

Trustees' Annual Report for Enniskillen ComicFest

for year ended 31st July 2024

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report prepared in accordance with Charities SORP (effective January 2015) and the independently examined statements for the year ended 31st July 2024.

Structure, Governance, and Management

Enniskillen ComicFest is governed by its Constitution that was adopted 1st September 2020. The Trustees at the of this report and those who served during the financial year are listed below. Dates of any changes are noted below.

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year are as follows:

Paul Trimble

Paul Donaghey

Chris Fawcett

Stephen Trimble

Lauren Trimble

James Eames

Niamh Cusack

Changes within Financial Year:

None.

Enniskillen ComicFest is registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland since 15th February 2021, NIC107954.

Public Address

18 Kilyvilly Heights

Enniskillen

Co Fermanagh

BT74 4DT

Objective and Activities

Objectives

The objectives of Enniskillen ComicFest are to advance the education of the public in the arts and culture of comic book literature and associated fields if art, design, technology, philosophy and literature, particularly, but not exclusively by:

- a) The organisation of a comic book convention based in County Fermanagh
- b) The encouragement of active participation by all ages and communities in the medium of comic book literature and other niche related hobbies and interests
- c) Such other ways as the committee shall decide from time to time

Key Activities in This Year

We held a workshop on creating comics with a local primary school P7 class in April and May to produce a comic for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day on 8 June 2024. A local artist also facilitated a workshop with a different primary school which we hope to continue in coming years.

Enniskillen ComicFest was held on 8 and 9 June 2024. The two-day format continues to be popular with the public, stallholders, guests, and local council and business funders. Attendance was excellent across both days, although it was noted that number dropped in the last hour of Saturday. The committee are considering shortening the first day by an hour, which allows more time for guests and the event team to prepare for the evening events and the following day's event.

Public Benefit

In addition to bringing 2500-3000 visitors to Enniskillen and the surrounding Fermanagh region during the two days of the Enniskillen ComicFest event. We continue to develop connections with the Veterans and Modellers group, which provides a space for their work to be exhibited and informs the public of their work. In line with our wider objectives, we will continue to develop links with schools and facilitate engagement between aspiring local artists and national and international professionals. We are also looking into new ways of sharing panel talks and workshops with the wider public to ensuring a lasting impact and developing a strong legacy for the event.

Financial Review

Review of Business

Enniskillen ComicFest is non-profit making. Fundraising has been conducted through a monthly pub quiz, running between September and May, T-shirt sales at the event, and through securing grants from funding bodies such as the local council and BID group. Grants from the funders must be spent completely within the designated period for the event, but the monthly pub quiz and T-shirt sales have allowed ComicFest to slowly rebuild its reserve fund following the reduced fundraising opportunities post-Covid.

Reserves Policy

Enniskillen ComicFest has a Reserves Policy which requires that reserves are built or maintained at a level which ensures that the organisation's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty and that the organisation's known liabilities will be paid should the organisation cease to trade.

Future Plans

Enniskillen ComicFest plans to continue to focus on controlling cost, while maintaining the high standards of services our beneficiaries have come to expect. In order to continue to provide a top quality comic book convention for the Fermanagh region, we will be exploring a wide range of fundraising opportunities including seeking new grants and opening up an online fundraising page to receive donations from those who are keen to support our work and wider vision for the event and organisation.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities for the year ended 31st July 2024

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with all appropriate regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant information of which the charity's independent examiner is unaware, and
- The **trustees** have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant independent examiner information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

On behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Trimble". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P'.

P Trimble

Trustee: Paul Trimble

Date: 26 April 2025