

Stamperland Parish Church of Scotland, Clarkston



ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Congregation No: 160885

Charity No: SC003155

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Stamperland Parish Church of Scotland, Clarkston
Charity Registration Number: SC003155
Congregation Reference No: 160885
Contact Address: Mrs Kay Bolton
3 Paidmyre Crescent
Newton Mearns
Glasgow
G77 5AQ

Trustees

Elders

William Anderson
Mrs Catherine Baird
Miss Janet Barr
Mrs Kay Bolton
Norman Bolton
Connell Cranston
Mrs Jane Curror
John Curror
George Finlayson
Mrs Agnes Fisher
Alastair Graham
Mrs Evelyn Graham

Rev Gray Fletcher (*appointed 27th March*)
Mrs Janet Herriot
Mrs Patricia McIlraith
Mrs Sheila McIntosh
Rev George Mackay (*to 27th March*)
Mrs Pamela Mackay (*to 27th March*)
Mrs Anne MacKenzie
Fraser Mackintosh
David McKee
Mrs Rachel McNiven
James Mathieson
Mrs Edith Moseley

Mrs Margo Neilson
Mrs Marie Owens
Steven Owens
William Paterson
Gordon Robertson
Raymond Russell
Scott Russell
Miss Grace Scott
Mrs Sheena Skelton
Miss Janet Stewart
Miss Jess Thomson
Mrs Grace Walker
Keith Walton

Members of Congregation

Roy Allan
Mrs Sylvia Bell
Derrick Brown
Mrs Jean Cranston

George Fairweather
Alan Henderson
Mrs Alison Macfarlane
Fraser Neilson

Miss Elizabeth Robb
Mrs Jackie Silcock
Norman Walker
Mrs Margot Young

Principal Office-bearers

Minister: Rev George C Mackay (to 27th March 2014)
Interim Moderator: Rev Gray Fletcher (from 27th March 2014)
Session Clerk: Mr Norman Bolton
Church Treasurer: Mrs Kay Bolton

Independent Examiner

Ian C McNab
76 Stamperland Drive
Clarkston
Glasgow
G76 8HF

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland
Netherlee Branch
741 Clarkston Road
Glasgow
G44 3XA

Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31st December 2014

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Stamperland Parish Church is administered in accordance with the terms of the Unitary Constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Under the Unitary Constitution all elders are charity trustees. Elders are chosen from those members of the church who are considered to have the appropriate gifts, skills and commitments to undertake, along with the minister, responsibility for the life of the congregation in all its aspects including worship, mission and service to the wider community. The minister is elected by the congregation and inducted by Presbytery and is automatically a trustee. When there is no minister Presbytery appoint an Interim Moderator; the Interim Moderator is automatically a trustee.

Additional trustees are appointed from within the congregation and members of the congregation are invited to nominate individuals who have the skills and commitment to contribute to the management of the Church, particularly in relation to the maintenance and development of the fabric of the church buildings and to the financial affairs of the church. These additional trustees may be elected and appointed at the Stated Annual Meeting of the Congregation or co-opted to serve as trustees.

Organisational Structure

Kirk Session meetings attended by all trustees are held approximately ten times a year. Moderated by the minister or interim moderator, these meetings provide the forum for decision making. Attendance is open to all members of the church and all members may contribute to debates. However, only elders and additional trustees have decision-making authority.

Within the Kirk Session there are nine permanent committees each with specific remits to inform, oversee and manage the work of the church. In addition there are trustees who have responsibility for overseeing Health & Safety (H&S), protection of vulnerable groups (PVG) and food hygiene. A chart showing the organisational structure is presented on page 7.

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.

In Stamperland Parish Church, Sunday Worship, to which anyone has access, takes place every Sunday morning. The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated four times a year. The church is open on a Wednesday morning offering a period of quiet reflection and contemplation. Additional services take place at significant times, for example, Easter and Christmas.

Christian Education for youth takes place on Sunday mornings with the BB Bible Class and Sunday School departments catering for those aged between three and 18 years. For adults, there is a House Group which meets fortnightly for Bible study. The Minister's provision of teaching and discussion material as well as church membership instruction classes provides a means for the Christian education of adults. The Guild meets every Tuesday evening from October to March and offers a varied and highly enjoyable programme of speakers, music and crafts, tea and fellowship. The Guild is open to all people.

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

To bring God's message.
To be the focus of people's lives.
To be seen as something people want to be a part of.
To reach out to people, supporting them, showing care, compassion, love and fun.
Our Church should be a joy to belong to, a meaningful part of the community.
Our Church should move with the times and always be relevant ... both here and in the wider world.

The church seeks to support and minister to all people within the parish and beyond and we therefore seek to engage with people in a variety of ways. Over the past four or five years we have made the church premises available for the “Heart for Art” project which uses creative art to provide therapy for people with dementia, enhancing their feelings of self worth and achievement. Classes are held on Friday mornings and afternoons. In relation to interaction with youth, our Minister serves as a chaplain to Netherlee Primary School and the school is welcomed into the church for Christmas, Easter and end-of-term services.

The church supports Youth Organisations including The Boys’ Brigade, The Scouts and The Guides which, together, provide a wide range of activities enjoyed by around 180 children each week. Membership of The Scouts and The Guides is open to all young people regardless of their religious beliefs. Stamperland Pipe Band meets in the church and provides instruction in piping and drumming to local youths.

The church and associated organisations arrange a variety of social and fund-raising activities; these include Spring and Christmas Fairs, concerts, quizzes and a range of social events, all of which are open to the general public. Occasional events are specifically targeted to encourage families with young children to attend.

Hall accommodation is provided for a range of community activities and occasional meetings of local community groups. The halls are used by organisations including Baby Sensory, which provides sensory development activities for babies and parents, and Sounds International, an adult choir.

The safety and security of all people attending and using the church and associated halls is of great importance. The church has a co-ordinator for the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) and all adults who have contact with children and young people in the Youth Organisations have clearance through Disclosure Scotland. CCTV recordings are made of people entering and leaving the halls. Health and Safety is an agenda item at all meetings of the Kirk Session and safety procedures are regularly reviewed. PVG is an agenda item at all regular meetings of the Kirk Session.

Members of the church are active within the local community and are involved with community councils, neighbourhood watch schemes, health boards, etc..

Members are also active in supporting various charities and organisations both by giving of their time and through financial donations. There is direct involvement with charities such as Christian Aid, with homes for the elderly including, specifically, Williamwood House and Eastwoodhill Eventide Home, and with organisations such as The Lodging House Mission. Members of the church lead the service at Mearnskirch Hospital on a regular basis.

As a parish church there is a desire to support those in the parish in times of stress and the church is always there to offer various types of support to those living in the parish. Often the need for support and its nature is confidential but an obvious example is support at a time of bereavement.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Early in 2014 our minister, Rev George Mackay announced that he was demitting his post as minister of Stamperland Parish Church on 27th March when he was inducted as the minister of the congregations of Broomhill and Hyndland Parish Churches. On that date Glasgow Presbytery appointed Rev Gray Fletcher as Interim Moderator and Rev John Drummond as Locum Minister at Stamperland Parish Church.

The year 2014 ended with 347 members on the Congregational Roll. Two new members joined. Seven members died and three members moved away. The number of young people on the rolls of Stepping Stones and Quest was 23, a reduction of four from the previous year. The number of young people attending the uniformed organisations each week was around 196, a slight increase over the previous year. There has been a significant increase in the number of boys attending The Scouts (now 65 compared with 33 two years ago). The number attending the Guides is steady at 70. There is a total of 60 boys in the BB; there has been a further decline in the number of boys joining the junior sections of the Boys’ Brigade but with 32 youths in the Company section the organisation remains in good health. All organisations are experiencing problems with the number of adults willing to be leaders and the shortage of adult leaders is an increasingly serious and pressing concern.

Holy Week services were well attended as was the early morning Dawn Easter Day Service in Linn Park. These services were led by elders as was the Pyjama Service, held early in the evening of Christmas Eve and aimed essentially at children and families.

