

Save Cleish Church

Cleish Village Trust SCIO

Campaign Update
29 November 2025



Quick Recap - why we are here...

2023

- General Trustees of CoS announced Cleish merger with Fossway. Church was set to close by end of 2025.
- Villagers agreed to look at possible acquisition along with Glebe, Cottage and possible other lands.
- Body set up, with a view to establishing a Community Right to Buy (CRTB)

2024

- CoS General Trustees announce plan to accelerate closure. Kinross-shire 'super' Parish formed. Cleish closes end 2024 (1 yr early).
- CVT charity formally constituted in October 2024. Registered with OSCR.

2025

- CRTB for church, cottage and Glebe granted by Scottish Ministers 11 June 2025
- First public meeting in March to gather feedback
- Video, Social Media, a fundraising page launched. Local press coverage.
- CVT agrees off-market transfer in principle with CoS General Trustees and to raise funds by end 2025
- November 2025 - Second Public Meeting

About Cleish Village Trust (SCIO)

Membership is drawn from KY13 0LR only

Associate Members from wider area (limited numbers)

Acknowledge tight geographical area, but this is a requirement of the CRTB application. Can be reviewed in future.

Seven Elected Trustees (0LR): Ron Kitchin, Fred Whalley, Cliff Culley, Liz Jeffrey, Cliff Culley, Fran Principe-Gillespie Charles Millar

Three co-opted Trustees: (Outside 0LR): David Leslie. Neil Freshwater, Graham Bennett,

Registered as **charity** with OSCR, **CRTB** with Scottish Ministers, and **Gift Aid** with HMRC.

Fundraising Update - target £110,000

Church building has been valued at £90,000

Survey and legal fees have been budgeted at £10,000

Year 1 operating costs estimated at £8,000

Pledges to date: £74,000 (plus Gift Aid at 25%) =
£92,500

All funds to date are private donors.

We plan to set a deadline of **15 December** for donations to be received.

This allows CVT to assess actual firm financial position and consider next step. i.e. do we think we have enough to proceed with an offer.

Questions to ponder...

Do we want Cleish Church for the community?

Can we make it work financially?

Can we get enough support (both money and volunteers?).

We would estimate concluding a sale Mar/Apr 2026

Business Plan Recap: 3 purpose pillars

PILLAR 1

PURPOSE:

Cultural, heritage and community

This activity is driven by the motivation to keep the building open and accessible and preserve heritage.

It could include simply keeping the door open as a tourist attraction.

It could include concerts and lectures, by donation or ticket sale.

It could include church services or other such gatherings.

PILLAR 2

PILLAR 2

PURPOSE

Commercial fundraising

This activity is driven by the need to pay the bills and realise the 'commercial' potential.

Activity include use as a wedding venue.

It could include income generation from funerals and baptisms.

It could income from general private hire.

PILLAR 3

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PURPOSE

Voluntary fundraising

This is activity is driven by the opportunity for charitable fundraising.

It could include donations, grant applications, legacy fundings, tins-rattling, fundraising events, etc.

E.g. 50 people giving £25 per month = £15,000 p.a.

Estimate minimum outgoings per annum (*excl. major repair and maintenance*)

SOURCE	COST	NOTES
Business Rates	£0.00	80% relief should be available as SCIO. Further 20% from council hopefully, meaning 100% relief.
Electricity	£2,050	This is based on Church usage 2023/24 and therefore assumed the minimum/fixed.
Insurance	£2,400	Based on current usage. Could significantly change based on usage change.
Cleaning	£600	Assuming 3 hrs per month
WiFi	£200	Arrange wireless link to Hall to share cost?
Routine Maintenance	£2,000	Small annual routine maintenance tasks, organ, electric
TOTAL	£7,250	

Exit Strategy

- Review after 3 years
- Property could be sold or developed, in discussion with community
- Proceeds would likely return to CVT for community use

NEXT STEPS

- Evaluate funds raised by 15 DECEMBER 2025
- Decide to make offer/negotiate, or ask for extension, or decide not to go ahead (subj to surveys etc).
- Begin preparation for first year of activity
- If provisional offer made this month, expected completion would be March 2026.

Thank you :)

Questions