

St John's Kirk – Walls Heritage

(also known as St John's Kirk SCIO)

Charity number: SC048646



Trustees Annual Report for year ended 31 December 2024

Principal contact address:

Little Scews
Lyness
Stromness
Orkney
KW16 3NU

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnskirk>

Current Trustees

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) and was registered in its current legal forms on 22 August 2018. It has a single structure and as such the trustees are the members of the Charity. It is administered in accordance with the terms of its constitution.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting of the Charity, or may be appointed by at a trustees' meeting. There must be a minimum of three and a maximum of fifteen trustees. A person is eligible for appointment provided they are not an employee of the Charity and have not been disqualified from being a Charity trustee.

Our objectives as a charity:

1. To support the restoration and preservation of St John's Church, a place of historical, social, religious and architectural importance, for members of the local community in North Walls, Hoy, and also within the wider Orkney Community and visitors
2. To advance the education of the public in the history of the church, the geography, natural environment, culture and other features of life in the local area, by providing a heritage display within the Church and collating pictorial, oral and written records and artefacts.
3. To provide a space for community use and enjoyment such as concerts, talks, lectures, art, flower and craft displays and films and also for conducting funerals, marriages, christenings or other occasional church services.

Main activities to achieve these objectives

1 – the main works completed 2015/16; maintenance is ongoing

- Doors painted
- The bell finally rehung
- Cleaning, provision of flowers and keeping the building looking good
- A sign – definitely helped increase visitor numbers
- A week in the Blue Door charity shop, Kirkwall, raised over £2200
- PayPal and GoFundMe online giving set up
- Path from gate to the door tidied (not our responsibility but looks much better). Further work planned.

"A lovely church. Great to see it beautifully kept." (from the Visitors Book)

2 – we've made real progress here, assisted by grants totalling £2500 from the Hugh Fraser Foundation and Graemsay, Hoy & Walls Community Council, input from a heritage consultant and a lot of effort in clearing the porch and vestry areas.

- Banner setting out history of St John's and the charity
- Folders with information on local and family history
- Initial small display with brief details of the area, some of the donations received and details of what we want; information panels in main kirk area
- Re-purposing vestry "press" and other areas for displays
- Online information through Facebook – for the people with an interest in the area, locally and worldwide
- Responding to queries – put an Australian family back in touch with relatives; met descendant of the kirk's builder
- Start of work with Orkney Museums, short-term project assistance

"Visiting family headstones"

"Researching Baikie history" (from the Visitors Book)

3 – this is an ongoing challenge due to having no electricity. We are exploring solar panels and batteries, aiming to work with an external funding consultant/project manager, but there are unexpected hurdles to overcome.

- Annual carol service well attended
- Building used for funerals (available for weddings too)

Strengths and opportunities: committed trustees and volunteers; a very supportive "Walls diaspora" with great fondness for "the peedie kirk"; ongoing interest in family and local history (how can we capitalise on that?); interest in an art exhibition from local artists; potential for joint projects with other local heritage/museums; solar power.

Risks: lack of time, people and money; declining and ageing local population; no paid staff; damp building with no electricity. Solar panels and battery storage would be a major project – we need to be sure of the benefits. One other heritage centre and two museums in the island: though we each have a distinct and different focus funding is limited.

Financial review

The Charity's income derives from donations, grants, fundraising activities and very occasional funerals or other services held in the building. One grant is paid to us retrospectively hence the income under Grants is less than the total awarded.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's policy on reserves is to keep £6000 of unrestricted funds protected in its account to cover at least one year's insurance, as there is no guarantee of continued grant assistance towards this, and contingencies such as emergency repairs.

Donated services and facilities

The Charity was given use of a local café free of charge for trustees' meetings and the AGM.

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SC048646

1st Jan - 31 Dec 2024

INCOME

Donations	832
Fundraising	2201
Funerals	0
Grants	2093
Other	200

Total income	<u>5326</u>
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EXPENDITURE

Insurance	1779
Printing & photos	833
Equipment & resources	1795
Miscellaneous/Expenses	283
PayPal Fees	6

Total Expenditure	<u>4696</u>
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December 31 2023	7597
Total income	5326
Sub Total	12923
Total Expenditure	<u>4696</u>
Total Balance 31/12/24	<u>8227</u>

Statement at 31/12/24	8227
Cash in hand at 31/12/24	<u>0</u>
Total Balance 31/12/24	<u>8227</u>

1st Jan - 31 Dec 2023

INCOME

Donations	301
Fundraising	205
Funerals	175
Grants	1900

Total income	<u>2581</u>
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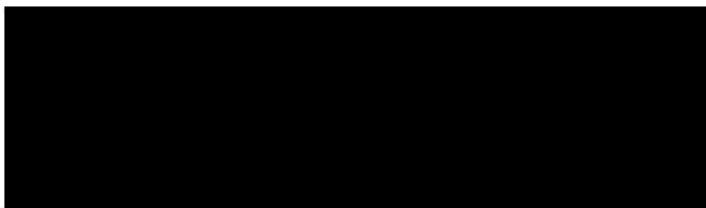
EXPENDITURE

Insurance	1772
Stationary/Other	0
JMF Groat	103
Miscellaneous/Expenses	44

Total Expenditure	<u>1920</u>
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December 31 2022	6936
Total income	2581
Sub Total	9517
Total Expenditure	<u>1920</u>
Total Balance 31/12/23	<u>7597</u>

Statement at 31/12/23	7597
Cash in hand at 31/12/23	<u>0</u>
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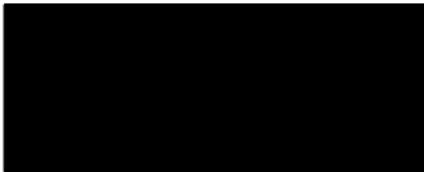
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APPENDIX 3



Independent examiner's report on the accounts							v2
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name						
Registered charity number	SC 1048646						
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year	to	Day	Month	Year
	01	01	2024		31	12	2024
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)						

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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]

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

Signed**:

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address:

*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

**OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures.

APPENDIX 3

Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose