

**SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH
CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Congregation No. 231435
Scottish Charity No. SC018155

SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC018155

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for the year ended 31st December 2024

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SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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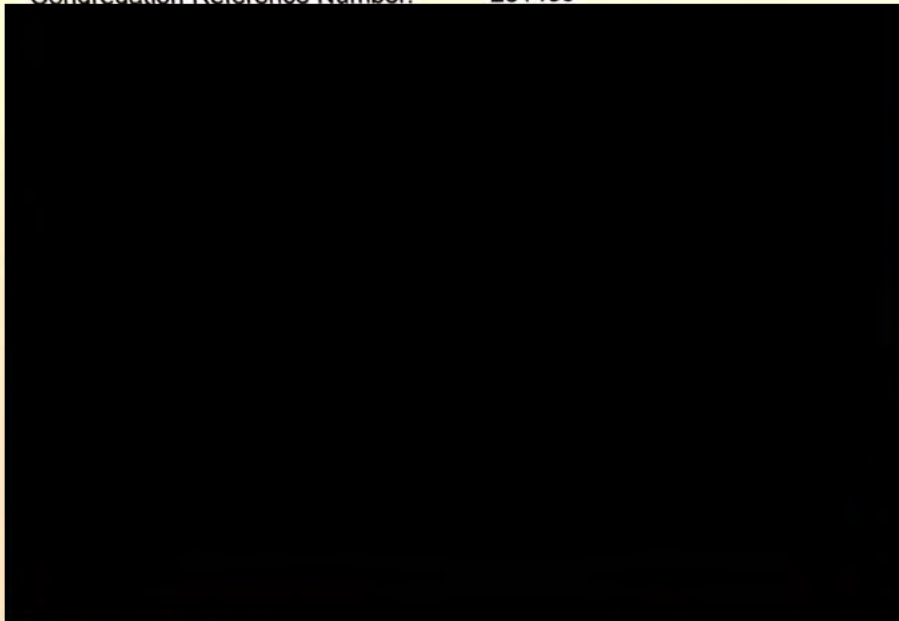
Report of Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Sauchie & Coalsnaughton Parish Church

Charity Registration Number: SC018155

Congregation Reference Number: 231435



Bankers

Bank of Scotland
21 Mar Street
Alloa FK10 1HR

SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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Report of Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024 (cont)



SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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Report of Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024 (cont)

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

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

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 to become members of the Board who are believed to have the skills and commitment to contribute to the management affairs of the Church. Board Members are then appointed at the Stated Annual Meeting and serve for a period of three years after which they must seek re-election at the next Stated Annual Meeting.

Organisational Structure

The Congregational Board is chaired by the Minister (or Interim Moderator) and meets regularly during the year. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the Finance Committee and the Property Committee as appropriate. The Kirk Session is responsible for spiritual affairs within the Church.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in policy. 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.

From 1 January until 10 March 2024 a service was held at 10.30 am on Sundays in the Church but the time changed over the year and the service is now held at 9.30 am to accommodate the requirements of our linkage with Clackmannan Parish Church and allow the minister time to travel and to meet with parishioners from both churches after the morning services. A Communion Service is held in March, June, September, and December, and home communion is available to anyone unable to attend. A Christmas Eve service was held at 6.30 and a joint service with Clackmannan Parish Church was held on Christmas Day.

There are several groups associated with the Church.

The Guild meets fortnightly on Mondays from October until May at 7.30pm in the Small Hall. Meetings are varied and include speakers, craft, musical and quiz evenings. Coffee mornings are held to raise funds for the Church and Guild Projects.

The Thursday Circle meets weekly every Thursday from October until May from 2-4 pm in the Large Hall. Every week there is entertainment that includes presentations, speakers, demonstrations, and musical performances. The meeting starts and finishes with a hymn and a prayer.

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Report of Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024 (cont)

The Craft Group meets weekly on Tuesdays from October until May from 2-4pm in the Small Hall. Members work on their own craft projects or make knitted items such as hats, scarves, gloves and blanket squares that are given to charities such as Blythswood Care.

The Strollers meet every second Wednesday. Walks set off from the Church or they travel by bus to another area and walk from there, visiting a local café before undertaking their return journey.

The Badminton Club meet on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Large Hall.

