

**DOWNPATRICK COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE**  
**TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**  
**31ST MARCH 2025**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**

**CHARITY NAME:** Downpatrick Community Collective

**CHARITY REG NO:** NIC107063

**DATE OF REGISTRATION:** 28/08/2018

**REGISTERED OFFICE:** 12 Kilbride Road  
DOWNPATRICK  
Co Down  
BT30 6JS

**TRUSTEES:**

The trustees who served during the year and those still serving on the date of approval of the trustees report were as follows:

Dan McEvoy  
Macartan Digney  
Peter Smyth  
Lilian Horrox

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS:** Eamonn P McGrady & Co  
Chartered Accountants &  
Registered Auditors  
4-6 Market Lane  
DOWNPATRICK  
BT30 6TH

**BANKERS:** Bank of Ireland  
Belfast City Centre Branch  
1 Donegall Square South  
BELFAST  
BT1 5LR

**DOWNPATRICK COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE**  
**TRUSTEES REPORT**  
**FOR THE**  
**YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

The trustees of Downpatrick Community Collective are pleased to submit their annual report and accounts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025.

**Charity Status**

Downpatrick Community Collective was awarded Registered Charity Status by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018 – Registered Number **NIC 107063**.

**Executive Committee (from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024– 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025) elected AGM 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024**

Chairperson:	Dan McEvoy
Treasurer:	Cadogan Enright
Vice Chair:	Macartan Digney
Secretary:	Maya Goodfellow
Ass Secretary:	Susan Casement
Events:	Deborah Finlay
Health & Safety:	Jeff Watt
Ass Events:	Liam Quinn
Environment:	Donna Gill

DCC Trustees from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Dan McEvoy  
Macartan Digney  
Peter Smyth  
Lilian Horrox

**Group Membership**

As of the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 our DCC membership consists of the following groups:

Bridge Street and Mount Crescent Residents Association (BS&MCRA)  
Knocknashinna Residents Association (KRA)  
Meadowlands Community Association (MCA)  
Model Farm Community Association (MFCA)  
Gallaun Residents Association (GRA)  
Rathkeltair Community Association (RCA)  
Vianstown Heights Residents Association (VHRA)  
Ballyalton Community Association (BCA)  
Hunters Mill Community Association (HMCA)  
Thomas Russell Park Group (TRPG)

**Associate Members:**

Downpatrick Men's Club (DMC)

# **DOWNPATRICK COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT**

### **FOR THE**

### **YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

#### **Membership of Forums**

DCC continue to meet our main aims and objectives through our representation on the following key forums that operate within the Downpatrick DEA:

Downpatrick District Electoral Area Forum  
Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership  
Downpatrick Housing Community Network  
River Quoile Trust

In addition to the above local forums our members continue to be involved in various community planning activities, youth activities and other local initiatives that help to improve the residential environment including Neighbourhood Watch network.

#### **Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

Downpatrick Community Collective's delivered a full calendar of events throughout this reporting period having due regard to current guidance and legislation. DCC delivered all their regular events with the weather & funding being the two key factors that could impact. As ever DCC were delighted to continue their work as one of the main community entities within the greater Downpatrick town area.

#### **Communication**

Throughout the period of this report, Downpatrick Community Collective hosted "in person" DCC meetings but used our main DCC WhatsApp group for the majority of communications relating to DCC Executive issues. We also used our Facebook private members page.

Public communications were delivered through our main DCC Facebook page.

#### **Partnership Working**

Partnership working continued and the Collective continued to engage with NM&D District Council, PSNI, NIHE, PCSP, DfC (NH), on a range of issues that impacted on our member groups and their respective community areas. These included addressing antisocial behaviour (ASB) related incidents and assisting with activities related to the bigger statutory body lead Coronavirus response.



# **DOWNPATRICK COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT**

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#### **Annual events**

During the period of this reporting period DCC did deliver our main annual public community events including:

DCC/KRA joint funday – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Culture Night 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Halloween Festival 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024

Mobile Santa Event 2<sup>nd</sup> December to 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Santa attendance at Artisan markets in December

St Patrick's Date 17/3/2025 parade entry

#### **DCC Fund Raising**

DCC hosted a quiz night on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 25 @ Lakeside Inn Ballyduggan.

