

# OPEN ARMS CENTRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the 's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

#### **Objectives and activities**

The purpose of the charity is set out in its governing document the Articles of Association. The Charity's objects are to promote the following purposes for the public benefit: To proclaim the Gospel of Salvation and deliverance through our Lord Jesus Christ by every channel of ministry consistent with our Statement of Belief; and such other exclusively charitable purpose according to the law of Northern Ireland as the trustees may from time to time decide.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries and that they meet the requirements. Services and meetings are held within the church building and halls and are open to any member of the public to attend. The weekly services on Sunday are broadcast over the internet and may be accessed freely by anyone. The weekly and monthly programme of meetings and events caters for the needs and interests of different genders and ages. Social, moral, personal, recreational and health issues are included alongside Biblical and spiritual teachings and evangelism. Meetings beyond Sunday worship services include: Sunday School, fellowship meetings for men and women, prayer times, Bible Studies. The church also provides pastoral and practical support to the young and elderly, those with particular social or health needs, plus other charitable and Christian causes. Beyond the immediate members and friends of the congregation, there are links with wider family and friendship groups of these people and with the local community who may avail of pastoral and spiritual rites as required. The church shares fellowship and engages in various activities with other congregations within and beyond its denomination, both in the local town and across Northern Ireland. There are also contacts with several missionary societies local and global, to whom prayerful and financial support is given, thus extending the religious, moral and social benefits of the church beyond its own congregation and immediate locality.

#### *Public benefit*

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the should undertake.

#### **Achievements and performance**

##### *Significant activities and achievements against objectives*

Support in the form of funds totalling £2,500 was sent to the Shalom Worship Centre, Abiding Light Ministries Trust, Nalgonda, Telangana, South India and Ghana. The funds were used to purchase rice bags mainly for the Orphanage but rice is also distributed to support of the elderly; increase awareness and medical camps in the tribal area; repair village churches and to extend church sheds; purchase and distribute clothes to orphan children and the very poor and to support the children of poor pastors school needs.

This year has been a busy year of building relationships and networking to work in collaboration with other churches and organisations to support communities across Northern Ireland. Strategies and plans are being developed to engage and support our local communities on a practical level. These collaborations will translate to practical, spiritual and mental support to communities and families in 2025.

#### **Financial review**

The charity had income of £113,122 and spent £113,655 before depreciation leaving a deficit of £533 before depreciation. During the year Open Arms Centre received a transfer from Glenvarna Christian Fellowship for a transfer of all assets and liabilities from the charity to Open Arms Centre, as there is no reliable measure of market value in respect of the property, this has been transferred at cost.

# OPEN ARMS CENTRE

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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### *Reserves policy*

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The charity consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the 's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

### **Plans for future periods**

Open Arms Centre incorporated on 21 June 2023 and began undertaking the objective and activities of Glenvarna Christian Fellowship which has now ceased from the charities commission register. All assets and liabilities were transferred from Glenvarna Christian Fellowship on 16th May 2024. Within this transfer was Glenvarna Christian Fellowship's property which Open Arms Centre now operated in.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a private limited company, limited by guarantee with no share capital. The charity is governed by its memorandum and articles of association.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

W Dougan

S Dowie

C McClay

G McClay

S E Wilkie

(Appointed 11 April 2024)

N E Bradford

(Resigned 31 May 2024)

W H McClay

(Resigned 11 April 2024)

### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

The trustees during the year may co-opt any person duly qualified to be appointed as a trustee to fill a vacancy in their number or as an additional trustee. At each AGM all trustees who have served three consecutive years or more shall retire from office. Trustee is eligible for re-appointment for two further terms of three years per term. In selecting a trustee, the trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for effective administration of the charity.

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime as set out in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

### **Volunteers**


The charity is in the happy position of having many volunteers who give of their time and effort to help out in the charity particularly in the evenings and weekends. The Trustees are greatly indebted to these volunteers for their commitment and support.

## **OPEN ARMS CENTRE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)** ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



G McClay

20 February 2026