

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Contents of the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Page
Church information	2
Report of the Trustees	3-4
Report of the Independent Examiner	5
Receipts and Payments Account	6
Statement of Balances	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Church Information

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Trustees

A list of Congregational Trustees during 2024 are listed on page 5 of the Trustees' Report

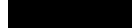
Addresses

Lochnell St
Lochgilphead
Argyll
PA31 8JN

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
Poltalloch St
Lochgilphead
PA31 8LW

Independent Examiner


Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland
Mann Judd Gordon Ltd
Chartered Accountants
26 Lewis Street
Stornoway
Isle of Lewis
HS1 2JF

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31st December 2024

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements of the church for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland is established by Constitution. It is a registered Scottish Charity (No SCO22683).

Aims and Affiliation

Lochgilphead Free Church is a congregation of the national Free Church of Scotland working towards the common aims set out in her constitution. It is a Presbyterian church adhering in its worship 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, 15 North Bank St, The Mound, Edinburgh.

The Free Church of Scotland currently has around 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 within the Free Presbytery of Glasgow and Argyll, and, from 1st October 2024, is linked with Tarbert Free Church. The linked charge is authorised by the church to share a minister under a Five-Year Reviewable Tenure agreement

The church buildings are the property of the congregation and are held under the Church’s model trust deed.

Trustees and Office Bearers

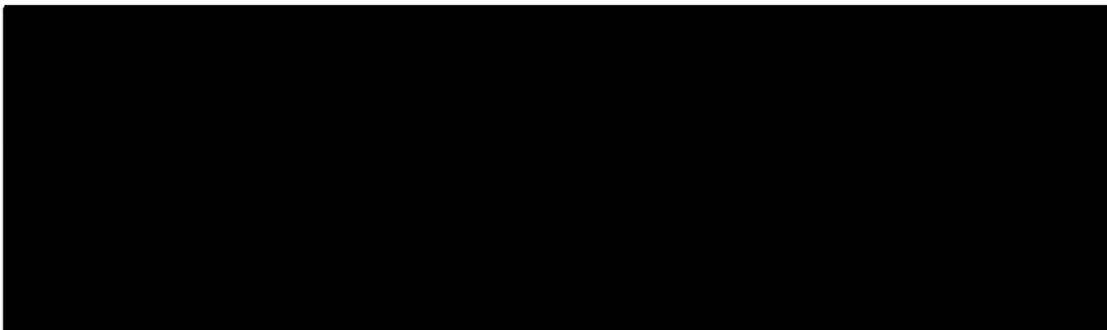
Since the Church is Presbyterian in government, its day-to-day running is undertaken by the elders (the Kirk Session) and the Finance Committee. The elders are members of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee’s specific function relates to the material and financial business of the congregation, whereas the elders are charged with the general and spiritual oversight of the congregation. Under Charity Law, the members of the Finance Committee 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 Trustees who are responsible only for holding property in trust.

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Trustees For the year ended 31st December 2024

Finance Committee

The members of the Finance Committee (the Trustees) who served during the year were as follows:



Appointment of Charity Trustees

The Finance Committee is elected by the communicant members of the congregation on the recommendation of the Kirk Session in terms of the congregation's constitution and hold office for a year but are eligible for re-election. Prior to their appointment, new Trustees will have served the Church for some time in various roles and are familiar with the Church's values and its aims and objectives as well as its day-to-day operations.

Results for the year

The total surplus for the year was £24,260 (2023: £23,713). After accounting for movements in investments held, at the year end the church held funds amounting to £442,359 (2023: £403,688) consisting of the following funds:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted General Fund	159,713	257,263
Unrestricted Designated Fabric Fund	-	20,037
Restricted Capital Funds	282,646	126,388
	<u>442,359</u>	<u>403,688</u>

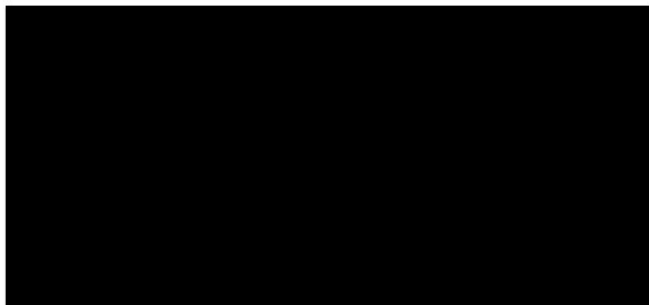
It is the intention of the congregation to reinstate the church building which is currently not used but as the congregation grows numerically a larger space for worship is required.

Restricted Funds

During the year ended 31 December 2019 the Tarbert manse was sold and 50% of the proceeds were allocated to Lochgilphead Free Church.

During the year, the Trustees resolved that the amount that had been raised from the sale of the Lochgilphead manse (£120,606), together with the balance of the Designated Fabric fund at 31 December 2023 (£20,037) be transferred to the Building Fund that is restricted to reinvestment in capital purchases.

Details of the transfers of funds are shown in the Statement of Balances on page 7 of the financial statements.



Lochgilthead Free Church of Scotland

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees for the year ended 31st December 2024.

I report on the accounts of the church for the period ended 31st December 2024 which are set on pages 6-8.

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 requirements of Regulation 10(1) (a) – (c) of the Accounts Regulation 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 (as amended). 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 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.

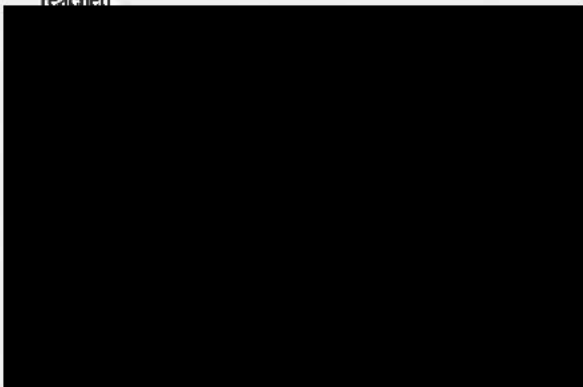
Independent Examiner's Statement

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 (as amended) and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations 9as amended)

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



Date

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Receipts and Payments Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds		Total	Total
	General	Designated	Building	Manse	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Offerings	25,423	0	0	0	25,423	17,425
Donations	1,334	0	6,635	0	7,969	34,478
Tax recovered on GiftAid	5,898	0	500	0	6,398	6,826
Interest	0	0	4,824	5,056	9,880	6,611
Dividends received	0	0	0	0	0	2,738
Total Receipts	32,655	0	11,959	5,056	49,670	68,078
Payments						
<i>Payments for charitable activities</i>						
Minister's expenses	1,545	0	0	0	1,545	1,010
Pulpit supply costs	510	0	0	0	510	0
Presbytery Fees	385	0	0	0	385	212
Ministry levy	16,263	0	0	0	16,263	15,613
Levies to Free Church of Scotland	0	0	0	0	0	1,440
Property repairs & maintenance	263	0	200	0	463	4,664
Electricity	1,035	0	0	0	1,035	1,585
Insurance	1,597	0	0	0	1,597	1,489
Communications	610	0	0	0	610	629
Grounds maintenance	0	0	0	0	0	210
Council tax - manse	745	0	0	0	745	847
Professional fees	300	0	1,200	0	1,500	15,281
GiftAid fee	138	0	0	0	138	101
Publications	91	0	0	0	91	166
Teaching materials	53	0	0	0	53	36
Licence fees	475	0	0	0	475	216
Bank charges	0	0	0	0	0	17
Charitable donations made	0	0	0	0	0	705
Fund raising costs	0	0	0	0	0	144
Total Payments	24,010	0	1,400	0	25,410	44,365
Surplus for the year	8,645	0	10,559	5,056	24,260	23,713
Transfers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds after transfers	8,645	0	10,559	5,056	24,260	23,713

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Statement of Balances

As at 31 December
2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds		Total	Total
		General £	Designated £	Building £	Manse £	2024 £	2023 £
Bank & Cash in hand							
Opening balance		150,465	20,037	0	126,388	296,890	273,177
Surplus for the year		8,645	0	10,559	5,056	24,260	23,713
Transfers		(120,606)	(20,037)	140,643	0	0	0
Closing balance		<u>38,504</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>151,202</u>	<u>131,444</u>	<u>321,150</u>	<u>296,890</u>
Represented by:							
Bank accounts		38,504	0	25,773	0	64,277	49,896
Cash held by Free Church of Scotland		0	0	125,429	131,444	256,873	246,994
		<u>38,504</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>151,202</u>	<u>131,444</u>	<u>321,150</u>	<u>296,890</u>
Investments held by Free Church of Scotland							
Opening balance		106,798	0	0	0	106,798	105,113
Investment increase in year		14,411	0	0	0	14,411	1,685
Closing balance	3	<u>121,209</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>121,209</u>	<u>106,798</u>
Total of monetary assets held		<u>159,713</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>151,202</u>	<u>131,444</u>	<u>442,359</u>	<u>403,688</u>
Statement of Assets held for charitable purposes :							
Church buildings	2					<u>250,000</u>	<u>250,000</u>
Statement of liabilities at 31 December 2024							
Invoices due for payment						<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 2 April 2025 and signed on their behalf by the undernoted:

Lochgilphead Free Church of Scotland

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Accounting policies

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting & Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2015 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

Investments

As the accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis, the investments are included at cost. Market Value of the investments is disclosed within the notes to the accounts.

Fixed assets

A statement of the assets held is shown in the notes to the accounts. No depreciation has been applied as depreciation is a non-cash item and therefore should not be included in the receipts and payments account.

Statement of Financial Activities

For the purpose of the Receipts and Payments account as shown on page 8, funds are defined as follows:

Unrestricted funds comprise grants and other income received for the objects of the church without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds represent unrestricted funds which have been earmarked by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds comprise income which has been received for the objects of the church and specified for a restricted purpose within these objects by the donor.

2. Tangible fixed assets

The estimated value of the church and adjacent hall are £150,000 and £100,000, respectively.

3. Investments

	Total	Total
	2024	2023
	£	£
Share pool units held with Free Church of Scotland:		
Value at beginning of year	106,798	105,113
Movement in year	<u>14,411</u>	<u>1,685</u>
Value at end of the year	<u>121,209</u>	<u>106,798</u>
Number of units held:	<u>21,064.76</u>	<u>21,064.76</u>

4. Related party transactions

During the year Trustees received payments for reimbursement of expenses totalling £2,805 as follows:

██████████ was reimbursed expenses including
travel costs, council tax and church maintenance totalling £2,805