Sunday at Noon meets on Sundays in the Large Hall at 12 for 12.30pm. This is an intergenerational gathering that follows Godly Play principles.

The Church was represented and laid wreaths at the Armistice Sunday services held in Sauchie and Coalsnaughton in November 2024.

Links with the local Primary Schools were enhanced following the induction of our new minister and this has resulted in a number of primary classes visiting the church and school services being held.

Achievements and Performance

Following the linkage with Clackmannan Parish Church in 2023, Presbytery granted permission to call a minister. A nominating committee was formed; applications were received; and visits and interviews took place. This resulted in a nominee being recommended and accepted by both congregations and an induction service took place on 7 March 2024.

Fundraising in 2024 included Tabletop Sales; Plant Sales; Organisations' Coffee Mornings and a Garden Party. An Autumn Fayre was held in November and a Christmas Tree Festival in December 2024. All these events were successful from a fundraising perspective but also contributed to our mission within our community by providing opportunities to interact.

The number of hall lets increased in 2024 and this provided much needed additional income.

A Boo-t or Treat event was held in October 2024 that was effective in attracting young people and was also attended by residents from local nursing homes.

The monthly Soup and Pancake Days were held until November 2024 when they had to be postponed owing to problems with the cooker in the large hall. It is hoped to replace this early in 2025 and resume these as they helped to strengthen our links with the community and provided an opportunity for fellowship in a warm space.

Our halls are available for let to the local community and a range of community activities take place each week. The Sauchie Community Group use our hall regularly for concerts, dances and other events. We have a strong relationship with them as many of our members are also members of the Community Group.

Work to enhance the fabric of the Church, Halls and Manse continued throughout 2024. The Large Hall benefitted from donations of furniture from USDAW that enhanced the storage available on the stage. It was necessary to undertake work on the Church's gable end wall as water ingress had caused the stonework to be displaced.

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Report of Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024 (cont)

A large amount of work took place in the Manse in 2024. This was needed to meet Presbytery requirements before we were able to have an induction service for a Minister but also to enhance the living accommodation through the provision of a refurbished shower room, replacement of carpets in the lounge and dining room and external work to the garage and fences.

The Church supported Blythswood Care through its Shoe Box Appeal and Christmas gifts were donated to Homestart and Women's Aid. Special Retiral collections after services and Sunday Teas were donated to the Fabric Fund, Christian Aid (Gaza Appeal), the Gate, World Mission, Strathcarron Hospice and CHAS.

Financial Review

The principal source of income is committed monthly and weekly Givings, including Gift Aid donations. These amounted to £26,395 in 2024, a small increase of £82 from the previous year. Tax recovered on Gift Aid donations and the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme was £6,259, an increase of £295 on that recovered in the previous year. Unfortunately, core income is not increasing at a time when costs are increasing substantially.

Total Income for 2024 was £64,751 Apart from Givings, fundraising increased significantly and will continue to play a major part of meeting cost pressures. Bank income also increased over 2023 due to the increase in interest rates and investment management.

The total expenditure of £88,811 includes repairs to the gable end of the Church of £7,500. The Church was unsuccessful in applying for grants to cover this work. The remaining expenditure covers the running costs of the Church, in particular Giving to Grow allocation of £30,290. Energy costs increased substantially following a change to the national supply contract, reflecting higher market costs.

Last year's review highlighted the forthcoming changes to the Church's finances, with the induction of a new Minister, linkage with Clackmannan Parish Church, and the loss of rental income from the Manse. This created a degree of uncertainty into financial planning until new costs were established. Ahead of the new Minister the Church required to invest significantly in upgrading the Manse at a cost of £11,790.

The combination of substantial one-off costs, and an ongoing excess of expenditure over income, meant that the Church had to utilise reserves of £32,246 to achieve financial balance at the Year End. Clearly this is not a sustainable financial position and this needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

Reserves Policy

The Church building is over 170 years old and, although it is in reasonable condition, the Trustees recognise that any maintenance work required could be very expensive. It is therefore the Trustees' policy to maintain an adequate level of reserves (amounting at this time to £68,032) to cover major expenditure should this be required. Reserves are also required to support ongoing expenditure, as income levels are currently insufficient to meet all costs, and reserves will drain further if this position is not addressed.

SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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Report of Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024 (cont)

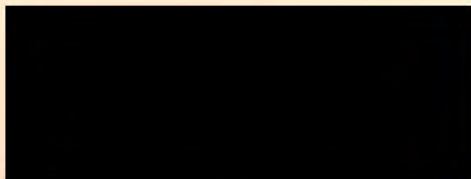
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session and 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 Kirk Session and 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, and the Regulations for Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007.

The Kirk Session and Congregational Board 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 and signed on their behalf:



Date: 12th February 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Sauchie & Coalsnaughton Parish Church of Scotland

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of 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 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

During my examination, no matter has come to my attention: -

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - a. to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - b. 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.

ate: 11-3-25

SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Designated Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts						
Donations	3	35,111	3,773	0	38,884	40,196
Grants		0	0	0	0	799
Activities for Generating Funds		4,225	1,380	0	5,605	2,486
Bank & Deposit Interest		3,386	0	0	3,386	2,358
Investment Income		4,659	0	73	4,732	3,364
		47,381	5,153	73	52,607	49,153
Rental of Premises		10,628	0	0	10,628	8,577
Weddings & Funerals		1,140	0	0	1,140	620
Receipts from General Trustees		0	0	0	0	10,557
Other Receipts		371	5	0	376	40
Total Receipts		59,520	5,158	73	64,751	68,947
Payments	4					
Cost of Generating Funds		190	0	0	190	185
Charitable Activities		86,687	1,754	0	88,441	67,723
Governance Costs		180	0	0	180	170
Total Payments		87,057	1,754	0	88,811	68,078
Excess (Shortfall) of Receipts over Payments for the Year before Transfers		(27,537)	3,404	73	(24,060)	869
Transfers between Funds		1,797	(1,797)	0	0	0
Excess (Shortfall) of Receipts over Payments for the Year after Transfers		(25,740)	1,607	73	(24,060)	869

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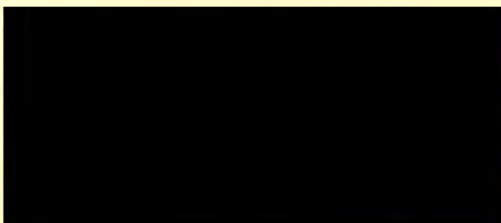
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STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Designated Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bank & Deposit Balances						
Brought forward	2	88,156	4,147	1,666	93,969	93,100
Movement in Year:						
Excess of Receipts over Payments	2	(25,740)	1,607	73	(24,060)	869
Bank & Deposit Balances						
Carried forward	2	62,416	5,754	1,739	69,909	93,969
Investments at Market Value (cost £64,907, comprising Unrestricted £61,218; Endowments £3,689)		133,387	0	18,639	152,026	139,024
Assets						
Gift Aid Receivable		1,582	0	0	1,582	1,414
Liabilities						
HMRC Payment		186	0	0	186	0

The Accounts were approved by the Kirk Session and Congregational Board on 12th February 2025

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session and Congregational Board



Session Clerk

Treasurer

SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During 2024 five Trustees received reimbursement of expenses incurred, and services provided: -

	£
	80.00
	1,148.42
	74.80
	198.71
	<u>629.00</u>
	<u>2,130.93</u>

In addition, the [REDACTED] was reimbursed expenses of £241.06. The Church paid Council Tax (£2,057) and Broadband (£397) costs directly. All such ministerial expenses are shared equally with Clackmannan Parish Church.

2. Movement in Funds

	As at 1 st January 2024 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	As at 31 st December 2024 £
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	24,839	53,015	(87,057)	14,043	4,840
Reserve Fund	43,518	5,644	0	(11,385)	37,777
Contingencies Fund	19,799	861	0	(861)	19,799
	<u>88,156</u>	<u>59,520</u>	<u>(87,057)</u>	<u>1,797</u>	<u>62,416</u>
Designated Funds					
Fabric Fund	433	619	0	0	1,052
Small Projects Fund	0	814	0	0	814
Sauchie Guild	626	1,779	(758)	(900)	747
Thursday Circle	607	1,414	(743)	(400)	879
Craft Group	0	130	0	(130)	0
Badminton Club	0	382	(15)	(367)	0
Young Church	470	20	(238)	0	251
Holiday Club	192	0	0	0	192
Choir	173	0	0	0	173
Boys' Brigade	1,646	0	0	0	1,646
	<u>4,147</u>	<u>5,158</u>	<u>(1,754)</u>	<u>(1,797)</u>	<u>5,754</u>
Endowment Funds					
Lady Erskine Bequest	1,666	73	0	0	1,739
Total Funds	<u>93,969</u>	<u>64,751</u>	<u>(88,811)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>69,909</u>

Unrestricted Funds represent general funds of the Church that can be used for any purpose.

