

First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105651

Details

Status	Received
Registered	2016-08-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	First Presbyterian Church 71-73 James Street Cookstown County Tyrone BT80 8ae BT80 8AE
Phone	07754168911
Email	mcurrie@presbyterianireland.org
Website	www.firstcookstown.co.uk

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
2024-12-31	£316,947	£182,474	£0	2

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Alastair Henry		
Chris Kerr		
Dr Alastair Brown		
Matthew Black		
Maurice Murphy		
Michael Currie		
Mr Cecil Kenneth Brown		
Mr Gordon Robert Black		
Mr Paul Alan Ferguson		
Mr Robert George Leonard		
Mr Robert Hamilton		
Mr Robert James Dill Park		
Mr Ronnie Nicholl		
Philip Leonard		
Stephen Wilson		

First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105651

Accounts

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	135291	162932	-	298223	168570
Charitable activities	3	-	14204	-	14204	29781
Other trading activities	4	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	5	1040	830	-	1870	1220
Other	6	2650	-	-	2650	4764
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Receipts		138981	177966	-	316947	204335
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Payments						
Raising funds	7	843	-	-	843	889
Charitable activities	8	124154	35497	-	159651	163575
Property Expenses	9	-	21980	-	21980	25203
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Payments		124997	57477	-	182474	189667
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net receipts / (payments)		13984	120489		134473	14668
Transfers between funds		(7045)	7045	-	-	-
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net movement in funds		6939	127534	-	134473	14668
Funds brought forward		73346	49087	41702	164135	149467
		-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Funds carried forward	12	80285	176621	41702	298608	164135
		=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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	73346	49087	-	122433	107765
Net movement in funds	6939	127534	-	134473	14668
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	80285	176621	-	256906	122433
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Bank Deposit Accounts	-	890	-	890	2377
Bank Current Accounts	80285	175731	-	256016	119931
Cash in Hand	-	-	-	-	125
				-----	-----
				256906	122433
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises					
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment					
- Vehicles					
Investments – Note 11			41702	41702	41702
Gift Aid receivable on donations					
			-----	-----	-----
			41702	41702	41702
			=====	=====	=====

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As the total income of the congregation is between £250,000 and £500,000 in accordance with the provisions in The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 to prepare its accounts on an accruals basis and subject to independent examination by an examiner who is a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

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	105139	123469	-	228608	123987
Loose collections	2556	-	-	2556	6827
Donations and gifts	4384	3313	-	7697	4076
Gift Aid	22398	21150	-	43548	32996
Legacies and bequest	814	15000	-	15814	684
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	135291	162932	-	298223	168570
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**FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

31 December 2024

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities	-	14204	-	14204	22389
Membership fees & Grants	-	-	-	-	7392
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	14204	-	14204	29781
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4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	1020	830	-	1850	1058
General Investment Fund	-	-	-	-	144
Rents investment properties	20	-	-	20	18
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1040	830	-	1870	1220
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

31 December 2024

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Magazines	880	-	-	880	824
Heat & Light Contribution	1770	-	-	1770	3940
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	2650	-	-	2650	4764
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	843	-	-	843	889
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	843	-	-	843	889
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	12842	-	-	12842	10809
Presbytery fees	925	-	-	925	742
Ministry and support staff costs	87229	-	-	87229	83049
Congregational running expenses	23158	16490	-	39648	45470
Donations to Missions and charities	-	19007	-	19007	23505
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	124154	35497	-	159651	163575
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FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2024

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Property expenses	-	21980	-	21980	25203
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	21980	-	21980	25203
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the Church premises, Halls and Former Manse situated at Loy Hill, Cookstown, and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery. These have an insurance value of £3,581,021. In addition, the congregation owns a new manse at Moneymore Road, Cookstown with an insurance value of £432,847.

11. INVESTMENTS

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

	2024 £	2023 £
General Investment Fund	13542	13542
GB Crooks Bequest Investment	2000	2000
Progressive Building Society	25120	25120
Glasgow Bequest Investment	1040	1040
	-----	-----
	41702	41702
	-----	-----

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)

31 December 2024

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start	Receipts	Payment	Transfer	Surplus / (Deficit)	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
No. 1 Account	73346	138981	124997	(7045)	6939	80285
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	73346	138981	124997	(7045)	6939	80285
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
No. 2 Account	16131	26974	8476	(10762)	7736	23867
Investment, Building & Manse	21942	140403	21984	-	118419	140361
Bowling Club	1487	1029	1344	-	(315)	1172
Sunday School & Bible Class	261	200	350	-	(150)	111
PW	1606	7443	6464	-	979	2585
Youth Fellowship	897	-	-	-	-	897
Friends at First	1513	1917	1052	-	865	2378
Scout Group	5250	-	-	-	-	5250
United Appeal	-	-	10762	10762	-	-
Charity / Missions	-	-	7045	7045	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	49087	177966	57477	7045	127534	176621
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
General Investment Fund	13542	-	-	-	-	13542
GB Crooks Bequest Investment	2000	-	-	-	-	2000
Progressive Building Society	25120	-	-	-	-	25120
Glasgow Bequest Investment	1040	-	-	-	-	1040
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	41702	-	-	-	-	41702
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	164135	316947	182474	-	134473	298608
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First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105651

Accounts

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	133627	34943	-	168570	164647
Charitable activities	3	600	29181	-	29781	-
Other trading activities	4	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	5	799	421	-	1220	177
Other	6	4764	-	-	4764	975
Total Receipts		139790	64545	-	204335	165799
Payments						
Raising funds	7	889	-	-	889	889
Charitable activities	8	119054	44521	-	163575	154008
Property Expenses	9	-	25203	-	25203	1440
Total Payments		119943	69724	-	189667	156337
Net receipts / (payments)		19847	(5179)	-	14668	9462
Transfers between funds		(23929)	23929	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(4082)	18750	-	14668	9462
Funds brought forward		77428	30337	41702	149467	140005
Funds carried forward	12	73346	49087	41702	164135	149467

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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	77428	30337	-	107765	98303
Net movement in funds	(4082)	18750	-	14668	9462
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	73346	49087	-	122433	107765
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Bank Deposit Accounts	-	2377	-	2377	889
Bank Current Accounts	73346	46585	-	119931	106876
Cash in Hand	-	125	-	125	-
				-----	-----
				122433	107765
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises					
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment					
- Vehicles					
Investments – Note 11			41702	41702	41702
Gift Aid receivable on donations					
			-----	-----	-----
			41702	41702	41702
			=====	=====	=====

Approved by the Church Committee at a meeting on 20th February 2024 and signed on its behalf by

BDM TREASURER 20/02/24
 MRS Agnew TRUSTEE 20/02/24

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

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	102959	21028	-	123987	117533
Loose collections	2524	4303	-	6827	2242
Donations and gifts	1456	2620	-	4076	14807
Gift Aid	26004	6992	-	32996	29171
Legacies and bequest	684	-	-	684	894
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	133627	34943	-	168570	164647
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FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 December 2023

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Income from charitable activities	-	22389	-	22389	-
Membership fees & Grants	600	6792	-	7392	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	600	29181	-	29781	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	781	277	-	1058	161
General Investment Fund	-	144	-	144	-
Rents investment properties	18	-	-	18	16
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	799	421	-	1220	177
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

31 December 2023

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Magazines	824	-	-	824	685
Heat & Light Contribution	3940	-	-	3940	290
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	4764	-	-	4764	975
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	889	-	-	889	889
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	889	-	-	889	889
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	10809	-	-	10809	11759
Presbytery fees	742	-	-	742	742
Ministry and support staff costs	83049	-	-	83049	78803
Congregational running expenses	24454	21016	-	45470	40721
Donations to Missions and charities	-	23505	-	23505	21983
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	119054	44521	-	163575	154008
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

31 December 2023

9. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Property expenses	-	25203	-	25203	1440
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	25203	-	25203	1440
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the Church premises, Halls and Former Manse situated at Loy Hill, Cookstown, and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery. These have an insurance value of £3,581,021. In addition, the congregation owns a new manse at Moneymore Road, Cookstown with an insurance value of £432,847.

11. INVESTMENTS

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

	2023 £	2022 £
General Investment Fund	13542	13542
GB Crooks Bequest Investment	2000	2000
Progressive Building Society	25120	25120
Glasgow Bequest Investment	1040	1040
	-----	-----
	41702	41702
	-----	-----

**FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont'd)**

31 December 2023

12. FUND BALANCES

Fund	Balance at start	Receipts	Payment	Transfer	Surplus / (Deficit)	Balance at end
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds						
No. 1 Account	77428	139790	119943	(23929)	(4082)	73346
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	77428	139790	119943	(23929)	(4082)	73346
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
No. 2 Account	12105	24858	10198	(10634)	4026	16131
Investment, Building & Manse	11249	15900	25207	20000	10693	21942
Bowling Club	1163	1483	1159	-	324	1487
Sunday School & Bible Class	82	429	250	-	179	261
PW	3927	5150	7471	-	(2321)	1606
Youth Fellowship	897	-	-	-	-	897
Friends at First	914	3005	2406	-	599	1513
Scout Group	-	13720	8470	-	5250	5250
United Appeal	-	-	10634	10634	-	-
Charity / Missions	-	-	3929	3929	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	30337	64545	69724	23929	18750	49087
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
General Investment Fund	13542	-	-	-	-	13542
GB Crooks Bequest Investment	2000	-	-	-	-	2000
Progressive Building Society	25120	-	-	-	-	25120
Glasgow Bequest Investment	1040	-	-	-	-	1040
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	41702	-	-	-	-	41702
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	149467	204335	189667	-	14668	164135
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First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105651

Annual report

**FIRST COOKSTOWN 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 (NIC105651)

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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

First Cookstown congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, 71 James Street, Cookstown, BT80 8AE

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105651)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Mr Bob Agnew	Mr Norman Bell
Mr George Black	Mr Gordon Black
Dr Alistair Brown	Mr Kenneth Brown
Mr Stanley Faulkner	Mr Paul Ferguson
Mr Robert Hamilton	Mr Harold Leonard
Mr Robert Leonard	Mr Ronnie Nicholl
Mr Robert Park	Mr Colin Rea
Rev Michael Currie	

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Michael Currie
Clerk of Session	Mr Gordon Black
Treasurer	Mr Brian Donaghy

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Randal McKinney FCA CTA, 84 Fairhill Road, Cookstown, BT80 8DE

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Ltd, William Street, Cookstown

SOLICITORS

Millar Shearer & Black, Molesworth Street, Cookstown

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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 has 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 four times in each year.

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. First Cookstown congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Tyrone 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.

**FIRST COOKSTOWN 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.

First Cookstown 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 congregations mission purpose is to be involved in reaching out to those who are not followers of Jesus. It is our responsibility to show the love of Jesus has for each of us to our families, friends and those we come into contact with each day.

**FIRST COOKSTOWN 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
- Youth Fellowship
- Crèche
- Bowling Club
- Youth Organisations
- PW
- Choir
- Elevenses

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11.30am and 7.00pm. During the week the Bible Study provides an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the scriptures and for a time of prayer.

At 31 December 2023 there were 323 communicant members and 301 of families connected with the congregations. The average week attendance at morning worship is 155.

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 minister, elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visitors.

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

The congregation supports 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 minister and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The minister 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

During 2023, with the exception of general property repairs & upkeep, there was no other expenditure, on property, during the year

Organisations

The church organisations listed above continue to meet regularly throughout the year

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.

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

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.

**FIRST COOKSTOWN 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 190 contributors during the year [no in previous year, 191] donating a total of £102,959 (£96,835, 2022)

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £204,335 compared to £165,799 in the previous year.

Total expenditure increased from £156,337 to £189,667.


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 Church committee at a meeting on 20th February 2024 and signed on its behalf by

BD  TREASURER 20/02/24

WRB Agnew TRUSTEE 20/02/24

First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105651

Annual return

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

I report on the accounts of First Cookstown Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out below.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act.
- 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.
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

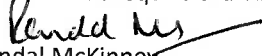
I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65 (9) (b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of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

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records,
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my 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, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.


