

## **Cairde Eochair (Friends of Augher)**

### **TRUSTEES REPORT 2023 / 2024**

Purpose and Objectives of Cairde Eochair (Friends of Augher)

#### **OBJECTIVES**

To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the village of Augher and its environs without the distinction of age, sex, race, political, religious or other opinion by promotion of all Cumann Luthchleas Gael games, language and Irish culture, through assistance with participation in Sport, Scor na nOg and Scor programmes, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

To promote the advancement of public education and to stimulate and create interest in the arts for the benefit of the local community, particularly but not exclusively by:

- (a) assistance with the presentation of performances, festivals and cultural events:
- (b) the provision of training in the performance of artistic works.
- (c) to obtain, collect and receive money by way of grants, donations, bequests, legacies or other lawful methods, provided that the Association may not engage in any form of permanent trading. All income such as donations and grants will be used for the betterment of the Charity beneficiaries.

#### **Activities for reporting year 23-24:**

When setting priorities for 2023–2024, trustees considered the Charity Commission NI's public benefit guidance to ensure that all work advanced our charitable objectives and created genuine benefit for the community. This year, a significant focus was on older people. Many programmes were designed to reduce isolation, promote social connection, and encourage volunteering. Older residents played an active role in maintaining shared spaces, taking part in gardening projects, and contributing to community life even where mobility or health challenges were present. These opportunities helped participants feel valued and supported, while improving local facilities for everyone.

One of the main achievements of the year was the continued development of our community garden and nature trail in partnership with Tullymeadows Community Association. With support from Live Here Love

Here, we were able to introduce recycling bins and biodiversity improvements, making the space more sustainable and attractive. The garden has become a focal point for intergenerational activity, bringing older people, young people, and families together in a shared outdoor project that encourages both wellbeing and environmental awareness.

Alongside this, youth engagement remained an important part of our work. Our after-schools programme provided regular opportunities for young people to develop confidence, leadership, and creativity through arts, crafts, music, drama, and language activities. By involving young volunteers in projects such as the garden and village clean-ups, we created opportunities for intergenerational learning and youth-led community action.

In total, we secured £8,916.00 in grants to support our programmes. This funding enabled us to continue outreach and provide activities for both young people and older residents. In addition, local fundraising events such as Come Dine with Me, Talknight, a community quiz, a Championship Predictor, and an oil draw raised further income while also helping to strengthen community spirit.

Across the year, our work centred on inclusion and wellbeing. Older people, young people, and families were all supported to take part in meaningful activity, reduce isolation, and strengthen the sense of community in Augher and the surrounding area.