



Tillicoultry Parish Church of Scotland

Annual Report & Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2024

Charity Number: SC016570

Congregation Number: 231434



Trustees Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

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

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Tillicoultry Parish Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC016570

Congregation Number: 231434

Church Address: Dollar Road, Tillicoultry FK13 6PA

Contact Address:

Website:

Bankers: Virgin Money, 56 Murray Place Stirling FK8 2BX

Independent Examiner:

Trustees:

Kirk Session

SNAPSHOT 2024

4

members
added

322

members

24

members
removed

19

adherents

51

children &
young people

1

baptism

1

wedding

18

funerals

36

active elders (14 of whom
make up Kirk Session)

Office Bearers

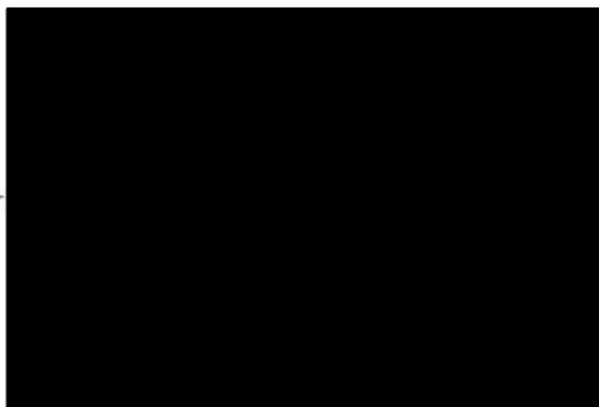
Minister:

Session Clerk:

Depute Session Clerk:

Treasurer:

Gift Aid Treasurer:



Mission Statement

The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ

The marks of Mission are:

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom

To teach, baptise and nurture new believers

To respond to human need by loving service

To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and
pursue peace and reconciliation

To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the
earth

OUR VISION

Tillicoultry Parish Church aims to be a church of the whole community; a place where those who have faith and those who have yet to find it or renew it, can come together as a family of God's children; a place where all will be received with tolerance, understanding and friendship.

OUR COMMITMENT

We will live out our Christ-centred faith

through

wise use of our lives and resources

enabling us

to minister to, care for and sustain our existing congregation,

to encourage, welcome and nurture new members

and

to enrich the wider community through our witness and service.

Objectives and Activities

In addition to the church service on a Sunday morning at 10.00am each week, there are a number of other activities, which form part of the church family at Tillicoultry Parish Church, utilising all of the church premises as a meeting place, attracting church members and also an important outreach into the community. These activities can be categorised into a number of areas:

Children and Youth Work

- Jelly Beans – creche for babies and infants on a Sunday morning, during service time
- Young Church
- Holiday Club – week-long activity programme for children and young people, during the Summer school holidays
- Boys' Brigade
- Girls' Brigade

Organisations for Adults

- Men's Group
- Guild
- Thursday Club
- Snowdrop Café
- Choir
- Bible Study Group
- Monday Morning Drop In

Creative Activities

- Sewing Group
- Patchwork Group
- Yarn2gether
- Gardening Group

More information on the work of some of these activities is included in the next section '@Achievements and Performance'.

Achievements and Performance

Our church is vibrant with a great deal going on, in addition to the normal weekly morning service of a Sunday at 10.00am. All the activities and organisations are thriving and providing outreach into the community and within the membership of the parish.

We continue to see a number of committed members from within the congregation volunteering to lead and be part of the activity groups. Their hard work and dedication ensures that space is available for all ages to tap into some activities on a weekly basis. This also ensures that our premises are being well used throughout the week, and people are part of Tillicoultry Parish Church, whether attending on a Sunday morning or not.

Worship

We have been able to worship together throughout the year, with steady numbers are attending. It is encouraging to see steady numbers week by week and whilst a number of our older members are no longer able to be with us on a Sunday morning, they can tune in online, via the Youtube channel or Facebook page, or for those without internet access having the DVD's delivered to their homes ensures that they continue to feel part of the church family. In change to the practice which has been in place since the pandemic, the service is now recorded live and shared later on the Sunday and during the week, to those receiving it by DVD. This has helped free up time, allowing the minister to return to pre-Covid duties. The numbers in Young Church are small, however it is encouraging to see that the children's families are an integral part of the life and work of the church each week.

The minister also leads Mid-Week Worship, a short informal day time service once a fortnight, mainly for those who attend Thursday Club, a group run for our older members, with transport, refreshments and entertainment provided.

