

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 104364

Details

Known as	ACPC
Status	Received
Registered	2016-08-04
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	19 Village Hill Straid Ballyclare BT39 9wq BT39 9WQ
Phone	07568589598
Email	info@acpc.co.uk
Website	www.acpc.co.uk

Activities

Purposes: THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

What the charity does: The advancement of religion

How the charity works: Religious activities

Who the charity helps: General public

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£197,396	£198,244	£0	2

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Dean Gordon		
Mr Gary Anderson		
Mr Gary O'rourke		
Mr Matthew Bunting		
Mr Maurice James McClay		
Mr Ronald Wilson		
Mr Thomas Hazley		
Mr Thomas Mcwatters		
Rev Michael Rutledge		

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104364

Accounts

**ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Financial Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104364)

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	126813	45300	0	172113	173465
Charitable Activities	3	0	12500	0	12500	8525
Other trading activities	4	0	0	0	0	0
Investment Income	5	1586	0	0	1586	1279
Other	6	530	0	0	530	1165
Organisations	12	0	10667	0	10667	12867
Sale of Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Sale of fixed assets		0	0	0	0	0
Loans Received		0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts		128929	68467	0	197396	197301
Payments						
Raising funds	7	0	0	0	0	0
Charitable activities	8	125415	50059	0	175474	148204
Investment costs					0	0
Other	9	229	13500	0	13729	25218
Organisations	12	0	9041	0	9041	14635
Purchase of Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Purchase of fixed assets		0	0	0	0	0
Loan Repayments		0	0	0	0	0
Total Payments		125644	72600	0	198244	188057
Net receipts / (payments)		3285	-4133	0	-848	9244
Transfers between funds		-1970	1970	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		1315	-2163	0	-848	9244
Funds brought forward		104595	71304	0	175899	166655
Funds carried forward	12	105910	69141	0	175051	175899

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	104595	71304	-	175899	166655
Net movement in funds	1315	-2163	-	-848	9244
Bank and Cash at end of year	105910	69141	-	175051	175899

Bank & Cash Balances

Ulster Bank A/c: General	105910	106595
Ulster Bank A/c: Building	51367	55533
Ulster Bank A/c: Missions	6503	5126
Cash in hand - Organisations	526	423
Bank Current Accounts - Organisations	10745	8222
Total	175051	175899

Other Assets

Fixed Assets - Note 10

Church Premises	-	-
Fixtures and Fittings	-	-
Vehicles	-	-

Investments - Note 11

Gift Aid receivable on donations	£20,841	£22,689
Other assets	-	-

Liabilities

Loans	-	-
Other liabilities	-	-

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on ¹⁸⁻³⁻²⁵ and signed on its behalf by

NAME:

[Signature]

Date:

18 MAR 25

NAME:

[Signature]

Date:

18-3-25

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts - 31 December 2024

Accounting Policies

Basis of Financial Statements

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Act 2006 to prepare their accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Fund Accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Recorded givings:FWO/Blids	102617	15851	0	118468	118090
Loose collections/Donation	3172	0	0	3172	4590
Recorded givings: Missions	0	26595	0	26595	18512
Donation: Mod A./Harv/Stud/Books	0	0	0	0	6276
Donations: Biblica/Ukraine	0	0	0	0	3308
Donations	3037	0	0	3037	0
Gift Aid	17987	2854	0	20841	22689
Legacies and bequests	0	0	0	0	0
	126813	45300	0	172113	173465

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2024

3 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Income: S.U. Books	0	0	0	0	1000
Fees feom Weddings/Funerals	0	0	0	0	0
Church Week-End	0	0	0	0	610
Grants - U.M.Trust - Spark	0	5000	0	5000	6915
Grants - U.M.Trust: Outreach Worker	0	7500	0	7500	0
	0	12500	0	12500	8525

4 Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	0	0	0	0	0
Trading income	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0

5 Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	1586	0	0	1586	1279
General Investment Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Rents investment properties	0	0	0	0	0
Other investment income	0	0	0	0	0
	1586	0	0	1586	1,279

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2024

6 Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Organisations for Heat & Light	530	0	0	530	600
Other Income	0	0	0	0	565
Bank Compensation	0	0	0	0	0
	530	0	0	530	1165

7 Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes/Missions	0	0	0	0	0
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0

8 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	22227	0	0	22227	19662
Presbytery fees	878	0	0	878	687
Ministry and support staff costs	70429	0	0	70429	57861
Congregational running expenses	31169	24787	0	55956	42761
Donations to Missions and Charities	0	24992	0	24992	26215
Governance costs: Bank fees/Gifts	712	280	0	992	1018
	125415	50059	0	175474	148204

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2024

9 Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance expenses	0	0	0	0	9329
Other Expenditure: Gifts	229	0	0	229	426
House to rent: Ukraine Family	0	0	0	0	1725
Outreach: U.M.T. Sparks	0	6000	0	6000	6283
Outreach: U.M.T. Worker	0	7500	0	7500	0
Church Week-End	0	0	0	0	1696
Youth Link: A Anderson	0	0	0	0	4750
Student Bursary Fund	0	0	0	0	1009
	229	13500	0	13729	25218

10 Fixed Assets

The congregation owns The Church / Hall premises situated at 91 Doagh Road, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, BT37 9QN and a manse with associated fixtures/fittings and equipment for the use of the Minister. These have a combined insurance value of **£5,446,162** at last renewal date.

11 Investments

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation

	2024	2023
	£	£
General Investment Fund	0	0
Property	0	0
Other investments	0	0
	0	0

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2024

12. Fund Balances

	Balance at start £	Receipt £	Payment £	Surplus / (Deficit) £	Transfers £	Balance at end £
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	104595	128929	125644	3285	-1970	105910
Total unrestricted	104595	128929	125644	3285	-1970	105910
Restricted Funds						
Maintenance of Property	57533	18,705	24,871	- 6,166	0	51367
Missions and Charities Fund						
Biblica/Ukraine	2498	0	2498	-2498	0	0
Christianity Explored	0	0	200	-200	200	0
European Christian Mission	0	2935	3000	-65	65	0
Feba Radio	100	760	680	80	0	180
General Mission Fund	0	10472	196	10276	-5885	4391
Harvest	0	3140	0	3140	-3140	0
Open Doors	225	2874	1585	1289	0	1514
Sparks	632	0	800	-800	168	0
Ambassadors	0	0	1020	-1020	1020	0
Tear Fund	1069	3349	4000	-651	0	418
United Appeal	0	3065	9784	-6719	6719	0
Missionary T & S	602	0	1425	-1425	823	0
Missions & Charities sub total	£5,126	£26,595	£25,188	£1,407	-£30	£6,503
Organisations:	8645	10667	9041	1626	1000	11271
Outreach: U.M.T. Spark	0	5000	6000	-1000	1000	0
Outreach: U.M.T. Worker	0	7500	7500	0	0	0
Total restricted	£71,304	£68,467	£72,600	-£4,133	£1,970	£69,141
Endowment Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	£175,899	£197,396	£198,244	-£848	£0	£175,051

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104364

Accounts

**ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Financial Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104364)

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	123,585	49,880	-	173,465	183,201
Charitable activities	3	-	8,525	-	8,525	12,817
Other trading activities	4	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	5	1,279	-	-	1,279	158
Other	6	1,165	-	-	1,165	949
Organisations	12	-	12,867	-	12,867	7,225
Sale of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Sale of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loans Received		-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts		126,029	71,272	-	197,301	204,350
Payments						
Raising funds	7	-	-	-	-	468
Charitable activities	8	100,987	47,217	-	148,204	145,888
Investment costs		-	-	-	-	-
Other	9	9,755	15,463	-	25,218	25,548
Organisations	12	-	14,635	-	14,635	7,736
Purchase of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loan Repayments		-	-	-	-	-
Total Payments		110,742	77,315	-	188,057	179,640
Net receipts / (payments)		15,287	- 6,043	-	9,244	24,710
Transfers between funds		- 8,339	8,339	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		6,948	2,296	-	9,244	24,710
Funds brought forward		97,647	69,008	-	166,655	141,945
Funds carried forward	12	104,595	71,304	-	175,899	166,655

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	97,647	69,008	-	166,655	141,945
Net movement in funds	6,948	2,296	-	9,244	24,710
Bank and Cash at end of year	104,595	71,304	-	175,899	166,655

Bank & Cash Balances

	£	£
Ulster Bank account	106,595	100,668
Ulster Bank account	55,533	56,574
Ulster Bank Missions account	5,126	-
Cash in hand - Organisations	423	342
Bank Current Accounts - Organisations	8,222	9,071
Total	175,899	166,655

Other Assets

	£	£
Fixed Assets - Note 10		
Church Premises	-	-
Fixtures and Fittings	-	-
Vehicles	-	-
Investments - Note 11		
Gift Aid receivable on donations	22,689	21,461
Other assets	-	-

Liabilities

	£	£
Loans		
Other liabilities	-	-

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on Tuesday 8th October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

NAME: Mr T McWatters

Date: 8/10/24

T McWatters

NAME: Mr Gary Anderson

Date: 8-10-2024.

Gary Anderson

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts - 31 December 2023

Accounting Policies

Basis of Financial Statements

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations) (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Fund Accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded givings:FWO/Blds	98,306	19,784	-	118,090	117,459
Loose collections/Donation	4,590	-	-	4,590	16,902
Recorded givings: Missions	-	18,512	-	18,512	13,257
Donation: Mod A./Harv/Stud/Books	-	6,276	-	6,276	8,862
Donations: Biblica/Ukraine	-	3,308	-	3,308	5,090
Donations: Presbytery	-	-	-	-	170
Gift Aid	20,689	2,000	-	22,689	21,461
Legacies and bequests	-	-	-	-	-
	123,585	49,880	-	173,465	183,201

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2023

3 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income: S.U. Books	-	1,000	-	1,000	221
Fees from weddings and funerals	-	-	-	-	340
Church Week-End	-	610	-	610	1,426
Grants - U.M.Trust - Spark	-	6,915	-	6,915	7,000
Grants - U.M.Trust: Youth Lk. A Anderson	-	-	-	-	3,830
	-	8,525	-	8,525	12,817

4 Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Letting of premises	-	-	-	-	-
Trading income	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

5 Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Bank interest	1,279	-	-	1,279	158
General Investment Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Rents investment properties	-	-	-	-	-
Other investment income	-	-	-	-	-
	1,279	-	-	1,279	158

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2023

6 Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Energy payment. Heat & Light	600	-	-	600	-
Other income	565	-	-	565	749
Bank Compensation	-	-	-	-	200
	1,165	-	-	1,165	949

7 Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
FWO envelopes/Missions	-	-	-	-	468
Fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	468

8 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
General Assembly Assessments	19,662	-	-	19,662	18,661
Presbytery fees	687	-	-	687	807
Ministry and support staff costs	57,861	-	-	57,861	53,851
Congregational running expenses	22,038	20,723	-	42,761	40,942
Donations to Missions and Charities	-	26,215	-	26,215	30,768
Governance costs: Bank fees/Gifts	739	279	-	1,018	859
	100,987	47,217	-	148,204	145,888

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2023

9 Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Insurance expenses	9,329	-	-	9,329	8,171
Other Expenditure: Gifts	426	-	-	426	875
Biblica/Ukraine Family	-	1,725	-	1,725	2,200
Outreach: Spark	-	6,283	-	6,283	7,620
Church Week-End	-	1,696	-	1,696	2,414
Youth Link: A Anderson	-	4,750	-	4,750	4,268
Student Bursary Fund	-	1,009	-	1,009	-
	9,755	15,463	-	25,218	25,548

10 Fixed Assets

The congregation owns The Church / Hall premises situated at 91 Doagh Road, Co Antrim, BT37 9QN and a manse with associated fixtures/fittings and equipment for the use of the Minister. These have a combined insurance value of **£5,260,637** at last renewal date.

