

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 Mullavilly Parish Church 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 Mullavilly Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of Mullavilly Parish Church the whole mission of the Church, pastoral evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to the engaging with society as a whole 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, Mullavilly Parish Church has custody of property and of records, materials and artefact of significance to the cultural and religious heritage and maintenance of which is undertaken by the Select Vestry of Mullavilly Parish Church.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Below you will find a summary of the main activities undertaken by the Parish to carry out its charitable purposes for the public benefit and the main achievements during the year. This will include its purposes, activities, achievements, beneficiaries, etc.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Services at 9.30am, 11am and at 7pm for special occasions throughout the year.

This included a range of different types of services such as Holy Communion, Family Services, Baptism Services, Morning Prayer, Healing Services, Weddings and Funerals, with special Praise Services in September and December.

Our 'Church Mice' group of pre-school age children recommenced during the year and a small number avail of this each Sunday as required.

Our Sunday School and 'Junior Bible Class' meet each week around 20-25 children.

Our Weekly Activities meet the needs of a wide range of ages and people in the parish and community. For the purposes of this report it is best to record all these activities individually.

Rainbows/Brownies – Girls 4-7 years, 7-10 years. For games, learning, craft and social interaction.

Bumblebees – For parents and toddlers offering help, friendship and support to young families. Work is going on in the background to reinstate this after Covid and leaders are being put in place.

Mothers Union – A group of ladies that promotes and supports family life at home and abroad.

Badminton Club & Bowling Club - Both are open to the whole community and for all ages.

Friendship Group & Monthly Soup Lunch – For the more senior members of the community.

Knit and Natter – Craft group began to encourage and learn from each other in different crafts.

Pastoral Visiting Team – Assisting the Rector in Pastoral Care of the housebound and elderly.

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Mission Outreach at Home and Abroad - Mullavilly is committed to reaching out to our local community with the Good News of God's Love through our witness in Word and Action. We continue to help in practical ways, as and when possible, through organisations such as Food Bank.

Apple Blossom Baby Basics – This was and still is a vital outreach to the wider community, providing a Moses Basket or a Baby Bath filled with essential items for a new mum and her baby. It is for those who have found themselves in a difficult situation or who are going through tough times due to the loss of a job, human trafficking, homelessness or suffering abuse.

Our **Annual BBQ** was taken up with the King's Coronation Celebrations at the beginning of May, and this was open to all of the community to come along and join in our special service and lunch.

New Church Organ Project – Many events were held during the year to help raise funds for a new church organ. The old organ has not been working since before the pandemic and the church and wider community have got together to raise funds and support this effort in events such as Big Breakfasts, Praise and Pudding evening, Rector's Sit-out, Mullavilly Mementoes and Christmas cards, Afternoon Teas, Quiz sheets, Guess the number of sweets, Tractor ploughing, to name but a few.

The **Church Hall** is a vital asset to the Parish and wider community to enable outreach to take place.

Child Protection

As a Parish we adhere to the Church of Ireland Child Protection Policy – Safeguarding Trust, and all of our leaders have been through Access NI checks and have attended the appropriate training.

Financial Review

- Provide an overview of the Parish's financial position at the reporting date.
- Explain Trustee's policy on holding reserves.
- If any funds were materially in deficit at the end of the year and steps taken to eliminate the deficit.

Going Concern

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

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. 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 a 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.

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Pay and remuneration

The Incumbent of the Parish is paid a stipend, locomotory allowance and office expenses in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

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, the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally no more than twelve other members of the general vestry are 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 decisions around 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 eight times during the year and the average attendance was 80.9%.

Compliance with 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.

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.

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



Mrs Wendy Walsh, Honorary Treasurer

Mrs Julie Magowan, Honorary Secretary



Date: 9th April 2024