

***Holy Trinity Episcopal Church,
Pitlochry***

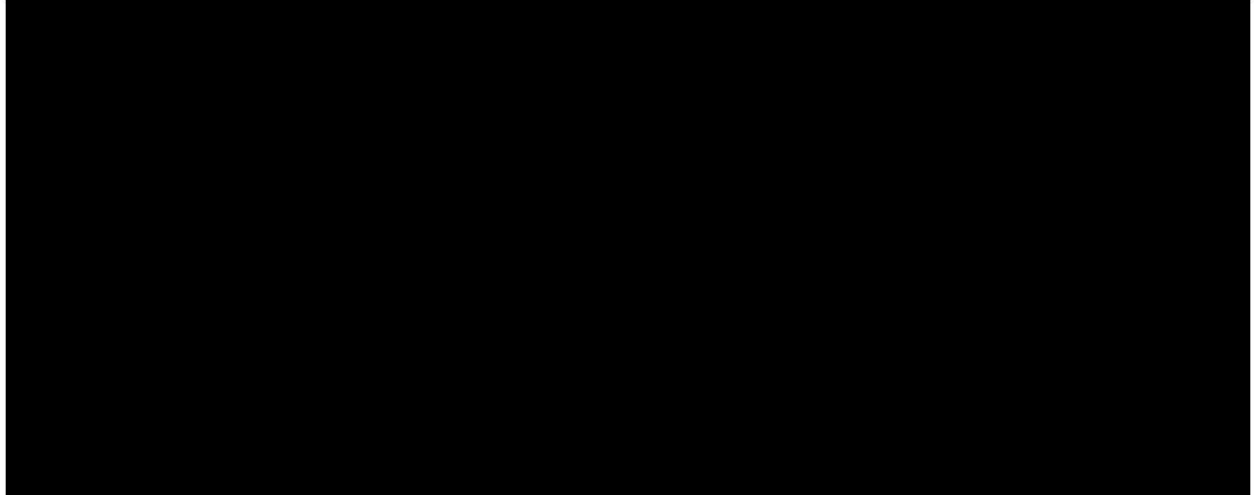


**REPORT OF THE VESTRY
&
ACCOUNTS
FOR
YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2024**

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHARITY REFERENCE NUMBER – SC007020

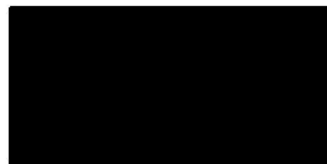
CHARITY TRUSTEES - Members of the Vestry



CHURCH ADDRESS

**Holy Trinity
Perth Road
Pitlochry
PH16 5LY**

PRINCIPAL OFFICE



BANKERS

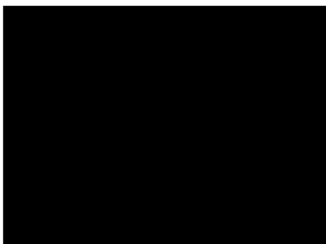
**Bank of Scotland
76 Atholl Road
Pitlochry
PH16 5BW**

INVESTMENT ADVISERS

**Brewin Dolphin Ltd
31 -32 Camperdown Street
City Quay
Dundee
DD1 3JA**

**M & G Charities
PO Box 9038
Chelmsford
CM99 2XF**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

REPORT OF THE VESTRY FOR YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

The members of the Vestry present their annual report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Structure and Governance

In terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, (as amended), the Vestry reports to the congregation as follows:

1. Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Pitlochry is a registered Scottish Charity (SC007020). In process of incorporating All Saints Kinloch Rannoch into Constitution. (Funds passed to Holy Trinity June 2024 and Deed of Transfer in progress)
2. It is a member of the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane of the Scottish Episcopal Church and is in full communion with the worldwide Anglican Communion.
3. The superior authority is the Bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane.
4. All of its temporal affairs are governed by the Vestry.

Appointment of Vestry Members

Vestry members are elected or appointed from members of the Congregation by Annual General Meeting established by constitution and under the Code of Canons of the Scottish Episcopal Church. There is no formal induction programme, but ongoing guidance is given to ensure that Vestry members are familiar with the Church's values, aims and responsibilities as the designated trustees of a charity. Vestry Members are encouraged and supported to attend any Diocesan or Provincial Training Courses.

Administrative Structure

It is the duty of the Vestry to manage the temporal affairs of the congregation with responsibility to keep the fabric and property of the church and other buildings in good working order and to look after the finances of the church.

Statement of Risk

The Vestry keeps under review the major risks to which the Churches are exposed and has established procedures within our Strategic Plan to mitigate any risks identified. Our latest Quinquennial Report, and the Quinquennial for All Saints Kinloch Rannoch were both carried out in 2024 by our Architects (Nichol Russell Studios) who have been working with us since appointed in 2021 helping us manage the fabric of the buildings and the work and reordering that needs to be undertaken. The financial risk is continually monitored and assessed especially with the effects on income and investments from inflation and the cost of living crisis and although we have no control over market forces, we have worked hard to increase weekly and monthly revenue, with some success over 2024. The age and the slow reduction of congregation is still of concern, and though we do attract new members the Vestry continues with their plans for mission and outreach to the end of this 5-year plan in 2026 to encourage new people. On a practical note with care for congregation and visitors we conduct a risk assessment for all our activities, in addition we have ensured that several members have food hygiene certificates, that our kitchen is fully equipped for simple food service, and that at least one person with the Certificate is present at events where food is served, these are displayed in the church hall.

Charitable Objectives and Activities

The Church's principal activities include public worship in sacrament and prayer, Christian education, charitable work, and fund raising for local, national, and international needs, social meetings, and community groups of all ages.

At Holy Trinity, we live our love for God and each other by:

- welcoming and affirming all people,
- nurturing faith and spirituality,
- caring for our planet,
- engaging with our community,
- working for justice.

All Saints Kinloch Rannoch is being incorporated into this structure and the process is almost complete in 2024.

Volunteers

The Vestry is extremely grateful for the time and efforts so freely given by the volunteers, without whom many of the activities would be unable to operate.

Achievements and performance

The Church continues to make its facilities available for use and provide a place of worship for the whole community. In 2023 we continue to open the church regularly for prayer and viewing and have a new leaflet for visitors. The Tuesday Club after review was formally closed at the end of 2023. Our Mission and Outreach Partnership with Pitlochry Festival Theatre & Pitlochry High School continued this year with the Pitlochry Nativity' held in the Church & Serenity Garden in December 2023, which was a great success, the Pitlochry Nativity will be held again in December 2024. In 2023 we also hosted Pitlochry Festival Theatres Mum and Toddler Play Group during Theatre Refurbishment, and ran a 'Storytime in the Garden' with a focus on stories which told of care for our neighbour and care for creation, in the October half term. (2023), this was part of our outreach and mission to highlight the Climate Crisis in relation to Gospel Values. The Church also runs a Book Club which meets monthly, hosted Advent and Lent Courses (in person and on zoom) and works with the other denominations in the town, in the winter of 23/24 we ran a Warm Spaces Day with funding from Perth and Kinross Council. The Gardening Group continue to maintain and develop our Serenity Garden with development work being undertaken and planned for 24/25, and in 2024 we are now able to holding Weddings in the Garden. We offer our church and hall for use by other groups and churches, currently a Mindfulness Group are using the hall and the Romanian Orthodox Church hold occasional services in Holy Trinity for their people living in this area.

