

Scottish Charity No. SC017581

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 December 2023



Innes & Partners
Chartered Certified Accountants

Partick Free Church of Scotland

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Partick Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Trustees *for the year ended 31 December 2023*

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Partick Free Church of Scotland is established by Constitution and is a Scottish Charity (SC017581).

Church address

29 Crow Road
Glasgow
G11 7RT

Bankers

Virgin Money
326 Byers Road
Glasgow
G12 8AN

Bank of Scotland
2139 Paisley Road West
Glasgow
G52 3JW

Skipton Building Society
50 St Vincent Street
Glasgow
G2 5TS

Virgin Money
145 Queen Street
Glasgow
G1 3BJ

Aims and affiliation

The Free Church of Scotland has over 140 congregations in Scotland, as well as 2 in London and 5 in North America, and sister Churches founded by mission work in India, Peru and South Africa. The Church has a full time college in the heart of Edinburgh for the training of Ministers and other Christian workers and sustains an extensive Missionary programme relative to its size.

Dating from 1843 but with its roots in the Reformation, it owes its distinctive title to its historical struggle to remain 'free' from state interference in its internal affairs. It has close and active relations with many other Reformed churches of Jesus Christ throughout the world and stands firmly in the tradition which accepts the Bible in its entirety as the Word of God and, therefore, derives its forms of teaching, worship, ministry and government from it. The main emphasis of our worship is the preaching of the gospel - the good news of a free and sovereign salvation through Jesus Christ alone.

The Free Church of Scotland is a Presbyterian church adhering in its worship and doctrine to the position of the Church of Scotland at the Reformation. Partick Free Church of Scotland is a congregation of the national Free Church of Scotland working towards the common aims set out above. The congregation is within the Glasgow and Argyll Presbytery and is authorised by the Church to have a minister paid from the central funds of the Church.

Congregational history

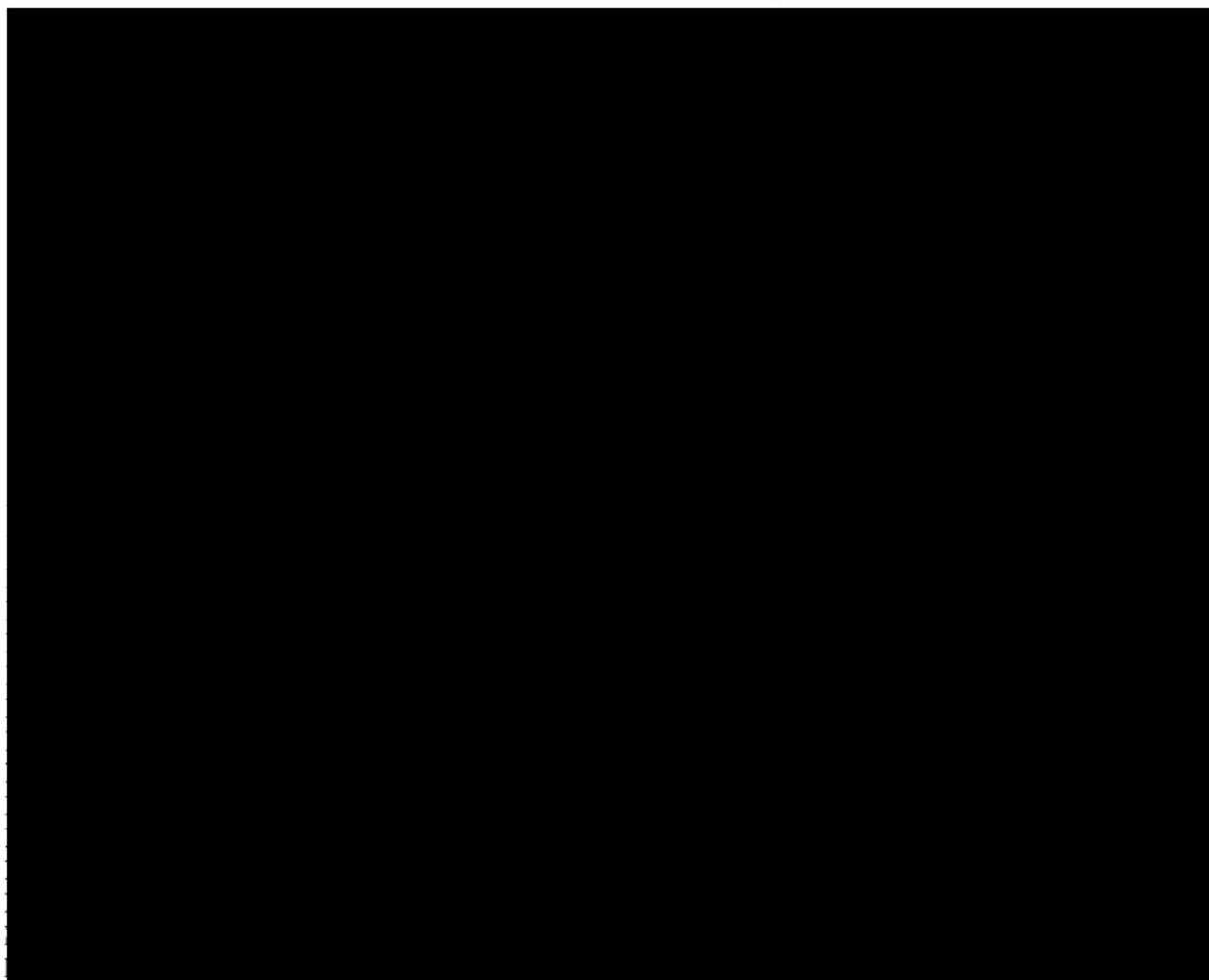
Following the Disruption of 1843 a congregation was organised in Partick which was a village of 3,000 people at that time. Its first minister, Harry Anderson was inducted in 1844 and remained with the same presbyter for over 50 years. He opposed the Declaratory Act yet most of the people joined the UF Church. The remnant, faithful to the Free Church, began meeting in 1905 and built the Church in 1910.

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Trustees *for the year ended 31 December 2023*

Trustees and Office Bearers

The congregation is governed and administered by elected office bearers and its minister. The Kirk Session, being the minister and elected elders, has responsibility for spiritual oversight, while the Deacons' Court, composed of Kirk Session members plus elected deacons, oversees financial and property matters. Under Charity Law, the Deacons' Court is deemed to be the trustees of the congregation as those with responsibility for day-to-day management and control. This is distinct from the role of property (congregational) trustees who are responsible only for holding property in trust. The Deacons' Court (the Trustees) who served during the year are:



The Congregational Trustees (for holding property until March 23) are

from March 2023) are: and The Congregational Trustees (for holding property

Appointment of Charity Trustees

The Kirk session exercises its discretion in determining the most appropriate method of electing new Trustees (Elders and Deacons). Any election process must involve the communicant membership of the congregation. There is no fixed term for Trusteeship. Prior to their appointment, new Trustees would have served the church for some time in various roles and would be familiar with the church's values, its aims and objectives as well as its day-to-day operations. As part of their induction programme, new Trustees are required to understand their statutory responsibilities as well as their responsibility as elder or deacon.

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Achievements and performance

During the year, the congregation met regularly for public worship and carried out various activities in accordance with its aims. The congregation continued its commitment to support the National Free Church of Scotland both spiritually and financially. Significant highlights, events and developments in the year include the following:

In relation to congregational activities:

- Special collections were taken every two months to raise funds for Mission Support. These funds were distributed to various Christian groups during the year. This closed at the end of 2022.
- The property known as 27 Crow Road is now being leased to Resilience PPE as of 7th January 2021 on a two-year lease agreement. The annual rent for the property is £10K.
- By mutual consent from the 24th October 2021 the congregations of Partick Free Church (PFC) and Glasgow City Free Church (GCFC) agreed to share the PFC church premises for the purposes of worship. Both remain separate entities. This arrangement continued in 2023.

In relation to congregational funding:

- Free will offering by envelope and plate showed a slight decrease from 2022.
- In 2023 £2.5k was spent in maintaining the church property to comply with health and safety compliance along with routine repairs.

Future plans

The congregations of both Partick Free Church and Glasgow City Free Church have now amalgamated as of March 2023. The new congregation's name is Crow Road Free Church. This amalgamation was ratified by The Free Church of Scotland and by the Free Church of Scotland Presbytery of Glasgow and Argyll. As a result of this union/amalgamation Partick Free Church will cease to be a registered charity with OSCR from 31st March 2024. All liabilities and assets of Partick Free Church will then be transferred to the new congregation of Crow Road Free Church by that date.

Financial review

Principal sources of funding

The principal sources of funding for the congregation in 2023 were the weekly offerings taken up by envelope and electronic bank transfers and Gift Aid refunds.

Results for the year

The financial statements for the year are set out on pages 5 to 9. The Receipts and Payments Account on page 5 reflects a surplus of £15,198 (2022: deficit of £20,359).

Total reserves, including balances on restricted funds amounted to £232,791 (2022: £217,593).

Reserves

It is the policy of the congregation to maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately three months unrestricted expenditure. This allows sufficient funds to enable the ongoing work of the church to be maintained. The General fund on page 6 at 31 December 2023 amounted to £231,261 (2022: £216,063) and was above the required level.

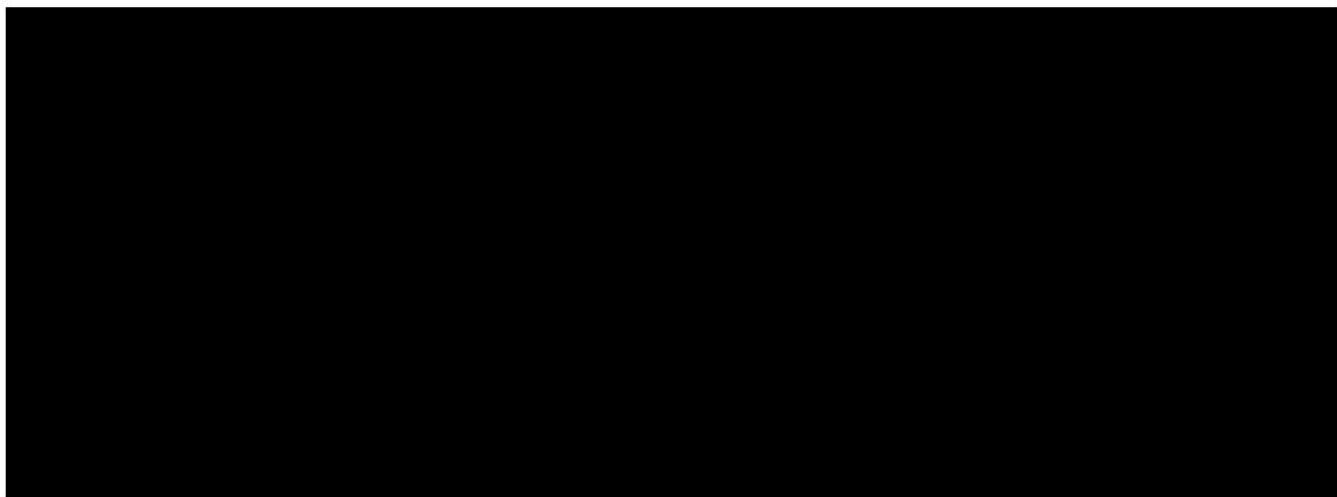
Partick Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Trustees *for the year ended 31 December 2023*

Grant making policy

The congregation makes donations from its gift income to individuals and organisations whose aims are compatible with the congregation's objectives.

Approved on behalf of the Trustees on25/02/..... 2024



Partick Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

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

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 such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement

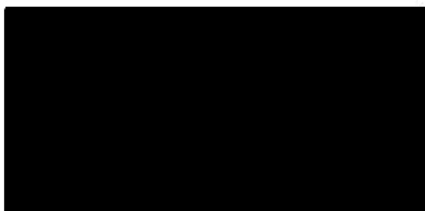
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Innes and Partners Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants

Innes House
18 Shairps Business Park
Houstoun Road
Livingston
EH54 5FD

Date: 29/02/2024

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	General fund	Designated Funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Freewill offerings		27,185	-	-	27,185	28,244
Donations		485	-	-	485	2,011
Church door and special collections		8,356	-	-	8,356	9,683
Gift Aid tax reclaimed		3,849	-	-	3,849	4,207
Rental income		10,000	-	-	10,000	10,000
Bank interest		1,467	-	-	1,467	634
Other income		268	-	-	268	-
Total receipts		51,610	-	-	51,610	54,779
Payments						
Remittances to Central funds	3	9,579	-	-	9,579	37,588
Repairs to church buildings		2,101	-	-	2,101	8,583
Donations	4	540	-	-	540	5,888
Gifts		-	-	-	-	172
Heat and light		7,957	-	-	7,957	6,347
Manse rates and insurance		3,073	-	-	3,073	3,706
Consumables and hospitality costs		-	-	-	-	283
Interim Moderator's expenses		-	-	-	-	198
Other costs		324	-	-	324	579
Church and manse insurance and rates		2,865	-	-	2,865	2,660
Printing, books, stationery and postage		631	-	-	631	788
Pulpit supply		105	-	-	105	140
Cleaning costs		7,639	-	-	7,639	6,624
Church magazines		181	-	-	181	239
Travel costs		-	-	-	-	20
Telephone costs		361	-	-	361	363
Independent examination		1,056	-	-	1,056	960
Total payments		36,412	-	-	36,412	75,138
Net increase / (decrease) in cash for the year		15,198	-	-	15,198	(20,359)
Cash balances brought forward		216,063	388	1,142	217,593	237,952
Cash balances carried forward		231,261	388	1,142	232,791	217,593

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Statement of Balances as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	Opening balance £	2023 Surplus for year £	Closing balance £	Opening balance £	2022 (Deficit) for year £	Closing balance £
Cash at bank		217,593	15,198	232,791	237,952	(20,359)	217,593
Total cash balances		217,593	15,198	232,791	237,952	(20,359)	217,593

