

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

Annual Report & Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022

Trustees (at 31st December 2022)

Elizabeth M. O'Halloran. Daniel H. Sinton

Registered Address

155 Whitepark Rd, Ballycastle, Co. Antrim BT54 6NH Charity number :107095

Bankers :Danske Bank

Trustees' Report for year ended 31st December 2022

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, Moyallon Preparative Meeting is governed by its governing document which was agreed by the Preparative Meeting on 18th March 2018. The Meeting was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 18th May 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 31st December 2022 were as follows:

Elizabeth M O'Halloran, Daniel H. 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.

The Trustees have put in place a data protection policy and a child protection policy, both of which are reviewed annually.

Purposes of the charity

Moyallon Preparative Meeting was established by Lurgan 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 117 Stramore Road, Gilford, Craigavon. As well as the main meeting room where we meet for worship on a Sunday, we also have a small upstairs meeting room. Our caretaker lives in a small cottage attached to the building.

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

At 31st December 2022 we had a total of 37 adult members and 8 adult attenders as well as 6 child members and 15 child attenders recorded.

Our activities during 2022

While Meeting for Worship is the centre of the Moyallon meeting, we held, on the 6th February, a Meeting for Business during which arrangements were made to manage the affairs of the meeting for the ongoing year. The required duties for running the meeting were assigned to individual members and these have all been successfully carried out during the year. This included the reading of the general Christian Counsel and the Advices and Queries for Serious Consideration. In addition, we agreed to offer financial support to a number of charitable bodies, including one locally.

2022 has been a busy year for Moyallon Friends. Meeting for Worship was held on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month, plus also the 2nd & 5th Sunday in July, with an average attendance of 15 adults and 1 child. However, numbers were boosted on many occasions by groups staying at Moyallon Centre – Junior Yearly Meeting in April, Junior Moyallon camp in June, and Senior Moyallon camp in July. Also, in July we had a visit from approximately 80 members of the Blackburn family from the US, with whom we shared lunch in the centre after Meeting for Worship.

In September we welcomed Yearly Meeting's committee to Meeting for Worship as they resumed their annual residential meeting at the centre.

The presence of visiting Friends and attenders has been much appreciated during the year and has added to the ministry which has always been most helpful and relevant.

This year also saw greater participation in events by our younger members & attenders. Charlotte Johnston represented our meeting at Junior Yearly Meeting, and 5 of our young people attended Junior Moyallon camp.

Moyallon hosted Lurgan Monthly Meeting in September, and the annual Ministry and Oversight open meeting at the end of October. Kathy Stephenson was the speaker.

In October, we held a coffee morning in aid of the Macmillan cancer Charity. We had a stall selling garden produce and baking & another with bric-a-brac, and managed to raise an amazing £700. Everyone within the Meeting participated in organising and supporting this.

Work has continued on improvements to the Meeting House and graveyard. Roy McClughan completed stripping the damp plaster from the inside walls of the front part of the Meeting House and re-pointing them. It is now a most attractive asset for our meeting. The shutters dividing this area are kept permanently up and we use this space for business meetings & refreshments after worship. A major drainage programme has been undertaken in the graveyard, where the land had become waterlogged. Previous work in 2015 had not resolved the problem. The contractor expects to complete the work in early 2023. The drainage committee is to be thanked for persevering in seeing this job done.

In September the Meeting received some books of Quaker interest from Quaker House, Dublin, which members are encouraged to examine.

We held our annual Christmas lunch after MfW on the 18th December, which was enjoyed by all who were able to attend. Sadly, quite a number were unwell, some with Covid and others with flu. Over the year several members contracted Covid but thanks to being fully vaccinated their symptoms were not too severe.

#### Public Benefit

The trustees of Moyallon 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 held Meetings for Worship at Moyallon on the first and third Sundays of each month and these Meetings were 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;
- Using legacy funds that have been left to the Meeting in the past, we provide some financial support to those in need within our Meeting;
- We make annual donations to Quaker Charities and other charities as agreed by our members.

#### Financial Review

Our financial statement for the period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022 is attached to this report and shows a reduced but adequate bank balance of £28,07018.

#### Declaration

This report was approved at the Annual General Meeting on 5th February 2023 and is signed on behalf of trustees.

Elizabeth O'Halloran

Trustee, Moyallon Preparative meeting

31st October 2023