

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Pont Street, London, SW1X 0BD

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Registered Charity Number 236173
Congregation number 472427

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year to 31 December 2023

THE CHARITY

The name of the charity is Trust Property and Funds held in connection with St Columba's Church and Congregation and its address is Pont Street, London, SW1X 0BD. The number of the charity is 236173. The charity is commonly known as St Columba's Church of Scotland.

TRUSTEES AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

The charity trustees are the Kirk Session of St Columba's (the Elders).

The custodian trustee is a body incorporated on 5 December 1995 called The Trustees of St Columba's Church of Scotland, London (Ref. CD (Ldn) 236173/20646). In all its responsibilities it acts with the consent of the Kirk Session. In addition to holding the Church building and its halls, rooms and offices, the custodian trustee holds other properties (at 31 December 2023 two manses and a tennis ground). Details of these assets are shown on the Balance Sheet and note 6 of the Accounts.

The Rev C Angus MacLeod MA BD was Minister throughout the year. The Rev William McLaren MA BD was Associate Minister throughout the year..

A list of the names of the Minister and the Elders who constituted the Kirk Session at any time in the year ended 31 December 2023 and at the date of this report is appended. The names of those acting as members of the incorporated body are marked thereon with an asterisk.

The Session Clerk is Mrs Charlotte Bradford to whom day to day management of the charity is delegated (in consultation with the Finance Convener and others as appropriate).

The Kirk Session is responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Kirk Session to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Kirk Session is required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material 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 operation.

The Kirk Session is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Regulations for Congregational Finance of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and the provisions of the Trust Deed. It is 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 Kirk Session is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the

preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

OTHER RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS

Banker - The Royal Bank of Scotland, 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2YB

Solicitor - Withers LLP, 20 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7AN

Auditor - Sayer Vincent LLP, Invicta House, 110 Golden Lane, London, EC1Y 0TG

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT

The charity is constituted as a Trust. The document governing the charity is a Trust Deed dated 20 July 1910.

New trustees, chosen from the congregation, are appointed from time to time to fill vacancies, by invitation from the Kirk Session. No individual or other body has power to appoint new trustees.

New trustees attend induction seminars and work closely with existing trustees. Trustees are given literature issued by the Charity Commission setting out their responsibilities. Conferences for trustees are held periodically. An Away Day is held periodically for all trustees.

The general management and administration of the charity are vested in the Kirk Session. Much day-to-day work of the Kirk Session is carried out by Committees (whose members are appointed by the Kirk Session) as follows:

the Finance Committee, the Fabric Committee, the Benevolence Committee, the Hospitality Committee, the Assembly and Presbytery Committee, the Fellowship Committee, the Mission Committee, the Nurture Committee, the Worship and Communication Committee, the Youth Committee, the Napier Committee and the Staff Committee.

These Committees report regularly to the Kirk Session. While minor operational decisions may be taken at a committee level, any significant decisions are referred to the Kirk Session, in accordance with the responsibilities of the trustees. The Kirk Session meets six times a year and at such other times as it may determine.

All key management personnel are volunteer trustees, so no remuneration or benefits were provided to them in relation to their role as trustees.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The charity trustees – the Kirk Session – consider that the Church buildings are adequately insured against structural damage. The income of the Church arises from the range of sources mentioned below. The Kirk Session encourages members of the congregation regularly to review the level of their giving. In the early autumn of 2023 we offered the congregation opportunity to consider ideas, responsibilities and priorities for the next five years as part of an informal stewardship season.

The Kirk Session has appropriate arrangements in place for the preparation of financial statements, the keeping of proper accounts and records, the safeguarding of assets and the detection of fraud. The Kirk Session recognises its responsibilities to both Church members and visitors in matters of health, safety and security and so regularly reviews its procedures and takes professional advice where required.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (See Note 15 to the Financial Statements)

The charity trustees – the Kirk Session - confirm that to the best of their knowledge and belief there were no financial transactions undertaken by the Church in the year ended 31 December 2023 in which the charity trustees or any person/company connected with them had, directly or indirectly, a material interest apart from the following:

Ms F Gardner and Mr Gary Wallis (trustees) were in receipt of £4,783 and £72 (2022: £2,585 and £nil) as relief Administrators. Mr PW Bradford (son of a trustee) was in receipt of £99(2022: £41) as a relief caretaker.

RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE TRUST DEED

The trustees hold the Church building for the purpose of public worship according to the doctrine, worship, discipline and government of the Church of Scotland. The trustees can only dispose of it on condition that the proceeds are used for the acquisition or erection of a new church.

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE CHARITY

St Columba's is part of the Church of Scotland, the National Church in Scotland, recognised by the State but independent in spiritual matters.

