STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ACCRUED (2015 SORP COMPLIANT) ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Congregation No: 331983

Scottish Charity No: SC 015960

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts and comply with the General Assembly Regulations for Congregational Finance, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and 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 (FRS102) published on 16 July 2014 (effective 1st. January 2015).

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.

We conduct regular weekly Sunday church services at Oldmeldrum, with the last Sunday of each month designated as 'Family Worship'. Other family worship activities include the monthly "Story and Play" sessions on Friday afternoons and themed "Messy Church" services, such as the 'Wee Christmas Service', 'Wee Easter Service', and a Halloween/Bonfire-themed service, these all continue to prove popular with many families.

We started a new weekly event in 2024, Tunes and Tea. This is an afternoon of singing old tunes, enjoying a blether and a fine cuppa!. The event is aimed at the older age group including anyone living with dementia or experiencing difficulties with their memory, and includes friends and family. All are welcome.

2024 has seen the Church Hall continue to serve as a popular venue for various local groups,, including yoga classes and toddler groups. Additionally, the upper room has continued to experience regular usage with our Youth Club and other groups such as the Guides Rangers Unit.

Starting in April 2024, 'Open Doors' offered a quiet space for anyone to come along to our church for private prayer or solitude.

The Youth Club, held on a monthly basis, continues to enjoy significant popularity among the young members of our parish. It offers a venue where the children can engage in various activities such as free play, table tennis, and video games with their friends. The average attendance stands at approximately 30 or more children.

We maintain our monthly Community Worship services at Wyverie Court. Sadly, Westbank Care Home closed in 2024, our last service there was in September 2024.

The 'Men's Breakfast' events in 2024 continued to be popular and well attended. They feature a full Scottish breakfast, guest speakers and offer a place for men to gather for prayer and fellowship, attracting attendees from both our congregation and neighbouring congregations.

Our Pastoral Care team and Flower committee remained active throughout the year, maintaining connections with parishioners regardless of their congregational membership. They delivered flowers to those who are ill, housebound or bereaved and offered support the incapacitated or lonely, highlighting that this service is available to everyone in the community.

The Minister continues to foster strong relationships within the wider community, particularly with schools.

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

Achievements and Performance Cont'd

Mid-year, we upgraded our AV system to enhance the in-church experience by installing a much larger screen and a new laser projector. The upgrade also included the installation of new cameras and more user-friendly streaming equipment, enabling us to begin regularly streaming Sunday morning services. As a result, we are gradually building an online audience, with the number of subscribers to our video channel steadily increasing.

While the Guild remains vibrant and well-attended, it no longer convenes in the Church hall and now meets at a central village location.

Fundraising and Community Outreach events in 2024 included the following:-

Easter: Display boards depicting the Easter Story were set up around the village, creating a walking tour. During Easter weekend, Church members distributed Hot Cross buns, Easter Cards, daffodils and Easter eggs around the village, which were all well received.

Open Door and BBQ Fun Day: A community event featuring activities for children, including a bouncy castle and various stalls.

Picnic to Go Scheme: Running for six weeks during the summer, this scheme, staffed by volunteers, provided free packed lunches to families during the summer holidays.

Meldrum Sports Day: The Church hosted a tent at the sports ground, offering refreshments and children's activities.

Connect Café: we now hold two Café's annually, in Spring and Autumn, with additional fundraising through Easter and Christmas stalls and book sales. Each Café includes a free school uniform swap shop. The Connect Café serves as both community outreach and a fundraiser.

Christmas Tree Festival: Various groups, organisations and businesses are invited to create and display Christmas trees during an open day in Advent, followed by a Christmas concert. 2024 saw an increase in participants and the concert once again proved to be a success.

Meldrum Connect Magazine: Started in 2023, this community-focussed publication replaced Kirk News and is delivered to all village households. Charitable groups can advertise free of charge while businesses pay a small fee which helps offset the costs.

Inverurie Foodbank: We continue to support the foodbank financially.

Fundraising events included a Quiz Night, Charity Shop and Autumn Fayre all held in the Church Hall. Additionally, we organised a floral display and concert to support Christian Aid.

During 2023, we instituted a method for distribution of some of our benevolent funds, called Community Connect Grant which is open to groups to apply for support. In 2024, we made grants totalling £2,310 from this scheme. Details of all benevolent donations can be found at Note 16 of this report.