Financial Review

This year we have surplus of £5430 for the year, we sold £33,000 of investments to cover capital spending, ongoing projects with PFT, work in the Serenity Garden and the Church & Churchyard. and a loan of £8,000 to All Saints Kinloch Rannoch (now repaid.) The surplus is due to an increase in donations, fundraising, in gift aided giving and successful grant applications. Investment performance however has quite stable this year with some small gains so we end the year with investments at Holy Trinity of £260,379. In total so far over the period we have spent over £40,000 on building work, reports and the architect, and £30,000 on Mission and Outreach

As Holy Trinity contribute a 49% share to the Linked Charge expenses., by far the largest amount of the Charge, the Vestry have taken the view that we will continue to review our planned expenditure for Mission and Outreach and will to work to improve the yearly deficits and to seek funding from external sources where possible. We have raised over £3500 for work in the Serenity Garden and church. We also plan fundraising and further grant application and appeals for further work in 2024/25. Our application for Phase 2 of the Serenity Garden to the Coop Local Fund was successful and this money £1073 was received in November 2023. We took over responsibility for All Saints at the end of June 2024 and we are working on a Joint Incumbency Constitution. Transfer of funds was made to our accounts including £124,493 in Investments with SEC Unit Trust. Total investments for both churches total £394,069 and a total of investments and cash of £402,835

Plans for future periods

The Vestry will continue its range of present activities in the foreseeable future. The Vestry also continues to plan a programme of Mission & Outreach to seekers and the local community was extended due to COVID into a 4 year period, which will run into 2025. Our fund allocation for Mission & Outreach was set at £40,000 (Capital expenditure) and after 4 years means we have spent £30,000,. The Vestry's 5-year strategic plan is under review to address the commitments to the maintenance and repair of the building, to our Zero Carbon obligations, and to the financial needs of the Church .and the development of Mission and Outreach to our congregation and the wider community. The Action Plan for 2024 has been reviewed and the Action Plan for 2025 is under development.

Development of work in church & community.

1. The Pitlochry Festival Theatre:

- a) We continue to develop projects and work with PFT with the Partnership Programme which will continue until 2025 and will consist of collaborative events in the Serenity Garden with and for the community on the theme of Climate Change (SEC having the target of Zero Carbon by 2030), education on environment, spirituality and performance. Theatre staff also help develop our outdoor Christmas display and provide actors, costumes, sound and light for events such as the Nativity in the garden, as well as materials and staff to support other activities.

2. Creation of The Serenity Garden : We have now begun phase 2 of this project, this includes further development of the garden as a place of peace and tranquillity for the church and local community as well as being an exemplar in raising awareness of the Climate Crisis and a focus for the care of creation. It also includes updating of the website to include the Serenity Garden. We are also working on getting disabled access to the garden and for weddings as we now have permission to take wedding services outdoors. This work involves our congregations throughout the charge and the local community. Including

- a) The Pitlochry Serenity Garden Group
- b) Members of other congregations and friends
- c) PFT,
- d) Pitlochry High School
- e) and other community groups, such as the Climate Café

3. Removal of Pews at the back of the Church, carpeting and eventually new chairs to create a more informal working space – planning for a new worship and activity space at the rear of the church has begun but was put on hold after the Quinquennial Report due to potential costs of the work required, but is to be reviewed in 2025

We also need to consider the cost of the latest Quinquennial Report, (October 2023) which details a considerable amount of work required to deal with the outer and inner fabric of the building, costs estimate to be in the region of £500,000 - £600,000 which is a significant amount of spending over the next 5 years, due to deterioration in the roof and problems with damp. In 2021 we appointed an architect to support the care and development of the building, to support our Zero Carbon Strategy, and we are working with them on plans and grant applications for the necessary work and reordering of the church. Our next Quinquennial is due in 2028.

4. Climate Change – Although Holy Trinity has been an Eco Congregation for several years the fact that in 2021 the SEC has committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030 has moved us to further action. Holy Trinity vestry has adopted climate change as a strategic priority for the church. The working group we established now is working with all 4 churches in the charge and for Holy Trinity has identified key areas for action in relation to:

- The church building and grounds
- The management of church and congregation activities
- Worship and reflection
- Partnership with our linked charge churches and the local community
- Information and communication

A free energy audit has been carried out by Zero Waste Scotland to support our planning for reducing our carbon footprint and using energy more responsibly.

