

The Sandison Hall

St Fillans

Minutes of Sandison Hall AGM

Date 13th February 2026

Committee Members Present: Steve Howell (Chair), Audrey Gavigan (Treasurer), Russell Cunningham.

Apologies: Tom Green, Trish Forrester, Ruth Graham

Minutes of meeting on 14th February 2025: Minutes proposed as a true record by Richard Graham and seconded by Barry Fisher.

Matters Arising: None

Treasurer's Report:

The extract from the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2025 have been circulated.

1. Hall Rental

Rental income to date for 2025 amounts to £2,905. The major components were £500 from the dancers, £750 for warm spaces use, £250 for the village art show, £200 for Low Carbon and Foundation Scotland, £150 from Aquila. There were 9 organised village events, 3 private villager events, 9 external events.

2. Members' subscriptions and donations

Members subscription notices were issued during May via the Village WhatsApp Group and the CC email circulation list and reminders were issued as appropriate throughout the summer. £910 of subscriptions and £2,303 of donations have been received.

Donations received, other than from Villagers, were £90 from Hogmanay, £43.71 from the Friends of Sandison Hall, £1000 for hall speakers from Aquila, £150 from Burns night, £20 from Warm Spaces, £79.12 from Perthshire Open Studios - an anonymous donation plus the sale proceeds of "Cunningham" wood sculptures.

3. Fund Raising

Fund raising from the Swishing Event amounts to £510.

4. Grants

£500 Administration Grant for 2024 and 2025 and £180 for warm spaces from P&K have been received, together with a £30,000 grant from SSE Renewables for the installation of the Heritage Archive Hut.

5. Expenses

Expenses are as shown. Heating costs are based on the current monthly direct debit which allows for reduced usage over the summer months. Our credit balance with Scottish Power at the end of the year is £1719.97 but billing for December to March will reduce this somewhat as electricity usage increases notably during winter months. Scottish Power installed a smart meter in January.

Repairs are the charge from Access Point Fire & Security to service and replace the Fire Alarm System £1902 and fire equipment maintenance £36. A balance of £800 has been paid for the new front door. Miscellaneous repair costs amounted to £169.

A monthly rental of £75 is charged by Starlink for the operation of the WiFi system. The P&K Grant has been spent, and the rental now comes out of general funds. The Hall Committee are exploring alternative options to reduce the cost.

Sundry expenditure is mainly the refreshment costs for the Community Council, which are recouped from the adjusted rental invoices.

6. Assets

Cash balances at 31st December 2025 are £38,548 at RBS and £5,916 with Scottish Widows. Monies in the RBS account include the Grant from SSE for the Heritage Hut which is restricted and will only be used for this purpose.

The overall assets of £44,465 are allocated as follows:

General reserves	£14,519
Restricted Funds	£29,000
Marketing and event start-up costs	£750
Warm Space Fund	£196
Advance rental from Aquila	£100

Chairman's Report:

The Sandison Hall had a successful 2025. There were over 100 events in the hall during 2025. Highlights from the year include:

- the successful application of a grant from SSE for the new heritage hut
- the Perthshire Open Studios has now become an annual event and was once again a great success
- numerous private and village events were held, including, the annual Hogmanay party and quiz
- the warm spaces' initiative supported by funds from P&K were a great success

The Hall is run by a committee made up of the Trustees and members of the Hall representing the community interest groups who use it.

2025 saw changes to the Trustees of the Hall. I would like to say thank you to Johnston Brown and Trish Forester as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. They have both stood down after well over 10 years of being an active part of the running of the Hall. Consequently, we have a vacancy for a Trustee to join the group. If there is anyone interested in having a say on how the Hall should be run, please get in touch with one of the group.

During the last year the group held 4 scheduled meetings. There are currently 4 working groups that are responsible for:

- Maintenance
- Finance
- Marketing
- Special operations

The working groups are still in their infancy and anyone wanting to help in any of the areas are more than welcome.

Looking ahead for 2026 we will be undertaking two key initiatives.

The first one being the construction of the heritage hut in conjunction with the Heritage Trust. This is expected to be completed by the summer. The structure has been ordered and the base commissioned. We are now awaiting some decent weather for the contractor to lay the concrete foundation.

The second is the start of a fundraising campaign to provide funds for a new Hall kitchen. If there is anyone interested in helping with this just let us know.

The success of the hall during 2025 has been due to the hard work of the hall committee, the friends of the Sandison Hall and many villagers who have given their time freely and put on the varied and various events during the year. I would like to thank all those who helped the hall during the last year. In particular, the friends of the Sandison Hall who stepped up following Covid to help bring life back into the hall. The group has now disbanded formally, and we are grateful for all they have done. Thank you. I'd also like to thank Andrea and Aquila Wildlife and Nature who ran numerous sessions in the Hall through last year and have also kindly donated funds for new speakers. These have been ordered and will be arriving over the weekend.

Finally, I would like to thank the villagers for their continued support of the Sandison Hall. It is here as an amenity for the village to use and myself and all the Sandison Hall committee members commit to working with the community to make the best use of it we can.

AOB: None

Steve Howell

Chair Sandison Hall Committee