During the year, the minister and locum minister conducted one baptism, two weddings and eight funerals. Support for bereaved families is demonstrated in a number of ways including through the “Flower Ministry” in which the flowers on display in the church sanctuary at the Sunday morning service are distributed to people within the congregation or parish as a token of remembrance or thanks. Additionally the church maintains a Book of Remembrance recording the names of deceased persons who have a link with the church and parish. The Book of Remembrance is on public display.

Easter Cards were delivered to every home in the parish as were Spring Fair fliers. Through a variety of initiatives the church strives to maintain its reputation and promote its profile within the parish. Increasingly, the church’s presence on the internet, including Facebook, is leading to a range of different types of contact. Wireless internet connection is available within the church hall accommodation.

The numbers attending “Sunday Break” at the close of morning worship are steady at around 25 to 30. There have been a number of lunches following morning worship throughout the year. Notable, perhaps, was the “Souper Sunday lunch” for which the men in the congregation made and served soup; donations made by those attending the lunch were sent to support the work of the Church of Scotland HIV Programme.

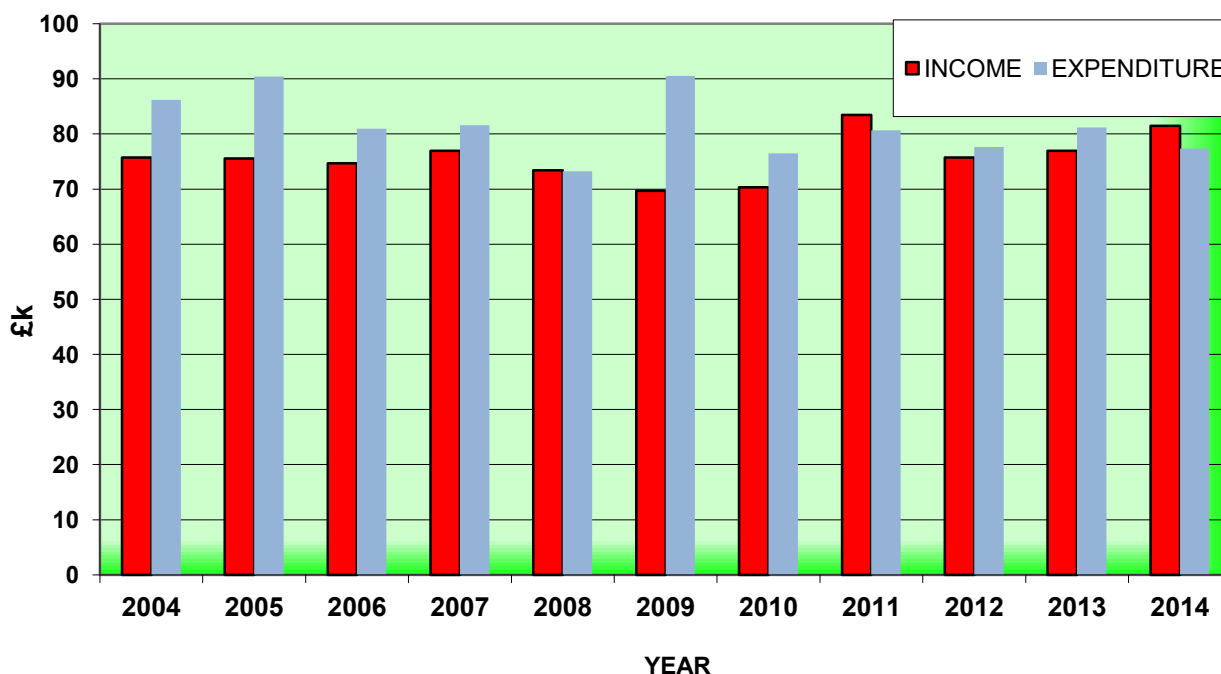
As well as supporting charitable activities within the church and parish, £1,357 was raised through Special Collections and Fund Raising Events for the specific causes or charities. Details of amounts raised are summarised in Note 8 on page 13.

In addition to purely financial donations, a large quantity of tins and packets of food donated at the Harvest Thanksgiving service was taken to the Lodging House Mission. Earlier in the year a large number of backpacks filled with educational materials, clothes and toiletries were collected and donated to Mary’s Meals Backpack Project. The church is also continuing its support for the East Renfrewshire Food Bank in Barrhead.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In common with most churches, the number of members has been in decline for the last 50 years. From a peak membership of 1030 in 1959 the current membership of 347 is now almost the same as it was in 1940 when the church was first established. Over the last ten years membership has reduced from 448 - a 25 per cent reduction. With reductions in membership the financial support of the church falls on a smaller number of members and, in particular, the members who are actively involved in the life and work of the church. During this ten year period, ordinary expenditure has exceeded ordinary income (defined by the Church of Scotland as total income minus legacies and bank interest) in all but two years, as shown in the chart below. Were it not for the church having received a number of legacies during this period, the current financial outlook would be difficult.

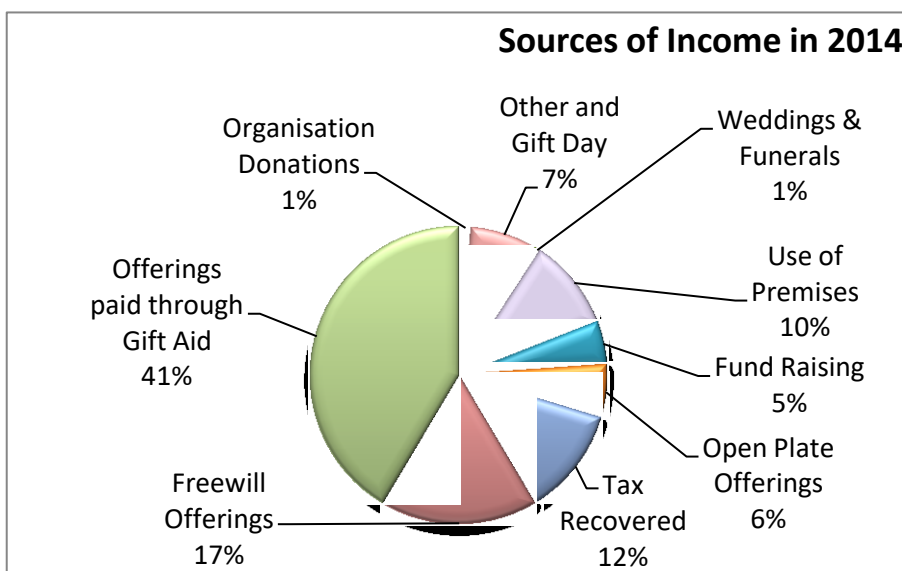
ORDINARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE - THOUSANDS OF POUNDS



Analysis of Income

The chart on the right shows a breakdown of the principal sources of ordinary income in 2014. Offerings paid through Gift Aid along with the tax recovered contributed over half (53%) of the regular income and are represent the single most important source of income. Freewill offerings and open plate together accounted for 23% of ordinary income.

Income from the use of premises by third parties was £8151, just a little lower than the previous year's income and provides ten per cent of income.

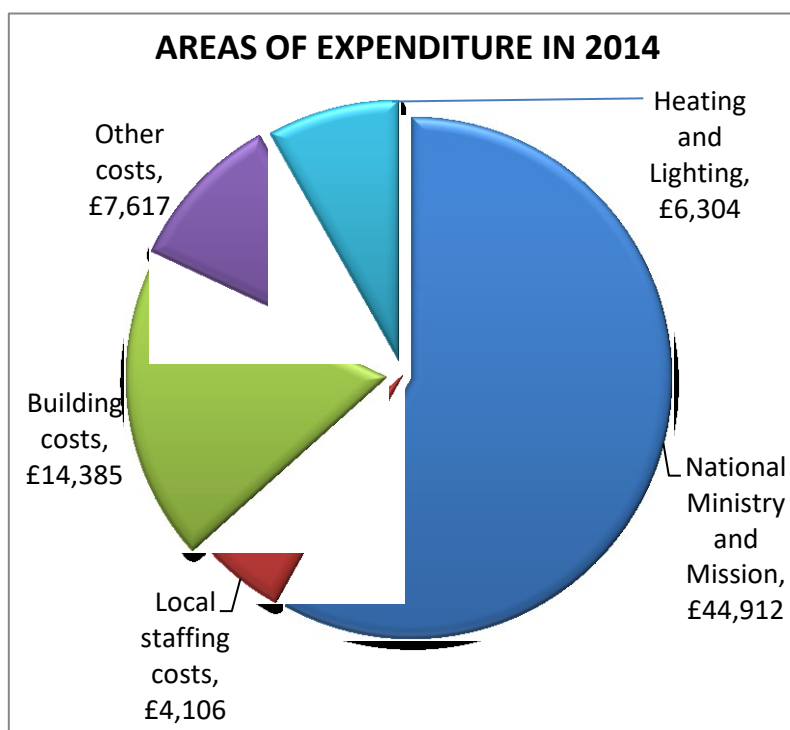


Baby Sensory, an organisation which provides sensory development activities for babies from birth to three years of age, use the large hall every Monday and represent the largest single organisation renting hall accommodation. Sounds International use the hall on Tuesday evenings and a ballroom dance class make fairly regular use on a Sunday afternoon. A variety of keep-fit classes take place during the week and there have been hires by various community and local groups for events ranging from art exhibitions to children's parties. There are frequent enquiries from a wide range of organisations seeking to hire accommodation on weekday evenings. However, our halls are already fully used by the youth organisations every evening.

We were fortunate to receive a legacy of £5,000 during the year.

Analysis of expenditure

The chart below illustrates the major categories of expenditure. Our greatest expense is the contribution of £44,912 to the National Ministry and Mission Fund. This amount includes our contribution to the stipends of the minister and locum minister, to Glasgow Presbytery and to the wider work of the Church of Scotland. We have no control over our allocation and expenditure on this one item alone represented well over half (58%) of our expenditure.



In 2014, expenditure associated with the buildings, which include insurance, manse council tax, cleaning of the church and halls and fabric repair and maintenance was £14,385. The major items of fabric expenditure included £1,049 for repairs on the central heating boilers, £910 on repairs to tiling at the church entrance, £870 on replacement fluorescent tubes in the large hall and £834 for installing a new ceiling in the vestry. £588 was spent on a repair to the roof above the vestry.

Following the departure of our minister the manse was unoccupied for six months. With the manse unoccupied we made savings in Council Tax. However, in preparing the manse to let we spent £732 on refurbishment of the manse windows and external doors and £1,000 on purchasing the manse floor-

coverings. Further expenditure was incurred in undertaking minor repair and redecoration which was carried out by volunteers.

The manse was let in October. Rental income is paid directly to the Church of Scotland General Trustees. We can, under certain circumstances, apply to the General Trustees to make use of the rental income to assist with the on-going maintenance of our fabric. In 2014 we received £1,526 towards the cost of preparing the manse for letting.

