

The Church of Scotland

ST BRIDE'S CHURCH

Church of Scotland Account Number 080478

Charity Number SC000845

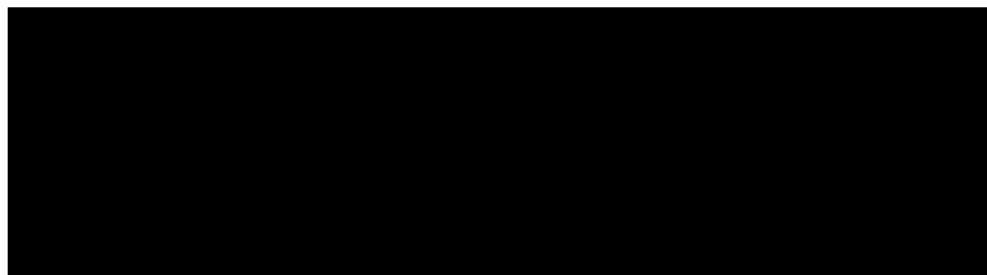
Trustees Annual Report

Year Ended 31st December 2024

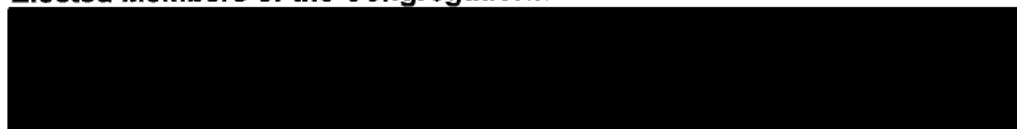
Reference and Administration Information

Charity Name	St Bride's Church
Charity Registration Number	SC000845
Congregation Reference Number	080478
Contact Address	Redcroft Sanquhar DG4 6BS

Trustees Kirk Session



Elected Members of the Congregational Board



Principal Office-bearers



Independent Examiner



Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland
John Finnie Street
Kilmarnock

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the Model Deed of Constitution

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session and the Congregational board are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. The Congregational Board is appointed from within the congregation and members of the congregation are invited to nominate individuals, who are believed to have skills and commitment to contribute to the management affairs of the church, to become members of the board. Board members are the appointed as the Stated Annual Meeting and serve for a period of three years after which they must seek re-election at the next Stated Annual Meeting.

Organisational Structure

The Congregational Board is chaired by the moderator and meets as and when necessary. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the finance Committee and the Property Committee as appropriate. The Kirk Session, which meets as and when necessary, is responsible for spiritual affairs within the church.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in Doctrine, reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in policy. It exists to Glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world. As a national church, it acknowledges a distinctive call and duty to bring ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

The principal activity of St. Bride's Church is to provide a service of Public Worship on every Sunday of the year, together with other seasonal diets of worship at Christmas and Easter. There are two outdoor activities of worship (called 'Conventicles') organized at the beginning of July and August. A monthly service is held in the local nursing home.

The Church, represented by members and the Minister, participates in significant community events such as Remembrance Sunday, the annual Riding of the Marches and others.

There are a number of related organisations:

- The Guild, which meets monthly with a series of speakers, also organises various events and takes part in other activities organised by the Dumfries Presbyterial Council of the Guild.
- St. Bride's Bowling Club meets weekly and provides a chance for men of the congregation and community to join in fellowship.

From time to time, social events are organised.

A quarterly newsletter is produced and distributed to members of the congregation and is made available to the public.

Members of the congregation are actively involved in many community activities, often in an organisational capacity.

The Kirk Session has under its control funds designated for the poor of the parish, and for Sunday School outings within the parish,

Achievements and Performance

Attendance at Morning Worship continues in the region of 50 members, with special services raising that number considerably. Attendance at the quarterly Communion Service continues to be satisfactory. The celebration of Holy Communion held in a local sheltered housing complex, continues to be appreciated with up to 12 elderly people attending.

During Holy Week, we co-operated with the Congregational Church to provide two services of worship.

Our annual Conventicle (open air service) and Church picnic was again held at the beginning of July and the Kirkbride Preaching, a similar event held in association with Durisdeer Church, continues to be held on the first Sunday in August.

This year St Bride's continued to host the Kirking of the Cornet service. The Cornet-elect with his Lass and Ensign and many supporters were given a warm welcome.

The usual Remembrance Day Services were held at the War Memorial at Sanquhar and Menzies. Following the Sanquhar ceremony and the Silence, the British Legion, uniformed youth organisations marched to the Church led by the Sanquhar Silver Band. A large congregation was led in worship by the Minister and a representative from the local Congregational Church.

All Christmas services were well attended by people from the community. The early evening Christmas Service was very well attended by adults and children, with the Primary School Choir performing some Christmas songs. The midnight candlelight service continues to be popular with the community. On Christmas Day people were welcomed for mince pies followed by worship.

We continue to offer a short monthly Family Service which is followed by a chance for fellowship and refreshments and is attended by a small number of children. Pupils and staff from both schools attended Christmas School Services in Church.

The St. Bride's Bowling Club has a membership of 15, meeting weekly for a round of social activities.

The St Bride's Badminton Club continues to be successful in attracting a good number of players of all ages.

Our Guild has 12 members, including some from other churches, and meetings are held once a month in the afternoon. The guild also organises an annual Daffodil Tea to raise funds.

The Autumn Fayre is organised by the Congregational Board to raise funds and provides an excellent opportunity for people to meet.

The Kirk session dispersed gifts to the needy from the designated funds in its possession.

The congregation of St Bride's continues to support an orphanage for AIDS orphans and others in Matatiele, South Africa and we receive regular updates. A special, designated collection is taken each year at the Harvest Thanksgiving for this cause.

Financial Review

The Church had a surplus of £4,440 for the year.

Total funds held were £55,704

Reserves Policy

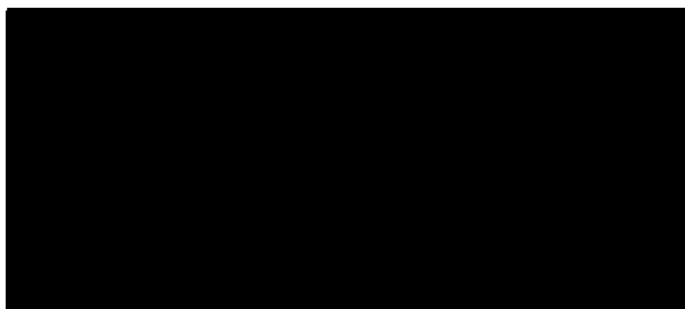
The balance on the general account is £41,751

St Bride's Kirk Session has ample resources in its Trust Fund to carry out its duties of assisting the poor and needy, as well as supporting local Sunday Schools in their summer outings. It also holds some funds designated for Fabric.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session / Congregational Board must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session / Congregational Board are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and the regulations Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland 2007. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/ or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf



Independent Examiners Report

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 7 to 12

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement regulation 10 (1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiners statement

My Examination is carried out in accordance with regulation 11 of the charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning and such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

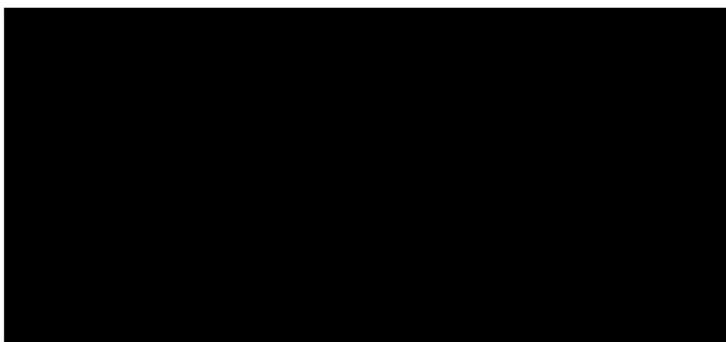
Independent examiners statement

In the course of my examination no matter has come to my attention.

1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1)(a) of the 2005 act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Receipts and Payments Account

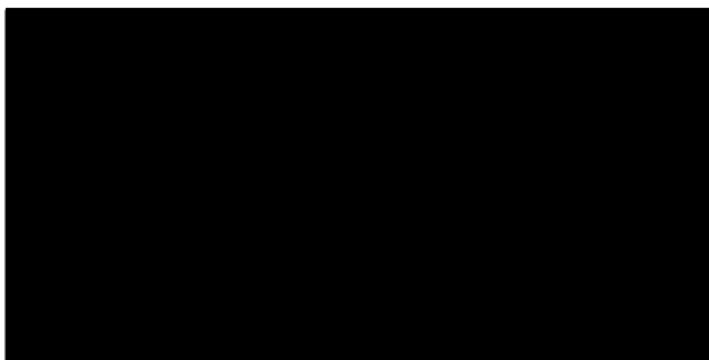
	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Endowment funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>	3					
Donations		30,976	-	-	30,976	26,622
Legacies		-	-	-	-	-
The Guild		-	-	-	-	-
Bank & Deposit Interest		793	-	-	793	140
Investment Income		2,752	-	-	2,752	2,669
		<u>34,521</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,521</u>	<u>29,431</u>
 Rental of premises		 2,400	 -	 -	 2,400	 9,050
Receipts		-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid		2,795	-	-	2,795	2,570
Kirkconnel Parish Church		-	-	-	-	-
Misc		1,494	-	-	1,494	1,920
		<u>6,689</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,689</u>	<u>13,541</u>
 <u>Total Receipts</u>		 <u>41,210</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>41,210</u>	 <u>42,972</u>
 <u>Payments</u>	4					
Cost of generating funds		245	-	-	245	239
Charitable activities		36,526	-	-	36,526	43,394
The Guild		-	-	-	-	-
Sundry Expenses		-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u>36,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,770</u>	<u>43,633</u>
 Excess of receipts over payments for the year before transfers		 <u>4,440</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>4,440</u>	 <u>(661)</u>