11 Investments

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation

	2023 £	2022 £
General Investment Fund	-	-
Property	-	-
Other investments	-	-
	-	-

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2023

12. Fund Balances

	Balance at start £	Receipt £	Payment £	Surplus / (Deficit) £	Transfers £	Balance at end £
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	97,647	126,029	110,742	15,287 -	8,339	104,595
	<u>97,647</u>	<u>126,029</u>	<u>110,742</u>	<u>15,287 -</u>	<u>8,339</u>	<u>104,595</u>
Restricted Funds						
Maintenance of Property	56,574	21,784	20,825	959	-	57,533
Restricted Congregational Funds						
Church Week-End	-	610	1,696 -	1,086	1,086	-
Missionary T & S	1,122	30	550 -	520	-	602
Student Bursary Fund	-	-	1,009 -	1,009	1,009	-
S.U Books	-	1,000	1,000	-	-	-
U.M.T. Grant: Youth Link	-	-	4,750 -	4,750	4,750	-
Missions and Charities Fund						
Bibca/Ukraine	915	3,308	1,725	1,583	-	2,498
European Christian Mission	-	1,890	3,000 -	1,110	1,110	-
Feba Radio	-	950	850	100	-	100
General Mission Fund	-	8,155	4,172	3,983 -	3,983	-
Harvest	-	3,811	-	3,811 -	3,811	-
Open Doors	-	1,745	1,520	225	-	225
Outreach: U.M.T. Grant:Spark	-	6,915	6,283	632	-	632
Moderators Appeal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tear Fund	984	5,742	5,657	85	-	1,069
United Appeal	-	2,465	9,643 -	7,178	7,178	-
Organisations	9,413	12,867	14,635 -	1,768	1,000	8,645
	<u>69,008</u>	<u>71,272</u>	<u>77,315 -</u>	<u>6,043</u>	<u>8,339</u>	<u>71,304</u>
Endowment Funds						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funds	<u>166,655</u>	<u>197,301</u>	<u>188,057</u>	<u>9,244</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>175,899</u>

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104364

Annual report

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104364)

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Abbots Cross congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

91 Doagh Road

Newtownabbey

Co Antrim

BT37 9QN

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104364)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year were:

Mr Gary Anderson

Mr Matthew Bunting

Mr Dean Gordon

Mr Thomas Hazley

Mr Maurice James McClay

Mr Thomas McWatters

Mr Gary O'Rourke

Mr Michael Rutledge

Mr Ronald Wilson

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister Rev Michael Rutledge

Clerk of Session Mr Gary O'Rourke

Treasurer(s) Mr John Henry

 Mrs Cherith Fittis

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mr Roy Eakin
18 Farm Lodge Road
Greenisland
Carrickfergus
Co. Antrim
BT38 8XH

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Limited
2 Farmley Road
Glengormley
BT36 7QU

SOLICITORS

Reavey & Company
22 The Diamond
Rathcoole
Newtownabbey
BT37 9BJ

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions has delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least eight times a year.

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation or by the Kirk Session. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote.

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Abbots Cross congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the North Belfast Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of the Christian religion.

Abbots Cross congregation of the Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregations mission purpose is 'Know Jesus through his teaching, Show Jesus in how we live, and Go for Jesus into the world.

At Abbots Cross we believe we are called to share the love of Jesus in word and deed with those who don't yet know Him. We're also called to support, encourage and equip those who are followers of Jesus. We organise ourselves to best facilitate this. At Abbots Cross we believe in the Mission of God. We believe that we are called to be missional disciples of Christ who live out our faith on our everyday 'Frontlines'. As we do so we participate with God as He works, drawing people to Himself. We believe this to be a fundamental and very exciting part of who we are.

In addition to equipping our members we seek to engage with those on our doorstep, in the local community and around the world, irrespective of their beliefs or ethnic origins.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday morning. Evening services take place every 2 weeks. Visitors are welcome to join. During the week the house groups and discipleship groups provide an opportunity for members to meet for fellowship, to study the scriptures and have a time of prayer. Prayer is an important aspect of congregational life with a formal prayer meeting held at least once a month, a prayer and praise meeting held at least once a month and home prayer groups also meeting monthly. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation has a wide range of organisations including:

- Bowling Club
- Childrens Church
- Cuppa and Chat
- Discipleship Groups
- FM Club – Special Needs
- Foodbank
- Friendship and Craft Class
- Girls Brigade
- House groups
- Junior youth club
- Table Tennis Club
- Women's Ministry
- Youth Fellowship

2023 saw two new organisations begin/ recommence:

- Globalink – This ministry started in August 2023 and is a conversation café used to meet new people, practise English, share your culture and learn about Jesus.
- Men’s Ministry – This recommenced in November 2023, having not met for a number of years due to Covid restrictions, and is aimed at bringing together men from all generations across the congregation to have fellowship and grow in their faith. The first event had 32 men present.

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Response to COVID-19

UK Covid 19 restrictions were relaxed in February 2022. The Presbyterian church adopted the relaxation in April 2022. ACPC sought to reestablish face to face meetings while facilitating remote fellowship via live streaming of services and continuing to utilise WhatsApp prayer. Whilst there were no restrictions in place for 2023 some knock on effects were felt as people continued to be wary of larger gatherings.

Membership

At 31 December 2023 there were 173 Communicant members (2022 – 169, 2021 – 161).

The weekly attendance, at morning worship was approximately 173 (2022 – 165, 2021 – 140), as tested by a random head count.

Mission and outreach

At a local level the congregation has a Mission Plan and supports a number of external missions and agencies through prayer and donations. Total donations to missions in 2023 were approximately £32,516 (2022 - £30,768, 2021 - £18,865).

In 2023 the church contributed approximately 4,500kgs (2022 – 5,000kgs, 2021 – 4,000kgs) of food to Newtownabbey FoodBank.

The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church’s training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributes to the European Christian Mission, Feba Radio, Open Doors, Tear Fund as well as to special appeals. In 2023 £3,308 was donated to a special Biblica appeal for Ukrainian Bibles.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

General Assembly

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Organisations

The church buildings are used extensively during the week by a wide range of organisations for all generations.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known using noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 165 contributing families during the year (2022 – 162, 2021 – 171). Donations totalled £98,306 (2022 - £95,562, 2021 - £91,333).

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £197,301 (2022 - £204,350, 2021 - £188,784).

Total expenditure was £188,057 (2022 - £179,640, 2021 - £141,289).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

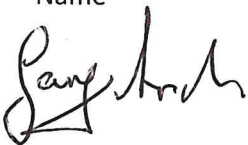
As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on May 14th, 2024, and signed on its behalf by

Name

Date



14-05-2024.

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104364

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church

I report on the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 1 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's 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 Charities 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 those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is 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 account to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (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: ... Roy Eakin
Occupation ... Retired Bank Official
Address: ... 18 Farm Lodge Road, Greenisland
... Carrickfergus, Co Antrim. BT38 8XH
Date: ... 11th March 2024

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104364

Accounts

**ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Financial Statement
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104364)

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	126574	56627	0	183201	174984
Charitable activities	3	561	12256	0	12817	4581
Other trading activities	4	0	0	0	0	0
Investment Income	5	158	0	0	158	86
Other	6	949	0	0	949	365
Organisations		0	7225	0	7225	8768
Sale of Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Sale of fixed assets		0	0	0	0	0
Loans Received		0	0	0	0	0
Total Receipts		128242	76108	0	204350	188784
Payments						
Raising funds	7	468	0	0	468	532
Charitable activities	8	98555	47333	0	145888	133453
Investment costs		0	0	0	0	0
Other	9	11246	14302	0	25548	676
Organisations		0	7736	0	7736	6628
Purchase of Investments		0	0	0	0	0
Purchase of fixed assets		0	0	0	0	0
Loan Repayments		0	0	0	0	0
Total Payments		110269	69371	0	179640	141289
Net receipts / (payments)		17973	6737	0	24710	47495
Transfers between funds		-2317	2317	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		15656	9054	0	24710	47495
Funds brought forward		81991	59954	0	141945	94450
Funds carried forward	12	97647	69008	0	166655	141945

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	81991	59954	0	141945	141945
Net movement in funds	15656	9054	0	24710	47495
Bank and Cash at end of year	97647	69008	0	166655	141945

Bank & Cash Balances

Ulster Bank No:1				100668	86400
Ulster Bank Property				56574	45621
Cash in hand - Organisations				342	1705
Bank Current Accounts - Organisations				9071	8219
			Total	166655	141945