The Church of Scotland is Trinitarian in doctrine, Reformed in tradition and Presbyterian in polity. It exists to glorify God, to work for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world and to provide the ordinances of religion to the people of Scotland through parish ministry. By extension, it does the same for Scots and any of other nationalities who are attracted to a Presbyterian style and form of worship in England, Europe and further afield. St Columba's is bound by the objectives of the Church of Scotland and governed by its laws. It is subject to the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of England and the Channel Islands and to the supreme court of the Church, the General Assembly. Subject to that, the Kirk Session is responsible for all matters relating to St Columba's, both spiritual and temporal. All matters of substance are reported to the congregation, which is required to receive its Annual Accounts.

The key objectives of St Columba's can best be summarised by quoting in full its Mission Statement.

MISSION STATEMENT

In the name of Jesus Christ, we, as a congregation of the Church of Scotland, aim to

Witness to the power of God the Father, of Jesus Christ His Son

and of the Holy Spirit in our lives;

Maintain strong public worship in the Presbyterian style;

Learn more of God and grow in faith and love;

Serve God and His Church, each other and those in need both near and far;

Provide a friendly and hospitable welcome to all;

*Offer Christian fellowship both at St Columba's and by going out
as a community of caring people.*

We invite you to join us in this mission.

DELIVERY OF PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Kirk Session confirms that it has referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and when planning future activities.

The Kirk Session believes that the Christian values upon which it bases its work are of significant benefit to the whole of society. While some of the activities which it carries out specifically benefit St Columba's congregation, St Columba's Church is an outward-looking organisation, concerned with seeking to transform society for the better. So the Kirk Session works hard to ensure that the benefits which it aims to provide are not exclusive to Christians or to St Columba's congregation.

ACHIEVEMENT OF KEY OBJECTIVES

In order to achieve its key objectives, St Columba's holds services every Sunday, special services at Christmas and at Easter, weekly Holy Communion and monthly baptisms. There are meetings, talks and discussions on aspects of the faith and matters affecting the daily lives of Christians as well as social events, including weekly Scottish Country Dancing and Tennis. Much pastoral care is provided by the Ministerial team and Elders, with contact maintained through correspondence and telephone calls with more isolated members. This is coordinated by an Elder in conjunction with the Minister and the Office Manager. A key objective is to maintain a level of contact especially with those who have not fully returned to in-person worship. A review of other key objectives is planned and in the early autumn of 2023 trustees and congregation met to consider ideas, responsibilities and priorities for the next five years.

St Columba's has a close connection with several charity partners, in particular ScotsCare, which provides emotional, financial and practical support to Scots and their families in Greater London with a wide range of services from financial support, advocacy, counselling, to sheltered housing, training and job coaching and more; and Borderline, the only charity specifically set up to help homeless Scots in London. On 1st April 2023, a merger between ScotsCare and Borderline was completed. Homelessness is now a core service provided by ScotsCare, alongside their existing range of services. We also support RESTART, a small, London-based charity whose objective is to help homeless men and women to break the cycle of homelessness, move from the streets, confront the issues obstructing their futures and return to independent living; and GlassDoor, which partners with churches and community centres to give shelter and support to homeless people in London. In addition, we run a Lenten appeal each year for a small charity nominated by members of the congregation or Trustees, supporting a UK-based and an overseas charity in alternate years.

An Annual Stated Meeting is held in the first half of each year at which the congregation receives the audited accounts together with an update on significant issues for the church and on the care of our buildings.

Apart from the Ministerial team and our staff (a full-time administrator and a full-time caretaker, supported by three relief caretakers, plus a Director of Music, assistant organist and accountant) all of the work of St Columba's is carried out by Elders and members of the congregation on an unpaid basis. Pay levels of staff are reviewed annually and compared with the market.

On 22 September 2023 the Office Manager left for a new job closer to home. The new Office Manager, a full-time appointment recruited through Covent Garden Recruitment Ltd, started on 9th October 2023.

The number on the roll on 31 December 2023 was 708 (2022: 739).

Total income in 2023 amounted to £902,820 (2022: £934,185). Total expenditure in 2022 amounted to £675,884 (2022: £732,164) giving a surplus of £226,956 (2022: £202,021) before investment gains.

Net assets of all funds at 31 December 2023 totalled £8,877,505 – an increase of £539,707 from the balance at 31 December 2022. The Church's investments are invested in the Church of Scotland Investors Trust. All investments acquired have been acquired in accordance with the powers available to the trustees. The investment portfolio is designed to produce a satisfactory yield and the prospect of growth in value over the medium-term and long-term period.

In 2005 the trustees decided to set up a 50th Anniversary Appeal Fund for exceptional maintenance expenditure on the church building in future years. The Fund amounted to £41,991 at 31 December 2023, with no change in funds during the year.

The Congregational Funds (excluding tangible fixed assets) amounted to £2,752,319 at 31 December 2023. Funds held as reserves are required to meet any unforeseen reductions in income or unplanned expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves of at least twice annual expenditure are sufficient to cover an unforeseen reduction in income or unplanned expenditure.

