

Rathgill Community Association Trustees Report - Year Ending 31 March 2023

NIC 102028

Rathgill Community Association is established to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Rathgill area and its environs (hereinafter described as "the area of benefit"), without distinction of age, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnic identity, nationality, disability, or political, religious or other opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to:

- (a) promote education and training;
- (b) relieve those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage;
- (c) promote health and well-being and healthy recreation;
- (d) provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants;
- (e) promote environmental improvement and otherwise improve the appearance of the area of benefit;
- (f) promote, for the general benefit of the community, good citizenship and harmony within the community between persons of different religious, ethnic and cultural backgrounds;
- (g) establish, or secure the establishment, of a Community Resource Centre and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any local authority or other person or body) in furtherance of these objects;
- (h) promote all or any objects for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of benefit which now or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable.

Trustees 2022 - 2023

Mr Michael Heatley

Mr Nathan Worrall

Ms Dionne Worrall

Ms Sonya Leslie

Ms Liz McClure

Ms Jeanette Campbell

Ms Anne Paul

Financial Year 1" April 2022 - 31" March 2023

Ulster Bank LTD Springhill Bangor Unit 28 Springhill Shopping Centre Bangor Co Down BT1 91N

#### Activities for 2022 – 2023

Rathgill Community association continues to play a vital role within the Rathgill area with the continued use of their community resource centre, staff, volunteers and through the many external partnerships they have developed providing many programmes and detached work throughout Bangor Co Down. Rathgill Community association through their partnerships have been able to offer many activities both in house and freelance in the local community.

As the cost of living tightens the association has developed their partnership with the local foodbank offering food to those in need in the local community and signposting people to services that may be able to assist them. A development with ALPS (All Lives are Precious) is also operating within the local area offering counselling, therapy and support to those who may have some mental health issues and allow for a more positive outlook on life.

Rathgill Community Association is again funded by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive under their SPOD funding programme (Small Pockets of Deprivation). They also receive funding from the Local Council and Statutory providers. Rathgill Community Association continues to deliver programmes and projects designed to meet the needs of our members and residents. Through funding from NIHE, the association has been able to sustain the staff who have been responsible for the management and daily operations of the organisation and the groups. We continue to support and mentor our groups offering guidance on community development practice and principals. Staff continue to participate in training relating to their positions. The organisation is represented on many networks, making connections within the community to share experiences and promote partnership working. We have been involved in supporting and delivering community capacity building programmes, cultural awareness, community safety and community engagement activities.

The partnership working with Bangor Alternatives have also allowed the project to develop their working through programmes which include youth work. We also organise and participate in intergenerational, accredited and non-accredited training and cultural awareness.

Our Foodshare programme which has supported so many people from our community providing much needed essentials and assistance in the reduction of poverty in the area. This programme is made possible through the partnership working with local supermarkets, traders and local churches and the foodshare organisation. Not only does it provide much needed assistance but helps in the reduction in waste and the continuous punishment of food and natural resources.

We have also hosted drop-in surgeries with statutory organisations such as Radius Housing, PSNI and housing executive allowing residents to have their issues dealt with effectively. None of this work would be completed without the dedication and hard work of all our volunteers, staff and

supporters which the community association is eternally grateful to. Our volunteers work tirelessly to provide these vital services.

We are thankful to all our funders who continued to support our work this year including: Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Ards and North Down Borough Council, Department for communities. We are also extremely thankful to our supporters including North Down Alternatives, Elim Church, PSNI and local Housing Associations as well ALPS All Lives are Precious. We will continue to secure core funding for the forthcoming financial year through the NIHE SPOD (Small Pockets of Deprivation) funding package in the region of £75,000 and are gratefully thankful as well as the other donations we receive from well wishers and supporters.

Approved by the trustees on the 10th November 2023 and signed on their behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.P. Dionne Worrell', is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark. The signature is fluid and cursive.

P.P Dionne Worrell Trustee