#### **DCC Membership**

No new groups joined the Collective membership during the period of this report.

#### **Main Achievements Projects**

The Collective continued to deliver against our key aims and objectives, in addition to the annual events detailed above DCC completed:

DCC Executive meetings including events sub-committee

Other meetings 17 (DEA, Dpk NHR, NIHE HCN, Markets, , living high streets & Bees, River Quoile Trust)

Volunteers engaged x30

DCC continue with our interest in Bees through the Ballyalton Bee group. Our hive survived during the 24-25 season and we hope to have some products during the 25/26 season.

#### **Training**

No formal training sessions

Artisan Market – Downpatrick & Warrenpoint

We agreed a 7th Service Level Agreement contract with NM&D Council for a period of one year, ending March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025. This SLA was for the delivery of Newcastle, Downpatrick and Warrenpoint Artisan Markets and excluded the Newry market – which was cancelled (by Council) due to reduced footfall.

During the period of this report DCC delivered a total of 34 markets against a contracted figure of 24.

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**Social Enterprise – Celtair Lodge**

No further progress was achieved during this reporting period however it still remains as an objective of DCC to pursue our social enterprise proposal and where possible to assist in the regeneration of Downpatrick Town Centre through the creation of new jobs and through partnership working will increase tourism in the area which in turn will generate a much-needed funding stream to local businesses throughout the local DEA.

**Financial Review**

Financial performance in the year end to March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025 has been consistent with previous years and despite the impact from the pandemic it has more or less been in line with what trustee's had forecast and expected. The year end bank account (31<sup>st</sup> March 2025) showed a balance of £11707.00.

**Income**

Receipts confirm an income of £49,594.00 for 24/25.

**Registered Charity with HMRC**

In December 2023 DCC submitted an application to register for charitable recognition with HMRC. On the 28<sup>th</sup> December 23 HMRC confirmed DCC were a charity for tax purposes (NI 01367) and regarded as a charitable company. In April 24 DCC were asked to submit a Tax Return for year end March 24 and this was completed on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 by E P McGrady & Co (signed off by Chairperson on this date). We don't expect to be asked to complete another tax return for many years.

**Aims and Objectives:**

The Collective was formed in August 2012, when a group of community representatives came together to try and collectively reduce the continuing rise in the incidents of recorded Anti-Social Behaviour associated with the traditional Halloween bonfire period. Whilst we still strive to reduce anti-social behaviour, the Collective continues to develop.

Our main aims and objectives are:

1. The advancement of community development for the public benefit within the Downpatrick District Electoral Area (DEA), in particular the promotion of the community and voluntary sector for the benefit of the public by:
  - (i) Supporting and developing initiatives and projects that strengthen the community and voluntary sector in charitable activity and seek to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of the area of benefit including the promotion and development of Social Enterprise schemes.



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(ii) Organising or assisting in organising activities & events to promote health and well-being for residents in the area of benefit.

(iii) Providing support services, information, education and training.

(iv) Providing and maintaining a forum where members can come together to find mutual support, exchange views, share common issues and information, create a collective voice.

2. To promote good community relations, religious and racial harmony, equality and diversity through engagement with local communities and working in partnership with recognised private and statutory bodies.

Our current Constitution (8th February 2024) records in more detail our many other aims and objectives. A copy of the current constitution is available upon request.

#### **Transactions with related parties**

During the year the collective transacted with the chairman and a number of trustees for work undertaken in the stewarding of events, running the Artisan Market and the supply of services for collective public events, on an arm's length basis.

#### **Thanks**

As chairperson, I would like to acknowledge and record my thanks to every committee member within the Collective and in particular the officers of the committee. It is only through the dedication, commitment and willingness (on a voluntary basis) of members to get involved that the Collective continues to grow as a prominent community organisation within the Downpatrick and wider area.

I would like to acknowledge & record the Collective's thanks to the assistance offered through the CDRCN.

  
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Dan McEvoy  
Chairperson  
Downpatrick Community Collective

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date