Average Attendance per Service/Meeting <u>In person:</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Weekly Worship - Churches	45	45
Sheltered Housing / Care Homes - Monthly	10	18
Bible Study Group – One Study for 8 weeks	9	10
Story and Play – moved to a monthly basis in 2024	8	20

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

Achievements and Performance Cont'd

12 Funerals were conducted during the year (2023 - 12) of which 5 were members (2023 - 6). Over the year, 8 members of our congregation died, 2 of whose funerals were conducted elsewhere.

No Baptisms were conducted during the year (2023- Nil).

No Wedding services took place during the year (2023-Nil).

Financial Review

The Covid 19 pandemic continues to have a considerable effect on the finances during the year covered by this report although this has been much reduced as things return to a new normality.

The offerings for the year ended 31st December 2024 (with comparable figures for 2023) are made up as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Gift Aid Offerings	36,567	38,127
Ordinary offerings via plate and 6-monthly envelopes	4,480	7,049
Donations	7,286	1,329
Legacies	-	-

Of the above donations, £4,809 was unrestricted (2023 - £1,179) and £2,477 was restricted (2023 - £150). £1,500 was donated towards the Church Development fund as part of the £4,809.

Tax recovered on Gift Aided contributions was £10,672 (2023 - £11,264)

The Community Café contribution during 2024 was £1023 (2023 - £943) after expenses.

Other fundraising for the New Church Development Fund contributed £5,899 (2023-£5,081) after expenses.

Of a total membership of 303 (incl. 3 adherents), 154 members now gift aid their offerings. This represents 50.82% of the membership including adherents.

The number of members and adherents who give by standing order is now 153. 14 members give through weekly freewill offering envelopes and 9 by other identifiable methods. The balance give through the open plate, or do not give. A total of 176 members donated by identifiable methods during 2024. This represents 58.09% of the membership.

Overall, the annual incoming resources rose from £110,423 in 2023 to £120,744 in 2024 while expenditure also rose from £94,541 in 2023 to £119,376 in 2024. Details of the differences can be found in Notes 1 - 6 of the financial accounts attached to this report.

Currently, based on the figures for 2023, we only meet 80% of the costs of a full time equivalent minister of word and sacrament allocated to the charge. Our income base figure results in a Giving to Grow contribution for 2025 as £48,530 of which £40,442 is allocated to ministry here, while the costs of employing a minister is currently £50,815. Following the sale of the glebe in 2023, a net sum, after all loans and interest on these had been paid back, of £658,742 was invested in the Consolidated Stipend Fund on behalf of the congregation, and this will result in an endowment contribution for 2025 of £19,838 being deducted from our Giving to Grow contribution for 2025. As the glebe was owned by the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland, the realised capital is not shown in these accounts. The total endowment for 2025 will be £20,493 (2024 - £5,035).

This will help reduce our expenditure and will also add to our recorded income going forward.

The finances of the church are still not sustainable in the longer term as we are using investment income to subsidise running costs. The General Fund and Fabric Fund had to have a total of £15,000 transferred in in 2024 (2023 - £6,000).

During the year we successfully updated the Audio/Visual system in the church to improve the quality of the sound and images and also to enable the services to be live streamed. This was funded from the Church Development Fund.

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

Investment Policy and Performance

The trustee's policy for investments is that all investments should be held in one or more of the following:

The Church of Scotland Investors Trust Government Stocks (Gilts), or Bank Fixed Term Deposits

The Church of Scotland Investors Trust has three funds for Growth, Income and Deposits.

The Growth Fund is very largely equity based and is intended for long-term investment. The fund is operated on a unitised basis and aims to provide capital growth. Units can be purchased or sold monthly. Income is distributed gross in May and November. The Growth Fund is professionally managed by Newton Investment Management Limited based in London.

In the 12 months to 30th September 2024, the Growth Fund performance was +13.0% against a benchmark of +16.9%

The Income Fund is intended for medium term investment and aims to provide immediate high income with funds invested predominately in fixed-interest securities and operated on a unitised basis.

As with the Growth Fund, units can be bought or sold monthly with income distributed gross in March and September. The Income Fund is professionally managed by Royal London Asset Management, based in London.

In the 12 months to 30th September 2024, the Income Fund performance was +12.77\% against a benchmark of +9.72\%.

The Deposit Fund is intended for short-term investment and aims to provide a high rate of interest. Deposits are repayable on demand, with interest calculated quarterly in arrears, paid gross in May and November. The fund is invested mainly in short-term loans to banks and building societies. The Deposit Fund is professionally managed by Thomas Miller Investment Limited, based in London and Edinburgh.

The Deposit Fund interest rates are set quarterly and are currently set at 4.76% The average rate during 2024 was 5.10% The average rate during 2023 was 3.97%.

Further details of the Church of Scotland Investors Trust can be found on the Church of Scotland website.

No bank fixed term deposits are currently held. Due to the drop in bank interest rates, the amounts held in bank accounts has been reduced as much as practicable and the money placed with the Investors Trust Deposit Fund.

The markets have been impacted by the global pandemic and the war in Ukraine and remain volatile. This has affected the unit values of both the Income and Growth Funds.

At the end of 2024, the values of the units in the various funds were as follows:

	31/12/2024	31/12/2023	Percentage Change	Projected Return
COSIT – Income fund	£ 11.06	£ 10.96	+0.91	50 ppu
COSIT - Growth Fund	£ 6.38	£ 5.83	+9.43	13 ppu
Deposit Fund Interest Rate	4.76%	4.8%	-0.83	

Details of the unrealised gains (losses) can be found in the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet which form part of this report.

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

Risk Management

The principal risks facing the charity have been identified as follows:

The church membership has an ageing profile and there is a general decline in the numbers of younger people wishing to join the church. This is not unique to our organisation but is evident across the country. At a local level, this has a potential impact on the level of donations being received and the potential for the charity income to be adversely affected.

The trustees have adopted a policy for stewardship which runs on a 3-year rotation cycle based on time, talents and money to try and minimise the impact of the above. In addition, we are looking at new methods of attracting younger members to become involved with the church.

2024 has proved to be another challenging year financially with income slowly recovering from the Covid pandemic. Our income from the church hall use by groups has recovered and the income from the community café and other fundraising events has also increased substantially.

The recent high inflation and cost of living increases have put the church finances under strain and we are not currently financially sustainable.

Sustainability is the target and is essential if the church is to keep going. New strategies will be employed with a view to enabling us to move forward.

There are financial risks associated with the investments administered by the trustees. Values of investments are subject to market forces and the value may go up or down. The trustees consider that, by adopting the policies outlined in the Investment Policy and Performance section above and the regular performance monitoring of the funds in which the monies are invested by the trustees of the Church of Scotland Investors Trust, the risks are acceptable.

Reserves Policy

The charity trustees have considered the reserves required and have taken into account their current and future liabilities. It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of approximately 12 months expenditure including designated funds. This policy was re-examined in November 2022 and affirmed at that time.

At the year end the Church held unrestricted funds of £173,756 of which £1,362 had been designated for fabric. The remaining balance of £172,394 represents about 21 months expenditure which, while higher than the policy, is primarily intended to be used as part of the funding for a refurbished church and a community building. See Note 15 for details of the unrestricted funds.

The church also held £298,948 of restricted funds which have been provided for the purposes specified in Note 15.

The Barbara Thomson and Sylvester Thomson Legacies held under Endowment Funds may be utilised to assist financing a high-cost capital project in the foreseeable future – See Note 15.

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

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.

The Kirk Session meets approximately six times in the year and by e-mail outwith these meetings, and in addition to its responsibility for spiritual affairs within the church, is responsible for secular matters such as approval of proposals put forward by the various "Task Force" groups which are formed and disbanded as required. These "Task Forces" can include non-trustee members and report back to Session. This has been found to be a practical method of overcoming a reduced eldership.

The congregation is a registered charity, number SC015960 and is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form) and is subject to the Acts and Regulations of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Charity Registration Number SC 015960 Congregational Reference Number 331983

Contact Address William Paterson

Ceardach, Whiteford Road, Pitcaple, Inverurie, AB51 5EB

Trustees

The following persons acted as trustees who served during the year and up to the date of the signing of the accounts.

Kirk Session (alphabetical by surname)

Sheila Bousefield (Retired 24/01/24) Fiona Morris Elizabeth Buchan Eileen Oliver Elaine Buck William Paterson William Dalzell Patricia Patrone Margaret Green Brian Reid Steve Hensley (Appointed 22/09/24) Isobel Reid Traci Hensley (Appointed 22/09/24) Sheila Simpson Keith Ingram Graham Smith Andrew McCartney Mary Watt Rev. Alisa McDonald Mhairi Watt Anne McLean Phillip Watt

Jean Mitchell

Principal Office-bearers

Minister: Rev. Alisa McDonald Session Clerk: William Dalzell Church Treasurer: William Paterson

Independent Examiner Bankers

Richard Christie C.A. Clydesdale Bank plc (Trading as Virgin Money)

Partner Oldmeldrum Branch
James Milne 26 West High Street
Chartered Accountants INVERURIE AB51 3SL

5 Bon Accord Square ABERDEEN AB11 6XZ

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management Cont'd.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the method and principles in the applicable Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102).
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- 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 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information on the congregation's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,

W. Dalzell Session Clerk

Date 11th February 2025

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Meldrum & Bourtie Parish Church Year ended 31 December 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on pages 10 to 25

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.

The charity 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 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, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

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

Signed & Males

Date: 26/3/28

Richard Christie CA Partner

James Milne

Chartered Accountants

5 Bon Accord Square

ABERDEEN

AB11 6XZ

Statement of Financial Activities

16,408 58,140 33,734 2,062 267 46,766 46,766 94,274 15,882 30,884 N/A 94,541 955,853 1,002,619 110,423 Fotal 2023 લ્ફ્ફ 1,674 1,674 (1.104)187 1,487 17,188 16,084 N/A 365,368 381,452 Endowment 00 15,701 2023 22,503 15,913 2,556 19,797 17,220 17,220 5,283 10,630 16,003 N/A Restricted 9 272,217 288,220 2023 86,246 13,852 12,263 2,062 267 76,867 77,134 9,112 13,665 1,014 Unrestricted 57,990 4,553 14,879 N/A 318,268 332,947 2023 38,775 5,035 119,336 1,368 20,154 20,154 N/A 59,250 17,592 119,376 18,786 120,744 1,002,619 1,022,773 Total 2024 q. 1,866 1,866 347 1,519 8,342 347 9,861 (1,244)8,617 N/A 381,452 390,069 Endowment 2024 908.9 3,203 22,470 8,895 2,494 28,167 21,361 10,728 N/A 15,701 (4,973)288,220 298,948 Restricted 21,361 Funds 2024 56,756 14,389 14,439 333,756 5,035 4 97,628 899,76 1,549 809 N/A Unrestricted 92 90,711 (6,957)(2,408) 6,217 332,947 2024 Note Net income/(expenditure) before Net gains/(losses) on investments **Total Funds Carried Forward** gains and losses on investments Income and endowments from: Year ended 31 December 2024 Total funds brought forward Transfers between Funds Net income/(expenditure) Other trading activities Reconciliation of funds: Donations and legacies Net movement in funds Charitable activities Charitable activities Total expenditure Expenditure on: Raising funds Total income Investments Other Other

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024

Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 €
9 10	160,000 723,914	_	160,000 710,132	
	· -	883,914	-	870,132
11	3,476 136,468 139,944		3,802 133,341 137,143	
12	(1,085)	138,859	(4,656)	132,487
	_			es.
	-	1,022,773		1,002,619
15				
	4,450 169,306 160,000	333,756 298,948	3,825 169,122 160.000	322,947 288,220 381,452
				1,002,619
	9 10 11	£ 9	£ £ 9 160,000 10 723,914	\$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc

The accounts were approved by the Kirk Session on 1/2/25

For and on behalf of the Kirk Session

Session Clerk

Treasurer

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity.

Reconciliation with previously Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether, in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102, a restatement of comparative items was needed.

As the 2023 accounts were prepared using the policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 then the trustees consider that no further restatement is required for 2024.

Fund accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use, which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the charity.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income therefrom is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the charity.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) the general volunteer time of congregation members is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised as expenditure in the period of receipt.

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Accounting Policies (Cont'd)

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Fixed Assets

The charity has the right to occupy and use for its charitable objects certain tangible fixed assets, including the Churches, and manses, vested in the Church of Scotland General Trustees. No consideration is payable for the use of these assets. Expenditure incurred on the repair and maintenance of these assets is charged as resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which the liability arises.

The buildings included in the balance sheet consist solely of the Church Hall in Albert Road, Oldmeldrum. All tangible fixed assets costing in excess of £5,000 having a value to the charity greater than one year, other than those acquired for specific purposes, are capitalised at cost. Buildings have not been depreciated as the trustees are of the opinion that any depreciation would be immaterial. This judgement is based on the opinion that the value of the church hall is mainly in the value of the site rather than the building itself and hence any depreciation would be minimal.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at fair value at the balance sheet date. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the fair value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and fair value at the end of the year.

Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year.

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), all investment gains and losses are reflected in the Statement of Financial Activities as part of the net income/expenditure for the year.

Resources Expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as the liability is incurred.

Taxation

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

The charity is not registered for VAT and resources expended therefore include irrecoverable input VAT.

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)
Notes forming part of the financial statements

Total 2023	45,463	360 5,968 7,524 1,548 1,008	79 7,326 28,576 2,832 33,734	1,861 - 201 2,062 110,423
Endowment Funds 2023			290 1,198 186 1,674	1,674
Restricted Funds 2023		1,548	910 17,320 1,567 17,797	22,503
Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	45,463 11,264 1,179 84	360 5,968 7,524 7,524	79 79 1,126 10,058 1,079 12,263	1,861 - 201 2,062 86,246
Total 2024 £	41,292 10,672 - 7,286	70 5,690 7,529 2,468 1,427 - - - - - - -	92 92 2,751 34,154 1,870 38,775	5,035
Endowment Funds 2024 £			- - - 1,348 103 103	- 1,866
Restricted Funds 2024 £	2,477	1,368 1,427 1,427 3,203	- - 779 20,745 946 22,470	28,167
Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	41,292 10,655 - 4,809	26,720 70 5,690 7,529 1,100	92 92 1,557 12,061 821 14,439	5,035
For the year ended 31 December 2024	Offerings Offerings Tax recovered on Gift Aid Legacies Value of donated goods Donations Other	Meddings and Funerals Weddings and Funerals Use of Premises Fund Raising Activities Other Miscellaneous Income Guild Income Traidcraft Young Peoples' Ministry	i. Income from other trading activities Wayleave Investment Income Deposit interest Dividends received Bank Interest	Endowment Government Grants (CVJRS) Energy Bill Support Scheme
F01		4	હ્યું 4 .	vi

Meldrum and Bourtie Parish Church of Scotland

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)
Notes forming part of the financial statements

Total 2023 £			**	223	267		36,499	396	996	8	287	ŧ	4,044	7,009	3,551	12,249	918	£	9,637	12,907	4,420	3	1,499	3	ŧ	94.274	4	94,541
Endowment Funds 2023 £				r	**		ŧ	ŧ	8	8		ŧ		•			1	8	3	187	*	1	3	ı	1	187		187
Restricted Funds 2023 £			1	3			3	ε	*	3	8	¥	*	t	*	*	ŧ	•	90	12,720	4,420	•	ī	e	1	17.220	Butterine and the second state of the second	17,220
Unrestricted Funds 2023			44	223	267		36,499	396	096	•	287	8	4,044	7,009	3,551	12,249	916	8	9,557	*	•	•	1,499	8	ŧ	76.867		77,134
Total 2024 £			40	1	40		40,439	396	096	1,738	486	1	4,368	9,211	3,632	13,262	816	•	22,597	13,819	5,888	1,154	270	1	1	119.336	The second secon	119,376
Endowment Funds 2024 £			•	•			•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	347	•	•	•	•	•	•	347		347
Restricted Funds 2024 £			•	•			•	•		•	1	•	•	•	•		ŧ	•	200	13,819	5,888	1,154	•	•	•	21.361		21,361
Unrestricted Funds 2024 £			40	1	40		40,439	396	096	1,738	486	•	4,368	9,211	3,632	13,262	816	1	21,750	•	•	i i	570	•	1	82976	-	899'16
For the year ended 31 December 2024	6. Analysis of Expenditure	Cost of Generating Funds	Offering Envelopes	Stewardship Campaign Expenses	Total Cost of Generating Funds	Charitable Activities	Giving to Grow Allocation	Minister's Telephone	Minister's Expenses	Presbytery Dues	Pulpit Supply	Vacancy Costs	Other salary costs	Fabric Repairs & Maintenance	Council Tax	Insurance and Utilities	Examination of Accounts	Extraordinary Covid Expenses	Other Expenses	Charitable Donations	Guild Expenses	Young People's Ministry Expenses	Fundraising Expenses	Professional Fees	Church Development Project fees	Total Charitable Activities	Other	Total

Support costs have not been separately identified as the Trustees consider there is only one charitable activity.

Details of donations are provided at Note 16

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Notes forming part of the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

		2024	2023
		£	
7.	Staff costs and numbers Salaries and wages Social security costs	4,368	4,044
	Total	4,368	4,044

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Ministerial support	-	**
Music staff	-	••
Premises maintenance	1	1
	1	1

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023 - nil)

All Church of Scotland congregations contribute to the National Stipend Fund which bears the costs of all ministers' stipends and employer's contributions for national insurance, pension and housing and loan fund. Ministers' 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 £31,642 and the maximum stipend (in the fifth and subsequent years) £38,884.

8. Trustee Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

During the year one trustee received reimbursement of expenses incurred totalling £4,988 (2023 - £4,907) in respect of travel expenses, telephone and Council Tax.

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.

During the year a total of £10,768 was donated to the charity by the trustees (2023-£10,625).

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

		Office	
	Buildings	Equipment	Total
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	160,000	*	160,000
Additions	•	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2024	160,000	-	160,000

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd)

Notes forming part of the financial statements

for the year ended 31 December 2024

There are no tangible fixed assets capitalized other than buildings. Buildings are not depreciated as per the accounting policy.

	Net Book Value	Buildings	Office Equipment	Total
	At 31st December 2023	160,000		160,000
	At 31st December 2024	160,000		160,000
10.	Investments			
			2024	2023
			£	£
	Fair value at 31 December 2023		710,132	668,753
	Investments added during 2024 at cost		-	10,495
	Investments realized		(5,004)	***
	Realized gain /(loss) on disposal of investigation	stments	253	No.
	Unrealized gain / (loss) on investments		18,533	30,884
	Fair value at 31 December 2023		723,914	710.132
	Investments at cost		669,095	703,251
	The following investments are held:			
	Church of Scotland Investors Trust – Inc	come Fund	51,407 Units	
	Church of Scotland Investors Trust - Gr		24,350 Units	
11.	Debtors			
			2024	2023
			£	2
	Gift Aid Tax Refund Due		2,954	3,332
	Other		522	470_
			3,476	3,802
12.	Creditors			
			2024	2023
			£	£
	Accruals for expenditure		1,085	4,656
			1.005	4 / 9 /
			1,085	4,656

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

13.	Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds	General 2024 £	Designated 2024 £	Restricted 2024	Endowment 2024 £	Total 2024 £	General 2023 £	Designated 2023	Restricted 2023 £	Endowment 2023 £	Total 2023
	Fixed Assets Investments Net Current Assets Net Assets at 31 Dec. 2024	4,450	160,000 120,785 48,521 329,306	223,997 74,951 298,948	379,132 10,937 390,069	160,000 723,914 138,859 1,022,773	3,825	160,000 119,236 49,886 329,122	220,106 68,114 288,220	370,790 10,662 381,452	160,000 710,132 132,487 1,002,619

14. Volunteers

In common with all congregations of the Church of Scotland the congregation benefits from the contribution made by volunteers who give their time and talents willingly for the benefit of the Church. The areas of congregational life which rely on the contribution of volunteers are many and varied and much of the activity would be unable to continue were it not for the commitment shown.

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

Movement in Funds 15.

15. Endowment Funds	At 1st January 2024 £	Income 2024 £	Expenditure 2024 £	Transfer 2024 £	At 31st December 2024 £	At 1st January 2023	Income 2023 £	Expenditure 2023	Transfer 2023 £	At 31st December 2023 £
Somagie Chijckshank I eggev	9 901	364	ı	(364)	9.901	06.60	3.0	1	319	000
Barbara Thomson Legacy	11.396	416	ı	(416)	11,396	11,396	366	66	(366)	1396
Invested Funds	145	172	(219)	47	145	145	154	(187)	33	145
Invested Funds	19.595	511	,	(511)	19,595	19,595	452	i i	(452)	19,595
Tocher Bequest	10,321	403	(128)	, I	10,596	9,938	383	¥	. 1	10,321
Sylvester Thomson Church Purposes - Capital	109,521	•	ı	ı	109,521	109,521	\$	ŧ	1	109,521
Sylvester Thomson Benevolent	219,053	í	1	1	219,053	219,053	ŧ	ŧ	ŧ	219,053
mide cocin	379,932	1,866	(347)	(1,244)	380,207	379,549	1,674	(187)	(1,104)	379,932
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) of Value of	1,769	8,342	•		10,111	(13,932)	5,70	¥	1	1,769
Realized Loss on Disposal of Asset	(249)	•	1	•	(249)	(249)	ŧ	1	í	(249)
	381.452	10.208	(347)	(1.244)	390.069	365,368	17.375	(187)	(1.104)	381,452

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

15. Movement in Funds Cont'd

15. Restricted Funds	At 1st January 2024 £	Income 2024 £	Expenditure 2024 £	Transfer 2024 £	At 31st December 2024 £	At 1st January 2023 £	Income 2023 £	Expenditure 2023 £	Transfer 2023 £	At 31st December 2023 £
Sylvester Thomson Income Fund – Deserving Causes	189,924	21,745	(13,309)	ı	198,360	182,781	19,295	(12,152)	ŧ	189,924
New Church Development Loan	5,070	•	•	(5,070)	•	5,070	ŧ	€.	ı	5,070
organ Fund	52,941	1,486	(500)	•	53,927	51,536	1,485	(08)	ì	52,941
Guild	33,622	2,121	(6,398)	•	29,345	36,887	1,723	(4,988)	ė	33,622
Sunday Club	537	2,815	(1,154)	76	2,295	447			90	537
	282,094	28,167	(21,361)	(4,973)	283,927	276,721	22,503	(17,220)	96	282,094
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) of Value of Assets	6,548	8,642	i	•	15,190	(4,082)	10,630	ı	ī	6,548
Realized Gain/Loss of Value of Assets	(422)	253	Í	ŧ	(169)	(422)	ŧ	8	ş	(422)
	288,220	37,062	(21,361)	(4,973)	298,948	272,217	33,133	(17,220)	96	288,220

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

15. Movement in Funds Cont'd

15. Unrestricted Funds	At 1st January 2024 £	Income 2024 £	Expenditure 2024 £	Transfer 2024 £	At 31st December 2024 £	At 1st January 2023	Income 2023 £	Expenditure 2023 £	Transfer 2023 £	At 31 st December 2023
General Fund	2,181	66,441	(74,920)	9,146	2,848	3,749	66,069	(69,651)	2,014	25 CS
Opening Creditors	(2,158)	1,073	***	*	(1,085)	(3,130)	972	*	1	(2,158)
Total General Fund	3,825	2.397	(10,711)	9,146 7.000	1,362	3,976 2,190	1.694	(6,208)	5,000 5,000	3,825
Opening Debtors (Fabric Fund)	(1,500)		1,500			(1,000)	(500)		ŧ	(1,500)
Total Fabric Fund	1,176	2,397	(9,211)	7,000	1,362	1,190	1,194	(802'9)	2,000	1,176
Reserve Fund	38,281	1,730		1	40,011	37,873	1,408	* :	(1,000)	38,281
Miss F. Forbes Legacy	58,484	3,431	(914)	ı	61,001	61,230	3,054	(800)	(5,000)	58,484
New Church Development Fund	3,906	7,815	(12,623)	5,196	4,294	(1,287)	5,556	(475)	112	3,906
Sylvester Thomson Income Fund – Chirch Pumoses	62,224	8,814	ŧ	(15,000)	56,038	54,788	7,436	ŧ	8	62,224
Evelyn Webster Fund	2000	125	t	(125)	5,000	2000	112	ĕ	(112)	2,000
Total Designated Funds	169,071	24,312	(22,748)	(2,929)	167,706	158,794	18,760	(7,483)	(1,000)	169,071
Gain / (Loss) in Value of Assets	51	1,549	•	•	1,600	(4,502)	4,553	1	1	N.
•	169,122	25,861	(22,748)	(2,929)	169,306	154,292	23,313	(7,483)	(1,000)	169,122
Buildings	160,000	•	ŧ	•	160,000	160,000	2	E	ı	160,000
Total Unrestricted Funds	332,947	92,260	(97,668)	6,217	333,756	318,268	90,799	(77,134)	£ 0,	332,947
Total Endowment Funds from p 19	381,452	10,208	(347)	(1,244)	390,069	365,368	17,375	(187)	(1,104)	381,452
Total Restricted Funds from p 20	288,220	37,062	(21,361)	(4,973)	298,948	272,217	33,133	(17,220)	8	288,220
• •										
Total All Funds	1,002,619	139,530	(119,376)		1,022,773	955,853	141,307	(94,541)	99	1,002,619

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

15. Purposes of Endowment Funds

Scroggie Cruickshank Legacies - Income from this fund is used for church purposes.

Barbara Thomson Legacy - Income from this fund is used for church purposes.

An option may be exercised in the future for the use of the capital for a

specific project.

Invested Funds (1) & (2) - Income from these funds is used for church purposes, young peoples'

ministry, ministry expenses, maintenance of graves and benevolent purposes.

Tocher Bequest - Income from this fund is used for benevolent purposes.

Sylvester Thomson Legacy

Church Purposes – Capital Account Currently the capital is invested, and the income held available for general

church purposes.

An option may be exercised in the future for the use of the capital for a

specific project.

Sylvester Thomson Legacy

Deserving causes – Capital Account Currently the capital is invested, and the income held available for any

deserving local causes as determined by the Kirk Session.

An option may be exercised in the future for the use of the capital for a

specific project.

15 Purposes of Restricted Funds

Sylvester Thomson Legacy

Deserving Causes – Income Fund This fund is the income from the capital fund of the same name and is used for

local deserving causes as determined by the Kirk Session.

New Church Development Loan Fund This fund was closed during 2024 following the completion of the Glebe sale

and repayment of the original loan. The remaining balance of £5,070 was

transferred to the New Church Development Fund

Guild This fund is used for Guild purposes and is controlled by the Guild.

Sunday Club This fund is used to fund the children and young persons' ministry work and is

funded by money set aside by the trustees and a share of the income from the invested funds. It also benefitted from A Co-op Community grant in 2024.

Organ Fund This fund was established during 2018 following receipt of a generous legacy

from the estate of late Hilda Webster for the purpose of maintaining and possible future replacement of the church organ(s). Investment income is also

used to fund a new music group established in 2024.

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

15. Purposes of Designated Funds

Designated funds are determined by the Kirk Session at their discretion as they may see fit from time to time and are not restricted by legal definition. The designated status can be changed at the discretion of the Kirk Session.

Fabric Fund The trustees have set aside funds for the maintenance of church

properties. It is also funded by fundraising events and donations.

General Reserve Fund

This is a general fund held in reserve to supplement any other

congregational funds as required.

Miss F. Forbes Legacy The income from the invested capital in this fund is accumulated in the

fund and the capital and revenue may be used at the discretion of the

trustees.

New Church Development Fund This fund was established during 2016 and is used to track other

revenue and costs for the project which are not restricted by the New Church Development Loan Fund. During 2024, a balance of £5,070 was transferred from the New Church Development Loan Fund when the loan was paid off from the proceeds of the Glebe sale. Projects funded from this fund during 2024 included the upgrade to the Church Audio

Visual System, which should a new church be built will be

transferrable.

Sylvester Thomson Legacy

Church Purposes – Income fund This fund is the income from the capital account of the same name and

is used for general church purposes.

Evelyn Webster Fund This fund was established during 2022 from a bequest of £5,000 from

the estate of the late Mrs Evelyn Webster. The money has been invested in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust, Growth Fund and the income earned from this investment is currently applied to the New Church

Development Fund.

Trustees' Annual Report (Cont'd) Year ended 31 December 2024

Notes forming part of the financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

16. Charitable Donations

The following charitable donations were made from the various funds and are shown in these accounts.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	$\underline{\mathfrak{t}}$	$\underline{\mathfrak{L}}$
Meldrum Amenities Action Group (See Community		100
Grants)		
Food for Christian Aid Concert	-	148
Local Benevolent Donations via Minister	_	-
Donation to Inverurie Food Bank	2,400	2,400
Scottish Bible Society	200	-
Meldrum Connect Printing	5,256	4,259
Easter & Christmas Gifts to Care Homes & Housebound	152	266
Donation to Scottish Churches Trust	50	50
Cleaning Headstones	-	800
Warm Hub Costs, Electricity, Wi-Fi & Expenses	496	615
Food Vouchers & Picnic to Go	183	216
Flowers for bereaved	316	153
Community Connect Grants (includes £250 to MAIG)	2,310	3,145
Meldrum Parents in Partnership	1,000	white
Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care	120	94
Tunes & Tea Expenses	826	99
	13,309	12,152
From Organisations		
Guild	510	568
	13,819	12,270

17. Collections for Third Parties

The following are in addition to the above but are not shown in the accounts as they were raised for specific purposes and not for the charity.

Christian Aid Week Retiring collection and Concert raised £420.70 for Christian Aid Garioch District

A retiring offering at the Harvest Thanksgiving services raised £245.59 for Christian Aid Scotland

The Women's World Day of Prayer raised at total of £165

The retiring Offerings over Christmas raised a total of £700 which was divided equally between the Scottish Charity Air Ambulance and the Scottish Bible Society Ukrainian Appeal, each receiving £350

APPENDIX

FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF THE CONGREGATION BY THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND GENERAL TRUSTEES

CFF CAPITAL ACCOUNT	2024 £	2023 £
Credit Balances held at 31 December at cost	640	640
Market Value of Balances at 31 December	940	896
REVENUE ACCOUNT		
Credit Balance at 31 December	220	194
TEMPORARY ACCOUNT		
Credit Balance at 31 December	(1,215)	(1,918)