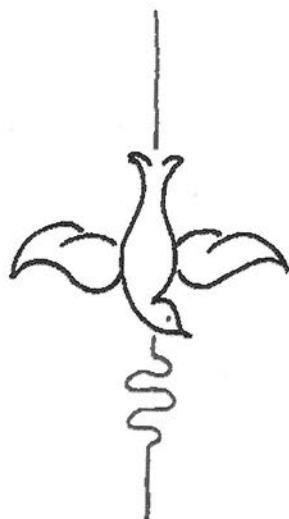


The Church of Scotland

Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland



Congregational Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Congregation No: 171066

Charity No: SC011239

**Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland**

**SC 011239**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

**Year ended 31 December 2024**

The Trustees present the annual report and accounts for Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Reference and Administrative Information**

Charity Name: Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland

Charity Registration No: SC 011239

Congregation No: 171066

Contact Address: The Church Office, Forrest Street, Airdrie,  
ML6 7BE

Website address [www.airdrieclarkstonparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.airdrieclarkstonparishchurch.org.uk)

Minister:

Session Clerk:

Clerk to the Board:

Church Treasurer:

**Kirk Session:**

**Board only:**

**Independent Examiner:**

**Bankers:**

Royal Bank of Scotland plc, 80 Main Street, Coatbridge, ML5 3DZ

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Governing Document**

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the 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 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 must seek re-election at the next Stated Annual Meeting.

Board members may be co-opted during the year and such co-option shall be ratified at the subsequent Annual Meeting which will be considered to be the start of their three-year term of office.

### **Organisational Structure**

The Congregational Board is chaired by the minister and meets for regular business monthly other than April, July, and August. The Kirk Session also meets on the same monthly basis and is responsible for spiritual affairs within the Church. Certain responsibilities are delegated to various Working Groups including Worship, Finance, Communications, Property, Social & Fellowship, and Mission and Stewardship as appropriate. The Board and Session may be called to meet for special business as required.

### **Objective and Activities**

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in policy. It exists to glorify God and to work for 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. Locally, the Church plays a regular part in the Airdrie Council of Churches and participates in the World Day of Prayer and the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Sunday Worship takes place at 11am every Sunday and The Sacrament of Holy Communion is held three times per year in Church. Home Communion have been available for those who cannot attend the regular Sunday morning communion. Other special services have included Service of Hope, Armed Forces Service, Remembrance Sunday, Songs of Praise and Christmas Family Services. There have been 4 issues of our Church Newsletter, which have been delivered to all members. Our Youth organisations include Rainbows and Brownies for the girls and Anchor Boys, Junior Section and Company Section Boys Brigade. All leaders working with our young people are cleared through the Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme as are those working with vulnerable adults. The Youth organisations have had regular meetings in the Church halls.



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For adults, the Church has a Guild group who meet in the afternoon on a monthly basis.

The wider community is represented by groups such as Indoor Bowling and Keep Fit groups, our halls are also available for private groups and family functions for the local community. Keeping our halls and outside areas in tip-top condition for all these activities is an ongoing task in any organisation. We are very fortunate to have our own "Dad's Army"; a group of volunteers who have been meeting weekly, to carry out building maintenance, gardening duties, tidying up and preparing the halls for events. Dad's Army does a tremendous amount of work and has true fun and fellowship at the same time. Dad's Army also cares for our Garden of Remembrance, which is open to all, encouraging people to come and remember a loved one in peaceful surroundings.

Our Church continues to be involved in the Warm Spaces initiative, helped by funding from the Local Council. Our Church halls are open on a Thursday, providing a warm space, fellowship, refreshments and a warm lunch for anyone in the community. This initiative has now become a community café with a wider mix of people of all ages coming along for a chat and hospitality.

In December 2014, the first Messy Church event took place in Clarkston and it is now a regular feature of our calendar of outreach and mission. During the two years of Covid restrictions, contact with our Messy Church families continued in various formats:- Messy Church in a 'Bag' delivered to doorsteps, fun times with the group through ZOOM meetings, Muddy Church Walks and adventures with worksheets, Facebook and WhatsApp activities and challenges, and finally a BBQ outside in the church grounds when restrictions began to ease. During this time, our Messy Church families also helped in the creation of videos for the Christmas and Easter celebrations by sending home recordings of their children singing to our organist for compilation.

In 2022 we were able to return to the normal practice of 'all are welcome' to our Messy Church and have now held three events from October 2022. Many families from the wider community are involved in Clarkston Messy Church.

Messy Church is a fast-growing worldwide ministry that continues to engage and build relationships with thousands of people outside the usual Church context. Messy Church aims to help families experience what it means to be part of a Christian Community outside of Sunday worship. It is a new expression of worshipping to complement transitional Sunday services. The initiative is thoroughly enjoyed by both the attendees and the organisers. It is notable that many of the attendees are not those that attend Sunday worship. This demonstrates the success of the venture and of providing a worship programme that meets the needs of today.

