

Edinburgh: Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church of Scotland

Scotland · Charity number SC000963

Details

Status	Active
Legal form	Unincorporated association
Part of	The Church of Scotland (SC011353)
Registered	1939-04-06
Register	View on the OSCR register

Contact

Address	35 corbieshot Edinburgh eh15 3ry
Website	https://mandwchurch.org.uk/

Activities

Activities: 'It makes grants, donations, loans, gifts or pensions to individuals','It makes grants, donations or gifts to organisations','It carries out activities or services itself'

Purposes: 'the advancement of religion'

What the charity does: Maintain a Church and all necessary associated infrastructure

Beneficiaries: 'No specific group, or for the benefit of the community'

Objectives: The advancement of religion.

Geography

- **Main operating location:** City of Edinburgh
- **Geographical spread:** A specific local point, community or neighbourhood

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£112,305	£130,773	-	0
2024-12-31	£130,153	£123,546	-	0
2023-12-31	£227,233	£75,980	-	0
2022-12-31	£55,396	£57,052	-	0
2021-12-31	£184,206	£172,253	-	0

Edinburgh: Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church of Scotland

Scotland - Charity number SC000963

Accounts



The Church of Scotland

Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian

**Edinburgh: Meadowbank and Willowbrae
Church of Scotland**

**1A Willowbrae Road & 83 London Road
EDINBURGH**

**Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements
For the Year ended 31 December 2025**

Congregation No: 010124

Charity No: SC 000963

**Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements
For the Year ended 31 December 2025**

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Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Edinburgh : Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church of Scotland.
Charity Registration No.: SC000963
Congregational Reference No.: 010124
Contact Address: Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church of Scotland
83 London Road, Edinburgh EH7 5TT

Trustees (Members of Kirk Session)

Rev Lourens de Jager

Alison Arnott

Fiona Beveridge

Jim Davidson

Elaine Farrow

Yvonne Keith

Lorraine Johnston

Robert Lowey

Elizabeth McLean

David Nimmo

Margaret Nimmo

Jackie Pantony

Alan Risk

Eleanor Robertson

Principal Office-bearers

Session Clerk: Mrs Lorraine Johnston

Treasurer: Mrs Margaret Nimmo

Assistant Treasurer: Mr Tom Watson (resigned Dec 2024)

Minister: Rev Lourens de Jager

Independent Examiner:

Suzanne Graham FCCA

Hollis Accounting Limited

Chartered Accountants

3, Melville Crescent

Edinburgh EH3 7HW

Bankers:

Bank of Scotland plc

172 High Street

Musselburgh

EH21 7DZ

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The congregation is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form), and is subject to the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Meadowbank and Willowbrae is a Parish Church within the Church of Scotland serving a community in the North East area of Edinburgh. A Parish Church exists to serve all the people living within the Parish irrespective of their individual beliefs or religious affiliation.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Church is administered by the Kirk Session and members of the Kirk Session 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.

Organisational Structure

The Kirk Session which meets regularly is responsible for spiritual and temporal affairs within the church.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. 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 the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Church membership flows from a 'public profession of faith' or transference from another congregation. Membership is a requirement for participation in the Courts of the Church. However, worship is open to all as is the provision of pastoral support and inclusion in Church-based community activities. The Church of Scotland has an "open" communion table to members of any branch of the Church. Outreach of the congregation is for all and not just members.

The purposes of the Church are as in the 5 Marks of Mission

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- Nurturing Communities: To teach, baptise, and nurture new believers
- Serving Communities: to respond to human need by loving service
- Witnessing Communities: To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- Worshipping Communities: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Trustees' Report (continued)

In furtherance of these purposes:

With regards to the Presbytery Plan the Kirk Session agreed to accept the decision of the Deployment Group that the Willowbrae building be sold and the Meadowbank Building be retained. From January 2025 weekly Sunday worship has commenced at Meadowbank. The current hall lets and community groups have moved from the Willowbrae building to the Meadowbank building. A Closing and Thanksgiving service for the Willowbrae Building took place on 8th June 2025.

Our Church:

Provides facilities for worship, fellowship and the enriching of community life.

Provides regular opportunities for worship and celebration and the teaching of the Christian Faith.

Provides pastoral care to the people in the parish in times of difficulty, illness, bereavement, crisis and stress. The Minister is called on to conduct funerals of persons not members of the congregation. So, the community at large is served, not just the membership.

Through its Minister and office bearers, offers spiritual counselling, advice and support to anyone living in the parish.

Provides social and recreational facilities for groups of all ages within the Church and community groups throughout the week – Cook Club, Knitting Group, Fellowship Group, Warm Welcome, Babies and Toddlers, Tap into IT, children and young people, e.g. Messy Church, Brownies, Guides and Mini Fun Clubs.

Also supports the work of religious and charitable bodies beyond the immediate area, and beyond the wider work of the Church of Scotland. In 2025 we gave financial support, along with our interest and prayers, to many charities both local and overseas.

We continue to make weekly donations of food and monies to the local Basic Bank based at Wilson Memorial Church.

