

The Religious Society of Friends
(Quakers) In Ireland,
Richhill Preparative Meeting

Annual Report & Accounts for year ended
30th June 2024

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Richhill Preparative Meeting

Trustees (at 30th June 2024)

Ian James Chapman

Michael Steven Boyd

Mary Frances Chapman

Walter Paul Sinton

Registered Address

c/o Ian Chapman

36 Battlehill Road

Portadown BT62 4ER

Charity number

NIC 107090

Bankers

Danske Bank

Trustees' Report for year ended 30th June 2024

Introduction

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and in line with the guidance produced by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Constitution and governance

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) In Ireland, Richhill Preparative Meeting is governed by its governing document which was agreed by the Preparative Meeting in 2018. The Meeting was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 15^h June 2018.

The Trustees, of whom there should be not less than two, are appointed at the Annual General Meeting. They are appointed for a period of up to three years and are eligible for re-appointment for a further two terms. Trustees who served during the year ending 30th June 2024 were as follows:

Ian James Chapman (Clerk of Trustees)

Michael Steven Boyd

Mary Frances Chapman

Walter Paul Sinton

The Trustees are responsible for the policies, activities and assets of the charity. No Trustee received any remuneration for services as a member of the Board of Trustees and the charity has no employees.

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Purposes of the charity

Richhill Preparative Meeting is established by Grange & Richhill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends in Ireland. It is primarily a Meeting for Worship that practises in accordance with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends, also known as Quakers.

We are based in a Meeting House at Irish Street in Richhill.

The purpose of our charity, as set out in our governing document, is the advancement of the general religious purposes of the Religious Society of Friends by the following means, in so far as they are exclusively charitable:

- i. Strengthening the Christian understanding and religious development of the Quaker meeting both in the geographical area of the Preparative Meeting and beyond;
- ii. Contributing financially and practically to the relief of suffering at home and abroad;
- iii. Providing for the pastoral care of individual Members and Attenders including assistance to those in need

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Our activities during the year to 30th June 2024

During this year the meeting continued with in-person weekly worship. Meeting for worship was held every Sunday at 11.00am. A coffee morning was held after Meeting on the last Sunday of each month.

A number of visitors attended meeting during the year and they were encouraged to sign the visitors' book.

Sunday School was reasonably well attended throughout the year which is a blessing to our meeting. Parental support is greatly appreciated as parents faithfully bring their children along. Sunday School teachers provide an invaluable service of nurturing the spiritual growth of our young members. A well attended Sunday School Christmas party was held in December.

During the year Ministry and Oversight organised an Bible Study on 3 different evenings.

The Women's meeting also met during most months during the year.

Public Benefit

The trustees of Richhill Preparative Meeting are pleased to confirm that they have complied with their duty to have regard to the public benefit requirement statutory guidance of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Our public benefit has been demonstrated in a number of ways over the past year:

- We hold regular Meeting for Worship every Sunday morning and these Meetings are open to members of the public as well as our own members and regular attenders – these Meetings provide spiritual nourishment and deepen the Christian experience and understanding of those who attend;
- We have engaged with the local community which we hope will make the Meeting House more visible and encourage others to join us for worship.
- We provide family visits to share fellowship and encourage other members in times joy, upon the occasion of marriage or the birth of a child, and difficulty times of sickness and bereavement.

Financial Review

Our financial statement for the period 1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024 is attached to this report and shows that we had a deficit of £8,435 for the year. As a result, our total funds at 30th June 2024 decreased to £13,757 compared with £22,192 at 30th June 2023.

The key elements of our finances in the past year included:

- A 13% decrease in membership subscriptions from £10,360 in 2023 to £8,145 in 2024.
- A decrease of 687% in National & Provincial payments from £1,872 in 2023 to £12,859 in 2024. This increase was mainly as a result of timing differences and are likely to remain at similar levels in future years.
- The value of our investments at 30th June 2024 was £21,416 and income from these investments during the year amounted to £594.

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Declaration

This report was approved at the Annual General Meeting on 27th April 2024 and is signed on behalf of trustees.

Ian James Chapman
Clerk of Trustees

Statement of Receipts & Payments - year ended 30th June 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Receipts		
From Charitable Activities		
Annual subscriptions	8,145	10,360
Weekly collections	27	-
Voluntary receipts		
Donations and bequests	150	800
Appeals	580	525
Bank interest	49	29
Investment receipts – unrestricted funds	594	608
Other income	2	495
Gift Aid receipts	-	-
Total receipts	9,547	12,817
Payments		
Cost of Charitable activities	17,673	8,763
Donations	270	570
Bank fees	40	38
Cost of fixtures and fittings	-	-
Total payments	17,983	9,371
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	(8,436)	3,446

Statement of Assets & Liabilities - year ended 30th June 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at 30 th June 2022	22,192	18,746
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	-8,436	3,446
Cash at 30th June 2022	13,756	22,192
Current Account	11,696	20,164
Business Investment Account	2,060	2,028
Bank Account Total	13,756	22,192

Investments Value at 30th June 2024 (unrestricted)

Ref D9	111 shares	
Ref D10	111 shares	
Ref Inv 107	450 shares	
Ref Inv 112	182 shares	
Ref Inv 132	331 shares	
Ref Inv 133	165 shares	
Total shares	1,350 shares @ £15.8634 / share	£21,415.59

(valuation per NICIFC Update June 2024)

Fixed Asset Listing

Meeting House contents at 15 Irish Street,
Richhill

Including:

- Ladies cloakroom
- Wooden benches
- Library books
- Book cabinet
- Quaker bonnet
- Quaker paintings
- Oil heating system
- Lawn mower

Sunday School Hall contents at 15 Irish
Street, Richhill

Including:

- Folding wooden tables
- Chairs
- Piano
- Projector system
- Cooker
- Coffee maker
- Water heater
- Cups, plates, bowls
- Electric heating system