

Cleenish Parish Church

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Cleenish Parish Church for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Objectives and Activities

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

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

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Cleenish Parish fulfils its task of sharing Christ's teaching locally through our Sunday services, mission participation and missionary links.

Every Sunday at 11.30 am we host a morning service of worship and prayer for the benefit of the public and advancement of Christian worship. During the week we offer pastoral care, help and support for parishioners through home and hospital visits and the conducting of pastoral services.

We have provided support to mission and outreach work through donations to both local and international programmes and have missionary links through Crosslinks and CMSI.

The Parochial Hall enables the Parish to reach out to a variety of people within the local area.

Our Parent and Toddler and Badminton club are usually held in our Church Hall and offer an opportunity for a variety of ages to come together socially. Our activities are open to all for a small fee which is re-invested in the relevant club for future provision of services. Unfortunately, the Parent and Toddler group ceased during the year, the bank account was closed in September 2022 and the balance of £422.38 was donated to the Mothers Union.

The Hall is also used for other organisation such as the Bellanaleck Community Group, Bellanaleck Local History Group, Bellanaleck Brownies, Bellanaleck Pipe Band, 1st Bellanaleck Scout Group and Bellanaleck Orange Lodge.

As well as the other activities the Hall is used as an overflow facility for funerals and services. 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.

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

Financial Review

The Receipts and Payments Account is set out on page 7 and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2022 is included on page 8.

The main sources of income were planned giving and freewill offerings.

The Financial statements show an excess of payments over receipts of £3,333 for the year and no funds were in deficit at the year end.

During the year there were repairs and renewals to the Rectory. Fundraising events and donations helped finance the expenditure and it is hoped the rectory will be rented in the near future.

Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the 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 31 December 2022 can be signed off 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 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 which may be served.

Pay and remuneration

The Incumbent is paid directly by the Diocese and receives stipend in accordance with figures approved by the General Synod of the Church of Ireland.

A new incumbent, Canon Jennifer Mc Whirter, was appointed with effect from February 2023.

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 churchwardens, the glebe wardens and generally not more than twelve other members of the general vestry elected at the General Vestry.

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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 the churchwardens. In Cleenish Parish the Select Vestry met 7 times during the year and the average attendance was 81%.

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.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (continued)

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


Canon Jennifer Mc Whirter (Rector)


Mr. Robert Forde (Treasurer)

Date 6/4/2023