Pastoral care has continued to be provided to local schools, hospitals, and care homes, as much as possible.

The Church is actively represented in the following organisations: - World Day of Prayer; Hamilton North Guilds Together; Council of Churches in Airdrie; Airdrie Battalion of Boys Brigade; Guide Movement at County Level and committees at Hamilton Presbytery.

Volunteers who serve on committees and working groups are a vital part of the work of the Church. In addition, there are designated roles of Session Clerk, Clerk to the Board, FWO and Gift Aid Conveners, Treasurer, Property Convener, Safeguarding Co-ordinator, Health and Safety Convenor, Data Protection Adviser and Learning Disability Contact. Elders and Pastoral Visitors of the Church regularly visit people in the community and a range of members take leading parts in Worship services.

Our Presbytery Elder keeps the Session fully updated of Presbytery work.

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Fellowship and being a welcoming Church are very important to the Congregation and many people comment on how welcome they feel as visitors. This fellowship is greatly aided by the untiring and unfailing commitment of our Social and Fellowship group through specific events organised by them including concerts and after church lunches; but also, by working in the background to give support to other organisations or by providing catering at special services and events. There is also a small group of volunteers who provide coffee/tea and friendship after Sunday Service.

Following the introduction of Airdrie Food Bank; Clarkston Church has been a strong supporter and with great regularity provides substantial amounts of supplies to the Food Bank which is organised through another local Airdrie Church.

In August 2024 the Church held a Fun Day at which several hundred people from the local community enjoyed an excellent afternoon. Money raised from this allowed has been designated to be used for the hall refurbishment which is planned during 2025.

The Church plays an active part in supporting other charities through collections at regular services and donating to The Children's Society in 2024.

During 2024, our designated Church website was regularly updated advising of news, services, events, and the like. A Church Magazine, The Clarkston Record, was distributed to members' homes during the year and is available by email as requested. Other aspects of sharing news now include Banners, leaflets, and the use of Facebook.

**Achievements and Performance**

There are 263 (previously 273) Church Members including 7 adherents. There are 31 persons on the Supplementary Roll.

There are 90 names on our Gift Aid list with 65 regular Gift Aid Donors. Weekly worship attendance averages 50.

Sunday School averages 3 in attendance.

Guild members number 16.

High pastoral needs within the parish in respect of visitations of the sick and elderly, funerals for congregational members and others within the parish, together with two school chaplaincies have been met. Regular assistance with the high pastoral needs has been given freely and generously by qualified readers and members of the congregation. The office bearers of the Session and Board have worked together throughout the year as a team and are all committed to the Church's future.

**Stewardship**

Our fundraising "Piggy Banks" have raised over £10,000 since they were introduced. We are grateful for the continued support from the congregation as we continue to raise funds for the repairs and maintenance costs in church budgets.

**Living Wage**

The Office Bearers noted the National Church commitment to paying a living wage to those in Church employment and confirm that as a Board we currently meet this and give a commitment to paying the appropriate rate.

**Financial Review**

We met all our financial commitments and our Ministry and Mission contribution for 2024 was paid in full by Standing Order. Overall donations to the Church are in line with the previous year. Other income of £764 has been generated from rental of the halls during 2024.



**Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland**  
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**Year ended 31 December 2024**

At the end of the year, we had a surplus of receipts over payments of **£36,085**. The surplus is due to receipt of community grants and donations from our congregation which have been designated to be used for the refurbishment of our halls for both Church members and the local community.

**Reserves Policy**

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately three months expenditure including designated funds. At the year end the Church held total cash funds of over **£80,783**, of which **£72,289** are unrestricted. These funds are enough to cover general expenditure for over four months. Excess funds are generally held within the designated fabric fund in line with the policy as agreed by Trustees.

**Mission Plan**

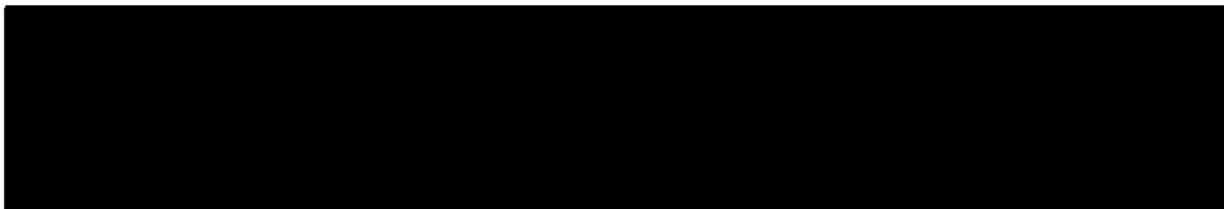
In October 2022, the first draft of the Mission Plan was issued from the Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale, this was to take into account a national shortage of Ministers and a 30% reduction in the number of Church buildings being used for mission. The plan has seen a few changes since October 2022 and has now been approved by Presbytery and The General Assembly Faith Action Programme Leadership Team and the General Trustees. The Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale has now moved the plan into the implementation stage.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Charity Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which shows a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently, make judgements 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; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The members of the Kirk Session/Congregational Board must prepare financial statements which give enough 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 by:



