



Trustees' Annual Report 2019-2020

For the year ended 31st March 2020



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Ground-levelling prior to the arrival of the portacabin units

CHARITY CONTACT INFORMATION

Charity Name	Midmar Men's Shed
Registered Charity Number	SC049095
Address	c/o The Midmar Hall Unnamed Road Inverurie AB51 7NE
Governing Document	Midmar Men's Shed Constitution (adopted 11/12/18)
Website	https://midmar.uk
Email	midmarmensshed@gmail.com
Trustees	Chairperson: David Smith Treasurer: Jonathan Wilson Secretary: Paul Thain
Management Committee	Jim Allan Nigel Bennett Gordon Gauld Peter Woodhead Rob Ferguson

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The Midmar Men's Shed was established after seeing the success of other Men's Sheds in the surrounding larger towns, with the aim of bringing similar activities closer to our remote area. Midmar is 10-15 miles from the nearest towns and villages. With relatively limited facilities, the area of Midmar relies on a strong network of social clubs and community initiatives.

As stated in our Constitution, the aims of the Shed are:

(a) To provide recreational facilities or organise recreational activities aimed particularly - though not exclusively - at men, with the aim of promoting their social inclusion and generally improving their conditions of life.

(b) To promote good health and wellbeing to its members through active participation and, from time to time, providing opportunities for relevant health organisations to raise awareness of good health strategies for the benefit of members or the community.

Membership is open to anybody over the age of 18, irrespective of religion, political views, nationality, disability, sex, or race.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

Our governing document is the *Midmar Men's Shed Constitution*. This sets out our charity's purpose, structure, and describes how we will operate. Our Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the charity complies with the rules of the Constitution.

The process for recruiting and appointing Trustees is described in the Constitution. In summary, there can be between three and ten members of the 'Management Committee', which includes the three Trustees (Chairperson, Treasurer, & Secretary). Trustee and Management Committee positions are elected during the AGM. To best reflect the needs and wishes of the local community, members of the Management Committee must be existing Shed Members, and permanently reside within five miles of The Midmar Hall.

The full Midmar Men's Shed Constitution can be viewed at: <https://midmar.uk/constitution>

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

INCORPORATION

After identifying the benefits that a Men's Shed would bring to the local community, a 'working group' of enthusiastic locals - who were keen to see the idea come to life - was established. After several months of discussing ideas, putting plans in place, and appointing our Trustees, we were delighted when, in March 2019, the Midmar Men's Shed was officially given charity status from the Office of Scottish Charity Regulators.

THE SHED

We started 2019 using the back room of the Midmar Hall as a temporary base, so our biggest project over the past twelve months has been the installation of a new hub for our activities - a temporary outbuilding near the Midmar Hall.



Phase one of our workshop area



Prep-work on a workbench surface

It has taken a mammoth effort to source, move, install, and modify these portacabin-style units to be fit for purpose. The exteriors have required re-painting, weatherproofing, and patching up. The interior has been re-wired, and sectioned off into a workshop, lounge, and kitchen area. Three

additional cabin sections have been stripped for all usable materials. We have been slowly filling our new shed with storage units, tools, workbenches, seating, and materials for future projects.

The majority of this work was undertaken by our members in their own time; however we are very grateful to the many local individuals, charities, and businesses that helped contribute to this project - see the "Thank You" section below.

TREE MANAGEMENT

Another medium-term project was to organise the removal of around one hundred old conifer trees surrounding the Midmar Hall. Our members worked closely with Aberdeenshire Council and the Woodland Trust to ensure the project was properly licenced, and that the re-planting & ongoing maintenance proposal was acceptable. The trees were cut down in November, and re-planting took place on March 15th.



Some of the 100 end of life conifers that were removed

FUNDRAISING

As a newly established charity, fundraising has been a key focus of the Management Committee. To help raise funds (and our profile in the community) we hosted two separate fundraising nights at the Midmar Hall in 2019: a *Band & BBQ* evening in June and a traditional *Ceilidh* evening in November. These were both well-attended, raising £906 and £744, respectively.

We have also signed up to some longer-term fundraising initiatives. In November, it was announced that we had qualified for the *Co-op Local Community Fund*, which will see us receive payments in April and November 2020. Applications for individual grants and donations have been regularly submitted. We have also signed up to Amazon Smile.



SMALL PROJECTS

We have undertaken multiple smaller projects related to the Midmar Hall and local area. These included re-surfacing The Hall's stage floor, maintenance of the drains & gutters, and cutting the grass around The Hall. We have also repaired and rebuilt broken / rotten garden benches, cleared a playground area that was no longer required, repaired a footbridge, cleared overgrown paths, and accepted small pieces of garden machinery for repair.



Picnic benches being repaired.



The lounge area of the shed.



The panoramic view to the North-West of our Shed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income and Expenditure Account for period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020

INCOME

	£
Donations In	451.00
Fundraising (to bank)	7,521.98
Fundraising (to petty cash)	<u>139.12</u>
Total Income	<u>8,112.10</u>

EXPENDITURE

Subscriptions	44.00
Professional Fees	2,134.78
Expenses	2,050.70
Donations Out	<u>100.00</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>4,329.48</u>

Net Surplus / (Loss) for the Year	<u>3,782.62</u>
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Opening Bank Balance	0.00
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Net Surplus / (Loss) for the Year	3,782.62
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Closing Bank Balance	<u>3,782.62</u>
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RESERVES POLICY

Any income obtained by The Shed shall only be used to further our objectives. Our ongoing operating costs are negligible as we currently have no utilities, and no paid staff. Therefore, it is our intention to use our cash reserve to fund upcoming projects. See 'Future Plans' below for more information.

FUTURE PLANS

Our charity year 2019-2020 was about establishing the Midmar Men's Shed within the community and getting our shed building ready to open. To date, a modest number of core members have been driving the formation and setup of The Shed. Whilst the outbreak of COVID-19 has limited our activities in 2020, we have still seen our membership grow. We are now in a position where our activities can switch from 'Shed readiness' to more recreational activities and pursuits that are driven by the membership, when COVID-19 related restrictions allow. We are also aiming to finish equipping our workshop with larger pieces of woodworking machinery, as this activity is the backbone of established and successful Men's Shed organisations.

Longer-term, we have been granted planning permission to build a permanent structure closer to the Midmar Hall. This involved five months of discussions and paperwork with local authorities, which was owned and delivered by one of our members. Current estimates for this work are around £40,000 - so fundraising for this will be a large part of our strategy over the next few years.



The ever expanding 'to-do list' on our Shed blackboard

THANK YOU

We would like to sincerely thank everyone that has helped us with their support, commitment, and generosity throughout our first year as a registered charity; without which we would not have been able to make such rapid progress in achieving our initial goals.

- Miller Plant Ltd
- Gordon Gauld Architectural Services
- CT Harvesting Ltd
- Inverurie Skip Hire Ltd
- The Midmar Hall Committee
- Scott Ligertwood
- Grampian Accounting
- The Super Moody Tuesday Band
- Warburtons Bakery
- All other individuals & members that have generously donated their time, energy, and money.

DECLARATION

Signed on behalf of the charity Trustees:

SIGNATURE:

Jonathan Wilson

PRINT:

JONATHAN WILSON

ROLE:

TREASURER

DATE:

21ST December 2020
