

**Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

***Registered Scottish Charity***

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements**

**Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Congregation No: 448**

**Charity No: SC 001754**

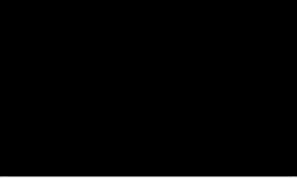
## **Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

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**Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

**Finance Committee**



**Scottish Charity Number:** SC001754

**Address**

Main Street  
Castletown  
Thurso  
Caithness

**Bankers**

Royal Bank of Scotland  
11 Orlig Street  
Thurso  
Caithness  
KW14 7BL

**Independent Examiner**



KW1ck Bookkeeping  
12 Albert Street  
Wick  
KW1 5BQ

## **Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

### **Report of the Trustees**

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the church for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### **Status of Charity and Governing Document**

Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland formally known as Olig, Watten and Bower Free Church of Scotland, is established by Constitution. The Charity name was formally changed on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2014. The church is a Scottish Charity (No.SC001754).

### **Aims and Affiliation**

Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland is a congregation of the national Free Church of Scotland working towards the common aims set out above. It is a Presbyterian church adhering in its worship and doctrine to the position of the Church of Scotland at the Reformation. The Free Church of Scotland has an explanatory document which explains the origins of the Church and which gives the historical background to the Church coming into being 1843 and lists documents in which is embodied the constitution of the Church. The document is available on request from the Free Church of Scotland, 15 North Bank St., The Mound, Edinburgh, EH1 2LS.

The Free Church of Scotland currently has over 100 congregations in Scotland, as well as one in London and four in North America, and sister Churches founded by mission work in India, Peru and South Africa. The Church also has a seminary in the heart of Edinburgh for the training of Ministers and other Christian Workers and sustains an extensive Missionary programme relative to the size of the church. The principal activity of the Church is the conduct of public worship and associated matters in the context of local congregations.

Dating from 1843 but with its roots in the Reformation, it owes its distinctive title to its historical struggle to remain 'free' from state interference in its internal affairs. It has close and active relations with many other Reformed churches of Jesus Christ throughout the world and stands firmly in the traditions which accept the Bible in its entirety as the Word of God and, therefore, derives its forms of teaching, worship, ministry and government from it. The main emphasis of our worship is the preaching of the gospel - the good news of a free and sovereign salvation through Jesus Christ alone.

The congregation is authorised by the Church to have a minister paid from central funds of the Church.

The Church building and the Minister's Manse are the property of the congregation and are held under the Church's model trust deed.

### **Trustees and Office Bearers**

The Church is Presbyterian in government and its day to day running is undertaken by the Elders (the Kirk Session) and the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee specific function relates to the material and financial business of the congregation, whereas Elders are charged with the general and spiritual oversight of the Congregation.

## **Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

### **Report of the Trustees**

The Finance Committee (the Trustees) who served during the year were as follows:

#### **Finance Committee**



#### **Congregational Trustees**



### **Appointment of Charity Trustees**

The Kirk session exercises its discretion in determining the most appropriate method of electing new Trustees (Elders and Deacons). Any election process must involve the communicant membership of the congregation. There is no fixed term of Trusteeship. Prior to their appointment, new Trustees would have served the church for some time in various roles and would be familiar with the church's values, its aims and objectives as well as its day-to-day operations. As part of their induction programme, new Trustees are required to understand their statutory responsibilities as well as their responsibility as elder or deacon.

### **Achievements and Performance**

During the year, the church met regularly for worship and carried out various activities in pursuit of the above stated aims.

### **Financial review**

#### *Principal sources of funding*

The church receives its funding from church members by way of weekly offerings and Gift Aid donations.

#### *Result for the year*

The financial statements for the year are set out in pages 6 to 8. The Receipts and Payments account on page 6 reflects a net Surplus of £911 (2023 Deficit £463).

### **Grant Making Policy**

The church makes grants from its tithed gift income to individuals and organisations that are generally known to the Trustees and the church. The beneficiaries are involved in activities or ministries compatible with the church's objectives,

### **Statement on Risk**

The Trustees assess the major risks to which the charity is exposed on an ongoing basis and have established procedures to mitigate those that are identified as a result of these reviews.

## **Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

### **Report of the Trustees**

#### **Trustees' Responsibilities**

Under legislation relating to charities in Scotland, the Trustees are required to prepare financial statements

for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the church's affairs and of its incoming

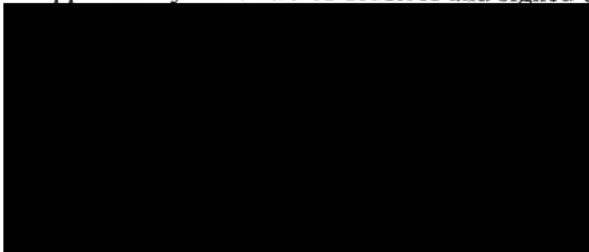
resources and application of resources, including its surplus or deficit for that year, and which have been properly prepared from and are in agreement with the accounting records of the church and comply with relevant disclosure requirements.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- A) Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- B) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- C) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the church will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting record which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the church's financial position and enable the Trustees to ensure that the financial statements comply with the requirements of Section 44 to 48 of The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Account (Scotland) Regulations 2006 flowing there from. The Trustees also have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the church's assets and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Dated: 27/8/25 .....

