

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105712

Details

Status Received

Registered 2018-12-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address 21 Percy Street
Belfast
21 Percy Street
21 Percy Street
Belfast
BT13 2hs
BT13 2HS

Email lsca2023@outlook.com

Activities

Purposes: Aims & Objects The Association is established to promote the benefit of the general public in the Lower Shankill area, without distinction of age, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnic origin, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment, advance education, and to relieve poverty, sickness and the aged by providing or assisting in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for said inhabitants and in particular to maintain and manage a centre or centres in the area of benefit for activities promoted by the association.

What the charity does: The advancement of citizenship or community development

How the charity works: Accommodation/housing,Advice/advocacy/information,Arts,Community development,Counselling/support,Criminal justice,Cross-border/cross-community,Cultural,Disability,Education/training,Environment/sustainable development/conservation,Gender,General charitable purposes,Grant making,Heritage/historical,Human rights/equality,Medical/health/sickness,Research/evaluation,Sport/recreation,Urban development,Volunteer development,Welfare/benevolent,Youth development

Who the charity helps: Adult training,Community safety/crime prevention,Ethnic minorities,Ex-offenders and prisoners,General public,Interface communities,Men,Mental health,Older people,Parents,Sexual orientation,Specific areas of deprivation,Tenants,Unemployed/low income,Victim support,Voluntary and community sector,Volunteers,Women,Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£160,891	£158,732	£0	3

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Brian Watson		
Mr Derek Hamilton		
Mr Robert Harris		
Mrs Sadie Drake		
Nichola Harris		

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105712

Accounts

Lower Shankill Community Association
Receipts and payments account
Year ended 31st March 2025

Charity NI

105712

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2025

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Address for correspondence 21 Percy St
Shankill Road
Belfast
BT13 2HS

Independent Examiner Vivien Davidson
Apt 7, 6 Sea Road
Castlerock
BT51 4RE

Bankers Ulster Bank
Shankill Road
Belfast
BT13 1FH

Charity NI 105712

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees Management Committee

Brian Watson - Chairperson

Robert Harris - Secretary

Derek Hamilton - Treasurer

Sadie Drake Committee member

Nicola Harris Committee member

**Management Committee's Report
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Committee Members' Responsibilities

Organisation law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation and of the receipts and payments of the organisation for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Management Committee is required to:

1. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
2. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent and
3. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the organisation will continue.

The Management Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the organisation and to enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

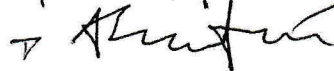
Brian Watson (Chairperson)



Robert Harris (Secretary)



Derek Hamilton (Treasurer)



Lower Shankill Community Association

Charity Number NI 105712

Statement of Receipts and Payments - Year ended 31st March 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Receipts					
Grants					
NIHE		14517		14517	9110
NBIN		33896		33896	31745
BCC		6029		6029	3240
BRO		67336		67336	60284
Consensus		37151		37151	30312
Rent & Room Hire/Oth	1962			1962	7857
Total receipts	1962	158929		160891	142548
Payments					
Salaries		105049		105049	94659
Events, Projects, Fees		37900		37900	31664
Heat & Light		2633		2633	4512
Equipment repairs, cleaning		4029		4029	3332
Volunteers Expenses		2400		2400	564
Travel		591		591	852
Stationery	842	0		842	681
Insurance	264	0		264	557
Telephone		1402		1402	1488
Bank Charges	148	0		148	109
Building Costs		0		0	0
Grant repaid		0		0	356
Other		3475		3475	4452
Asset and investment purchase					
Purchase of property				0	0
Total Payments	1254	157478		158732	143326
Net receipts (deficit) payments	708	1451		2159	-778
Transfers to /from funds		0		0	0
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	708	1451		2159	-778
Reconciliation 31st March 2025					
Cash in bank and in hand 1st April 2024		18		18	796
Surplus (Deficit) this year end		2159		2159	-778
Cash in hand and in Bank 31 st March 2025		2177		2177	18

Lower Shankill Community Association

Statement of assets and liabilities – Year ended 31st March 2025

	Total	Total
	2025	2024
Fixed Assets		
Building	154200	154200
Current Assets		
Bank Current accounts	2177	18
Liabilities	-	-
Net Assets	156377	154218

