

Knocknagin Hall Committee
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
30 April 2025

PFS ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS LTD

Chartered accountants
122 Main Street
Dungiven
Co Derry
BT47 4LG

Knocknagin Hall Committee

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 30 April 2025

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Knocknagin Hall Committee

Charity registration number NIC107121

Company registration number NI645386

Principal office and registered office 53 Knocknagin Road
Desertmartin
Magherafelt
BT45 5LQ
Co Derry

The trustees

Mr Gerard Walls
Fr. Dermott McGirr (Resigned 1 September 2024)
Mrs Annie McGuigan (Resigned 1 September 2024)
Mr Bernard Walls
Ms Kathleen Mallon
Miss Olive Walls
Mr Seamus O'Hagan
Mrs Veronica Wilson
Mr Michael Higgins
Mary Catherine Ferguson
Mr Paul McQuillan (Appointed 1 September 2024)

Non-committee members

Mrs Anne Moran
Michael Hegarty
Angela Walls
Jennifer Jordan

Independent examiner PFS Accountants and Auditors Ltd
122 Main Street
Dungiven
Co Derry
BT47 4LG

Bankers Santander
9 Rainey Street
Magherafelt
BT45 5DA

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Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24th April 2017 and registered as a charity on 15th August 2018. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association adopted: February 2017, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. There are also four additional non-trustee members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

Purposes

The main objectives of Knocknagin Hall Committee, as set out in our Articles of Association, are to manage Knocknagin Hall on behalf of the wider community in order to provide effective and necessary services and activities for our isolated rural community. To advance education, including vocational training, relieve poverty and to conserve and protect the local environment and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for all the inhabitants of the Desertmartin area without distinction of gender, race or of political, religious or other opinions.

Activities and Achievements

During the year, Knocknagin Hall Committee (KHC) continued to focus on providing classes to promote health and wellbeing. In addition to the activities provided in previous years, with the aid of grant funding from Mid-Ulster District Council (MUDC), Irish language classes commenced in September 2024. Music tuition, funded by the Big Lottery Grant was also provided. The following activities were provided:

- Knit &Natter- 35 x 1.5hr sessions
 - Chair based exercises- 36 x 1.5hr sessions plus 8 x 1.5 hr sessions funded by the Big Lottery Community Fund
 - Music tuition funded by the Big Lottery Community Fund
 - Gardening programme x 8 weeks funded by the Big Lottery Community Fund
 - Yoga – 6 x 1 hr sessions
 - Christmas Craft Fare
 - Social Dancing –12 x monthly session
 - Boxing Day Dance
 - Line dancing - 10 x 1.5hr sessions
 - Jiving classes x 5 sessions
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- Ceili dance class - 6 sessions funded by the Big Lottery Community Fund

With the help of many volunteers, to whom we are very grateful, the following events were also hosted during the year

- five funeral dinners
- Celebration tea for Fr McGirr on the 25th anniversary of his ordination as a priest

In addition, the number of functions and activities in the Hall has been gradually increasing, and there is more demand from groups/individuals seeking to make use of the facilities. There were nine birthday parties held in the hall during the financial year in addition to the following groups/individuals who regularly use the facilities:

- Gymnastics Club which ran for 43 weeks in the year also provided a gymnastics display for parents
- Knocknagin Primary School, as well as their regular P.E. classes, used the premises for their parent / teacher meeting in February and their annual school production in June
- CWSAN held a 'Reminiscence session' with Maura Johnston in October and a 'Cook it' programme in February
- SGARA, as well as their monthly meetings, organised a six-week programme of Health and Wellbeing talks accompanied by breakfast and also held a tea dance in October
- Mid Ulster District Council held an afternoon tea dance at the end of October, a healthy eating programme (2 sessions) in February
- Bowling club, in addition to their weekly sessions had a tournament during November
- Arts Care, Here & Now organised a six week programme in the hall running from November to February
- Jive NI ran jiving classes for 5 weeks during February and March
- Lorraine McHugh booked the premises for a dance class in January
- Friends of Knocknagin PTA, organised an Easter bingo session, in aid of Knocknagin PS.
- Sarsfield's Accordion Band, in addition to their regular practice sessions, also used the premises for a marshalling course in January and a concert in March
- Seachtainna Gaeilge used the premises for Irish Language Week
- SPRED Group as well as fortnightly meetings held a coffee morning and a Christmas party.
- Charity dance in aid of Laurel House organised by Seamus McKenna
- Céilí Club held a ceili in September 2024, December 2024 and one in March 2025
- Weekly Irish Dancing Classes hosted by Nicola Convery
- Pastoral Council Meeting in April 2025

During the year the local community continued to leave clothes for recycling, which continued to be a significant fund raiser.

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The "Read Yourself Well" initiative offered by the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, Health and Wellbeing Team continued within the premises and there is considerable interest in the books available for free loan to anyone in the community.

Knocknagin Community Hall now has its own Instagram account and Facebook page, kindly facilitated by Angela Walls, Gerard Walls

There is a significant damp problem in the basement of the hall. Initial rough estimates were in the region of £40K to £50K to fix the problem. To date, there has been no progress with this issue and various solutions and funding sources are being considered.

Following plaster repair in the main body of the hall and timber repair at the front of the stage, the interior of the hall was painted over the summer at a cost of £1750.

There is a requirement for additional storage space at the back of the hall and plans have been prepared, submitted and passed by the planning office. To date there is no funding allocated towards this project.

Funding

In September Chris Conway (Magherafelt) volunteered to help with funding applications and we are indebted to him for his assistance and expertise in obtaining funding from the Big Lottery

- Mid Ulster District Council - Community Venues Grant 2024-25, awarded a grant of £2,500 towards running costs of the hall; paid in two instalments, June 2024 and February 2025
 - Mid Ulster District Council approved an Irish Language grant in May of £350, paid in two instalments, July 2024 and January 2025. The classes commenced on 9th September for 8 weeks, and due to demand have continued
 - DAERA -Rural Micro Capital Grant, in September, awarded £1980 (paid in October) towards a PA system costing £3,960 with completion to be by 25th October
 - National Lottery Community Fund - Sustainable Community Buildings, the application was in two stages. The first stage required two committee members to attain carbon literacy certificates. The second stage required interaction with Action Renewables to produce an environmental plan for the building, which recommended a 4.05kW PV array with 10 kW battery storage system (indicative cost £9,252) and 370m² of 300mm roof insulation (indicative cost £13,000). This plan was submitted and approved for funding. However when quotes were being sought a more powerful system (5.3kW) was recommended based on more recent electricity usage and it was determined that only 284m² of insulation was required. Approval was given for 5.3kW system with blackout protection (£9818) and 284m² of insulation (£4000) – total funding £13,818. In addition KHC has ordered a water diverter (£395) to allow the water to be heated from the solar panels (weather permitting). The insulation was installed in August 2025 and installation of the solar system was scheduled for the end of August but was postponed due to high winds. It is expected that it will be completed in September 2025.
 - Big LotteryCommunity Fund – Drama & Dance, Line Dancing, Chair Exercise, Group Wellbeing/Mindfulness, Gardening Programme/plants, Music & Tutoring, Wreath Making and overhead costs £5,447 paid into the account in December
 - Halifax Grant – application for £4,500to cover additional banquet chairs and Fire Training was unsuccessful
 - Workspace Grant - awarded £2000 in December towards a defibrillator and First Aid Training
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- DAERA -Rural Micro Capital Grant (2nd round) – awarded £1,924 in February for purchase of 52 banquet chairs at a cost of £2,290.
- Ballinascreen Credit Union donated £250 towards continuation of the Irish Classes
- Desertmartin Credit Union donated £200 towards continuation of the Irish Classes
- Magherafelt Credit Union donated £150 towards continuation of the Irish Classes

Income Generated

Table 1 and Fig 1 below show the income generated over the year with the most income generated through grant applications. Although Fund Raising generated £13,109, when the expenses incurred were subtracted from this amount, the actual money available for use was £6,521 only marginally greater than the income generated through use of the Hall Facilities by other Groups/Individuals (£6440). The breakdown of the money generated by Fund Raising, minus the expenses incurred, is shown in Table 2/Fig 2. The hall is now widely used by many groups and individuals and funding generated by use of the hall facilities contributes greatly to much needed funds. During the year KHC were successful in many of their grant applications and attracted grant funding to the value of £14,800, over £13,000 more than the previous financial year. All grant income awarded is restricted and was spent or will be spent as per application (described in the paragraph above). Again, we are very grateful for the donations (£1,826) received from various sources during the year.

