

**LEARMOUNT PARISH CHURCH  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

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The trustees of Learmount Parish Church present their report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

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

The principal function of the Learmount Parish Church is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting, through the work of the Parish Church 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, Learmount 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 Learmount Parish Church.

**ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE & PUBLIC BENEFIT**

THE CHURCH ON A WEEKLY BASIS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY TO WORSHIP ACCORDING TO THE RITES AND CEREMONIES OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND. IN TANDEM WITH THIS THE CHURCH PROVIDES SPIRITUAL, EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL SUPPORT TO ALL SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY IRRESPECTIVE OF AGE, RACE, RELIGIOUS OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR PREFERENCE. THIS IS ACHIEVED PASTORALLY BY THE CLERGY AND LAITY ALIKE WHETHER PRIVATELY OR THROUGH THE OUTREACH OF YOUTH WORK, PENSIONER CLUBS, WOMENS AND MENS FELLOWSHIP GROUPS. THE CHURCH IS GOVERNED BY AND ADHERES TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH OF IRELAND AND ADHERES TO THE CHURCH OF IRELAND CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE, SAFEGUARDING TRUST, WHICH ENSURES THAT YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS ARE PROTECTED WHILST ENGAGING IN CHURCH ORGANISED ACTIVITIES.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Parish held net cash funds at year end of £45,735.72 (2022- £47,481.05).

**GOING CONCERN**

The Trustees have reviewed budgets for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Parish can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023 can be signed off as a going concern.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity**

Chapter 111 of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland governs Parishes and Parochial Organisations.

The Church is a registered charity - Charity Registration number NIC104964. The Select Vestry members are the Charity Trustees.

**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.

**Organisational Structure**

The select vestry is responsible for the day to day management of the parish. The select vestry consists of the member of the clergy serving in the parish, the church wardens, the glebe wardens and other members of the general vestry elected at the General Vestry.

The select vestry is chaired by the member of the clergy officiating in the parish. Select vestry members are responsible for making decisions on matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding how parish funds are to be applied.

**COMPLIANCE OF THE PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Parish has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the Parish's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

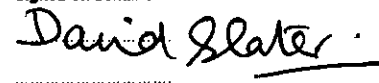
**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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.

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



Date: 26/03/2024