

The Church of Scotland
Ellon Parish Church of Scotland

ACCRUED (SORP COMPLIANT) ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Congregation No: 331964

Charity No: SC 008819

**Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Accrued (SORP) Accounts
Year ended 31st December 2024**

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Ellon Parish Church of Scotland Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

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. Full details of the church's activities can be found on its website www.ellonparishchurch.co.uk.

Achievements and performance

Ellon Parish Church continues to operate under the mission statement summed up as Meaningful Faith, Meaningful Community, Meaningful Witness. The team structure, of teams with delegated responsibilities from the Kirk Session, continues to underpin the practical running of Ellon Parish Church.

The most significant piece of work for 2024 has been the development of a 3-year plan for Ellon parish Church. It's anticipated this would run from around May 2025 - May 2027. Following a series of open discussion events (Church Workshop after worship, sermon responses and a SWOT analysis carried out by the Kirk Session) a time-limited team was tasked to collate the responses and identify themes. The general hopes from the congregation were to sustain the Kirk Centre project, deepens the spiritual life of the church community, engage our young people at a deeper level, remain a viable part of the community in Ellon and to develop our buildings to make them more accessible. The team met over a period of 3 months at the end of 2024 and from this developed eight aims which are:

- To sustain and evolve our key ministry areas (specifically Kirk Centre Project, Young People Ministry, Neighbourhoods of Care, Discipleship and Volunteers)
- To become and remain financially stable
- To support, sustain and build our church community
- To assess our buildings to make them more accessible
- To develop men's and boy's ministry
- To make church and faith accessible for those less confident about their faith
- To become a more intergenerational church
- To develop new leaders to be able to fill key roles in Ellon Parish Church as these become vacant.

These were under three main themes of sustainable, accessible and intergenerational.

The objectives associated with these aims will be worked out by the Kirk Session Teams and agreed in May 2025 at the Kirk Session.

Much of the rest of the year has been taken up with organising the life of the church including:

- The running of the Kirk Centre Community Larder, Shop and Cafe
- Developing and recruiting members for the Stewardship Team
- The continued work of the teams.
- Closer working links with Belhelvie Parish Church.
- Kirk Fest Mission Week
- Involvement in community events (Ellon Christmas Lights Switch On, Ellon Gala, Community Christmas Carol singing in partnership with Ellon Castle Gardens)
- Money raised at 'extra' Christmas services going to 'Formartine Youth Project' (around £700)
- Money raised from Beer and Carols being donated to 'Kayleigh's Wee Stars'
- Organising and running 'The Bereavement Journey' Course.

No developments have taken place regarding the outcomes of the 'Accelerate' programme or any intentional discussion around the financial future of Ellon Parish Church as mentioned in the developments from 2023 trustees report.

Future Plans

Our main plan for 2025 is to develop and start working on the objectives from our 3 year plan.

Structure, governance and management

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Unitary Deed of Constitution.

The trustees who served during the period from 1 January 2024 to the date the financial statements were approved are included in the legal and administrative information.

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are 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 the Presbytery. The Kirk Session can delegate various activities to be carried out or developed by the teams (which meet at least every two months). The Kirk Session which meets several times a year is responsible for the spiritual and temporal affairs within the church.

Risk Management

Although the Trustees have not discussed the risks specifically this year, however, the risks for this year are the same as previous years, with the pandemic and it's effects a continuing risk factor.

The trustees 'have felt the risks to be:

the ageing congregation

the need to increase our income

the need to reduce expenditure

the overall reduction in giving

the increasing costs involved in the upkeep of our buildings

the reduction in rental income generated by the let of the Kirk Centre rooms

the changing nature of the lets
renewed competition in the town.
The effects of the Presbytery Plan

The Kirk Session and Stewardship Team are fully aware of the above concerns and have considered the charity's financial requirements and are making plans to mitigate the risks noted.

Financial Review

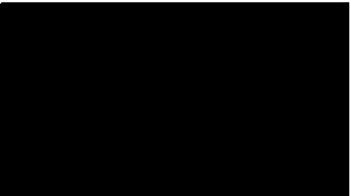
The principal source of income is from freewill offerings which totalled £120,396 for the year (2023: £114,583). Overall income was £203,662 against total expenditure of £220,447 giving a reported deficit for the year of £16,158.

The overall value of funds closed at £1,877,089 of which £50,194 comprised bank and cash balances.

Reserves Policy

The charity trustees have considered the reserves required and have taken into account their current and future liabilities. No specific policy is currently in place, but sufficient funds are always maintained to meet the day to day operating requirements of the church. Cash balances held at the year-end provides cover for approximately 3 months' worth of normal operating expenditure.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Charity Registration Number:	SC008819
Congregation Reference No:	3319664
Contact Address:	

**Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31 December 2024**

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them 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 charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

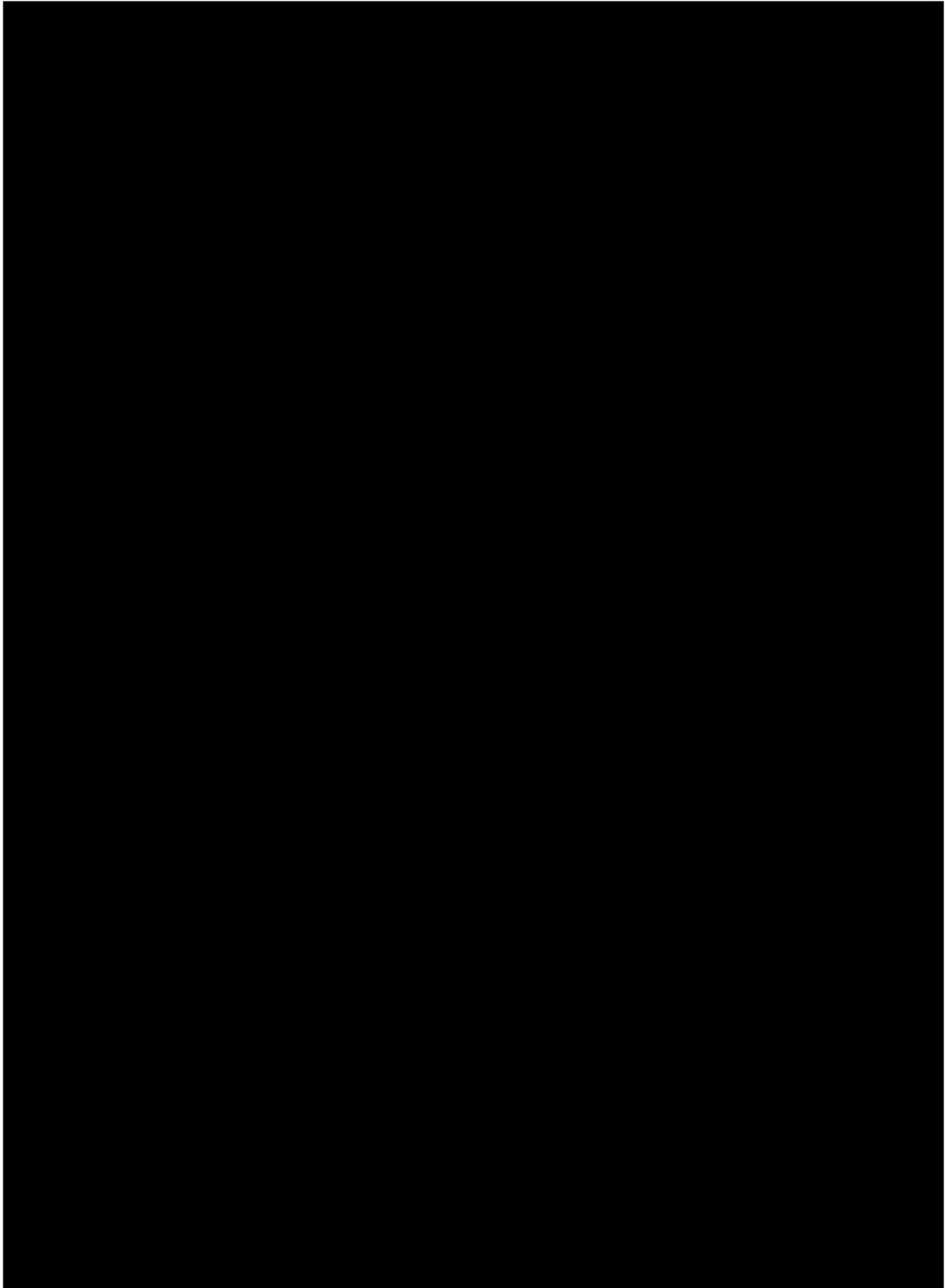
The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,

