

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024
for
Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Mackay & Co CA
Unit 8
Golspie Business Park
Golspie
Sutherland
KW10 6UB

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims and Affiliation

The Free Church of Scotland currently has around 140 congregations in Scotland, as well as three in London and five in North America, and sister Churches founded by mission work in India, Peru and South Africa. The Church also has a full-time degree awarding college in the heart of Edinburgh for the Training of Ministers and other Christian workers and sustains an extensive Missionary programme relative to the size of the Church.

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.

Thurso and North Coast Free Church of Scotland is a congregation of the national Free Church of Scotland working towards the common aims set out above. It is a Presbyterian church adhering in its worship and doctrine to the position of the Church of Scotland at the Reformation. The Free Church of Scotland has an explanatory document which explains the origins of the Church and which gives the historical background to the Church.

The Church buildings and the Minister's Manse are the property of the congregation and are held under the Church's model trust deed.

The government of the Free Church of Scotland is Presbyterian and the congregation is within the Northern Presbytery.

Grantmaking

The church makes grants from its tithed gift income to individuals and organisations that are generally known to the Trustees and the church. The beneficiaries are involved in activities or ministries compatible with the church's objectives.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The Church met regularly for worship in the church building and on-line.

The congregation continued its commitment to support the national Free Church of Scotland both spiritually and financially.

Congregational activities included:

- community based organisations making use of the church hall;

Congregational funding and expenditure included:

- donations from church members and attendees via weekly offerings and bank direct debit.
- improvements and repairs to church building and manse;

Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Principal funding sources

The church receives its funding from church members by way of weekly offerings and Gift Aid donations.

Results for the year:

The Statement of Financial Activities reflects a deficit of £30,419 (2023 - Surplus of £3,127). This was mainly due to the roof repair costing £31,152 which was financed by transferring from funds held centrally.

Investments

Share Pool Units, Free Church of Scotland	Units	Value 31.12.24	Value 31.12.23
Congregational Endowments	2,197.00	12,641	11,139
Sustentation Endowments	7,771.00	44,715	39,399
Ministers Supplements	149.45	860	757
		<u>58,217</u>	<u>51,295</u>

Funds held as cash, Free Church of Scotland - balance at 31.12.24 - £154,618.64

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitute an unincorporated charity.

Thurso and North Coast Free Church of Scotland (formerly known as Thurso and Reay Free Church) is established by Constitution.

The Church is a Scottish Charity (No. SC038145).

The Church's parent charity is the Free Church of Scotland (Charity No. SC012925).

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The Kirk Session exercises its discretion in determining the most appropriate method of electing new Trustees. Any election process must involve the communicant membership of the congregation. There is no fixed term of Trusteeship. Prior to their appointment, new Trustees would have served 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.

Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

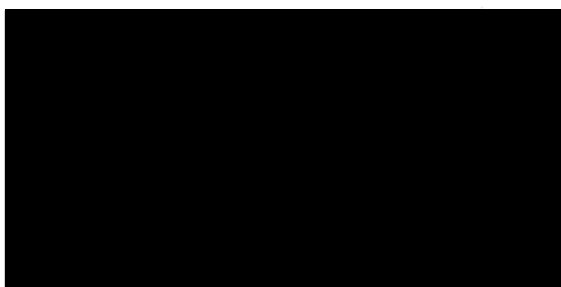
STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Trustees and Office Bearers

The Church is Presbyterian in government and its day-to-day running is undertaken by the Elders (the Kirk Session) and Finance committee. The Finance Committee's specific function relates to the material and financial business of the congregation, whereas Elders are charged with the general and spiritual oversight of the Congregations.

The finance Committee was disbanded and has been replaced by a Deacons' Court. The Deacons' Court comprises:



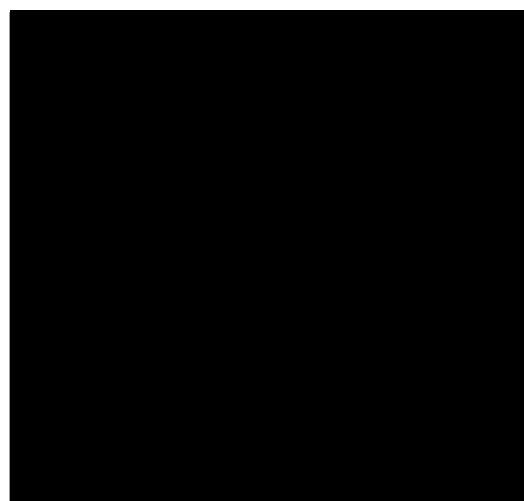
Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

SC038145



Independent Examiner



Mackay & Co CA
Unit 8
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Sutherland
KW10 6UB

Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

North Coast Church	£515,000
Thurso Free Church	£312,000
Thurso Manse	<u>£138,000</u>
	<u>£965,000</u>

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Thurso and North Coast Free Church

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 set out on pages six to twelve.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity's 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 the independent examiner's report

My examination was 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 seeking explanations from you as 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 connection with 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 to 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.



