

**Wick St Fergus Church of Scotland**

**Registered Scottish Charity**

**Trustees' Report and Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31 December 2022**

**Congregation No: 412296**

**Scottish Charity No: SC013840**

Wick St Fergus Church of Scotland

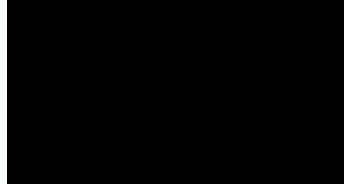
**Reference and Administrative Information**

Charity Name: Wick St Fergus Church of Scotland

Charity Registration Number: SC013840

Congregation Reference Number: 412296

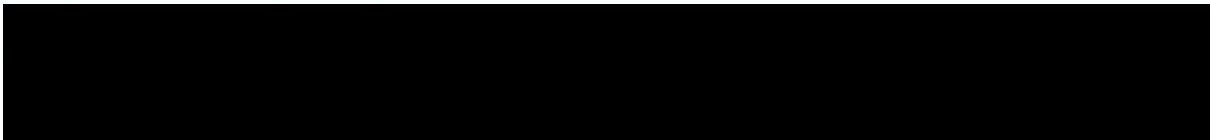
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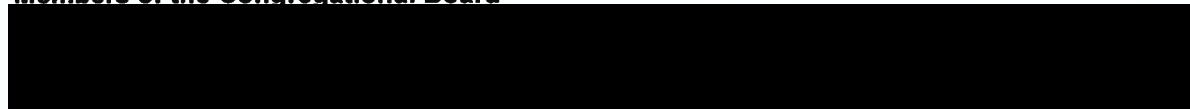
**Trustees**

The trustees who served during the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 were as follows:

**Members of the Kirk Session**



**Members of the Congregational Board**



**Current Principal Office-bearers**

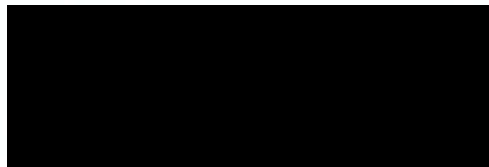
Interim Minister:

Session Clerk:

Chairperson to the Board:

Clerk to the Board:

Church Treasurer:



**Independent Examiner**



**Bankers**

Bank of Scotland

22 Bridge Street, Wick, Caithness, KW1 4NG

## Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

### Structure, Governance and Management

#### Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (or Deed of Constitution Unitary Form).

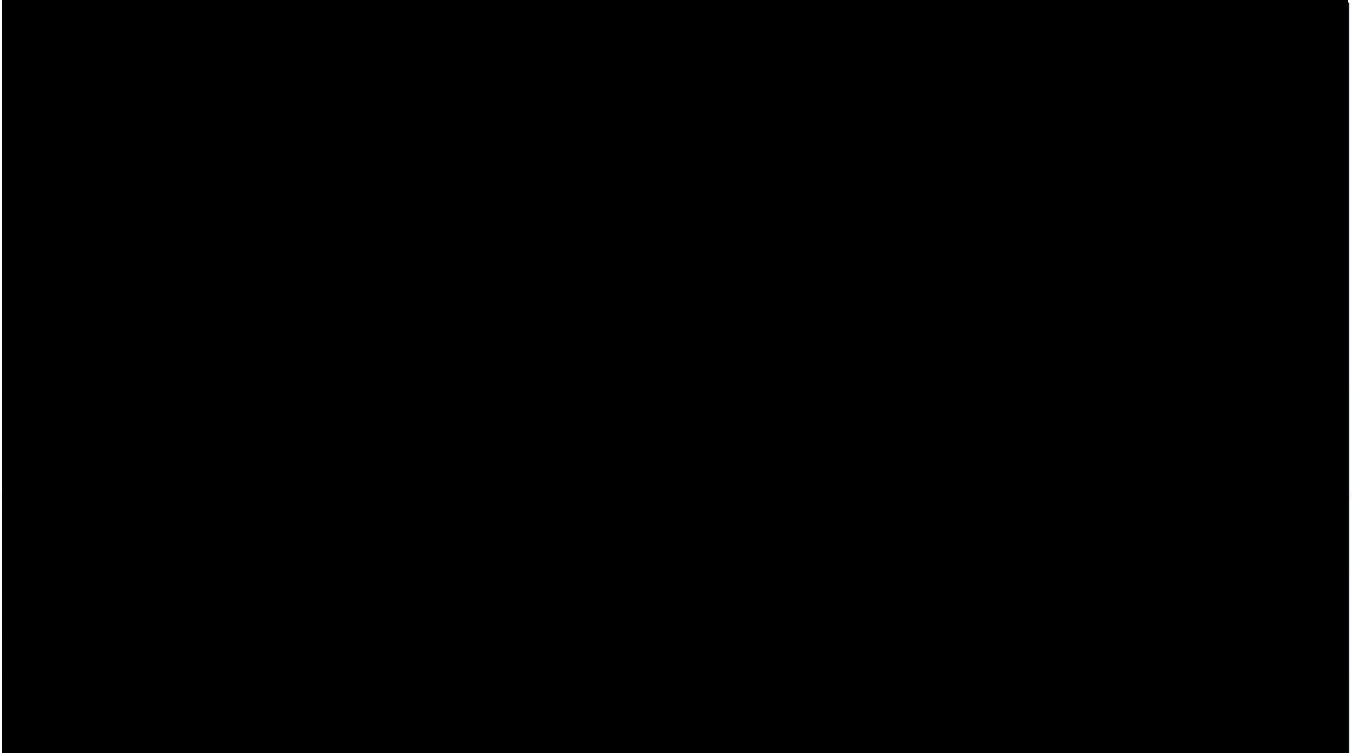
#### Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session and the Congregational Board are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are the elders of the church and are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills. The minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery. The Congregational Board is appointed from within the congregation and members of the congregation are invited to nominate individuals who are believed to have the skills and commitment to contribute to the management affairs of the church, to become members of the Board. Board members are then appointed at the Stated Annual Meeting.