Randal McKinney

FCA CTA

84 Fairhill Road, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, BT80 8DE

Date: 26/7/24

First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105651

Accounts

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations and legacies	2	131869	32778	-	164647	147389
Charitable activities	3	-	-	-	-	1034
Other trading activities	4	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	5	144	33	-	177	112
Other	6	975	-	-	975	150
Total Receipts		132988	32811	-	165799	148685
Payments						
Raising funds	7	889	-	-	889	889
Charitable activities	8	116183	37825	-	154008	157397
Property Expenses	9	-	1440	-	1440	12874
Total Payments		117072	39265	-	156337	171160
Net receipts / (payments)		15916	(6454)	-	9462	(22475)
Transfers between funds		(10488)	10488	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		5428	4034	-	9462	(22475)
Funds brought forward		72000	26303	41702	140005	162480
Funds carried forward	12	77428	30337	41702	149467	140005

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

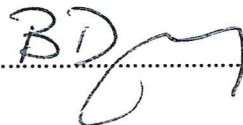
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

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	72000	26303	-	98303	122778
Net movement in funds	5428	4034	-	9462	(24475)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bank and Cash at end of year	77428	30337	-	107765	98303
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Bank & Cash Balances					
Bank Deposit Accounts	-	889	-	889	891
Bank Current Accounts	77428	29448	-	106876	97412
Cash in Hand	-	-	-	-	-
				-----	-----
				107765	98303
				=====	=====
Other Assets					
Fixed Assets – Note 10					
- Church Premises					
- Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment					
- Vehicles					
Investments – Note 11			41702	41702	41702
Gift Aid receivable on donations					
			-----	-----	-----
			41702	41702	41702
			=====	=====	=====

Approved by the Church Committee at a meeting on 3rd April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

B. Donaghy (Congregational Treasurer)

.....


B. Agnew (Trustee)

.....


FIRST COOKSTOWN 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	96835	20698	-	117533	111869
Loose collections	2242	-	-	2242	1028
Donations and gifts	7027	7780	-	14807	9224
Gift Aid	25071	4100	-	29171	22345
Legacies and bequest	694	200	-	894	2923
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	131869	32778	-	164647	147389
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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	-	-	-	-	-
Membership fees & Grants	-	-	-	-	1034
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	1034
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Letting of premises	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposit interest	128	33	-	161	96
General Investment Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Rents investment properties	16	-	-	16	16
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	144	33	-	177	112
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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
	£	£	£	£	£
Magazines	685	-	-	685	-
Heat & Light Contribution	290	-	-	290	150
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	975	-	-	975	150
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

7. RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
FWO envelopes	889	-	-	889	889
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	889	-	-	889	889
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
General Assembly Assessments	11759	-	-	11759	11982
Presbytery fees	742	-	-	742	742
Ministry and support staff costs	78803	-	-	78803	76475
Congregational running expenses	24879	15842	-	40721	49181
Donations to Missions and charities	-	21983	-	21983	19017
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	116183	37825	-	154008	157397
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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
	£	£	£	£	£
Property expenses	-	1440	-	1440	12874
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	1440	-	1440	12874
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

10. FIXED ASSETS

The congregation owns the Church premises, Halls and Former Manse situated at Loy Hill, Cookstown, and the associated fixtures, fittings, plant and machinery. These have an insurance value of £3,581,021. In addition, the congregation owns a new manse at Moneymore Road, Cookstown with an insurance value of £432,847.

11. INVESTMENTS

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
General Investment Fund	13542	13542
GB Crooks Bequest Investment	2000	2000
Progressive Building Society	25120	25120
Glasgow Bequest Investment	1040	1040
	-----	-----
	41702	41702
	-----	-----

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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 £	Transfer £	Surplus / (Deficit) £	Balance at end £
Unrestricted Funds						
No. 1 Account	72000	132988	117072	(10488)	5428	77428
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	72000	132988	117072	(10488)	5428	77428
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restricted Funds						
No. 2 Account	9906	25387	12838	(10350)	2199	12105
Investment, Building & Manse	12674	18	1443	-	(1425)	11249
Bowling Club	1163	-	-	-	-	1163
Sunday School & Bible Class	74	260	252	-	8	82
PW	1589	5347	3109	100	2338	3927
Youth Fellowship	897	-	-	-	-	897
Friends at First	-	1799	685	(200)	914	914
United Appeal	-	-	10350	10350	-	-
Charity / Missions	-	-	10588	10588	-	-
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	26303	32811	39265	10488	4034	30337
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Endowment Funds						
General Investment Fund	13542	-	-	-	-	13542
GB Crooks Bequest Investment	2000	-	-	-	-	2000
Progressive Building Society	25120	-	-	-	-	25120
Glasgow Bequest Investment	1040	-	-	-	-	1040
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	41702	-	-	-	-	41702
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total	140005	165799	156337	-	9462	149467
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105651

Annual report

**FIRST COOKSTOWN 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 (NIC105651)

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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

First Cookstown congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, 71 James Street, Cookstown, BT80 8AE

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland (NIC105651)

CHARITY TRUSTEES

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

Mr Bob Agnew	Mr Norman Bell
Mr George Black	Mr Gordon Black
Dr Alistair Brown	Mr Kenneth Brown
Mr Stanley Faulkner	Mr Paul Ferguson
Mr Robert Hamilton	Mr Harold Leonard
Mr Robert Leonard	Mr Ronnie Nicholl
Mr Robert Park	Mr Colin Rea
Rev Michael Currie	

PRINCIPAL OFFICE BEARERS

Minister	Rev Michael Currie
Clerk of Session	Mr Gordon Black
Treasurer	Mr Brian Donaghy

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Randal McKinney FCA CTA, 84 Fairhill Road, Cookstown, BT80 8DE

BANKERS

Ulster Bank Ltd, William Street, Cookstown

SOLICITORS

Millar Shearer & Black, Molesworth Street, Cookstown

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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 has 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 four times in each year.

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. First Cookstown congregation of the Presbyterian Church has been assigned to the Tyrone 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.

**FIRST COOKSTOWN 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.

First Cookstown 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 purposes is to be involved in reaching out to those who are not followers of Jesus. It is our responsibility to show the love of Jesus has for each of us to our families, friends and those we come into contact with each day.

FIRST COOKSTOWN 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
- Youth Fellowship
- Creche
- Bowling Club
- Youth Organisations
- PW
- Choir
- Elevenses
- Friends at First

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship and prayer

The congregation normally meets for worship each Sunday at 11.30am and 6.00pm. During the week the Bible Study provides an opportunity for members to meet together for fellowship, to study the scriptures and for a time of prayer.

At 31 December 2022 there were 347 communicant members and 311 of families connected with the congregations. The average week attendance at morning worship is 128.

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 minister, elders or by one of the congregation's pastoral visitors.

FIRST COOKSTOWN CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT (cont'd)

The congregation supports 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 minister and / or one of the elders. This provides an important link between the congregations and the wider structures of the church.

General Assembly

The minister 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

During 2022, with the exception of general property repairs & upkeep, there was no other expenditure, on property, during the year

Organisations

The church organisations listed above continue to meet regularly throughout the year

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.

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

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.

**FIRST COOKSTOWN 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 191 contributors during the year [no in previous year, 210] donating a total of £96,835 (£111,407, 2021)

Total Income of the congregation during the year was £165,799 compared to £148,685 in the previous year.

Total expenditure decreased from £171,160 to £156,337.

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 congregations 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 Church committee at a meeting on 3rd April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

B. Donaghy (Congregational Treasurer)



.....

B. Agnew (Trustee)



.....

First Cookstown Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105651

Annual return

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

I report on the accounts of First Cookstown Presbyterian Church for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out below.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act.
- 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.
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report


I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my 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. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records,
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts 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 accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my 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, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Randal McKinney 
FCA CTA
84 Fairhill Road, Cookstown, Co Tyrone, BT80 8DE

Date: 26th September 2023