

Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their Trustees' Report and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the The Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, 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 Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 December 2023.

The charity is a registered charity and although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Mission Statement

Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church exists to advance the Christian faith by proclaiming and upholding the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as contained in the Bible and in accordance with the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, and all this to the benefit of people, both young and old, within the Stranmillis congregation and the surrounding area and across the world.

Our church continues to provide financial support to the Central Fund of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and to Christian missionary work at home and in various countries across the world.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church is an unincorporated charity and is governed by its Constitution. The day to day activities are overseen by the Trustees of the charity.

Financial Review

The trustees are again thankful for the support from all involved in the charity. Income from various sources this year totalled £162,132 (2022 £296,783) with expenditure on charitable activities, excluding depreciation, of £170,394. (2022 £164,508). The small deficit before depreciation this year of £8,262 is as a direct result of expenditure on the building. This small deficit is as planned and expected.

Reserves policy

The charity's policy is to achieve a level of resources which matches the needs of the organisation both at the current time and in the foreseeable future. The free reserves require should be sufficient to cover at least six months running costs. The trustees feel that these levels of reserves are essential to enable the charity to continue to provide its activities for the foreseeable future. The reserves policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

Results and Dividends

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £1,229,495 (2022 - £1,292,419) and liabilities of £2,517 (2022 - £1,200). The net assets of the charity have decreased by £(64,241).

In accordance with the Constitution, 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. Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Public Benefit

Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church benefits its members, the local community and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through our purpose of the advancement of religion. Our members, adherents and the general public benefit from the opportunity for public worship, the pastoral care provided, and the mutual opportunities for fellowship and social interaction. The declaration of God's Word on a regular basis enables spiritual, moral and intellectual development, for our congregation and for anyone else who

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wishes to benefit from what the church offers. the promotion of Christian values and service by members of our congregation brings benefit to individuals and society as a whole. Our regular public worship services are open to all, and are advertised on our denominational website, our own website and our public congregational noticeboard. The benefits of our organisation are evidenced through informal and ad-hoc feedback from our members, their families, parents of the young people who attend our youth meetings, and the wider public. We believe that no harm can come from the purpose of the charity. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is the employment of the minister of the church who receives certain benefits as a result of his employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our advancement of religion charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits, as all of our activities are open to the general public and advertised to them. Our beneficiaries include our members, their families, and the community in which we minister.

The Trustees of Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland's statutory guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to its beneficiaries.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 13 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


Mr Harold Gibson
Trustee

Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

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 13 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


Mr Harold Gibson
Trustee