



**THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
ST COLMON (Arnsheen Barrhill and Colmonell) PARISH CHURCH**

**CONGREGATIONAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

**CONGREGATION REFERENCE NUMBER: 100591
SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER: SC014381**

Trustees' Annual Report
Year ended 31st December 2016

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for the St Colmon (Arnsheen Barrhill and Colmonell) Parish Church for the year ended 31st December 2016

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: St Colmon (Arnsheen Barrhill and Colmonell)
Parish Church of Scotland

Charity Registration Number: SC014381

Congregation Reference No: 100591

Contact Address: Mrs. Claire Pirrie
Rose Cottage
Poundland
Pinwherry
Girvan
KA26 0RU

Trustees

Minister: Rev Stephen Ogston

Elders: Harriet Ellis
David McCutcheon
Anne McCutcheon
Brian McIlwraith
Lynne McIlwraith
Elsie McLachlan
Claire Pirrie
Anne Shankland
Irene Wilson

Mr Brian McIlwraith and Mrs Lynne McIlwraith were ordained as Elders on 14th February 2016

Note: Mrs Lynne McIlwraith was paid £1,410 as St Colmon Church Organist in 2016

Principal Office-bearers

Minister: Rev Stephen Ogston

Session Clerk: Mrs. Claire Pirrie

Church Treasurer: Mrs. Claire Pirrie

Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)
Year ended 31st December 2016

Independent Examiner: Mr Mark Wickens
Equity Bookkeeping & Accounting
Lendal Lodge
Lendalfoot
Girvan
KA26 0JB

Bankers: Bank of Scotland
Girvan Branch
17 Dalrymple Street
Girvan
KA26 9EU

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Constitution (Unitary Form).

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 by the Kirk Session from those Church members who are considered to have the appropriate gifts and skills.

The Minister, who is a member of the Kirk Session, is called and elected by the congregation and inducted by the Presbytery of Ayr.

Organisational Structure

The Minister is the Moderator of the Kirk Session which meets at least eight times a year and is responsible for the spiritual and financial affairs within the Church.

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.

St Colmon Church is linked with Ballantrae Parish Church and the Minister resides in the Manse in Ballantrae.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)

Year ended 31st December 2016

St Colmon Kirk Session administers the Campbell and Templeton Trusts which are community funds distributing benefits to residents in St Colmon Parish.

Worship is conducted every Sunday at 10am in the church at Colmonell with refreshments in the Kirk Hall after each service.

As the church has no disabled access, a monthly service is held in St Colmon Kirk Hall to enable those with mobility problems to worship.

A monthly service is held in Barrhill Memorial Hall.

The Sacrament of Communion is celebrated four times a year in St Colmon Church and twice a year in the Kirk Hall and Barrhill Memorial Hall. Non-alcoholic wine is served at Communion to ensure no one is excluded.

Due to a shortage of Sunday Club leaders, children now remain in church during services, and a “children’s corner” has been created with appropriate toys, books and colouring materials.

In Easter week, South Carrick Churches Together organizes daily ecumenical evening services, and an outdoor service in the centre of Girvan on Good Friday. On Maundy Thursday, an Agape Supper is held for St Colmon and Ballantrae Churches in St Colmon Kirk Hall. On Easter Sunday St Colmon and Ballantrae Churches hold an outdoor early morning service at Ballantrae Harbour, followed by breakfast in the Manse.

On Remembrance Sunday, Acts of Remembrance are held at two local War Memorials, and on Remembrance Day at two other Memorials in the parish.

A Watch Night service is held on Christmas Eve in St Colmon Church, led alternately by the Minister or Kirk Session. On Christmas Day, a service is held in Ballantrae Church for the linked charges.

The two Primary Schools in the parish held Christmas and Easter services in church, and, after their Easter service, Colmonell Primary School held a fundraising daffodil tea for Marie Curie Cancer Care in the Kirk Hall.

Fresh Expressions of Church continue with Messy Church services, and Café Church is a regular service in the Kirk Hall on the second and fourth Friday of each month, attracting twenty to twenty-five people of all ages.

“Sunday at 7” is an ecumenical service of worship led by a Christian music group from St Colmon Church and held monthly in Ballantrae Church. It is attended by members of the linked parishes and neighbouring Churches. Some members of St Colmon’s congregation attend ecumenical worship evenings in Girvan North Church.

Achievements and Performance

Rev Stephen Ogston continues to work closely with the two Primary Schools in the parish, participating in assemblies, and assisting with events such as their Christmas shows and projects, including creating animation films.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)
Year ended 31st December 2016

Rev Ogston provides pastoral care for members and residents within the parish, visiting those in hospitals and care homes throughout South Ayrshire, and officiating at weddings, baptisms and funerals. Three baptisms, five funerals and three weddings were held in church in 2016.

Rev Ogston has been co-opted as a member of the Mission and Discipleship Council for the Rural Working Group.

Members of Kirk Session attended the second Rural Conference held by Ayr Presbytery, the Church of Scotland Vision Day at Newton Stewart, and the Community of Faith conference in Dumfries.

Rev Ogston and the Kirk Session held a Local Church Review update meeting with Rev Mandy Hickman, Presbytery Mission and Development Officer. It was agreed that progress is continuing towards meeting the objectives set since 2014, with some already met.

A few new members are involved with Church life and activities, but more volunteers are needed to help deliver activities, and assist with the basic maintenance of the buildings and grounds.

Three more members of the congregation are undertaking Presbytery of Ayr's worship team training. The current Worship Team, with members from both Churches, continues to lead services in the linked charges when the Minister is on holiday. While providing the opportunity for members to actively participate in worship, this is also a financial saving by reducing the need for pulpit supply.

Members of the congregation participate in leading Café Church worship, and there is a rota of members who deliver the Bible readings at Sunday services.

Monthly prayer and worship meetings are held on a Saturday morning in the Kirk Hall, and prayer request slips are available in the church and Kirk Hall. Healing ministry meetings are also being considered.

In September, a day of prayer was held as part of the International Prayer Weekend. Alpha courses have been held twice this year, each attended by ten to twelve people.

A Church stall at local gala days in Colmonell and Barrhill handed out Church information and invited people to draw designs on pieces of bunting which now decorate the walls of the Kirk Hall.

The Church assisted with the community carol singing and Christmas lights switch on in Colmonell.

An annual Christmas Concert is held in St Colmon Church for the linked charges with a local choir, musicians and children from local Primary Schools. Refreshments are served in the Kirk Hall. A Carol Service was also held in Barrhill Memorial Hall.

Members of the community and Church have worked with South Ayrshire Council Bereavement Services to test the safety all gravestones, and to begin a project to preserve and restore the stones.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)
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St Colmon Church is working with Scottish Pilgrim Routes Forum which aims to re-establish and use pilgrim routes passing through our area. The Church is represented on the Whithorn Way Steering Group. Pilgrims have visited the church and made use of the Kirk Hall facilities.

The Church is working with Colmonell Development Group to organise an Exhibition Weekend in 2017, when the village will celebrate its history, heritage, achievements, and promote local businesses, voluntary groups, facilities and activities.

Links between the linked charges of St Colmon and Ballantrae continue to be strengthened through joint services and events, particularly at Easter and Christmas, and through some members from St Colmon being members of Ballantrae Church of Scotland Guild.

St Colmon Church communicates with members and the wider community through a bi-monthly linked charge newsletter; websites; Facebook; community magazine; local press; posters and fliers in schools and all public noticeboards.

The Kirk Hall has been fitted with book shelves allowing the development of a small library of Christian and general books to be purchased or borrowed.

St Colmon continues to support others through retiral collections;

- Harvest Service for Crossreach
- Remembrance Service for Poppy Scotland
- Selling alternative gift cards for solar lamps in Malawi
- Easter for Marie Curie Cancer Care
- Annual Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal
- Provisions are also collected for the local Food Bank in Girvan.

Fundraising and Fellowship

- Annual Kirk Fair is held on the glebe and in the Kirk hall
- Annual Auction is held in the Kirk Hall
- Film nights held in the Kirk Hall
- Baby and Toddler Group meets every Friday afternoon in the Kirk Hall
- Coffee @ Kirk every Wednesday morning in the Kirk Hall is open to everyone
- A podiatrist holds a clinic in the Kirk Hall every 6 weeks
- The Glebe Fishing rights are rented by Colmonell Angling Club
- Colmonell Circle fellowship group meets monthly September to March
- The Kirk Hall has been hired for meetings and social events. Regular users include Ballantrae & Colmonell Agricultural Show, The Stinchar Valley Garden Club and The Stinchar Valley Magazine Committee.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)
Year ended 31st December 2016

Financial Review

The Session Clerk continues to act as Treasurer with the assistance of a volunteer qualified Book Keeper and Elders acting as Gift Aid Convenor and Weekly Freewill Offering Convenor.

St Colmon employs a part-time organist and, for two hours a week, a self-employed cleaner, with volunteers undertaking all other duties that do not require specialist skills, including maintenance and care of the church, Kirk Hall and grounds.

The Ministries and Mission Allocation paid in 2016 was £16,790, of which £4,794 was from endowments. There was no allowance against these charges for Glebe rent, as St Colmon is still paying for drainage work done on the Glebe in 2014.

The Gift Aid Scheme continues to make a significant contribution to fundraising for the work of the Church.

St Colmon also benefits from those who shop online through easyfundraising.org.uk.

The "B" listed church, like any historic stone building, suffers recurrent water ingress and stone deterioration which are an ongoing financial challenge.

In 2016, the church was closed for a few days while emergency repairs were carried out to loose stonework on the belfry, vestry and east wall. Further inspection revealed the need for major work to the roof and stonework, and an unsuccessful application was made to the Listed Places of Worship Grant Fund. Other grant funders and fund raising ideas are being sought to raise the necessary £27,000.

A Quinquennial Inspection in 2016 identified several areas requiring maintenance and repair, including heating, lighting and the lack of disabled access to the church.

Other projects in planning include the repair, maintenance and restoration of stained glass, pipe organ, wood work and churchyard stones.

St Colmon Church is on a waiting list to be recorded by the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies due to the quality of the stained glass, pipe organ and woodwork.

The main fundraising events in 2016 were the Annual Kirk Fair which raised £1885 and £1050 was raised by the Annual Auction. The Church General Fund is also credited annually with donations from other sources.

In 2017 St Colmon will pay half the cost for work required to maintain the manse, including replacement windows, repositioning of the oil tank and the removal and replacement of the garage asbestos roof.

St Colmon faces challenging times in the next year to meet the cost of work identified in the quinquennial report on top of routine maintenance. A stewardship campaign is planned, among other fundraising activities.

Trustees' Annual Report (cont.)
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Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider it prudent to hold reserves (including designated funds) to cover twelve months of normal expenditure. In addition, as the place of worship is a listed building, the Trustees seek to hold additional funds in the Consolidated Fabric Fund for unexpected expenditure thereon.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The members of the Kirk Session have prepared financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This has been done 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 Church and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf,

Mrs. Claire Pirrie
Session Clerk

Date: 26th March 2017