Income from reimbursable expenses has been shown for the sake of completeness but is actually repayment of expenses incurred for refreshments for events facilitated by KHC and do not contribute to the funds of KHC.

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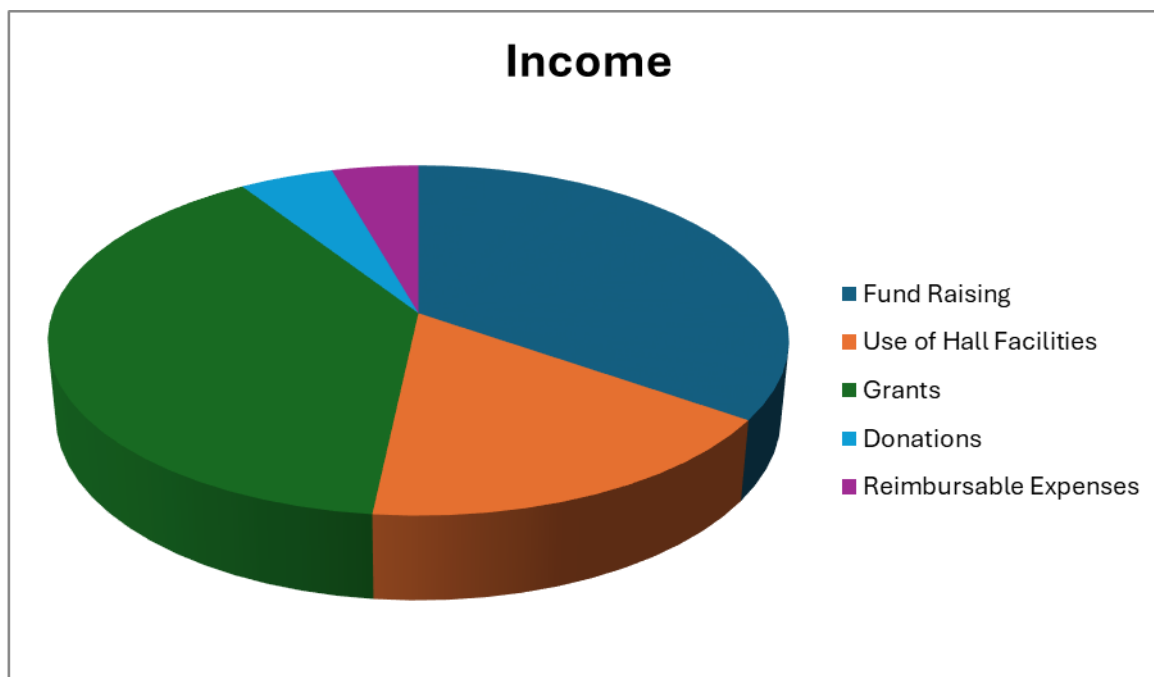
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Table 1: Income Generated

Income Generated (£)	
Fund Raising	13109
Use of Hall Facilities	6440
Grants	14800
Donations	1826
Reimbursable expenses	1660
Total	37835

Fig 1: Income Generated



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Table 2 and Fig 2 display the breakdown of income accrued through Fund Raising events. In keeping with the last financial year most income from fund raising events was again generated by the monthly Social Dance. While this generates significant income, it is at the same time in keeping with the ethos of KHC in increasing health and wellbeing within the community.

Table 2: Income from Fund Raising following deduction of expenses

Actual Fund Raising Income (expenses deducted £)	
Social Dances	3034
Clothes Recycling	1400
Craft Fair	1177
Chair Exercises	672
Yoga	78
Line Dancing	160
Total	6521

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Fig 2 Income from Fund Raising following deduction of expenses