The Kirk Session considers that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. Each year a budget is prepared and presented to the Kirk Session for their review, discussion and approval.

The value of the Church building shown on the Balance Sheet is its cost in 1955. It is insured for £ 31,363,174 (including the organs) on the basis of a total loss.

FACILITIES

The facilities of the Church building, its halls and offices, as well as its manses, are, in the opinion of the Trustees, adequate for the purpose of its work in the foreseeable future.

By order of the Trustees

Charlotte E Bradford
A Trustee & Session Clerk

Date: 30 June 2024

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

KIRK SESSION

The Minister: The Rev C Angus MacLeod MA BD

The Associate Minister: The Rev William McLaren MA BD

Elders at 31 December 2023:

Ms Wendy Betts (from 14 May 2023)	Miss Helen Miller
Prof Rona Mackie Black	Dr Peter Mills
* Mrs Charlotte Bradford (Session Clerk)	Mr Robert Mills
Mrs Alison Buchanan (died 14 April 2023)	Dr Sarah Mills
* Mr Roderick Buchanan	Mrs Daphne Moore
Mr Gordon Cameron	Lady Natzler
Mr Roderick Cameron (from 14 May 2023)	Ms Sheila Nicoll
Mrs Isobel Carter (from 14 May 2023)	* Mr David Nicolson
Mrs Patricia Clarke	Mrs Katherine Payne
Mr Graham Cumming	Mr Hugh Pym
Ms Karen Cunningham	Mrs Susan Pym
Ms Nadia Dallsingh (from 14 May 2023)	Mrs Catharine Robertson
Miss Naomi Donaldson	Mr John Russell
Mrs Heather Farwell	Mr Andrew Smith (from 14 May 2023)
Mrs Hazel Forbes	Dr Gillian Smith
* Miss Elizabeth Fox	Mrs Rosa Somerville
Mr Martin Funnell	Mrs Jill Steele
Ms Fiona Gardner	Mr Stuart Steele
Mrs Liliias Gillies	Mrs Jean Stevenson
Mr William Glasson	* Mr Michael Stevenson
Mr Benjamin Gourlay	Mrs Catriona Sutherland-Hawes (resigned April 2023)
* Mr James Henderson (resigned November 2023)	Dr Judith Taylor
Mr Donald Johnston	Mr Alan Thackrey (from 14 May 2023)
Dr Ruth Kattumuri (from 14 May 2023)	Mrs Pamela Thackrey (from 14 May 2023)
Dr David Kerr	Mr Gary Wallis
Mrs Fiona Lang	Dr Joanne Wallis
Dr Neil MacDonald (from 14 May 2023)	Miss Betsy Wilkie
Mr Colin Mackinnon (from 14 May 2023)	Mrs Anne Wilson
Mrs Catherine Macnish	
Lady Macpherson (resigned September 2023)	
Mrs Elizabeth Maliphant	
Mrs Catherine McDonald	

* Members of the incorporated body of Custodian Trustees

KIRK SESSION COMMITTEE CONVENERS 2023

Finance Committee – Roderick Buchanan
Fabric Committee – Elizabeth Fox
J. Murray Napier Committee - Michael Stevenson
Benevolence Committee – Betsy Wilkie
Hospitality Management Committee – Benjamin Gourlay

Fellowship Committee – Rosa Somerville
Assembly and Presbytery Committee – Gillian Smith
Nurture Committee – Role vacant: acting convener Michael Stevenson
Worship and Communication Committee – Hugh Pym
Mission Committee – Naomi Donaldson
Youth Committee – Gary Wallis
Staff Committee – Charlotte Bradford

KIRK SESSION APPOINTMENTS

Sunday School Superintendent – Fiona Gardner
Crèche Supervisor – Role currently vacant

Safeguarding Co-ordinator – Sheena Clark (*Presbytery Safeguarding Co-ordinator*) (to date)

Data Protection Co-ordinator – Susan Pym

Tea Together - Chairman: Hazel Forbes

Secretary: Role vacant

Christian Aid – Naomi Donaldson

Presbytery of England and the Channel Islands –

Presbytery Elder: Charlotte Bradford

Others (appointed by Presbytery): Elizabeth Fox, Peter Mills, David Nicolson, Susan Pym, Michael Stevenson, Rona Black

Independent auditor's report to the trustees of the Trust Property and Funds Held in Connection with St Columba's Church and Congregation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Trust Property and Funds Held in Connection with St Columba's Church and Congregation (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

Give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended

Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Trust Property and Funds Held in Connection with St Columba's Church and Congregation's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- The information given in the trustees' annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements;
- Sufficient and proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities set out in the trustees' annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud are set out below.

