



Friends of Aytoun Hall

Registered Scottish Charity No. SC027157

Keeping the Heart in our Community

**MINUTES OF A BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
FRIENDS OF AYTOUN HALL (F of AH) MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE AYTOUN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AT 7.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2025**

Present:

David Homewood – Convener
David Brash – Treasurer
Jenny Haldane – Vice Convener
Rhoda Colvin
Jim Healy
Keron Magee
Lorraine McMillan
Victoria Squires
Shona Stewart

Apologies:

Alasdair Kay
Graeme McCall

ITEM 1 – INTRODUCTION

Those present were welcomed back to the committee table after the summer break, during which there had been some activity that would be covered in the agenda and bring everyone up to date.

After the AGM in June, the Annual Report and Accounts had been sent to the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR); they could be accessed on the OSCR website. The Convener advised those present of the password to enter the Friends of Aytoun Hall page.

ITEM 2 – PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of a Business Meeting held on 11th June 2025 were agreed out of session the week after the meeting and subsequently released into the public domain. No significant changes to the draft circulated had been proposed.

ITEM 3 – MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Finance.

The Treasurer had produced a simple financial statement in the Receipts & Payments format (Enclosure 1) up to the end of August 2025. There had been very few transactions made since the start of the new period in April.

It was queried whether the new projector should be included in the Friends of Aytoun Hall inventory. The Convener said that it had been envisaged that it would be part of infrastructure and not inventory content; F of AH had simply facilitated the buy by making the application to the Common Good Fund on behalf of the owner (PKC) as it had to be a community organisation that did so. It had originally been a capital buy without a maintenance programme and there had been no budget to replace it. The cost of a replacement had transited through the account and was not shown on the Financial Statement.

Building Maintenance & Repairs

Clock Tower Stairwell. Work on making good water ingress damage had finally been completed. Only the Council Chambers frieze moulding remained incomplete.

Rear Corridor. Water ingress damage had been reported some months ago, but no repairs or redecoration had been carried out. An inspection last week by the building maintenance officer had resulted in hastening action being taken. Making good the ceiling was the primary task.

Aytoun Hall Entrance Door. An outstanding repair on it awaited a spare part being obtained.

Events & Fundraising Projects

2025 Quiz. The Convener advised that this year's quiz had raised £404 after the £30 prize had been paid. Quiz answers and details of the winner had been placed in the Living Local magazine and on notices that had been posted in the town.

Bingo Tea – 24th September.

Mary McGraw was well into organising the event. Notices had been posted. Eyes down would be at 7pm. The Main Hall had been booked, but the Sliming World people had agreed to swap it for the Institute.

A response by trustees to an email requesting help on the night had been positive in some cases, and sandwiches/home baking for the event would be provided by some of those present. Furthermore, Keron Magee, Lorraine McMillan, Rhoda Colvin and Nicky Brash had committed to attend on the night and help, and would gather in the Institute at 6.30pm.

Christmas Music & Carol Concert – 16th December. The Convener had been in contact with the Head of Arts at the Community School and it was clear that they were keen to go ahead with a lunchtime concert. Without the income from donations

at the door when these concerts in December and June took place, it would be difficult for the school to continue with its reduced budget to provide the same level of tuition for pupils in music. Thus, whilst not a prime task of F of AH, facilitating these concerts were an essential part of maintaining a profile in the town and benefiting the community at the same time. The concert was a date for the diary; details about set up, etc., would be discussed at the November meeting.

Hogmanay Ceilidh.

Tickets were now on sale. Notices had been placed around the town and in the Living Local magazine. Texts had been sent to all who attended the last ceilidh to advertise the event. To date two responses had been forthcoming with requests for the reservation of 7 tickets, 4 of which had been paid for.

Jim Healy said that all was on track and that the event could be discussed in more detail at the November meeting, but more help than was available last year would be welcomed.

Coffee Morning – March 2026. In previous years a spring coffee morning had been successfully undertaken in March; a good time to launch a quiz. It was noted that Mothers' Day was on Sunday, 15th March, therefore, to avoid that weekend, it was proposed and agreed that a Coffee Morning should be held on Saturday, 21st March, subject to hall availability. Shona Stewart commented that the Merry-Go-Round Playgroup had booked the Aytoun Hall on the 7th March and that the Parish Church coffee morning would take place on the last Saturday of the month.

Inventory

September Inventory Check. Owing to the hall keeper being in hospital, it had been decided that the 100% inventory check would be postponed until January.

Review of Inventory Value. Jim Healy advised that a review of the inventory value for insurance purposes would take place in December. The Treasurer confirmed that the insurance renewal would take place in the new year.

ITEM 4 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A&A Connected AGM. The Convener explained that A&A Connected was now a registered charity. It had planned its first AGM for 4th June but had postponed it until 16th September. Organisations in the town were invited to become members; F of AH had subsequently been registered as such. It was important that F of AH could have an influence on the development of the town plan. The Convener said that he could not attend the AGM owing to another commitment. Lorraine McMillan and Jim Healy agreed to represent F of AH at the AGM, which would take place in the Park Pavilion at 7pm.

Library Group. The Convener explained why F of AH needed to be involved with the Library Group, it being linked to the Aytoun Hall utility provision for the whole complex. A meeting had taken place on 23rd July that had initiated the community activity that would be taking place in the library in conjunction with P&K Culture, mainly to prove to PKC its value to the community and to widen local interest and increase attendance. During September and October, a trial of a Chat Corner

(meeting of interested individuals) would take place on Fridays at 11am until noon. Other activities would take place, such as a genealogy group on Friday afternoons and on the first Tuesday of each month a Book Café, when individuals could come along and discuss books and authors they had enjoyed. Furthermore, in November a famous author would be invited to give a talk on Friday, 21st November at 7pm. Keron Magee confirmed she was interested in attending Library Group meetings.

Cosy Places. Starting on the last Friday of October, the Soup Lunches (part of the Cosy Places programme) would re-commence. F of AH would again facilitate the use of the Institute for Wednesday and Friday Soup Lunches until the end of March. However, it was not yet confirmed that the Inner Wheel would undertake the Wednesday lunches.

OSCR Data Requirements. At the previous meeting it had been explained that OSCR required details of trustees. The Convener had collated the required data and gave each trustee a copy to check for accuracy and to act as a contact list for the committee.

[Jim Healy noted that he was the oldest person present despite the fact that he still wore short trousers!]

ITEM 5 – FUTURE MEETINGS

Next meeting: Business Meeting on Wednesday, 19th November commencing at 7.30pm. Venue: Aytoun Hall Council Chambers. Rhoda Colvin and Shona Stewart offered apologies.

2026 Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, 14th January – Business Meeting.

Wednesday, 11th March – Business Meeting.

Wednesday, 13th May - Business Meeting.

Wednesday, 10th June – AGM & Business Meeting.

Wednesday, 9th September - Business Meeting.

Wednesday, 25th November - Business Meeting.

A copy of a prepared poster (Enclosure 2) was handed to those present.

David Homewood
Convener
Friends of Aytoun Hall

Enclosures:

1. Financial Statement to 31st August 2025.
2. Meeting Dates for 2026.

Distribution:

Action:

Committee Members

Information:

PKC Ward 7 Councillors

Chairman, Auchterarder & District Community Council
CAP Community Connector