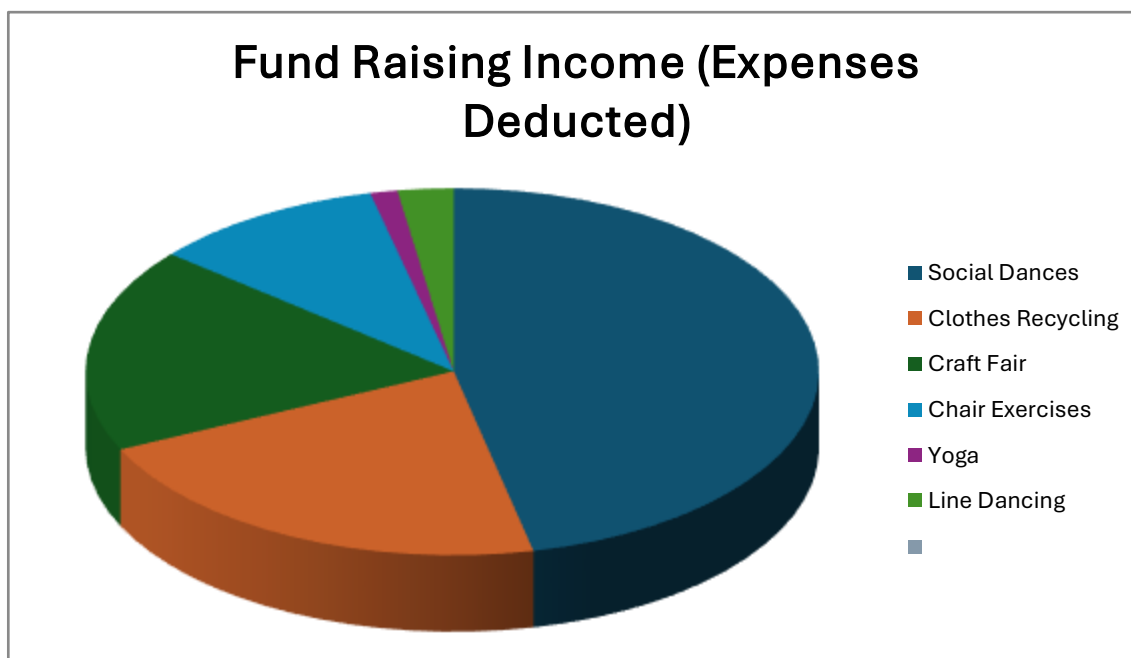


Table 3 and Fig 3 display the expenses incurred in the financial year with fees being the greatest expense. However, this figure is mainly made up from the expenses incurred in fund raising, including the entertainment fees for the bands at the social dances (£2,210) and tutor fees for line dancing, chair exercises, yoga and Irish Language classes (£3,778). The remainder being accountancy fees (£864), entertainment licence (£250). A pre-requirement of the Entertainment Licence is an advertisement in a local paper, which cost £96 (Derry Post). Repairs and maintenance were much increased from the previous year (£3,516), general repairs and maintenance (£1,971) including painting of the hall and servicing of equipment (£1,546). Servicing charges have increased with servicing of the lift every 6 months. Consumables and refreshments make up the figure shown as miscellaneous expenses (£864). The equipment expense (£4,634) consisted mainly of three large purchases, £2,290 for 52 banquet chairs (Grant funding of £2,000 obtained), a defibrillator at £1,770 (fully grant funded) and £510 for a steel wheelie bin shed, as required by the risk assessment. Awards and Grants consist of two payments, £100 to Fr McGirr in celebration of his silver jubilee and £403 to Sarsfield's Band following an application to the Arts Council NI, which required a 10% cash partnership. Although expenses for the year were much higher than the previous year, the income generated especially through grants, led to a surplus of almost £10,000 more than the previous year. Going forward, this money will be very useful in tackling the damp problem under the stage and/or paying for the new store.

