

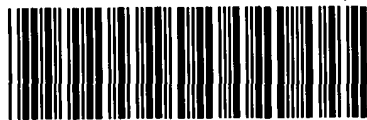


jamesmilne
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Aboyne Highland Games
Scottish Charity Number SC040590

Report and Financial Statements
°
for the year ended
31st January 2026

WEDNESDAY



AF1HF2W2

A14

06/05/2026

#65

COMPANIES HOUSE



Report of the Trustees

The Trustees submit their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st January 2026. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16th July 2014.

Objectives and activities

Our objectives are summarised in our Memorandum of Association.

The Aboyne Highland Games founded in 1867 is a community-based activity open to all and designed to provide a showcase for traditional Highland Games activities with 105 arena events which include:

Heavy weight events

Highland dancing and piping competitions

Hill race

Tug-o-war

Light athletic events

Massed pipe bands

Fiddle competition

Clan Village

Traditional funfair

Various high-quality trade stands featuring a variety of local produce and crafts

Achievements and performance

- Over 9,700 people attended this year's event, enjoying some great weather.
- We continue to attract high overseas visitor numbers, and our staff in the overseas visitor facility reported enthusiastic and complimentary comments on the diversity of our Games.
- The Clan Village, unique to Aboyne, is well supported by the various Clans local to the area.
- Online ticketing again proved to be very successful and helped with the queue management at the entrance gates.
- Card readers were used again at the entrance gates to reduce cash handling and worked very well due to the increased wi-fi coverage. Wi-fi was extended to cover the majority of the trade stand area and worked very well. Will look to continue to expand on this for future years.
- We held a successful Picnic & Prosecco charity event on the Friday before the Games which raised £13,500 for local charities.
- The Saturday night disco was again a success with tickets only available online and through card transactions on the night.
- Dinner for kindred gatherings and supporters was held in January this year.
- Prize money on offer with a total in excess of £18,000. Additional prizes were awarded for a World record, 3 local records and tossing of the Aboyne Caber.
- Another grandstand was purchased to replace the old wooden covered grandstand and heather arch. This was partly funded due to the generosity of McIntosh Plant Hire and Aberdeenshire Council Rural Communities Challenge Fund.
- We increased the light events for women competitors compared to previous years.
- We paid tribute to longstanding members and appointed a Captain of the Games. We also enjoyed official visits from the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Lyon and 2 Officers of Arms.



Report of the Trustees (contd.)

Financial review

The results for the year under review, contained within pages 7 and 8 of this report, should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements on pages 9 to 11.

The operating surplus of the Games, including donations received, was £29,461 (2025 - surplus of £95,278) while other income of the Games grossed £5,203 (2025 - £6,597) meaning a surplus for the year of £34,664 (2025 – £101,875). After allowing for a gain on revaluation of investments and the surplus for the year, the unrestricted funds of the Games were £434,831 (2025 - £399,255).

As the figures herewith show, the Games organisation continues to be in a healthy state.

Risk management

This is dealt with under four headings:

1. A dedicated health and safety officer (a Trustee/Director) oversees all aspects of risk management. These duties receive the support and scrutiny of all of the Trustees and Members.
2. Aboyne Highland Games operates a risk assessment analysis. This is documented, and updated regularly, for each discipline within the Games. All Trustees are involved in this procedure.
3. A full-scale Event Management Plan is in place (endorsed by all the emergency services, licensing authorities, local authority, etc, etc.) and is updated annually.
4. All Games activities are covered by asset and liability Insurance.

Reserves policy

It is our policy to hold sufficient reserves to facilitate for:

- (a) 2 years of bad weather, where the risk of cancellation or poor attendances adversely affect income.
- (b) The replacement of older assets and acquiring additional equipment when appropriate.

