

Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102579

Details

Known as	ASDMCC
Status	Received
Registered	2016-04-05
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address
68 Oak Grange
Waringstown
Craigavon
County Armagh
BT66 7su
BT66 7SU

Phone 028 38882709

Email sec.asdmcc@hotmail.com

Activities

Purposes: Relieve poverty amongst widows of Freemasons or freemasons who are experiencing financial hardship, who are or were subscribing members of lodges within The Charity Committee. At its discretion The Charity Committee can provide financial assistance for other exclusively charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland 2008).

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Education/training, General charitable purposes, Relief of poverty

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

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£18,911	£23,433	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr David Savage		
Mr Dennis William Wheavil Cert In Management	Bsc Mathematics	
Mr John Barnett-Boyd Mcilwaine		
Mr Lionel Clarke	Pgc.Ed	
Mr Stephen Duffield	Bsc C.Eng Mice Mi Struct E	
Paul		

Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102579

Accounts

Statements of Receipts and Payments - Year ended 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	2024	2023
Receipts			
Voluntary Receipts (No.1 & No. 3 A/c)			
Donations & Gift Aid	1 16564	16564.07	15629.19
Charitable Activities			
Charity Breakfast	1230	1230.00	1140.50
Investment Income			
Bank Interest	2 5	5.13	8.63
Governance Income No 2 A/c			
Donations to No.2 A/c	210	210.00	215.00
Donation to Breakfast Costs	60	60.00	50.00
Sale of Christmas Cards	40	40.00	
Sale of Lapel Badges	801	801.00	
Bank Interest	1	0.61	0.15
	1112	1111.61	265.15
Total Receipts	18911	18910.81	17043.47
Charitable Payments			
Masonic Charities	3 21669	21668.52	16528.00
Other charities	4 1300	1300.00	2200.00
	22969	22968.52	18728.00
Governance Costs	5 464	464.34	989.66
Total Payment	23433	23432.86	19717.66
Net Receipts/(payments)	-4522	-4522.05	-2674.19
Transfer from No.1 & No.3 A/c to No. 2 A/c	6 0.00	0.00	0.00
Surplus/(Deficit) for this year	-4522	-4522.05	-2674.19
Reconciliation 31.12.2023 (No. 1, No.2 and No. 3 a/c)			
Cash at Bank & in hand 01.01.2024	8411.35	8411.35	11085.54
Cash at Bank & in hand 31.12.2024	3889.30	3889.30	8411.35
Surplus/(Deficit) for this year	-4522	-4522.05	-2674.19

Statement of Assests and Liabilities - year ended 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Fund Reconcilliation			
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.24 (No.1 A/c)	5472	5471.90	7233.58
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.24	2931	2930.64	5471.90
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end	-2541	-2541.26	-1761.68
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.24 (No.3 A/c)	2837	2836.83	3632.82
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.24	129	128.59	2836.83
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end	-2708	-2708.24	-795.99
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.24 (No. 2 A/c)	103	102.62	219.14
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.24	830	830.07	102.62
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end	727	727.45	-116.52
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.24 (No. 1, 2 & 3 A/c)	8411	8411.35	11085.54
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.24	3889	3889.30	8411.35
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end	-4522	-4522.05	-2674.19
Other Assests			
Unsold Lapel Bagdes (285)		570.00	0.00
Liabilities (unrestricted Fund)		0.00	0.00

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2024	2023
1. Donations & gift Aid		£
Craft Lodges	9545.20	7319.53
Royal Arch Chapters	718.00	1323.91
Councils	0.00	130.00
Preceptories	949.00	1223.00
District Grand Chapter Antrim	3635.00	3096.47
Prince Masons	650.00	290.00
Other	0.00	0.00
HM Revenue & Customs	1066.87	2246.28
Total	16564.07	15629.19

	2024	2023
2. Investment Income	£	£
All of the Charity's investment income arises from interest on Bank Accounts		
No. 1 Gift Aid account	3.37	6.50
No.3 Non Gift aid Account	1.76	2.13
	5.13	8.63

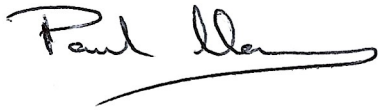
	2024	2023
3. Masonic Charities	£	£
FI Victoria Jubilee Benefit and Welfare Fund	8005.14	8100.00
Masonic Orphan's Welfare Committee	423.50	280.00
Belfast Masonic Charity Fund	12417.52	7903.00
Harold McMaster Taggart Memorial Fund	384.93	90.00
FI G & B F (TLC)	180.00	0.00
Belfast Masonic Widows Fund	207.43	130.00
Joseph Karmel Benefit Fund	20.00	0.00
ASDMCC	10.00	25.00
CMCC	20.00	0.00
	21668.52	16528.00

	2024	2023
4. Other Charities	£	£
Age NI	1250.00	
Mair Currie Hospice	50.00	
Disabled Children Family Fund		1050.00
Children's Kidney Fund NI		1150.00
Total	1300.00	2200.00

5. Governance Costs

	2024.00	2023
	£	£
Bank Charges No.2 A/c	36.55	35.29
Insurance	185.11	174.38
Charity Breakfast costs	100.00	172.00
Purchase of Lapel Badges to raise fund No.3 A/c	0.00	530.40
Festive Board	62.50	
Bank Charge No.1 and No.3 A/c 2023	80.18	77.59
	464.34	989.66

Paul Mann
Treasurer



Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102579

Accounts

Arthur Square Dstrict Masonic Charity Committee

ASDMCC

Statements of Receipts and Payments - Year ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	2023	2022
Receipts			
Voluntary Receipts (No.1 & No. 3 A/c)			
Donations & Gift Aid	1 15629.19	15629.19	19398.33
Charitable Activities			
Charity Breakfast	1140.50	1140.50	0.00
Investment Income			
Bank Interest	2 8.63	8.63	5.74
Governance Income No 2 A/c			
Donations to No.2 A/c	215.00	215.00	145.00
Donation to Breakfast Costs	50.00	50.00	0.00
Bank Interest	0.15	0.15	0.17
	265.15	265.15	145.17
Total Receipts	17043.47	17043.47	19549.24
Charitable Payments			
Masonic Charities	3 16528.00	16528.00	11351.34
Other charities	4 2200.00	2200.00	0.00
	18728.00	18728.00	11351.34
Governance Costs	5 989.66	989.66	282.07
Total Payment	19717.66	19717.66	11633.41
Net Receipts/(payments)	-2674.19	-2674.19	7915.83
Transfer from No.1 & No.3 A/c to No. 2 A/c	6 0.00	0.00	0.00
Surplus/(Deficit) for this year	-2674.19	-2674.19	7915.83
Reconcilliation 31.12.2023 (No. 1, No.2 and No. 3 a/c)			
Cash at Bank & in hand 01.01.2023	11085.54	11085.54	3169.71
Cash at Bank & in hand 31.12.2023	8411.35	8411.35	11085.54
Surplus/(Deficit) for this year	-2674.19	-2674.19	7915.83

Arthur Square District Masonic Charity Committee

ASDMCC

Statement of Assets and Liabilities - year ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Fund Reconciliation			
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.23 (No.1 A/c)		7233.58	1902.85
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.23		5471.90	7233.58
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		-1761.68	5330.73
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.23(No.3 A/c)		3632.82	986.82
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.23		2836.83	3632.82
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		-795.99	2646.00
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.23 (No. 2 A/c)		219.14	280.04
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.23		102.62	219.14
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		-116.52	-60.90
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.23 (No. 1, 2 & 3 A/c)		11085.54	3169.71
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.23		8411.35	11085.54
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		-2674.19	7915.83
Other Assets			
None		0.00	0.00
Liabilities (unrestricted Fund)		0.00	0.00

Arthur Square District Masonic Charity Committee

ASDMCC

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2023	2022
	£	£
1. Donations & gift Aid		
Craft Lodges	7319.53	12813.83
Royal Arch Chapters	1323.91	742.50
Councils	130.00	0.00
Preceptories	1223.00	488.00
District Grand Chapter Antrim	3096.47	4212.90
Prince Masons	290.00	255.00
Other	0.00	0.20
HM Revenue & Customs	2246.28	885.90
Total	15629.19	19398.33

	2023	2022
	£	£
2. Investment Income		
All of the Charity's investment income arises from interest on Bank Accounts		
No. 1 Gift Aid account	6.50	4.70
No.3 Non Gift aid Account	2.13	1.04
	8.63	5.74

