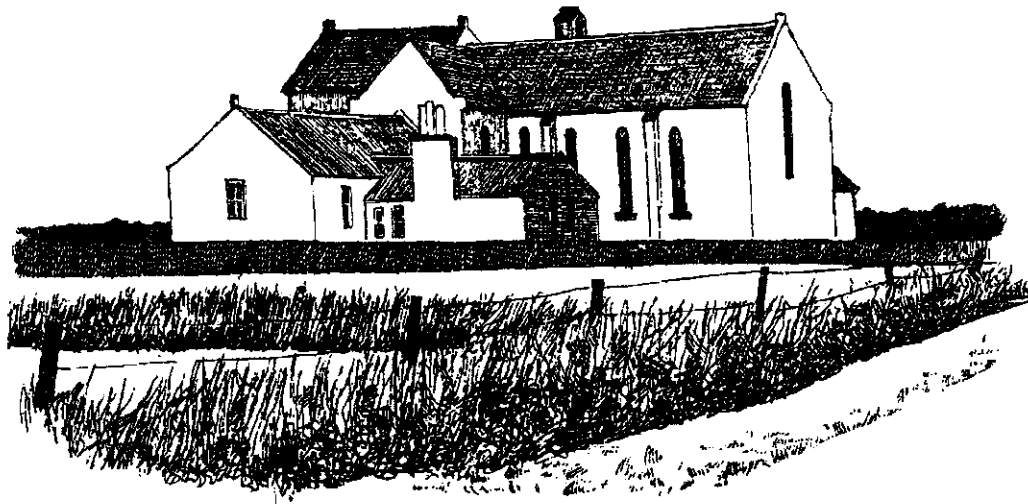


The Church of Scotland

Moncur Memorial Church of Scotland, Stronsay



Receipts and Payments Accounts
Year ending 31st December 2023

Congregation No: 452384

Scottish Charity No: SC 006572

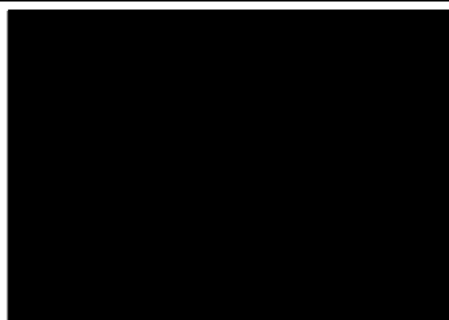
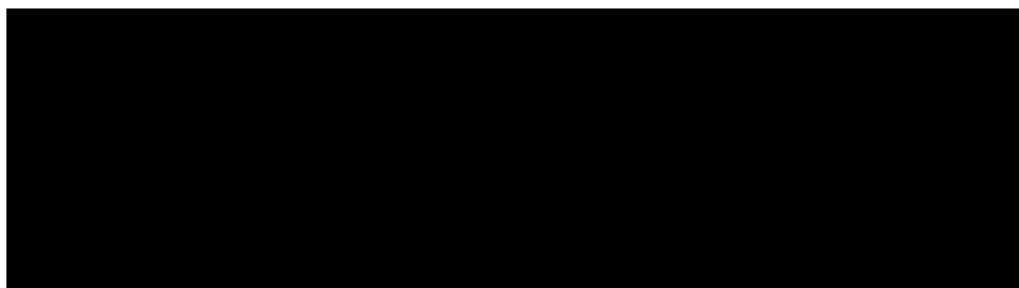
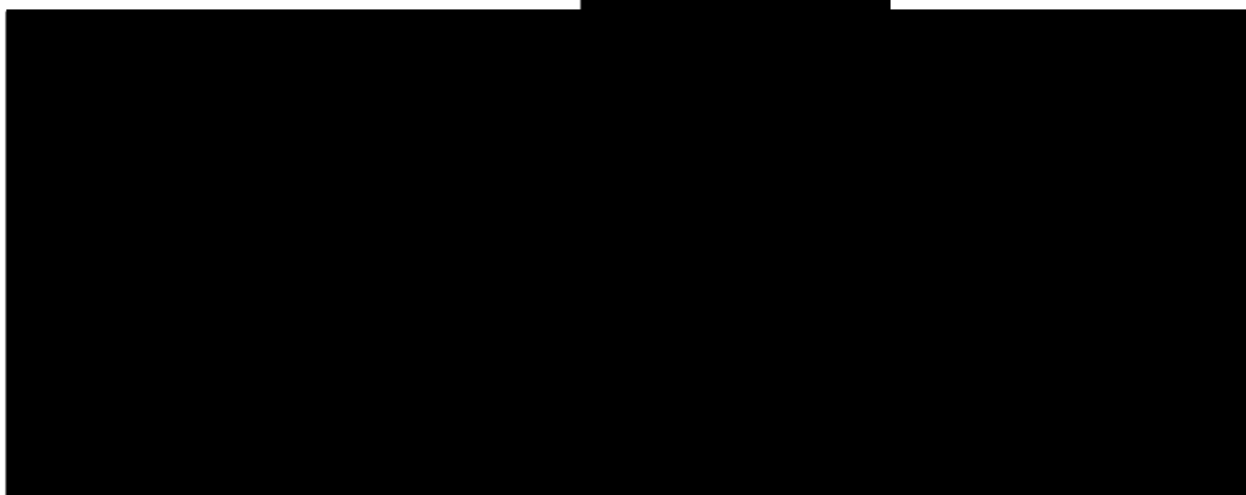
Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name: Moncur Memorial Church

Charity Registration Number: SC 006572

Congregation Reference No: 452384

Contact Address:



Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland
1 Victoria Street
Kirkwall
Orkney
KW15 1DP

Trustees' Annual Report - Year ended 31 December 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Church of Scotland's 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 the skills and commitment to contribute to the management affairs of the Church, to become members of the Board. Board Members are then appointed at the Stated Annual Meeting and serve for a period of three years after which they may seek re-election at the next Stated Annual Meeting. Elders are also included within the membership of the Board.

Organisational Structure

The Congregational Board is chaired by the minister or interim moderator and meets four times a year. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the Treasurer and the Property Committee as appropriate. The Kirk Session also meets six times a year and as needed and is responsible for spiritual affairs within the church.

Our regional governing body, the Presbytery of Orkney, from 1 January 2023 ceased to exist as it merged into a wider regional body, the Presbytery of the North East and Northern Isles. In common with similar steps across the Church of Scotland, this move to larger Presbyteries will hopefully allow supervision and support of churches to be more effective and better resourced. Presbytery over the past year confirmed its plans to rationalise the spread of churches across Orkney in coming years, in line with reduced resources and personnel, and developments across Scotland. A Mission Plan was approved which should maintain a worshipping presence on Stronsay, with a Minister being paid to work here (and partly elsewhere) on the basis of working part-time, as part of an Orkney-wide team of Ministers working together. Stronsay church would unite with other churches across Orkney under one single ruling Kirk Session overseeing the combined single Orkney Parish Church. The united Parish church, would co-ordinate and undertake some of the burdensome administration tasks of subsidiary "Local Worshipping Communities", being the continuation of former local congregations, including . Stronsay. In this way Stronsay church itself would become one of these local mission stations, with some autonomy and their own leadership team locally but subject to the supervision of the central Kirk Session, which would comprise elders from former component churches including Stronsay. The details of this plan have been worked upon with Presbytery's support, over the past year, and Presbytery sent them to existing Kirk Sessions for comment and then for congregational voting in Spring 2024 so that new arrangements could be implemented in late summer. At the time of writing, before any local vote, the plans provide a way forward amidst diminishing resources, personnel and rising administration burden, but cause some local concern about loss of local autonomy, vision, and inspiration, perhaps across the North Isles.

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.

As the local parish church, we especially seek to live out the prime commandments to love God and love and care for our neighbours. In normal times the congregation meets for worship at 11 am each Sunday. When this has not been possible (eg during COVID restrictions) on-line worship was provided. Children are made very welcome at all services. Members of the wider community become involved in church events through a range of activities including sales.

Achievements and Performances

The church has a sense of moving forward, albeit with concerns about the long term regional plans. We have adapted our style of service to become more informal and open to the wider community, while still suitable to the wide range of worshipping backgrounds within the congregation. Congregational fellowship has been helped by the continuing success of refreshments after each service which most people stay for, and people not normally at church attend.

We ordained 3 new Elders, who have strengthened our leadership team and helpfully brought different skills, insights and energies to it. Numbers worshipping have remained good, with a higher percentage (about 10%) of the parish attending than in many Scottish churches, and many more still on special occasions like Christmas. Our congregational audit of our church for Presbytery this year noted the developing congregational involvement in all aspects of worship services and also highlighted developments to improve access for the disabled. Our new team to succeed our retired church officer organising basic tasks for opening and closing the church is working well.

There has been a modest increase in children's involvement, with regular all-age talks in services, children's activities during services, and periodic midweek sessions of arts, crafts and songs for under 5s. These have however developed more into what we call 'messy café church', periodic intergenerational Sunday services, which includes a café style set-up with craft options.

The above mentioned congregational audit also highlighted how our community involvement and support has continued to develop, reflecting our renewed emphasis on showing church is here to help the community, our faith is helpful in real life and our desire is to help our neighbours in practical ways. As examples, our Minister is a member of the Stronsay Community Council which is chaired by a church Elder [in her own right] and church members serve on the organising committees of bodies like the Community Development Trust and Community Association. The church hall is used by various community activities. The hall's kitchen area has been successfully refurbished. Our Peedie Library has continued to offer opportunities for fellowship, warmth and literature to growing numbers. With the support of a local company, our external Christmas decorations have helped brighten the island centre in winter; whilst we have distributed at the beginning of this year, the substantial grant we were awarded to those struggling with fuel poverty. Our Church service for the King's Coronation, was for the whole community and included a celebratory lunch and the planting of a remembrance tree alongside a buried Community Time Capsule.

Our wider national and international support continued, with support for various international charities, including Orkney-wide support for Malawi. We continue to pray regularly for war situations like Ukraine and more recently the Middle East. We have restarted our involvement in the global World Day of Prayer, partly to allow more prayer for the Middle East. In addition to extensive involvement by church members in local community projects, some are involved in supporting national church or community projects. We have continued to take an interest in Street Pastors, not least because our Minister has become a Director of the Scottish overseeing Board.

Our minister is also Interim Moderator at Eday Parish church and there is scope for developing links with them as well as with other Orkney churches. We continue to explore live-streaming of church services, both to assist our worship here, and to help other churches elsewhere .

Financial Review

The principal source of income is through weekly offerings and gift aid donations by members of the congregation. With Church services returning to normal after COVID, both again showed a slight increase. A very successful plant sale was held in May specifically for the purchase of a new sound system for the Church.

We continue to enjoy the benefit of the income derived from our Endowment funds held which goes some way to help with property maintenance costs and general overheads. (see note 2)

The contributions we were asked to make to the Church of Scotland's Ministries and Mission Fund showed a slight increase from the previous year. (see note 6).

Spending on Fabric maintenance and repair was £11074, much of this for the refurbishment of the kitchen area in the Vestry. We also purchased a new sound system for the Church and more comfortable seating. It is expected that there will be more significant fabric expenditure in the near future.

The cost of heat and light was much higher due partly to the pattern of payment for the purchase of bulk heating oil for the church but also due to the greatly increased price of heating oil and electricity.

In December 2022 we received a grant of £5250 from the Cora Foundation to help alleviate fuel poverty in the community. These funds were disbursed throughout the community in early 2023.

On investigation it became apparent that the Music Fund, previously shown as a designated fund, should have been classed as a restricted fund as it comprised a small legacy from many years ago and donations made specifically toward the provision of music when fund raising for a new organ. This has now been rectified in the accounts.

Overall, in 2023 we incurred a deficit (excess of payments above receipts) of £10,362 which can be attributed to ongoing fabric expenditure and increased ministry and mission payments as indicated above.

Orkney Presbytery had for many years successfully supported our partner Presbytery and Churches of Thyolo in Malawi. With the demise of Orkney Presbytery at the end of 2022, to allow this charitable partnership to continue this Church agreed to take on the financial administration of the partnership and act as a conduit for the collection and distribution of donations to Malawi. £20,666 was collected and donated in this way.

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of at least nine months expenditure including designated funds. At the year end the Church held apparently unrestricted cash funds of £43,484 of which £36,781 had been designated for fabric repair and maintenance. The remaining balance of £6,702 is less than dictated in the policy and the Trustees are aware that they may need to re-designate Fabric or Funds to comply with the policy. (See note 2). In addition, it is a time of uncertainty about the future and future costs, relating to the general economic situation and the costs likely under the new Presbytery and possible new Orkney-wide Kirk Session, so some wider review of reserves might be appropriate.

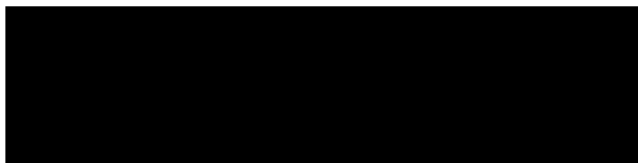
Looking to the future, we aim to check the status of apparently unrestricted funds to see if in fact some were given under restricted requirements for use on Stronsay alone. This is to ensure that the wishes of past donors are fully understood and acted upon.

The Church of Scotland has introduced a new 'Giving to Grow' scheme for covering central Ministry and Mission costs which includes ministers' stipends. This has resulted in an increase in our gross allocation to such ministry and mission for 2023 from £6871 to £7342, although this was offset to some degree by a Transitional Funding allocation from the Church of Scotland which kept this payment to near the same level as 2022.

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 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,



Session Clerk

Date 3rd March '24

**Moncur Memorial Church, Stronsay
SC 006572**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Moncur Memorial Church

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 10.

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. 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:

Address

..... Date:

04 March 2024

Moncur Memorial Church
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2023

		Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Endowment Funds 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>						
Donations	3	9105.68	2900.00	0.00	12005.68	10384.62
Legacies		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Activities for Generating Funds		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank & Deposit interest		1801.95	0.00	0.00	1801.95	282.06
Investment income		400.92	1.55	1183.44	1585.91	1452.50
		11308.55	2901.55	1183.44	15393.54	12119.18
Rental of land & premises		350.00	0.00	0.00	350.00	300.00
Grants for distribution (fuel poverty)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5250.00
Plant sale for new lawnmower		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	650.00
Plant sale for hearing system		0.00	1000.00	0.00	1000.00	0.00
Fund raising for charity		0.00	185.00	0.00	185.00	95.00
North Isles Fund		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	313.00
Malawi Partner Presbytery donations		0.00	20975.45	0.00	20975.45	0.00
Grants and electricity refunds		356.08	0.00	0.00	356.08	0.00
Other Receipts		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		706.08	22160.45	0.00	22866.53	6608.00
<u>Total Receipts</u>		12014.63	25062.00	1183.44	38260.07	18727.18
<u>Payments</u>	4					
Costs of generating funds		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charitable activities		21520.40	27101.23	0.00	48621.63	14298.57
Governance costs		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<u>Total Payments</u>		21520.40	27101.23	0.00	48621.63	14298.57
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year before transfers		-9505.77	-2039.23	1183.44	-10361.56	4428.61
Transfers		1183.44	0.00	-1183.44	0.00	0.00
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		-8322.33	-2039.23	0.00	-10361.56	4428.61

Moncur Memorial Church, Stronsay**Statement of Balances****Year ended 31 December 2023**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment		
Bank & Deposit balances	Note 2	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Brought forward 1st January		40070.40	36303.32	0.00	76373.72	71945.11
Movement in year:						
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		-8322.33	-2039.23	0.00	-10361.56	4428.61
Bank & deposit balances						
Carried forward 31st December		31748.07	34264.09	0.00	66012.16	76373.72
Add: Investments valued at purchase cost		11736.15	0.00	22533.91	34270.06	34270.06
Total funds including investments at purchase cost		43484.22	0.00	22533.91	100282.22	110643.78

Investments at market value

(cost of 13203 units in C of S Growth Fund - £34270.06)

	3341 units @ £5.83		9862 units @ £5.83	13203 units @ £5.83	13203 units @ £5.40
Value at 31st December - 13203 units @ £5.40	19478.03	0.00	57495.46	76973.49	71296.20

Assets

Gift Aid Receivable	1580.00	725.00	0.00	2305.00	1450.00
	1580.00	725.00	0.00	2305.00	1450.00

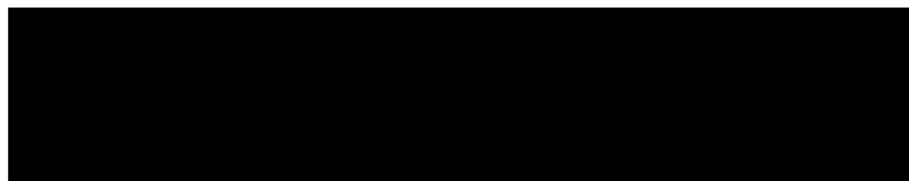
Liabilities

	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session and Congregational Board on

4th March 2024

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Congregational Board



Moncur Memorial Church, Stronsay

Notes to the Accounts

1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses. [REDACTED] who is a trustee, received a gratuity of £50 for services as organist during the year.

2. Movements in Funds

(n.b. investments are included at cost price)

	At 1 Jan 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	At 31 Dec 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated Fabric Fund	48032.59	0.00	-12000.00	749.16	36781.75
General Fund	3773.96	12014.63	-9520.40	434.28	6702.47
	<u>51806.55</u>	<u>12014.63</u>	<u>-21520.40</u>	<u>1183.44</u>	<u>43484.22</u>
Restricted Funds					
Cora Foundation - fuel poverty grant	5250.00	0.00	-5250.00	0.00	0.00
Music Fund	2278.94	1.55	0.00	0.00	2280.49
Property Maintenance fund	0.00	2900.00	0.00	0.00	2900.00
Stewart Endowment Fund	28461.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	28461.38
North Isles Fund	313.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	313.00
Malawi Partnership Fund	0.00	20975.45	-20666.23	0.00	309.22
Charity Donations Fund	0.00	1185.00	-1185.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>36303.32</u>	<u>25062.00</u>	<u>-27101.23</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>34264.09</u>
Endowment funds					
Cooper, Chalmers, Groat, Smith, Spence, Peace and Twatt Bequests	8804.71	434.28	0.00	-434.28	8804.71
Moncur, Spence and Shearer Bequests	13729.20	749.16	0.00	-749.16	13729.20
	<u>22533.91</u>	<u>1183.44</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-1183.44</u>	<u>22533.91</u>
Total funds	<u>110643.78</u>	<u>38260.07</u>	<u>-48621.63</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>100282.22</u>

Purposes of Designated Funds

Fabric Fund: The Trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of Church property

General Fund: The Trustees have designate this fund for the general running of the Church.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Cora Foundation: A grant of £5250 was received from the Cora Foundation in December 2022 to be distributed to those in fuel poverty in the community and was disbursed in early 2023.

Music Fund: This fund was set up with a small legacy specifically for providing music resources for the Church and was later added to by donations toward the cost of a new organ.

Property Maintenance Fund: This fund is for donations specifically given for the maintenance of property at the Stronsay Church and Manse

Stewart Endowment Fund: This is a legacy received 'For the furtherance of the gospel, pastoral care and missionary requirements for the Islands within the bounds of what was formerly the Presbytery of the North Isles.'

North Isles Fund: This fund holds money donated specifically for supporting the mission work of Westray, Stronsay and the other Outer North Isles churches.

Malawi Partnership Fund: This fund was set up to continue to administer the collection of donations from throughout Orkney for our Orkney partnership with Thyolo Presbytery in Malawi. The purpose is to maintain the links and charitable activities with that Presbytery previously administered by the Presbytery of Orkney until its dissolution.

Charity Donations Fund: This fund is utilised for holding money raised specifically for a named charity or purpose and is normally disbursed to that charity or purpose soon after receipt.

Purposes of Endowment Funds

Income from the Cooper, Chalmers, Groat, Smith, Spence, Peace and Twatt Bequests is to be used for General Congregational Purposes

Income from the Moncur, Spence and Shearer Bequests is to be used for the upkeep of the Fabric of the Church, Hall, Manse and grounds.

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment		
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
3. Analysis of Donations					
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gift Aid Donations	2860.00	2900.00	0.00	5760.00	5865.00
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations	2636.33	0.00	0.00	2636.33	1374.72
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	2961.75	0.00	0.00	2961.75	2579.39
Other Offerings, Donations etc	647.60	0.00	0.00	647.60	565.51
	<u>9105.68</u>	<u>2900.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>12005.68</u>	<u>10384.62</u>
4. Analysis of Payments					
Costs of generating funds					
Investment Managers' fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goods for resale	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Community Centre hire	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Charitable activities					
Ministries & Mission allocation (Note 6)	3626.00	0.00	0.00	3626.00	3136.00
Presbytery dues	433.00	0.00	0.00	433.00	433.00
Minister's expenses/travel	720.00	0.00	0.00	720.00	1440.00
Pulpit supply / vacancy expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gratuities & gifts	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	250.00
Fabric repairs & maintenance	9440.85	0.00	0.00	9440.85	4018.24
Hearing system	633.11	1000.00	0.00	1633.11	0.00
Council Tax	1396.72	0.00	0.00	1396.72	1189.23
Heat and light	2671.85	0.00	0.00	2671.85	571.86
Insurance	2007.71	0.00	0.00	2007.71	2125.17
Cost of generating funds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Copyright licence, photocopying etc	132.00	0.00	0.00	132.00	206.00
Phone, internet etc	44.78	0.00	0.00	44.78	0.00
Mission / Youth work	214.40	0.00	0.00	214.40	264.88
Ukraine appeal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	293.00
Street Pastors	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Fuel Poverty grant distributed	0.00	5250.00	0.00	5250.00	0.00
Turkey appeal	0.00	185.00	0.00	185.00	0.00
Malawi Presbytery Partnership	0.00	20666.23	0.00	20666.23	0.00
Other expenses	149.98	0.00	0.00	149.98	271.19
	<u>21520.40</u>	<u>27101.23</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>48621.63</u>	<u>14298.57</u>
Governance costs					
Independent examiner's fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other payments					
Purchase of assets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Purchase of investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</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 £30,135 and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years) £37,032.

6. Ministry and Mission Allocation

This congregation's Ministry and Mission allocation for 2023 was £7342 of which £3245 was met from Stipend Endowment Income, £471 of Transition Funding and the remaining sum of £3626 met by the congregation over the course of the year.

7. Collections for Third Parties

	2023 £	2022 £
Ukraine appeal	0.00	43.00
Street Pastors	0.00	52.00
Turkey appeal	185.00	0.00
	<u>185.00</u>	<u>95.00</u>

Appendix

Funds held on behalf of this Congregation by the Church of Scotland General Trustees

No funds are held by the Church of Scotland General Trustees
on behalf of this congregation.