

## **Minutes of the 2018 AGM**

### **KINROSS & DISTRICT MEN'S SHED (KDMS)**

#### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 21st April 2018 Venue: the Shed, former Forth Wines premises, Milnathort**

**Present:** 26 members, 2 advisers, 3 guests

#### **Chairman's Welcome:**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending our first Annual General Meeting, and a warm welcome was given to the guests.

**Apologies:** S. Baillie, I. Brown, B. Davies, R. Ellis

#### **Chairman's Report:**

Our organisation's progress from a public consultation meeting later 2016 to the acceptance of an offer to use the present premises several months later is a reminder to everyone of our early development. Subsequently we have built on these foundations in meeting the objectives of the Shed, and the processes involved were identified.

Pursuing funding opportunities to help meet the aforementioned was and always will be important. The enthusiasm of our increasing members led to demands to grow faster than we could commit to or manage, specifically tools, machinery and facilities beyond our needs or funds, so more restrained options were adopted.

Though women are not excluded, men are the focus of our concern. Most are older, retired men, but some younger men have also benefited from attending and joining.

After one year, the Shed has nearly 50+ members. The committee is focussing on obtaining better facilities to meet their needs. Local politicians have recently been requested to help transfer Council owned property to be used and owned by the Shed. In addition S.C.I.O. charity status will soon be sought which should help strengthen our fund-raising potential.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

From our start with £14 in the bank the end of year bank balance was £997. During that time £5,355 was raised from various sources: grants, donations from local organisations and others, local community support at Kinross Decides 2017, and the shedders' projects. Following the ethos of the SMSA, we have no membership fees, so the Shed is accessible to all whatever their circumstances.

The outgoings covered a range of necessities, such as making the Shed habitable, health and safety measures, comprehensive insurance, tools, equipment, training, and publicity.

As our second year is starting busier than the first the financial future looks optimistic, but £500 is already allocated towards the insurance renewal.

### **Change to charity status:**

The Chairman reported that the committee recommended that the Men's Shed should move from our present group status to becoming a formal charity. By obtaining that status grant providers would consider us more favourably, thereby increasing our potential funding sources. This would be essential if we ever wanted to relocate to or even purchase more permanent premises. Agreed – unanimously

### **Adoption of a new constitution:**

The Chairman continued by explaining that charity status would require a new constitution in line with its requirements. This could only come into being when we became a charity. Agreed - that the new constitution be adopted when appropriate.

### **Explanation of the election of Officer Bearers, Committee Members and other positions:**

The Chairman noted that: some office bearers intend to step down; most existing committee members were willing to continue; the growth in membership and of activities needs more positions to administer the operation of our Men's Shed.

### **Election of Officer Bearers, Committee Members and other positions:**

The Chairman stood down for the duration of the election of the committee, and handed over to Tracey Ramsay, PKC's area Community Development Officer. She prefaced the election by thanking the Men's Shed, its members, and Shona Fowler, our NHS Tayside adviser, for all the hardwork that had gone into making it such a successful asset for Kinross and District. Tracey wished us well for the future and hoped the Men's Shed would meet its goals for the next year.

### **Election of Committee Members:**

Most committee members were prepared to serve for another year.  
(Nominated Committee members to be added)

### **Any other competent business:**

- Shona Fowler, NHS Tayside, congratulated the Men's Shed for having grown to an extent beyond her dreams. The companionship provided to men when in the Shed and the equivalent pastoral care for members when it was shut were particularly pleasing.
- Hugh MacPherson sought clarity on the advantages of being a charity. G.D. explained that the increased opportunities for funding would enable us to operate better, offer more activities, and generally fulfill our aims. As an example premises are always expensive to run, but at Forth Wines the presence of a charity, ASK, exempts the owners from paying rates, which otherwise ASK would have to pay directly or indirectly.

T.R. commented that a Board of Trustees has more protection against liability than a committee of a non-charity organisation.

In response to a guest enquiring why funds are needed, G.D. replied that not having membership fees meant donations were our Men's Shed's initial income.

- Hector Johnston asked if we paid VAT, and was informed it did not apply to a non-trading organisation.
- Alan Page enquired a) how new premises would cater for the various activities and projects, and b) if necessary how would priorities be determined. In response R.W. pointed out that every attempt would be made to meet the former, including some usage by other charities which could benefit us in various ways (that would be separate to the Shed area). Floorspace would be limited by what could be afforded, referencing Glenrothes M.S.'s new premises, but careful design and flexible thinking could maximise usage. Engagement with the members would be the customary process for resolving part b).