We offer 2 weekly Bible Studies which are open to all to learn with each other the Word. Both of these are very well attended.

Achievements and Performance

Here are some aspects and comments on our work during 2025.

We started a Sunday School and we are hopeful for the future.

Our Pastoral Care team continues with its valuable work making regular visits and telephone calls to those that require it and visits to those in nursing homes and hospital.

Trustees' Report (continued)

We continue our links with the local schools and a children's centre in our parish. We have links with the 'Conversation Café' Salaam Project of Edinburgh City Mission.

We commenced Messy Church in December 2023 and although well attended in 2024 and early 2025, due to capacity constraints, we prayerfully made the strategic decision to pause this ministry until we employ a family/mission outreach worker to lead and assist.

We continue our links with other denominations in our parish through prayer and vigils.

The Worship Team continue to lead monthly services at Lauder Lodge Care Home and Marionville Care Home with permission from Leith and Restalrig Church and continue to lead Monthly Monday services at 2pm in the Meadowbank Building as an alternative to Sunday services and these have been well attended and appreciated by those attending.

We continue to engage with Portobello and Joppa Church with our monthly prayer meetings and our minister and two of our elders have volunteered at their holiday clubs. We had a joint meeting in 2025 which was well attended.

We are keeping all our social media accounts up-to-date and communicate with the congregation with a regular newsletter sent via email and post.

The Alpha Course in January 2025 during Sunday Service went extremely well, and the Kirk Session agreed to plan an Alpha in 2026 to offer to the community, this is in the planning stage. Our Kirk Session's facilitated Away Day in May 2025 where we reflected on our strengths, gave us ideas for growth, and explore new ways to engage with the changing needs of our parish.

Some of our elders and members have assisted at Scripture Union Camps.

We now have a Hospitality Team to organise and cater for our social events.

Plans for the Future

As we look ahead, Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church enters 2026 with a renewed sense of purpose and direction. The Kirk Session's facilitated Away Day in May 2025 was a pivotal moment in which the Session sought the Lord's guidance for the future of our congregation. Out of that time of prayer and discernment came a clear sense of God's call across five areas of church life: worship, teaching, community, service, and witness. These priorities now form the framework for our plans going forward.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Central to our vision for the coming year is the development of our family and children's ministry. Having prayerfully paused Messy Church in 2025 due to capacity constraints, the Kirk Session is actively investigating the employment of a family and outreach worker to lead and pioneer this vital area of ministry. This post would help us to develop work among children and young people, create forms of worship accessible to families, and build stronger connections with the many young families in our parish. Alongside this, we will continue to develop our weekly Baby and Toddlers group and our small Sunday School, seeking to grow these as welcoming entry points for families in the community.

The Alpha Course, which ran during Sunday services in early 2025 and proved deeply encouraging, has now been developed into a community-facing outreach. In early 2026 we launched Alpha on Wednesday evenings, beginning with a hot meal, and open to anyone in the community. We plan to continue running Alpha regularly as a key part of our evangelistic outreach, creating a relaxed and welcoming space in which people can explore the Christian faith, ask questions, and encounter the gospel.

We are committed to deepening the prayer life and discipleship of our congregation. We plan to develop teaching on prayer and establish dedicated times for united, gathered prayer during the week. Our two weekly Bible Studies and Discipleship Group will continue, and we will create further opportunities for discipleship in small groups, ensuring that the existing congregation is supported and equipped for the work of ministry.

Now settled at the Meadowbank building as our sole place of worship following the Closing and Thanksgiving Service for Willowbrae in June 2025, we are looking to make the most of our consolidated location. The monthly Monday afternoon services will continue at Meadowbank, and we will actively invite others from the surrounding community to these. We will also explore hosting free, open community events with refreshments, such as concerts and other such activities.

Our partnership with Portobello and Joppa Church within our parish grouping will continue to develop through joint prayer meetings, holiday club volunteering, and shared initiatives. We will also seek to strengthen relationships and collaboration with other local churches, and to build on our existing links with Abbeyhill Primary School and other schools and children's centres in our parish. We will prayerfully consider practical ways to offer hospitality and support to overseas students and new arrivals in Edinburgh, and plan activities that bring the church's presence into the local community.

Our Pastoral Care team, Worship Team, and Hospitality Team and newly formed Mission and Outreach Team will continue their faithful work. We will maintain our regular services at Lauder Lodge and Marionville Care Homes, our links with the Conversation Café Salaam Project of Edinburgh City Mission, and our weekly support of the Basic Bank at Wilson Memorial Church. We will continue to support local and overseas charities through our giving,

Trustees' Report (continued)

especially at our monthly Soup Sundays, and to keep our social media and communications up to date to ensure our message of hope reaches as wide an audience as possible.

In all our plans, we seek to be guided by the Holy Spirit, trusting in God's provision and faithfulness. We are grateful for the foundations laid in recent years and confident that, as we respond to God's call, Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church will continue to grow as a beacon of hope and a source of blessing to our community.

Financial Review

The Church receives its core funding from its members offerings and Gift-Aid recoveries. Other income arises from renting out the Church Halls, Investment Income and "fund raising" activities.

Donations are up by £10,332, and the Tax Recovered on Gift Aided Donations is £483 (£7,128 in 2024), with some Gift Aid due at year-end. Receipts from General Trustees are drawdowns from the funds held by the General Trustees on the charity's behalf (see Appendix) which can be applied for to cover utilities and insurance costs and to carry our fabric works.

On the expenditure side, our running costs continue to be high due to running two Church buildings. Expenditure for the year is £130,733 (2024: £123,546). The net deficit for the year is £18,428 (2024: deficit of £61,731).

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately six months expenditure including designated funds. At the year end the Church held Unrestricted cash funds of £99,220 (2024: £117,698) and £9,544 (2024: £9,544) designated for the purposes specified in Note 2 of the accounts.

Investments with a market value of £50,125 (2024: £48,243) are held in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust and are available for the general purposes of the Church.

Funds held by the General Trustees which can be applied for by the Church to pay for agreed purposes are shown in the Appendix.

The Church also held £2,449 (2024:£2,399) of restricted funds and £512 (2024: £512) of endowment funds which are held for the purposes specified in Note 2.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session 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 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 in 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,

L M Johnston

Lorraine Johnston, Session Clerk

Date

5th APRIL 2026

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Edinburgh: Willowbrae Parish Church of Scotland.**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 9 to 14.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of 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 examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 any 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.

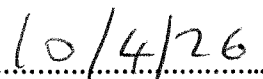
Independent examiner's statement

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.

Signed 

Suzanne Graham FCCA
Hollis Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
3, Melville Crescent
Edinburgh,
EH3 7HW

Date 

Receipts and Payments Account**Year ended 31 December 2025**

		Unrestricted Funds 2025	Restricted Funds 2025	Endowment Funds 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>						
Donations, Legacies & Tax Recovered	3	43,391	50	-	43,441	39,279
Activities for Generating Funds		1,874	-	-	1,874	2,454
Use of Premises		10,962	-	-	10,962	7,750
Bank interest		1	-	-	1	131
Investment Income		6,055	-	-	6,055	6,547
Receipts from General Trustees		40,251	-	-	40,251	-
Other Receipts		336	-	-	336	910
Third Party Collections		-	5,735	-	5,735	4,744
North Merchiston Grant		-	3,650	-	3,650	-
<u>Total Receipts</u>		<u>102,870</u>	<u>9,435</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,305</u>	<u>61,815</u>
<u>Payments</u>	4					
Costs of generating funds		121	-	-	121	-
Charitable activities		79,716	49,636	-	129,352	121,566
Governance costs		1,260	-	-	1,260	1,980
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u>81,097</u>	<u>49,636</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>130,733</u>	<u>123,546</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		21,773	(40,201)	-	(18,428)	(61,731)
Transfers		(40,251)	40,251	-	-	-
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		<u>(18,478)</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,428)</u>	<u>(61,731)</u>

Statement of Balances**At 31 December 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 Note £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>					
Bank & deposit balances <i>brought forward</i>	127,242	2,399	512	130,153	191,884
Movement in year:					
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year	(18,478)	50	-	(18,428)	(61,731)
Bank & deposit balances carried forward	<u>108,764</u>	<u>2,449</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>111,725</u>	<u>130,153</u>
<u>Fixed Assets</u>					
Buildings	475,000			475,000	475,000
Investments at Market Value <i>(Cost £39,372)</i>	<u>50,125</u>			<u>50,125</u>	<u>48,243</u>
<u>Assets</u>					
Hall let debtor	1,400				-
Gift Aid (Estimate)	<u>7,000</u>				<u>482</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Accruals Prof Fees	1,980				1,260
Accruals - other fees	180				-
Income received in advance	315				-
Other creditors: Council Tax & energy	<u>15,544</u>				<u>3,212</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session and Financial Board on5/4/26.....

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Financial Board

L M Johnston

Session Clerk

M. Munnio

Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

Year ending 31 December 2025

Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year.

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 2025.

The total donated to the charity by trustees in 2025 is £8,945 (2024: £7,160).

2. Movements in Funds	At 1 Jan				At 31 Dec
	2025	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	117,698	102,870	(81,097)	(40,251)	99,220
Designated Legacy Fund	9,544	-	-	-	9,544
	127,242	102,870	(81,097)	(40,251)	108,764
Restricted funds					
Flower Fund	475	50	-	-	525
Fabric Fund	-	-	(40,251)	40,251	-
Mission & outreach	-	3,650	(3,650)	-	-
Church Worker Fund	1,436	-	-	-	1,436
Defibrillator Fund	488	-	-	-	488
Other Restricted	-	5,735	(5,735)	-	-
	2,399	9,435	(49,636)	40,251	2,449
Endowment Funds					
Miss Moffat Memorial Fund	512	-	-	-	512
	512	-	-	-	512
Total funds	130,153	112,305	(130,733)	-	111,725

Purposes of Designated Funds

Designated Legacy Fund: This fund was started with a £10,000 received.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Flower Fund: This is a fund to provide flowers for display during services of worship.

Fabric Fund: This is a fund consisting of grants for Fabric and other Building expenditure and the relevant expenses.

Church Worker Fund: This was a fund transferred at Union and is for support of the workers directly employed by the congregation.

Defibrillator Fund: This was a fund transferred at Union and is for the ongoing costs of the defibrillator.

Other restricted funds: These are 3rd party collections.

Mission & Outreach: This was the North Merchiston grant from Presbytery, which was fully spent on mission and outreach in the year.

2. Movements in Funds (cont.)**Purposes of Endowment Funds**

Miss Moffat Memorial Fund: This fund transferred at Union and is to purchase Bibles for those leaving Bible class.

Transfers in the year were from unrestricted to restricted funds as agreed by Trustees.

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
3. Analysis of Donations and legacies				
Offerings	42,363	-	42,363	32,031
Gift Aid	483	-	483	7,128
Legacies	-	-	-	-
Other Offerings, (Flower Fund) Donations etc	-	50	50	20
Other donations	545	-	545	100
	<u>43,391</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>43,441</u>	<u>39,279</u>
4. Analysis of Payments				
Costs of generating funds				
Free Will Offering envelopes	121	-	121	-
	<u>121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>-</u>
Charitable activities				
Giving to Grow allocation	54,982	-	54,982	43,989
Presbytery dues	1,235	-	1,235	989
Minister's expenses	-	-	-	39
Pulpit supply	-	-	-	1,627
Other staffing costs	1,260	-	1,260	1,200
Fabric repairs & maintenance	-	9,960	9,960	20,140
Council Tax	-	-	-	-
Water rates	1,420	-	1,420	-
Heat and light	8,102	15,900	24,002	18,698
Insurance	-	14,391	14,391	12,533
Cleaning	8,640	-	8,640	8,000
Church office expenses	1,210	-	1,210	2,386
Printing, stationery	378	20	398	545
Flowers	-	-	-	-
Organ & Music	550	-	550	1,736
Outreach & Activities	1,699	-	1,699	-
Other expenses	-	3,630	3,630	3,398
Telephone & Broadband	240	-	240	1,482
Third Party Collections	-	5,735	5,735	4,804
	<u>79,716</u>	<u>49,636</u>	<u>129,352</u>	<u>121,566</u>
Governance costs				
Accounts & Independent Examination	1,260	-	1,260	1,980
	<u>1,260</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,260</u>	<u>1,980</u>

5. Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was **£32,433** and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years of service) **£39,856**.

6. Assets

The Manse (New Restalrig) is owned by the charity, and was valued at £475,000 in 2013. Ownership of all other buildings is vested in the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland.

No consideration is payable for the use of these assets and expenditure incurred on the repair, maintenance and insurance of these assets is included in the expenditure shown in the Receipts and Payments Account.

Investments

Investments are shown at market value on the Statement of Balances.

Investments comprise the following:

	Church of Scotland Investors Trust				
	2025	2025	2025	2024	2024
	Number	Cost	Market	Number	Market
	of Units		Value	of Units	Value
	£	£	£	£	£
Growth Fund Units	1,430	6.88	9,838	1,430	9,123
Income Fund Units	3,537	11.39	40,286	3,537	39,119
			<u>50,125</u>		<u>48,242</u>

	2025	2024
7 Collections for Third Parties	£	£
Barnabas	135	-
Bethany	380	250
Care Fund	-	276
Children First	-	70
Christian Aid	1,131	1,580
Church of Scot Appeal	-	360
City Mission	-	311
Crisis UK	251	-
Crossreach	658	-
Edin Young Carers	-	254
Edinburgh Christian Union	324	-
Edinburgh City Mission	285	300
Erskine	325	80
Four Square Change	-	270
Jesus Wings Ministry	731	-
Mary's Meals	-	300
RNIB	109	-
SASRA	100	-
Satelite 7	-	237
Scripture Union	162	-
Tear Fund	714	-
Try Prying	-	223
Venture Scotland	-	293
Young Lives versus Cancer	430	-
	<u>5,735</u>	<u>4,804</u>

Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church : Edinburgh

Appendix I

Funds held on behalf of the congregation by the Church of Scotland General Trustees

For the Year ended 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	1,856,900	1,856,900
Market Value 31/12/2025	2,128,731	2,021,382
<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	183,665	141,848
<u>TEMPORARY FUNDS</u>	(1,174)	-

Edinburgh: Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church of Scotland

Scotland - Charity number SC000963

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Presbytery of Edinburgh and West Lothian

**Edinburgh: Meadowbank and Willowbrae
Church of Scotland**

**1A Willowbrae Road & 83 London Road
EDINBURGH**

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For the Year ended 31 December 2024**

Congregation No: 010124

Charity No: SC 000963

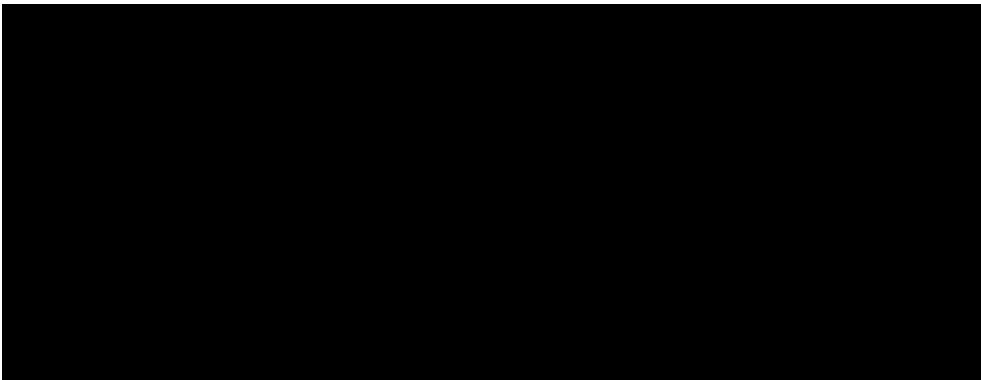
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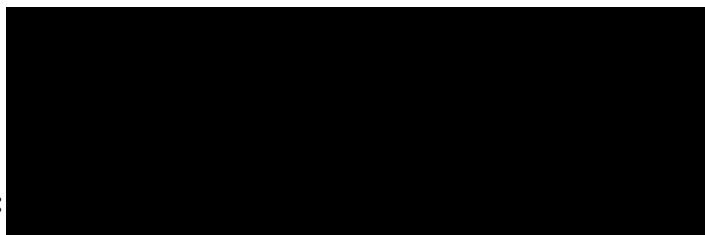
Charity Name: Edinburgh: Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church of Scotland.
Charity Registration No.: SC000963
Congregational Reference No.: 010124
Contact Address: Meadowbank Church, 83 London Road, Edinburgh EH7 5TT

Trustees (Members of Kirk Session)




Principal Office-bearers

Session Clerk:
Treasurer:
Assistant Treasurer:
Minister:
Interim Moderator:



Independent Examiner:


Hollis Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
3, Melville Crescent
Edinburgh EH3 7HW

Bankers:

Bank of Scotland plc
153 Portobello High Street
Edinburgh
EH15 1AG

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The congregation is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form) and is subject to the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. Meadowbank and Willowbrae is a Parish Church within the Church of Scotland serving a community in the North East area of Edinburgh. A Parish Church exists to serve all the people living within the Parish irrespective of their individual beliefs or religious affiliation.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Church is administered by the Kirk Session and members of the Kirk Session 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.

Organisational Structure

The Kirk Session, which meets regularly is responsible for spiritual and temporal affairs within the church.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. 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 the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry. It co-operates with other Churches in various ecumenical bodies in Scotland and beyond.

Church membership flows from a 'public profession of faith' or transference from another congregation. Membership is a requirement for participation in the Courts of the Church. However, worship is open to all as is the provision of pastoral support and inclusion in Church-based community activities. The Church of Scotland has an "open" communion table to members of any branch of the Church. Outreach of the congregation is for all and not just members.

The purposes of the Church are as in the 5 Marks of Mission

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- Nurturing Communities: To teach, baptise, and nurture new believers
- Serving Communities: to respond to human need by loving service
- Witnessing Communities: To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- Worshipping Communities: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

Trustees' Report (continued)

In furtherance of these purposes:

On 5th of August 2024 [REDACTED] of Full Word and Sacrament was inducted on a reviewable charge to Edinburgh: Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church.

With regards to the Presbytery Plan, the Kirk Session agreed to accept the decision of the Deployment Group that the Willowbrae building be sold and the Meadowbank Building be retained. From January 2025 weekly Sunday worship has commenced at Meadowbank. The current hall lets, and community groups continue in the Willowbrae building. A Closing and Thanksgiving service for the Willowbrae Building has been arranged for 8th June 2025.

Our Church:

Provides facilities for worship, fellowship and the enriching of community life.

Provides regular opportunities for worship and celebration and the teaching of the Christian Faith.

Provides pastoral care to the people in the parish in times of difficulty, illness, bereavement, crisis and stress. The Minister is called on to conduct funerals of persons not members of the congregation. So, the community at large is served, not just the membership.

Through its Minister and office bearers, it offers spiritual counselling, advice and support to anyone living in the parish.

Provides social and recreational facilities for groups of all ages within the Church and community groups throughout the week – Cook Club, Knitting Group, Fellowship Group, Warm Welcome, Babies and Toddlers, Tap into IT, children and young people, e.g. Messy Church, Brownies and Guides.

Also supports the work of religious and charitable bodies beyond the immediate area, and beyond the wider work of the Church of Scotland. In 2024 we gave financial support, along with our interest and prayers, to the following charities:

[REDACTED] Four Square, Sat 7, Edinburgh Young Carers, Christian Aid, Mary's Meals, Try Praying, Tearfund, Venture Scotland, Edinburgh City Mission, Tabeetha School and Mercy Ships.