**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland**

**I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 7 and 8 plus appended pages 9 to 12.**

**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 2005 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 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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.



Date: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland**  
**Receipts and Payments Account**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

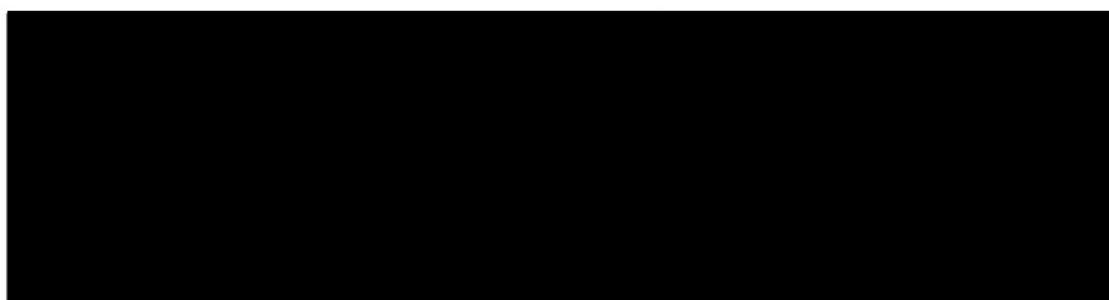
	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Endowment Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>						
Donations	3	39,660	0	0	39,660	42,719
Fundraising Events		2,507	1,580	0	4,087	6,010
Bank & Deposit interest		721	0	0	721	380
Investment income		3	0	0	3	2
Other		48,233	265	0	48,499	38,842
		<u>91,124</u>	<u>1,845</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>92,969</u>	<u>87,953</u>
Rental of premises		764	0	0	764	595
Receipts from assets & investment sales						
Proceeds from sales of investments	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Total Receipts</u></b>		<u>91,888</u>	<u>1,845</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>93,733</u>	<u>88,548</u>
<b><u>Payments</u></b>						
Cost of generating funds	4	490	280	0	770	575
Charitable activities		53,563	3,315	0	56,878	80,767
Other		0	0	0	0	0
<b><u>Total Payments</u></b>		<u>54,053</u>	<u>3,595</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>57,648</u>	<u>81,342</u>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>						
<b>for the year before Transfers</b>		37,835	(1,750)	0	36,085	7,206
<b>Transfers</b>		0	0	0	0	0
<b>Excess of Receipts over Payments</b>						
<b>for the year</b>		<u>37,835</u>	<u>(1,750)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>36,085</u>	<u>7,206</u>



**Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland**  
**Statement of Balances**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b><u>Bank &amp; Cash Balances</u></b>						
Balances b/fwd.		34,454	8,057	2,187	44,698	37,491
Movement in year						
Excess of Receipts						
over Payments for the year		37,835	(1,750)	0	36,085	7,207
Balances c/fwd.		<u>72,289</u>	<u>6,307</u>	<u>2,187</u>	<u>80,783</u>	<u>44,698</u>
<b><u>Investments at market value</u></b>						
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b><u>Assets</u></b>						
Approved Grant Funding		0			0	0
Central Fabric Fund		1663			1663	1663
		<u>1663</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1663</u>	<u>1663</u>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>						
None		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session/Congregational Board on 18th March 2025  
For and on behalf of the Kirk Session/Congregational Board



# Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland

## Notes to the Accounts

Year ended 31 December 2024

### 1. Trustees Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year no trustee received reimbursement of expenses incurred.

