

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

ACCRUED (2015 SORP COMPLIANT) ACCOUNTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2025**

Congregation No: 331983

Scottish Charity No: SC 015960

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts and comply with the General Assembly Regulations for Congregational Finance, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) published on 16 July 2014 (effective 1st. January 2015).

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.

Worship Services and Religious Activities

Sunday morning worship continues to take place weekly in Oldmeldrum. In 2025, the Church introduced three new worship services and meetings:

- Prayer Meeting after Sunday Service: A small group from the congregation gathers after the morning service for prayer.
- Prayer and Praise Service: Held in the evening of the first Sunday of each month, this service has seen growth in attendance from an initial 8 or 9 participants to 17 at the December service, including visitors from other churches.
- Bricks and Bites Lego Service: Taking place on the third Sunday of each month in the church hall, this creative service concludes with a simple meal. Since its inception, 4 or 5 families (17 to 23 adults and children) have attended regularly.

Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every second month and occasionally at other times during the year. The Church also continues with its joint Maundy Thursday service with the local Scottish Episcopal Church, alternating venues each year.

Easter morning begins with the congregation meeting in the local community gardens for prayer and praise, followed by a short walk to the hall where a simple breakfast is served. We then make our way up to the church for our Easter Sunday Service.

Our Christmas services include the "Wee Christmas" service, which is designed as a fun, lively, event for families, the evening Watchnight Service, and a Family Service on Christmas morning.

On occasion, Sunday morning worship services are moved to partner churches within the Parish Grouping. In 2025, the Church hosted a shared Palm Sunday Service, inviting all congregations from the Parish Grouping, which proved highly successful with excellent attendance. Congregation members were also invited to join Daviot for an open-air service at Daviot Woods in June, as well as a Songs of Praise service in September at Auchterless.

Community Worship and Special Services

The Church maintains monthly community worship services at Wyverie Court Sheltered Housing, held each second Sunday afternoon. Other special and occasional services include:

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025

Community Worship and Special Services Cont'd

- Stillness and Peace service, typically held early in the Christmas season.
- World Day of Prayer service. In 2025 we started to share this service with other churches in the Parish Grouping.
- Themed Messy Church services.

Seasonal Events and Community Outreach

During summer, the Church hosts a Family BBQ & Fun Day, welcoming all in our parish who wish to come along. Additional events include:

- Open Doors Project: Held on the first Thursday of each month, providing a quiet, reflective space.
- Tunes and Tea: Held weekly on Fridays at the church with the last Friday of each month being held at Wyverie Court.
- Christmas Tree Festival & Competition: Entries from all groups and businesses in the Parish are invited to create and display a themed tree in the sanctuary area of the church during Advent. Viewing and voting takes place at our Christmas Tree Festival Open Day, featuring refreshments and concluding with an informal concert and carol singing.

Church Hall Activities

The church hall remains a vibrant centre for various church activities:

- Youth Club, held on the second Friday of each month, remains popular with our young members.
- Spring and Autumn Connect Cafés, including second-hand book sales.
- Men's Breakfast, featuring diverse speakers and a full Scottish breakfast.
- Picnic to Go, providing packed lunches to families free of charge every Tuesday for six weeks during the school summer holidays.
- Bricks and Bites, which has replaced Story and Play.

Fundraising events in the hall include Quiz Nights, a four-day Charity Shop, and an Autumn Fayre with a wide range of stalls offering crafts, jams and more.

The church hall remains popular as a venue for local groups such as Guides and Rangers, Brownies, Rainbows, adult Yoga and Pilates classes and AA meetings. It is also used for private parties and community groups such as the local junior Pipe band and Aberdeenshire Care Partnership at various times throughout the year.

The Guild, though thriving and well attended, now meets in the centre of the village rather than in the hall.

Community Engagement and Support

The Church remains dedicated to life within the wider community, maintaining connections with both the primary school and the Academy. At Meldrum Sports, Church representatives host a stall, fostering engaging conversations over tea and biscuits. The Church actively supports the Aberdeenshire Foodbank with ongoing collections of donations and monetary support from our benevolent funds.

The quarterly Church/Community magazine remains a vital source of news for both the church members and the wider community. The magazine is distributed to every household and business in the village, and additional copies can be found at the church, the hall, the medical clinic and the dental surgery. An online version is also accessible on the church website.

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025

Community Engagement and Support Cont'd

During 2025, we continued with the Community Connect Grant scheme, which is open to groups to apply for support. In 2025, we made grants totalling £6,801 from this scheme. Details of all benevolent donations can be found at Note 16 of this report.

We also hold a monthly "Kirk Book Group", which meets at member's homes and read books that inspire and encourage. The group is open to all in the Parish.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Team and Flower Committee are active throughout the year, maintaining contact with parishioners who are housebound, bereaved or unwell. Each Sunday, flowers from the sanctuary are distributed to those recently bereaved or ill, extending comfort and care within the community.

Statistics

Average Attendance per Service/Meeting <u>In person:</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Weekly Worship - Churches	40	45
Prayer & Praise Evening Service – New in 2025	15	-
Sheltered Housing / Care Homes - Monthly	10	10
Bricks & Bites (Replaced Story & Play in 2025)	18	8
Tunes & Teas	24	20
Youth Group	25	25
Book Group	6	6

15 Funerals were conducted during the year (2024 – 12) of which 11 were members (2024 - 5). Over the year, 17 members of our congregation died, 6 of whose funerals were conducted elsewhere.

1 Baptism was conducted during the year (2024- Nil).

1 Wedding service took place during the year although this was not conducted by our minister (2024- Nil).

Financial Review

The offerings for the year ended 31st December 2025 are made up as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Gift Aid Offerings	34,021	36,567
Ordinary offerings via plate and 6-monthly envelopes	5,147	4,480
Donations	3,782	7,283
Legacies	1,000	-

Of the above donations, £3,357 was unrestricted (2024 - £4,809) and £425 was restricted (2024 - £2,477).

Tax recovered on Gift Aided contributions was £9,713 (2024 - £10,672)

The Community Café contribution during 2025 was £414 (2024 - £1,023) after expenses.

Other fundraising for the New Church Development Fund contributed £6,860 (2024- £5,899) after expenses.

The legacy of £1,000 has been applied to the New Church Development Fund

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025

Financial Review Cont'd

Of a total membership of 288 (incl. 3 adherents), 154 members now gift aid their offerings. This represents 53.47% of the membership including adherents.

The number of members and adherents who give by standing order is now 152. 14 members give through weekly freewill offering envelopes and 13 by other identifiable methods. The balance give through the open plate, or do not give. A total of 179 members donated by identifiable methods during 2025. This represents 61.8% of the membership.

Overall, the annual incoming resources rose from £120,744 in 2024 to £128,361 in 2025 while expenditure also rose from £119,376 in 2024 to £146,101 in 2025. Details of the differences can be found in Notes 1 - 6 of the financial accounts attached to this report.

Currently, based on the figures for 2024, we now meet 96% (2023 80%) of the costs of a full time equivalent minister of word and sacrament allocated to the charge. Our income base figure results in a Giving to Grow contribution for 2026 of £61,325 of which £51,104 is allocated to ministry here, while the costs of employing a minister is currently £53,120. The Consolidated Stipend Fund endowment contribution for 2026 of £24,702 will be deducted from our Giving to Grow contribution for 2026. The total endowment for 2026 will be £25,328 (2025 - £20,493).

This will help reduce our expenditure and will also add to our recorded income going forward.

The finances of the church are still not sustainable in the longer term as we are using investment income to subsidise running costs. The General Fund and Fabric Fund had to have a total of £33,500 transferred in in 2025 (2024 - £15,000). This was largely due to the investment in upgrading the bathrooms at the manse.

Investment Policy and Performance

The trustee's policy for investments is that all investments should be held in one or more of the following:

- The Church of Scotland Investors Trust
- Government Stocks (Gilts), or
- Bank Fixed Term Deposits

The Church of Scotland Investors Trust has three funds for Growth, Income and Deposits:

The Growth Fund is very largely equity based and is intended for long-term investment. The fund is operated on a unitised basis and aims to provide capital growth. Units can be purchased or sold monthly. Income is distributed gross in May and November. The Growth Fund management changed during 2025 from Newton Investment Management to a combination of Wellington Management and M & G. The transition to the new managers was completed in November 2025.

In the 12 months to 30th September 2025, under Newton's management, the Growth Fund performance was +10.8% against a benchmark of +14.5%.

The Income Fund is intended for medium term investment and aims to provide immediate high income with funds invested predominately in fixed-interest securities and operated on a unitised basis.

As with the Growth Fund, units can be bought or sold monthly with income distributed gross in March and September.

