

Trustee Annual Report

Collective Community

Registration No: 109297

Our Purpose

Collective Community exists to serve local communities across the north coast as we live out our faith in practical, inclusive and relational ways. Our work centres on creating welcoming spaces, supporting wellbeing, providing food for those in need, and nurturing community life through regular gatherings and shared projects.

Address

7 Dirraw Road
Ballymoney
BT53 7LB

Trustees

Diana Ramsey
Kenneth Baird
Heather Shiels

Activities and Achievements

Faith Communities

Throughout the year, our faith communities continued to meet regularly in a range of locations across the north coast, serving both their members and the wider neighbourhoods in which they are based. These gatherings focused on community connection, spiritual life, and mutual support.

Our Collective faith communities have been resourced across a large, decentralised area, maintaining autonomy of local groups, while providing support, training and connection. The impact of this is felt in communities being served by each group meeting locally where they can live out their faith in the neighbourhoods they feel connected to and passionate about.

Community Garden and Community Space

Our central community garden and associated community space at Dirraw Road continued to develop as a place of welcome, care and participation for people of all ages and backgrounds.

During the year, we maintained a strong focus on environmental care, mental health and wellbeing, and local food growing. Regular community activities took place throughout the week, providing a safe, warm and inclusive environment where people could gather, grow food, learn new skills, and build relationships.

Food grown within the garden continued to be shared with refugee and asylum seeker families locally and in Belfast, contributing to food security and relational support.

Further investment was made in training with workshops happening across the year run by training expert staff, providing locals and members with invaluable skills and genuine community, funded by giving from our supporters who recognised this addition of team members working to provide needed capacity would be a huge transformation for what we were able to achieve.

The team also continued to advise and support other groups across the UK who are exploring similar community-based projects. Encouraging and equipping others to develop initiatives rooted in care, hospitality and environmental responsibility remains a key objective of the charity.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that all required policies and systems are in place, including Safeguarding and Conflict of Interest policies. Trustee meetings are held quarterly, with minutes recorded, and regular financial reports are reviewed to ensure sound governance.

Community programmes and activities run throughout the year for the benefit of the public. Ongoing communication is maintained with funding bodies and local council representatives, and trustees and team members participate in relevant training. Information is shared appropriately within the organisation through established communication channels.

The trustees are satisfied that the charity continues to operate for the public benefit in accordance with its charitable purposes.

Transactions with Related Parties

During the year, the charity employed one trustee in the role of team leader. Payments were made for work undertaken in stewarding events, managing the community garden, and contributing to the running of the shared site. Agreed compensation was also paid in relation to electricity, heating and maintenance costs. All such transactions were conducted transparently and in line with the charity's Conflict of Interest policy.

Financial Review

The trustees do not anticipate financial difficulties going forward, supported by consistent regular giving from members and plans to pursue further grants and funding opportunities.

Appropriate financial controls are in place, including Financial Management and Anti-Fraud policies, which are reviewed and updated as required.

Acknowledgements

As Chairperson, I would like to thank everyone involved in the wider Collective Community. Particular thanks are extended to the core team and volunteers whose commitment, care and consistency enable the community space and wider activities to function throughout the year.

Signed:

K Baird

Chairperson

Date: