

# **Shankill Parish Lurgan TRUSTEES' REPORT**

for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their Trustees' Report and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the charity are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the charity's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Shankill Parish Lurgan present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 December 2024.

The charity is a registered charity and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) as issued by the Charity Commissioners for Northern Ireland 2018, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Structure**

The governing document of the charity is the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, chapter III (Parishes and Parochial Organisation). The members of the Select Vestry serve as the Charity Trustees.

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day-to-day management of the parish. The select vestry consists of the members of the clergy serving in the parish, the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the general vestry elected at the General Vestry. The Select Vestry is chaired by the incumbent or other member of the clergy officiating in the parish. Select Vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding how parish funds are to be applied. The Select Vestry meets at times fixed by the members or by the Diocesan Synod. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the churchwardens.

### **PRINCIPAL OFFICE-BEARERS**

Clergy: The Venerable Mark Harvey (Rector and Chair of the Trustees)

Revd Rodney Blair (Vicar)

Honorary Secretary: Mr. Craig Collen

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. Alison Martin

Rector's Churchwarden: Miss. Georgina Maginn

Mr. Ian Pollard

People's Churchwarden: Mrs Wendy Gardiner

Rector's Glebewarden: Mr. Chris Stevenson

People's Glebewarden: Mr Kyle McMullan

### **Board Appointment Process**

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18 and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the Parish, allowing them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry. Meetings of the General vestry are held at least once a year. The Select Vestry is elected as part of this General Vestry meeting. The Select Vestry will hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually and there is no limit on the number of terms which may be served.

### **Pay and Remuneration**

Acting in their roles as rector and vicar of Shankill Parish Lurgan, Archdeacon Mark Harvey and Revd Rodney Blair both received a stipend, expenses of office and locomotory allowance in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland. No other charity trustees receive any remuneration from Shankill Parish Church.

### **Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of religion. The principal function of Shankill Parish Lurgan is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting the mission of the church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and relational. Being open to and engaging with society as a whole and offering support for those needing help are fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity. Additionally, and in accordance with its stated charitable purpose, Shankill Parish Lurgan has custody of a large collection of historical



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records, materials, and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage of both the Parish and the town of Lurgan. The care and maintenance of these is undertaken by the Select Vestry.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND PUBLIC BENEFIT**

Shankill Parish is a vibrant and welcoming church family of different ages and backgrounds seeking to build faith and build community in Lurgan. We are called to be hope builders in our community as we use our gifts, talents, and passions to serve one other and those beyond our walls, sharing the transforming love of God and leaving a legacy of faith for the generations to come. This statement embodies and undergirds the mission we undertake as a parish and recognises the strategic role we have in the community of Lurgan. The parish has considered the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives, as well as providing public benefit.

#### **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

For the whole of 2024, we have been worshipping in the Jethro Centre (the community facility owned by Shankill Parish Caring Association). This is due to the ongoing remedial works which necessitated the closure of the church from the start of February 2022.

Worshipping in the sports hall at Jethro is very different to an historic church building, but the congregations have grown during this period, particularly at our 10am service which is targeted specifically at a younger demographic. We are consistently seeing over 300 people gather for worship each Sunday. We are grateful to the management and staff of the Jethro Centre for their support.

#### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

During the year our children's and youth ministries have been able to resume without restrictions. It has been so encouraging to see children and families re-engage with our programmes on Sundays and during the week. Particularly pleasing has been the re-launch of our Toddler Time group which has seen large numbers of parents/carers and children return on a Monday morning each week. Our Sunday school and associated children's programmes have all seen encouraging growth.

Our Children's Ministry Coordinator left at the end of August, and we recruited her successor in September. In October, the parish acquired the old Busmen's Mission Hall, adjacent to the Jethro Centre as a dedicated space for youth and children's programmes. This has been largely funded by external funders.

#### **PASTORAL CARE**

During the year, our Pastoral Support Coordinator has reviewed and developed this vital work amongst the older members of the parish, and recruited additional volunteers for our visitation team.

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#### **PARISH GROUPS**

Our various mid-week programmes continue, and these are designed to build up members in their faith and provide opportunities for building a greater sense of community. These include Connect Groups (150 participants), Ladies' Guild (30), Mother's Union (20), choir (25), and our weekly prayer group (20-30).

#### **OUTREACH AND EVANGELISM**

Our Community Evangelist's role has significantly increased our presence in the community and enabled us to develop several programmes such as The Living Room, a weekly drop-in run in partnership with SPCA, and Story, a monthly informal gathering in Café IncredAble (in the Jethro Centre) where a member of our church family is interviewed about their life and faith. This year has also seen the establishment of a weekly men's drop-in, which provides a social space for men who are recently retired or unemployed. This role also enables us to expand our compassion ministry through more personal face-to-face contact and support.

#### **Financial Review**

At the end of 2024 there is a surplus of £221,518 in unrestricted funds. Shankill Parish Church is bound by the Church of Ireland 'Duty of Prudence' for church trustees to ensure that the parish is and remains solvent and by annual accounting principles to remain a going concern. Our aim has been to keep sufficient free reserves to provide, as per good practice guidelines for charities, cover for between 3-6 months in relation to known liabilities.

The Board is very thankful for the generosity of parishioners who continued to support the vision and mission of Shankill Parish through their finances and also their prayers. This generosity, along with the flexibility of staff, has allowed for a healthy surplus in the current financial year which places Shankill Parish in a strong position to continue to serve the Parish and community of Lurgan.

#### **Results and Dividends**

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £7,047,731 (2023 - £6,880,847) and liabilities of £106,900 (2023 - £161,536). The net assets of the charity have increased by £221,520.

## Shankill Parish Lurgan TRUSTEES' REPORT

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The charity is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our Christian Community. Our Services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our community.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the trustees retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

### Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

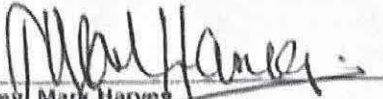
The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Shankill Parish Lurgan subscribes to and is compliant with the following:


- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

### Public Benefit

The Parish has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 25 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Rev. Mark Harvey  
Chairperson

  
Alison Martin  
Trustee



**Shankill Parish Lurgan**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

for the financial year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charity as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the charity and otherwise comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

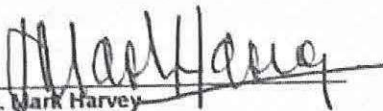
In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

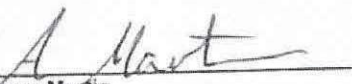
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 25 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Rev. Mark Harvey  
Chairperson

  
Alison Martin  
Trustee