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105712

Accounts

Lower Shankill Community Association
Receipts and payments account
Year ended 31st March 2024

Charity NI

105712

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2024

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Charity NI 105712

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Sadie Drake Committee member

Nicola Harris Committee member

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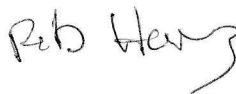
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Brian Watson (Chairperson)



Robert Harris (Secretary)



Derek Hamilton (Treasurer)



Lower Shankill Community Association

Charity Number NI 105712

Statement of Receipts and Payments - Year ended 31st March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Receipts					
Grants					
NIHE		9110		9110	8159
NBIN		31745		31745	30402
BCC		3240		3240	5705
BRO		60284		60284	65913
Consensus		30312		30312	2500
Rent & Room Hire/Other	7857			7857	7706
Total receipts	7857	134691		142548	120385
Payments					
Salaries		94659		94659	91559
Events, Projects, Fees		31664		31664	13726
Heat & Light		4512		4512	4343
Equipment & Repairs	332	3000		3332	5453
Volunteers Expenses	564			564	0
Travel		852		852	458
Stationery	681			681	987
Insurance	557			557	1464
Telephone		1488		1488	1292
Bank Charges	109			109	121
Building costs				0	0
Grant repaid		356		356	670
Other	4552			4552	5088
Asset and investment purchase					
Purchase of property		0		0	0
Total Payments	6795	136531		143326	125161
Net receipts (deficit) payments	1062	-1840		-778	-4776
Transfers to /from funds		0		0	0
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	2442	-3220		-778	-4776
Reconciliation 31st March 2024					
Cash in bank and in hand 1st April 2023				796	5572
Surplus (Deficit) this year end				-778	-4776
Cash in hand and in Bank 31 st March 2024				18	796

Lower Shankill Community Association

Statement of assets and liabilities – Year ended 31st March 2024

	Total	Total
	2024	2023
Fixed Assets		
Building	154200	154200
Current Assets		
Bank Current accounts	18	796
Liabilities	-	-
Net Assets	154218	154996

Lower Shankill Community Association

Independent Examiners 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.

My 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 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.

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 the Northern Ireland, I have found no matters require drawing to your attention.



Name: Vivien Davidson,

MIATI, Chartered Accountants Ireland

28/05/2024

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105712

Annual report

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity name Lower Shankill Community Association

Charity registration number NI 105712

Principal Office 21 Percy St
Belfast
BT13 2HS

Trustees and Committee Brian Watson
Derek Hamilton
Robert Harris
Nichola Harris
Sarah Drake

Independent Examiner Vivien Davidson, MIAT
65 Carnaghliiss Road
Nutts Corner
BT29 4TT

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

Structure, governance and management.

The management of Lower Shankill Community Association is made up from a number of representatives from the local churches and nominees from a range of local community organisations.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to drive social change by breaking the cycle of long term deprivation by tackling social exclusion, poverty, and social injustice through supporting community-based action and influencing policy development.

Core Members:

Lower Shankill Community Association

Affiliated Members:

The management committee is elected at the Annual General meeting after nominations have been received from the local community organisations.

Objectives and activities

Lower Shankill was established in response to an identified community need. There was a failure by the statutory agencies to fully address the various issues highlighted by the community.

The Association is established to promote the Advancement of Citizenship and Community Development. The benefits to the public are open and accessible programs for developing and promoting civic values through encouraging voluntary and community activity by assisting with the development of the community through Physical, Economic and Social renewal. We promote Social inclusion through volunteering and hosting a range of activities to involve all sections of the community and through the provision of dedicated community facilities. The following benefits flow from our purposes; Residents are active and involved. Community groups are resilient and thriving. People have access to services and support. Community buildings are welcoming and inclusive. Community groups are influential and engaged. These benefits are being demonstrated through a number of avenues, helping to establish new voluntary organisations to meet a need which is not currently being met. Assisting voluntary and community organisations in extending their activities to further benefit the public. Extending the participation in the voluntary sector of sections of the community who are underrepresented within the sector. Improving the services of the voluntary sector in terms of efficiency,

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

effectiveness and quality. Providing a range of locations and buildings to host activities. The charity's beneficiaries are those individuals living or working within the geographical catchment area as described in the governing document of Lower Shankill Community Association.

The group was established to promote the benefit of the community, without distinction of gender, political, religious, or other opinions, by the provision of education, cultural, recreational, and training, employment and counselling facilities to improve the quality of life of all within our catchment area.

In achieving these objectives Lower Shankill Community Association promotes and deliver a number of inter related projects. These projects are designed to remove and break the cycle of deprivation, reduce and alleviate poverty that is prevalent in the community. The projects include women and youth programmes, elderly health project, sporting and recreational activities, the promotion of neighbourhood renewal; including physical development, social development, capacity building, education and training, community safety and cross community good relations building.

Strategic Aims

- To work in partnership with community and voluntary organisations to achieve social change and to promote the rights of those most disadvantaged and excluded in our society through the delivery of a range of relevant programmes and proactive development initiatives.
- To work with a range of other groups to maximise the resource available for effective support work that is consistent with the objectives of Lower Shankill Community Association and with the priorities of the local community.
- To challenge, inform and influence policy and practice, locally, citywide and regionally.
- To increase social capital and support community development work throughout the community with individuals and established and emerging groups where it is most needed.
- To contribute to the building of a more sustainable community infrastructure which gives a collective voice to our area's needs.

Of central importance to Lower Shankill Community Association in achieving a positive impact on multiple deprivation through partnership is the delivery of a range of "in house" initiatives. We are meeting the needs of the local community through the provision of support under nine main themes.

1. Building strong, safe, attractive and sustainable communities.
2. Helping people move towards and into work as well as increasing the skills level.
3. Improving community relations.
4. Raising educational attainment.
5. Engaging young people.
6. Improving health and wellbeing.
7. Support and development of older people.
8. Provision of advice services.
9. Building the Social capital of local residents.

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

We do this through a range of methods:

- Development of focus groups.
- Attending conferences.
- Funding applications.
- Engaging with the planning process.
- Health and Safety training.
- Advocating on behalf of local residents.
- Training volunteers with committee skills; decision making processes; financial procedures.
- Developing suitable constitutions.
- Committee training.
- Role of Chairperson, secretary, treasurer.
- Setting up a bank account.
- Health promotion activities.
- Financial processes.
- Roles and responsibilities.
- Decision making.
- Developing outcomes.
- Management of time.
- Child protection guidance.

Achievements and performance

The Lower Shankill Community Association has achieved a number of self-set targets in relation to assisting the community with its general development and aspirations for the future. The organisation is regularly monitored by a range of funders to ensure we are achieving specific targets as per funding agreements. These include Belfast City Council, capacity building program, the Department for Communities, Community Empowerment division, and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Financial review

Lower Shankill Community Association have established an internal process to examine expenditure on a monthly basis and a risk assessment is carried out to ensure that budget forecasts are strictly adhered to. Expenditure and balances are provided to the committee on a monthly basis. In addition to the internal process, we submit progress reports to our funders on a quarterly basis. All our financial processes are fully documented and examined and checked through three stages before signing off on any expenditure.

Plans for future periods

A strategic plan to guide Lower Shankill Community Association throughout its existence for fifteen years has been developed on an inclusive basis, characterised as it is by some of the most challenging economic conditions seen for many years. For the Shankill community served by Lower Shankill Community Association, economic hardship has been a constant and unwelcome companion for many years and the multiple deprivation statistics provide a compelling argument, that the locality suffers more in social and economic terms than the vast majority of the rest of Northern Ireland. Against this backdrop

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

there is a clear need for the range of activities to address local needs which are enabled by Lower Shankill Community Association. Some is through direct provision, and others, as a result of Lower Shankill Community Association's strategic role in partnership with other agencies. The Strategic Plan represents a mature acknowledgement that there is a priority this year on consolidating the good work which has been ongoing, rather than diluting the effectiveness of this work by digressing towards a wish list of additional initiatives.

The work of Lower Shankill Community Association is based on real local needs and this work is effective. The organisation has developed its capacity in recent years to enhance this effectiveness and it is imperative that the resources are found to continue the current programme. Continued difficulties still arise as a result of major roof damage caused by a malicious fire. AVIVA Insurance protracted delay in establishing payment of the damage costs has resulted in the continued use of temporary premises in the area. The Association is most appreciative of the support of Belfast City Council in providing the premises.

We will continue to consult with a range of statutory groups and organisations, Belfast City Council, the Department for Communities, NI Housing Executive and a number of established community organisations. We wished to ensure that the strategic development plan is in keeping with the developing the city ethos and to ensure we do not duplicate services delivered by other organisations. Lower Shankill Community Association conducted regular feedback methods to get an indication of the issues that people have concerns with and potential solutions to problems highlighted. As a hub of community activity, the views and concerns of the community are readily available and will continue to be acted upon. Adapting the service we provide to aim changing circumstances due to cost of living issues is very important for the Association to remain a vitally point of contact for all members of the community.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

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

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees' annual report was approved on 10th June 2024 and signed on behalf of the Affiliated Members:

Brian Watson
Trustee

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105712

Annual return

Lower Shankill Community Association

Independent Examiners 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.

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MIATI, Chartered Accountants Ireland

28/05/2024

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105712

Accounts

Lower Shankill Community Association
Receipts and payments account
Year ended 31st March 2023

Charity NI

105712

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees Management Committee

Brian Watson - Chairperson

Robert Harris - Secretary

Derek Hamilton - Treasurer

Sadie Drake Committee member

Sam Drake Committee member

Nicola Harris Committee member

Michelle Addis Committee member

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st March 2023

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For the year ended 31 March 2023**

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Lower Shankill Community Association

Charity Number NI 105712

Statement of Receipts and Payments - Year ended 31st March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Receipts					
Grants					
NIHE		8159		8159	10177
NBIN		30402		30402	31978
BCC		5705		5705	6340
BRO		65913		65913	61222
Cooperation Ireland		2500		2500	3100
Rent & Room Hire/Other	7706			7706	7100
Total receipts	7706	112679		120385	119917
Payments					
Salaries		91559		91559	85013
Events, Projects, Fees		13726		13726	13615
Heat & Light		4343		4343	3673
Equipment & Repairs		5453		5453	11162
Volunteer Costs				0	750
Travel		458		458	318
Stationery	987			987	534
Insurance	1464			1464	1342
Telephone		1292		1292	1183
Bank Charges	121			121	98
Building costs				0	0
Grant repaid		670		670	527
Other	5088			5088	4813
Asset and investment purchase					
Purchase of property		0		0	0
Total Payments	7660	117501		125161	123028
Net receipts (deficit) payments	46	-4730		-4776	-3111
Transfers to /from funds		0		0	0
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	46	-4730		-4776	-3111
Reconciliation 31st March 2023					
Cash in bank and in hand 1st April 2022				5572	8683
Surplus (Deficit) this year end				-4776	-3111
Cash in hand and in Bank 31 st March 2023				796	5572

Lower Shankill Community Association

Statement of assets and liabilities – Year ended 31st March 2023

	Total	Total
	2023	2022
Fixed Assets		
Building	154200	154200
Current Assets		
Bank Current accounts	796	5572
Liabilities	-	
Net Assets	154996	159772

Lower Shankill Community Association

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MIATI, Chartered Accountants Ireland

27/07/2023

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105712

Annual report

Lower Shankill Community Association

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Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

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Affiliated Members:

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Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

effectiveness and quality. Providing a range of locations and buildings to host activities. The charity's beneficiaries are those individuals living or working within the geographical catchment area as described in the governing document of Lower Shankill Community Association.

The group was established to promote the benefit of the community, without distinction of gender, political, religious, or other opinions, by the provision of education, cultural, recreational, and training, employment and counselling facilities to improve the quality of life of all within our catchment area.

In achieving these objectives Lower Shankill Community Association promotes and deliver a number of inter related projects. These projects are designed to remove and break the cycle of deprivation, reduce and alleviate poverty that is prevalent in the community. The projects include women and youth programmes, elderly health project, sporting and recreational activities, the promotion of neighbourhood renewal; including physical development, social development, capacity building, education and training, community safety and cross community good relations building.

Strategic Aims

- To work in partnership with community and voluntary organisations to achieve social change and to promote the rights of those most disadvantaged and excluded in our society through the delivery of a range of relevant programmes and proactive development initiatives.
- To work with a range of other groups to maximise the resource available for effective support work that is consistent with the objectives of Lower Shankill Community Association and with the priorities of the local community.
- To challenge, inform and influence policy and practice, locally, citywide and regionally.
- To increase social capital and support community development work throughout the community with individuals and established and emerging groups where it is most needed.
- To contribute to the building of a more sustainable community infrastructure which gives a collective voice to our area's needs.

