

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105616

Details

Known as	Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church
Status	Received
Registered	2016-08-09
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	40 Magheracolton Road Newtownstewart Omagh BT78 4lf BT78 4LF
Phone	028 81662274

Activities

Purposes: THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world

What the charity does: The advancement of religion

How the charity works: Religious activities

Who the charity helps: General public

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£85,838	£89,974	£0	0
2024-12-31	£82,913	£104,416	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alan Kemps		
Alison Black		
David Dunbar		
Jim Hunter		
Mark Mckelvey		
Norman Donald		
Rev Gunther Andrich		
Richard Black		
Robert Brown		
Robert Moore		

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Accounts

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025**

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
43A Moyle Road
Newtownstewart
Co. Tyrone
BT78 4AP

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were

Rev G Andrich (Appointed 1st January 2026)	DJ Dunbar
Rev JJ Boyd (Resigned 31 st December 2025)	WJ Hunter
AA Black	RA Jack (Deceased 17 July 2025)
RC Black	AM Kemps
RS Brown	WM McKelvey
N Donald	RS Moore

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Convenor in charge of Vacancy	Rev G Andrich
Clerk of Session	DJ Dunbar
Treasurer	RS Moore

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McFarland Arnold & Co
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

BANKERS

Danske Bank
5-7 Market Street
Omagh
BT78 1BN

SOLICITORS

McConnell & Fyffe Solicitors
21 Church Street
Omagh
BT78 1DG

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions have delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are held at least twice in each year or as appropriate.

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation or by the Kirk Session. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote.

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Omagh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregation's mission statement is as follows:

- We, the congregation of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church which is part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, seek to worship God in a manner that reflects scripture, is passionate about people and centred in Christ. God has revealed Himself to us as our loving Heavenly Father. He has sent his Son to be our Saviour and He has granted us His Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus individually and corporately, and to lead us in His mission to the world. We seek to live out our faith through commitment:
 - To God in worship
 - To the Bible in obedient discipleship
 - To sharing the good news of Jesus in faithful evangelism
 - To the world in compassionate mission
 - To one another in caring fellowship

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School
- Presbyterian Women (PW)
- Bowling Club

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

Regrettably the congregation of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church is now entering its eighth year without an ordained Minister. Despite the resulting challenges and obstacles, we as a congregation have faced, without a sitting minister, our attendance at services of worship, church activities and financial giving has been sustained. We look forward with positivity to a resolution of this long-standing vacancy through the auspices of the Omagh Presbytery Reconfiguration Group which has been set up to look at vacancies and linkages throughout the district. In the meantime, our services of worship are covered by visiting speakers and ordained ministers on a rota basis. Our recently appointed Convenor, Rev Gunther Andrich has provided dedicated leadership and guidance to our Session and Committee since taking over the role for our congregation and that of our sister church in Gortin. Arrangements have also been put in place for Pastoral visitation to be conducted by the Rev Brian Hunt, a retired Minister, to whom we are indebted for kindly agreeing to take on this important aspect of church life. The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10.45am and for special missionary or praise services from time to time.

Church organisations continue to function, including Sunday School, Bible Class, Communicants Class and Presbyterian Women's group. In addition to the statutory bodies of the Kirk Session and Congregational Committee other various sub-committees meet as and when required, including the Fund-Raising Committee and Property Committee.

As of 31 December 2025, there were 214 communicant members and 112 families connected with the congregation. The average weekly attendance at morning worship is 55.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the Church Elders and the Rev Brian Hunt who has kindly agreed to provide pastoral care visits on a part-time basis.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Mission and outreach

During the year the Church held a number of fellowship and outreach events, including an Annual Autumn Mission Weekend in November. Other outreach events included a Holiday Bible Club Summer Scheme for young persons, a Soup Lunch, Family Service Lunch and an Afternoon Tea event. A Tractor Run was also held which proved popular not just amongst the young farmers in our congregation but also with the wider community. The event concluded with a barbecue which proved to be a successful outreach project in terms of engaging with the younger members of the community.

The church facilities were also made available to other organisations in the Newtown Stewart area such as the Derry and Raphoe Action Group to host a Burn's Night Supper and a Gospel Concert. The church car park was also made available to facilitate safe parking at a local auction and for a large Christian gathering in the local 2000 Centre. Donations to outside bodies included £700 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, £369 to the Presbyterian Children's Society and £300 to the Child Evangelist Fellowship Organisation.

The congregation donated £5,090 to the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregations in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributed £905 to the denomination's annual World Development Appeal, as well as meeting its commitments to central church funds through payment of quarterly assessments.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convenor and / or one of the Elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The Convenor and one of our Elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Property

Throughout the year, all church property has been maintained to a very high standard and the church continues to rent out the Manse property to a family who are members of the congregation. The tenancy is subject to a contract drawn up in accordance with Church House rules and regulations. The adjoining grounds, including lawns and hedges, have been regularly attended to. All Church buildings are considered fit for purpose.

Organisations

The Bowling Club, which normally meets every Thursday evening in the main hall, has not resumed activities since the COVID lockdown but this decision is being kept under review, as is the resumption of Badminton Club activities.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members, or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering, supplemented by donations and Gift Aid Refunds reclaimed. There was a total of 101 contributors during the year, down one on the previous year (102 in 2024). The total Unrestricted Income for 2025 amounted to £53,687 with payments and expenses totalling £31,362, leaving a surplus of £22,325. Restricted Income amounted to £32,151 with payments and expenses coming to £58,612 resulting in a deficit for the year of £26,461.

Total income of the congregation during the year amounted to £85,838 set against total expenditure of £89,974 resulting in an overall deficit of £4,136.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 29-5-2026 and signed on its behalf by

David DuBois
Dated: 29-5-2026

Rick Stuch
Dated: 29/05/2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

We report on the financial statements of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2025 which comprise statement of financial activities, statement of assets and liabilities and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is our responsibility to:-

- Examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
- 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 (NI) 2008.
- State whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 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 (NI) 2008. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
2. That the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (NI) 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) 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.

McFarland Arnold & Co

Chartered Accountants

Dated: *5 June 2026*

McFarland Arnold & Co
Chartered Accountants
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	49,160	19,019	-	68,179	67,552
Charitable activities	3	-	2,514	-	2,514	110
Other trading activities	4	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
Investment Income	5	4,387	4,692	-	9,079	7,819
Other	6	140	718	-	858	2,224
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		53,687	32,151	-	85,838	82,913
Sale of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Sale of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loans Received		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Receipts		53,687	32,151	-	85,838	82,913
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Payments						
Raising funds	7	525	-	-	525	590
Charitable activities	8	30,837	21,157	-	51,994	52,081
Investment costs		-	-	-	-	-
Other	9	-	37,455	-	37,455	51,745
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		31,362	58,612	-	89,974	104,416
Purchase of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loan Repayments		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Payments		31,362	58,612	-	89,974	104,416
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net receipts / (payments)		22,325	(26,461)	-	(4,136)	(21,503)
Transfers between funds		900	(900)	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net movement in funds		23,225	(27,361)	-	(4,136)	(21,503)
Funds brought forward		112,887	115,211	-	228,098	249,601
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds carried forward	12	136,112	87,850	-	223,962	228,098
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

As at 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	112,887	115,211	-	228,098	249,601
Net movement in funds	23,225	(27,361)	-	(4,136)	(21,503)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	136,112	87,850	-	223,962	228,098
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Investments – Note 11				-	-
Bank Deposit Accounts				101,875	100,481
Bank Current Accounts				122,087	127,617
Cash in Hand				-	-
				-----	-----
				223,962	228,098
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises				4,573,012	4,573,012
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment				-	-
- Vehicles				-	-
Investments - Note 11				290,655	292,769
Gift Aid receivable on donations				-	-
				-----	-----
				4,863,667	4,865,781
				=====	=====
Liabilities					
Loans				-	-
Other				-	-
				-----	-----
				-	-
				=====	=====

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 29.5.2026 and signed on its behalf by

David Dunbar

John Blair

Dated: 29.5.2026

Dated: 29/05/2026

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving	35,019	8,916	-	43,935	45,854
Loose collections	400	1,082	-	1,482	1,565
Donations and gifts	3,735	5,719	-	9,454	8,925
Gift Aid	10,006	3,302	-	13,308	10,208
Legacies and bequest	-	-	-	-	1,000
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	49,160	19,019	-	68,179	67,552
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NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities	-	-	-	-	-
Fees from weddings and funerals	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising events	-	581	-	581	-
PW Membership fees	-	120	-	120	110
Grants	-	1,813	-	1,813	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	2,514	-	2,514	110
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
Trading income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	696	715	-	1,411	509
General Investment Fund	3,691	1,510	-	5,201	5,048
Rents investment properties	-	-	-	-	-
Other investment income	-	2,467	-	2,467	2,262
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	4,387	4,692	-	9,079	7,819
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	140	718	-	858	2,224
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	140	718	-	858	2,224
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	525	-	-	525	590
Fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	525	-	-	525	590
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	3,865	-	-	3,865	3,940
Presbytery fees	358	-	-	358	318
Ministry and support staff costs	13,029	-	-	13,029	11,201
Congregational running expenses	12,925	10,131	-	23,056	26,161
Donations to Missions and charities	-	11,026	-	11,026	9,837
Governance costs	660	-	-	660	624
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	30,837	21,157	-	51,994	52,081
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NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Rental expenses	-	1,459	-	1,459	1,225
Bell tower repairs	-	35,996	-	35,996	50,520
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	37,455	-	37,455	51,745
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10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the following premises and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery which have insurance values as follows:

Church Building	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	£ 3,384,999
Church Hall	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	791,313
Manse	82 Dublin Street, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 8LA	396,700

		4,573,012

11. INVESTMENTS

The congregation has the following investments which are shown at market valuation.

	2025	2024
	£	£
General Investment Fund	203,560	212,704
Other investments – NI Central Investment Fund	87,095	80,065
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	290,655	292,769
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NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2025

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start	Receipts	Payment	Surplus / (Deficit)	Transfer	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	112,887	53,687	31,362	22,325	900	136,112
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	112,887	53,687	31,362	22,325	900	136,112
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
General Fund	-	1,813	-	1,813	(1,813)	-
Missions & Charities	7,112	9,706	11,026	(1,320)	847	6,639
Property Fund	105,745	19,874	46,766	(26,892)	-	78,853
Bowling Club	1,271	18	-	18	-	1,289
PW Fund	1,083	418	432	(14)	-	1,069
Sunday School	-	322	388	(66)	66	-
Other events	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	115,211	32,151	58,612	(26,461)	(900)	87,850
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	228,098	85,838	89,974	(4,136)	-	223,962
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Accounts

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
43A Moyle Road
Newtownstewart
Co. Tyrone
BT78 4AP

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were

Rev JJ Boyd (Appointed 1 January 2024)	WJ Hunter (Appointed 29 September 2024)
AA Black (Appointed 29 September 2024)	RA Jack
RC Black (Appointed 29 September 2024)	AM Kemps
RS Brown	WM McKelvey (Appointed 29 September 2024)
N Donald	RS Moore
DJ Dunbar	

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Convenor in charge of Vacancy	Rev JJ Boyd
Clerk of Session	DJ Dunbar
Treasurer	RS Moore

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McFarland Arnold & Co
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

BANKERS

Danske Bank
5-7 Market Street
Omagh
BT78 1BN

SOLICITORS

McConnell & Fyffe Solicitors
21 Church Street
Omagh
BT78 1DG

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions have delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are held at least twice in each year or as appropriate.

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation or by the Kirk Session. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote.

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Omagh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregation's mission statement is as follows:

- We, the congregation of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church which is part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, seek to worship God in a manner that reflects scripture, is passionate about people and Centred in Christ. God has revealed Himself to us as our loving Heavenly Father. He has sent his Son to be our Saviour and He has granted us His Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus individually and corporately, and to lead us in His mission to the world. We seek to live out our faith through commitment:
- To God in worship
- To the Bible in obedient discipleship
- To sharing the good news of Jesus in faithful evangelism
- To the world in compassionate mission
- To one another in caring fellowship

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School
- Presbyterian Women (PW)
- Bowling Club
- Badminton Club

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation has been blessed with the reappointment of Rev John Hanna as a 'Stated Supply' Minister for the year 2023. Rev Hanna works on a part-time basis, leading Sunday Worship in Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church and our joint charge, sister church in Gortin. Rev Hanna also carries out Pastoral visitation and chairs any necessary Session and Committee or other church related meetings on a Wednesday. A further 'Stated Supply' Minister, Rev Dr. Rob Craig, has been secured to take over from Rev Hanna following the conclusion of his term of office on 31st December 2023. This will provide much needed continuity to the Ministry and pastoral work of the church during 2024. The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10.45am and for special missionary or praise services from time to time. During the COVID pandemic Sunday Services were either cancelled altogether or managed in strict accordance with Government and Presbyterian Church in Ireland guidance. Thankfully, due to the relaxation of these COVID restrictions, Sunday Services have more or less resumed to pre-COVID activities and attendance levels.

Church organisations have also resumed including Sunday School, Presbyterian Women's group and Mid-Week Bible Study / Prayer Group.

During the year 2024, no Sacraments of Baptism or marriage services took place. Again, as a result of the relaxation of COVID restrictions it has been possible to conduct funeral services within the Church building to give thanks for faithful services and to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

As of 31 December 2024 there were 214 communicant members and 120 families connected with the congregation. The average weekly attendance at morning worship is 55.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the Stated Supply Minister or the Church Elders.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Mission and outreach

During the year the Church held a number of fellowship and outreach events, including an Autumn Mission Weekend with the surplus of funds after expenses (£287) going towards the Presbyterian Church's United Appeal for Mission. Other outreach events included a Holiday Bible Club Summer Scheme for young persons, a Praise and Pudding Evening and Praise Service featuring the Ballyclare Male Voice Choir. A very successful Coronation Tea Party held on 19 May 2023 attracted a wide and appreciative audience from the local community. A cross community Golf Tournament also proved to be very popular and successful, raising much needed funds for the church. Donations to outside bodies included £525 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, £391 to the Presbyterian Children's Society and £250 to the Child Evangelist Fellowship Organisation.