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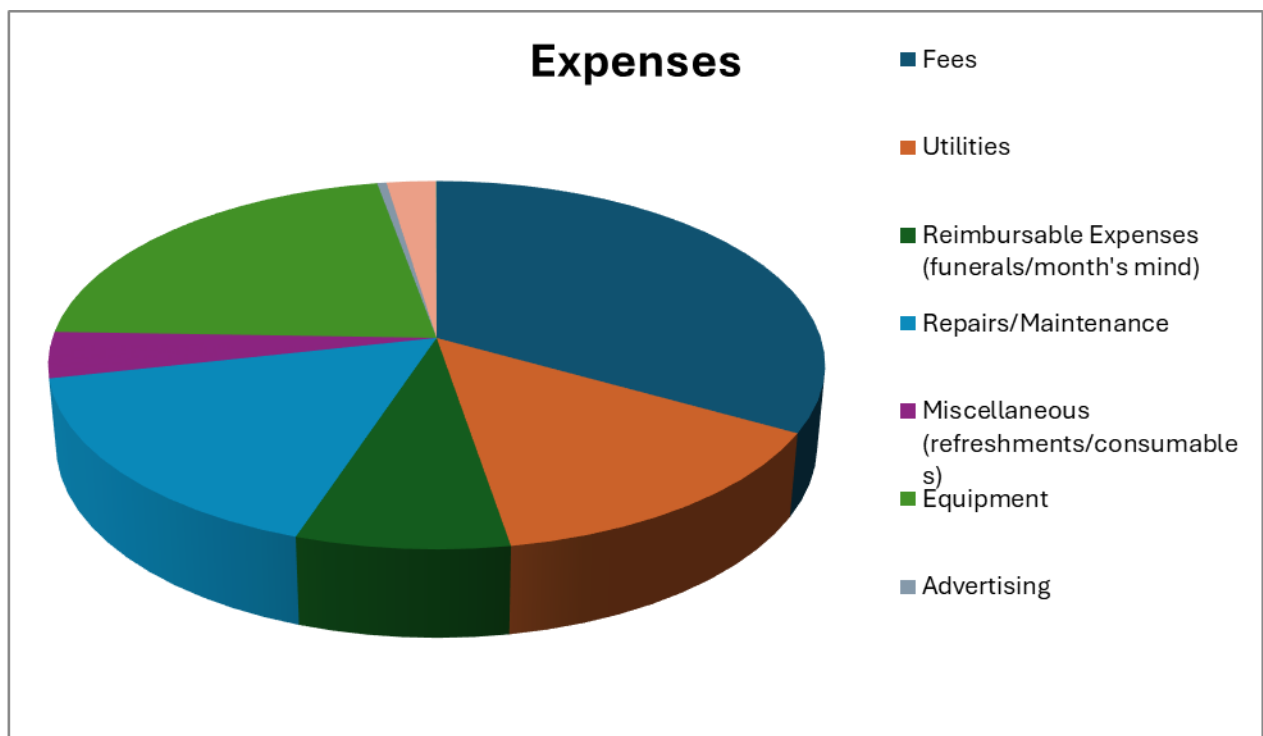
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Table 3: Expenses

Table 3	
Expenses	
Fees	7109
Utilities	3041
Reimbursable Expenses	1660
Repairs/Maintenance	3516
Miscellaneous	864
Equipment	4634
Office expenses	10
Advertising	96
Awards and Grants	503
Total Expenses	21433

Fig 3: Expenses



BENEFITS and BENEFICIARIES

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The benefits that flow from our purpose include provision of a safe recreational facility, which can be accessed freely by people of all ages and abilities within the rural community of Desertmartin and surrounding areas. The benefit of this extends to local people being able to fully identify their needs and allow them to develop local solutions to improve the quality of life for people living within the community. This helps the area tackle issues around environmental issues, rural isolation, poverty and deprivation. Our work creates a space in which people can meet in a safe environment and has positive implications for the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of local people. By improving their health and wellbeing and reducing their social isolation, this contributes to a healthy, vibrant and sustainable community, thus reducing levels of stress and anxiety.

The benefits of the work also include building civic pride within the local community. Through this work, people are animated about their local community and are given opportunities to volunteer and contribute to the social and cultural life within the area.

The charity's beneficiaries are primarily the people of all ages and abilities living in and around Desertmartin and surrounding rural hinterland area of Mid Ulster District Council, who have been identified as being rurally isolated and / or socially excluded.

The benefits of our charity are demonstrated through feedback from all users and regular evaluation of our services. The benefits of our work are also evidenced by the demand for our charitable activities and wide community support through our fund-raising events.

RESTRICTIONS ON WHO CAN BENEFIT

There are no restrictions on who can benefit. All activities and services are open to all regardless of, ability, race, gender, creed, or of political, religious or other opinions.

HARM

No harm has flowed from any of our Purposes.

PRIVATE BENEFIT

There is no private benefit to any individual.

SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORTING

There are no serious incidents to report.

VULNERABLE BENEFICIARIES

Appropriate Policies, Procedures and Training are in place such as POCVA Policy & Procedures.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Signed: Gerard Walls Director

Date: 07/09/2025