The Income Fund is professionally managed by Royal London Asset Management, based in London.

In the 12 months to 30th September 2025, the Income Fund performance was +7.58% against a benchmark of +3.70%.

The Deposit Fund is intended for short-term investment and aims to provide a high rate of interest. Deposits are repayable on demand, with interest calculated quarterly in arrears, paid gross in May and November. The fund is invested mainly in short-term loans to banks and building societies. The Deposit Fund is professionally managed by Thomas Miller Investment Limited, based in London and Edinburgh.

The Deposit Fund interest rates are set quarterly and are currently set at 4.09% The average rate during 2025 was 4.43% The average rate during 2024 was 5.10%.

Further details of the Church of Scotland Investors Trust can be found on the Church of Scotland website.

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025

Investment Policy and Performance Cont'd

No bank fixed term deposits are currently held. Due to the drop in bank interest rates, the amounts held in bank accounts has been reduced as much as practicable and the money placed with the Investors Trust Deposit Fund.

The markets have been impacted by the global situation and the ongoing war in Ukraine and remain volatile. This has affected the unit values of both the Income and Growth Funds.

At the end of 2025, the values of the units in the various funds were as follows:

	<u>31/12/2025</u>	<u>31/12/2024</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>	<u>Projected Return</u>
COSIT – Income fund	£ 11.39	£ 11.06	+2.98	50 ppu
COSIT - Growth Fund	£ 6.88	£ 6.38	+7.84	13 ppu
Deposit Fund Interest Rate	4.09%	4.76%	-14.08%	

Risk Management

The principal risks facing the charity have been identified as follows:

The church membership has an ageing profile and there is a general decline in the numbers of younger people wishing to join the church. This is not unique to our organisation but is evident across the country. At a local level, this has a potential impact on the level of donations being received and the potential for the charity income to be adversely affected.

The trustees have adopted a policy for stewardship which runs on a 3-year rotation cycle based on time, talents and money to try and minimise the impact of the above. In addition, we are looking at new methods of attracting younger members to become involved with the church.

The recent high inflation and cost of living increases have put the church finances under strain and we are not currently financially sustainable.

Sustainability is the target and is essential if the church is to keep going. New strategies will be employed with a view to enabling us to move forward.

There are financial risks associated with the investments administered by the trustees. Values of investments are subject to market forces and the value may go up or down. The trustees consider that, by adopting the policies outlined in the Investment Policy and Performance section above and the regular performance monitoring of the funds in which the monies are invested by the trustees of the Church of Scotland Investors Trust, the risks are acceptable.

Reserves Policy

The charity trustees have considered the reserves required and have taken into account their current and future liabilities. It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately 12 months expenditure including designated funds. This policy was re-examined in November 2022 and affirmed at that time.

At the year end the Church held unrestricted funds of £162,625 of which (-£150) had been designated for fabric. The remaining balance of £162,475 represents about 16 months expenditure which, while higher than the policy, is primarily intended to be used as part of the funding for a refurbished church and a community building. See Note 15 for details of the unrestricted funds.

The church also held £306,519 of restricted funds which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 15.

The Barbara Thomson and Sylvester Thomson Legacies held under Endowment Funds may be utilised to assist financing a high-cost capital project in the foreseeable future – See Note 15.

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

Members of the Kirk Session 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 Kirk Session meets in person approximately six times in the year and by e-mail outwith these meetings, and in addition to its responsibility for spiritual affairs within the church, is responsible for secular matters such as approval of proposals put forward by the various "Task Force" groups which are formed and disbanded as required. These "Task Forces" can include non-trustee members and report back to Session. This has been found to be a practical method of overcoming a reduced eldership.

The congregation is a registered charity, number SC015960 and is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form) and is subject to the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland
Charity Registration Number	SC 015960
Congregational Reference Number	331983
Contact Address	William Paterson Ceardach, Whiteford Road, Pitcaple, Inverurie, AB51 5EB

Trustees

The following persons acted as trustees who served during the year and up to the date of the signing of the accounts.