Other Assets

Fixed Assets - Note 10

Church Premises				0	0
Fixtures and Fittings				0	0
Vehicles				0	0

Investments - Note 11

Gift Aid receivable on donations				21461	24366
Other assets				0	0

Liabilities

Loans				0	0
Other liabilities				0	0

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on Sunday 2nd April 2023 and signed on its behalf by

NAME: *Mr T McWatters*

Date: *2nd April 2023*

NAME: *Mr Gary O'Rourke*

Date: *2nd April 2023*

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts - 31 December 2022

1 Accounting Policies

Basis of Financial Statements

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations) (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

Fund Accounting

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2 Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021
Recorded givings:FWO/BlDs	95562	21897	0	117459	144514
Loose collections/Donation	16902	0	0	16902	2544
Recorded givings: Missions	0	13257	0	13257	0
Donation: Mod A./Harv/Stud	0	8862	0	8862	0
Donations: Biblica/Ukraine	0	5090	0	5090	0
Donations: Presbytery	170	0	0	170	560
Gift Aid	13940	7521	0	21461	24366
Legacies and bequests	0	0	0	0	3000
	126574	56627	0	183201	174984

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2022

3 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Income: S.U. Books	221	0	0	221	171
Fees from weddings and funerals	340	0	0	340	580
Church Week-End	0	1426	0	1426	0
Grants - U.M.Trust - Spark	0	7000	0	7000	0
Grants - U.M.Trust: Youth Lk. A Anderson	0	3830	0	3830	3830
	561	12256	0	12817	4581

4 Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	0	0	0	0	0
Trading income	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0

5 Investment Income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	158	0	0	158	86
General Investment Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Rents investment properties	0	0	0	0	0
Other investment income	0	0	0	0	0
	158	0	0	158	86

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2022

6 Other Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims	0	0	0	0	0
Other income H&L,Presbytery	749	0	0	749	365
Bank Compensation	200	0	0	200	0
	949	0	0	949	365

7 Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes/Missions	468	0	0	0	532
Fundraising events	0	0	0	0	0
	468	0	0	0	532

8 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	18661	0	0	18661	18918
Presbytery fees	807	0	0	807	791
Ministry and support staff costs	53851	0	0	53851	49828
Congregational running expenses	24486	16456	0	40942	42895
Donations to Missions and Charities	0	30768	0	30768	16610
Governance costs: Bank fees/gifts	750	109	0	859	330
	98555	47333	0	145888	129372

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2022

9 Other Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance expenses	8171	0	0	8171	0
Other Expenditure: Gifts	875	0	0	875	676
House rent: Ukraine Family	2200	0	0	2200	0
Outreach: Spark	0	7620	0	7620	0
Church Week-End	0	2414	0	2414	0
Youth Link: A Anderson	0	4268	0	4268	4081
	11246	14302	0	25548	4757

10 Fixed Assets

The congregation owns The Church premises situated at 91 Doagh Road, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, BT37 9QN and a manse with associated fixtures/fittings and equipment for the use of the minister.

These have a combined insurance value of **£6,000,698** at last renewal date.

11 Investments

The congregation has the following investments. Amounts are shown at market valuation

	2022	2021
	£	£
General Investment Fund	0	0
Property	0	0
Other investments	0	0
	0	0

Abbots Cross Presbyterian Church - a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Statement of Financial Activity (Receipts and Payments Account)
Notes to the accounts (cont'd) - 31 December 2022

12 Fund Balances

	Balance at start	Receipts	Payment	Surplus / (Deficit)	Transfers	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	81991	128242	110269	17973	-2317	97647
	81991	128242	110269	17973	-2317	97647
Restricted Funds						
Maintenance of Property	45621	27518	16565	10953	0	56574
Restricted Congregational Funds						
Missionary Training & Support	1252	780	910	-130	0	1122
European Christian Mission	382	2618	3000	-382	0	0
CAP	175	31	206	-175	0	0
Alan Nixon	0	25	25	0	0	0
Student Bursary Fund	0	572	572	0	0	0
U.M.T. Grant: Youth Link	0	3830	4268	-438	438	0
Church Week-End	0	1426	2414	-988	988	0
Missions and Charities Fund						
United Appeal	420	3457	8672	-5215	4795	0
Presbyterian Missions	0	442	0	442	-442	0
Harvest	0	4328	0	4328	-4328	0
Tear Fund	900	4084	4000	84	0	984
Feba Radio	545	1084	1730	-646	101	0
Open Doors	735	2138	3018	-880	145	0
Moderators Appeal	0	4460	4460	0	0	0
Biblca/Ukraine	0	5090	4175	915	0	915
Outreach: U.M.T. Grant - Spark	0	7000	7620	-620	620	0
Organisations	9924	7225	7736	-511	0	9413
	59954	76108	69371	6737	2317	69008
Endowment Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	141945	204350	179640	24710	0	166655