The congregation donated over £4,669 to the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributed over £902 to the denomination's annual World Development Appeal, as well as meeting its commitments to central church funds through payment of quarterly assessments.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convenor and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The Convenor and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Property

Throughout the year, all church property has been maintained to a very high standard and the church continues to rent out the Manse property to a family who are members of the congregation. The tenancy is subject to a contract drawn up in accordance with Church House rules and regulations. The adjoining grounds, including lawns and hedges, have been regularly attended to. All Church buildings are considered fit for purpose.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Organisations

The Bowling Club, which normally meets every Thursday evening in the main hall, has not resumed activities since the COVID lockdown but this decision is being kept under review, as is the resumption of Badminton Club activities.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members, or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were a total of 102 contributors during the year, down slightly on the previous year (108 in 2023), however, the level of giving decreased slightly to a sum of £45,854 (£46,919 in previous year, 2023)

Total income of the congregation during the year decreased to £82,913 compared to £88,848 in the previous year.

Total expenditure has shown an increase to £104,416 compared to £58,137 in 2023, an increase of £46,279. Expenditure this year includes an amount of £50,520 paid for bell tower repairs.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 17 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by

David Dubar

D. J. [Signature]

Dated: 17-06-2025

Dated: 17-06-2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

We report on the financial statements of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise statement of financial activities, statement of assets and liabilities and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is our responsibility to:-

- Examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
- 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 (NI) 2008.
- State whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 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 (NI) 2008. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
2. That the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (NI) 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) 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.

McFarland Arnold & Co.

Chartered Accountants

Dated: 18 June 2025

**McFarland Arnold & Co
Chartered Accountants
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA**

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	45,160	22,392	-	67,552	70,027
Charitable activities	3	-	110	-	110	5,026
Other trading activities	4	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
Investment Income	5	3,830	3,989	-	7,819	6,263
Other	6	160	2,064	-	2,224	2,324
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		49,150	33,763	-	82,913	88,848
Sale of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Sale of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loans Received		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Receipts		49,150	33,763	-	82,913	88,848
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Payments						
Raising funds	7	590	-	-	590	500
Charitable activities	8	27,816	24,265	-	52,081	56,421
Investment costs		-	-	-	-	-
Other	9	-	51,745	-	51,745	1,216
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		28,406	76,010	-	104,416	58,137
Purchase of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loan Repayments		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Payments		28,406	76,010	-	104,416	58,137
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net receipts / (payments)		20,744	(42,247)	-	(21,503)	30,711
Transfers between funds		(1,003)	1,003	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net movement in funds		19,741	(41,244)	-	(21,503)	30,711
Funds brought forward		93,146	156,455	-	249,601	218,890
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds carried forward	12	112,887	115,211	-	228,098	249,601
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

As at 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	93,146	156,455	-	249,601	218,890
Net movement in funds	19,741	(41,244)	-	(21,503)	30,711
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	112,887	115,211	-	228,098	249,601
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Investments – Note 11				-	-
Bank Deposit Accounts				100,481	691
Bank Current Accounts				127,617	248,910
Cash in Hand				-	-
				-----	-----
				228,098	249,601
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises				4,573,012	4,355,249
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment				-	-
- Vehicles				-	-
Investments - Note 11				292,769	280,529
Gift Aid receivable on donations				-	-
				-----	-----
				4,865,781	4,635,778
				=====	=====
Liabilities					
Loans				-	-
Other				-	-
				-----	-----
				-	-
				=====	=====

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 17 June 2025 and signed on its behalf by

David Dunbar

Dated: 17-06-2025

D. J. Lee

Dated: 17-06-2025

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving	36,143	9,711	-	45,854	46,919
Loose collections	369	1,196	-	1,565	2,307
Donations and gifts	2,187	6,738	-	8,925	10,237
Gift Aid	6,461	3,747	-	10,208	10,564
Legacies and bequest	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	45,160	22,392	-	67,552	70,027
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities	-	-	-	-	-
Fees from weddings and funerals	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising events	-	-	-	-	3,901
PW Membership fees	-	110	-	110	125
Grants	-	-	-	-	1,000
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	110	-	110	5,026
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
Trading income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	247	262	-	509	23
General Investment Fund	3,583	1,465	-	5,048	3,978
Rents investment properties	-	-	-	-	-
Other investment income	-	2,262	-	2,262	2,262
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	3,830	3,989	-	7,819	6,263
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	160	2,064	-	2,224	2,324
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	160	2,064	-	2,224	2,324
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	590	-	-	590	500
Fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	590	-	-	590	500
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	3,940	-	-	3,940	3,428
Presbytery fees	318	-	-	318	319
Ministry and support staff costs	11,201	-	-	11,201	11,488
Congregational running expenses	11,733	14,428	-	26,161	31,486
Donations to Missions and charities	-	9,837	-	9,837	9,130
Governance costs	624	-	-	624	570
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	27,816	24,265	-	52,081	56,421
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Rental expenses	-	1,225	-	1,225	1,216
Bell tower repairs	-	50,520	-	50,520	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	51,745	-	51,745	1,216
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the following premises and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery which have insurance values as follows:

Church Building	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	£ 3,384,999
Church Hall	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	791,313
Manse	82 Dublin Street, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 8LA	396,700

		4,573,012

11. INVESTMENTS

The congregation has the following investments which are shown at market valuation.

	2024	2023
	£	£
General Investment Fund	212,704	203,102
Other investments – NI Central Investment Fund	80,065	77,427
	-----	-----
	292,769	280,529
	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2024

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start	Receipts	Payment	Surplus / (Deficit)	Transfer	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	93,146	49,150	28,406	20,744	(1,003)	112,887
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	93,146	49,150	28,406	20,744	(1,003)	112,887
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missions & Charities	7,260	9,992	10,587	(595)	447	7,112
Property Fund	146,916	22,843	64,362	(41,519)	348	105,745
Bowling Club	1,250	21	-	21	-	1,271
PW Fund	1,029	380	326	54	-	1,083
Sunday School	-	402	735	(333)	333	-
Other events	-	125	-	125	(125)	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	156,455	33,763	76,010	(42,247)	1,003	115,211
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	249,601	82,913	104,416	(21,503)	-	228,098
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Accounts

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
43A Moyle Road
Newtownstewart
Co. Tyrone
BT78 4AP

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were

Rev JJ Boyd (Appointed 1 January 2024)	AM Kemp
RS Brown	RS Moore
N Donald	WJ Baxter (Resigned 31 December 2023)
DJ Dunbar	AW Dunbar (Deceased 16 April 2023)
RA Jack	Rev J Cowan (Resigned 31 st December 2023)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Convenor in charge of Vacancy	Rev JJ Boyd
Clerk of Session	DJ Dunbar
Treasurer	RS Moore

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McFarland Arnold & Co
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

BANKERS

Danske Bank
5-7 Market Street
Omagh
BT78 1BN

SOLICITORS

McConnell & Fyffe Solicitors
21 Church Street
Omagh
BT78 1DG

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions have delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are held at least twice in each year or as appropriate.

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation or by the Kirk Session. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote.

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Omagh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregation's mission statement is as follows:

- We, the congregation of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church which is part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, seek to worship God in a manner that reflects scripture, is passionate about people and Centred in Christ. God has revealed Himself to us as our loving Heavenly Father. He has sent his Son to be our Saviour and He has granted us His Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus individually and corporately, and to lead us in His mission to the world. We seek to live out our faith through commitment:
- To God in worship
- To the Bible in obedient discipleship
- To sharing the good news of Jesus in faithful evangelism
- To the world in compassionate mission
- To one another in caring fellowship

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School
- Presbyterian Women (PW)
- Bowling Club
- Badminton Club

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation has been blessed with the reappointment of Rev John Hanna as a 'Stated Supply' Minister for the year 2023. Rev Hanna works on a part-time basis, leading Sunday Worship in Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church and our joint charge, sister church in Gortin. Rev Hanna also carries out Pastoral visitation and chairs any necessary Session and Committee or other church related meetings on a Wednesday. A further 'Stated Supply' Minister, Rev Dr. Rob Craig, has been secured to take over from Rev Hanna following the conclusion of his term of office on 31st December 2023. This will provide much needed continuity to the Ministry and pastoral work of the church during 2024. The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10.45am and for special missionary or praise services from time to time. During the COVID pandemic Sunday Services were either cancelled altogether or managed in strict accordance with Government and Presbyterian Church in Ireland guidance. Thankfully, due to the relaxation of these COVID restrictions, Sunday Services have more or less resumed to pre-COVID activities and attendance levels.

Church organisations have also resumed including Sunday School, Presbyterian Women's group and Mid-Week Bible Study / Prayer Group.

During the year 2023, one Sacrament of Baptism was conducted but no marriage services took place. Again, as a result of the relaxation of COVID restrictions it has been possible to conduct funeral services within the Church building to give thanks for faithful services and to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

As of 31 December 2023 there were 219 communicant members and 120 families connected with the congregation. The average weekly attendance at morning worship is 60.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the Stated Supply Minister or the Church Elders.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Mission and outreach

During the year the Church held a number of fellowship and outreach events, including an Autumn Mission Weekend with the surplus of funds after expenses (£287) going towards the Presbyterian Church's United Appeal for Mission. Other outreach events included a Holiday Bible Club Summer Scheme for young persons, a Praise and Pudding Evening and Praise Service featuring the Ballyclare Male Voice Choir. A very successful Coronation Tea Party held on 19 May 2023 attracted a wide and appreciative audience from the local community. A cross community Golf Tournament also proved to be very popular and successful, raising much needed funds for the church. Donations to outside bodies included £525 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, £391 to the Presbyterian Children's Society and £250 to the Child Evangelist Fellowship Organisation.

The congregation donated over £4,640 to the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributed over £832 to the denomination's annual World Development Appeal, as well as meeting its commitments to central church funds through payment of quarterly assessments.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convenor and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The Convenor and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Property

Throughout the year, all church property has been maintained to a very high standard and the church continues to rent out the Manse property to a family who are members of the congregation. The tenancy is subject to a contract drawn up in accordance with Church House rules and regulations. The adjoining grounds, including lawns and hedges, have been regularly attended to. All Church buildings are considered fit for purpose.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Organisations

The Bowling Club, which normally meets every Thursday evening in the main hall, has not resumed activities since the COVID lockdown but this decision is being kept under review, as is the resumption of Badminton Club activities.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members, or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were a total of 108 contributors during the year, down slightly on the previous year (120 in 2022), however, the level of giving increased by £2,265 to a sum of £46,919 (£44,654 in previous year, 2022)

Total income of the congregation during the year increased to £88,848 compared to £81,873 in the previous year. This represents an increase of £6,975 and reflects a continued growth in income following on the back of last year's increase of £13,363. This is a very positive trend for the church given the financial pressures faced by the members of our congregation and the wider community as a whole.

Total expenditure has shown an increase to £58,137 compared to £44,866 in 2022, an increase of £13,271, which includes a one off sum of £5,904 for supply and installing of display screens in church. This results in a surplus for the year of £30,711.

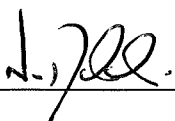
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 29/04/2024 and signed on its behalf by





Dated: 29/04/2024

Dated: 29/04/24.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

We report on the financial statements of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise statement of financial activities, statement of assets and liabilities and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is our responsibility to:-

- Examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
- 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 (NI) 2008.
- State whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 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 (NI) 2008. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
2. That the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (NI) 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) 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.

McFarland Arnold & Co .

Chartered Accountants

Dated: 30 April 2024

**McFarland Arnold & Co
Chartered Accountants
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA**

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	49,956	20,071	-	70,027	69,068
Charitable activities	3	3,901	1,125	-	5,026	1,003
Other trading activities	4	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
Investment Income	5	2,832	3,431	-	6,263	6,444
Other	6	1,224	1,100	-	2,324	150
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		57,913	30,935	-	88,848	81,873
Sale of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Sale of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loans Received		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Receipts		57,913	30,935	-	88,848	81,873
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Payments						
Raising funds	7	500	-	-	500	434
Charitable activities	8	28,497	27,924	-	56,421	42,658
Investment costs		-	-	-	-	-
Other	9	-	1,216	-	1,216	1,774
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		28,997	29,140	-	58,137	44,866
Purchase of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loan Repayments		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Payments		28,997	29,140	-	58,137	44,866
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net receipts / (payments)		28,916	1,795	-	30,711	37,007
Transfers between funds		134	(134)	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net movement in funds		29,050	1,661	-	30,711	37,007
Funds brought forward		64,096	156,455	-	218,890	181,883
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds carried forward	12	93,146	154,794	-	249,601	218,890
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

As at 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	64,096	154,794	-	218,890	181,883
Net movement in funds	29,050	1,661	-	30,711	37,007
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	93,146	156,455	-	249,601	218,890
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Investments – Note 11				-	-
Bank Deposit Accounts				691	682
Bank Current Accounts				248,910	218,208
Cash in Hand				-	-
				-----	-----
				249,601	218,890
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises				4,355,249	4,051,395
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment				-	-
- Vehicles				-	-
Investments - Note 11				280,529	259,429
Gift Aid receivable on donations				-	-
				-----	-----
				4,635,778	4,310,824
				=====	=====
Liabilities					
Loans				-	-
Other				-	-
				-----	-----
				-	-
				=====	=====