#### Organisational Structure

The Congregational Board is chaired by Alan Sinclair (Treasurer, Gift Aid and Mission Convenor). The board usually meets 4 times a year and on an ad-hoc basis for single issues requiring a board decision. The Congregational board has sub committees for Finance (Gift Aid/Monthly Envelopes/Free Will Offerings) and Fabric.

The Kirk Session also meets 4 times a year chaired by the Interim Minister [REDACTED]. The Kirk Session is responsible for the spiritual affairs of the Church and was assisted by the employment of joint Locums [REDACTED] from March 2021 to December 2022, covering Sunday services, pastoral work in the Parish and online Ministry. The main changes during 2022 was the setting up of a new Mission Committee, Communications team and a Café Church committee. These were all set up as a result of the Changes in the Church of Scotland's focus to a future Missional Church moving forward. These committees will assist us in achieving the 5 marks of mission the central Church has set as a target over the next couple of years for every congregation in Scotland to attain.



## Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

### 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.

Services of public worship are held every Sunday at 11:30am. The Churches online presence was used during 2022 and is now an established presence complementing our traditional Sunday worship. Following on from the Lockdowns, we were allowed back into the nursing homes in 2022 under conditions to carry out our traditional monthly services.

St Fergus also held in September 2022 a Memorial service for the late Queen Elizabeth the Second and the RBLs Remembrance Day service in November.

The congregation have over the years built bridges in the community with services for Guides, Brownies, Rainbows and the Merchant Navy Association. As part of our Mission initiatives we gave a Donation of £1,000 from the restricted Youth fund to the East Caithness Guides, Brownies and Rainbows and have agreed at Board level to take no rent from any youth groups that want to use our premises.

The Church halls are now being used again post COVID by (Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Gardening Club, Yoga class, Craft groups, Over 50's group and a card club.

### Financial Review

The Church like all organisations has gone through exceptional times in 2020 to 2022 with a massive reduction in income that has had to be met from reserves. Although 2022 was better financially as we increased our regular giving by direct debit and standing orders, also income was available from April 2022 from rental of the upgraded Manse, increased Gift Aid and GASD claims, lower Mission payments also helped to reduce the deficit significantly from the 2021 situation.

### Reserves Policy

Work was completed in March 2022 in fully upgrading the manse from Fabric Funds held in Edinburgh allowing us to rent the manse out via letting Agents Georgesons Ltd. However from January 2023 the manse rental will be paid into the Fabric reserves account in Edinburgh, we will not be able to use it as we did in 2022 to supplement our main account.

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the congregational board must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the church during the financial year. The members of the 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 as amended by the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010, and 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 on

2023 and signed on their behalf:

~~Kathleen Robertson~~  
Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Wick St Fergus Church of Scotland**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 5 to 8.

**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 by the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

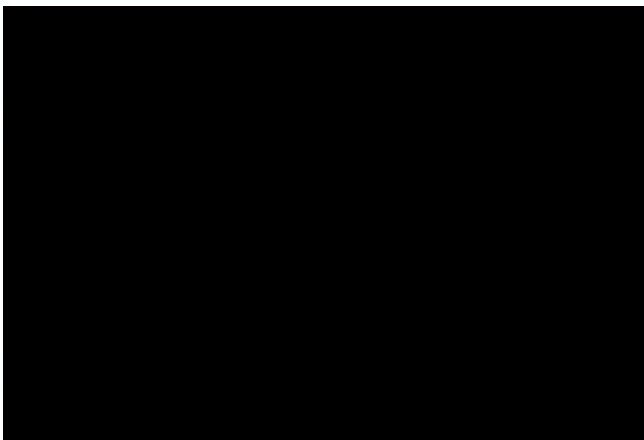
**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence which 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:

17th October 2023

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds					Total 2022	Totals 2021
General Fund	Fabric Fund	Subtotal	Organ Fund	The Guild	Youth Fund	Sunday School	Kirk Session Benevolent Fund	Subtotal
25,732	375	26,107						
10,108		10,108						
	103	103						
35,840	478	36,318						
65,776	7,375	73,151		943	1,000			1,943
568		568						
66,344	7,375	73,719		943	1,000			1,943
-30,504	-6,897	-37,401		-943	-1,000			-1,943
7,934	45,668	53,602	20,160	943	7,665	139	139	29,046
26,079	-26,079	0						
3,509	12,692	16,201	20,160		6,665	139	139	27,103
2,625		2,625				123		123
3,702		3,702						
	2,086	2,086						
3,332	10,606	13,938	20,160		6,665	16	139	26,980
-6,150		-6,150						
3,509	12,692	16,201	20,160		6,665	139	139	27,103

Note

**Income from:**  
 Voluntary income  
 Activities for generating funds  
 Grants  
 Investment income  
**Total income**

**Expenditure on:**  
 Costs of charitable activities  
 Governance costs  
**Total expenditure**

**Net expenditure**

## RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS

**Total funds brought forward**  
**Transfers**

**Total funds carried forward**

## STATEMENT OF FUNDS

The above funds are represented by:

Tangible fixed assets  
 Investments  
 Debtors  
 Bank investment accounts  
 Bank current accounts  
 Creditors

All money figures £

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2022

Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds					Total 2022	Totals 2021
General Fund	Fabric Fund	Subtotal	Organ Fund	The Guild	Youth Fund	Sunday School	Kirk Session Benevolent Fund	Subtotal
4,487		4,487						5,210
2,177		2,177						142
9,601		9,601						9,144
3,497		3,497						2,895
4,383		4,383						2,265
1,587	375	1,962						5,685
25,732	375	26,107						25,341
819		819						13
9,289		9,289						619
10,108		10,108						632

Note

All money figures £

- A Voluntary income**  
 Weekly freewill offerings (non-gift aid)  
 Monthly envelopes  
 Gift aid donations  
 Tax recovered on gift aid donations  
 Ordinary offerings (open plate)  
 Other offerings, donations
- B Activities for generating funds**  
 Fundraising  
 Hall lets and Manse rent

Continued



## Note

## C Costs of charitable activities

Ministries and Mission allocation  
 Presbytery dues  
 Locum and pulpit supply  
 Locum expenses  
 Other staffing costs  
 Repairs and maintenance  
 Organ restoration  
 Manse council tax  
 Heat and light  
 Insurance  
 Factoring fees  
 Piano, organ and music  
 Printing, stationery and postage  
 Publicity and advertising  
 Other expenses  
 The Guild - Edinburgh  
 Donations



Wick St Fergus Church of Scotland

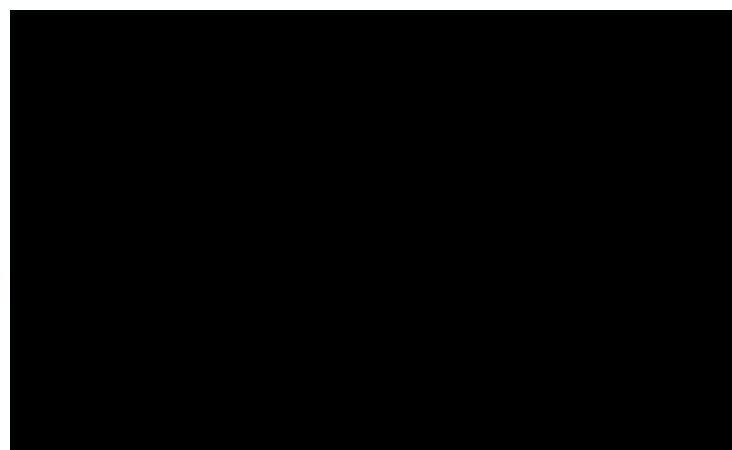
**Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	1	2,625	2,625
<b>Investments</b>	2	123	123
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	3	3,702	3,237
Bank investment accounts		2,086	38,346
Bank current accounts		40,918	40,808
		46,706	82,391
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors falling due within one year:			
Accrued expenses and deferred income	4	6,150	2,491
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		40,556	79,900
<b>Net Assets</b>		43,304	82,648

*The above net assets represent the following funds:-*

	Unrestricted	Restricted		
General Fund	3,509		3,509	7,934
Fabric Fund	12,692		12,692	45,668
Organ Fund		20,160	20,160	20,160
The Guild				943
Youth Fund		6,665	6,665	7,665
Sunday School		139	139	139
Kirk Session Benevolent Fund		139	139	139
	16,201	27,103	43,304	82,648

The financial statements and notes thereto on pages 5 to 8 were approved by the Trustees on 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023 and signed on their behalf by:-



## **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 in the financial statements, are set out below.

### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost convention, modified to reflect the inclusion of investments at market value, and in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 as amended by the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2010, the regulations anent congregational finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007, and the Statement of Recommended Practice; Accounting and Reporting by Charities 2005.

### **Funds**

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds. Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donors or with their authority, or created through legal process, but still within the wider objects of the charity. Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced but its income is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the charity. Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the restricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only, and does not restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

### **Incoming resources**

All donations and gifts are included within incoming resources under either unrestricted or restricted funds according to the terms under which the donations are made, and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty. Donations and gifts in kind are brought into the accounts at their market value to the charity.

### **Resources expended**

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

### **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 those assets. Expenditure incurred in the maintenance of those assets is charged as resources expended in the statement of financial activities in the period in which the liability arises.

In the year 2011, acroft property was bequeathed to the church, and it was capitalised in the year ended 31 December 2013 when it was clear that it vested in the trustees of the church. This property comprises land only, therefore there is no requirement for a policy on depreciation.

### **Investments**

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

### **Taxation**

Wick St Fergus Church of Scotland is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable tax legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities. The charity is not registered for value added tax and sources expended therefore include irrecoverable value added tax.

**Statutory Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2022**

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>1 Heritable Property</b>		
In 2011 a legacy was received in the form of a share in the property known as Myreland Croft in Caithness. Although a market valuation was made by Aberdeen and Northern Marts, it greatly exceeded the value under crofting law which would restrict it to fifteen times the annual rent. Title to the property became clear in the year 2013, and it is capitalised on this basis.	2,625	2,625
<b>2 Investments</b>		
3 ½% War Stock	123	123
Government stocks are valued at cost.		
<b>3 Debtors</b>		
Income receivable	3,702	3,237
<b>4 Creditors</b>		
Accrued expenses	6,150	2,491
<b>5 Minister's Stipend</b>		
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 the housing and loan fund. Minister's stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale which is related to years of service. For the period under review the minimum stipend was £28,700 and the maximum stipend - in the fifth and subsequent years - was £35,269.		
<b>6 Payments to Trustees and related parties</b>		
<b>Remuneration for pulpit supply:</b>		
Pulpit Supply	180	60
	180	60
<b>Expenses</b>		
Expenses paid to or on behalf of Trustees:		
Locum expenses	1,942	1,401
Manse council tax		-74
	1,942	1,327
No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the period.		
<b>7 Commitments</b>		
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	10,000	30,000