

# Midmar Men's Shed Annual General Meeting 2023-2024 Minutes

*Held at the Midmar Village Hall.  
23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024*

## **Attendees & Apologies**

**Attendees:** Louis Blackwell (LB), David Smith (DS), Andy Martin (AM), Chris Beetham (CB), Rob Ferguson (RF), Andy Douglas (AD), Paul Thain (PT), Pete Woodhead (PW), Gordon Gauld (GG), Ian Agnew (IA), Nigel Bennett (NB)

**Apologies:** Jim Allan

Meeting begins 19:35. Chairman welcomes everyone present.

## **Chairman's Report**

Let me start by noting that this AGM is long overdue, so some of the comments may seem a bit historical. Going forward we shall conduct the AGM shortly after the year's accounts are finalized, and before the OSCR report is due (roughly in the window of May to October).

Core Shed activities have continued with small, but regular, support. There have been more donations of equipment to the Shed, for repurposing, revitalizing and moving on. A number of the Shedders have used the space as intended: as a place to work on their own projects, and to learn new skills from others. It is great that no one project is truly solo, they all seem to, in some way, involve more than one person before they are completed, be it advice, discussion, assistance or amusement.

The monthly activities of Repair Café's, Shed Walks and occasional Board Games Nights have appealed to a different selection of Shedders and the community. This is very positive, as one of the core Men's Shed organisations objectives is social inclusion, and to combat isolation. I strongly believe that we should continue these efforts and entertain any new ideas that may appeal to an increased spectrum of the community. My thanks to Andy Martin for organizing the walks, Paul for organizing the Games Nights, and to all who have helped host a Repair Café at some point.

The symbiotic relationship between the Shed and the Village Hall continues. We have contributed a lot to the hall over the year, be it laying a new floor in the upstairs meeting room, installing more loft insulation, cutting grass and general repairs and maintenance. Thanks to Jim, Pete, David and anyone else that has helped. It all gives us good "credit" with the Hall committee.

Other community work has of course been conducted, some for very welcome donations. A great team effort to repair and reinstall the shelter over the Midmar water pump, with one resident commenting that it now looks better than it ever did. We have also completed a couple of projects for the Midmar Fishery. And while not directly linked to the Shed, several of the members have been very active with the Midmar Paths group, and have provided lots of manpower, and equipment, to help the cause. Special mention to Chris and his ride-on mower that made light work of cutting grass. Another part of the effort to support the local Paths has been the Comers Footbridge. Rob continues to lead this project for the community. While the next section is due to be replaced in the spring (2024), there have been running repairs conducted by the Shedders to patch broken treads to keep the bridge open and safe.

The Shed itself has required a few repairs, where the roof has been leaking, repeatedly. This leads on to the new Shed, which is starting to see traction. During the year the required rainwater soakaway was dug and filled (to keep the building warrant alive), with the machinery and rocks to fill the hole donated. Thanks to Gordon, David, Pete for making the hole, and Keith Collie for providing the stones. There has been much more work subsequently, with the clearing of the site, then digging and poring of the foundations. A true team effort, however a very special thanks to Gordon for continuing to lead this project: for providing many hours and for leveraging many contacts; and Andy M. for enlisting a few other companies to provide tremendous support providing materials.

We have to thank Jim for taking care of two things that by an large happen in the background: communications with the SMSA being one, the other is the rather painful process of renewing the insurance cover for the Shed, it's users and our associated activities.

And finally, a brief word about the Trustee's. Our constitution lists three trustees, which I think is the minimum requirement. Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. The intention was that the holder of each position would be changed every three years, to ensure that the duties do not become onerous as well as to give fresh eyes a look in. We will be voting on the positions later, but a special mention for our Secretary. Paul has, I'm fairly sure, been the Secretary since inception in 2018/19. He has done an excellent job, not only with recording and reporting (to OSCR), but also with the website updates and collating pictures of activities. Much of this work is done in the background, surely taking many hours. Paul, thank you very much for everything that you have done as Secretary of the Midmar Men's Shed, your efforts are much appreciated.

NIGEL BENNETT

*Chairman of the Midmar Men's Shed*

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Ends.

