

Cookstown Independent Methodist Church  
Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

Charity Number: 107148

**Cookstown Independent Methodist Church**

**Annual Report & Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31st December 2024**

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## **Cookstown Independent Methodist Church**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Charity Name: Cookstown Independent Methodist Church

Charity Registration Number: 107148

Contact Address: Rev.Malcolm Patterson  
29 The Dales  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80.8TF

Trustees Mr. Adam Wensley  
Mr. Winston Thom  
Mr. Timothy Patterson  
Mr. Stewart Brown  
Mrs. Julie Drummond  
Mrs. Eileen Young  
Rev. Malcolm Patterson

Independent Examiner Mr.Raymond Moore

Dollinstown

Co. Armagh

# Cookstown Independent Methodist Church

## **TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

The Trustees present the annual report and statement of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Cookstown Independent Methodist Church for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Charitable purpose of Cookstown Independent Methodist Church is the advancement of religion. To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the basis of faith as stated in Chapter two of the Constitution of the Fellowship of Independent Methodist Churches.

### **Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit**

The church holds two services each Sunday. These services are open for the public to attend, during which our **desire and goal is that all in attendance will receive Biblical teaching and fellowship. We also have special time** of fellowship and refreshments following the evening service on the first Sunday of the month. Prayer meetings are held on Thursday nights, where those in attendance join to pray for the spiritual and physical **needs of those in our community.**

There are several different children and youth works, open to the community. Sunday School is held prior to the Sunday morning service and is open to all school-age children and adults.

Bible Class for secondary school age and adults "Lifeliners" Children meeting (primary- aged children)

Ladies Fellowship is held monthly with diverse group of ages in attendance. The Ladies Fellowship is an excellent time for fellowship and teaching. A day retreat is held annually in May, with guest speakers addressing everyday issues from a Biblical perspective.

The church conducts many other one-off events (BBQ's, youth and ladies outings.

The Trustees have put policies in place to protect all attending and volunteering in church activities. A risk **assessment is conducted prior to events and all involved in work amongst minors and vulnerable people receive safeguarding training along with Access NI clearance.**

### **Public Benefit Statement**

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission Public Benefit requirement statutory guidance and consider that Cookstown Independent Methodist Church meets the public benefit requirement, through the advancement of religion, by providing benefit to its member and the general public by making known the good **news of the Lord Jesus Christ and salvation through Him.**

### **Financial Review**

The Trustees have reviewed the Accounts as detailed in the following pages of this Report and consider that these show the Church continuing on a financially stable path, spending what has been donated to it on its **charitable purposes, while retaining enough monetary reserves to cover reasonably expected expenses and short term shortfalls in expenses.**

The Trustees have reviewed the budgets for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate **funds in place to ensure that the Church can continue its activities and the financial statement for the year ended 31 December 2024 can be signed off as a going concern.**

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### **Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity**

The Constitution of the Fellowship of Independent Methodist Churches is the governing document of Cookstown Independent Methodist Church.

## **Recruitment and Appointment of Board Members (Trustees)**

The Board Members (Trustees) are elected annually by the members of Fellowship of Independent Methodist Churches - Cookstown. This meeting is held in accordance with the guidelines found in Chapter 7 of the "Constitution of the Fellowship of Independent Methodist Churches". After the reading of the minutes, of the previous AGM, all positions are declared vacant. The chairman (minister in charge) will receive nominations for each position, followed by a vote of the members to elect person/persons to the position. All Board Members (trustees) must be the members of Fellowship of Independent Methodist Churches - Cookstown.

All members of Fellowship of Independent Methodist Churches - Cookstown, must fulfil the criteria given in Chapters 3 & 5 of the "Constitution of the Fellowship of Independent Methodist Churches".

## **Organisational Structure**

The Board Members (Trustees) elected annually by the membership of the Church are responsible for the general running of the Church and directing its strategic direction. Board meetings (Trustees) are usually held monthly, or more regularly where required. These meetings form the basis for the collective decision making and responsibility of the Board of Trustees in all areas of the Church's activities.

Overall Pastoral care of members and their families is delegated to the Minister (Rev. Patterson), who carries out many of these duties personally and leads a team of volunteers to help in this work. This work includes Sunday Services, mid-week prayer meetings and Bible Studies, personal one to one care and visits and other general Pastoral Care.

Specific areas of work of the Church are delegated to individual Board Members (Trustees). For example, these areas include Sunday School, Youth Work, Missionary Support, Church Finance. The Trustees in charge of these areas organise these areas of the Churches activities and receive assistance from members of the church and other volunteers in these areas. Where appropriate (e.g. youth work) the Trustees and volunteers receive training to help them comply with safeguarding legislation etc.

## **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of Receipts and Payments and statement of Assets and Liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The laws applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with income of less than £250,000 requires the Trustees to prepare a statement of Receipts and Payments and a statement of Assets and Liabilities for each financial year.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Church's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Church. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Stewart Brown

Winston Thom

**Date:** 31/12/2024