Statement of Balances As at 31 December 2024

Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Bank & Deposit Balances					
Bank & Deposit balances brought forward	34,956	10,609	5,699	51,264	51,925
Movement in year:					
Excess of receipts over payments for the year	4,440	-	-	4,440	- 661
Bank & Deposit balances carried forward	<u>39,396</u>	<u>10,609</u>	<u>5,699</u>	<u>55,704</u>	<u>51,264</u>
Investments at market value					
(cost £40,656)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session and Congregational Board on

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Congregational Board



Notes to the accounts

1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

2. Movement in Funds

Note	At 1 January 2024	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
Designated Fabric Fund	1,637	28	-	-	1,665
General Fund	39,018	39,503	36,770		41,751
	40,655	39,531	36,770	-	43,416
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
Church Roof Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Clock and Chimes Fund	3,851	56	-	-	3,907
The Guild	403	-	-	-	403
Fabric Fund	2,210	-	-	-	2,210
Fabric Legacy Fund	4,145	1,623	-	-	5,768
	10,609	1,679	-	-	12,288
<u>Endowment Funds</u>					
Trust Fund	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Total Funds</u>	51,264	41,210	36,770	-	55,703

Purposes of Designated Funds

Fabric Fund: The trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of the church property.

General Fund: This is for the general expenditure of the Church.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Clocks and Chimes Fund: This is a fund to maintain and repair the church clock and carillon.

Purposes of Endowment Funds

A portion of these funds is allocated for fabric purposes and other income from the Trust Fund is to be used to support the poor of the parish, and to support the United Sunday Schools (of all denominations).

Notes to the accounts (contd)

Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
3. Analysis of Donations					
WFO Scheme (non gift aid)	8,804	-	-	8,804	8,922
Gift aid donations	8,300	-	-	8,300	8,020
Tax recovered on gift aid	-	-	-	-	-
Open plate	2,949	-	-	2,949	2,980
Church Boxes	93	-	-	93	177
Weddings/ Funerals	1,300	-	-	1,300	1,540
Fund raising	5,046	-	-	5,046	1,705
Minibus / Taxi	-	-	-	-	-
Other Donations	4,329	-	-	4,329	3,153
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	155	-	-	155	126
	30,976	-	-	30,976	26,622

4. Analysis of Payments

Cost of generating funds

WFO Scheme - Envelopes	245	-	-	245	239
	245	-	-	245	239

Charitable Activities

Ministries & Mission Allocation	13,567	-	-	13,567	11,124
Presbytery Dues	525	-	-	525	525
Ministers Travelling Expenses	960	-	-	960	775
Other Staffing Costs	-	-	-	-	2,672
Fabric repairs & maintenance	213	-	-	213	165
Heat and light	4,061	-	-	4,061	10,905
Insurance	6,177	-	-	6,177	5,895
Other Building Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Church Office expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Organ & music	2,820	-	-	2,820	3,220
Printing, Stationery & Postage	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Manse heating	-	-	-	-	-
Interim Moderator exp	-	-	-	-	-
Council Tax	-	-	-	-	-
BT Telephone	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable Donations	134	-	-	134	300
Locum costs	8,068	-	-	8,068	7,814
Church of Scotland Kirkconnel fee	-	-	-	-	-
	36,526	-	-	36,526	43,394

Other Payments

Purchase of Assets

Notes to the accounts (contd)

5. Ministers Stipend

All church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers stipends and employers contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which relates to years of service.

2024	2023
£	£

6. Collection for Third Parties (Special Fund)

World Mission	-	-
Christian Aid	-	-
British Legion	-	-
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

7. Note on Investments

The cost price of these funds were as follows:

Growth Fund	<u>No of Units</u>	<u>Cost of Units</u>	<u>Market Value</u>
Fabric Fund	2,650	2,843.34	14,310.00
Clock & Chimes Trust	260	455.26	1,404.00
Miss A.J. Moffat Trust	110	192.61	594.00
Mrs J Todd Bequest	40	70.04	216.00
Rev Inglis Memorial Fund	80	140.08	432.00
N.A. Williamson Bequest	70	122.57	378.00
K.S. Trust, Fabric & Town S.Schools	6,800	18,156.00	36,720.00
Income Fund			
Kirk Session Trust-Fabric, Relief	670	6,981.40	7,075.20
Sanquhar St.Brides Fabric Fund	993	9,999.51	10,486.08
Kirk Session-Williamson Mortification	126	1,495.62	1,330.56