Minister

Session Clerk

Date: 08/07/2025



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Ellon Parish Church

Year ended 31 December 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 7 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.(as amended)

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

An 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 (as amended), and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended) 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.



SBP Accountants & Tax Advisers
27 Finlayson Street
Fraserburgh
AB43 9JQ

Date: 15th Jan 2025.

Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Statement of Financial Activities
Year ended 31st December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>						
Donations and legacies	1	159,913	-	-	159,913	162,322
Other trading activities	2	19,147	-	-	19,147	18,788
Income from Investments	3	1,897	-	-	1,897	1,318
Income from Charitable activities	4	22,705	-	-	22,705	26,382
<u>Total Income and endowments</u>		<u>203,662</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>203,662</u>	<u>208,810</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>						
Charitable activities	5	216,527	-	-	216,527	195,927
Governance Costs		3,770	-	-	3,770	3,460
Investment Costs		150	-	-	150	30
<u>Total Expenditure</u>		<u>220,447</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>220,447</u>	<u>199,417</u>
Net income / (expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		(16,785)	-	-	(16,786)	9,393
Net gains / (losses) on Investments		627	-	0	627	490
Net income/(expenditure)		(16,158)	0	0	(16,158)	9,883
Transfers between funds		(5)	5	-	0	0
Net movement in funds		(16,163)	5	0	(16,158)	9,883
<u>Reconciliation of funds:</u>						
Total funds brought forward		1,891,813	1,434	-	1,893,247	1,851,802
Net movement in funds		(16,163)	5	-	(16,158)	9,883
Extraordinary Item - Introduction of Church of Scotland Trustees Deposit fund					-	31,563.00
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,875,650</u>	<u>1,439</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,877,089</u>	<u>1,893,248</u>

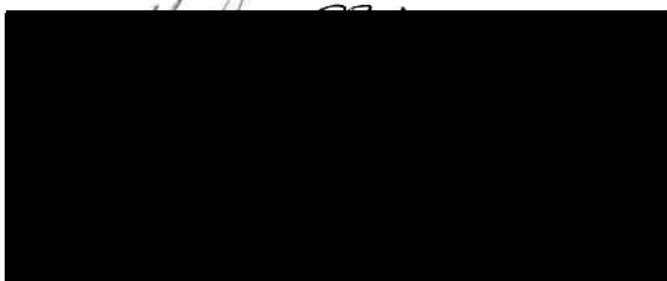
Ellon parish Church of Scotland

Balance Sheet

At 31st December 2024

	<u>Note</u>	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	8	1,766,729		1,771,155	
Investments	9	41,515		39,333	
			<u>1,808,244</u>		<u>1,810,488</u>
Current Assets					
Stocks		200		600	
Debtors	10	27,138		9,759	
Bank and cash		50,194		80,037	
		<u>77,532</u>		<u>90,396</u>	
Creditors					
Falling due within one year	11	<u>8,687</u>		<u>7,637</u>	
Net Current Assets			68,845		82,759
Net Assets			<u>1,877,089</u>		<u>1,893,247</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Restricted funds	12	1,439		1,434	
Unrestricted income funds	13				
General funds		1,875,650		1,891,813	
Total charity funds			<u>1,877,089</u>		<u>1,893,247</u>
Total funds			<u>1,877,089</u>		<u>1,893,247</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on
For and on behalf of the Kirk Session



Minister

Session Clerk

**Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently in the current and preceding year in dealing with items which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of FRS102.

The accounts have been prepared in UK £ sterling

Going Concern

The Trustees have considered the overall financial position of the church and are of the view that there are no material uncertainties about the church's ability to continue for the next twelve months and for the foreseeable future and, on this basis, the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Fund accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the charity.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) the general volunteer time of congregation members is not recognised. On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised as expenditure in the period of receipt.

**Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Accounting Policies (Continued)

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as the liability is incurred.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity has the right to occupy and use for its charitable objects certain tangible fixed assets, including the Church, halls and manse, vested in the Church of Scotland General Trustees. No consideration is payable for the use of these assets. Expenditure incurred on the repair and maintenance of these assets is charged as resources expended in the statement of financial activities in the period in which the liability arises.

All tangible fixed assets costing in excess of £2,500 having a value to the charity greater than one year, other than those acquired for specific purposes, are capitalised. No depreciation is charged on the property on the basis that the estimated residual value of the property is not considered to be significantly different from the carrying value of the asset and therefore the depreciation charge and the accumulated depreciation are not material although, due to the nature of the properties, the trustees do not believe that a reliable market valuation is possible. Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis to write off the cost or initial value, less residual value, of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Freehold Buildings:	Nil
Leasehold improvements	3 years
Plant and machinery	5 years

Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the market value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and market value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the market value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Taxation

Ellon Parish Church is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

Debtors and creditors receivable/payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the profit and loss account in other administrative costs.

Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
1 Donations and legacies					
Offerings	120,396			120,396	114,583
Tax recovered on gift aid	21,737			21,737	26,916
Donations	15,022			15,022	10,515
Other	2,758			2,758	10,308
	<u>159,913</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>159,913</u>	<u>162,322</u>
2 Other trading activities					
Use of premises	19,147			19,147	18,788
	<u>19,147</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,147</u>	<u>18,788</u>
3 Income from investments					
Deposit interest	1,705			1,705	1,154
Dividends received	154			154	137
Bank interest	38			38	27
	<u>1,897</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,897</u>	<u>1,318</u>
4 Income from charitable activities					
Weddings and funerals	5,330			5,330	3,320
Bring and buy sale	42			42	36
Fundraising	6,434			6,434	4,288
Online shop sales	12			12	0
Café/shop/larder	10,887			10,887	18,738
	<u>22,705</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>22,705</u>	<u>26,382</u>
Totals	<u>203,662</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>203,662</u>	<u>208,810</u>

5 Analysis of expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Ministries and mission allocation	81,464			81,464	90,287
Minister's expenses	2,257			2,257	2,886
Depreciation and impairment	5,530			5,530	5,559
Staff costs	36,975			36,975	32,663
Fabric repairs & maintenance	15,353			15,353	13,781
Other buildings costs	35,359			35,359	22,355
Church office expenses	10,380			10,380	11,094
Organ and music	359			359	662
Shop/café/larder expenses	12,339			12,339	7,292
Other expenses	16,511			16,511	9,348
	<u>216,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216,527</u>	<u>195,927</u>
Governance costs					
Legal and professional	746			746	580
Independent examiner's fee	3,024			3,024	2,880
	<u>3,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,770</u>	<u>3,460</u>
Investment costs					
Admin costs	150			150	30
	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>30</u>
Total expenditure	<u>220,447</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>220,447</u>	<u>199,417</u>

Support costs have not been separately identified as the trustees consider there is only one charitable activity. Therefore support costs relate wholly to that activity and have not been separately identified.

	2024 £	2023 £
6 Staff costs and numbers		
Salaries and wages	36,325	32,075
Employer's contribution to defined contribution pension scheme	650	588
Total	<u>36,975</u>	<u>32,663</u>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Number of employees	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

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) was £38,884 No Employee earned over £60,000.

7 Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

During the year a total of one Trustees received remuneration. The details are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
 Church Officer	<u>14,746</u>	<u>13,268</u>

During the year six trustees received reimbursement of day to day expenses, totalling £2,209, incurred on behalf of the Church. (2023 - trustees received £1,517)

During the year expenses reimbursements were made to  (the wife of trustee ) totalling £10,352. (2023 -  received £9,619).

All payments to trustees are permitted by the charity's constitution.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	Leasehold Improvements	Plant & Machinery	Total
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	1,753,650	299,731	79,670	2,133,051
Additions	0	1,104	0	1,104
Disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2024	<u>1,753,650</u>	<u>300,835</u>	<u>79,670</u>	<u>2,134,155</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	0	299,731	62,165	361,895
Charge for year	0	364	5,166	5,531
Eliminated on disposals	0	0	0	0
At 31st December 2024	<u>0</u>	<u>300,095</u>	<u>67,331</u>	<u>367,426</u>
Net book value				
At 31st December 2024	<u>1,753,650</u>	<u>740</u>	<u>12,339</u>	<u>1,766,729</u>
At 31st December 2023	<u>1,753,650</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17,505</u>	<u>1,771,155</u>

9 Investments (UK)

	2024 £	2023 £
Opening market value	39,333	6,156
Church of Scotland Deposit account - introduced	0	31,563
Unrealised gain / (loss) on investments	627	490
Movement in cash funds	<u>1,555</u>	<u>1,124</u>
Closing market value	<u>41,515</u>	<u>39,333</u>

Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31st December 2024

10 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments	1,875	1,764
Other debtors	25,263	7,995
	27,138	9,759

11 Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	567	0
Other creditors	0	165
Accruals	7,962	7,319
Other taxation and social security	158	153
	8,687	7,637

12 Analysis of net assets among funds

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fixed assets	1,766,729	0	1,766,729
Investments	41,515	0	41,515
Current assets	76,093	1,439	77,532
Current liabilities	(8,687)	0	(8,687)
Net assets 31st December 2024	1,875,650	1,439	1,877,089

	At 1 January 2024	Gain/(loss) on investments	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
13 Funds						
Restricted funds						
Library fund	1,434				5	1,439
General funds - unrestricted						
Designated hall fund	1,750,000					1,750,000
Designated hall development fund	3,417					3,417
General funds	138,396	627	203,662	(220,447)	(5)	122,233
	1,893,247	627	203,662	(220,447)	0	1,877,089

Purpose of restricted funds

Library fund

This is a fund for the purchasing of books for people to read in the Church

Purpose of designated funds

Hall fund

This is a fund to reflect the Hall at estimated current value

Hall development

This is a historic fund relating to the refurbishment and extension of the Hall. The project was completed a number of years ago, with a balance of £3,422 remaining in the Hall Extension Fund bank account.

Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Notes forming part of the financial statements
for the year ended 31st December 2024

14 Volunteers

In common with all congregations of the Church of Scotland the congregation benefits from the contribution made by volunteers who give their time and talents willingly for the benefit of the Church. The areas of congregational life which rely on the contribution of volunteers are many and varied and much of the activity would be unable to continue were it not for the commitment shown.

15 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees.

The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to statement of financial activities in respect of defined contributions schemes was £650 (2023 £588)

Ellon Parish Church of Scotland
Appendix
Year ended 31st December 2024

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

Consolidated Fabric Fund	2024	2023
	£	£
Revenue Account (50)		
Credit Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>2,844</u>	<u>1,289</u>
Capital Accounts (56)		
Growth Fund		624
Income Fund		
Deposit Fund	31,398	31,398
Credit Balances held at 31 December 2024 at cost	<u>31,398</u>	<u>32,022</u>
Growth Fund	7,273	6,646
Income Fund		
Deposit Fund	31,398	31,988
Market Value of Balances at 31 December 2024	<u>38,671</u>	<u>38,634</u>
Temporary Accounts		
Credit balance at 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>