Designated Funds are Unrestricted, and represent funds held by the associated organisations listed and are used in the running of those organisations. Legacies, received in 2016 and 2018, were placed in a Designated Fabric Fund.

Restricted Funds are funds that are held for specific (restricted) purposes. The Church has no such funds.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont)

Endowment Funds

Income from the Elizabeth Snaddon Bequest is allocated to the Reserve Fund as the Fund is not held by the Church itself. Income from the Lady Charlotte Erskine Bequest is used to support the Young Church when required.

3. Analysis of Donations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
WFO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	2,640	0	0	2,640	2,726
Gift Aid Donations	23,755	0	0	23,755	23,587
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	6,259	0	0	6,259	5,964
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	2,217	0	0	2,217	1,682
Other Offerings, Donations etc	240	3,773	0	4,013	6,187
	35,111	3,773	0	38,884	40,146

4. Analysis of Payments

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Cost of Generating Funds					
WFO Envelopes	190	0	0	190	185
	190	0	0	190	185
Charitable Activities					
Giving to Grow Allocation	30,290	0	0	30,290	21,903
Minister's Expenses	0	0	0	0	63
Locum's Salary	0	0	0	0	4,546
Locum's Expenses	0	0	0	0	290
Pulpit Supply	1,575	0	0	1,575	4,595
Organist, Cleaner & Finance	8,050	0	0	8,050	8,532
Manse Costs	3,553	0	0	3,553	0
Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	23,638	0	0	23,638	14,611
Heat and Light	11,670	0	0	11,670	5,736
Insurance	3,951	0	0	3,951	3,791
Printing, Stationery & Telephone	1,364	0	0	1,364	1,283
Presbytery Dues	1,192	0	0	1,192	798
Performing Rights Licence	672	0	0	672	631
Sundry Costs	732	1,754	0	2,486	944
	86,687	1,754	0	88,441	67,723
Governance Costs					
Independent Examiner's Fee	180	0	0	180	170
	180	0	0	180	170
Total Payments	87,057	1,754	0	88,811	68,078

SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (cont)

5. Ministers' Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the cost of 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, relating to years of service. In 2024 the minimum stipend was £31,642 and the maximum stipend in 5th and subsequent years of service was £38,884.

6. Collections for Third Parties

	2024 £	2023 £
Christian Aid	170	632
CHAS	113	83
Transform (Traidcraft)	0	200
Mission Partners	331	0
Strathcarron Hospice	347	0
The Gate Charity	364	216
Young Church	0	216
World Mission	0	216
DEC (Gaza)	153	0
DEC (Syria/Turkey Earthquake)	0	145
	<u>1,478</u>	<u>1,708</u>

SAUCHIE & COALSNAUGHTON PARISH CHURCH

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APPENDIX

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

	£	2024 £	2023 £
Consolidated Fabric Fund			
Opening Balance	16,442		19,708
Realised Investment Gain	<u>0</u>		<u>501</u>
		16,442	20,209
Debits: Fabric Expenses			
- Manse Expenditure	0		(539)
- Church Boiler	<u>0</u>		<u>(3,228)</u>
		0	(3,767)
Balance held at 31 st December at cost		<u>16,442</u>	<u>16,442</u>
Market Value of Balance at 31 st December		<u>25,818</u>	<u>24,420</u>
Revenue Account			
Opening Balance		0	<u>484</u>
Income			
- Dividends	914		788
- Interest	39		82
- Manse Rent	<u>0</u>		<u>5,736</u>
		953	6,606
Expenditure			
- Buildings Insurance	0		(3,149)
- Administration Charge	(138)		(300)
- Property Costs			
Manse Expenditure	<u>(0)</u>		<u>(3,641)</u>
		(138)	(7,090)
Closing Balance		<u>815</u>	<u>0</u>