Of central importance to Lower Shankill Community Association in achieving a positive impact on multiple deprivation through partnership is the delivery of a range of "in house" initiatives. We are meeting the needs of the local community through the provision of support under nine main themes.

1. Building strong, safe, attractive and sustainable communities.
2. Helping people move towards and into work as well as increasing the skills level.
3. Improving community relations.
4. Raising educational attainment.
5. Engaging young people.
6. Improving health and wellbeing.
7. Support and development of older people.
8. Provision of advice services.
9. Building the Social capital of local residents.

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

We do this through a range of methods:

- Development of focus groups.
- Attending conferences.
- Funding applications.
- Engaging with the planning process.
- Health and Safety training.
- Advocating on behalf of local residents.
- Training volunteers with committee skills; decision making processes; financial procedures.
- Developing suitable constitutions.
- Committee training.
- Role of Chairperson, secretary, treasurer.
- Setting up a bank account.
- Health promotion activities.
- Financial processes.
- Roles and responsibilities.
- Decision making.
- Developing outcomes.
- Management of time.
- Child protection guidance.

Achievements and performance

The Lower Shankill Community Association has achieved a number of self-set targets in relation to assisting the community with its general development and aspirations for the future. The organisation is regularly monitored by a range of funders to ensure we are achieving specific targets as per funding agreements. These include Belfast City Council, capacity building program, the Department for Communities, Community Empowerment division, and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Financial review

Lower Shankill Community Association have established an internal process to examine expenditure on a monthly basis and a risk assessment is carried out to ensure that budget forecasts are strictly adhered to. Expenditure and balances are provided to the committee on a monthly basis. In addition to the internal process, we submit progress reports to our funders on a quarterly basis. All our financial processes are fully documented and examined and checked through three stages before signing off on any expenditure.

Plans for future periods

A strategic plan to guide Lower Shankill Community Association throughout its existence for fifteen years has been developed on an inclusive basis, characterised as it is by some of the most challenging economic conditions seen for many years. For the Shankill community served by Lower Shankill Community Association, economic hardship has been a constant and unwelcome companion for many years and the multiple deprivation statistics provide a compelling argument, that the locality suffers more in social and economic terms than the vast majority of the rest of Northern Ireland. Against this backdrop

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

there is a clear need for the range of activities to address local needs which are enabled by Lower Shankill Community Association. Some is through direct provision, and others, as a result of Lower Shankill Community Association's strategic role in partnership with other agencies. The Strategic Plan represents a mature acknowledgement that there is a priority this year on consolidating the good work which has been ongoing, rather than diluting the effectiveness of this work by digressing towards a wish list of additional initiatives.

The work of Lower Shankill Community Association is based on real local needs and this work is effective. The organisation has developed its capacity in recent years to enhance this effectiveness and it is imperative that the resources are found to continue the current programme. Added difficulties have occurred in the current year as a result of major roof damage caused by a malicious fire. This has resulted in the use of temporary premises in the area for a period yet to be established.

We will continue to consult with a range of statutory groups and organisations, Belfast City Council, the Department for Communities, NI Housing Executive and a number of established community organisations. We wished to ensure that the strategic development plan is in keeping with the developing the city ethos and to ensure we do not duplicate services delivered by other organisations. Lower Shankill Community Association conducted regular feedback methods to get an indication of the issues that people have concerns with and potential solutions to problems highlighted. As a hub of community activity, the views and concerns of the community are readily available and will continue to be acted upon. Adapting the service we provide to aim changing circumstances due to cost of living issues is very important for the Association to remain a vitally point of contact for all members of the community.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

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

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

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act

(Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Lower Shankill Community Association

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees' annual report was approved on 2nd September 2023 and signed on behalf of the Affiliated Members:

Brian Watson
Trustee

Lower Shankill Community Association

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105712

Annual return

Lower Shankill Community Association

Independent Examiners 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.

My 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 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.

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 the Northern Ireland, I have found no matters require drawing to your attention.



Name: Vivien Davidson,

MIATI, Chartered Accountants Ireland

27/07/2023