We have begun discussions with local climate change organisations to explore opportunities for working together. Unfortunately due to the work required on the church building major efforts towards Zero Carbon cannot be undertaken until the work on the church fabric has been completed, this has halted any infrastructure projects on climate change until progress is made on implementing the building work necessary.

Reserves

The Vestry has adopted a policy of trying to maintain a level of unrestricted reserves such that, in the event of a drop in income, the church would be able to maintain its current level of activities for at least five years until replacement funding can be obtained.

Statement of the Vestry Members' Responsibilities

The members of the Vestry 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 Vestry are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the current 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 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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.

Treasurer / Secretary's Report

Introduction

The past year has been busy, presenting numerous financial and organizational challenges. Despite these hurdles, we have made significant strides whilst adhering closely to our budget. This document outlines the key developments and accomplishments, highlighting our resilience and commitment to progress.

Financial Management and Budget Adherence

One of the most notable achievements of the year has been our ability to stick mainly to the budget. This was no small feat, given the financial strains we encountered. Our careful approach to financial management ensured that we could meet our commitments without compromising on essential services or projects.

Implementation of Semi-Professional Accounting

Recognizing the need for more robust financial oversight, we implemented a new semi-professional level of accounting. This transition has enhanced our financial reporting and transparency, providing us with better insights into our fiscal health. The improved accounting practices have also facilitated more informed decision-making, enabling us to allocate resources more effectively.

Appointment of a Deputy Treasurer

In anticipation of future transitions, we appointed a deputy treasurer, [REDACTED] to ensure continuity in our financial management. This proactive step helps safeguard our financial stability and prepares us for a forthcoming change of leadership. The deputy treasurer has been getting to grips with our financial processes and will play a crucial role in carrying forward our fiscal strategy.

Organizational Changes and Integrations

This year has also been marked by significant organizational changes, particularly the integration of All Saints into Holy Trinity. This merger required careful planning and execution to ensure a smooth transition for both congregations. The integration has strengthened our community, fostering a sense of unity and shared purpose. It is however still to be fully legally ratified.

Challenges in Staffing

Unfortunately, we experienced a major setback with the loss of our bookkeeper. This unexpected departure created a gap in our financial team, necessitating swift action to fill the void. Our new accounting system and the appointment of a deputy treasurer helped mitigate the impact, but the transition period was challenging.

Progress on Conservation Work

While we have made considerable progress in several areas, the major conservation work remains an area where we have yet to commence. The delay can be attributed to various factors, including resource constraints and prioritization of other urgent projects. However, plans are in place to begin conservation efforts in the coming year, ensuring that our heritage sites are preserved for future generations.

Funding and Project Initiatives

Despite the financial and organizational challenges, we initiated and funded several projects from church funds. These projects, mentioned in the Vestry report, underscore our commitment to continuous improvement and service to our community. Each project has been carefully selected to address specific needs, ranging from infrastructure improvements to community outreach programs.

Community Engagement and Outreach

Our focus on community engagement has remained steadfast throughout the year. Various outreach programs have been launched to support and uplift our community members. These initiatives have not only provided much-needed assistance but also strengthened the bond within our congregation.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this year has been one of both challenges and successes. Our ability to navigate financial constraints, integrate All Saints into Holy Trinity, and implement a new level of accounting demonstrates our resilience and adaptability. While there are areas that need further attention, such as the conservation work, our overall progress is a testament to our dedication and hard work. As we move forward, we remain committed to overcoming obstacles and achieving our goals, united in our purpose and vision for the future.

