

Magheracross Parish Church

Reference and Administrative details

Board of Trustees/Select Vestry

Mrs Liane Armstrong
Mr Richard Coalter
Mr Wilfred Crawford
Mr Thomas Ernest Fisher
Mr Harold Graham
Mrs Linda Hamilton
The Venerable Brian John Harper (left 18/08/23)
Miss Julie Hetherington
Mr Roland Christopher Hurst
Mr Charles Loane
Mr Richard McBride
Mrs Jennifer McCrea
Mr Howard Frederick McMorris
Mrs Joan Alison Quinn-Vaughan
Mrs Joy Quinn
Mr Henry Alexander Robinson
Mrs May Sweeney

Principal Office Bearers

Rector	The Venerable Brian John Harper (left 18/08/23)
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Howard Frederick McMorris
Honorary Secretary	Mrs Liane Armstrong
Church Wardens	Mr Charles Loane
	Mrs Joy Quinn
Glebe Wardens	Mr Roland Christopher Hurst
	Mr Wilfred Crawford

Contact Address

27 Craghan Road
Ballinamallard
Co Fermanagh
BT94 2BT

Charity Registration Number

105439

Independent examiners

Mr W D Vaughan
Accountant (Retired)
16 Baragh Road
Ballinamallard
Co Fermanagh
BT94 2NY

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for Magheracross 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 1.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

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

The principle function of Magheracross 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 in the heart of the village of Ballinamallard, Magheracross 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. Pastoral support to parishioners is provided through the ministry of the Rector.

The parish holds services of divine worship – Morning and Evening Prayer, Holy Communion – using traditional and modern liturgies. We provide additional services appropriate to the season, at times of the major festivals eg Harvest Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

Magheracross Parish enjoys good relations with Ballinamallard Methodist Church. The two parishes work together to provide better youth facilities through funding the Youth Ministry project. A youth minister is employed to lead youth focused activities in the village. Annually, the Rector and the Methodist Minister hold their annual Christmas “Sit-out” with the donations collected divided between two charities.

The public benefit associated with Magheracross Parish in addition to divine worship is achieved through the numerous weekly activities that take place throughout the year usually in the Archdale Memorial and Minor Halls. Various local community groups use the parish halls each week accommodating all age groups, parishioners and local community in general.

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

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

Magheracross Parish adheres to Safeguarding Trust, the Church of Ireland Child Protection Policy.

Public Benefit Statement

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 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.

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 are the Charity Trustees.

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 but there is no limit on the number of terms of office which may be served.

Pay and remuneration

The Incumbent of the parish stipend 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 member of the clergy serving in the parish, the church wardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other member of the general vestry elected at 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 decision 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.

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 statement, 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.

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 detecting 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.

Magheracross Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023

Independent Examiners

Mr W D Vaughan, Accountant (Retired) has indicated his wish to step down from checking the accounts. Richard Boles has been proposed and appointed by the Select Vestry for 2024 accounts.

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

H F McMoris

Trustee 1

09/10/2024

Date

diane Avestag

Trustee 2

9/10/24

Date