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 29/04/2024 and signed on its behalf by

J. J. J.

Alison Kemp

Dated: 29/04/2024

Dated: 29/04/24.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving	33,778	13,141	-	46,919	44,654
Loose collections	1,406	901	-	2,307	923
Donations and gifts	6,253	3,984	-	10,237	3,693
Gift Aid	8,519	2,045	-	10,564	9,798
Legacies and bequest	-	-	-	-	10,000
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	49,956	20,071	-	70,027	69,068
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities					
Fees from weddings and funerals	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising events	3,901	-	-	3,901	-
PW Membership fees	-	125	-	125	103
Grants	-	1,000	-	1,000	900
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	3,901	1,125	-	5,026	1,003
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
Trading income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,208
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	9	14	-	23	2
General Investment Fund	2,823	1,155	-	3,978	4,129
Rents investment properties	-	-	-	-	-
Other investment income	-	2,262	-	2,262	2,313
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	2,832	3,431	-	6,263	6,444
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	1,224	1,100	-	2,324	150
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1,224	1,100	-	2,324	150
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	500	-	-	500	434
Fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	500	-	-	500	434
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	3,428	-	-	3,428	2,928
Presbytery fees	319	-	-	319	267
Ministry and support staff costs	11,488	-	-	11,488	10,387
Congregational running expenses	12,692	18,794	-	31,486	18,876
Donations to Missions and charities	-	9,130	-	9,130	9,720
Governance costs	570	-	-	570	480
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	28,497	27,924	-	56,421	42,658
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 December 2023

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Rental expenses	-	1,216	-	1,216	1,774
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	1,216	-	1,216	1,774
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the following premises and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery which have insurance values as follows:

		£
Church Building	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	3,223,809
Church Hall	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	753,631
Manse	82 Dublin Street, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 8LA	377,809

		4,355,249

11. INVESTMENTS

The congregation has the following investments which are shown at market valuation.

	2023	2022
	£	£
General Investment Fund	203,102	186,246
Other investments – NI Central Investment Fund	77,427	73,183
	-----	-----
	280,529	259,429
	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start	Receipts	Payment	Surplus / (Deficit)	Transfer	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	64,096	57,913	28,997	28,916	134	93,146
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	64,096	57,913	28,997	28,916	134	93,146
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
General Fund	-	1,000	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
Missions & Charities	7,488	8,652	9,300	(648)	420	7,260
Property Fund	144,775	19,345	17,204	2,141	-	146,916
Bowling Club	1,236	14	-	14	-	1,250
PW Fund	1,295	405	671	(266)	-	1,029
Sunday School	-	296	465	(169)	169	-
Other events	-	1,223	1,500	(277)	277	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	154,794	30,935	29,140	1,795	(134)	156,455
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	218,890	88,848	58,137	30,711	-	249,601
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Annual report

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
43A Moyle Road
Newtownstewart
Co. Tyrone
BT78 4AP

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were

Rev JJ Boyd (Appointed 1 January 2024)	AM Kempes
RS Brown	RS Moore
N Donald	WJ Baxter (Resigned 31 December 2023)
DJ Dunbar	AW Dunbar (Deceased 16 April 2023)
RA Jack	Rev J Cowan (Resigned 31 st December 2023)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Convenor in charge of Vacancy	Rev JJ Boyd
Clerk of Session	DJ Dunbar
Treasurer	RS Moore

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McFarland Arnold & Co
8 Main Street
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**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions have delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk Session are held at least twice in each year or as appropriate.

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation or by the Kirk Session. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote.

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Omagh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregation's mission statement is as follows:

- We, the congregation of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church which is part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, seek to worship God in a manner that reflects scripture, is passionate about people and Centred in Christ. God has revealed Himself to us as our loving Heavenly Father. He has sent his Son to be our Saviour and He has granted us His Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus individually and corporately, and to lead us in His mission to the world. We seek to live out our faith through commitment:
- To God in worship
- To the Bible in obedient discipleship
- To sharing the good news of Jesus in faithful evangelism
- To the world in compassionate mission
- To one another in caring fellowship

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School
- Presbyterian Women (PW)
- Bowling Club
- Badminton Club

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation has been blessed with the reappointment of Rev John Hanna as a 'Stated Supply' Minister for the year 2023. Rev Hanna works on a part-time basis, leading Sunday Worship in Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church and our joint charge, sister church in Gortin. Rev Hanna also carries out Pastoral visitation and chairs any necessary Session and Committee or other church related meetings on a Wednesday. A further 'Stated Supply' Minister, Rev Dr. Rob Craig, has been secured to take over from Rev Hanna following the conclusion of his term of office on 31st December 2023. This will provide much needed continuity to the Ministry and pastoral work of the church during 2024. The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10.45am and for special missionary or praise services from time to time. During the COVID pandemic Sunday Services were either cancelled altogether or managed in strict accordance with Government and Presbyterian Church in Ireland guidance. Thankfully, due to the relaxation of these COVID restrictions, Sunday Services have more or less resumed to pre-COVID activities and attendance levels.

Church organisations have also resumed including Sunday School, Presbyterian Women's group and Mid-Week Bible Study / Prayer Group.

During the year 2023, one Sacrament of Baptism was conducted but no marriage services took place. Again, as a result of the relaxation of COVID restrictions it has been possible to conduct funeral services within the Church building to give thanks for faithful services and to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

As of 31 December 2023 there were 219 communicant members and 120 families connected with the congregation. The average weekly attendance at morning worship is 60.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the Stated Supply Minister or the Church Elders.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Mission and outreach

During the year the Church held a number of fellowship and outreach events, including an Autumn Mission Weekend with the surplus of funds after expenses (£287) going towards the Presbyterian Church's United Appeal for Mission. Other outreach events included a Holiday Bible Club Summer Scheme for young persons, a Praise and Pudding Evening and Praise Service featuring the Ballyclare Male Voice Choir. A very successful Coronation Tea Party held on 19 May 2023 attracted a wide and appreciative audience from the local community. A cross community Golf Tournament also proved to be very popular and successful, raising much needed funds for the church. Donations to outside bodies included £525 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, £391 to the Presbyterian Children's Society and £250 to the Child Evangelist Fellowship Organisation.

The congregation donated over £4,640 to the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributed over £832 to the denomination's annual World Development Appeal, as well as meeting its commitments to central church funds through payment of quarterly assessments.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convenor and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The Convenor and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Property

Throughout the year, all church property has been maintained to a very high standard and the church continues to rent out the Manse property to a family who are members of the congregation. The tenancy is subject to a contract drawn up in accordance with Church House rules and regulations. The adjoining grounds, including lawns and hedges, have been regularly attended to. All Church buildings are considered fit for purpose.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Organisations

The Bowling Club, which normally meets every Thursday evening in the main hall, has not resumed activities since the COVID lockdown but this decision is being kept under review, as is the resumption of Badminton Club activities.