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26 March 2025

Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		65,055	-	65,055	81,709
Investment income	2	779	6,104	6,883	5,906
Total		<u>65,834</u>	<u>6,104</u>	<u>71,938</u>	<u>87,615</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Church		101,447	-	101,447	79,285
Fabric		-	910	910	5,203
Total		<u>101,447</u>	<u>910</u>	<u>102,357</u>	<u>84,488</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	7	(35,613) 47,814	5,194 (47,814)	(30,419) -	3,127 -
Net movement in funds		<u>12,201</u>	<u>(42,620)</u>	<u>(30,419)</u>	<u>3,127</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		36,240	199,853	236,093	232,966
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>48,441</u></u>	<u><u>157,233</u></u>	<u><u>205,674</u></u>	<u><u>236,093</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Balance Sheet
31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	893	-	893	-
Cash at bank		47,848	157,233	205,081	236,093
		<u>48,741</u>	<u>157,233</u>	<u>205,974</u>	<u>236,093</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(300)	-	(300)	-
		<u>48,441</u>	<u>157,233</u>	<u>205,674</u>	<u>236,093</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>48,441</u>	<u>157,233</u>	<u>205,674</u>	<u>236,093</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES					
		<u>48,441</u>	<u>157,233</u>	<u>205,674</u>	<u>236,093</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>48,441</u>	<u>157,233</u>	<u>205,674</u>	<u>236,093</u>
FUNDS	7				
Unrestricted funds				48,441	36,240
Restricted funds				<u>157,233</u>	<u>199,853</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>205,674</u>	<u>236,093</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name] - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Deposit Interest	<u>6,883</u>	<u>5,906</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	80,799	910	81,709
Investment income	<u>5,906</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,906</u>
Total	<u>86,705</u>	<u>910</u>	<u>87,615</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Church	79,285	-	79,285
Fabric	<u>5,203</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,203</u>
Total	<u>84,488</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,488</u>
NET INCOME	2,217	910	3,127
Transfers between funds	<u>19,216</u>	<u>(19,216)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	21,433	(18,306)	3,127
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	14,807	218,159	232,966
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>36,240</u>	<u>199,853</u>	<u>236,093</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Other debtors	893	-
	<u>893</u>	<u>-</u>

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Other creditors	300	-
	<u>300</u>	<u>-</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24	Net movement	Transfers	At
	£	in funds	between	31.12.24
		£	funds	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	36,240	(35,613)	47,814	48,441
Restricted funds				
Central funds	196,328	6,104	(47,814)	154,618
Fabric	3,525	(910)	-	2,615
	<u>199,853</u>	<u>5,194</u>	<u>(47,814)</u>	<u>157,233</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>236,093</u>	<u>(30,419)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>205,674</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	65,834	(101,447)	(35,613)
Restricted funds			
Central funds	6,104	-	6,104
Fabric	-	(910)	(910)
	<u>6,104</u>	<u>(910)</u>	<u>5,194</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>71,938</u>	<u>(102,357)</u>	<u>(30,419)</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	14,807	2,217	19,216	36,240
Restricted funds				
Central funds	215,544	-	(19,216)	196,328
Fabric	2,615	910	-	3,525
	<u>218,159</u>	<u>910</u>	<u>(19,216)</u>	<u>199,853</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>232,966</u>	<u>3,127</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>236,093</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	86,705	(84,488)	2,217
Restricted funds			
Fabric	910	-	910
	<u>87,615</u>	<u>(84,488)</u>	<u>3,127</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>87,615</u>	<u>(84,488)</u>	<u>3,127</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	14,807	(33,396)	67,030	48,441
Restricted funds				
Central funds	215,544	6,104	(67,030)	154,618
Fabric	2,615	-	-	2,615
	<u>218,159</u>	<u>6,104</u>	<u>(67,030)</u>	<u>157,233</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>232,966</u>	<u>(27,292)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>205,674</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	152,539	(185,935)	(33,396)
Restricted funds			
Central funds	6,104	-	6,104
Fabric	910	(910)	-
	<u>7,014</u>	<u>(910)</u>	<u>6,104</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>159,553</u>	<u>(186,845)</u>	<u>(27,292)</u>

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

No trustee, other than [REDACTED] received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2023; nil). 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.

Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Offerings	54,319	44,034
Tax recd Gift Aid Donations	4,481	5,136
Donations	1,775	25,406
Building Fund donations	-	1,176
Magazines	87	72
Other receipts	4,085	4,570
Investment Income	308	1,315
	<hr/> 65,055	<hr/> 81,709
Investment income		
Deposit Interest	6,883	5,906
	<hr/> 71,938	<hr/> 87,615
Total incoming resources		
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Ministry and admin levies	32,597	33,920
Presbytery dues	1,126	523
Minister's expenses	3,054	960
Supply & communion exps	461	463
Fire precautions	1,515	720
Fabric repairs & maintenance	48,374	9,986
Zoom licences	187	86
Digital piano	-	874
Audio & video equipment	-	23,744
Magazines & Bible study books	271	98
CCLI	248	259
Honorarium	-	150
Donations	722	740
Website	1,240	-
	<hr/> 89,795	<hr/> 72,523
Support costs		
Management		
Water rates North Coast Church	82	25
Insurance	1,821	2,178
Light and heat	6,158	5,931
Carried forward	8,061	8,134

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Thurso and North Coast Free Church

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
Management		
Brought forward	8,061	8,134
Internet charges	229	270
Manse council tax	3,433	3,334
Sundries	389	227
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12,112	11,965
 Governance costs		
Prior year accounts	150	-
Accountancy and legal fees	300	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	450	-
 Total resources expended	<hr/>	<hr/>
	102,357	84,488
 Net (expenditure)/income	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(30,419)	3,127
	<hr/>	<hr/>