We are very fortunate to have our Worship Group, members of the congregation who have completed training to allow them to lead Sunday worship in the minister's absence. The contribution that they make is greatly appreciated by members and our sustainability in the future is in a good place for the future. In November, 5 members of the group received accreditation as Worship Leaders from Perth Presbytery. Their certificates were presented in February 2025

Communion has been celebrated quarterly and also at the mid-week Thursday service on the week nearest Communion Sunday.

Pastoral Care

Elders were able to regularly carry out District visits, distributing newsletters and staying in contact with our members. Pastoral visits were made by the minister where there was need or a particular request.

The Snowdrop Café continues to attract around 30 people regularly. We are grateful to the volunteers who look after the afternoon each week and to the support received from Strathcarron Hospice.

Kirk Session

Back in 2023, a Focus Group appointed by the Kirk Session, brought recommendations that the size of Kirk Session should be reduced from 1st January 2024. Kirk Session is now made up of the Moderator, Session Clerk, Depute Session Clerk and 12 members, chosen and appointed by the full eldership of the congregation. These 15 will be the Trustees on Tillicoultry Parish Church and will serve for a three year term. In order to ensure that the whole group did not change at one time again, the initial group's length of service was split over three years. The committee structure within the eldership was also reviewed and new committees were formed, made up of members of Kirk Session and all Active Elders, who are not Trustees. The four committees are: Mission, Property, Stewardship & Finance and Support. In addition to Elders, some committees also have membership from congregational members.

The combined Presbytery Mission Plan for Perth Presbytery was approved early in 2025. Whilst Tillicoultry, Dollar and Muckhart were scheduled to move to a linkage, with a view to a union at some future point, the three Kirk Sessions all felt that rather than have two changes, we would move direct to a union. The Church of Scotland has recognised all the buildings in the three charges as essential and all will remain open, as worship centres, in each of the communities. Informal gatherings and discussion have been underway during 2024 and into 2025 more detailed talks will take place, on what the future of the united charge will look like.

Elders have worked hard over the year to ensure that our membership is supported both spiritually and pastorally. We once again were able to hold our main fundraisers, the Plant & Book Sale and the Kirk Bazaar, for Church funds and Christian Aid Week to support the ongoing work of Christian Aid, working overseas. We had involvement in the local Gala Day and as part of Community Week.

Children and Young People.

Young Church has continued throughout the year, although numbers are low. We still continue to have a gap, with no older young people coming along on a Sunday morning, which means that Young Church Plus was unable to recommence. Volunteers provide support to Jelly Beans for our very young children, which runs alongside Young Church, which has a young membership at present.

Our Boys' and Girls' Brigade companies have continued with slightly increased numbers and sufficient helpers, although both organisations would welcome some additional help on a Wednesday and Thursday evening.

School Chaplaincy has flourished and the minister is welcomed into school weekly. Members of the congregation also help with a knitting group which has allowed us to

interact one-to-one with a number of the children. We were able to welcome Primary 6 and 7 for an Christmas activity and an Easter journey and Bubble Gum and Fluff, led by members of the various churches in Tillicoultry and the whole school for their end of term Christmas Service.

During the summer break we were once again able to offer a Holiday Club, which attracted a good number of children, who were supported by a great group of volunteers.

Adult Groups

Our adult groups have continued to meet during 2024. These are very broad in nature and meet a number of needs within our congregation and community:

Men's Group	Yarn2gether
Guild	Gardening Group
Thursday Club	Choir
Snowdrop Café	Bible Study Group
Sewing Group	Monday Morning Drop In
Patchwork Group	

Church Property

Following on from the installation of the new heating and replacement windows and doors in the Large Hall, work has continued, to reinstate the hall to its former condition. Work was also continued in the Lesser Hall, with refurbishment work of the windows. We are grateful to members of the Property Team for all their hard work completed, which cut down on the amount of work which required to be contracted out. Work has also been completed with the installation of a new fire detection system, which is now fully functional and will be regularly monitored and maintained.

The Development Group presented proposals to all Elders during 2024 or work to be completed in the church sanctuary. During the Winter months of 2023/2024 and 2024/2025, we have been unable to meet in the church sanctuary, due to the lack of an effective heating system. Following the breakdown of both boilers, the only heating is from the under-pew heaters. We need to ensure that we future-proof the building, and our mission is to make the church an attractive, comfortable, accessible and welcoming suitable for Christian worship in the 21st century, as we move into our third century in 2029. Following advice and recommendations from the Presbytery Buildings

Officer, Kirk Session appointed an architect in June 2024, [REDACTED] from Mill Architects Limited, to scope the suggestions provided from the Development Group. The plans were drawn up and costed and agreed by Kirk Session in October. The work will involve the removal of all the pews and the lowering of all floorings to the same level. Accessible toilets and storage will be installed and the vestibule will be extended to form a welcoming area. New ramps will be installed at the front and side of the building to make it fully accessible for all entrances. The existing Vestry and Kitchen areas will be reconfigured to help with hospitality. Work is now ongoing to obtain the necessary permissions and work will not start until such time as all funding is in place to meet the cost.

In addition to the large pieces of work, ongoing maintenance is looked after, to ensure that all our properties are well maintained and comfortable. We are very fortunate that we have a small but faithful band of volunteers who do so much of the basic maintenance of our buildings and ensure that the grounds are tidy and presentable.

£ 47,546

deficit

(2023 : deficit £38,556)

£ 27,777

bank balance

(2023 :£25,323)

£104,255

Income

(2023 :£100,454)

£151,801

Expenditure

(2023:–£139,010)

■

£50,969

Giving to Grow

£39,499

Fabric Repairs & Maintenance

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 unrestricted funds of £86,757. The Trustees are aware of the need to continue to increase income to meet the operational day-to-day costs of the church.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Tillicoultry Parish Church of Scotland is constituted in terms of the Unitary constitution of the Church of Scotland.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session are the charity trustees. The Kirk Session members are appointed from the active 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.

Organisational Structure

The Kirk Session is moderated by the minister and meets five times in a year. The Kirk Session has four standing task groups (Mission, Property, Stewardship & Finance and Support) Each group is convened by a member of the Kirk Session, with membership made up of Elders and representatives from the congregation. Each group normally reports regularly to the Kirk Session.

The organisational structure changed on 1st January 2024, with Kirk Session (Trustees) reducing to 14 Elders plus the Minister. Remaining Elders are part of a new committee structure, tasked with looking after the day to day work of the church.

Communication both within the congregation and beyond has been by newsletter and social media.

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. The parish of Tillicoultry includes the town and extends across the river to include the area of Devonside.

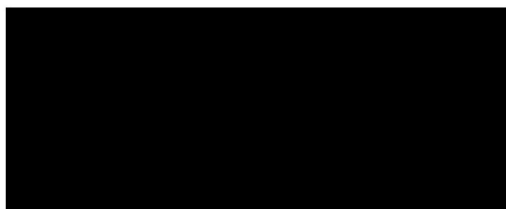
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements, in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. The law, applicable to charities in Scotland, requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which show 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; 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 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. 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.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf.



25 March 2025

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

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

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 Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

An examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 for the year ended 31 December 2024; 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:

Name:

Address:

Date: 27 March 2025

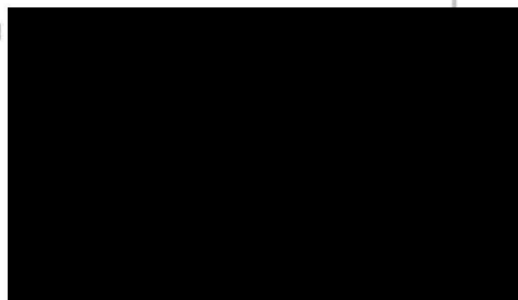
Tillicoultry Parish Church
Receipts and Payment Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	Note				
Receipts					
Donations	3	74,899		74,899	71,724
Legacies		511		511	2,518
Investment income		8,611		8,611	6,918
Grant: Murray Trust		325		325	0
E'on solar income		4,546		4,546	4,524
Hall users		1,330		1,330	550
Orchard fund			453	453	0
Bazaar/Plant&Book sale		6,779		6,779	6,155
Fabric		3,289		3,289	4,256
Flower Fund			539	539	330
Snowdrop			423	423	1,701
Ragbag		186		186	219
Weddings & funerals		978		978	675
Collections for Third Parties			1,386	1,386	854
Harvest			0	0	30
Total Receipts		101,454	2,801	104,255	100,454
Payments					
	4				
Costs of generating funds		162		162	239
Charitable activities		148,454	3,185	151,639	138,771
Governance costs					-
Total Payments		148,616	3,185	151,801	139,010
Inter-fund transfers		48,753	-48,753	0	-
Excess of Receipts over Payments for the year		1,591	-49,137	-47,546	-38,556

**Tillicoultry Parish Church
Receipts and Payment Account
Year ended 31 December 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Statement of balances				
Bank & deposit balances b/f	85,166	130,812	215,978	254,534
Movement in year:	1,591	-49,137	-47,546	-38,556
Balances carried forward	86,757	81,675	168,432	215,978
Of which:-				
Bank balances carried forward	7,903	19,874	27,777	25,323
Deposit carried forward with Investors Trust	78,854	61,801	140,655	190,655
Total	86,757	81,675	168,432	215,978
C of S Temporary Fund credit balance from sale/purchase of Manse			106,722	110,011
C of S Revenue account			5,327	
Assets				
Gift Aid Recoverable			4,585	4,589

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Financial Board



Tillicoultry Parish Church
Receipts and Payment Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

Notes to the Accounts

1 Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year 9 trustees or spouses of trustees received reimbursement of expenses totalling £ 3,572.

The following trustees received remuneration for services provided:

as beadle: £ 2,394 (plus tax of £ 636 paid to HMRC on his behalf);
 cleaner : £ 2,209

No other 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.

2 Movements in Funds	At 1 Jan 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers	At 31 Dec 2024 £
Restricted					
Robertson Legacy	111,812			-48,926	62,886
Flower Fund	0	539	653	114	0
Thursday Club	1,763		157		1,606
Heating Fund	0				0
Chair Fund	42				42
Sunday Club	0		59	59	0
Discovery Group	15				15
Choir Books	580				580
Orchard Fund	3,800	453	600		3,653
Fabric 2029	10,180				10,180
Men's Club	361				361
Guild	1,083				1,083
Country Dance	0				0
National Giving Day	260				260
Harvest	44				44
Snowdrop	872	423	330		965
Collections for Third Parties	0	1,386	1,386		0
Restricted	130,812	2,801	3,185	-48,753	81,675
Unrestricted	85,166	101,454	148,616	48,753	86,757
Total	215,978	104,255	151,801	0	168,432

Tillicoultry Parish Church
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

2 cont'd Purposes of Restricted Funds

Robertson Legacy	To provide funds for fabric, maintenance & general upkeep.
Flower Fund	To provide flowers for church services
Thursday Club	To Provide funds for Thursday Club
Heating Fund	To install new heating system
Chair Fund	To provide chairs
Sunday Club	For use of Sunday Club as required
Discovery Group	To develop Discovery Group
Choir Books	To update choir books as required
Orchard Fund	To provide a Community Garden
Fabric 2029	Funds towards updating property
Mens Club	Holding club funds
Guild	Holding club funds
Country Dance	Holding club funds.
National Giving Day	To provide funds for Defibrillator and recovery costs after Covid restrictions
Harvest	To provide funds from Harvest collection
Snowdrop	Holding club funds
Collections for 3rd Parties	To hold specific collections pending remittance to 3 rd parties

3 Analysis of Donations

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Freewill Offerings	12,379		12,379	14,231
Gift Aid	43,729		43,729	40,140
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	13,570		13,570	12,844
Open Plate Offerings	3,214		3,214	3,369
Open donations	2,007		2,007	1,140
	74,899		74,899	71,724

4 Analysis of Payments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Costs of generating funds				
Offering envelopes	162		162	239
	162		162	239

Tillicoultry Parish Church
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
	2024		2024	2023
	£		£	£
4 cont'd Charitable activities				
Giving to Grow	50,969		50,969	46,525
Presbytery Dues	1,651		1,651	1,304
Minister's Expenses	3,032		3,032	1,584
Other Salary Costs	9,382		9,382	12,344
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	39,499		39,499	49,816
Council Tax	2,685		2,685	3,660
Other Buildings Costs	12,267		12,267	9,632
Church Office Expenses	569		569	707
Mission Outreach	259		259	747
Bazaar	816		816	724
Flower Fund		653	653	964
Sunday Club		59	59	130
Holiday Club			0	200
Thursday Club		157	157	0
Orchard fund		600	600	400
Miscellaneous	1,333		1,333	979
Cleaning/ Kitchen	501		501	630
CCLI Licence	1,079		1,079	1,043
Print/stationery	781		781	505
Collections for Third Parties		1,386	1,386	854
National Giving Day			0	0
Cleaning company	3,412		3,412	0
Manse	9,255		9,255	2,242
Accounts support			0	1,800
Snowdrop		330	330	645
Piano	188		188	1,306
Harvest			0	30
Development project	10,776		10,776	0
Totals	148,454	3,185	151,639	138,771

Tillicoultry Parish Church
Receipts and Payments Account
Year ended 31 December 2024

5 Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £ 31,642 and the maximum (in fifth and subsequent years) £ 38,884.

6 Collections for Third Parties

	2024	2023
	£	£
Poppy Scotland	259	120
Christian Aid	480	734
Moderator's Challenge for Malawi	647	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,386	854