Kirk Session (alphabetical by surname)

Elizabeth Buchan	Fiona Morris
Elaine Buck	Eileen Oliver
William Dalzell	William Paterson
Margaret Green (Died 28/3/25)	Patricia Patrone
Steve Hensley	Brian Reid
Traci Hensley	Isobel Reid
Keith Ingram	Sheila Simpson
Andrew McCartney	Graham Smith
Rev. Alisa McDonald	Mary Watt
Anne McLean	Mhari Watt
Jean Mitchell	Phillip Watt

Principal Office-bearers

Minister:	Rev. Alisa McDonald
Session Clerk:	William Dalzell
Church Treasurer:	William Paterson

Independent Examiner

Richard Christie C.A.
Partner
James Milne
Chartered Accountants
5 Bon Accord Square
ABERDEEN AB11 6XZ

Bankers

Clydesdale Bank plc (Trading as Virgin Money)
Oldmeldrum Branch
26 West High Street
INVERURIE AB51 3SL

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2025

Structure, Governance and Management Cont'd.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

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 2015 (FRS 102).
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable accounting standards 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,



W. Dalzell
Session Clerk

Date 10th February 2026

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)
Year ended 31 December 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church
Year ended 31 December 2025

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025 which are set out on pages 10 to 25

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) (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 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 8 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 

Date: 26/3/26

Richard Christie CA
Partner
James Milne
Chartered Accountants
5 Bon Accord Square
ABERDEEN
AB11 6XZ

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Statement of Financial Activities
Year ended 31 December 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:									
1	Donations and legacies	53,141	522	-	53,663	56,756	2,494	-	59,250
2	Charitable activities	13,822	3,151	-	16,973	14,389	3,203	-	17,592
3	Other trading activities	86	-	-	86	92	-	-	92
4	Investments	13,540	21,855	1,751	37,146	14,439	22,470	1,866	38,775
5	Other	20,493	-	-	20,493	5,035	-	-	5,035
	Total income	101,082	25,528	1,751	128,361	90,711	28,167	1,866	120,744
Expenditure on:									
6	Raising funds	127	-	-	127	40	-	-	40
	Charitable activities	117,240	28,686	47	145,973	97,628	21,361	347	119,336
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total expenditure	117,367	28,686	47	146,100	97,668	21,361	347	119,376
	Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments	(16,285)	(3,158)	1,704	(17,739)	(6,957)	6,806	1,519	1,368
	Net gains/(losses) on investments	3,891	10,633	14,403	28,927	1,549	8,895	8,342	18,786
	Net income/(expenditure)	(12,394)	7,475	16,107	11,188	(5,408)	15,701	9,861	20,154
	Transfers between Funds	1,263	96	(1,359)	-	6,217	(4,973)	(1,244)	-
	Net movement in funds	(11,131)	7,571	14,748	11,188	809	10,728	8,617	20,154
	Reconciliation of funds:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Total funds brought forward	333,756	298,948	390,069	1,022,773	332,947	288,220	381,452	1,002,619
	Total Funds Carried Forward	322,625	306,519	404,817	1,033,961	333,756	298,948	390,069	1,022,773

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2025

	Note	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	9	160,000		160,000	
Investments	10	747,839		723,914	
Total Fixed Assets			<u>907,839</u>		<u>883,914</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors	11	2,804		3,476	
Bank and Cash		<u>125,979</u>		<u>136,468</u>	
Total Current Assets		<u>128,783</u>		<u>139,944</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	12	<u>(2,661)</u>		<u>(1,085)</u>	
Net Current Assets			<u>126,122</u>		<u>138,859</u>
Creditors falling due after one year					-
Net Assets			<u>1,033,961</u>		<u>1,022,773</u>
 The Funds of the Charity					
Unrestricted Funds	15				
General Funds		4,251		4,450	
Designated Funds		<u>158,374</u>		<u>169,306</u>	
Building Funds		<u>160,000</u>		<u>160,000</u>	
			322,625		333,756
Restricted Funds			306,519		298,948
Endowment Funds			<u>404,817</u>		<u>390,069</u>
 Total Funds			<u>1,033,961</u>		<u>1,022,773</u>

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on 10th February 2026
For and on behalf of the Kirk Session


Session Clerk


Treasurer

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) **Year ended 31 December 2025**

Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value.

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), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether, in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102, a restatement of comparative items was needed.

As the 2024 accounts were prepared using the policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 then the trustees consider that no further restatement is required for 2025.

Fund accounting

Funds are classified as either endowment funds, 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.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income therefrom 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 unrestricted 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 legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

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 (FRS 102) 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.

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2025

Accounting Policies (Cont'd)

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.

Fixed Assets

The charity has the right to occupy and use for its charitable objects certain tangible fixed assets, including the Churches, and manses, 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.