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members, or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were a total of 108 contributors during the year, down slightly on the previous year (120 in 2022), however, the level of giving increased by £2,265 to a sum of £46,919 (£44,654 in previous year, 2022)

Total income of the congregation during the year increased to £88,848 compared to £81,873 in the previous year. This represents an increase of £6,975 and reflects a continued growth in income following on the back of last year's increase of £13,363. This is a very positive trend for the church given the financial pressures faced by the members of our congregation and the wider community as a whole.

Total expenditure has shown an increase to £58,137 compared to £44,866 in 2022, an increase of £13,271, which includes a one off sum of £5,904 for supply and installing of display screens in church. This results in a surplus for the year of £30,711.

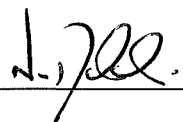
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payments account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 29/04/2024 and signed on its behalf by





Dated: 29/04/2024

Dated: 29/04/24.

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Annual return

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

We report on the financial statements of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise statement of financial activities, statement of assets and liabilities and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is our responsibility to:-

- Examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
- 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 (NI) 2008.
- State whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 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 (NI) 2008. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
2. That the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (NI) 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) 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.

McFarland Arnold & Co.

Chartered Accountants

Dated: 30 April 2024

McFarland Arnold & Co
Chartered Accountants
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Accounts

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
43A Moyle Road
Newtownstewart
Co. Tyrone
BT78 4AP

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were

J Cowan (appointed 1 November 2022)	DJ Dunbar
WJ Baxter	RA Jack
RS Brown	AM Kempes
N Donald	RS Moore
AW Dunbar	R Orr (resigned 1 November 2022)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Convenor in charge of Vacancy	Rev J Cowan
Clerk of Session	WJ Baxter
Treasurer	RS Moore

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McFarland Arnold & Co
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

BANKERS

Danske Bank
5-7 Market Street
Omagh
BT78 1BN

SOLICITORS

McConnell & Fyffe Solicitors
21 Church Street
Omagh
BT78 1DG

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions have delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

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Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice in each year or as appropriate.

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NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregation's mission statement is as follows:

- We, the congregation of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church which is part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, seek to worship God in a manner that reflects scripture, is passionate about people and Centred in Christ. God has revealed Himself to us as our loving Heavenly Father. He has sent his Son to be our Saviour and He has granted us His Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus individually and corporately, and to lead us in His mission to the world. We seek to live out our faith through commitment:
- To God in worship
- To the Bible in obedient discipleship
- To sharing the good news of Jesus in faithful evangelism
- To the world in compassionate mission
- To one another in caring fellowship

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School
- Presbyterian Women (PW)
- Bowling Club
- Badminton Club

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

At the commencement of the year the congregation was blessed with the appointment of a 'Stated Supply' Minister – Rev John Hanna, who works on a part-time basis, leading Sunday Worship in Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church and our joint charge, sister church in Gortin. Rev Hanna also carries out Pastoral visitation and chairs any necessary Session and Committee or other church related meetings on a Wednesday. The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10.45am. During the COVID pandemic Sunday Services were either cancelled altogether or managed in strict accordance with Government and Presbyterian Church in Ireland guidance. Thankfully, due to the relaxation of these COVID restrictions, Sunday Services have more or less resumed to pre-COVID activities and attendance levels.

Church organisations have also resumed including, Sunday School, Presbyterian Women's group and Mid-Week Bible Study / Prayer Group.

During the year 2022, two (2) Sacraments of Baptism were conducted but no marriage services took place. Again, as a result of the relaxation of COVID restrictions it has been possible to conduct funeral services within the Church building to give thanks for faithful services and to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2022 there were 219 communicant members and 120 families connected with the congregation. The average week attendance at morning worship is 60.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the Stated Supply Minister or the Church Elders.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Mission and outreach

During the year the Church held a number of fellowship and outreach events, including a Queen's Jubilee Celebration Barbeque, arising from which a donation of £550 was made to NI Air Ambulance and a total of £1,805 to the Moderator's Ukraine Appeal. Additionally, £300 was donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and £120 to Belfast City Mission and a further £365 to the Presbyterian Children's Society.

The congregation donated £3,840 to the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributes to the denominations annual World Development Appeal, Sunday School project and any other special appeals.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convenor and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The Convenor and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Property

Throughout the year all church property has been maintained to a very high standard and continues to rent out the Manse property to a family who are members of the congregation. The tenancy is subject to a contract drawn up in accordance with Church House rules and regulations. The adjoining grounds, including lawns and hedges, have been regularly attended to. All Church buildings are considered fit for purpose.

Organisations

The Bowling Club, which normally meets every Thursday evening in the main hall, has not resumed activities since the COVID lockdown but this decision is being kept under review, as is the resumption of Badminton Club activities.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members, or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 120 contributors during the year, same as in the previous year (2021), donating a total of £44,654 (£40,882 in previous year, 2021)

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £81,873 compared to £68,510 in the previous year. This represents an increase of £13,363 which is primarily attributable to the receipt of a sizeable bequest to the sum of £10,000.

Total expenditure has decreased from £51,767 in 2021 to £44,866 in 2022, a reduction of just over £6,900 resulting in a surplus for the year (2022) of £37,007.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 9.4.23 and signed on its behalf by

S. Hanna (Rev)

W. B. Boyd

Dated: 9-4-23

Dated: 9-4-23

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

We report on the financial statements of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise statement of financial activities, statement of assets and liabilities and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is our responsibility to:-

- Examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
- 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 (NI) 2008.
- State whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 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 (NI) 2008. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
2. That the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (NI) 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) 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.

McFarland Arnold & Co.

Chartered Accountants

Dated: 17 April 2023

McFarland Arnold & Co
Chartered Accountants
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY (Receipts and Payments Account)
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	53,354	15,714	-	69,068	56,508
Charitable activities	3	-	1,003	-	1,003	-
Other trading activities	4	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,508
Investment Income	5	2,932	3,512	-	6,444	6,328
Other	6	150	-	-	150	166
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		56,436	25,437	-	81,873	68,510
Sale of Investments		-	-	-	-	-
Sale of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loans Received		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Receipts		56,436	25,437	-	81,873	68,510
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Payments						
Raising funds	7	434	-	-	434	540
Charitable activities	8	24,683	19,749	-	44,432	41,227
Investment costs		-	-	-	-	-
Other	9	-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		25,117	19,749	-	44,866	41,767
Purchase of Investments		-	-	-	-	10,000
Purchase of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	-
Loan Repayments		-	-	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Payments		25,117	19,749	-	44,866	51,767
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net receipts / (payments)		31,319	5,688	-	37,007	16,743
Transfers between funds		(11,649)	11,649	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net movement in funds		19,670	17,337	-	37,007	16,743
Funds brought forward		44,426	137,457	-	181,883	165,140
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds carried forward	12	64,096	154,794	-	218,890	181,883
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

As at 31 December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds Reconciliation					
Bank and Cash at start of year	44,426	137,457	-	181,883	165,140
Net movement in funds	19,670	17,337	-	37,007	39,458
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	64,096	154,794	-	218,890	181,883
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Investments – Note 11				-	-
Bank Deposit Accounts				682	682
Bank Current Accounts				218,208	181,201
Cash in Hand				-	-
				-----	-----
				218,890	181,883
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises				4,051,395	3,768,739
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment				-	-
- Vehicles				-	-
Investments - Note 11				259,429	286,272
Gift Aid receivable on donations				-	-
				-----	-----
				4,310,824	4,055,011
				=====	=====
Liabilities					
Loans				-	-
Other				-	-
				-----	-----
				-	-
				=====	=====

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on

W. James (Rev)

Dated:

9.12.23

9-12-23

and signed on its behalf by

W. S. Boyle

Dated:

9-12-23

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As the total income of the congregation is less than £250,000 the congregation have elected in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Endowment funds are funds, the capital of which must be retained either permanently or at the congregation's discretion; the income derived from the endowment is to be used either as restricted or unrestricted income funds depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established in the first place.