Future plans

- Continue to upgrade older assets.
- Continue to promote participation opportunities for female athletes in the Light Events.
- Engage in succession planning and improve diversity in our Committee and Volunteer teams.
- Explore the adoption of further technology for the management of event results.
- Continue to strive to improve the profile of the Games, which is now regarded as one of the best around, through enhanced marketing and social media activities.
- Further strengthen and widen collaboration and mutual support activities with our Kindred Highland Games at Ballater, Lonach and Braemar.
- Explore opportunities to promote the Games on an international level through global networking.
- Consider the implications and impact of the introduction of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025, known as Martyn's Law, will have on the Games. Prepare and plan now for its full implementation by April 2027.



Report of the Trustees (contd.)

Structure, governance and management

Charitable status

The company was registered as a Scottish charity with effect from 18th June 2009.

Governing document

Aboyne Highland Games is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 7th July 1998. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association. These were updated in 2009 to reflect the charitable status of the organisation, and the Articles of Association were further revised with effect on and from 14th April 2011.

Recruitment and appointment of committee members

Aboyne Highland Games currently has 10 Directors/Trustees and 33 additional Committee Members.

Membership is very stable and only changes when a member retires, or a convenor seeks extra labour to assist with a particular task. Each name put forward has to be proposed and seconded and subsequently voted in/out by the membership. Each proposer to be certain that their nominee is prepared to accept office if elected. All members are recruited from the local community.

Committee induction and training

Basic training is carried out by convenors. In addition, the Chairman also carries out one to one induction with new recruits. Regular meetings are held to continue the learning process.

Health and safety awareness training is carried out with reference to the Risk Assessment Manual. Where contact with children and vulnerable adults is envisaged, specialist outside training is provided, and required certification obtained.

Aboyne Highland Games
Scottish Charity Number SC040590



Report of the Trustees (contd.)

Directors/Trustees:

Daniel T. Robb	Chairman
Robert F. Dinnie	Vice Chairman
Ian T. Rigby	Treasurer and Company Secretary (Resigned 25/09/25)
Lydia A. Rattray	Secretary
Michael G.A. Martin	Trade stand Convenor (Resigned 25/09/25)
Jack L. Taylor	Piping/Dancing/Fiddle Convenor (Resigned 25/09/25)
Murray W. Brown	Heavy Events Convenor
Neil A. Fyvie	Light Events Convenor (Resigned 25/09/25)
Neil J. Meldrum	Programme/Publicity Convenor
Lewis A J Lilburn	Safety Officer
Ronald H. Hay	Car Parking Convenor (Resigned 25/09/25)
Stuart N. McConnach	Arena Convenor
Daniel S. Scott	Entertainments Convenor
Kirsty E. Saluja	Company Secretary (Appointed 26/04/25)
Martyn A. Paterson	Treasurer (Appointed 25/09/25)

Accountants:

James Milne
Chartered Accountants
5 Bon Accord Square
Aberdeen
AB11 6XZ

Bankers:

Virgin Money
1 Queens Cross
Aberdeen
AB15 4XU

Solicitors:

Raeburn Christie Clark & Wallace LLP
12-16 Albyn Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1PS

Registered office:

C/o Raeburn Christie Clark & Wallace LLP
12-16 Albyn Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1PS

Scottish charity number:

SC040590

Company number:

SC187424



Report of the Trustees (contd.)

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the charity Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

On behalf of the Trustees on 23/04/2020

Daniel T. Robb
Chairman



Report by the Independent Examiner

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st January 2026 which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of management committee and examiner

The management committee are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The management committee consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended), and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended)

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

David S. Minett CA

Partner
James Milne
Chartered Accountants
5 Bon Accord Square
Aberdeen
AB11 6XZ

1.5.26

Aboyne Highland Games
Scottish Charity Number SC040590



Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st January 2026

	Note	2026 Total Funds £	2025 Total Funds £
Income and endowments from:			
Investments	2	5,203	6,597
Charitable activities		247,555	291,018
Total income		<u>252,758</u>	<u>297,615</u>
 Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	3/4	218,094	195,740
Total expenditure		<u>218,094</u>	<u>195,740</u>
 Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments		34,664	101,875
Net gains/(losses) on investments	6	912	1,384
Net movements in funds		35,576	103,259
 Total funds brought forward		399,255	295,996
Total funds carried forward		<u>434,831</u>	<u>399,255</u>