The buildings included in the balance sheet consist solely of the Church Hall in Albert Road, Oldmeldrum.

All tangible fixed assets costing in excess of £5,000 having a value to the charity greater than one year, other than those acquired for specific purposes, are capitalised at cost. Buildings have not been depreciated as the trustees are of the opinion that any depreciation would be immaterial. This judgement is based on the opinion that the value of the church hall is mainly in the value of the site rather than the building itself and hence any depreciation would be minimal.

Investments

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

Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), all investment gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities as part of the net income/expenditure for the year.

Resources Expended

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

Taxation

Meldrum and Bourtie 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.

Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Notes forming part of the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
1. Donations and Legacies								
Offerings	39,168	-	-	39,168	41,292	-	-	41,292
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	9,616	97	-	9,713	10,665	17	-	10,672
Legacies	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	-	-	-
Value of donated goods	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	3,357	425	-	3,782	4,809	2,477	-	7,286
Other	-	522	-	53,663	84	-	-	84
	53,141	522	-	53,663	56,756	2,494	-	59,250
2. Income from charitable activities								
Weddings and Funerals	1,120	-	-	1,120	70	-	-	70
Use of Premises	5,490	-	-	5,490	5,690	-	-	5,690
Fund Raising Activities	6,397	-	-	6,397	7,529	-	-	7,529
Other Miscellaneous Income	815	1,312	-	2,127	1,100	1,368	-	2,468
Guilid Income	-	1,280	-	1,280	-	1,427	-	1,427
Traidcraft	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Young Peoples' Ministry	-	559	-	559	-	408	-	408
	13,822	3,151	-	16,973	14,389	3,203	-	17,592
3. Income from other trading activities								
Wayleave	86	-	-	86	92	-	-	92
	86	-	-	86	92	-	-	92
4. Investment Income								
Deposit interest	1,084	664	354	2,102	1,557	779	415	2,751
Dividends received	12,060	20,693	1,347	34,100	12,061	20,745	1,348	34,154
Bank Interest	396	498	50	944	821	946	103	1,870
	13,540	21,855	1,751	37,146	14,439	22,470	1,866	38,775
5. Other Income								
Endowment	20,493	-	-	20,493	5,035	-	-	5,035
Government Grants (CVJRS)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Energy Bill Support Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	20,493	-	-	20,493	5,035	-	-	5,035
	101,082	25,528	1,751	128,361	90,711	28,167	1,866	120,744

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Notes forming part of the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2025	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Endowment Funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
6. Analysis of Expenditure								
<u>Cost of Generating Funds</u>								
Offering Envelopes	127	-	-	127	40	-	-	40
Stewardship Campaign Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Cost of Generating Funds	127	-	-	127	40	-	-	40
<u>Charitable Activities</u>								
Giving to Grow Allocation	48,530	-	-	48,530	40,439	-	-	40,439
Minister's Telephone	396	-	-	396	396	-	-	396
Minister's Expenses	1,008	-	-	1,008	960	-	-	960
Presbytery Dues	2,478	-	-	2,478	1,738	-	-	1,738
Pulpit Supply	458	-	-	458	486	-	-	486
Vacancy Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other salary costs	4,586	-	-	4,586	4,368	-	-	4,368
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	33,769	-	-	33,769	9,211	-	-	9,211
Council Tax	3,966	-	-	3,966	3,632	-	-	3,632
Insurance and Utilities	14,154	-	-	14,154	13,262	-	-	13,262
Examination of Accounts	870	-	-	870	816	-	-	816
Extraordinary Covid Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	6,982	1,415	47	8,444	21,750	500	347	22,597
Charitable Donations	-	20,711	-	20,711	-	13,819	-	13,819
Guild Expenses	-	5,434	-	5,434	-	5,888	-	5,888
Young People's Ministry Expenses	-	1,126	-	1,126	-	1,154	-	1,154
Fundraising Expenses	43	-	-	43	570	-	-	570
Professional Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Church Development Project fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Charitable Activities	117,240	28,686	47	145,973	97,628	21,361	347	119,336
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	117,367	28,686	47	146,100	97,668	21,361	347	119,376

Support costs have not been separately identified as the Trustees consider there is only one charitable activity. Details of donations are provided at Note 16

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Notes forming part of the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
7. Staff costs and numbers		
Salaries and wages	4,586	4,368
Social security costs		-
Total	<u>4,586</u>	<u>4,368</u>

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

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Ministerial support	-	-
Music staff	-	-
Premises maintenance	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2024 - nil)

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 £32,433 and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years) £39,856

8. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year one trustee received reimbursement of expenses incurred totalling £5,370 (2024 - £4,988) in respect of travel expenses, telephone and Council Tax.

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 year.

During the year a total of £9,529 was donated to the charity by the trustees (2024- £10,768).

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Buildings	Office Equipment	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2025	160,000	-	160,000
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2025	<u>160,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,000</u>

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Notes forming part of the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2025

There are no tangible fixed assets capitalized other than buildings.

Buildings are not depreciated as per the accounting policy.

Net Book Value	Buildings	Office Equipment	Total
At 31 st December 2024	<u>160,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,000</u>
At 31 st December 2025	<u>160,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,000</u>

10. Investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fair value at 31 December 2024	723,914	710,132
Investments added during 2025 at cost	-	-
Investments realized	(5,002)	(5,004)
Realized gain /(loss) on disposal of investments	167	253
Unrealized gain / (loss) on investments	<u>28,760</u>	<u>18,533</u>
Fair value at 31 December 2025	<u>747,839</u>	<u>723,914</u>
Investments at cost	<u>695,229</u>	<u>699,095</u>
Note: Error in cost of units for 2024 corrected – previously recorded as £669,095		

The following investments are held:

Church of Scotland Investors Trust – Income Fund	51,407 Units
Church of Scotland Investors Trust – Growth Fund	23,592 Units

11. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gift Aid Tax Refund Due	2,374	2,954
Other	<u>430</u>	<u>522</u>
	<u>2,804</u>	<u>3,476</u>

12. Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals for expenditure	2,661	1,085
	<u>2,661</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2,661</u>	<u>1,085</u>

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

**Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)
Year ended 31 December 2025**

**Notes forming part of the financial Statements
for the year ending 31st December 2025**

13. Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds	General 2025 £	Designated 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Endowment 2025 £	Total 2025 £	General 2024 £	Designated 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Endowment 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fixed Assets	-	160,000	-	-	160,000	-	160,000	-	-	160,000
Investments	-	124,677	229,627	393,535	747,839	-	120,785	223,997	379,132	723,914
Net Current Assets	4,251	33,697	76,892	11,282	126,122	4,450	48,521	74,951	10,937	138,859
Net Assets at 31 Dec. 2025	4,251	318,374	306,519	404,817	1,033,961	4,450	329,306	298,948	390,069	1,022,773

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.

**Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)
Year ended 31 December 2025**

**Notes forming part of the financial Statements
for the year ending 31st December 2025**

15. Movement in Funds

15. <u>Endowment Funds</u>	At 1st January 2025 £	Income 2025 £	Expenditure 2025 £	Transfer 2025 £	At 31st December 2025 £	At 1st January 2024 £	Income 2024 £	Expenditure 2024 £	Transfer 2024 £	At 31st December 2024 £
Scroggie Cruickshank Legacy	9,901	351	-	(351)	9,901	9,901	364	-	(364)	9,901
Barbara Thomson Legacy	11,396	403	-	(403)	11,396	11,396	416	-	(416)	11,396
Invested Funds	145	172	(47)	(125)	145	145	172	(219)	47	145
Invested Funds	19,595	480	-	(480)	19,595	19,595	511	-	(511)	19,595
Tocher Bequest	10,596	345	-	-	10,941	10,321	403	(128)	-	10,596
Sylvester Thomson Church Purposes - Capital	109,521	-	-	-	109,521	109,521	-	-	-	109,521
Sylvester Thomson Benevolent Purposes - Capital	219,053	-	-	-	219,053	219,053	-	-	-	219,053
	380,207	1,751	(47)	(1,359)	380,552	379,932	1,866	(347)	(1,244)	380,207
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) of Value of Assets	10,111	14,403	-	-	24,514	1,769	8,342	-	-	10,111
Realized Loss on Disposal of Asset	(249)	-	-	-	(249)	(249)	-	-	-	(249)
	390,069	16,154	(47)	(1,359)	404,817	381,452	10,208	(347)	(1,244)	390,069

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

**Notes forming part of the financial Statements
for the year ending 31st December 2025**

15. Movement in Funds Cont'd

15. <u>Restricted Funds</u>	At 1st January 2025 £	Income 2025 £	Expenditure 2025 £	Transfer 2025 £	At 31st December 2025 £	At 1st January 2024 £	Income 2024 £	Expenditure 2024 £	Transfer 2024 £	At 31st December 2024 £
Sylvester Thomson Income Fund – Deserving Causes	198,360	21,412	(19,711)	-	200,061	189,924	21,745	(13,309)	-	198,360
New Church Development Loan Fund	-	-	-	-	-	5,070	-	-	(5,070)	-
Organ Fund	53,927	1,612	(1,415)	-	54,124	52,941	1,486	(500)	-	53,927
Guild	29,345	1,945	(6,434)	-	24,856	33,622	2,121	(6,398)	-	29,345
Sunday Club	2,295	559	(1,126)	96	1,824	537	2,815	(1,154)	97	2,295
	283,927	25,528	(28,686)	96	280,865	282,094	28,167	(21,361)	(4,973)	283,927
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) of Value of Assets	15,190	10,466	-	-	25,656	6,548	8,642	-	-	15,190
Realized Gain/Loss of Value of Assets	(169)	167	-	-	(2)	(422)	253	-	-	(169)
	298,948	36,161	(28,686)	96	306,519	288,220	37,062	(21,361)	(4,973)	298,948

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Notes forming part of the financial Statements
for the year ending 31st December 2025

15. Movement in Funds Cont'd

15. Unrestricted Funds	At 1st January 2025 £	Income 2025 £	Expenditure 2025 £	Transfer 2025 £	At 31st December 2025 £	At 1st January 2024 £	Income 2024 £	Expenditure 2024 £	Transfer 2024 £	At 31st December 2024 £
General Fund	2,848	79,068	(83,361)	4,263	2,818	2,181	66,441	(74,920)	9,146	2,848
Opening Debtors	2,687	86	-	-	2,773	3,802	(1,115)	-	-	2,687
Opening Creditors	(1,085)	(255)	-	-	(1,340)	(2,158)	1,073	-	-	(1,085)
Total General Fund	4,450	78,899	(83,361)	4,263	4,251	3,825	66,399	(74,920)	9,146	4,450
Fabric Fund	1,362	1,764	(33,776)	30,500	(150)	2,676	2,397	(10,711)	7,000	1,362
Opening Debtors (Fabric Fund)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,500)	-	1,500	-	-
Total Fabric Fund	1,362	1,764	(33,776)	30,500	(150)	1,176	2,397	(9,211)	7,000	1,362
Reserve Fund	40,011	1,139	-	(28,500)	12,650	38,281	1,730	-	-	40,011
Miss F. Forbes Legacy	61,001	3,357	-	-	64,358	58,484	3,431	(914)	-	61,001
New Church Development Fund	4,294	7,091	(230)	125	11,280	3,906	7,815	(12,623)	5,196	4,294
Sylvester Thomson Income Fund – Church Purposes	56,038	8,707	-	(5,000)	59,745	62,224	8,814	-	(15,000)	56,038
Evelyn Webster Fund	5,000	125	-	(125)	5,000	5000	125	-	(125)	5,000
Total Designated Funds	167,706	22,183	(34,006)	(3000)	152,883	169,071	24,312	(22,748)	(2,929)	167,706
Gain / (Loss) in Value of Assets	1,600	3,891	-	-	5,491	51	1,549	-	-	1,600
Buildings	169,306	26,074	(34,006)	(3,000)	158,374	169,122	25,861	(22,748)	(2,929)	169,306
	160,000	-	-	-	160,000	160,000	-	-	-	160,000
Total Unrestricted Funds	333,756	104,973	(117,367)	1,263	322,625	322,947	92,260	(97,668)	6,217	333,756
Total Endowment Funds from p 19	390,069	16,154	(47)	(1,359)	404,817	381,452	10,208	(347)	(1,244)	390,069
Total Restricted Funds from p 20	298,948	36,161	(28,686)	96	306,519	288,220	37,062	(21,361)	(4,973)	298,948
Total All Funds	1,022,773	157,288	(146,100)	-	1,033,961	1,002,619	139,530	(119,376)	-	1,022,773

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2025

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2025

15. Purposes of Endowment Funds

Scroggie Cruickshank Legacies -	Income from this fund is used for church purposes.
Barbara Thomson Legacy -	Income from this fund is used for church purposes. An option may be exercised in the future for the use of the capital for a specific project.
Invested Funds (1) & (2) -	Income from these funds is used for church purposes, young peoples' ministry, ministry expenses, maintenance of graves and benevolent purposes.
Tocher Bequest -	Income from this fund is used for benevolent purposes.
Sylvester Thomson Legacy Church Purposes – Capital Account	Currently the capital is invested, and the income held available for general church purposes. An option may be exercised in the future for the use of the capital for a specific project.
Sylvester Thomson Legacy Deserving causes – Capital Account	Currently the capital is invested, and the income held available for any deserving local causes as determined by the Kirk Session. An option may be exercised in the future for the use of the capital for a specific project.

15 Purposes of Restricted Funds

Sylvester Thomson Legacy Deserving Causes – Income Fund	This fund is the income from the capital fund of the same name and is used for local deserving causes as determined by the Kirk Session.
New Church Development Loan Fund	This fund was closed during 2024 following the completion of the Glebe sale and repayment of the original loan. The remaining balance of £5,070 was transferred to the New Church Development Fund
Guild	This fund is used for Guild purposes and is controlled by the Guild.
Sunday Club	This fund is used to fund the children and young persons' ministry work and is funded by money set aside by the trustees and a share of the income from the invested funds.
Organ Fund	This fund was established during 2018 following receipt of a generous legacy from the estate of late Hilda Webster for the purpose of maintaining and possible future replacement of the church organ(s). Investment income is also used to fund a new music group established in 2024.

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2025

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2025

15. Purposes of Designated Funds

Designated funds are determined by the Kirk Session at their discretion as they may see fit from time to time and are not restricted by legal definition. The designated status can be changed at the discretion of the Kirk Session.

Fabric Fund	The trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of church properties. It is also funded by fundraising events and donations.
General Reserve Fund	This is a general fund held in reserve to supplement any other congregational funds as required.
Miss F. Forbes Legacy	The income from the invested capital in this fund is accumulated in the fund and the capital and revenue may be used at the discretion of the trustees.
New Church Development Fund	This fund was established during 2016 and is used to track other revenue and costs for the project which are not restricted by the New Church Development Loan Fund.
Sylvester Thomson Legacy Church Purposes – Income fund	This fund is the income from the capital account of the same name and is used for general church purposes.
Evelyn Webster Fund	This fund was established during 2022 from a bequest of £5,000 from the estate of the late Mrs Evelyn Webster. The money has been invested in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust, Growth Fund and the income earned from this investment is currently applied to the New Church Development Fund.

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Year ended 31 December 2025

**Notes forming part of the financial Statements
for the year ending 31st December 2025**

16. Charitable Donations

The following charitable donations were made from the various funds and are shown in these accounts.

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Local Benevolent Donations via Minister	1,000	-
Donation to Inverurie Food Bank	2,400	2,400
Scottish Bible Society	200	200
Meldrum Connect Printing	4,780	5,256
Easter & Christmas Gifts to Care Homes & Housebound	121	152
Donation to Scottish Churches Trust	50	50
Electricity, Wi-Fi & Expenses	456	496
Food Vouchers & Picnic to Go	170	183
Flowers for bereaved	262	316
Community Connect Grants	6,801	2,310
Meldrum Parents in Partnership	-	1,000
Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care	50	120
Tunes & Tea Expenses	3,421	826
	<u>19,711</u>	<u>13,309</u>
From Organisations		
Guild	1,000	510
	<u>20,711</u>	<u>13,819</u>

17. Collections for Third Parties

The following are in addition to the above but are not shown in the accounts as they were raised for specific purposes and not for the charity.

A retiring offering at the Harvest Thanksgiving services raised £250 for Christian Aid Scotland, £125 each to the Ukraine appeal and the Gaza Appeal.

The retiring Offerings over Christmas raised a total of £570 which was divided equally between the Leprosy Mission and The Friends of Anchor, each receiving £285.

In addition, church members involved with Christian Aid Week raised £1,035 from a sponsored walk and bucket collection and an additional £414.60 from seed box collections, making a total of £1,449.60

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION BY THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

	2025 £	2024 £
<u>CFF CAPITAL ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	<u>640</u>	<u>640</u>
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	<u>986</u>	<u>940</u>
 <u>REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit (Debit) Balance at 31 December	<u>(58)</u>	<u>220</u>
 <u>TEMPORARY ACCOUNT</u>		
Credit (Debit) Balance at 31 December	<u>(1,215)</u>	<u>(1,215)</u>