ULSTER HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Company limited by guarantee. Company number NI029691 Inland revenue charitable status reference number XO335/95 Registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC102217

12/02/2019 COMPANIES HOUSE

Directors' report for year ending 31 October 2018

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2018

PRINCIPAL PURPOSES:

The Trust's purposes are:

To promote, **for the benefit of the public**, the preservation, repair, maintenance, improvement, upkeep, beautification, restoration and reconstruction of churches, church furnishings and churchyards belonging to churches.

To promote public interest in churches and appreciation of the importance of churches and their work. To record the architecture of and to encourage and assist in the relocation and repair, restoration, reconstruction, maintenance, improvement, upkeep and beautification of the church furnishings in churches which can no longer be preserved and maintained.

To seek alternative uses for churches which for whatever reason may become redundant.

ACTIVITIES:

All the Trust's purposes are for public benefit and in pursuit of these, during the year, the Trust provided public benefit by carrying out the following activities:

Educational programme:

The Trust distributed further copies of *New Life for Churches in Ireland, Good practice in conversion and re-use,* which has been widely praised. Church redundancy is becoming an increasing problem in Ireland, so this publication, which quotes from over twenty good practice case studies, provides practical help and guidance.

The Trust distributed literature published by the Trust to promote best practice in the maintenance of church buildings.

The Trust runs a regular programme of visits to churches to promote appreciation of our ecclesiastical heritage.

Church Survey scheme:

In furtherance of the project pioneered in 2017, during the year to 31 October 2018, the Trust in partnership with The National Churches Trust (NCT) promoted year two of a scheme designed to fulfil one of the major purposes of the UHCT, which is to encourage church organisations to practice regular preventive maintenance of church buildings. Over the years since inception the Trust has recognised that the key to best practice maintenance is that it should be regular, and that it should include all areas of roofing, walls and rain water goods, which are often difficult to access because of the size and height of the buildings concerned. The Trust therefore arranged, with grant aid from the NCT, to run a pilot scheme during 2017, using drone surveys by an accredited surveyor and drone operator, to provide reports on maintenance work requiring attention, together with small grants towards urgently needed work. This was run for an initial group of eight churches and was so successful that the trustees agreed to collaborate with NCT to run the scheme for a second year. No less than 20 churches expressed an interest in the programme, with 8 churches being selected, of which 2 were Presbyterian, 2 Roman Catholic, 3 Church of Ireland and 1 Methodist.

The Trust ran a seminar in September 2018 at Gracehill Moravian Church during which scheme participants and other interested parties were given a comprehensive report on the outcome of the 8 surveys carried out during the year. This seminar provided valuable opportunities for participants to network and exchange outcomes and lessons learned.

The Church Survey scheme has proved to be so popular and successful that the trustees have agreed to run a third year programme, with grant aid from NCT.

If year three proves to be equally successful, the trustees hope that ways can be found to continue the programme and in due course to make it self- sustaining.

The Trust promotes and publicises its public benefit activities, programmes and publications through its web site www.ulsterhistoricchurches.org.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

All of the activities described above provided benefit to the public through greater appreciation of historic churches, their contents and their surrounding graveyards and designed landscapes, through improved understanding of how best to maintain them and through greater awareness of potential alternative uses for redundant churches.

POTENTIAL PRIVATE BENEFIT, POTENTIAL HARM AND POTENTIAL RESTRICTIONS TO PUBLIC BENEFIT:

There were no private benefits from any of the Trust's activities and no harm arose from the work of the Trust. No restrictions were applied to public benefit.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE:

The trustees of the Ulster Historic Churches Trust, during the year, complied with their duty to have due regards to the guidance provided by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANKS:

The Trust has no paid employees and no office. Trustees are not recompensed in any way for their time or travel, and trustee expertise is provided free of charge for the benefit of the Trust. The only Trust overheads are the unavoidable fixed costs of insurance, website maintenance and membership of the Federation of Ulster Local Studies and the Heritage Trust Network.

The Trust is grateful to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland which provides an annual grant of £250 towards the work of the Trust.

DIRECTORS:

The Trust has eight directors, one clerical and one lay person from each of the four principal denominations, Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist. The directors who served during the year are as stated below:

Mrs Jill Kerry, Chairman Dr Evelyn Mullally Mrs Jennifer Stutt, Hon Sec Mrs Primrose Wilson CBE The Reverend Trevor Williamson The Venerable Stephen McBride Father Thomas McGlynn The Reverend Robin Roddie

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the protection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board of directors on

and signed on its behalf by

Signed: Jul Kerry

Date: 06-02-19

Date:

b.D.19.

Name: Ms Jill Kerry

Position: Chairman

Name: JENNIFER STUTT

Position: Director

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of 'Ulster Historic Churches Trust'

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st October 2018, which are set out on pages 1 to 2.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of examiner's statement

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

- 1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
- 2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
- 3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
- 4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's qualified statement

I have completed my examination and I have no concerns in respect of matters (1) to (4) listed above, and in following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no other matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: Judith Cuddy

Relevant professional qualification if any: ACA Address: 13 Ballynakilly Road, Sandholes, BT80 9BX

Date:

01/02/2019

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ULSTER HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

RECEIPT & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

16/17	16/17		17/18	17/18
£	£		£	£
Payments	Receipts		Payments	Receipts
	. 4	BANK INTEREST	•	4
	115	Book sales		
		Down and Connor Seminar		
	250	Presbyterian Church grant		250
49		Bank charges	42	
13		Annual return	13	
200		Subscriptions	50	
160		Insurance '	160	
50		Limavady walking tour		
2,700		Drone survey costs		
	2,700	Drone survey receipts		
729	903	Gracehill seminar	350	618
70		SURPLUS FOR YEAR	256	
/0		JUNEUS FOR TEAR	230	
3,971	3,971	•	872	872
			==========	

For the year ending 31 October 2018 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respoect to a respec accounting records and the preparation of act These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime

SIGNED (Wie Kerry

DATE 076-07 - 19

NAME OILL WORKEY

CHAIRMAN, ULSTER HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Ch1 10 02 1

DATE

6.0.19.

NAME

DIRECTOR AND TRUSTEE, ULSTER HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

ULSTER HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2018

ASSETS

3,628 Danske bank closing balance

3,557 REPRESENTED BY FUNDS AT START OF YEAR 70 ADD SURPLUS 236

3,628

For the year ending 31 October 2018 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with response to a respect accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime

SIGNED July Kerry

DATE 06-02-19

NAME JILL KERRY

CHAIRMAN, ULSTER HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

DATE 6.2.19

JEHNJER STUTT

DIRECTOR AND TRUSTEE, ULSTER HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST