

THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF HEALING THE MOUNT

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016).

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of The Church's Ministry of Healing The Mount, are to enable people to know and receive Christ's healing power irrespective of their cultural or religious affiliation, through Christian healing, prayer and counselling, delivered in a non-judgemental, accepting, professional, ethical and theologically sound manner. Prayer is at the core of our activities as we endeavour to supplement statutory and church provision by offering a professional counselling service at the 'point of need' responding with support in a crisis situation.

The principal activities are;

- to be a servant of and responsible to the Church of Ireland;
- to practise and promote Christian healing on the island of Ireland for the benefit of the public in accordance with the teaching of the Holy Bible and the doctrinal beliefs embodied in the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed; and
- and advance the Christian faith through the Ministry of Healing for the benefit of the public by prayer, the laying on of hands, Christian counselling, deliverance ministry, inner healing, befriending, church services, prayer groups, seminars, lectures, broadcasting, literature and any other means as may develop to enlighten others about the Christian faith and specifically the healing ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

The Church's Ministry of Healing-The Mount continues to demonstrate a cross-community, inter-denominational outreach to those of any faith or none, who are in difficulty and who need help. The Ministry is grounded in the Christian values of hospitality, belonging and wholeness which fosters opportunities for healing, growth and reconciliation at an individual and communal level so that all can reach their fullest potential. This is achieved through a wide range of professional and strictly confidential counselling and support services, which are provided in a private, safe, and non-judgemental environment.

The planning process regarding the ongoing Strategic review has proceeded with a focus on succession. The strategic process has produced cordial and positive discussions with the Bishops of the Northern Province of the Church and plans continue to develop closer representation between the Church and the Charity.

The financial status has been closely monitored, but has shown some modest reduction in donations received in the year. We have adopted an early request pattern in the parish cycle of giving to encourage support for the Ministry, however, the financial situation continues to place the Ministry in a good position. Ongoing expenditure continues to be closely scrutinised and the Board are actively considering additional opportunities for fund raising from events and potential charitable trust or corporate donors, whilst maintaining the independence of the charity to deliver the objectives of the charity.

THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF HEALING THE MOUNT

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The premises continue to be fit for purpose albeit that additional maintenance costs have been incurred in the year. Given the desire to maintain the high standards of accommodation for visitors and clients ongoing maintenance is continually being reviewed to maximise value for money on any spend identified.

Throughout the recent strategic review the frequency of Board meetings has increased to gather and discuss information. The vacancy for administrative matters has been filled with volunteers, and plans are well advanced for advertising the post.

Financial review

The Church's Ministry of Healing the Mount statement of financial activities is set out on page 7 of the accounts. The figures for the year ended 31 December 2023 show a deficit of £13,735 (2022: Surplus £20,866). Income from Donations and Gifts in the year were broadly consistent when compared with the previous year £53,004 (2022: £53,038) and continue to reflect the ongoing support of our supporters and stakeholders. However decreased income from fundraising activities meant that total income for the year reduced to £57,887 (2022: £69,494).

The premises at 162 Upper Knockbreda Road, Belfast, are occupied under a 99-year lease from Church of Ireland Trustees, a charitable company, at a peppercorn rent.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to no less than three month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has fallen during the year with total funds at 31 December 2023 being £193,632 (2022: £207,367). Total net current assets (representing cash and other net assets less liabilities) at 31 December 2023 had fallen marginally to £108,061 (2022: £116,037) however this still represents a positive and stable position which is actively managed and monitored..

Risk factors

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

The plans for the future are:

- continue the strategic review;
- continue to develop the activities at the premises at 162 Upper Knockbreda Road, Belfast, and enhance the development of ministry such as a drop-in centre, weekly services, seminars and focus groups. We will also encourage the use of the premises by local churches for reflection and prayer;
- expand quiet days and team development meetings as Covid restrictions are eased;
- consolidation and expansion of counselling through additional support staff and volunteers;
- extension of the ministry and practice of prayer for healing with the Laying on of Hands and anointing throughout the parishes of the Church of Ireland and to other denominational churches where invited;
- to develop and grow our relationships with key stakeholders including The Church's Ministry of Healing: Ireland, local Church of Ireland parishes in the Dioceses of Connor, Down and Dromore, Clogher, Armagh and Derry and Raphoe and other Christian churches; and
- responding to requests for prayer for healing of memories.

Structure, governance and management

The Church's Ministry of Healing the Mount is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated on 24 June 2009. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association. The company was incorporated in Northern Ireland and its registered office is 162 Upper Knockbreda Road, Belfast, BT6 9QF.

THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF HEALING THE MOUNT

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The company has been granted charitable status and is registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. It is exempt from using the word 'Limited' in its title.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Canon D L Brown
Canon N P Baylor (Resigned 9 May 2023, Reappointed 20 March 2024)
Mr W Dickinson
Mr R W Gardiner
Mrs S L King
Canon C J Matchett (Resigned 9 May 2023)
Mr D J Matchett (Resigned 8 February 2024)
Mrs A Matchett (Appointed 18 May 2023, Resigned 23 February 2024)
Rev. Dr P A F Mollan
Rev. Professor R A B Mollan (Resigned 8 December 2023, Reappointed 21 March 2024)
Rev. Elaine Pentland (Appointed 11 May 2023)
Rev. E C Rutherford (Resigned 11 May 2023)
Mr N Sleator (Appointed 11 May 2023)

Indemnity provision for trustees

The Church's Ministry of Healing the Mount is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The liability of each member is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.


Organisational structure and how decisions are made

The Church's Ministry of Healing the Mount is governed by a Board of Trustees, which meets approximately every three months. Members are invited by The Church's Ministry of Healing the Mount to serve on the Board on the basis of their area of interest and expertise and their willingness to support the ethos, mission, and values of The Church's Ministry of Healing the Mount. New members are normally elected at the AGM, but the Board may at any time co-opt people who would hold office until the next AGM. The Board ensures that governance of The Church's Ministry of Healing The Mount represents best practice.

No business is transacted at a General Meeting unless a quorum is present. A quorum is the presence of five members. Unless determined by the company in General Meeting, the number of trustees shall not be less than five.

The company holds an Annual General Meeting each year in addition to all other general meetings. Decisions are made by passing of resolutions by the Board.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


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Canon N P Baylor
Chairman

Dated:

23rd May 2024