Represented by:

Unrestricted funds	5						
General				231,261			216,063
Gaelic services				388			388
Restricted funds	6						
Travel				1,142			1,142
Sabbath School				-			-
				232,791			217,593

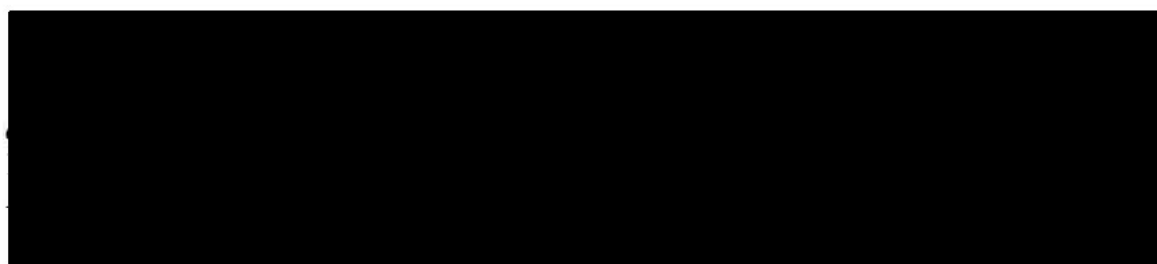
Statement of assets at 31 December 2023

Church buildings	735,000	735,000
Church manse	420,000	420,000
	1,155,000	1,155,000
Tax reclaim due	-	654

Statement of liabilities at 31 December 2023

Invoices due for payment	1,164	1,056
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The financial statements on pages 6 to 10 were approved by the Trustees on ...95/21... 2024 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:



The notes on pages 7 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Income

All voluntary income, income from tax recoveries and bank interest and bank interest is accounted for when received.

Expenditure

Expenditure, including grants in the form of support and gifts to individuals and charitable institutions, is accounted for when paid.

Grants payable

Grants are recognised when they have been paid, and are paid for purposes which fall within the objects of the church, or to institutions whose purposes fall within the objects of the church.

Receipts and payments account

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payment Account as shown on page 6, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise grants and other income received for the objects of the church without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds represent unrestricted funds which have been earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the church and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

2. Transactions with Trustees and related parties

The Interim Moderators, [REDACTED] received expenses amounting to £nil (2022: £308) and [REDACTED] received expenses amounting to £nil (2022: £40) during the year ending 31 December 2023. The following Trustees received reimbursed expenses during the year to 31 December 2023, [REDACTED] £548 (2022: £504) and [REDACTED] £234 (2022: £412). The following related party received reimbursed expenses during the year to 31 December 2023 of £45 (2022: £325), [REDACTED] is related to the Treasurer [REDACTED]

3. Staff costs, numbers and remittances to Central funds

Remittances to the Central Free Church of Scotland amounted to £9,579 during the year ending 31 December 2023 (2022: £37,588). There were no employees during the year (2022: nil).

4. Donations and gifts

	General fund	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Hope Church building project	-	-	-	2,000
Women for Mission	-	-	-	1,000
Free Church Disaster Fund	30	-	30	-
Presbytery Levy	510	-	510	799
GCFC Krakow	-	-	-	550
GCFC Sabbath School	-	-	-	289
Ukraine Moldovan appeal	-	-	-	250
Blythwood Care	-	-	-	100
Christian Concern	-	-	-	100
Glasgow City Mission	-	-	-	100
International Mission to Jewish People	-	-	-	100
Leprosy Mission	-	-	-	100
Motor Neurone Disease Scotland	-	-	-	100
Preshal Trust - Caring for Families	-	-	-	100
Prison Fellowship Scotland	-	-	-	100
Scottish Bible Society	-	-	-	100
Torch Trust	-	-	-	100
	540	-	540	5,888

Partick Free Church of Scotland

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

5. Unrestricted funds	Balance at				Balance
	01.01.23	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31.12.23
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	216,063	51,610	(36,412)	-	231,261
Gaelic services	388	-	-	-	388
Total unrestricted funds	216,451	51,610	(36,412)	-	231,649

Explanation of funds

General fund represents all income and expenditure relating to the primary focus activities of the charity, other than those for which funding is restricted.

Gaelic services - represents general offerings received from services run in Gaelic, spending on running these services and good causes associated with the Gaelic language.

6. Restricted funds	Balance at				Balance at
	01.01.23	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	31.12.23
	£	£	£	£	£
Travel	1,142	-	-	-	1,142
Total restricted funds	1,142	-	-	-	1,142

Explanation of funds

Travel fund - represents monies received towards the cost of transporting people by taxi to church services.