording Licence fees	£341.42
		Bank fees	£135.86
		Balance on hand 31/12/2023	<u>£118,509.71</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>£182,110.11</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>£182,110.11</u>

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

Annual report

Ballymena Congregational Church

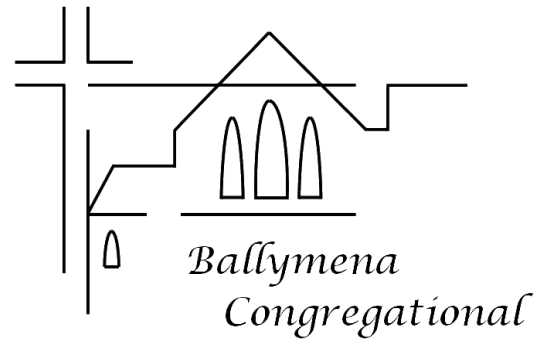
Summary Reports for the year past 2023

www.ballymenacongregational.com
(visit our Facebook page or Sermonaudio.com listings)



Reports by Minister & Secretary

££ *Financial Statement from Treasurer*



<u>Minister</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
<i>Rev Jackie Brown</i>	<i>Mr Rodney Scott</i>	<i>Mr Denis Scott</i>
<i>86 Grangegorm Drive</i>	<i>26 Lismurn Park</i>	<i>32 Tullymore Park</i>
<i>Ballymena</i>	<i>Ahoghill, Ballymena</i>	<i>Ballymena</i>
<i>BT42 2EF</i>	<i>BT42 1JN</i>	<i>BT42 2AU</i>
<i>028 2565 3288</i>	<i>028 2587 1376</i>	<i>028 2564 0877</i>
<i>07506 165165</i>	<i>07704 983416</i>	<i>07719 671937</i>

Sunday Services 11.30 am & 6.30 pm
(in the building and on-line)

Tuesday Midweek 8.00 pm (in the hall)

Associated families '60 Communicant members 39

Children's, Women's & Men's meetings as arranged

"Seeking more in 2024"

It will take prayer and action for this "catchphrase" to become reality in our church life and our own

For you this might mean ...

Seeking salvation ... or blessing
Seeking in prayer ... for guidance
Seeking to witness ... and to serve

These verses might direct you ...

Seek the Lord while He is near (Isa 55)
Seek first the Kingdom (Matt 6:33)
Seek with all your heart (Jer 29:13)
Seek so you may find Matt (7:7)
Seek diligently (Heb 11:6)

The Annual General Meeting of the church will be held on Friday 23rd February @ 7.30pm.

We trust these customary Annual Reports help keep you informed and involved regarding church matters past and pending. Please read them over and plan to be present at our AGM.

Thank you sincerely for your continued faithfulness. We pray God's continuing goodness and guidance. We need your ongoing commitment.

The Lord bless and keep you.

*R Scott (Secretary)
February 2024*

Message from the Manse – some key memories of church events across the months of the year past

March: The Book Club was started at the Manse with 12 people willing to meet once a month to read through "Life with Jesus" by Tim Chester. Meetings have been enjoyable with everyone taking part, either asking questions or contributing to the understanding of a passage.

April: This was Easter month. Good Friday was an open night with various people voluntarily taking part. And Easter Sunday was special with family and friends who don't normally attend church, coming to church.

May: On May 6th we witnessed the coronation of the first monarch in seventy years and now we sing God Save the King. May he too have a long and faithful reign as did his mother. Thanks to Jane, Thelma and Martina for arranging a special Friday Lunch with suitable red, white and blue bunting and cake. On the last night of the month, I was inundated with women at the Manse. Eleanor and Jane arrived with ten ladies who attended Fit for Life in the church. They were completing their activities with a walk up to the Manse finishing with refreshments.

June: We rejoiced with Josh and Samantha on the birth of Tommy. Another grandchild for Jane & Rodney.

(Continues inside after Treasurer's Statement and concludes on back page before Secretary's Comments)

January: I resumed full time ministry each week. The adage is so true, "You don't know what you've got till it's gone" I'm so glad to be back in God's harness again. My thanks go especially to the men who preached and to Rodney for co-ordinating.

Further moments: In August, with other church members, I spent an enjoyable day at the wedding of Jonathan and Hannah Logan. We wish them happiness together and pray they give place in their marriage to the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour.

Sadly, with the joy comes sadness and we remember those who have passed away inc. Maurice Waterson's sister (Nan); Thelma McBride's mother (Elsie); Martina's sister, (Ursula - over whom we prayed for months); Angela Thompson's father and brother; Ruth McCready's sister and just on the first of this month, Andy Mills' wife (Marlene) a church member. Our condolences go to all these friends & families.

Now we're into another new year not knowing what God has for us. I hope and pray for household salvation amongst our families and friends. I pray for each of you, brothers and sisters in Christ, that He strengthens our faith as we walk with Him.

Wishing you God's richest blessing according to His riches in glory Jackie Brown (Minister)

Secretary's Comments

We must always thank God for His goodness across a year past, trusting in His continued blessing and guidance on our work, witness and wishes in this year.

Starting with simple but sincere comment on each of our regular church meetings and activities:

* **Sunday services** continue to be faithfully supported though several of our more elderly or ill members are no longer able to attend – they remain in contact online and by CD deliveries – God's Word is plain that we mustn't neglect to assemble together for worship & The Word so let's be consistent in this morning and evening – it's pleasing to see some new faces with us on Sunday mornings so keep praying & inviting others

***So too at mid-week prayer & Bible study** a faithful band regularly meet numbering in the mid-teens – it has to be said more could and should attend for the church's spiritual well-being and I confess disappointment and frustration when calls to return or come go unanswered

***Good Company** is well organised by Wilma and the ladies enjoy monthly Christian fellowship with various speakers, events and refreshments

***Ladies' Fellowship** similarly provides monthly opportunity for Christian company with a varied and interesting programme and deserves more faithful support from ladies for ladies

***Clonavon Coaching** maintains Christian witness and Bible lessons within football coaching weekly at Ballymena Academy – some of the young people have

professed faith and may this continue to encourage William and the dedicated coaching team.

***Sunday School** continues as part of morning worship for our pre and primary school children and we appreciate the teachers' endeavours – do invite and bring more children you may know

***Friday Friends** is our new name for Winter Warmers - now into a second year and well enjoyed for food and friendship fortnightly – all 60+ welcome

***Book Club** is a new activity commenced this past year which is being attended & enjoyed by a goodly number

***Missionary support** is well sustained and we have strengthened our ties with Barnabas Aid (for the persecuted church) plus Mifulera & Vispa (for African children) See Finance Report for missionary giving.

Recalling our Special Outreach Week in September - it was an earnest endeavour to share the Gospel around family, friends and neighbourhood. Please continue to pray for souls and invite others to join us.

Sharing some more appreciation & information:

*Genuine best thanks to all who "make things happen" in every role and service they fulfil here in the church.

*Appreciation & prayers too for Jackie's continued ministry – good to see him recovered from his autumn illness and undertaking earnestly again his charge to preach and pastor – thanks to our other speakers and let's all show support by regular attendance.

*Awareness and gratitude are appropriate also for the work of our Deacons in spiritual & practical oversight. Deacons have continued to pursue the potential re-location of the church building as previously discussed.

Recently there has been no positive developments regarding selling our present site, so we have asked our estate agent to canvass interest in wider circles than social housing developers. Equally, possible new sites we explored in the Carniny and Woodtown areas did not materialise, so we have made an initial enquiry about a site previously mentioned just beyond the Larne Road roundabout. We must remain patient and prayerful while Deacons seek to be pro-active.

Deacons have also spent time discussing our practice of Baptism following a request from a member about the possibility of having adult baptism by immersion when not baptised as an infant. Our established church practice, in keeping with the great majority of reformed churches, is infant baptism (or indeed adults) by sprinkling. However, Deacons recognise that some hold to believers' baptism by immersion and this is worthy of practical consideration. Each of these modes find basis in Scripture, across church history and in great church confessions – so Deacons believe they can be practiced with mutual respect and sincerity.

To conclude: *God is truly with us in all life's affairs and we do well to show gratitude and dependence.. Also let's support and serve our church in every way we can with commitment to attend and to do – always remembering "Yet not I but through Christ in me."*

Christian Regards

Rodney Scott (Church Secretary)

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

Annual return

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination and have no concern in respect of the matters above and, in accordance with the following directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have no matters that require drawing to your attention.