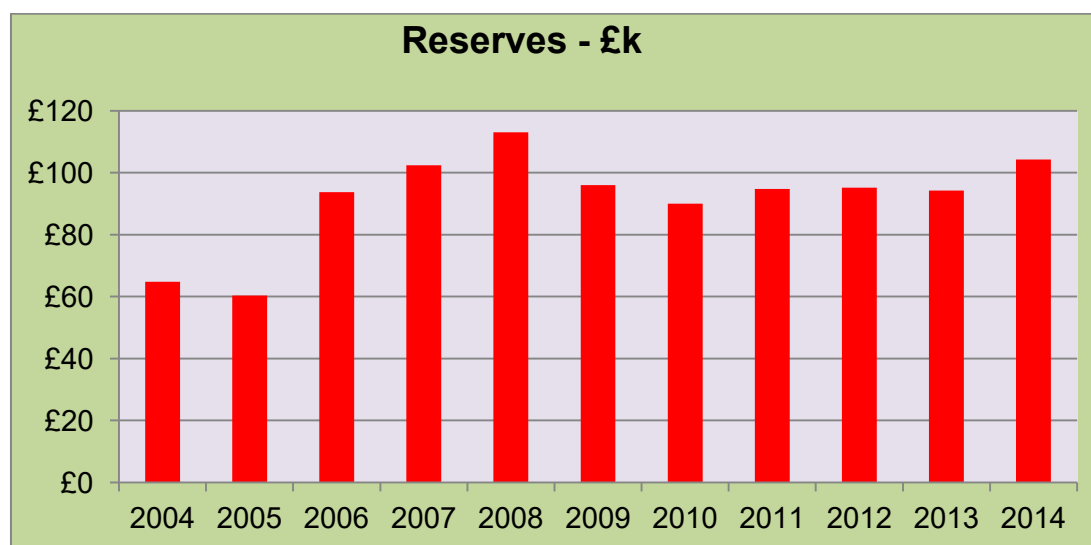
The cost for heating and lighting the church and halls during the year was £6304, representing an increase in expenditure of only 7 per cent compared with the previous year. As a congregation we are tasked by the Church of Scotland to reduce our energy consumption by 5 per cent year-on-year. For a number of years, through the proactive management of heating and the replacement of inefficient radiators, the annual costs of heating reduced by approximately 10 per cent per year. However, as highlighted in previous year's Annual Reports, no further savings are practically achievable without unrealistically high capital expenditure on installing insulation and changing the zoning of the central heating system.

One significant item of expenditure was the purchase of a photocopier which is used for all internal printing.

Reserves Policy

It has been the Trustees' policy to have a reserve in the General Fund of about two month's normal expenditure and, in addition, to have sufficient funds in the Fabric Fund to enable essential repairs to be undertaken and to facilitate the purchase of major capital items such as duplicators, amplifiers, computers, etc. should they become unserviceable and require to be replaced.

The church was fortunate in receiving a number of substantial legacies in 2006 and 2007 which has resulted in the reserves being at an all-time high level at the end of 2008. Some of the money from these legacies has been used to cover the deficit between the normal, regular income and the normal, regular expenditure and to enable significant upgrading work to be undertaken.



At the end of 2014 the total bank and cash balances stood at £102,201. The General Fund balance was £11,328. The balance in the Fabric Fund was £89,000. The Copper Fund had a balance of £433. The balance in the Kean Bequest (a restricted fund specified to be used for the purpose of Elder Training) was £1440. The value of the investment in the Church of Scotland Investor's Trust Growth Fund at 31st December 2014 was £3,634.

It has been the Trustees' policy to maintain a Roof Contingency Fund within the Fabric Fund to meet the cost of renewing the waterproof covering on the flat roof of the main church building. The existing roofing material was replaced over 20 years ago and was guaranteed for only a ten year lifespan. It is anticipated that the cost of replacing the roof will be well in excess of £40,000 and the Trustees have allocated £47,000 towards this eventuality. In the last year there has been some water ingress through the roof in a number of areas other than the main church building including the vestry, hall vestibule and church entrance vestibule. The roof coverings in these areas will be attended to in the near future, the repair costs being met from the reserves in the General Fabric Fund.

The renewal of the lighting within the church sanctuary continues to be an issue. Only a few of the fluorescent tubes now operate and replacement units are no longer available. The installation of alternative fittings, initially planned for 2010, continues to be frustrated by delays in having a proposed design scheme approved by the

Church of Scotland. Whilst the fitting of much brighter bulbs to the existing pendant fittings has provided a temporary solution there is still a pressing requirement to replace the existing lighting systems. There is also a need to modernise the stage lighting in the church hall. The associated costs will be met from the reserves in the General Fabric Fund.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

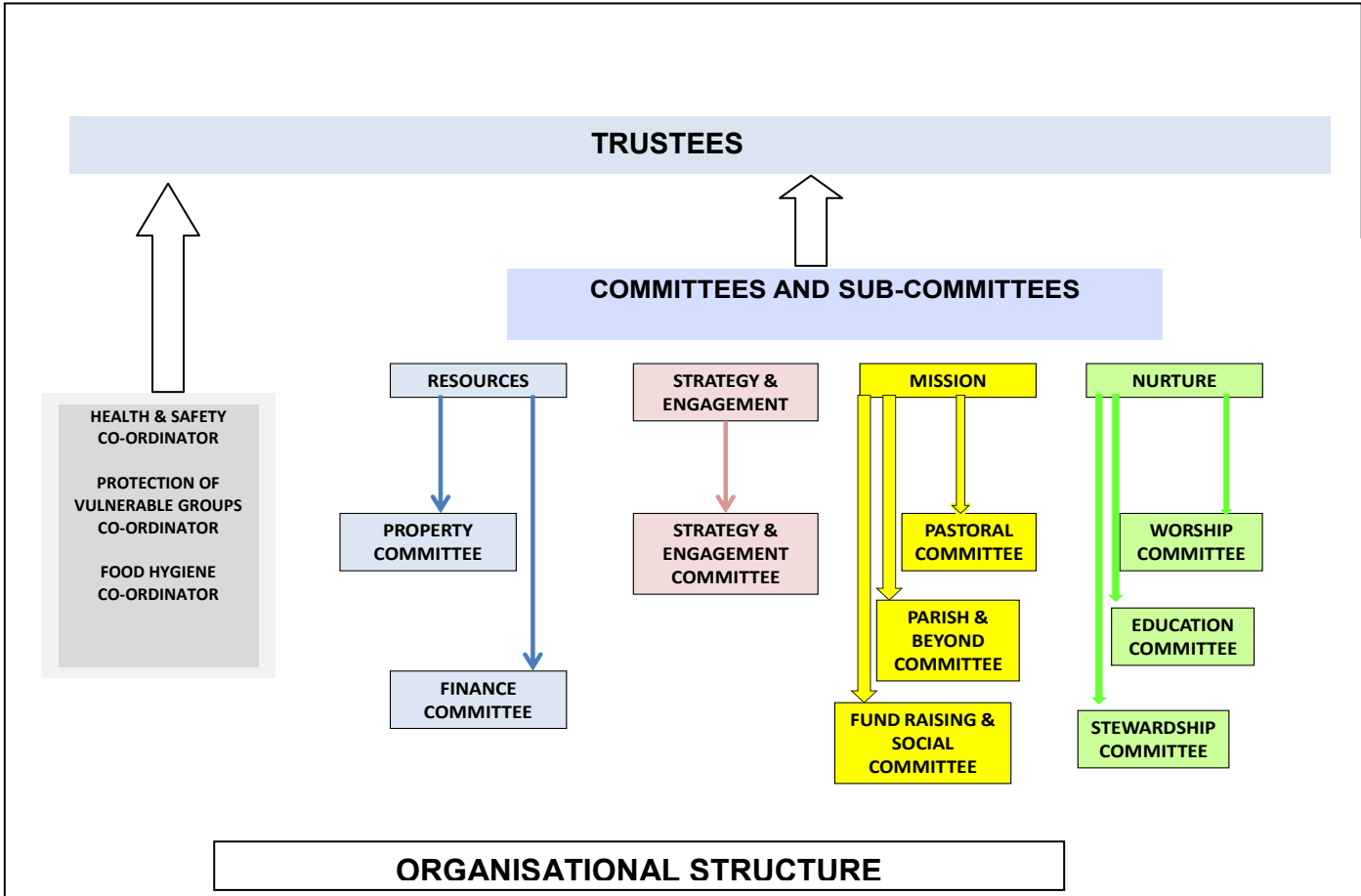
The members of the Kirk Session must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Church during the financial year. The members of the Kirk Session are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Church at that time. This must be 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,

A Norman Bolton

Session Clerk

Date



Stamperland Parish Church SC003155

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stamperland Parish Church, Clarkston

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2014 which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

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) (d) 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 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Ian C McNab

Retired Bank Officer

76, Stamperland Drive
Clarkston
Glasgow
G76 8HF

Date