We continue to make weekly donations of food and monies to the local Basic Bank based at Wilson Memorial Church.

Achievements and Performance

Here are some aspects and comments on our work during 2024.

Our Pastoral Care team continues with its valuable work making regular visits and telephone calls to those that require it and visits to those in nursing homes and hospital.

Trustees' Report (continued)

We continue our links with the local schools and a children's center in our parish. We have links with the 'Conversation Café' Salaam Project of Edinburgh City Mission.

We commenced Messy Church in December 2023 which has been well attended.

We continue our links with other denominations in our parish through prayer and vigils.

The Worship Team continue to lead monthly services at Lauder Lodge Care Home and now lead monthly service at Marionville Care Home with permission from St Margaret's Church.

The Worship Team have also led Monthly Monday services at 2pm in the Willowbrae Building as an alternative to Sunday services and these have been well attended and appreciated by the local community.

We continue to engage with Portobello and Joppa Church with our monthly prayer meetings and our minister and an elder volunteer at their holiday clubs. We plan to work closer in the future in joint ventures.

We are keeping all our social media accounts up-to-date and communicating with the congregation with a regular newsletter sent via email and post.

The Kirk Session agreed to run the Alpha Course for 11 weeks in January 2025 the congregation have supported this and have engaged enthusiastically. This has been very encouraging as through the discussions giving an opportunity to talk about their faith many for the first time. A hot lunch was provided and this also has been appreciated.

The Kirk Session have planned a facilitated Away Day in May to discern our Mission.

Some of our elders and members have assisted at Scripture Union Camps. The social events we have ran in 2024 have been very well attended and we continue to plan more in 2025 with a new hospitality team.

Plans for the Future

As we look ahead, Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church is committed to building upon the foundations laid in 2024, navigating the changes brought about by the Presbytery Plan, and embracing new opportunities for ministry and service.

The primary focus for 2025 will be the establishment of a vibrant and welcoming community at Meadowbank, now our sole location for weekly Sunday worship. The closure of the Willowbrae building, while a significant transition, provides an opportunity to consolidate our resources and focus our core mission. We are committed to ensuring a smooth transition for all members and community groups who have made Willowbrae their home.

Trustees' Report (continued)

The Thanksgiving Service on June 8th, 2025, will be a moment to honour the building's legacy, recognise the years of blessing and celebrate the memories shared within its walls.

The success of the Alpha Course in early 2025 has highlighted a deep spiritual hunger within our congregation and the wider community. We plan to explore further opportunities for faith development and theological exploration, potentially through small group studies, discipleship workshops, and guest speakers. We aim to create spaces where people can ask questions, share their experiences, and deepen their understanding of the Christian faith.

The Kirk Session's facilitated Away Day in May 2025 will be pivotal in discerning our mission and developing a strategic plan for the future. We will reflect on our strengths, identify areas for growth, and explore new ways to engage with the changing needs of our parish. This process will primarily be a time of focused reflection, discernment, and prayer, as we seek the Lord's guidance for our future direction. We will set aside time to listen attentively to the Spirit, allowing God to shape our vision and equip us for the work ahead, ensuring that our plans are grounded in the realities of our context.

We will continue to strengthen our partnerships with local community groups, and other denominations. Our commitment to ecumenical cooperation remains strong, and we will actively seek opportunities to work together on joint projects and initiatives, as well as joint worship events. We will look to expand our involvement with the local schools in our area.

Our social media presence and communication channels will be further developed to enhance our outreach and engagement. We will explore new ways to use technology to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds, ensuring that our message of hope and love reaches a wider audience.

We are committed to building upon the success of our social events and fostering a strong sense of community. The new Hospitality Team will play a vital role in creating welcoming and inclusive spaces where people can connect and build relationships. We aim to offer a diverse range of activities and events that cater to the interests and needs of our congregation and the wider community.

Our commitment to serving the vulnerable and marginalized remains unwavering. We will continue to support local charities and initiatives, including the Basic Bank at Wilson Memorial Church, and explore new ways to address the needs of those facing hardship and isolation.

Finally, we will continue to explore ways to make our buildings and activities more environmentally sustainable. We recognize our responsibility to care for God's creation and will strive to minimize our environmental impact.

Trustees' Report (continued)

In all our endeavours, we will seek to be guided by the Holy Spirit, trusting in God's provision and faithfulness. We are confident that, with God's help, Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church will continue to be a beacon of hope and a source of blessing to our community for years to come.

Financial Review

The Church receives its core funding from its members offerings and Gift-Aid recoveries. Other income arises from renting out the Church Halls, Investment Income and "fund raising" activities.

Donations are up by £6,027, and the Tax Recovered on Gift Aided Donations is £7,128 (£4,721 in 2023). We have seen an increase in the income derived from our Unit Trusts Investments - which are held by the Consolidated Fabric Fund of the Church of Scotland (see Appendix).

On the expenditure side, our running cost have increase due to running two Churches. Expenditure for the year is £123,546 (2023: £75,980). The net deficit for the year is £61,731 (2023: deficit of £10,618, excluding the 'Transfer of Union' balance).

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately six months expenditure including designated funds. At the year end the Church held Unrestricted cash funds of £117,698 (2023: £179,449) and £9,544 (2023: £9,544) designated for the purposes specified in Note 2 of the accounts.

Investments with a market value of £48,243 (2023: £46,370) are held in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust and are available for the general purposes of the Church.

Funds held by the General Trustees which can be applied for by the Church to pay for agreed purposes are shown in the Appendix.

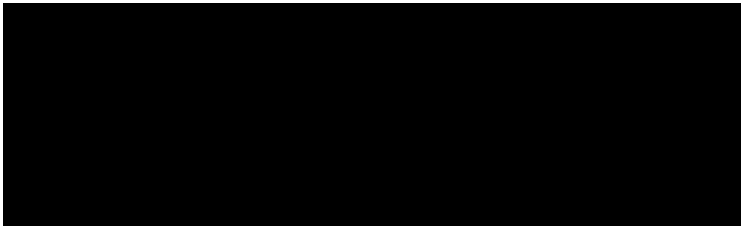
The Church also held £2,399 (2023:£2,379) of restricted funds and £512 (2023: £512) of endowment funds which are held for the purposes specified in Note 2.

Trustees' Report (continued)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session 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 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 in 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,



Date

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Edinburgh: Willowbrae Parish Church of Scotland.**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of 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.

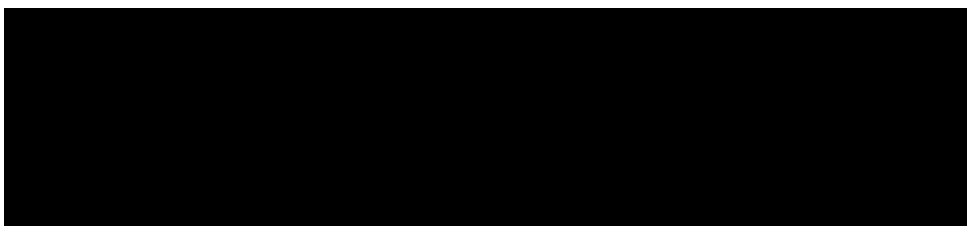
Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 any 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 examiner's 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.



Hollis Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
3, Melville Crescent
Edinburgh,
EH3 7HW

Date

Receipts and Payments Account**Year ended 31 December 2024**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>	Note					
Donations, Legacies & Tax Recovered	3	39,259	20	-	39,279	35,372
Activities for Generating Funds		2,454	-	-	2,454	2,188
Use of Premises		7,750	-	-	7,750	9,103
Bank interest		131	-	-	131	30
Investment Income		6,547	-	-	6,547	3,684
Receipts from General Trustees		-	-	-	-	10,281
Other Receipts		910	-	-	910	182
Third Party Collections		-	4,744	-	4,744	4,522
Transfer of Union balance		-	-	-	-	161,871
<u>Total Receipts</u>		57,051	4,764	-	61,815	227,233
					Total	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<u>Payments</u>	4					
Costs of generating funds		-	-	-	-	147
Charitable activities		57,612	63,954	-	121,566	74,813
Governance costs		1,980	-	-	1,980	1,020
<u>Total Payments</u>		59,592	63,954	-	123,546	75,980
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		(2,541)	(59,190)	-	(61,731)	151,253
Transfers		(59,210)	59,210	-	-	-
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		(61,751)	20	-	(61,731)	151,253

Statement of Balances

At 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Note					
<u>Bank & Deposit Balances</u>					
Bank & deposit balances <i>brought forward</i>	188,993	2,379	512	191,884	40,631
Movement in year:					
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year	(61,751)	20	-	(61,731)	151,253
Bank & deposit balances carried forward	<u>127,242</u>	<u>2,399</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>130,153</u>	<u>191,884</u>
<u>Fixed Assets</u>					
Buildings	475,000			475,000	475,000
Investments at Market Value <i>(Cost £39,372)</i>	<u>48,243</u>			<u>48,243</u>	<u>47,102</u>
<u>Assets</u>					
Sunday Collection 31/12/23	-				338
Gift Aid (Est for Dec)	<u>482</u>				<u>400</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Accruals Prof Fees	1,260				1,980
Other creditors SSE Gas Supply	<u>3,212</u>				<u>-</u>

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

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Financial Board

_____ Session Clerk

_____ Treasurer

Notes to the Accounts

Year ending 31 December 2024

Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

No trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year.

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 2024.

The total donated to the charity by trustees in 2024 is £7,160 (2023: £4,840).

2. Movements in Funds

	At 1 Jan		At 31 Dec		
	2024	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Fund	179,449	57,051	(59,592)	(59,210)	117,698
Designated Legacy Fund	9,544	-	-	-	9,544
	188,993	57,051	(59,592)	(59,210)	127,242
Restricted funds					
Flower Fund	455	20	-	-	475
Fabric Fund	-	-	(59,150)	59,150	-
Church Worker Fund	1,436	-	-	-	1,436
Defibrillator Fund	488	-	-	-	488
Other Restricted	-	4,744	(4,804)	60	-
	2,379	4,764	(63,954)	59,210	2,399
Endowment Funds					
Miss Moffat memorial Fund	512	-	-	-	512
	512	-	-	-	512
Total funds	191,884	61,815	(123,546)	-	130,153

Purposes of Designated Funds

Designated Legacy Fund: This fund was started with a £10,000 received.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Flower Fund: This is a fund to provide flowers for display during services of worship.

Fabric Fund: This is a fund consisting of grants for Fabric and other Building expenditure and the relevant expenses.

Church Worker Fund: This was a fund transferred at Union and is for support of the workers directly employed by the congregation.

Defibrillator Fund: This was a fund transferred at Union and is for the ongoing costs of the defibrillator.

Other restricted funds: These are 3rd party collections.

Purposes off Endowment Funds

Miss Moffat memorial Fund: This fund transferred at Union and is to purchase Bibles for those leaving Bible class.

Transfers in the year were from unrestricted to restricted funds as agreed by Trustees

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
3. Analysis of Donations and legacies				
Offerings	32,031	-	32,031	26,004
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Dona	7,128	-	7,128	4,721
Legacies	-	-	-	-
Other Offerings, (Flower Fund) Donations etc	-	20	20	165
Other donations	<u>100</u>	-	<u>100</u>	<u>4,482</u>
	<u>39,259</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>39,279</u>	<u>35,372</u>
4. Analysis of Payments				
Costs of generating funds				
Free Will Offering envelopes	-	-	-	147
	-	-	-	<u>147</u>
Charitable activities				
Giving to Grow allocation	43,989	-	43,989	26,605
Presbytery dues	989	-	989	539
Minister's expenses	39	-	39	-
Pulpit supply	1,627	-	1,627	1,466
Other staffing costs	1,200	-	1,200	1,515
Fabric repairs & maintenance	-	20,140	20,140	12,161
Council Tax	-	-	-	(2,860)
Heat and light	-	18,698	18,698	7,248
Insurance	-	12,533	12,533	13,262
Cleaning	221	7,779	8,000	5,172
Church office expenses	2,386	-	2,386	985
Printing, stationery	545	-	545	1,058
Youth & Children Worker	-	-	-	-
Flowers	-	-	-	143
Organ & Music	1,736	-	1,736	697
Other expenses	3,398	-	3,398	959
Outreach - Broadband +	1,482	-	1,482	1,023
Third Party Collections and dona	-	4,804	4,804	4,840
	<u>57,612</u>	<u>63,954</u>	<u>121,566</u>	<u>74,813</u>
Governance costs				
Accounts & Independent Examin	1,980	-	1,980	1,020
	<u>1,980</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,980</u>	<u>1,020</u>

5. Minister's Stipend

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

For the year under review the minimum stipend was **£31,642** and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years of service) **£38,884**.

6. Assets

The Manse (New Restalrig) is owned by the charity, and was valued at £475,000 in 2013. Ownership of all other buildings is vested in the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland.

No consideration is payable for the use of these assets and expenditure incurred on the repair, maintenance and insurance of these assets is included in the expenditure shown in the Receipts and Payments Account.

Investments

Investments are shown at market value on the Statement of Balances.

Investments comprise the following:

Church of Scotland Investors Trust

	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023
	Number	Cost	Market	Number	Market
	of Units		Value	of Units	Value
	£	(p)	£	£	£
Growth Fund Units	1,430	638	9,123	1,430	7,605
Income Fund Units	3,537	1,106	39,119	3,537	38,765
			<u>48,243</u>		<u>46,370</u>

	2024	2023
7 Collections for Third Parties	£	£
██████████	250	-
Care Fund	276	-
Children First	70	-
Christian Aid	1,580	1,752
Church of Scot Appeal	360	-
City Mission	311	-
Crossreach	-	285
Cutting Edge Theatre	-	210
Edin Young Carers	254	-
Edinburgh City Mission	300	215
Erskine	80	-
Fishermen Mission	-	323
Four Square Change	270	-
Fresh Start	-	474
Mary's Meals	300	-
Mularge Hospital MALAWI	-	212
Open Hand	-	231
Pedal for Poverty	-	250
Remembrance Sunday	-	100
Richmond Hope	-	40
Satelite 7	237	-
Stepping Stones	-	184
Street Pastors	-	220
Try Praying	223	-
Venture Scotland	293	-
Water Aid	-	343
	<u>4,804</u>	<u>4,840</u>

Meadowbank and Willowbrae Church: Edinburgh

Appendix I

Funds held on behalf of the congregation by the Church of Scotland General Trustees

For the Year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	1,856,900	1,856,900
Market Value 31/12/2024	2,021,382	
<u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balance at 31 December	141,848	67,672