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following: We enquired of management, and the finance committee, which included obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charity's policies and procedures relating to:

- Identifying, evaluating, and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- The internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We inspected the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a material effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charity from our professional and sector experience.
- We communicated applicable laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We reviewed any reports made to regulators.
- We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and tested these to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments, assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias and tested significant transactions that are unusual or those outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or

non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees as a body, in accordance with section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Joanna Pittman

21 August 2024

Sayer Vincent LLP, Statutory Auditor
110 Golden Lane, LONDON, EC1Y 0TG

Sayer Vincent LLP is eligible to act as auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Note	2023			2022			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	
	Funds £	Funds † £	2023 £	Funds £	Funds † £	2022 £	
Income from:							
2							
Donations and fees	273,394	12,815	286,209	292,948	10,577	303,525	
Use of premises	389,277	-	389,277	376,918	-	376,918	
Investments	79,295	101,539	180,834	58,030	80,490	138,520	
Legacies	46,500	-	46,500	115,222	-	115,222	
Total Income	788,466	114,354	902,820	843,118	91,067	934,185	
Expenditure on:							
3							
Ministry	175,308	-	175,308	247,970	-	247,970	
Premises	175,885	13,990	189,875	180,404	30,971	211,375	
Administration	238,528	-	238,528	216,875	-	216,875	
Other costs	10,571	-	10,571	7,775	-	7,775	
Grants made and collections for others paid over	-	61,582	61,582	-	48,169	48,169	
Total Expenditure	600,292	75,572	675,864	653,024	79,140	732,164	
Net income (expenditure) before gains (losses) on investments	188,174	38,782	226,956	190,094	11,927	202,021	
Net gains (losses) on investments	7	138,785	173,966	312,751	(290,577)	(401,241)	(691,818)
Net income (expenditure)	326,959	212,748	539,707	(100,483)	(389,314)	(489,797)	
Transfers between funds	12	(2,000)	2,000	-	(2,000)	2,000	
Net movement in funds	324,959	214,748	539,707	(102,483)	(387,314)	(489,797)	
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward	4,844,176	3,493,622	8,337,798	4,946,659	3,880,936	8,827,595	
Total funds carried forward	5,169,135	3,708,370	8,877,505	4,844,176	3,493,622	8,337,798	

† Restricted Funds include the Endowment Fund on which there was no movement in 2022 or 2023. At all times covered by this report it had a balance of £321,717 representing fixed tangible assets of £314,742 and cash of £6,975.

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

Notes	2023			2022		
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds † £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds † £	Total 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	6	2,417,567	314,742	2,401,751	314,742	2,716,493
Investments	7,11	2,286,920	3,206,694	1,734,849	3,026,024	4,760,873
		<u>4,704,487</u>	<u>3,521,436</u>	<u>4,136,600</u>	<u>3,340,766</u>	<u>7,477,366</u>
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	8	26,450	-	145,447	-	145,447
Deposits with Church of Scotland Inv Trust		296,513	265	287,381	265	287,646
Cash at bank and in hand	9	214,883	190,051	335,057	152,591	487,648
		<u>537,846</u>	<u>190,316</u>	<u>767,885</u>	<u>152,856</u>	<u>920,741</u>
LIABILITIES						
Creditors due within one year	10	73,198	3,382	60,309	-	60,309
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>464,648</u>	<u>186,934</u>	<u>707,576</u>	<u>152,856</u>	<u>860,432</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>5,169,135</u>	<u>3,708,370</u>	<u>4,844,176</u>	<u>3,493,622</u>	<u>8,337,798</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY						
Endowment fund	12	-	321,717	-	321,717	321,717
Restricted income funds	12	-	3,386,653	-	3,171,905	3,171,905
Unrestricted income funds	12	5,169,135	-	4,844,176	-	4,844,176
		<u>5,169,135</u>	<u>3,708,370</u>	<u>4,844,176</u>	<u>3,493,622</u>	<u>8,337,798</u>

† Restricted Funds include the Endowment Fund on which there was no movement in 2022 or 2023. At all times covered by this report it had a balance of £321,717 representing fixed tangible assets of £314,742 and cash of £6,975.

Approved by the Kirk Session and signed on its behalf by

Charlotte Bradford
Session Clerk

Roderick Buchanan
Convener of the Finance Committee

30 June 2024

30 June 2024

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

Notes	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Net income (expenditure) for the year (per SOFA)		539,707		(489,797)
Reconciliation of net income to net cash used in operating activities:				
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation charges	4,420		3,100	
Dividends and interest relating to investing activities	(180,834)		(138,520)	
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	118,997		(99,825)	
Increase in creditors	16,271		27,931	
		<u>(41,146)</u>		<u>(207,314)</u>
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		498,561		(697,111)
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Dividends and interest	180,834		138,520	
(Gains) / Losses on investments	(312,751)		691,818	
Purchase of investments	(419,990)		-	
Purchase of fixed assets	(20,236)		(3,414)	
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities		<u>(572,143)</u>		<u>826,924</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(73,582)		129,813
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		<u>775,294</u>		<u>645,481</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		<u>701,712</u>		<u>775,294</u>
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents				
Cash	9	404,934		487,648
Short term deposits		296,778		287,646
Cash and cash equivalents		<u>701,712</u>		<u>775,294</u>

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following policies have been used consistently in dealing with items considered material to the Church's financial statements.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) (2019) (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 (FRS 102) (2019), FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005, which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and under the historical cost convention, modified by the revaluation of investments to market value.

