

Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024  
for  
Oban Free Church of Scotland

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

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

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## Oban Free Church of Scotland

### 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**

##### **Objectives and aims**

Oban Free Church of Scotland is a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland working towards the common aims set out below. 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 coming into being in 1843 and lists documents in which is embodied the constitution of the Church. This document is available on request from the Free Church of Scotland, [REDACTED]

The Free Church of Scotland currently has over 100 congregations in Scotland, as well as one in London and four in North America, and sister Churches founded by mission work in India, Peru and South Africa. The Church also has a seminary in Edinburgh for the training of Ministers and other Christian workers and sustains an extensive Missionary programme relative to the size of the church. The principal activity of the Church is the conduct of public worship and associated matters in the context of local congregations.

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 congregation is authorised by the Church to have a minister paid from central funds of the Church.

The church building and the minister's manse are the property of the congregation and are held under the Church's model trust deed.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

The congregation were saddened by the loss of their Minister in May 2024. Our weekly worships have been held by the regular use of supply ministers. The congregation, through its formed Vacancy Committee, are actively searching for a future permanent Minister.

### **Charitable activities**

During the year the church met regularly for worship and carried out various activities in pursuit of the above stated aims.

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

Significant highlights, events and developments of note in 2024 include the following: -  
In relation to activities

- Sunday School
- Fellowship lunches
- Outreach within the community
- Missionary meetings to support the wider work of the church
- Special events for children
- Informal events for adults in the community

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial position**

As a result of a surplus for the year of £2,436, the church held an unrestricted General Fund amounting to £2,018, a designated Legacy Fund of £25,150 and a restricted fund of £24,388.

The Trustees are satisfied with the level of reserves held by the charity.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Governing document**

Oban Free Church of Scotland is established by Constitution. The church is a registered Scottish Charity SC038162

### **Recruitment and appointment of new 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 the responsibilities of their office within the congregation as elder or deacon.

### **Organisational structure**

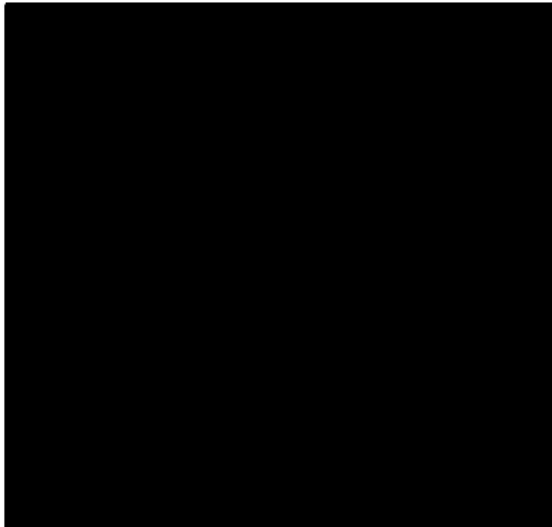
The congregation is governed and administered by elected office bearers (all volunteers) and its minister. The Kirk Session, being the minister and elected elders, has responsibility for spiritual oversight, while the Deacon's Court, composed of Kirk Session members plus elected deacons, oversees financial and property matters. Under Charity Law, the Deacons' Court are 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.

Oban Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

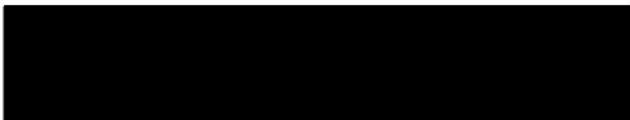
**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Charity number**  
SC038162



**Independent Examiner**  
Mackay & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
Unit 8  
Golspie Business Park  
Golspie  
Sutherland  
KW10 6UB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on .....12.8.25..... and signed on its behalf by:



Trustee

J

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Oban Free Church of Scotland

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

**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.



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

Date: *12th August 2025*

Oban Free Church of Scotland

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	52,842	1,115	53,957	48,554
Investment income	3	554	-	554	591
Other income		148	10,273	10,421	11,546
<b>Total</b>		<u>53,544</u>	<u>11,388</u>	<u>64,932</u>	<u>60,691</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	4				
Church		<u>61,717</u>	<u>779</u>	<u>62,496</u>	<u>72,795</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(8,173)	10,609	2,436	(12,104)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		35,341	13,779	49,120	61,224
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>27,168</u></u>	<u><u>24,388</u></u>	<u><u>51,556</u></u>	<u><u>49,120</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Oban Free Church of Scotland

Balance Sheet

31 December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Cash at bank		27,168	24,388	51,556	49,120
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>27,168</u>	<u>24,388</u>	<u>51,556</u>	<u>49,120</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>27,168</u>	<u>24,388</u>	<u>51,556</u>	<u>49,120</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>27,168</u></u>	<u><u>24,388</u></u>	<u><u>51,556</u></u>	<u><u>49,120</u></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	7				
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				2,018	10,191
Legacies fund				25,150	25,150
				<u>27,168</u>	<u>35,341</u>
Restricted funds				<u>24,388</u>	<u>13,779</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u><u>51,556</u></u>	<u><u>49,120</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on  
.....12.12.24..... and were signed on its behalf by:



Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

## **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. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Donations	1,210	-
Gift aid	10,163	9,918
Freewill offering	33,664	35,924
Church door collections	2,900	1,410
Sunday school collection	978	932
Disaster appeal collection	175	370
Pulpit supply claim	4,867	-
	<u>53,957</u>	<u>48,554</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
Deposit account interest	554	445
Dividend	-	146
	<u>554</u>	<u>591</u>

**4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs £
Church	<u>62,496</u>

**5. 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.

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

**6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	47,435	1,119	48,554
Investment income	591	-	591
Other income	626	10,920	11,546
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,652</b>	<b>12,039</b>	<b>60,691</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Church	56,889	15,906	72,795
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>(8,237)</b>	<b>(3,867)</b>	<b>(12,104)</b>
Transfers between funds	8,000	(8,000)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>(237)</b>	<b>(11,867)</b>	<b>(12,104)</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	35,578	25,646	61,224
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>35,341</b>	<b>13,779</b>	<b>49,120</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	10,191	(8,173)	2,018
Legacies fund	25,150	-	25,150
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	35,341	(8,173)	27,168
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Fabric	13,779	10,609	24,388
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>49,120</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>51,556</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

**7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	53,544	(61,717)	(8,173)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Fabric	11,388	(779)	10,609
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>64,932</u>	<u>(62,496)</u>	<u>2,436</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	10,428	(8,237)	8,000	10,191
Legacies fund	25,150	-	-	25,150
	<u>35,578</u>	<u>(8,237)</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>35,341</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Fabric	25,646	(3,867)	(8,000)	13,779
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>61,224</u>	<u>(12,104)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,120</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	48,652	(56,889)	(8,237)
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Fabric	12,039	(15,906)	(3,867)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>60,691</u>	<u>(72,795)</u>	<u>(12,104)</u>

**8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Oban Free Church of Scotland

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>				
<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations	1,160	50	1,210	-
Gift aid	10,163	-	10,163	9,918
Freewill offering	32,599	1,065	33,664	35,924
Church door collections	2,900	-	2,900	1,410
Sunday school collection	978	-	978	932
Disaster appeal collection	175	-	175	370
Pulpit supply claim	4,867	-	4,867	-
	<hr/> 52,842	<hr/> 1,115	<hr/> 53,957	<hr/> 48,554
<b>Investment income</b>				
Deposit account interest	554	-	554	445
Dividend	-	-	-	146
	<hr/> 554	<hr/> -	<hr/> 554	<hr/> 591
<b>Other income</b>				
Church magazines	108	-	108	126
Car parking	-	5,696	5,696	5,001
Other income	40	870	910	2,495
Other fundraising	-	3,707	3,707	3,924
	<hr/> 148	<hr/> 10,273	<hr/> 10,421	<hr/> 11,546
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<hr/> 53,544	<hr/> 11,388	<hr/> 64,932	<hr/> 60,691
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Rates and water	3,802	-	3,802	3,717
Insurance	3,013	-	3,013	2,826
Light and heat	2,852	-	2,852	2,898
Telephone	565	-	565	607
Postage and stationery	419	-	419	999
Sundries	2,546	-	2,546	232
Remittances to central fund	37,362	-	37,362	37,300
Pulpit supply	7,571	-	7,571	2,308
Presbytery dues	707	-	707	1,084
Carried forward	58,837	-	58,837	51,971

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Oban Free Church of Scotland

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Brought forward	58,837	-	58,837	51,971
Repairs and renewals	-	779	779	15,906
Donations etc	376	-	376	1,110
Sunday school expenses	714	-	714	1,025
Minister's car allowance	-	-	-	81
Manse - Heat	1,790	-	1,790	2,702
	<u>61,717</u>	<u>779</u>	<u>62,496</u>	<u>72,795</u>
Total resources expended	<u>61,717</u>	<u>779</u>	<u>62,496</u>	<u>72,795</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>	<u>(8,173)</u>	<u>10,609</u>	<u>2,436</u>	<u>(12,104)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements