

POBAL AR A'N IÚL

ANNUAL TRUSTEE'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Registered Charity in Northern Ireland No. 107321

Principal Address

Dún Uladh
Ballinamullan Road
Killyclogher
Omagh
Co. Tyrone
BT79 0JP

The trustees of Pobal ar a'n Iúl are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the period January 1st 2024 to December 31st 2024.

Structure, Governance, and Management

Pobal ar a'n Iúl is governed by a constitution. The association is run by 3 trustees who have been in post since the group was registered with the Charity Commission.

Meetings

The trustees meet as required throughout the year and at each meeting the treasurer gives an updated income and expenditure review.

Related Organisations

Pobal ar a'n Iúl works very closely with both Naíscoil na gCrann and Gaelscoil na gCrann. We co-operate with each other in the fields of education and in promotion of the Irish language. We also work with Ógras na hÓmaí in promoting the Irish language among young people.

Purpose

The purpose of Pobal ar a'n Iúl is to advance Irish language and culture, community development and improvement, and the promotion of the benefit of the inhabitants and visitors ("hereinafter called the beneficiaries") in particularly but not exclusively of Omagh and surrounding areas (hereinafter called the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, gender, sexuality, disability, nationality, ethnic identity, race, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, community and voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and community development and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life

Public Benefit Statement

The sole aim of Pobal ar a'n Iúl's activities is to benefit others. This organisation, to date, has provided a wide range of activities and drawn down funding which has been invested within the community. We provide parent and toddler groups, family activities, adult education activities, advocacy, and community development initiatives.

All our activities have been carried out for the benefit of others within the community. Pobal ar a'n Iúil maintains, manages, and co-operates with any local authority or statutory bodies in the maintenance of a property(s) for activities promoted by the company including but not limited to community business, education programmes, youth activities, community wellbeing activities and community education activities and we promote the common heritage and historical links between the main area of benefit and the rest of Ireland, Scotland, the Isle of Man.

There is no private benefit to any private individual.

Summary of Main Activities

We provide parent and toddler groups, family activities, adult education activities, advocacy, youth activities and community development initiatives. Our philosophy is to offer access to all regardless of personal circumstances, race, gender, ability, or faith. We mainly operate in the Omagh area however visitors from further afield are always welcome.

During this year, we continued with our Fondúireacht Feamainne (Seaweed Foundation) third level scholarship for 2024, providing financial support for local students to continue to study Irish at university. We also provided scholarships to help students of all ages attend Irish language summer courses in the Gaeltacht.

Our young Irish speakers are at the heart of our work and we ran weekly clubanna óige (youth clubs) to coincide with the school terms, supported by our youth leaders. We organised our Campa Samhraidh (Summer Camp) for primary school children and Cairde le chéile summer scheme for secondary level children. Various other events were carried out also including quiz's, youth trips etc. All of our youth activities are carried out in co-operation with Ógras na hÓmaí.

Our parent and toddler groups met weekly which provided families an opportunity to bring Irish into their family at an early age and we were able to connect these families to Gaelscoil na gCrann for further information.

Throughout 2024 we hosted a Ciorcal comhrá every Saturday to encourage people of all levels to use their language outside the classroom. We organised a lón le Gaeilge (lunch with Irish) in December 2024. It was an opportunity to celebrate and thank those who had participated in the Ciorcal comhrá throughout the year. It was a community and Family event and provided opportunities for play and conversation i nGaeilge.

Dianchúrsaí aon lae (Intensive one day language courses) were held throughout the year catering to all levels of learner. In September we undertook a new initiative to provide Ranganna Amhránaíochta (Singing classes through Irish), these ran once a week from September through to December.

In November, we organised a very successful trip to the Gaeltacht including a day course for our adult learners. They spent 2 nights in the Donegal Gaeltacht getting the opportunity to immerse themselves in the language by using Irish every day and learning from the locals. Finally, we organised a Christmas trip to Dundonald and the Christmas markets for our youth club families.

We continue to engage with other organisations in the community to help promote the Irish language. We met with the Irish language team within the Fermanagh and Omagh district council to discuss the promotion of the language in the area.

These comprise some of the main activities and highlights during 2024. As well as these events we also provide regular promotion of Irish language activities provided by ourselves and various groups in the locality on our social media and website, to help as many people as we can access the Irish language.

Accommodation

This organisation, to date, has provided a wide range of activities and drawn down funding which has been invested within the community. We provide parent and toddler groups, family activities, adult education activities, youth activities, advocacy and community development initiatives. We are currently based in and operate out of Dún Uladh Cultural and Heritage Centre.

Financial Review

Pobal ar a'n lúl has two bank accounts, one for our main funding from Foras na Gaeilge Scéim Pobal Gaeilge, the other for all other funding. Income for the year totalled £45,385. This comprises £38,591 core funding (Account 2) and £6,794 (Account 1) from a variety of other sources: Foras na Gaeilge Summer Camp Scheme; Foras na Gaeilge Youth Scheme; Seaweed Foundation and monies received from fees for events.

Expenditure for the year totalled £47,607, comprising £31,541 from Account 2 and £16,066 from Account 1. The latter was spent on Fondúireacht na Feamainne scholarships, Summer Camps and bank and accountancy fees.

Going Concern

The Trustees have reviewed Pobal ar a'n lúl's planned expenditure for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the organisation can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 2024 can be signed off as a going concern.

Reserves Policy

The reserves of the charity are set by the Trustees. The reserves will be held primarily as cash. The level of reserves will be reviewed annually as part of the management process.

The Trustees aim to maintain sufficient free reserves in unrestricted funds to bridge any funding gaps experienced by the organisation and to mitigate the risks and costs of unplanned closure of the organisation.

Statement of Trustee Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements of the organisation in accordance with applicable law and generally accepted accounting practice.

As the organisation's total income does not exceed £250,000, the Trustees have elected under Section 64(3) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to prepare a receipts and payment account and a statement of assets and liabilities.

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

Gifts and Support in Kind

In assessing the finances and assets of the society it must be noted that trustees and committee members give a great deal of support in kind. Our trustees will often incur printing and postage costs which they do not claim, and they also give generously of their time – organising community access and helping with ongoing activities. The trustees wish to record their gratitude.

Trustees as of December 31st 2024

Chair : Brian McKenna

Treasurer : Sinéad Warnock Uí Ghéibheannaigh

Órfhlaith Ní Chatháin

Signed on behalf of the trustees of Pobal ar a'n Iúl

BRIAN McKENNA

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BRIAN McKENNA

23 October 2025