### 2. Movements in Funds

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 Dec 2024 £
<b>Endowment Funds</b>					
JM Alston Bequest	563	0	0	0	563
Alston Bequest	146	0	0	0	146
Brander Bequest	97	0	0	0	97
Forrest Tomb Bequest	300	0	0	0	300
Mills Bequest	10	0	0	0	10
Jane Orr Bequest	666	0	0	0	666
Miss Innes Bequest	202	0	0	0	202
Ian Armstrong	150	0	0	0	150
James Smith Bequest	53	0	0	0	53
	<u>2,187</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,187</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Defibrillator	501	0	319	0	182
Flowers	15	1,300	1,315	0	0
CDs	40	0	0	0	40
Community outreach & education	4,750	0	0	0	4,750
Boiler fund	0	0	0	0	0
Fun Day	0	280	280	0	0
Christian Aid	0	0	0	0	0
Other	33	265	139	0	159
Tear Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Warm Places	2,718	0	1,542	0	1,176
	<u>8,057</u>	<u>1,845</u>	<u>3,595</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6,308</u>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
The Guild	339	711	825	0	225
Sunday Club	510	0	0	0	510
Social Committee	3,521	0	0	0	3,521
Messy Church	354	628	471	0	511
Designated Fabric Fund	19,460	59,354	52,757	0	26,057
Church Hall Renovation	10,000	31,195	0	0	41,195
Benevolent Fund	270	0	0	0	270
	<u>34,454</u>	<u>91,888</u>	<u>54,053</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>72,289</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>44,698</u>	<u>93,733</u>	<u>57,648</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>80,783</u>

**Purposes of Endowment Funds**

Endowment funds in the sum of £2,187 are held.

The above bequests all have specific purposes which were set out.

No funds have been distributed in the year.

**Purpose of Restricted Funds**

Restricted funds in the sum of £6,308 are held.

The restricted funds are in respect of third party donations to the church with specific uses intended and were not fully utilised before the year end on 31 December 2024.

**Unrestricted Funds**

All funds are transferred to the Designated Fabric Fund with the exception of organisation funds (other funds) which are generally held by the Group for general running expenses.

**Hall Renovation Fund**

Fund created in 2023 to designate fund to improve the fabric and facilities of the church halls.

**Benevolent Fund:**

The Benevolent Fund to be used at the sole discretion of the Minister.

**Other Funds**

The Guild: These are the funds collected and disbursed throughout the year for the work of The Guild.

Sunday Club: These are the funds collected and disbursed throughout the year for the work of the Sunday Club

The Social Committee: These are the funds collected and disbursed throughout the year for the work of the Social Committee.

Messy Church funds are those collected and distributed throughout the year in connection with its events.

The Church holds total funds of £80,783 including sufficient unrestricted funds to meet the running costs for over four months.



**Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland**  
**Notes to the Accounts cont'd.**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

<b>Year ended 31 December 2024</b>					
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Endowment</b>		
	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>3. Analysis of Donations</b>					
FWO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	39,071	0	0	39,071	40,604
Gift Aid Donations	0	0	0	0	0
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations for the year 2022 and 2023	0	0	0	0	0
Ordinary Offerings	588	0	0	588	588
Other Offerings, Donations etc	48,233	0	0	48,233	1,936
	<u>87,893</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>87,893</u>	<u>43,128</u>
<b>4. Analysis of Payments</b>					
<b>Cost of generating funds</b>					
Fundraising costs	490	280	0	770	1,300
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Ministries & Mission Allocation	34,411	0	0	34,411	42,096
Presbytery dues	1,017	0	0	1,017	1,241
Minister's expenses	0	0	0	0	897
Pulpit supply	0	0	0	0	360
Other staffing costs	5,695	0	0	5,695	5,975
Youth Work	379	0	0	379	350
Building repairs & maintenance	5,683	0	0	5,683	9,458
Insurance/Water Rates/Council Tax	3,205	0	0	3,205	8,339
Heating and Lighting	(1,101)	0	0	(1,101)	2,843
Cleaning Expenses	280	0	0	280	326
Church office expenses	828	0	0	828	1,098
Other expenses	10	1,634	0	1,644	2,196
Musical Costs/Copyright	625	0	0	625	594
Equipment	0	1,542	0	1,542	2,402
Web site and Stationery	1,233	0	0	1,233	839
Third Party Collections	0	139	0	139	376
Messy Church	471	0	0	471	494
The Guild expenses and donations	825	0	0	825	157
The Sunday Club expenses	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>53,563</u>	<u>3,315</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>56,879</u>	<u>80,041</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Independent examiner's fee	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Other payments</b>					
Purchase of assets	0	0	0	0	0
Purchase of investments	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

**Airdrie Clarkston Parish Church of Scotland**  
**Notes to the Accounts cont'd.**  
**Year ended 31 December 2024**

**5. Minister's Stipend**

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the cost of all ministers' stipends and employers' 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 5th and subsequent years of service - £37,032.

**6. Collections for Third Parties**

	2024	2023
Scottish Bible Society	£ 139	£ 200
Watchnight and Carols by Candlelight	£ 126	£ -
Tear fund	£ -	£ -
<b>Third party Collections</b>	<u>£ 265</u>	<u>£ 200</u>

**7. Amounts held by General Trustees**

	2024	2023
Amount held in Consolidated Fabric Fund	<u>£ 1,663</u>	<u>£ 1,663</u>