

KIRKCOWAN PARISH CHURCH (Church of Scotland)

Congregation Number 090510

Scottish Charity No SC007136

Annual Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2025

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Reference & Administrative Information

Charity Name

Kirkcowan Parish Church (Church of Scotland)

Charity No

SC007136

Congregation Reference No

090510

Current Trustees

Kirk Session Members:

Rev. E Boyle	Mrs M Welsh
Mr J Young	Mrs E Hamilton
Mrs W Baird	Mrs H Marsh
Mr M Marsh	Mrs M McCullough
Mr J Paterson	Mr A Gladstone

Principal Office Bearers:

Minister:	Rev. E Boyle
Session Clerk:	Mr M Marsh
Clerk to the Board:	Mrs W Baird
Church Treasurer	Mr M Marsh

Contact Address

c/o Mr M Marsh, No1 Cottage Sawmill Farm, Kirkcowan, DG8 0BW

Independent Examiner

Miss Louise McCulloch
LM Bookkeeping Services
8 Kings Road
Whithorn
Newton Stewart
DG8 8PP

Bankers

Virgin Money
43 Alloway Street
Ayr
KA7 1SP

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Model Deed changed to Unitary Constitution on 22nd August 2022, and is a registered charity with OSCR. Granted charitable status from 22 April 1960. The Church is located in Kirkcowan and serves the Parish of Kirkcowan. It is a linked charge with the Parish of Wigtown.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Members of the Kirk Session 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.

Organisation Structures

The Congregational Board was chaired by the minister and met six times in a year. Certain responsibilities are delegated to the Fabric committee as appropriate. The Kirk Session now administers all church duties.

Objectives and Activities

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. 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.

Kirkcowan Parish Church meets for worship each Sunday morning. The minister is Chaplain of Kirkcowan Primary School and is regularly involved in Assemblies and Religious Education. As part of our community activities, Easter and Christmas cards are delivered to each household in the Parish. The Church continues to engage in the Church of Scotland's Stewardship programme.

Achievements & Performance

Our Sunday Morning has seen a small decrease in numbers due to bereavement, infirmity, and transfer. We also hold special services at Christmas, Easter, Harvest, Communion and Baptisms. The Sunday School has not been able to meet due to Covid-19. We are continually looking at new ways to engage with the wider Parish community.

This year we have once again financially supported organisations which share our core values, which we have established an ongoing relationship: The Barnabus Fund, Tear Fund Scotland, Poppy Scotland, Crossreach (CfS), Scripture Union and Stand by Me. In our budget, we have set aside money to continue our outreach work within our community with social events and family activities. We continue to strive to source new initiatives to add to our programme and Basic Food Bank

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Financial Review

The principal source of income is from weekly offerings in the forms of plate, FWO and also Gift Aid Donations, plus tax reclaimed on Gift Aid.

Total Income of the Organisation was £27,191 (2024: £28,451). Expenditure was £33,085 (2024: £31,614), resulting in a deficit of £5,894 (2024: (£3,163)).

Unrestricted Fund income of the organisation was £25,926 (2024: £27,120). Expenditure was £33,085 (2024: £31,434), resulting in a deficit of £7,159 (2024: (£3,914)).

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustee's policy to hold reserves of approximately six months expenditure including designated funds. At the year end the Church held unrestricted cash funds of £40,937, which may be higher than may normally be expected, but the Trustees are aware of the current economic climate and the fact that this is a rural area with a predominantly ageing congregation. The Trustees therefore deem it good stewardship to have healthy reserves but are also mindful of their calling as a Church to glorify God and to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom and with this in mind, the Trustees expect to spend significant funds on Church repairs and refurbishment in future years.

In addition to the cash funds, the Church also holds unrestricted investments with a market value at the year of £49,605 (2024: £46,00), and restricted investments with a market value at the year-end of £1,720 (2024: £1,670).

Investment Policy

The Church has a number of investments, managed on its behalf by the Church of Scotland.

Plans for Future Period

Post covid we have seen a small increase in attendance, with some new residents in the community. We hope in 2026 to maintain income levels and engage with the wider community once more.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Statement of the Trustees Responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements, which show the state of affairs of the Charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them 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 Anent Congregational Finance approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 2007. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Martin Marsh

23/03/2006

Session Clerk

Mr M Marsh

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Kirkcowan Parish Church

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 13.

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 trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 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,

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
 - 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.



Louise McCulloch
LM Bookkeeping Services
8 Kings Road
Whithorn
Newton Stewart
DG8 8PP

25th March 2026

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	<i>Note</i>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
Receipts					
Donations	3	23,374	600	23,974	24,913
Bank Interest		2,552	665	3,217	3,538
		<u>25,926</u>	<u>1,265</u>	<u>27,191</u>	<u>28,451</u>
Payments					
Cost of raising funds	4	80	-	80	88
Charitable Activities	4	32,680	-	32,680	31,226
Governance Costs	4	325	-	325	300
		<u>33,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,085</u>	<u>31,614</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(7,159)	1,265	(5,894)	(3,163)
Transfers between funds		700	(700)	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		<u>(6,459)</u>	<u>565</u>	<u>(5,894)</u>	<u>(3,163)</u>

The Notes on pages 10 to 13 form an integral part of these accounts

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

As at 31 December 2025

Funds Reconciliation	<i>Note</i>	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
Cash at Bank & In Hand 31/12/2024		43,413	13,505	56,918	60,081
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(6,459)	565	(5,894)	(3,163)
Cash at Bank & In Hand 31/12/2025		<u>36,954</u>	<u>14,070</u>	<u>51,024</u>	<u>56,918</u>
Bank & Cash Balances					
Current Accounts		4,564	589	5,153	7,200
Deposit Accounts		32,390	13,481	45,871	49,718
	2	<u>36,954</u>	<u>14,070</u>	<u>51,024</u>	<u>56,918</u>
Investments	6	<u>3,983</u>	<u>1,010</u>	<u>4,993</u>	<u>4,993</u>
Total Funds		<u>40,937</u>	<u>15,080</u>	<u>56,017</u>	<u>61,911</u>

Approved by the Kirk Session and Congregational Board and signed on their behalf by:-

Martin Marsh

Session Clerk & Treasurer

23/03/2006

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

1. Trustees Remuneration and Related Party Transaction

No trustee other than as noted below, received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year. No trustee or any person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered in to by the Charity during the year.

The Minister, who is also a member of the Kirk Session, had his council tax of £1,818 (2024: £1,706) and telephone & travelling expenses of £616 (2024: £534) reimbursed by the Church.

The Church provides Trustees Liability Insurance.

2. Movement in Funds

	At 1 Jan 2025	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	At 31 Dec 2025
Unrestricted Funds					
General Fund	6,602	24,347	33,085	6,700	4,564
General Deposit Fund	36,811	1,579	-	(6,000)	32,390
	43,413	25,926	33,085	700	36,954
Restricted Fund					
Special Fabric Deposit Fund	12,907	574	-	-	13,481
Special Fabric Fund	241	600	-	(700)	141
Visiting Preacher's Fund	357	91	-	-	448
	13,505	1,265	-	(700)	14,070
Total Bank Funds	56,918	27,191	33,085	-	51,024

Purposes of Restricted Funds

Special Fabric Deposit Fund: to provide for extraordinary building projects connected with the Church property.

Special Fabric Fund: to provide for extraordinary building projects connected with the Church property.

Visiting Preacher's Fund: to provide for expenses of a visiting Preacher.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

3. Analysis of Receipts

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
Donations				
FWO Scheme	15,450	-	15,450	16,211
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	4,351	-	4,351	4,938
Open Plate Offerings	3,273	-	3,273	2,654
Weddings & Funerals	300	-	300	510
Special Fabric Fund Donations	-	600	600	600
	<u>23,374</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>23,974</u>	<u>24,913</u>

4. Analysis of Payments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
Cost of Raising Funds				
Offering Envelopes	<u>80</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>88</u>
Charitable Activities				
Giving for Growth i)	17,220	-	17,220	17,000
Presbytery Dues	658	-	658	471
Minister's Travelling	477	-	477	534
Minister's Phone	139	-	139	-
Other Staffing Costs	3,090	-	3,090	3,290
Heating & Lighting	3,203	-	3,203	-
Water Charges & Insurance	2,258	-	2,258	1,841
Administration	135	-	135	-
Organ Tuning & CC License	398	-	398	200
Repairs to Church & Manse Exp	438	-	438	2,578
IT Equipment	-	-	-	-
Mission, National & International	2,270	-	2,270	3,291
Council Tax	1,383	-	1,383	1,706
Wigtown Parish Church Shared Costs	1,011	-	1,011	-
Sundries	-	-	-	315
	<u>32,680</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,680</u>	<u>31,226</u>
Independent Examiners Fee	<u>325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>300</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

- i) A Breakdown of the Ministries and Mission Allocation is as follows:

	2025	2024
Giving for Growth Allocation	19,575	19,752
Less: Endowment Income	(1,514)	(1,536)
Glebe Rent	(850)	(1,042)
Transition Funding	-	(187)
Overpayment/(Underpayments)	9	13
Amount actually paid	<u>17,220</u>	<u>17,000</u>

5. Minister's Stipend

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund, which bears the costs of all minister's stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing loan fund. Minister's stipends are paid in accordance with the national stipend scale, which is related to years of service. For the year under review the minimum stipend was £32,433 and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years) £39,856.

6. Investments

	2025	2024
Investments held at cost were as follows:		
7,210 units Growth Fund at cost - unrestricted	3,983	3,983
151 units Income Fund at cost	1,010	1,010
	<u>4,993</u>	<u>4,993</u>

At the year end the market value of the Growth Fund was £49,605 (2024: £46,000).

At the year end the market value of the Income Fund was £1,720 (2024: £1,670).

This restricted investment is for the visiting preacher's fund.

7. Funds Held on Behalf of the Congregation by the Church of Scotland General Trustees

Heritable properties, consisting of the Church, Halls and Manse are not recorded in the accounts. The title deeds are held by the Church of Scotland General Trustees.

The below account is not included in the Statement of Balances.

	2025	2024
Revenue Account		
At 1 st January	11,999	11,445
Interest	526	554
	<u>12,525</u>	<u>11,999</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

For the Year Ended 31 December 2025

8. Offerings for External Donation

The following figures are not included in the receipts and payments account or statement of balances.

	2025	2024
Poppy Scotland	-	91
	<u>-</u>	<u>91</u>

9. Related Party Transactions

During the year the Church received £10,206 (2024: £10,796) from the Trustees without condition.

There were no other related party transactions during the year.

BUDGET FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

This page does not form part of the financial statement.

KIRKCOWAN PARISH CHURCH

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2026

Receipts	2026 Budget £	2025 Actual £
FWO Scheme	14,000	16,211
Tax Recovered Gift Aid	5,000	4,938
Open Plate Offering	3,000	2,654
Weddings and Funeral	600	510
Fabric Fund Donations	600	600
Others	-	-
Investment Income	4,000	3,538
TOTAL	27,200	28,451
Payments		
Giving for Growth i)	16,600	17,000
Presbytery Dues	700	471
Minister's Travelling	800	534
Minister's Phone	300	-
Other Staffing Costs	3,300	3,290
Heating & Lighting	2,250	-
Water Charges & Insurance	2,000	1,841
Administration	-	-
Organ Tuning & CC License	200	200
Repairs to Church & Manse Exp	1,000	2,578
IT Equipment	-	-
Mission, National & International	2,000	3,291
Council Tax	1,700	1,706
Sundries	200	315
	31,050	30,603
Independent Examination	325	300
TOTAL	31,375	30,902