## **Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

### **Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

I report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

#### **Respective responsibilities of the trustees and the independent examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements 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 financial statements as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of the Independent Examiner's 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 financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

#### **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
  - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
  - (b) 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.

Qualification: Accountant

Address: KW1ck Bookkeeping  
12 Albert Street  
Wick  
Caithness  
KW1 5BQ

Date: ... 27-08-25 .....

**Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

**Receipts and Payments Account**

**For the Year ended 31 December 2024**

**Notes**

**RECEIPTS**

Donations  
Bank and Deposit Interest  
Investment Income  
Income from Smile Amazon  
Donations for Various Charities  
Use of Hall  
Other Receipts

**TOTAL RECEIPTS**

**PAYMENTS**

Charitable Activities  
**TOTAL PAYMENTS**

Deficit/Surplus for year before transfers

Transfers

Deficit/Surplus after transfers

**Statement of Funds**

Balance at commencement

Balance at close

	General Fund	Designated Funds			
		Café	Youth	Fabric	Defibrillator
	£			£	
4	42,591	1,553			
	16			3	
	33				
	601				
	315				
	192	300			
	43,748	1,853	0	3	0
5	43,253	1,440			
	43,253	1,440	0	0	0
	495	413	0	3	0
	169	-169			
	664	244	0	3	0
	302	0		221	1,076
	966	244	0	224	1,076

Totals 2024	Totals 2023
£	£
44,144	33,072
19	16
33	30
0	22
601	2,695
315	130
492	360
45,604	36,325
44,693	36,788
44,693	36,788
911	-463
0	0
911	-463
1,599	2,062
2,510	1,599

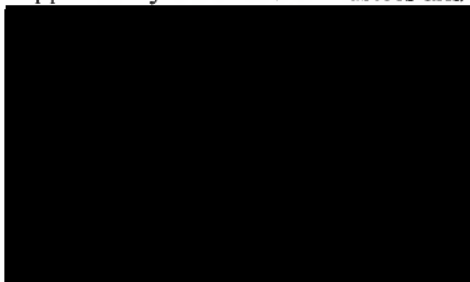
**The above Funds are represented by:**

Bank Current Account  
Treasurer's Account  
Deposit Account  
Deposit Investment  
Gateway Cash

649				
50				1,076
			224	
267	244			
966	244	0	224	1,076

649	2
1,126	1,109
224	221
267	267
244	0
2,510	1,599

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:





## **Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

#### **1 Accounting Policies.**

##### **Basis of financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared on a cash basis.

##### **Church Income**

All voluntary income and bank interest and income tax recoveries on Gift Aid is accounted for when received.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

The manse was built in 1992 and informally valued by a member of the Committee at £85,000, based on its construction costs. The churches and the hall have not been valued in view of the limited market available.

**Unrestricted** funds comprise income received for the object of the church without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

**Restricted** funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the church and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

#### **2 Ministers' Stipend**

The Stipend is paid from The Free Church of Scotland in Edinburgh, the congregation is required, each year to send to Edinburgh enough funds to meet the stipend.

#### **3 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions**

No trustee, other than [REDACTED], received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2023: Nil). 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.

## Castletown and Community Free Church of Scotland

### Notes to the Accounts continued

#### 4 ANALYSIS OF DONATIONS

Offerings  
Gift Aid Donations  
Tax Recoverd on Gift Aid Donations  
Donation from Lybster Church  
Other Offerings, Donations etc

General Fund	Designated Funds				Totals	Totals
	Café	Youth	Fabric	Defibrillator	2024	2023
£			£		£	£
11,784					11,784	12,340
11,715					11,715	15,445
2,944					2,944	3,588
16,148					16,148	0
	1,553				1,553	1,699
42,591	1,553	0	0	0	44,144	33,072
31,476					31,476	24,105
819					819	0
611					611	1,352
					0	50
38					38	30
					0	0
					0	15
50					50	0
2,678					2,678	2,479
4,582					4,582	1,760
932					932	968
498					498	349
172					172	178
156					156	144
					0	0
					0	0
	722				722	405
	339				339	189
	216				216	172
	0				0	480
	63				63	14
	100				100	565
105					105	161
138					138	132
					0	0
					0	0
343					343	418
153					153	435
					0	0
502					502	2,387
43,253	1,440	0	0	0	44,693	36,788

#### 6 DEBTORS

Some Tax on Gift Aid still to be received.

#### 7 CREDITORS

There was no significant expenses outstanding at 31 December 2024

#### 8 DESIGNATED FUNDS

Defibrillator : The minister was asked at a meeting of the people from the village if they could attach a defibrillator to the front of the church building. The minister also agreed that the church would handle the defibrillator funds, and make payments on their behalf, as they did not have a bank account. The balance on the accounts of £1076 will be used to pay for running costs.