All funds are unrestricted

Aboyne Highland Games
Scottish Charity Number SC040590



Balance Sheet
at 31st January 2026

	Note	2026		2025	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	5		280,335		189,090
Investments	6		91,209		121,899
			<u>371,544</u>		<u>310,989</u>
Current assets					
Stock		810		975	
Debtors	7	5,486		5,267	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>67,693</u>		<u>94,118</u>	
		73,989		100,360	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	<u>(10,702)</u>		<u>(12,094)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>63,287</u>		<u>88,266</u>
Net assets			<u>434,821</u>		<u>399,255</u>
Funds					
Share capital	9	-		-	
Unrestricted funds	10		<u>434,831</u>		<u>399,255</u>
			<u>434,831</u>		<u>399,255</u>

For the year ending 31st January 2026, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with Section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements;

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

These financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 23/04/26 and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Daniel T. Robb
Chairman

Lydia A. Rattray
Secretary

Company registration number: SC187424



Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st January 2026

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the provisions of FRS102, section 1A, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation on the bases set out hereunder.

Depreciation

Depreciation is charged as follows -

Equipment - 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, and 25 years straight line

Investments

Investments are stated at market value.

Incoming resources

Income from investments is included in the financial statements when receivable.

Incoming resources from charitable trading activities are included in the financial statements when receivable.

Other incoming resources are included in the financial statements when receivable.

Resources expended

Expenditure on charitable activities comprises those costs incurred by the company in the delivery of its activities and are included in the financial statements on an accruals basis.

Expenditure on governance costs including accountancy fees and costs linked to the management of the company are included in the financial statements on an accruals basis.

Taxation

Aboyne Highland Games became a registered charity on 18th June 2009 and therefore became exempt from taxation on that date.

2. Investment income

	2026	2025
	£	£
Bank interest	1,549	2,259
Dividends received	3,117	4,338
Compensation	537	-
	<u>5,203</u>	<u>6,597</u>

Aboyne Highland Games
Scottish Charity Number SC040590



Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st January 2026

3. Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

During the year four Trustees received honoraria totalling £10,000 and one trustee received reimbursement of expenses totalling £560.

4. Charitable activities

	2026	2025
	£	£
Charitable activities include:		
Accountancy	<u>2,226</u>	<u>1,976</u>

5. Tangible fixed assets

Equipment

Cost

At 1st February 2025	337,352
Additions	119,734
Disposals	-
At 31st January 2026	<u>457,086</u>

Depreciation

At 1st February 2025	148,262
Charge for year	28,489
On disposals	-
At 31st January 2026	<u>176,751</u>

Net book value

At 31st January 2026	<u>280,335</u>
At 31st January 2025	<u>189,090</u>

6. Investments

	2026	2025
	£	£
Listed investments		
Market value at 1st February 2025	121,899	112,241
Additions	36,513	47,417
Disposals	(68,115)	(39,143)
Gain/(loss) on revaluation/disposals	912	1,384
Market value at 31st January 2026	<u>91,209</u>	<u>121,899</u>
Whereof		
Investment assets in the UK	<u>91,209</u>	<u>121,899</u>

Aboyne Highland Games
Scottish Charity Number SC040590



Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st January 2026

7. Debtors

	2026	2025
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>5,486</u>	<u>5,267</u>

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Other creditors	<u>10,702</u>	<u>12,094</u>

9. Share capital

The company is limited by guarantee. It has no share capital.

10. Unrestricted funds

	2026	2025
	£	£
At 1st February 2025	399,255	295,996
Surplus/(deficit) for year	<u>35,576</u>	<u>103,259</u>
At 31st January 2026	<u>434,831</u>	<u>399,255</u>