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104364

Annual report

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104364)

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Abbots Cross congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

91 Doagh Road

Newtownabbey

Co Antrim

BT37 9QN

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC104364)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year were:

Mr Gary Anderson

Mr Matthew Bunting

Mr Dean Gordon

Mr Thomas Hazley

Mr Maurice James McClay

Mr Thomas McWatters

Mr Gary O'Rourke

Mr Michael Rutledge

Mr Ronald Wilson

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister Rev Michael Rutledge

Clerk of Session Mr Gary O'Rourke

Treasurer(s) Mr John Henry

 Mrs Cherith Fittis

**ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL
REPORT (continued)**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mr Roy Eakin
18 Farm Lodge Road
Greenisland
Carrickfergus
Co. Antrim
BT38 8XH

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Limited
2 Farmley Road
Glengormley
BT36 7QU

SOLICITORS

Reavey & Company
22 The Diamond
Rathcoole
Newtownabbey
BT37 9BJ

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

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ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

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In addition to equipping our members we seek to engage with those on our doorstep, in the local community and around the world, irrespective of their beliefs or ethnic origins.

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday morning. Evening services take place every 2 weeks. Visitors are welcome to join. During the week the house groups and discipleship groups provide an opportunity for members to meet for fellowship, to study the scriptures and have a time of prayer. Prayer is an important aspect of congregational life with formal prayer meeting held at least once a month and home prayer groups also meeting monthly. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation has a wide range of organisations including:

- Bowling Club
- Childrens Church
- Discipleship Groups
- House groups
- FM Club – Special Needs
- Foodbank
- Friendship and Craft Class
- Girls Brigade
- Women's Ministry
- Youth Fellowship
- Junior youth club

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Response to COVID-19

Many of our activities continued to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2022. UK restrictions were relaxed in February 2022. The Presbyterian church adopted the relaxation in April 2022. ACPC have sought to reestablish face to face meetings while facilitating remote fellowship via live streaming of services and continuing to utilise WhatsApp prayer.

Membership

At 31 December 2022 there were 169 Communicant members (2021 – 161).

The weekly attendance, at morning worship was approximately 165 (2021 – 140), as tested by a random head count.

Mission and outreach

At a local level the congregation has a Mission Plan and supports a number of external missions and agencies through prayer and donations. Total donations to missions were approximately £30,768 (2021 - £18,865).

In 2022 the church contributed approximately 5,000kgs (2021 – 4,000kgs) of food to Newtownabbey FoodBank.

In the summer of 2022, the church undertook a children's outreach weeklong camp, followed by a weeklong sports camp. located in a local primary school.

The congregation supports the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributes to the denominations annual World Development Appeal, Sunday School project and any other special appeals.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our minister and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

General Assembly

The minister and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Organisations

The church buildings are used extensively during the week by a wide range of organisations for all generations.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known using noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

ABBOTS CROSS CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 162 contributing families during the year (2021 – 171). Donations totalled £95,562 (2021 - £91,333).

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £204,350 (2021 - £188,784).

Total expenditure was £179,640 (2021 - £141,289).

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on September 12th, 2023, and signed on its behalf by

Name	Date
Dean Gordon	12/09/23
Gary Anderson	12/09/23

Abbots Cross Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 104364

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Abbot's Cross Presbyterian Church

I report on the accounts of the Church for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 1 to 7.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's 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 Charities 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 those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is 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 account to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (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: ... Roy Eakin
Occupation ... Retired Bank Official
Address: ... 18 Farm Lodge Road, Greenisland
... Carrickfergus, Co Antrim. BT38 8XH
Date: ... 28th March 2023