Public benefit entity

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Donations

Voluntary donations are recognised when they are received.

Legacies

Legacies are credited to income as soon as their receipt and quantum are probable. For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Investment income

Investment income and realised and unrealised gains and losses are allocated to the pooled funds (congregational, Napier, Ramsay Fabric and 7 minor funds) in proportion to their value at 1 January. The allocation is adjusted for significant exceptional inflows of funds, e.g. from legacies.

Pension Contributions

The Church contributes to the personal pension schemes of certain employees and operates a workplace pension scheme using the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST).

Grants made

Grants made are charged to the relevant fund in the year in which they are approved, communicated to recipients and paid.

Funds

Unrestricted funds may be used for the objects of the Church without restriction. Restricted funds are to be used within the restrictions laid down by the donor. Permanent endowment funds are held as capital with no power to spend the funds, although income from them may be spent without restriction.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets are for charitable use.

Freehold Property

In the Trustees' opinion replacement and market values of land and buildings (church, manses and tennis club) exceed book value, so no depreciation has been provided. The Fabric Committee regularly review the assets to ensure no material diminution of value.

Freehold property is carried at original cost. A reserve fund, the Ramsay Fabric Fund, is used to make financial provision for future repairs or replacements. Significant repairs and renewals are charged to this fund when they are incurred.

Pianos and Office Equipment

Such items costing over £500 are capitalised and shown at cost less accumulated depreciation, provided at 10% (pianos) or 25% (office equipment) of cost p.a. once in use.

Liabilities

All material unpaid invoices and contractual obligations at year end are accrued for in these accounts.

Financial Instruments

The Church has basic and non-basic financial assets and financial liabilities. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. Non-basic financial instruments are measured at fair value with any gain or loss going to the statement of financial activities. Full details are given in the investments note (note 7) and financial instruments note (note 11).

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 INCOME	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and fees (including tax recoveries)							
Open plate		37,628	-	37,628	27,210	-	27,210
Online Donations		6,660	-	6,660	8,474	-	8,474
Planned giving		150,985	-	150,985	156,489	-	156,489
Collections for others	5	-	12,815	12,815	-	10,577	10,577
Other donations		60,656	-	60,656	63,347	-	63,347
Wedding and other service fees		7,507	-	7,507	5,946	-	5,946
J.H. Rhynd Bequest*		7,039	-	7,039	6,432	-	6,432
Other income		2,919	-	2,919	25,050	-	25,050
		<u>273,394</u>	<u>12,815</u>	<u>286,209</u>	<u>292,948</u>	<u>10,577</u>	<u>303,525</u>
<i>* Held by the Church of Scotland for the benefit of St Columba's.</i>							
Use of premises							
Hall hire		387,926	-	387,926	376,487	-	376,487
Organ use		571	-	571	431	-	431
Manse Rental		780	-	780	-	-	-
		<u>389,277</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>389,277</u>	<u>376,918</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>376,918</u>
Investment income							
Dividends		71,149	91,823	162,972	57,397	79,641	137,038
Interest		8,146	9,716	17,862	633	849	1,482
		<u>79,295</u>	<u>101,539</u>	<u>180,834</u>	<u>58,030</u>	<u>80,490</u>	<u>138,520</u>
Legacies **							
E Nieuwenhuis		-	-	-	97,010	-	97,010
M Parkinson		24,000	-	24,000	-	-	-
D Lang		-	-	-	13,367	-	13,367
C Freeman		10,000	-	10,000	-	-	-
E Stewart		5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
F Taylor		5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-
A E Boyd		-	-	-	4,545	-	4,545
S Harrington		1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-
M E N Agnew		1,000	-	1,000	-	-	-
R S Abbot		-	-	-	200	-	200
James Alexander Nicholson		500	-	500	100	-	100
		<u>46,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,500</u>	<u>115,222</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>115,222</u>
Total income		<u>788,466</u>	<u>114,354</u>	<u>902,820</u>	<u>843,118</u>	<u>91,067</u>	<u>934,185</u>

** There was a contingent asset as at 31 December 2022 related to a legacy of £24,000, which was confirmed and received in January 2023.

