

BALTEAGH PARISH CHURCH – CHARITIES NUMBER: NIC 104856

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Balteagh Parish Church, Drumsurn Road, Limavady for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Charity Purpose and Activities

The charitable purpose of the Church of Ireland is the advancement of religion.

The principal function of the Balteagh Parish Church is to support 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 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 Balteagh Parish Church 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 Balteagh Parish Church.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Balteagh Parish Church provides weekly services of Morning Prayer along with Holy Communion, Baptisms, Weddings, Funeral Services and Pastoral Support. We hold Sunday School each week for the children alongside the morning service. During the year, Balteagh Parish Church held their annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service, Orange Service and joint services for Easter and Christmas with its sister parishes which were well supported by the parishioners of the church and visitors.

We have numerous groups and clubs running in our parish which cater for all ages and interests, such as: Mother's Union, Horseshoe Fellowship, Monday Club, Bible Study, and Knit and Natter. These activities fulfil our objective and charitable purpose and have provided public benefit. Through our activities we aim to contribute not only to the spiritual well-being of people but their physical, practical, social and emotional needs also.

We have mitigated any potential harm from the activities i.e. we uphold the standards of the Church of Ireland's Child protection policy – Safeguarding Trust.

Financial Review

Financial reports are reviewed throughout the year and the year-end financial report is approved by the Trustees at the Easter Vestry. Total receipts of £58,790 for the year ended 31 December 2023 which were less than total payments of £107,467, a £48,677 deficit, thereby reducing the total cash funds held as at 31 December 2023 to £121,520. Balteagh Church also holds investment funds of £7,750, and investment assets in the RCB Trust of £200,000.

Going Concern

The Trustees have reviewed the plans for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Parish can continue its activities. Furthermore, the Trustees have considered the consequences of the current economic climate and other events and conditions, and they have determined that they do not create a material uncertainty that casts significant doubt upon the Parish's ability to continue 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 (Trustees)

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.

Pay and remuneration

The payment of salary and remuneration is determined by the Church Of Ireland Office.

Organisational Structure

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day to day management of the parish. The Select Vestry consists of the Rector serving in the parish, the churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the General Vestry elected at the Easter Vestry.

The Select Vestry is chaired by the incumbent. Select Vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how parish funds are to be applied.

The Select Vestry meet at times fixed by the members or by the diocesan synod. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or the church wardens. In 2023 the Select Vestry met three times during the year and the average attendance was 95%.

Compliance with Public Benefit

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.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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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.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees by:


RECTOR


TREASURER

Date 27/10/24