

Original

Slamannan Parish Church Church of Scotland

**Reports and Accounts
for year ending 31 December 2023**

**Scottish Charity Number: SC 013602
Congregation Reference Number: 221372**

Contents

Reference and Administrative Information	3
Trustees	3
Principal Office-Bearers	3
Independent Examiner	3
Bankers	3
Structure, Governance and Management	4
Governing Document	4
Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees	4
Organisational Structure	4
Objectives and Activities	4
Achievements and Performance	5
Financial Review	7
Reserves Policy	7
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	7
Receipts and Payments Accounts	8
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Slamannan Parish Church	8
Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner	8
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement	8
Independent Examiner's Statement	8
Receipts and Payments for year ended 31 December 2023	9
Statement of Balances at 31 December 2023	9
Notes to the Accounts	10

Trustees Annual Report year ended 31 December 2023

The Trustees present the annual report and accounts for Slamannan Parish Church for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Slamannan Parish Church

Charity Registration Number: SC013602

Congregation Reference Number: 221372

Contact Address:

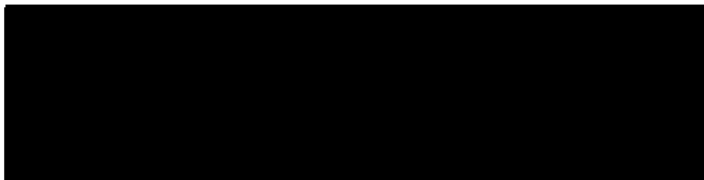


Trustees

The following Trustees served during the period of the accounts:

Interim Moderator:

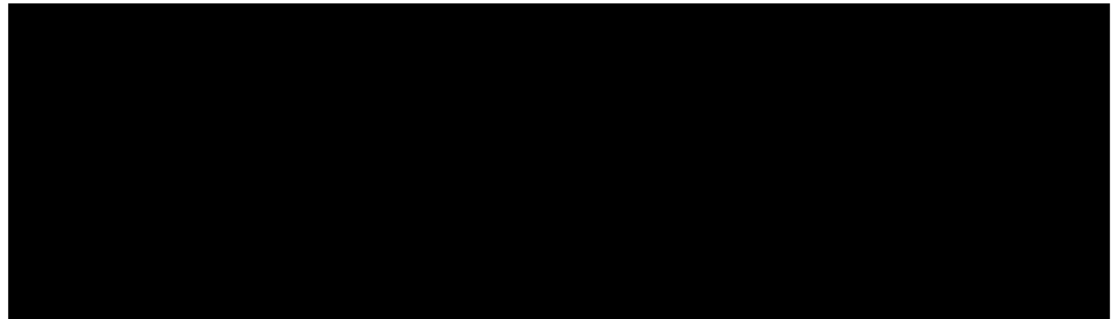
Elders:



Principal Office-Bearers

Interim Moderator:

Session Clerk:



Church Treasurer:

Independent Examiner



Bankers

Bank of Scotland, High Street, Falkirk, FK1 1NR

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

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

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session are charity trustees. After the resignation of the Session Clerk on 13th October 2023, the post remained vacant.

The Kirk Session members are the leaders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills.

The Locum Minister (OLM) attends Kirk Session meetings in her capacity as Interim Moderator.

In a Vacancy the Interim Moderator is appointed by the Presbytery.

Organisational Structure

██████████ has continued as Locum Minister and Interim Moderator.

The Kirk Session met regularly during the year to discuss the affairs of Slamannan Parish Church.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. Objectives are in accordance with the established practices of the Church of Scotland which seeks to glorify God and work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the World.

Slamannan Parish Church has adopted a Mission Statement which seeks to Reflect Christ in love and service, and a vision statement which seeks to:

*Bring the community together, to bring Christ into the life of the community;
to share the Word of God and be guided by His love;
and to embrace all people as the family of God.*

Slamannan Parish Church co-operates ecumenically with other churches in the Falkirk area and particularly the Braes area which included an annual pulpit exchange in the Week of Christian Unity, participation in shared Holy Week Services and the annual World Day of Prayer Service. Joint Upper Braes Cluster all-age worship services have been held in the past year again and more have are planned for May and September 2024.

Congregation Based Activities

A full description of congregation activities are detailed in Achievements and Performance below. Many of these activities are open to and attended by the wider community.

Wider Church Issues

As a congregation we have continued in discussion with the Upper Braes Cluster churches as part of the Presbytery of Forth Valley and Clydesdale Mission Planning Team process. We look forward to this coming to a conclusion in the latter part of 2024.

Achievements and Performance

Children's Ministry

Bible Fun Club: As in previous years, the Bible Fun Club for primary school aged children has continued to meet on a Wednesday night in the Church at 5.30pm-6.30pm, led by a committed team of PVG registered leaders.

While numbers have dropped during 2023, we have 6 - 8 children regularly attending who have continued to enjoy the Bible stories, the worship songs and the crafts related to the Bible lesson, reading prayers both in the plenary session and closing session. All the children have learned to say The Lord's Prayer.

The annual Nativity Play led by the children is well attended by parents and grandparents as well as members of the congregation.

Primary School: The Locum Minister continued to provide classroom RME work during the year.

Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter is produced and is delivered to members. The newsletter contains a range of articles on church life, faith-based items and articles of general interest.

We have started to share articles with magazines produced by the Upper Braes Cluster churches.

Fundraising and Social Events

We held a number of social events for fundraising and community enjoyment during 2023 which included a Concert held in the church building and a Christmas Fayre held in the local Community Centre. These events were well advertised and well attended by the Slamannan community.

Community Ministries

Prayer Shawl Ministry: We have continued to provide shawls knitted by congregational members to folk in the community who have been ill, bereaved, or suffering in way and in need of some love and support.

Baby Basket Ministry: A Baby Gift Hamper for to families in the community with new-borns. This provides an excellent way of connecting with younger adults and is much appreciated by them.

Flower Ministry: There is a Flower Rota and members of the congregation mostly provide the flowers while the Flower Fund, supported by the congregation allows for flowers to be bought when needed. After Sunday worship the flowers are distributed to folk in the community, especially to those we know who are not well or have recently been bereaved.

Martha's Pantry: During 2023 we continued to support households in the Parish of Slamannan and Limerigg who are struggling financially with our service based in Slamannan Community Centre where food and other household essentials are offered to them. This service has been well utilized and it was a joy to be able to offer this type of support, as well as and providing volunteering opportunities for those in the community and the wider Braes area. Where it was deemed necessary, food parcels were delivered to folk who were shut in.

Seniors Lunch Club: This continued held once per month throughout the year and provides the older population in the community with a valuable opportunity for fellowship in sharing a meal together. A special Christmas Lunch was organised in December with generous food donations being made to support this. Numbers attending are around 20. All personnel working in the kitchen have completed a local authority food hygiene course.

Worship

Sunday Worship services continued to be held in the Sanctuary with a steady number of attendees in addition to the combined services of worship held within the Upper Braes Cluster.

While we were able to obtain the services of a stand-in organist from time to time, music at other times was provided through the use of a Digital Hymnal and other digital means through Power Point.

We are still seeking to engage an organist however, we have been able to supply worship music.

Pulpit supply remains challenging which has meant that on occasion when pulpit supply was unavailable, members of the Kirk Session have led Praise Services.

After Service teas on the first Sunday of the month continued throughout the year offering a wonderful opportunity for fellowship.,

Funeral Services

As has been the tradition in the Slamannan parish, funeral services are very well attended by members of the community who come out in support of grieving families. Each of these services is a missional opportunity and the Locum Minister uses them to encourage folk by sharing the Gospel while offering those attending hope in Jesus Christ.

Financial Review

As in previous years, the principal source of income has been through regular offerings, either on Sundays or through Standing Orders set up by members of the congregation. Members are encouraged through the Treasurer's Report in our Quarterly Newsletters to consider prayerfully how they might increase their giving and Stewardship is preached. Regular fundraising events supplement the monthly giving. Ministry & Mission / Giving to Grow contributions continue to be met through standing order over 10 months as are day-to-day running costs.

Reserves Policy

Slamannan Parish Church Trustees continue in their endeavours to generate sufficient funds each year to meet annual commitments and this is ably done through the regular freewill offering and through fundraising.

Members also support the quarterly Retiral Offering which, together with fundraising, supports the Fabric Fund.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Members of the Kirk Session (the Trustees) must prepare Annual Financial Statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the church during the year. They 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 for Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland 2012.

The Trustees of Slamannan Parish Church 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 of Slamannan Parish Church and signed on their behalf by:



7.7.2024
Date

Receipts and Payments Accounts

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

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on pages 9 to 11.

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 Regulation 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.

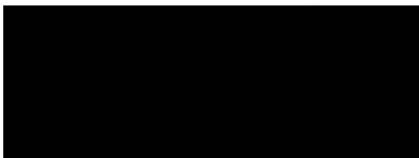

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 these 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 29/7/24

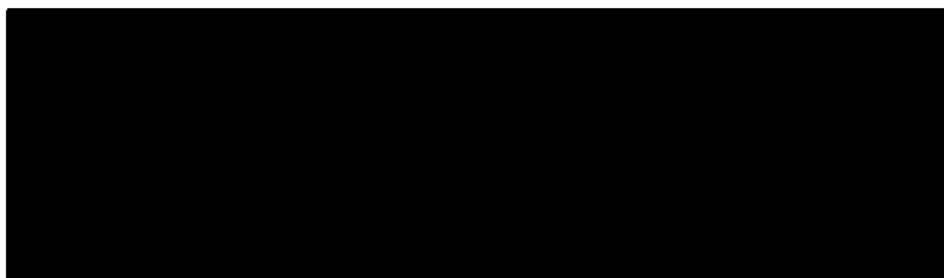
Receipts and Payments for year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023	Total 2022
Receipts			
Donations	3a	15448	17701
Activities for generating funds	3b	11355	13070
Bank & Deposit interest	3b	10	10
Other income	3b	350	395
<u>Total Receipts</u>		<u>27163</u>	<u>31176</u>
Payments			
Costs of generating funds	4	40	25
Charitable activities	4	26058	22547
Other payments	4	0	0
<u>Total Payments</u>		<u>26098</u>	<u>22562</u>
Surplus		1065	8614
Balances brought forward		20191	11577
<u>Balance carried forward</u>		<u>21256</u>	<u>20191</u>

Statement of Balances at 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
Bank & Deposit Balances 2023		17946	2245	20191	11577
Movement in 2023	2	715	350	1065	8614
<u>Carried forward to 2024</u>		<u>18661</u>	<u>2595</u>	<u>21256</u>	<u>20191</u>

The documents were approved by the Trustees of Slamannan Parish Church and signed on their behalf by:



7.7.2024.
Date

7.7.2024
Date

Notes to the Accounts : 1. Trustees Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

██████████ in her role as Locum Minister received £11631(2022: £10021) Pulpit Supply and Pastoral support fees as well as travelling & stationery expenses amounting to £2716 (2022: £2019). There were no other related party payments/transactions.

2. Movement in Funds

	01 Jan 2023	Receipts 2023	Payments 2023	31 Dec 2023
General Fund (Unrestricted)	15033	26813	26098	15748
Fabric Fund (Restricted)	5158	350	0	5508
Total Funds	20191	27163	26098	21256

Purpose of Funds

Fabric Fund
Ramsey Bequest
General Fund

- Restricted: maintenance of church buildings and contents
- Restricted: fabric of church buildings
- Unrestricted: all other costs

3a. Analysis of Donations (all unrestricted)

	2023	2022
WFO Scheme gift aided	3357	4140
WFO non-gift aided	3425	4333
Ordinary offerings (Open Plate)	1200	1363
Standing Orders	3420	3415
Tax received on Gift aid donations	4046	4450
	15448	17701

3b. Other Income

	2023	2022
Fund raising and Donations	11355	13070
Bank Interest	10	10
Fabric fund raising	350	395
	11715	13475
Total	27163	31176

4. Analysis of Payments

Cost of generating funds	2023	2022
Offering envelopes	0	0
	0	0
Charitable Activities (Unrestricted)		
Ministries & Mission Allocation	2320	3096
Presbytery Dues	468	484
OLM/Locum Expenses	2716	2019
Staffing Costs – Locum Salary	11631	10021
Heat & Light	1658	1153
Insurance	1460	1114
Pulpit Supply	543	250
Copyright Music License	93	87
Telephone	0	0
Organist fees	1040	475
Printing & Stationary	0	0
Fire Equipment Maintenance	54	46
Church & Window Cleaning	2385	1657
CoS loan payments	0	1020
CoS loan interest	0	650
Electrical Annual Testing Repair	372	0
Equipment & Consumables	288	305
Church transport	0	160
Fund raising expenses	40	25
	25068	22562
Fabric repairs & maintenance	1030	0
Total	26098	22562

5. Ministers Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the cost of all ministers' stipends and employers contribution for National Insurance pension and Housing & Loan Fund.

Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national scale, which is related to years of service.

For the year under review the minimum stipend was £28,137 and subsequent amount £34,577.

6. Ramsey Bequest

Church of Scotland holds funds for The Ramsey Bequest of £2,000 and is a Restricted Fund for Fabric expenses.

7. Bible Fun Club

Opening Balance	1376.00
Collections	115.00
Expenses	506.00
<u>Closing Balance</u>	<u>985.00</u>

8. Donations to third parties

Chas - Children's Hospices
£200.00

Regular non-perishable food donations to Martha's Pantry.