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

3 EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Ministry							
Ministries and Mission contribution*		162,815	-	162,815	240,703	-	240,703
Other dues and ministry expenses		9,754	-	9,754	5,698	-	5,698
Sunday School and Crèche		2,739	-	2,739	1,569	-	1,569
		<u>175,308</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>175,308</u>	<u>247,970</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>247,970</u>
Premises							
Church utilities		69,726	-	69,726	68,487	-	68,487
Church maintenance		24,042	-	24,042	23,885	16,981	40,866
Cleaning		37,881	-	37,881	34,305	-	34,305
Minister's manse		4,042	13,800	17,842	16,827	13,800	30,627
Fulham manse		4,030	190	4,220	3,244	190	3,434
Caretaker's flat		2,023	-	2,023	2,284	-	2,284
Depreciation		4,105	-	4,105	3,100	-	3,100
Insurance		30,036	-	30,036	28,272	-	28,272
		<u>175,885</u>	<u>13,990</u>	<u>189,875</u>	<u>180,404</u>	<u>30,971</u>	<u>211,375</u>
Administration							
Local salaries and fees		167,815	-	167,815	154,552	-	154,552
Other employment costs		23,003	-	23,003	16,832	-	16,832
Other music costs		5,757	-	5,757	5,477	-	5,477
Communications		19,375	-	19,375	18,681	-	18,681
Computer		7,738	-	7,738	6,882	-	6,882
Audit and legal **		10,620	-	10,620	11,640	-	11,640
Sundry expenses		4,220	-	4,220	2,811	-	2,811
		<u>238,528</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>238,528</u>	<u>216,875</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216,875</u>
Other costs							
Hospitality		3,016	-	3,016	4,075	-	4,075
Magazine		6,870	-	6,870	3,110	-	3,110
Bookstall and Life and Work		685	-	685	590	-	590
		<u>10,571</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,571</u>	<u>7,775</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,775</u>
Charitable grants from:***							
- JM Napier Fund		-	37,142	37,142	-	29,600	29,600
- Collections for others		-	12,815	12,815	-	10,577	10,577
- Benevolent Fund		-	3,447	3,447	-	1,564	1,564
- Alexander Rose Memorial Fund		-	6,688	6,688	-	5,479	5,479
- St Columba's House Fund		-	1,490	1,490	-	949	949
		<u>-</u>	<u>61,582</u>	<u>61,582</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,169</u>	<u>48,169</u>
Total expenditure		<u>600,292</u>	<u>75,572</u>	<u>675,864</u>	<u>653,024</u>	<u>79,140</u>	<u>732,164</u>

* All congregations contribute to a fund of The Church of Scotland which bears the cost of ministers' stipends and pensions, employer's National Insurance Contributions, the Housing & Loan Fund and the Mission and Renewal work of the Church. Stipends are paid in accordance with a National Stipend Scale related to years of service.

** Total governance costs in 2023 were £10,440 (2022 £9,720) relating to audit fees

*** The total paid to institutions in 2023 was £49,957 (2022 £40,177) and the total paid to individuals was £11,643 (2022 £7,992).

4 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Certain of the church's activities, not primarily undertaken to raise money, may produce surpluses for the church.

	Income £	Costs £	Net £
Bookstall	511	55	456

5 COLLECTIONS FOR OTHERS

Collections were made for others and paid over as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Lenten appeal: The Irene Taylor Trust (2022: CSPB Association*)	5,554	7,170
Festival of Silence	3,860	-
Borderline	-	1,397
Sunday School December Trip	-	979
Poppy Scotland	760	726
Scots Care	751	-
Glass Door	550	-
Elders Dinner	550	-
Quiz (Royal Scottish)	475	-
Scots Care	215	-
Harvest appeal	100	-
Friends of St Columba's	-	300
Choir Fund	-	5
	<u>12,815</u>	<u>10,577</u>

* The "CSPB Association" is an abbreviation of Association Collaboration à la Sante publique Burkino Faso.

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Freehold property	Equipment	Pianos	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 January 2023	2,705,787	39,309	17,549	2,762,645
Additions during the year	-	20,236	-	20,236
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>2,705,787</u>	<u>59,545</u>	<u>17,549</u>	<u>2,782,881</u>
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance at 1 January 2023	-	33,868	12,284	46,152
Charge for the year	-	2,665	1,755	4,420
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>36,533</u>	<u>14,039</u>	<u>50,572</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2022	<u>2,705,787</u>	<u>5,441</u>	<u>5,265</u>	<u>2,716,493</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2023	<u>2,705,787</u>	<u>23,012</u>	<u>3,510</u>	<u>2,732,309</u>

The market value of the properties are considered to be in excess of the cost. No formal valuation has been carried out but the properties are insured for sums totalling more than £35m.

The freehold property includes the Church building, two manses (Fulham and Chelsea) and one tennis club (Acton). The equipment includes four a new sound system, a TV and a dishwasher. The pianos category comprises one grand piano and the upright digital piano.

