

Rossorry Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report For the year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for Rossorry Parish for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and Administration Details

The reference and administration details of the charity are as shown on page 3.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

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

The principal function of Rossorry 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 parish 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 parish.

Achievements and Performance

As a Parish Church with a clear Anglican identity, Rossorry Parish aims to be the spiritual home of all our parishioners regardless of age. To achieve this, we offer a variety of services of worship and activities.

There are a number of people who support the worshiping life of the Church. This team is headed by the Rector, the Rev Stephen McWhirter. The parish has two Parish Readers who take part in services every week; one of these Readers is about to complete training as a Diocesan Reader. In the period 2024/25 the parish will be joined by a Theological Student Intern. This is a training opportunity for the parish as we support and encourage future ministry within the wider church. The parish also has a Diocesan Pastoral Assistant who assists the Rector in the visitation of the sick and elderly.

The Parish family and wider community, along with divine worship, benefit from the use of the Parochial Hall. This includes our own Sunday School, Youth & Adult Organisations, along with a number of community-based groups.

The parish supports those in need both locally and further afield through its donations to missions and charities. The parish has made a number of charitable donations to our local Food Bank following its introduction during the pandemic and the Parish now make collections and supports this initiative on a permanent basis. We also support our local primary schools to support needy families.

Rossorry Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report For the year ended 31 December 2023

The Rector, who is Chairman of the Select Vestry, is also active on the Board of Governors of Jones Memorial Primary School and a Northern Irish charity, Water Drops, which enables water programmes in East Africa (principally Kenya). The Select Vestry is aware of both these positions. Other Trustees of the Parish also have interests in other Trusteeships, a register of which is kept by the Honorary Secretary.

The Select Vestry are in the process of seeking tenders for a long planned new Parish Centre and are in the final stages of full Planning Permission and approval of plans submitted to the Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. Following the building of this new centre the Select Vestry will again consider the renovation and modernisation of the existing Parochial Hall.

Rossorry is privileged to have a magnificent parish Church as place of worship within a beautiful setting. The upkeep of this building and its environs is a key priority of the Select Vestry.

The parish enjoys very good community relations with its neighbouring churches and has a strong standing link with the local Graan Passionist Monastery and its clergy.

The activities outlined above demonstrate how Rossorry Parish continues to implement its charitable purposes (i.e. the advancement of religion) and meets the public benefit. Benefit to members of the public include contributing to spiritual well-being and reinforcement of Christian values.

Rossorry Parish adheres to Safeguarding Trust, the Church of Ireland Child Protection Policy. It also follows Church of Ireland guidance to ensure compliance with General Data Protection Regulations.

Public Benefit Statement

The Parish's Trustees have 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 as well as providing public benefit.

The Trustees of the parish confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 4(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the charity in the year ended 31 December 2023.

Financial Review

Financial Performance

The financial performance was in line with the Trustees' expectations. The parish remains in a sound financial position at the year end. The results for the year are set out in detail on page 9 of the accounts.

Reserves Policy

The trustees do not have a formal reserves policy. The parish holds a significant level of unrestricted funds in bank accounts and the trustees are confident that there are sufficient funds to meet the foreseeable needs of the parish.

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.

Rossorry Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report For the year ended 31 December 2023

Recruitment and Appointment of Select Vestry

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of eighteen 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 members 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 of office which may be served.

Pay and remuneration

The stipend of the Incumbent of the parish (the Rector) is paid in accordance with figures approved by the Clogher Diocese and the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

Organisational structure

The Select Vestry is responsible for the day-to-day management of the parish. The Select Vestry consists of the clergy serving in the parish, the church wardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the General Vestry.

The Select Vestry is chaired by the incumbent or other 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.

The Select Vestry meets at times fixed by the members or by the Diocesan Synod. Special meetings may be convened at any time by the chairperson or church wardens. In 2023 the Select Vestry met ten times and the average attendance was 80%.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Rossorry Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report For the year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the parish's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the parish and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland. 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.

Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiners

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees' Annual Report:

- there is no relevant information of which the parish's independent examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the parish's independent examiner is aware of that information.

Independent Examiners

CavanaghKelly, Chartered Accountants, have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution concerning their reappointment will be proposed at the Select Vestry Meeting.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 20 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



**Mrs Dorothy Helen Wilson
Honorary Secretary**

Rossorry Parish Church

Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees on the Financial Statements for Rossorry Parish For the year ended 31 December 2023

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 9 – 20.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner

As the charity's Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is our responsibility to:

- a) examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- b) follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008; and
- c) state whether particular matters have come to your attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report


We have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning any such matters.

Our role is to state whether any material matters have come to our attention giving us cause to believe:

- a) That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008; or
- b) That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records; or
- c) That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008; or
- d) That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner's Statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, we have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.


CavanaghKelly
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors
36 – 38 Northland Row
Dungannon
Co Tyrone
BT71 6AP

Date:

20/3/24

Rossorry Parish Church

Statement of Financial Activities For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income	4					
Donations and legacies		127,820	-	13,500	141,320	115,017
Other trading activities		1,745	-	-	1,745	1,395
Investments		65,230	-	873	66,103	49,734
Charitable activities		1,626	1,926	-	3,552	2,664
Total income		196,421	1,926	14,373	212,720	168,810
Expenditure	5					
Charitable activities		157,059	2,200	2,725	161,984	127,126
Total expenditure		157,059	2,200	2,725	161,984	127,126
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		39,362	(274)	11,648	50,736	41,684
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		39,362	(274)	11,648	50,736	41,684
Net gains / (losses) on investments	7	20,136	57	13,653	33,846	(122,752)
Net movement in funds		59,498	(217)	25,301	84,582	(81,068)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		1,993,121	50,455	478,821	2,522,397	2,603,465
Total funds carried forward		2,052,619	50,238	504,122	2,606,979	2,522,397

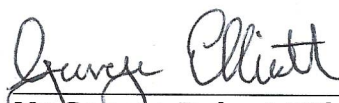
Rossorry Parish Church

Statement of Financial Position For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	10	672,987	670,546
Investment Properties			
Investments	11	<u>1,364,569</u>	<u>1,323,723</u>
Total fixed assets		<u>2,037,556</u>	<u>1,994,269</u>
Current assets			
Receivables	12	19,148	19,633
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>551,575</u>	<u>509,795</u>
Total current assets		570,723	529,428
Payables - amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(1,300)</u>	<u>(1,300)</u>
Net current assets		<u>569,423</u>	<u>528,128</u>
The funds of the charity (parish)		<u>2,606,979</u>	<u>2,522,397</u>
Unrestricted Funds			
General		2,052,619	1,993,121
Designated		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total unrestricted funds		2,052,619	1,993,121
Restricted Funds		50,238	50,455
Endowment funds		<u>504,122</u>	<u>478,821</u>
Total charity funds	14	<u>2,606,979</u>	<u>2,522,397</u>

The notes on pages 11 to 20 are an integral part of the financial statements.

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 20 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


Mr George Robert Elliott
Honorary Treasurer


Mrs Dorothy Helen Wilson
Honorary Secretary