

BARONSCOURT PARISH CHURCH

CHARITIES NUMBER 104681

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2024

BARONSCOURT PARISH CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Contents

Charity Details	3
Objectives and Activities	4
Pastoral Care	4
The Achievements of the Charity	5 - 6
Financial Overview	6
Rectors' General Overview	6
Recruitment and Appointment of Select Vestry	6
Organisational Structure	6 - 7
Compliance with Public Benefits	7
Statement of Trustee's Responsibility	7

Baronscourt Parish Church

Charity Details

Charity Number 104681

Charity Address

Cloonty Road, Newtownstewart, Omagh, Co Tyrone BT78 4TG

TRUSTEES

Rev Ivan Dinsmore Rector

Miss Anne Murphy

Lord Jamie Hamilton

Mr Trevor Irvine

Mrs Helen Cooper

Mr Alan Pinkerton

Mrs Carol Pinkerton

Mrs Hester Galbraith

Mrs Iris Crompton

Mr Robert Scott

Mr Stephen Crompton

Mrs Edna Pinkerton

Mrs Anne Sproule

Mr Aaron Warriner

Mrs Victoria Warriner

Mr Robin McKelvey

Mrs Lorna McKelvey

OFFICE BEARERS

Rector

Rev Ivan Dinsmore

Hon Secretary

Miss Anne Murphy

Hon Treasurer

Mrs Iris Crompton

Rector's Church Warden

Mr Robin McKelvey

People's Church Warden

Mr Aaron Warriner

Sunday School Superintendent

Mrs Jayne Baird

Health & Safety Officer

Miss Anne Murphy

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Mr David Warnock, 48 – 50 Main Street, Newtownstewart, BT78 4AA

BANKERS

Danske Bank, Omagh, Co Tyrone

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees' present their Annual Report and Statement of Receipts and Payments for Baronscourt Parish Church for the year ended 31st December 2024.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the parish 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 is fundamental to the practical delivery of the tenets of Christianity. As a result of activity in pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the Parish has custody of a large body of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural heritage of the area and society in general and the Parish is engaged in the maintenance and upkeep of same.

ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

Baronscourt Parish Church's aim is to glorify God and to demonstrate His love within the area. We achieve this by regular Sunday worship services, Holy Communion, Lenten and Harvest Services open to all who wish to attend and engage in worship and prayer. We join with neighbouring churches in regular worship and members of the congregation take part in Mothers Union and Bible studies. Sunday School is undertaken to provide inspiration and guidance to the young children and young people of the parish through learning the bible, nature walks and fun activities. On a bi-annual basis we engage with the local Orange Lodge who hold a service to the glory of God. We have joined with our linked churches in prayer and activities such as a mission week held in Ardstraw Parish Church between Sunday 29th September and Sunday 6th October 2024, which provided an opportunity to mix socially and to worship God together.

PASTORAL CARE

In line with our public benefit statement, we provide pastoral care to those in need. The sick, the elderly, the housebound, those in hospital or nursing homes through visits from the Rector and other members of the parish. We are committed to helping those in need with empathy, love and compassion.

THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CHARITY

Central to the work at all levels in the parish is the teaching of God's word to bring parishioners into a deeper knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour so that they are thoroughly equipped and motivated to reach out into the community beyond the parish. We strive to inspire all parishioners to transform the local community and to build a Christ-centred congregation which will be a witness for Jesus Christ and to work for the advancement of his kingdom.

The direct benefit of participation in church life includes the enjoyment of public worship, the giving and receiving of pastoral care, improved understanding of the Bible and extended values relating to civic engagement. Also important is the building of community cohesion which will promote understanding and acceptance of diverse groups as well as improved educational outcomes through the church's ministry of teaching.

Church services attendance has increased during 2024. This can be directly linked to a curate Rev Sean McClafferty being appointed to the Parish. Rev McClafferty introduced Back to Church Sundays and his enthusiasm and pastoral care motivated many people to attend Church on a more regular basis. The expression of the precepts of the Christian religion through engagement with the general public, and in particular with the sick, the elderly and the young is a public benefit. This can be measured and evidenced through regular visitation, increased social integration and pastoral care delivered at the point of need.

Overall, the beneficiaries of Baronscourt Parish Church are the general public and public valuation of the benefits can be evidenced through attendance at public worship, participation in church governance and the willingness to support the continued witness of the church through contributions.

The wider benefits to the public are both the availability of a place for worship expanding our Christian outreach and the facilitation of baptisms, weddings and funerals.

As a result of activity in pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the Parish has custody of a large body of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural heritage of the area and society in general and the Parish is engaged in the maintenance and upkeep of same. No private benefit is received from trustees fulfilling their responsibilities in respect of buildings, artefacts or records. In the course of conservation and to make records available to the public no professional staff are engaged for that purpose. The beneficiaries are solely the general public.

No trustee receives remuneration, reward or other benefit for carrying out their trustee responsibilities.

To mitigate against harm, the trustees ensure adequate health and safety measures are in place at Baronscourt Parish Church. Child protection checks and training are in place for those involved in children and youth work.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Diocesan Assessment rose from £7486.00 in 2023 to £7578.00 in 2024. Freewill offerings have increased this financial year from £13,998 in 2023 to £15,750 in 2024. The closing balance as at 31/12/24 was £47,840.28 in the general account and £50,333.49 in the deposit account.

RECTORS' GENERAL OVERVIEW

Rev Dinsmore the Rector was unfortunately off work due to ill health from the beginning of June 2024 and had not returned to ministry by the year end. The Parish was administered to in his absence by the Curate, the Rev Sean McClafferty. Rev McClafferty proved to be an inspiration to Parishioners and attendance at services increased. A special church service was held on 7th July 2024 to mark the 90th Birthday of His Grace the Duke of Abercorn with guests from the Tyrone Protestant Orphan Society in attendance which was followed by light refreshments at The Stables, Baronscourt Estate. A successful Mission Week with guest speakers took place between 29th September 2024 and 6th October 2024. All the services were very well attended. A special mention must also be given to Rev George Irwin who leads our church services in the absence of the Rector or the Curate. The Harvest Service took place on 13th October 2024 lead by Rev Irwin and an opportunity for fellowship after the service took place at the Stables, Baronscourt Estate, where refreshments were served. Safeguarding is an important part of our ministry to Children and young people. All Safeguarding measures are in place in Baronscourt Sunday School and teachers are Access NI checked and have completed the relevant training. A Health and Safety Officer has been appointed and has completed the necessary training.

ELECTION 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 3 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 the General Vestry meeting. The Select Vestry will hold their positions for a period of one year. The 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 management of the parish. The Select Vestry consists of the clergy of the parish, the Church Wardens, the Glebe Wardens and generally not more than 12 (but not restricted to) other members of the General Vestry elected at the Annual General Easter Vestry meeting. Select Vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the parish including how parish funds are to be applied. Trustees are elected by the Select Vestry.

COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC BENEFITS

The parish has given careful consideration of 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 TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and 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.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed by the Rector, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Select Vestry on behalf of the Select Vestry who had sight of and approved the report.

REV IVAN DINSMORE

Ivan Dinsmore

Rector

MISS ANNE MURPHY

A. Murphy

Secretary

MRS IRIS CROMPTON

I. Crompton

Treasurer