

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for the Parish of Drumglass 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 the Parish of Drumglass is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Parish of Drumglass the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to and 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, the Parish of Drumglass has custody of property and of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural and religious heritage and maintenance of which is undertaken by the select vestry of the Parish of Drumglass.

### **Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit**

Drumglass Parish has weekly services on Sunday mornings and evenings comprising of a mix of Holy Communion, Family Service, Holy Baptism, Service of the Word, and Morning Prayer together with various other special services during the year e.g. Lenten, Harvest thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. There is also a weekly Shoppers' Service held on a Thursday morning. Pastoral care is provided for parishioners and those in the wider community.

A range of other activities are provided by Drumglass Parish either by the church directly or through various church organisations e.g. Choir, Sunday School, Crèche, A2J Youth Group, Prayer & Bible Study, Mothers' Union, Ladies' Guild, Senior Citizens' Clubs, Badminton, Bowls, Table Tennis, TT4U women's group, Stepping Stones Carer and Toddlers Group, Kidzone for primary school children, Brownies, Rainbows, and Guides. The Holiday Bible Club is held annually over a 5 day period culminating in a Family Fun Night held in Dungannon Park.

Drumglass Parish maintains an ongoing partnership with Belfast Central Mission (BCM). This organization, in conjunction with Housing Support for Young People provides food and household goods for vulnerable young people in the local community who are homeless, leaving care or struggling to live independently. A partnership with Barnabas Aid also exists for the distribution of food for those in need.

Drumglass Parish organises an annual Harvest Lunch, and two family BBQ's are also organised.

There is an effective inter-church co-operation within the local community. Drumglass Parish plays an active role in Dungannon Churches Forum, and Dungannon Churches Together, as a part of which joint services are held on a regular basis.

A number of members of the Parish serve on the Boards of Governors of local schools and support and encourage the work of the schools helping to maintain good standards and practices. In addition, the staff of the Parish lead assemblies on a regular basis in six of our local schools.

The Parish supports the work of other charities and missionary work by either making donations or holding special collections in respect of same. We support various charities and mission groups through ongoing deputation work, along with the giving of financial and prayerful support from the Parish.

The activities outlined above demonstrate how Drumglass Parish continues to implement its charitable purposes (i.e. the advancement of religion) and meets the public Benefit requirement. Benefits to members of the public include contributing to spiritual well-being of participants and the reinforcement of Christian values.

Drumglass Parish has mitigated any potential harm from the activities it carries out through the implementation of the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust Policy.

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)**

### **Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit (continued)**

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.

### **Financial Review**

- The principal source of income of the Parish of Drumglass continues to be from Donations and Plate Collections.
- The principal expense of the Parish of Drumglass is in respect of payments regarding Diocesan Costs/Assessment, salaries and church / hall repairs and running expenses.
- The Parish of Drumglass had a surplus of receipts over payments before other gains of £56,529.73 for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- The Parish of Drumglass continues to be in a healthy financial state as at 31 December 2023 with total cash funds of £58,135.47
- The Parish of Drumglass aims to retain sufficient reserves to meet its expected future expenditure requirements as well as potential future capital projects.

### **Going Concern**

The trustees have reviewed its planned expenditure 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***

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.



## Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

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 meet 10 times during the year and the average attendance was 94.1%.

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in the Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in the United Kingdom (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK, including Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) "and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the United Kingdom and United Kingdom Law) Under that law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the statement of financial activities of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and identify the standards in question, subject to any material departures being 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 Parish will continue as a going concern.

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 financial position of the Parish and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the provision of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. 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.

### Statement as to disclosure to our examiners

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant examination information and to establish that the charity's examiner is aware of that information.

### Independent Examiners

The examiners, Ruddell & Company, have indicated their willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning their reappointment will be proposed at the Annual Easter Vestry Meeting.

On Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1

Trustee 2



21 March 2024