Restricted funds comprise (a) income from endowments which is to be expended only on the restricted purposes intended by the donor and (b) revenue donations or grants for a specific congregational activity intended by the donor. Where these funds have unspent balances, interest on their pooled investment is apportioned to the individual funds on an average balance basis.

Unrestricted funds are income funds which are to be spent on the congregation's general purposes. Designated funds are general funds set aside by the congregation for use in the future.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Recorded giving	34,578	10,076	-	44,654	40,882
Loose collections	503	420	-	923	762
Donations and gifts	1,022	2,671	-	3,693	6,331
Gift Aid	7,251	2,547	-	9,798	8,533
Legacies and bequest	10,000	-	-	10,000	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	53,354	15,714	-	69,068	56,508
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 December 2022

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities					
Fees from weddings and funerals	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-
PW Membership fees	-	103	-	103	-
Grants	-	900	-	900	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	1,003	-	1,003	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,508
Trading income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	5,208	-	5,208	5,508
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	1	1	-	2	1,115
General Investment Fund	2,931	1,198	-	4,129	3,978
Rents investment properties	-	-	-	-	-
Other investment income	-	2,313	-	2,313	2,235
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	2,932	3,512	-	6,444	6,328
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2022

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	150	-	-	150	166
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	150	-	-	150	166
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	434	-	-	434	540
Fundraising events	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	434	-	-	434	540
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	2,928	-	-	2,928	3,504
Presbytery fees	267	-	-	267	287
Ministry and support staff costs	10,387	-	-	10,387	10,519
Congregational running expenses	10,621	10,029	-	20,650	18,999
Donations to Missions and charities	-	9,720	-	9,720	7,438
Governance costs	480	-	-	480	480
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	24,683	19,749	-	44,432	41,227
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2022

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Manse costs	-	-	-	-	-
Pew cushions	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the following premises and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery which have insurance values as follows:

		£
Church Building	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	2,998,892
Church Hall	43A Moyle Road, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 4AP	701,052
Manse	82 Dublin Street, Newtownstewart, Co Tyrone, BT78 8LA	351,451

		4,051,395

11. INVESTMENTS

The congregation has the following investments which are shown at market valuation.

	2022 £	2021 £
General Investment Fund	186,246	202,928
Other investments – NI Central Investment Fund	73,183	83,344
	-----	-----
	259,429	286,272
	-----	-----

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2022

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start	Receipts	Payment	Surplus / (Deficit)	Transfer	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	44,426	56,436	25,117	31,319	(11,649)	64,096
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	44,426	56,436	25,117	31,319	(11,649)	64,096
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
General Fund	1,500	-	1,510	(1,510)	10	-
Missions & Charities	7,165	9,103	9,720	(617)	940	7,488
Property Fund	126,275	14,499	5,999	8,500	10,000	144,775
Bowling Club	1,235	1	-	1	-	1,236
PW Fund	1,282	523	510	13	-	1,295
Sunday School	-	256	315	(59)	59	-
Jubilee BBQ	-	1,055	1,695	(640)	640	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	137,457	25,437	19,749	5,688	11,649	154,794
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	181,883	81,873	44,866	37,007	-	218,890
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Annual report

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 including a Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at that date.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland
43A Moyle Road
Newtownstewart
Co. Tyrone
BT78 4AP

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105616)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The Charity Trustees who served during the year or who were trustees at the date of this report were

J Cowan (appointed 1 November 2022)	DJ Dunbar
WJ Baxter	RA Jack
RS Brown	AM Kemps
N Donald	RS Moore
AW Dunbar	R Orr (resigned 1 November 2022)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Convenor in charge of Vacancy	Rev J Cowan
Clerk of Session	WJ Baxter
Treasurer	RS Moore

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

McFarland Arnold & Co
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA

BANKERS

Danske Bank
5-7 Market Street
Omagh
BT78 1BN

SOLICITORS

McConnell & Fyffe Solicitors
21 Church Street
Omagh
BT78 1DG

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

The Kirk Session

The charity trustees of the congregation are the members of its Kirk Session. Under the congregation's governing document, The Code, the book of the constitution and government of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Kirk Session seeks to watch over and promote the spiritual interest of the congregation and of persons not connected with any congregation who are within its bounds. It ensures pastoral care is in place in the congregation and seeks to further the contribution of the Church to Christian witness and service in the local community. The Kirk Sessions have delegated to its Congregational Committee the temporal affairs of the congregation including administering all funds and property belonging to the congregation. Members of the Kirk Session are ex-officio members of the Congregational Committee.

The Kirk Session consists of the ordained minister and the ruling elders of the congregations. All members are entitled to propose, speak and exercise equal votes at meetings, except that the Moderator, the ministers in active duty in the congregation, has no deliberative but only a casting vote.

Stated meetings of the Kirk session are held at least twice in each year or as appropriate.

To be chosen for the office of the eldership in the congregation a person must be a voting member and a regular attendant on its ordinances. The selection of those proposed to be called to the office can be either by the congregation or by the Kirk Session. Members are elected if they obtain two-thirds of those who vote.

Presbytery

Under the Presbyterian Church in Ireland form of governance, the corporate oversight of a congregation is the responsibility of a Presbytery which superintends generally the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Omagh Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The membership of the Presbytery consists mainly of the active ministers of congregations assigned to it by the General Assembly, ministers who have retired from active duty and an elder appointed by the Kirk Session of the congregation.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

The General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme court of the Church, representing in one body the whole Church and acting as its supreme legislative, administration and judicial authority, in dealing with all matters brought before it. The General Assembly is normally constituted during the first week in June for worship and to conduct its business. At the end of business, it is dissolved. The membership of the General Assembly consists mainly of the active ministers of each congregation, retired ministers and a representative elder appointed by the Kirk Session of each congregation.

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of the congregation is the advancement of religion.

Newtownstewart congregation of the Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The Presbyterian Church in Ireland, as a Reformed Church within the wider body of Christ is grounded in the Scriptures, and exists to love and honour God through faith in His Son and by the power of His Spirit, and to enable her members to play their part in fulfilling God's mission to our world.

The congregation's mission statement is as follows:

- We, the congregation of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church which is part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, seek to worship God in a manner that reflects scripture, is passionate about people and Centred in Christ. God has revealed Himself to us as our loving Heavenly Father. He has sent his Son to be our Saviour and He has granted us His Holy Spirit to make us more like Jesus individually and corporately, and to lead us in His mission to the world. We seek to live out our faith through commitment:
- To God in worship
- To the Bible in obedient discipleship
- To sharing the good news of Jesus in faithful evangelism
- To the world in compassionate mission
- To one another in caring fellowship

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

ACTIVITIES AND OBJECTIVES

The congregation meets for worship every Sunday and visitors are welcome to join. The Sacrament of the Lords Supper is observed on several occasions during the year and all those who have been baptised and who have made a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are admitted to the Lord's Supper. The congregation holds regular bible study meetings and has a wide range of organisations including

- Sunday School
- Presbyterian Women (PW)
- Bowling Club
- Badminton Club

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

At the commencement of the year the congregation was blessed with the appointment of a 'Stated Supply' Minister – Rev John Hanna, who works on a part-time basis, leading Sunday Worship in Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church and our joint charge, sister church in Gortin. Rev Hanna also carries out Pastoral visitation and chairs any necessary Session and Committee or other church related meetings on a Wednesday. The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 10.45am. During the COVID pandemic Sunday Services were either cancelled altogether or managed in strict accordance with Government and Presbyterian Church in Ireland guidance. Thankfully, due to the relaxation of these COVID restrictions, Sunday Services have more or less resumed to pre-COVID activities and attendance levels.

Church organisations have also resumed including, Sunday School, Presbyterian Women's group and Mid-Week Bible Study / Prayer Group.

During the year 2022, two (2) Sacraments of Baptism were conducted but no marriage services took place. Again, as a result of the relaxation of COVID restrictions it has been possible to conduct funeral services within the Church building to give thanks for faithful services and to comfort those who had been bereaved during the year.

At 31 December 2022 there were 219 communicant members and 120 families connected with the congregation. The average week attendance at morning worship is 60.

Pastoral care

Members of the congregation who are unable to attend church due to sickness or age are visited on a regular basis by the Stated Supply Minister or the Church Elders.

NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

Mission and outreach

During the year the Church held a number of fellowship and outreach events, including a Queen's Jubilee Celebration Barbeque, arising from which a donation of £550 was made to NI Air Ambulance and a total of £1,805 to the Moderator's Ukraine Appeal. Additionally, £300 was donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and £120 to Belfast City Mission and a further £365 to the Presbyterian Children's Society.

The congregation donated £3,840 to the United Appeal for Mission which is a central fund of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. This fund enables congregations to support the wider mission of the denomination and to do mission and outreach on a denominational basis beyond what the congregation could do on its own. The United Appeal Fund provides financial support for mission personnel at home and overseas, assists congregations with the deployment of locally based staff, enables church planting, provides grant support for the upkeep of church premises, assist with the running costs of Union Theological College, the Church's training college for ministry students, and financially supports congregation in the areas of worship, discipleship, global mission, outreach, leadership and pastoral care.

The congregation also contributes to the denominations annual World Development Appeal, Sunday School project and any other special appeals.

Presbytery

The congregation was represented at the regular meetings of Presbytery by our Convenor and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The Convenor and one of our elders were nominated to attend the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland held in Assembly Buildings, Belfast, in June.

Property

Throughout the year all church property has been maintained to a very high standard and continues to rent out the Manse property to a family who are members of the congregation. The tenancy is subject to a contract drawn up in accordance with Church House rules and regulations. The adjoining grounds, including lawns and hedges, have been regularly attended to. All Church buildings are considered fit for purpose.

Organisations

The Bowling Club, which normally meets every Thursday evening in the main hall, has not resumed activities since the COVID lockdown but this decision is being kept under review, as is the resumption of Badminton Club activities.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

Volunteers

The Trustees wish to acknowledge their deep appreciation of those who give freely of their time by serving on committees and helping with organisations and other church activities.

PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland meets the public benefit requirement by providing benefit to its members and the general public by making known the Christian Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the advancement of religion.

The direct benefits which flow from the purposes of the Church include the gaining of an understanding in Christian beliefs as set out in the Bible and in the Church's subordinate standards (the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Shorter and Larger Catechisms) leading to spiritual and moral development and opportunities for response to Bible teaching. In turn, this framework leads to practical expressions of Christian beliefs and standards in the local community such as through the care of those in need (including the sick, disabled and bereaved).

Generally, the above benefits are delivered locally by congregations and their members, or are facilitated through presbyteries or are organised and delivered centrally. Local delivery is facilitated by central resources in almost all cases. Public access is made known through the use of noticeboards, printed material, press advertisement, websites, and social media or in other ways.

The benefits are demonstrated through regular evaluation of the services and informal and ad-hoc feedback from members, their families, and members of the public.

The purpose does not lead to harm. The only private benefit flowing from our purpose is related to Ministers, Missionaries, Deaconesses, Irish Mission workers and Lay Agents who receive benefits as a result of their holding office or employment. However, this is incidental and necessary in order to further our charitable purpose. There are no other private benefits. The beneficiaries of this purpose are members, their families, other individuals that the Presbyterian Church in Ireland is in direct and indirect contact with, the community in which pastoral services are provided and other communities throughout Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, and worldwide which benefit from our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public.

The Kirk Session has had regard to the Charity Commissions Public benefit requirement statutory guidance.

**NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The congregation's main source of income is members' contributions through the Weekly Freewill Offering. There were 120 contributors during the year, same as in the previous year (2021), donating a total of £44,654 (£40,882 in previous year, 2021)

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £81,873 compared to £68,510 in the previous year. This represents an increase of £13,363 which is primarily attributable to the receipt of a sizeable bequest to the sum of £10,000.

Total expenditure has decreased from £51,767 in 2021 to £44,866 in 2022, a reduction of just over £6,900 resulting in a surplus for the year (2022) of £37,007.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the congregation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the congregation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the congregation's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time its financial position. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the congregation and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Kirk Session at a meeting on 9.4.23 and signed on its behalf by

W Hanna (Rev)

W R Boyd

Dated: 9-10-23

Dated: 9-14-23

Newtownstewart Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105616

Annual return

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEWTOWNSTEWART CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

We report on the financial statements of Newtownstewart Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise statement of financial activities, statement of assets and liabilities and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is our responsibility to:-

- Examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
- 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 (NI) 2008.
- State whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 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 (NI) 2008. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements 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:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.
2. That the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act (NI) 2008 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We have completed our examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) 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.

McFarland Arnold & Co.

Chartered Accountants

Dated: *17 April 2023*

**McFarland Arnold & Co
Chartered Accountants
8 Main Street
Newtownstewart
Co Tyrone
BT78 4AA**