## Treasurer's Report

### Treasurer's Report to 31 Dec 2024

1. Referring to issued accounts for part year, our income is adequate for routine expenditure with a year on year cash surplus.
2. We have broken ground for the new shed with foundations in progress – all costs other than building warrant related have been covered so far by non-monetary donations.
3. Bridge monies are a restricted fund i.e. only to be used for that purpose and is effectively fully funded.
4. Reserves requirements considered minimal (insurance is only significant expense). New shed activity to be done in stages with each stage only commenced after funding or non cash donations established.
5. The one know risk relates to electricity costs, so far paid by the Midmar Hall.
6. Independent review of the accounts is required to be done (I don't believe effected in previous years). Recognising my lack of accounting knowledge advice on accounts format and Company Tax Return requirements to be checked (help anticipated from Grampian Accounting).
7. Acknowledgements  
*Crombie Trust; Grampian Accounting  
Re new shed: Hunter Construction; Miller Plant; Breedon; Jewson; and JKR Contractors  
Bridge: Paths for All; Cluny, Midmar and Monymusk Community Council; and Grampian Accounting.*
8. Not all membership subscriptions have been paid.
9. Any questions or comments on the accounts? Note: 2022/2023 accounts approved by Trustees for annual OSCR Return in December.
10. No Gift Aid has been received for Bridge donations via JustGiving.
11. There were no questions or queries raised regarding the draft accounts

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

<b>Monetary Assets</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2022/2023</b>
Bank Account	6517	2473
Cash in Hand	139	139
<b>Total Monetary Assets</b>	<b>6656</b>	<b>2612</b>

**Represented by funds**

General Fund	4352	2612
Bridge Restricted Fund	2303	0
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>6656</b>	<b>2612</b>

**Non-monetary assets and liabilities****Fixed Assets**

Temporary Shed	0	0
New Shed Foundations/BW	18461	0
Shed contents (tools, computer etc.)	5,000	5,000
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>23461</b>	<b>10,000</b>
Debtors	0	0
Creditors due within one year		
Insurance	400	400
Building Warrant ext	100	100
<b>Total non-monetary assets</b>	<b>22961</b>	<b>9500</b>

Chris Beetham  
*Treasurer of the Midmar Men's Shed*  
 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Ends.

**Secretary's Report**

- Couple of new Members: Louis Backwell (Feb 2023); Gordon Gauld formalised (Feb 2023)
- Third and Fourth Trustee Annual Reports - created and submitted to OSCR as part of mandatory charity reporting. Also a great shop window for us.
- Setup Amazon Smile which has since become defunct - but we made few hundred pounds from it.
- Setup JustGiving and Comers Bridge appeal - still need to iron out the Gift Aid.

- Website has been an ongoing labour of love. Keeping it current; added things like walking group, repair shed, board games pages. Progress on the new build.
- Facebook page created by Nigel; another string in the bow along with NextDoor.
- Preparing handover for next person: lots to write up and GDPR / Security compliance. Roles & responsibilities – formalising, kick off and leave it for new board members to finalise.

PAUL THAIN

*Secretary of the Midmar Men's Shed*

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Ends.

## Constitution Updates

NB: Today we have one membership category, which is "Member". I suggest that introduce a "Social Member" option for those that wish to come along for a social coffee, or perhaps join the walks, but have no intention of participating in Shed workshop activities. This may also allow more people to participate in the social (think inclusion and mental health), which will also hopefully lead to potential future full members, as well as membership numbers which are relatively stable at present. Propose: Member at £10 (remains), Social Member at £5 (new). **Voted through.**

Membership renewal year is from July. I propose that we link this with the financial year, and have the membership year running from April. Small change but might allow to do a better job of collecting dues. **Voted through.**

Ends.

## Election of Office Bearers

POSITION	ELECTED	NOMINATED	CONFIRMED	VOTE
Chairman	Gordon Gauld	DS	RF	All In
Treasurer	Chris Beetham	AD	NB	All In
Secretary	Nigel Bennett	AD	RF	All In

## AOB

No additional points of discussion were raised by any of the attendees.

Meeting closes at: 20:25