	2023	2022
	£	£
3. Masonic Charities		
Fl Victoria Jubilee Benefit and Welfare Fund	8100.00	4326.34
Masonic Orphan's Welfare Committee	280.00	35.00
Belfast Masonic Charity Fund	7903.00	6870.00
Harold McMaster Taggart Memorial Fund	90.00	50.00
Belfast Masonic Widows Fund	130.00	0.00
Joseph Karmel Benefit Fund	0.00	35.00
ASDMCC	25.00	25.00
CMCC	0.00	10.00
	16528.00	11351.34

	2023	2022
	£	£
4. Other Charities		
Disabled Children Family Fund	1050.00	0.00
Children's Kidney Fund NI	1150.00	0.00
Total	2200.00	0.00

	2023	2022
	£	£
5. Governance Costs		
Bank Charges No.2 A/c	35.29	31.69
Insurance	174.38	174.38
Charity Breakfast costs	172.00	0.00
Purchase of Lapel Badges to raise fund No.3 A/c	530.40	0.00
Bank Charge No.1 and No.3 A/c 2023	77.59	76.00
	989.66	282.07

PP *Stephen Duffield*, Chairman ASDMCC

Paul Mann
Treasurer

NIC 102579

Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102579

Annual report

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for the year ending 31st December 2023.

Trustees, Officers and advisors

Trustees

HM Revenue and Customs and Charities Registration Number

XN44672

Stephen Duffield

Dennis Wheavil

Lionel Clark

Paul Mann

Chairman

Charity Commissioners Registration Number

Stephen Duffield

NIC 102579

Vice-Chairman

Vacant

Treasurer

Paul Mann

Independent Examiner

Mr Cecil Wilson

Secretary

Dennis Wheavil

Gift Aid secretary

Lionel Clark

Sub- Committee

Registrar: Stephen Ruston

Events Co-ordinator: Stephen Abrol

Information Officer: David Savage

Meeting Place

Masonic Hall

19 Arthur Square

Belfast BT1 4FF

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2023

The trustees present this annual report, with an independently examined financial report consisting of receipts and payments account, a statement of assets and liabilities and the external scrutiny report from the independent examiner for the year ended 31st December 2023. The information with respect to trustees, officers and advisors set out in page 1 forms part of this report.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts under section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Statute, governance and management

The charity's governing document is a constitution. The charity is controlled and run by the trustees who are listed on page 1. The treasurer controls the daily transactions, which are authorised by the committee. The gift aid secretary verifies and applies to HM Revenue and Customs for gift aid with all monies going directly into the charity accounts. The trustees are proposed from members of the committee and ratified at the AGM on an annual basis, with the chairman and vice-chairman restricted to a maximum of three consecutive years.

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which this charity may be exposed and remain satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to such major risks.

Objectives and Activities

The prevention or relief of poverty amongst widows of freemasons, relatives of freemasons or freemasons who are experiencing financial hardship, who are or were subscribing members' of lodges within 'The Charity Committee'.

At its discretion 'The Charity Committee' can provide financial assistance for other exclusively charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act (NI) 2008

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2023

Achievement and performance

The statement of financial activities is fully set out for the year ending 2023 on pages 1 to 3 in the financial report.

Income for the reporting period totalled £17,043.47 of which charitable income amounted to £16,778.32. Total expenditure during the reporting period amounted to £19,717.66 with total charitable expenditure of £18,728, £16,528.00 dispersed to six masonic charities, £2,200 to two non-masonic charities.

The pandemic continues to impact upon this charity with donations still noticeably lower than pre pandemic levels. We held one charitable event a breakfast morning in May raising £1150 for Children's Kidney Fund NI receiving a donation of £1050 for Disabled Children's Family fund. We donated any excess food from the breakfast morning to the Salvation Army Women hostel in Belfast.

During 2023 we held four meeting keeping the membership updated on charity matters with guest speakers presenting talks about Age NI, impact of the masonic charity mergers, post 2022. The membership continues to be cautious post pandemic with attendance at meetings lower than we would wish.

The trustees met during the reporting period to ensure administrative, governance responsibilities progressed. The plans to secure sufficient working capital in the governance account were completed towards the end of 2023 with an initial outlay of £530.40 hence the jump in running costs from £282.07 (2022) to £989.66 (2023). The financial implications of this plan will be reported on in the 2024 trustees report.

At the end of 2023 we have no funds in deficit.

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2023

Reserves Policy

We do not have a policy to hold a reserve fund in relation to charitable funds. In practice charitable monies received late in the reporting period may not be processed in time to be dispersed until the next reporting period. The reserves policy for our non-charitable funds is: 'To maintain a level of funds that will give us a stable basis from which to cover expected/unexpected costs of administering this charity over a three-year period.'

Investment Policy

All the charity's investment income arises from interest on bank deposits.

Plans for the future.

The committee will continue to provide for:

'The prevention or relief of poverty amongst widows of freemasons, relative of freemasons or freemasons who are experiencing financial hardship, who are or were subscribing members of lodges within 'The Charity Committee'.

At its discretion 'The Charity Committee' can provide financial assistance for other exclusively charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act (NI) 2008'.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of another.

There are no funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2023

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees of the charity remain steadfast with their aim to maximise the amount of money donated each year from:

- Masonic Brethren to support fairly and equitably those masonic charities that can best met the needs of our objectives.
- Masonic brethren to support other charities each year.

We further remain committed to helping masonic brethren make best use of both our Masonic charities and government benefits.

The trustees have had regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

During the year ended 31st December 2023 this charity was able to engage in charitable activities in furtherance of its aims for public benefit.

Four meetings were held with reduced numbers attending.

We contributed financial assistance to six Masonic charities and two non-masonic charities.



Stephen Duffield

Chairman 2023

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee report and the financial statement in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

The attached financial statement summarises all monies received and paid via the bank and in cash by the charity during its financial year, along with a statement of balances and explanatory notes as required under Sec 64(3) of the Charities Act (NI) 2008. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare, the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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. The Trustees 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.

By order of the trustees



Dennis W Wheavil

Secretary

Date:

Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102579

Annual return

Independent examiner's Report to the Charity Trustees of Arthur Square and District Masonic Charity committee.

I report on the accounts of the trustees for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out in the attached financial report.

Respective responsibilities of Charity Trustees and examiner

As the Charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act.
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charity's Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as a charity trustee concerning any such matters.

My role as to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matter (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Mr Cecil Wilson Signature:
Occupation: Retired Bank Manager
Address: 23 Schomberg Park, Belfast BT4 2HH
Date: 13 / 3 / 24



Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102579

Accounts

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

Statements of Receipts and Payments - Year ended 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	2022	2021
Receipts			
Voluntary Receipts (No.1 & No. 3 A/c)			
Donations & Gift Aid	1 19398.33	19398.33	6817.71
Charitable Activities			
Charity Breakfast	0.00	0.00	0.00
Investment Income			
Bank Interest	2 5.74	5.74	3.60
Governance Income No 2 A/c			
Donations to No.2 A/c	145.00	145.00	70.00
Bank Interest	0.17	0.17	0.25
	145.17	145.17	70.25
Total Receipts	19549.24	19549.24	6891.56
Charitable Payments			
Masonic Charities	3 11351.34	11351.34	6564.89
Other charities	4 0.00	0.00	1113.40
	11351.34	11351.34	7678.29
Governance Costs	5 282.07	282.07	42.28
Total Payment	11633.41	11633.41	7720.57
Net Receipts/(payments)	7915.83	7915.83	-829.01
Transfer from No.1 & No.3 A/c to No. 2 A/c	6 0.00	0.00	0.00
Surplus/(Deficit) for this year	7915.83	7915.83	-829.01
Reconciliation 31.12.2022 (No. 1, No.2 and No. 3 a/c)			
Cash at Bank & in hand 01.01.2022	3169.71	3169.71	3998.72
Cash at Bank & in hand 31.12.2022	11085.54	11085.54	3169.71
Surplus/(Deficit) for this year	7915.83	7915.83	-829.01

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

Statement of Assets and Liabilities - year ended 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
Fund Reconciliation			
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.22 (No.1 A/c)		1902.85	2613.66
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.22		7233.58	1902.85
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		5330.73	-710.81
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.22 (No.3 A/c)		986.82	1168.46
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.22		3632.82	986.82
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		2646.00	-181.64
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.22 (No. 2 A/c)		280.04	216.60
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.22		219.14	280.04
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		-60.90	63.44
Cash at Bank & in Hand 01.01.21 (No. 1, 2 & 3 A/c)		3169.71	3998.72
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31.12.21		11085.54	3169.71
Surplus/(Deficit) this year end		7915.83	-829.01
Other Assets			
None		0.00	0.00
Liabilities (unrestricted Fund)		0.00	0.00

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2022	2021
	£	£
1. Donations & gift Aid		
Craft Lodges	12813.83	5584.40
Royal Arch Chapters	742.50	125.00
Councils	0.00	142.00
Preceptories	488.00	200.00
District Grand Chapter Antrim	4212.90	0.00
Prince Masons	255.00	0.00
Other	0.20	0.00
HM Revenue & Customs	885.90	766.31
Total	19398.33	6817.71
	2022	2021
	£	£
2. Investment Income		
All of the Charity's investment income arises from interest on Bank Accounts		
No. 1 Gift Aid account	4.70	2.27
No.3 Non Gift aid Account	1.04	1.33
	5.74	3.60
	2022	2021
	£	£
3. Masonic Charities		
Victoria Jubilee Annuity Fund	3962.80	1370.00
Masonic Orphan's Welfare Committee	35.00	209.89
Masonic Welfare Benevolent Fund	363.54	0.00
Belfast Masonic Charity Fund	6870.00	4485.00
Harold McMaster Taggart Memorial Fund	50.00	0.00
Belfast Masonic Widows Fund	0.00	500.00
Joseph Karmel Benefit Fund	35.00	0.00
Down Masonic Widows Fund	0.00	0.00
ASDMCC	25.00	0.00
CMCC	10.00	0.00
	11351.34	6564.89
	2022	2021
	£	£
4. Other Charities		
GM Festival	0.00	1113.40
RNIB	0.00	0.00
Autism NI	0.00	0.00
	0.00	1113.40
Total	11351.34	7678.29

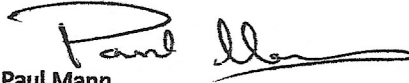
Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

Notes to the Financial Statements

5. Governance Costs	2022	2021
	£	£
Bank Charges No.2 A/c	31.69	6.81
Secretary's Expenses	0.00	0.00
Insurance	174.38	
Bank Charge No.1 and No.3 A/c 2020	76.00	35.47
	282.07	42.28



Stephen Duffield
Chair



Paul Mann
Treasurer

Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102579

Annual report

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for the year ending 31st December 2022.

Trustees, Officers and advisors

Trustees

David Savage (19.10.22)

Stephen Duffield

Dennis Wheavil

Lionel Clark

Paul Mann

HM Revenue and Customs and Charities Registration Number

XN44672

Chairman

David Savage (to 19.10.22)

Stephen Duffield (from 19.10.22)

Charity Commissioners Registration Number

NIC 102579

Vice-Chairman

Stephen Duffield (to 19.10.22)/ Vacant (from 19.10.22)

Treasurer

Paul Mann

Independent Examiner

Mr Cecil Wilson

Secretary

Dennis Wheavil

Gift Aid secretary

Lionel Clark

Sub-Committee

Registrar: David Beggs (to 19.10.22)/ Stephen Ruston (from 19.10.22)

Events Co-ordinator: Stephen Abrol

Information Officer: David Savage

Meeting Place

Masonic Hall

19 Arthur Square

Belfast BT1 4FF

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

(ASDMCC)

Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2022

The trustees present this annual report, with an independently examined financial report consisting of receipts and payments account, a statement of assets and liabilities and the external scrutiny report from the independent examiner for the year ended 31st December 2022. The information with respect to trustees, officers and advisors set out in page 1 forms part of this report.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts under section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Statute, governance and management

The charity's governing document is a constitution. The charity is controlled and run by the trustees who are listed on page 1. The treasurer controls the daily transactions, which are authorised by the committee. The gift aid secretary verifies and applies to HM Revenue and Customs for gift aid with all monies going directly into the charity accounts. The trustees are proposed from members of the committee and ratified at the AGM on an annual basis, with the chairman and vice-chairman restricted to a maximum of three consecutive years.

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which this charity may be exposed and remain satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to such major risks.

Objectives and Activities

The prevention or relief of poverty amongst widows of freemasons, relatives of freemasons or freemasons who are experiencing financial hardship, who are or were subscribing members' of lodges within 'The Charity Committee'.

At its discretion 'The Charity Committee' can provide financial assistance for other exclusively charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act (NI) 2008

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Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2022

Achievement and performance

The statement of financial activities is fully set out for the year ending 2022 on pages 1 to 4 in the financial report.

Total income for the reporting period was £19,549.24; total expenditure was £11,633.41 of which charitable income amounted to £19,398.33. Charitable income dispersed to six masonic charities a total payment of £11,351.34. Two of the masonic charities we contribute too merged in 2022 and whilst the merger is a success teething issues regarding money lodgements with then bank have forced us to delay dispersal, at their request. These payments will be made as soon as is practical.

The pandemic impacted yet again on our ability to hold a charitable activity in 2022 for the benefit of a non-masonic charity. Thankfully at time of writing this report I can confirm that this activity has successfully recommenced in 2023.

The financial implication of the pandemic lessened in 2022 with the relaxation of restrictions and their eventual removal. This resulted in a welcome increase in charitable donations.

The practical impact improved as well. We were able to meet during 2022 but with a reduced attendance, the membership taking a more cautious approach as guidelines from government relaxed the restrictions. The trustees met as was necessary to ensure administration, governance responsibilities progressed. We continue to work towards securing sufficient working capital in the governance account making us less susceptible to the vagaries of yearly donations. The pandemic continued in 2022 to delay our plans but hopefully going forward we will be able to realise this ambition.

The annual charitable activity, the breakfast morning usually held in April was a casualty of the pandemic; disappointingly it could not go ahead. This issue has now been resolved with the resumption of charitable activity in 2023.

At the end of 2022 financial year we have no funds in deficit.

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Reserves Policy

We do not hold a reserve in relation to charitable funds however given process times it will always be the case that some of the monies raised during current year will not be dispersed until early in the subsequent year. The reserves policy for our non-charitable funds is: 'To maintain a level of funds that will give us a stable basis from which to cover expected/unexpected costs of administering this charity over a three-year period.'

Investment Policy

All the charity's investment income arises from interest on bank deposits.

Plans for the future.

The committee will continue to provide for:

'The prevention or relief of poverty amongst widows of freemasons, relative of freemasons or freemasons who are experiencing financial hardship, who are or were subscribing members of lodges within 'The Charity Committee'.

At its discretion 'The Charity Committee' can provide financial assistance for other exclusively charitable purposes as defined in the Charities Act (NI) 2008'.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of another.

There are no funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

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Public Benefit Statement

The trustees of the charity remain steadfast with their aim to maximise the amount of money donated each year from:

- Masonic Brethren to support fairly and equitably those masonic charities that can best met the needs of our objectives.
- Masonic brethren to support other charities each year.

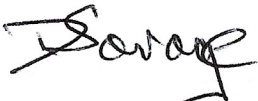
We further remain committed to helping masonic brethren make best use of both our Masonic charities and government benefits.

The trustees have had regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

During the year ended 31st December 2022 this charity was unable to engage in any charitable activities in furtherance of its aims for public benefit; whilst government restrictions eased during this year the membership took a more cautious approach.

Meetings were held with reduced numbers attending. We held our AGM in October 2022.

We contributed financial assistance to six Masonic charities.



David Savage



Stephen Duffield

Chairman 2019 – October 2022

Dated:

26/09/2023

Chairman October 2022 -

Arthur Square & District Masonic Charity Committee

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Trustees report for year ending 31st December 2022

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustee report and the financial statement in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

The attached financial statement summarises all monies received and paid via the bank and in cash by the charity during its financial year, along with a statement of balances and explanatory notes; as required under Sec 64(3) of the Charities Act (NI) 2008. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare, the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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. The Trustees 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.

By order of the trustees


Dennis W Wheavil

Secretary

Date: 26th September 2023

Arthur square and District Masonic Charity Committee

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102579

Annual return

Independent examiner's Report to the Charity Trustees of Arthur Square and District Masonic Charity committee.

I report on the accounts of the trustees for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out in the attached financial report.

Respective responsibilities of Charity Trustees and examiner

As the Charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act.
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charity's Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report


I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from you as a charity trustee concerning any such matters.

My role as to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matter (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Mr Cecil Wilson Signature: 
Occupation: Retired Bank Manager
Address: 23 Schomberg Park, Belfast BT4 2HH
Date: 18 July 2023