NAME NORMAN McBRIDE

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION BA (HONS)

ADDRESS 91 MOORFIELDS ROAD, B'MENA

POSTCODE BT42 3BU

SIGNATURE J McBride 10/06/2024

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

Accounts

Ballymena Congregational Church
Statement of Account for the year ended 31/12/2022

Income

Balance on hand	£103,604.81
FWOs	£50,233.00
Gift Aid scheme	£9,099.03
Plate collections/gifts	£5,871.20
Bank interest	£211.40
Sunday School sub	£100.00
Good Company sub	£75.00
Ladies' F/ship sub	£56.00

Expenditure

<u>Salaries</u>	<u>£28,351.78</u>
Minister & expenses	£17,036.20
HMRC	£5,548.38
Caretaker	£2,820.00
Organist	£1,496.60
Pianist	£1,260.60
Pulpit supply	£190.00

Church Expenses

	<u>£16,350.00</u>
Insurances	£2,399.24
Power NI	£5,507.00
Planning Application	£3,245.00
Maintenance & repairs	£1,299.42
Seasonal gifts / catering	£2,063.37
British Telecom	£695.65
AV expenses and maintenance	£422.90
Sermon Audio fees	£501.08
Church Finance Supply Co.	£126.94
Water rates	£89.40

Manse Expenses

	<u>£4,331.17</u>
Oil & boiler services	£1,947.00
Rates & Ground rent	£607.86
PNI	£480.95
British Telecom	£635.36
Maintenance & repairs	£660.00

Other Expenses

	<u>£12,026.21</u>
Missionary Gifts	£6,265.95
Personal & charitable gifts	£3,429.45
Outreach Ventures	£1,779.49
Recording Licence fees	£332.96
Bank fees	£133.36
CUI fees	£85.00

Balance on hand 31/12/2022 **£108,191.28**

Total **£169,250.44** **Total** **£169,250.44**

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

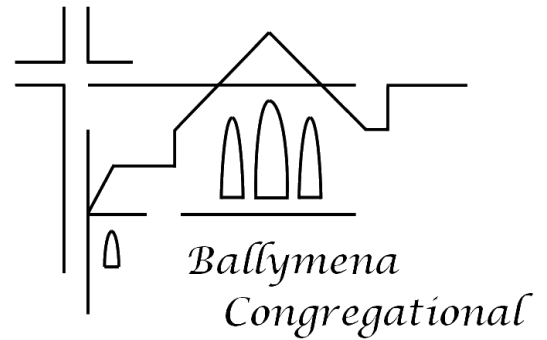
Annual report

Ballymena Congregational Church

Summary Reports for the year past 2022

www.ballymenacongregational.com
(visit our Facebook page or Sermonaudio.com listings)

 Reports by Jackie & Rodney – front & back
££ Financial Statement from Denis – inside



<u>Minister</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
Rev Jackie Brown 86 Grangegorm Drive Ballymena BT42 2EF 028 2565 3288 07506 165165	Mr Rodney Scott 26 Lismurn Park Ahoghill, Ballymena BT42 1JN 028 2587 1376 07704 983416	Mr Denis Scott 32 Tullymore Park Ballymena BT42 2AU 028 2564 0877 07719 671937

Sunday Services 11.30 am & 6.30 pm
(in the building and/or on-line)
Tuesday Midweek 8.00 pm (in the hall)
Associated families '60 **Communicant members** 40
Children's, Women's & Men's meetings as arranged

New me in '23

*New year ...new start ...new ambition?
Not just in mind and body – the soul is of
greater and lasting importance.*

Reflect on "the new" in these verses

A new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
A clean heart (Psalm 51:10)
Transformed within (Romans 12:2)
God does a new thing (Isaiah 43:18-19)
Renewed strength (Isaiah 40:31)
Certain hope (Psalm 42:5)
Walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4)
God given new heart (Ezekiel 36:26)
An eternal home (Revelation 21)

Message from the Manse

Another year has come and gone in the will of God, and we give thanks to Him for his Goodness, Faithfulness and Grace

Sunday services have been a blessing. Attendance has been steady with around 45-50 each morning and 30+ each evening. Again, I thank the men who have helped fill the pulpit. I've thoroughly enjoyed their ministry. Thank also those who have led worship times on Sunday evenings and Karyn and Jane for the faithful use of their musical talents every week.

Two special occasions are of note. Michael and Julie Steele brought their baby Jesse to be baptised - it's great to see him first of all

crawling up the aisle to Sunday School and now confidently walking up. Then Jamie and Rebekah Mairs brought little Elijah (Ezekiel, Malachi, Jehoshaphat) to be dedicated to the Lord - I'm looking forward to him toddling to Sunday School too. Pray for the group of children who attend SS each week and we thank our rota of teachers.

I thank God for the faithful band who gather each Tuesday evening for Bible Study and Prayer. I was asked to study Revelation and I believe we've all enjoyed that. There have been some good discussions over the months. Charles Spurgeon said "The Prayer Meeting is the powerhouse of the church". I wonder how much more work we could do if more attended each Tuesday evening. Please think and respond.

The Annual General Meeting of the church will be held on Tuesday 28th February @ 7.30pm.

We have produced these customary Annual Reports to keep you informed and involved - commending them to you to read and consider on matters past and pending. Please plan to be present at our AGM meeting.

*Thank you most sincerely for your continued faithfulness and support through another year and we pray God's continuing goodness and guidance going forward.
The Lord bless and keep you.*

*R Scott (Secretary)
February 2023*

Harvest and Christmas services were well attended with family and friends coming to church – do keep asking them. Football Prize Giving and Parents' Night were another two 'specials' with quite a number of guests hearing the gospel. Why wait for 'special' services to invite the unsaved?

Great too, that we've been able to restart the monthly Good Company meeting, Ladies' Fellowship and the Men's Meeting this past few months with encouraging attendances. Likewise Clonavon Coaching still provides weekly fitness and witness for young people and we praise God for recent news of a past attender putting his faith in Christ as Saviour.

We rejoice and pray God's blessing on the marriage in December past of Alison McBride to Jack Gourley.

Sadly, I had to conduct two funerals this past year. God called home Jim Carson last February. He was a faithful member of the church and loved being here, especially standing at the door welcoming people in - and having craic with the other men. Pray for Sally, for God's grace, comfort and support. I also officiated at Margaret Kennedy's Funeral. Pray for Hazel as she comes to terms with her loss.

Could I ask you to pray for some of our members who have long-term conditions that prevent them getting to church very often, or even at all: Elizabeth Cairns, Sally Carson, Wesley Cathcart, Jean Dempsey, Edna Dennison, Ruth McCready, Agnes McMaster, Bertha Scott and Jean Woodcock. If I've overlooked anyone, I do apologise.

Finally, for myself, I thank God for all of you. The highlight of my year was in November, when Jamie Mairs was saved by the grace of God. Continue to pray for him to be strengthened in the knowledge of God and the Lord Jesus Christ - and that he is protected from the wiles of the devil in his young Christian walk with God.

Thank you all for your fellowship and friendship - your comfort and support over this past year. God is a good God and He has been more than faithful and answered many prayers

I leave you with - Acts 2:42: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Let's take that on our heart this year as we come before the Lord as His people. Every blessing in Christ according to His riches in glory

Jackie Brown (Minister)

Secretary's Comments

We thank God for His goodness across another year. As we have emerged from Covid restrictions, we are grateful that while some of us suffered from the condition and we all know of those who were bereaved, the Lord preserved us as a congregation. Give thanks and praise.

It is encouraging to see continuing faithful attendances at Sunday services and midweek. Do keep this up and invite others along. Likewise, our programme of other meetings and activities is restarted.

- Good Company has most of its regulars back together and the ladies enjoy their fellowship, refreshments and spiritual talks or crafts.
- Clonavon Coaching is back as strong as ever with primary and secondary ages enjoying football & Bible lessons.
- Sunday School continues as part of morning service with a small but faithful group of pre-school and primary kids
- Monthly meetings for women and men have just resumed in autumn past. Attendances are pleasing with speakers, activities & trips in an atmosphere of Christian friendship.
- Our latest venture is a winter warmer lunch and social time for elderly in the congregation on Friday lunchtimes
- Best thanks to all who "make things happen" in every role or service they fulfil.
- Appreciation & prayers for Jackie's ministry

We have sorrowed with those bereaved – remembering especially our longstanding member Jim Carson, along with others having church connection: Nan Watterson, Margaret Kennedy, Jimmy Carleton and Walter Murray.

We rejoiced with in marriage – Alison McBride to Jack Gourley – and in infant baptisms and dedications – Jesse Steele and Elijah Mairs.

In the unique history of the year 2022 we celebrated the Platinum Jubilee and then mourned the death of her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

God is truly with us in all life's affairs and we do well to show gratitude and dependence towards Him.

So too as a congregation with our on-going hopes and plans for potential relocation. We have secured outline residential planning permission for our present site, which allows us to test interest and value to sell, which in turn could enable relocation to a more suitable building on a new site about the town. We must remain patient, prayerful and pro-active.

Meanwhile, our regular work & witness goes on, needing our earnest prayer, support and service, enriched by God's blessing, to make it continue and flourish. Romans 12:1 is the call. Christian Regards.

Rodney Scott (Church Secretary)

Clonavon Congregational Church Ballymena

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100024

Annual return

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination and have no concern in respect of the matters above and, in accordance with the following directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have no matters that require drawing to your attention.

NAME NORMAN Mc BRIDE

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION BA (HONS)

ADDRESS 91 MOORFIELDS ROAD

POSTCODE BT42 3BU

SIGNATURE J McBride

DATE 25th April 2023