

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

Annual Report & Accounts for year ended 31st December 2023

Trustees (at 31st December 2023)

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 2023

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 2023 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 2023 we had a total of 51 adult members and 8 adult attenders as well as 8 child members and 7 child attenders recorded.

Our activities during 2023

While Meeting for Worship is the centre of the Moyallon meeting, we held, on the 5th 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.

2023 has been a busy year for Moyallon Friends. Meeting for Worship was held on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month, plus also the 2nd Sunday in July, with an average attendance of 14 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

Craigavon Historical Society visited Moyallon on the 15th April. Arthur G Chapman gave a talk to the group of approximately forty who were present. The Society made a very generous contribution to Moyallon funds.

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

Quarterly Meeting took place in Moyallon on Saturday 16th September with tea and coffee provided by Moyallon Friends.

On 15th October Lurgan Monthly Meeting M & O open meeting was held at the Meeting House. Ann Loney gave a most interesting talk on the topic: Our Quaker Inheritance.

Members from the Meeting attended a safeguarding course in Lurgan Meeting House on Saturday 18th November.

Throughout the year improvements have continued to be made to the fabric of the building and grounds, with the cloakroom area most notably in the process of receiving a much-deserved makeover!

A Christmas luncheon was held in the Meeting House after meeting for worship on the 17th December, enjoyed by all and a fitting start to the festive season.

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 and fifth 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 2023 to 31st December 2023 is attached to this report and shows a reduced but adequate bank balance of £23,967.

Declaration

This report was approved at the Annual General Meeting on 4th February 2024 and is signed on behalf of trustees.

Elizabeth O'Halloran

Trustee, Moyallon Preparative meeting

31st October 2024