Accounts for the Year Ending 30 Sep 2024 appear on the following pages

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
<u>Congregational Giving</u>	£	£
Envelope collection	1,860	1,768
Cash collection	770	752
Standing Orders	1,492	1,452
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	963	1,939
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>5,085</u>	<u>5,911</u>
<u>Other Income</u>		
Weddings	950	0
Lairs and Funerals	1,510	400
Donations	1,603	1,995
Fundraising events	1,155	2,853
Offertory Box	238	336
Grants Income-Serenity Garden	1073	2,000
Grants Income	500	1,500
Hiring of Church	369	462
Repair to Rectory Income	0	1,215
Sale of Investments	0	33,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>7,398</u>	<u>43,760</u>
 Investment income	 14,007	 14,168
 Legacies	 0	 0
 <u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	 <u>26,489</u>	 <u>63,839</u>

<u>PAYMENTS</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Link Charge costs (note 1)	20,642	24,503
Quota	2,157	3,128
Insurance	2,189	3,177
Water, Heat and Light (note 2)	3,574	1,941
Telephone/Broadband	501	590
Church supplies	774	539
Architect Fees	12,238	5,439
Church maintenance	1,497	505
Grounds maintenance & Shed	3,623	6,208
Accounts & Administration	1,490	966
Publicity & Fundraising Expenses	547	0
Sundries (note 3)	182	1,544
Cleaning	598	480
Serenity Gardens	225	645
Mission & Outreach Project	5,659	0
Charitable donations	200	123
Rectory Costs	0	622
All Saints Church Loan	0	8,000
<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>	<u>56,094</u>	<u>58,409</u>
Total income	25,416	63,839
Less total expenditure	56,094	58,409
<u>SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR YEAR</u>	<u>-29,605</u>	<u>5,430</u>

<u>Notes to the accounts</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
Note 1 Link Charge costs		
Rectory Stipend and Pension	19,327	20,982
Rectory Misc Expenses	72	0
Rectory Travel	888	808
Ordinand Travel	0	0
Lay Reader Travel	0	0
Rectory Expenses	374	879
Rectory Council Tax	1,180	1,218
Rectory Telephone	176	176
Ordinand Telephone	0	0
Rectory Stationery	541	576
Ministry	7	71
Conferences & Meetings	38	172
Advertising	0	295
Tummel Bridge Income	-604	-284
Outstanding Amount Due	-400	0
Credit from Previous Quarters	-957	-391
MMT Donations	0	0
<u>Total</u>	<u>20,642</u>	<u>24,503</u>

Note 2

Electricity	1,350	1,566
Gas	2,224	375
<u>Total</u>	<u>3,574</u>	<u>1,941</u>

Note 3

	87	93
	0	150
Music Licence	95	375
Gift	0	926
Flowers	0	0
Sundries	<u>182</u>	<u>1544</u>

Total

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
	£	£
General Fund		
Bank balance brought forward	2,293	2,688
Less deficit/profit for year	29,605	5,430
Sub Total	27,312	8,118
Sale of investments	30,000	0
Bank balance carried forward	<u>2,688</u>	<u>8,118</u>

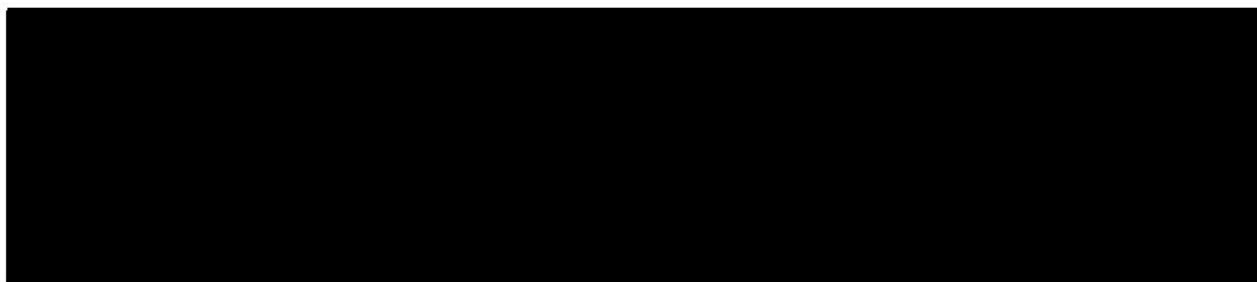
Investments at market value	274,721	260,379
Link Charge Deposit	1,471	1,079
<u>Total funds as at 30th September</u>	<u>278,880</u>	<u>269,576</u>

MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	AS AT 30.09.23	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS	GAIN (LOSS) ON VALUATION	AS AT 30.09.24
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	2,688	63,839	58,409	0	8,118
Link Charge Deposit	1,471	24,787	25,178	-391	1,079
M & G Charifund	115,271	0	0	7,065	122,336
Brewin Dolphin	159,450	0	33,000	11,593	138,043
TOTAL FUNDS	278,880	88,626	116,587	18,267	269,576

* Includes £33,000 sale of investments

APPROVED BY VESTRY



Rector's Report 2024

Introduction

At the end of the financial year, it has been a busy one with, but services are planned to the end of the year and regularly reviewed. Planning for next year's services will take place at the end of November. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] work together to ensure that all our churches have regular services and we are encouraging Lay participation as much as possible and plan a refresher course to share experiences on Intercession in 2025.

We continue to encourage congregation members to take up a role if they feel called to

do so. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank [REDACTED] for her continuing work and support she is invaluable to the smooth running of the Linked Charge as was [REDACTED] our Treasurer, who moved from Strathtay in September, he will be missed but we fortunately have a new Charge Treasurer [REDACTED] and we warmly welcome her, as she picks up the ropes.

Key Points

- Regular services in all our churches and on zoom continue.
- The merger of All Saints with Holy Trinity is now complete apart from final legal documents.
- The Pitlochry Nativity Play planned again with PFT for 14th December in the Garden. Working with the school, on the play and with the School Choir.
- Short Advent course and Christmas services finalised.
- Ecumenical links with the Church of Scotland working well with joint services especially at Christmas and Easter.
- Quinquennials have been undertaken at 3 of our 4 churches and repairs and maintenance is required across all three. Major maintenance is required at Holy Trinity and fundraising is going to be important.
- An archiving group met during the summer months to work with Holy Trinity Documents, it will reconvene in Spring 2025
- The Serenity Garden continues to flourish and develop, the Garden Group work hard to maintain the churchyard and to develop biodiversity. Our Co-ordinator has been especially tireless in seeking Grants to enable work to continue and have raised over £5000 this year.
- The Climate Change Group which operates across the charge is working well although very little happened during the summer.
- o The Provincial Energy Footprint tool need to be completed by all our churches.

Occasional Offices & Others

- 5 Funerals and 1 burial of ashes this year,
- Only 1 Wedding this year at which Bishop Ian presided and Lesley and I took part.
- I Attended General Synod in June, my last year as I have served two 4 years terms.
- I attend Provincial Mission Board Meetings, this material feeds into the work of the
- Convenor of the Diocesan Mission Board and this year the Mission Board in Partnership with the Diocesan Environment group held a very successful Climate Change Gathering in September
- Attend Cathedral Chapter Meetings. Part of Convenors role is to serve on Diocesan Standing Committee, 2024 been busy year with changes in clergy across the Diocese

Liz Baker November 2024

Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) / Safeguarding Report

As representative of Holy Trinity, my Annual Return to the Perth Office I went in January reporting no occurrences for the year. Changes are being implemented regarding the Disclosure Scheme and shall come into practice in April 2025 for all Scottish Episcopal Churches. The new Diocesan Protection Officer is the [REDACTED] who held two Training Days in Perth and issued the new online guidance about the changes.

Charlotte Baker November 2024

APPENDIX 3

OSCr

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the
trustees/members of

Charity name

HOLY TRINITY PITLOCHRY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Registered charity
number

SC007020

On the accounts of the
charity for the period

Period start date

Day

Month

Year

to

Period end date

Day

Month

Year

01

10

2023

30

09

2024

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page
numbers of additional sheets)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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) 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 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:

Name:

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

Date:

18-06-2025

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

**Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose**