

**Shankill Parish Caring Association**  
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**  
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Shankill Parish Caring Association present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2025.

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

#### **Principal Activity**

To connect with several hundred local people each week that are impacted by social isolation, sectarianism, social deprivation, educational underachievement and low employment opportunities.

#### **Mission, Objectives and Strategy**

##### **Strategy**

We plan to publish our new Strategic Plan for 2026-2028 before the end of the calendar year. Our recently appointed Centre Manager is to conduct a fundamental assessment of Income and Expenditure. Opportunities to create and implement new projects/programmes are kept under constant review.

##### **Chairman's Introduction**

As Chairman of Shankill Parish Caring Association (SPCA), it gives me great pleasure to write this short introduction to our annual Statement of Financial Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025. As with any Charitable organisation, our financial performance is under great scrutiny to ensure we are achieving the best 'Value for Money' across all strands of our operational delivery. Whilst our financial accounts have been encouraging when compared to previous years, we have continued to deliver admirable results in the midst of increased financial expenditure, costs which are only going to keep going up!

Our varied and impressive Projects continue to deliver at 'pace', most especially our 'Living Room' which is delivered in partnership, with Shankill Parish (Church of Ireland) Lurgan (SPL). Expenditure including Staff salaries and running costs of our Jethro Centre continue to rise, sharply. Hirings of our Jethro Centre have generated an increase in Income which is most welcome. Although, rates will need to increase again, effective September 2025, in order to continue to maintain sustainability of the Centre. As ever, my thanks are recorded to my fellow Trustees, full time Staff and volunteers who all contribute to the smooth and effective running of the Jethro Centre, which remains our flagship commodity.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the help and support offered to us when in partnership with other Government and non-governmental organisations, namely: Café IncredABLE, Kings Park Primary School, Southern Health and Social Care Trust and Shankill Parish Lurgan (SPL) as well as funders who include: The Education Authority (EA), Armagh Banbridge and Craigavon (ABC) Council, Community Relations Council (CRC), the Rank Foundation, The Executive Office (TEO) and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DfA) based in Dublin. Without such financial support, we would not have been able to deliver the positive Projects with which SPCA was originally established to address, which was to improve community needs.

Brian Craig (SPCA Chair)

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#### Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

##### **COMMUNITY PROVISION & FACILITIES**

We saw a slight increase in Hirings of our Centre, which was warmly welcomed bringing us back to almost pre-COVID booking numbers. However, due to the recent increase in the general 'cost of living', core Centre running charges along with a hike in salary costs (including the rise in Employer National Insurance contributions), current hiring charges have been reviewed by the Board and will see increases from the middle of next year onwards.

##### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROVISION IN THE COMMUNITY**



**Carole Kane receiving a CRC award for recognition in Good Relations**

Highlights of Good Relations work over the last 12 months have seen the enhanced delivery of programmes specially created and designed by our SPCA Good Relations Project Officer, which includes: Think Twice (Crime Prevention project) which had another positive run that engaged PSNI officers with young adults, and a resource has been created for further dissemination and delivery.

We hosted another three Welcome to the Table events. One was part of the 4 Corners Festival in Belfast, while two others progressed on issues relating to perspectives regarding race. This work is on-going as we seek to connect with specific issues facing local levels.

The Practitioners Meet-up continues to support individuals and organisations through connections, shared contacts, careful conversations and co-created projects. This has been highly successful routine monthly meeting.

##### **ETHNIC MINORITIES**



The Executive Office (TEO) continues to fund this Project along with our Ethnic Minority Development Officer and will now continue until the end of March 2026. A number of very useful activities have been conducted within a growing Ethnic Minority community. Some excellent interlocutory support was provided during recent tensions for the Ethnic Minority community in Greater Lurgan.

We have developed a role as a safe bridge working between community leaders and statutory organisations. This has built trust in those communities and increased our efforts to work towards social inclusion for all.

##### **CEDARS PROJECT & SENIORS PROVISION**

Our long-established CEDARS Group continues to provide a broad range of active and creative activities which includes Badminton, Pickle ball, Indoor Bowls, Walking Club, Bridge, Flower arranging, 'Knit & Knatter', Bible Study, 'Stretch & Relax' and arts & Crafts. Participation and attendance continue to rise which confirms that we continue to provide suitable pursuits for Seniors.



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Our unique 'Dolly Mixtures' group currently meet each week on Tuesday morning. This offers 'conversation and a chat' along with some indoor activities. One highlight of the programme was 'Armchair yoga', which was thoroughly enjoyed by all members.



**Cedars Flower Arranging**



**Cedars Pickleball**



**Cedars Walking Group**

#### PALMS DAY CARE CENTRE



**Staff & Service Users at Palms Day Care Centre**

Palms continue to deliver a full programme of social activities to the elderly living alone, individuals suffering from early-stage dementia whilst also providing much needed carer relief for families.

Following a review by our manager, our placements have increased with attendance averaging between 9 – 13 Service Users daily. The needs of the Service Users have also increased, many attending with a range of health complexities which can often be challenging.

Overall, Staff morale is good, and we are ever grateful for the support of our faithful volunteers who work alongside.

#### KIDZ PATCH CHILD CARE PROVISION

Our long running Kidz Patch childcare provision is delivered in partnership with Kings Park Primary School, Avenue Road, Lurgan. Providing a preschool Breakfast Club, early Years Play Group and after school club, opening at 07.30 am and not closing until 6 pm daily. This year has seen a substantial increase in income due to larger attendance as well as greater use of the facility made by parents during the summer months. Additionally, the people carrier vehicle is used for pick-ups from schools within the wider rural communities.



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**Children from Kidzpatch on a recent summer trip**

#### **Financial Review**

The results for the financial year are set out on page 133 - 144 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

#### **Financial Results**

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £1,785,648 (2024 - £1,814,789) and liabilities of £31,151 (2024 - £28,506). The net assets of the charity have decreased by £(31,786).

#### **Reserves Position and Policy**

The reserves position of the Charity at the end of the financial year is on note 12.2 to the accounts.

##### **Jethro Reserves:**

The trustees have confirmed £150,000 as the level of free reserves that the charity aims to have on an ongoing basis. The trustees believe this level of reserves is essential to cover running costs and redundancies should funding cease. This reserve policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

##### **Kidz Patch Reserves:**

The trustees have confirmed £85,000 as the level of free reserves that Kidz Patch need to have on an ongoing basis. The trustees believe this level of reserves is essential to cover running costs and redundancies should trade fall. This reserve policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

#### **Trustees**

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

Desmond John Gregg  
Brian Richard Craig  
Ian Gibson  
Mark Harvey  
Celine McCready  
Sheelin McKeagney  
Kevin O'Hara  
Avril Stevenson  
Chris Stevenson  
Daphne Jones  
Rodney Blair  
Rodney Beaumont  
Vivien Hannah Abernethy  
Patricia Bassett  
Olive Hobson  
Andrew Williamson

In accordance with the Constitution, the trustees retire by rotation and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

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#### **Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards**

The charity engages proactively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Shankill Parish Caring Association subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 15 September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Brian Richard Craig  
Trustee

  
Desmond John Gregg  
Trustee