7 INVESTMENTS	Pooled Funds	Alexander Rose Fund	St Columba's House Fund	Total 2023	Total 2022
Market value	£	£	£	£	£
Market value at 31 December 2022	4,413,172	315,493	32,208	4,760,873	5,452,691
Additions	419,990	-	-	419,990	-
Gain (loss) on revaluation to market value	293,227	18,304	1,220	312,751	296,761
Market value at 31 December 2023	<u>5,126,389</u>	<u>333,797</u>	<u>33,428</u>	<u>5,493,614</u>	<u>5,749,452</u>

Invested in:	Pooled Funds		Alexander Rose Fund		St Columba's House Fund		Total 2023
	Units	£	Units	£	Units	£	£
Church of Scotland Investors Trust							
Growth Fund Units at market value	709,926	3,016,600	28,182	164,301			3,180,901
Income Fund Units at market value	172,327	2,109,789	15,465	169,496	3,050	33,428	2,312,713
		<u>5,126,389</u>		<u>333,797</u>		<u>33,428</u>	<u>5,493,614</u>
Unrestricted Funds		2,286,920		-		-	2,286,920
Restricted Funds		<u>2,839,469</u>		<u>333,797</u>		<u>33,428</u>	<u>3,206,694</u>
		5,126,389		333,797		33,428	5,493,614
Historical cost							
Growth Fund Units at cost	480,259	2,028,805	28,182	91,873		-	2,120,678
Income Fund Units at cost	172,327	2,024,480	15,465	164,308	3,050	27,572	2,216,360
		<u>4,053,285</u>		<u>256,181</u>		<u>27,572</u>	<u>4,337,038</u>

8 DEBTORS and PREPAYMENTS	2023	2022
	£	£
Debtors	19,779	136,214
Prepayments	6,671	9,233
	<u>26,450</u>	<u>145,447</u>

9 CASH at BANK and in HAND	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent endowment	-	6,975	6,975	-	6,975	6,975
Pooled cash	214,883	118,179	333,062	335,058	87,208	422,266
Benevolent Fund (cash not in pool)	-	20,344	20,344	-	18,756	18,756
Alexander Rose Fund	-	41,707	41,707	-	36,866	36,866
St Columba's House Fund	-	2,846	2,846	-	2,785	2,785
	<u>214,883</u>	<u>190,051</u>	<u>404,934</u>	<u>335,058</u>	<u>152,590</u>	<u>487,648</u>

10 CREDITORS and PROVISIONS	2023	2022
	£	£
Church purposes	52,068	46,338
Church organisations	14,936	11,833
Income received in advance	6,194	2,138
	<u>73,198</u>	<u>60,309</u>
Alexander Rose Dividends 2023	<u>3,382</u>	
	<u>76,580</u>	

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss

	2023	2022
	£	£
Investments *	5,493,614	4,760,873

* Further details of these investments are shown in note 7

12 CHURCH FUNDS

For year ended 31 December 2023

	Balance at 1 January	Investment Income	Investment Gains	Other	Payments & Expenses	Net Transfers	Balance at 31 December
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
General congregational funds	4,844,176	79,295	138,785	709,171	(600,292)	(2,000)	5,169,135
Endowment Fund	321,717	-	-	-	-	-	321,717
Charitable restricted funds							
J Murray Napier Fund	2,376,201	76,590	134,051	-	(37,142)	-	2,549,700
Benevolent Fund	113,455	3,878	6,401	-	(3,447)	2,000	122,287
Alexander Rose Memorial Fund	351,321	11,528	18,304	-	(6,688)	-	374,465
St Columba's House Fund	34,995	1,550	1,220	-	(1,490)	-	36,275
Collections for others	-	-	-	12,815	(12,815)	-	-
	2,875,972	93,546	159,976	12,815	(61,582)	2,000	3,082,727
Other restricted funds							
Ramsay Fabric Fund	174,602	5,628	9,850	-	(13,990)	-	176,090
Scots in Great War London	5,970	-	-	-	-	-	5,970
50th Anniversary Appeal Fund	41,991	-	-	-	-	-	41,991
Sir Alec and Lady Martin Fund	8,490	274	479	-	-	-	9,243
Sir Alec Martin Fund	1,126	36	64	-	-	-	1,226
William R R Wilson Fund	63,754	2,055	3,597	-	-	-	69,406
	295,933	7,993	13,990	-	(13,990)	-	303,926
	8,337,798	180,834	312,751	721,986	(675,864)	-	8,877,505

For year ended 31 December 2022

	Balance at 1 January	Investment Income	Investment Losses	Other	Payments & Expenses	Net Transfers	Balance at 31 December
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
General congregational funds	4,946,659	58,029	(290,577)	785,088	(653,023)	(2,000)	4,844,176
Endowment Fund	321,717	-	-	-	-	-	321,717
Charitable restricted funds							
J Murray Napier Fund	2,645,911	59,916	(300,026)	-	(29,600)	-	2,376,201
Benevolent Fund	124,263	2,846	(14,090)	-	(1,564)	2,000	113,455
Alexander Rose Memorial Fund	394,802	9,729	(47,730)	-	(5,480)	-	351,321
St Columba's House Fund	40,497	1,302	(5,855)	-	(949)	-	34,995
Collections for others	-	-	-	10,577	(10,577)	-	-
	3,205,473	73,793	(367,701)	10,577	(48,170)	2,000	2,875,972
Other restricted funds							
Ramsay Fabric Fund	215,090	4,871	(24,390)	-	(20,969)	-	174,602
Scots in Great War London	5,970	-	-	-	-	-	5,970
50th Anniversary Appeal Fund	51,993	-	-	-	(10,002)	-	41,991
Sir Alec and Lady Martin Fund	9,338	211	(1,059)	-	-	-	8,491
Sir Alec Martin Fund	1,238	28	(140)	-	-	-	1,126
William R R Wilson Fund	70,117	1,588	(7,951)	-	-	-	63,754
	353,746	6,698	(33,540)	-	(30,971)	-	295,933
	8,827,595	138,520	(691,818)	795,665	(732,164)	-	8,337,798

Endowment Funds

The endowment fund represents the permanent endowment to the charity of the Church building at Pont Street.

Charitable Restricted Funds

The J Murray Napier Fund is a restricted charitable fund, which makes grants under the terms of a charitable scheme. The Benevolent Fund makes grants to or for the benefit of needy individuals. The Alexander Rose Memorial Fund is a restricted charitable fund which assists poor Scotsmen and their families in London. The St Columba's House Fund is a restricted fund, registered charity no. 258639, which assists women and girls in Greater London.

Other Restricted Funds

The Ramsay Fabric Fund is used for building maintenance.

The Scots in Great War London initiative is to digitalise the church magazines (£5,970 available at year end; no expenditure during 2022).

The 50th Anniversary Appeal Fund is a restricted fund which arose from an appeal in 2005 to raise funds for major refurbishments.

The Sir Alec and Lady Martin Fund is a restricted fund set up to support the Sunday School (75%) and choir dinners (25%).

The Sir Alec Martin Fund is a restricted fund set up to support the Sunday School.

The William Ross Reid Wilson Crèche Memorial Fund is a restricted fund, the income from which is to support the crèche, while the William Ross Reid Wilson Chapels Memorial Fund is a restricted fund, the income from which is to benefit the London Scottish Chapel and Tower Chapel

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13 CHURCH ORGANISATIONS	Balance at 1 January	Income	Donations & Legacies	Expenses	Donations made	Transfers	Balance at 31 December
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sunday School	1,622	3	-	-	-	-	1,625
Flower Guild	3,857	-	550	(934)	-	-	3,473
Service Unit - "Tea Together"	1,190	-	-	(160)	-	-	1,030
Hospitality Committee	8,098	4,179	2,142	(5,705)	-	-	8,714
	<u>14,248</u>	<u>4,182</u>	<u>2,692</u>	<u>(6,799)</u>	-	-	<u>14,842</u>

The above organisations are not fully consolidated in the financial statements as day to day decisions are not controlled by Kirk Session. The Flower Guild balance includes the amount held with the Church within Creditors (church organisations).

14 EMPLOYEES

St Columba's employed 8 full- or part-time employees during the year (2022: 8). The average full-time equivalent number was 4 (2022: 4) and their total cost was £190,817 (2021 £146,552). Payments to the trustee and son of the trustee detailed in note 15 are not included in this figure. Remuneration consisted of gross pay £142,994 (2022 £130,116), employer's NIC £5,781 (2022 £5,810) and pension contributions £9,491 (2022 £10,626). No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000. All key management personnel are volunteer trustees, so no remuneration or benefits were provided to them (2021 nil).

15 TRUSTEES

No trustee received remuneration or reimbursement of personal expenses in the year to 31 December 2023 (2022 nil) for acting as trustee. As a significant proportion of donations received are made anonymously through cash collections it is not possible to quantify total donations made by trustees. One trustee, Ms F Gardner, received £4,783 (2022 £2,585) and Mr Gary Wallis (£72 (2022: £Nil) for acting as a relief administrator as permitted by the Charity Commissioners. Mr PW Bradford, the son of a trustee, was in receipt of £99 (2022 £41) as a relief caretaker.

16 COST OF GENERATING FUNDS

In the opinion of the trustees, no material cost was incurred in generating voluntary income or managing investments.

17 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

The value of contracts entered into but not completed by 31 December 2023 was £nil (2022 £nil).
No contract was entered into for which work commenced after 31 December 2023 (2022 none).
No contract for which work had not yet commenced had been entered into at 31 December 2023 (2022 none).

18 INSURANCE

Premiums totalling £30,036 (2022 £28,272) were incurred during the year to insure the structure and contents of the Church; the structures of the two manses and the tennis club; and includes insurance in respect of terrorism, employer's liability, public liability, business interruption, staff personal accident and trustees' indemnity.