

St Jude's Parish Church, Muckamore

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for St Jude's Parish Church Muckamore for the Year Ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and Activities

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of religion.

The principal function of St Jude's Parish Church Muckamore is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the congregation the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to and engaging with society and offering support for those needing help are fundamental to the practical delivery of the benefits of Christianity.

As a result of activity in the pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, St Jude's Parish Church Muckamore has custody of certain property, records, materials and artefacts which are of significance to the cultural and religious heritage of the whole community, the maintenance of which is undertaken by the select vestry of St Jude's Parish Church Muckamore.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

The church was once again heavily involved within the local community during 2023 following the easing of Covid 19 restrictions. In the year a significant proportion of the church's outreach work was carried out in conjunction with Muckamore Parish Development Association.

Financial Review

The income for the church from various sources was £90,000 with outgoings of £99,506, giving an excess of expenditure over income of £9,506, (2022 Surplus £27,750), the bank and cash balances at 31 December 2023 were in surplus to the value of £64,649, (2022, surplus £74,155). It is the trustee's policy to hold enough reserves to cover unexpected emergencies and to have adequate reserves for church property maintenance and to further the objectives and activities of the parish.

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the budget for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure the church can continue its activities and the financial statements for year ended 31 December 2023 can be signed off as a going concern.

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Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

St Jude's Parish Church Muckamore is governed and managed in accordance with the constitution of the Church of Ireland. The select vestry members are the charity trustees.

Recruitment and Appointment of Select Vestry (Trustees)

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.

Organisational Structure

The select vestry is responsible for the day-to-day management of the parish. The select vestry consists of the member of the clergy serving in the parish, any curate assistant ("the curate"), 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. In 2023 the Select Vestry met 10 times during the year.

Compliance with Public Benefit

The Parish has considered 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.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with Income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

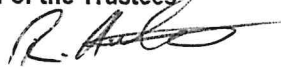
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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Parish's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Parish. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Parish and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

Richard Hunter



Ellen McKelvey



Date 14 March 2024