



Archiestown Village Council

Trustee Annual Report & Accounts for year ended 31 August 2025

Scottish charity number SC001696

Current Trustees

Mr Ally Bruce
Mrs Gillian Jones
Mr Boyd Ross

Contact Address

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Recruitment & Appointment of Trustees

Angus Holmes was replaced as a trustee in November 2023 by Mr Boyd Ross. The role of Secretary going forward was shared by Mr Sean Jones and Mrs Gillian Jones.

The Village Council is actively taking steps to increase the number of trustees, to develop the organisation, alter its legal status, the constitution and so move with the times.

Governing Document

The council currently is an unincorporated association whose purposes and administration arrangements are set out in our constitution, we are currently reviewing development options for our governance.

Charitable Purposes

Our purposes, as recorded in our current constitution, are to alleviate poverty and to promote the well being, education and advancement of all residents of Archiestown and District and to foster community spirit.

Activities & Achievements

Our activities centre around raising funds to maintain the village hall, open spaces, pavilion, playpark and playing field, to remain solvent and keep these facilities running for the benefit of residents.

During 2024/25 we were particularly active and successfully raised funds to repair the hall flat roof, update our digital communications, install a big screen projector, big screens and enhanced sound facilities within our village hall.

We also embarked on a project to replace/update the play equipment at the playpark during 2025/26. To that end we worked closely with Moray Council on behalf of The Scottish Government's Shared Prosperity Fund and Moray Pathways Community Space Fund both of which contributed to the digital equipment upgrade, whilst the Scottish Government's Play Park Fund will pay for the Play Equipment upgrade once installed.

During 2025 the Village Council also collaborated with Moray Council, Knockando Primary School and engaged fully with the local community during the planning phase of the Playpark project. We therefore have continued to foster good relations with Moray Council, local business and surrounding wind farms, other local settlements' community associations; we hold multiple fundraising events during the year to raise funds which pay for the village council's

ongoing costs, including Christmas celebrations, a party and presents for all children of primary school age.

In association with Moray Council's Community Support Section from May 2025, using the newly installed digital technology, the Village Council inaugurated "Archiestown News", published/distributed quarterly free to all households within the Archiestown area and our website and the Facebook Page in particular is regularly updated and appears to be a popular source of village news and comment among residents.

We've had a return to our normal calendar of activities following the Covid Pandemic, the annual Hogmanay Ceilidh is a success, well attended (by all ages) but expensive to run, however the band (the event's major cost) is keen to co-operate and run funding events during the year to defray the New Year expense.

That said we've noticed a real change in attendance re activities and timing of events post Covid is crucial, AVC's fete was again cancelled in 2025 due to a clash with a large anniversary event in nearby Craigellachie, however plans are progressing for an event at our Playpark celebrating the equipment upgrade/installation in summer 2026 – we own the marquees, seats and tables, a bar and stock, the band is willing – so the event ought to work well as we've many new residents (of all ages) who moved into the locale within the last 2 years who are keen to mix with fellow residents – without the need to drive to an event.

We have seen a slight increase in hall lets and due to the grant awards received over the last 2 years, the facilities we now offer attract other local organisations seeking good communications, big screens and surround sound; we've found our film shows and live events, when actively promoted via social media/local posters are good sources of revenue, particularly during the long winter months, where trial events have shown promise – well attended and profitable, so we'll definitely run more.

That said, managing our running costs for community facilities is an ongoing battle all too familiar to many local community organisations.

As a point of principle, the village hall is provided free of charge for funeral teas for members of the village who have sadly passed away, this is aligned to our aims as per the current constitution. Our committee are exploring avenues whereby we can at least cover costs for hosting these events – these are often happy events celebrating the villagers' life and works around the locale.

The village council held a number of events throughout the year eg whisky/gin tastings, film shows, quizzes and pub nights - all aimed at supporting the village council funding, fostering and enhancing community spirit as per our Aims and Objectives.

Our Gardening Group continues to make a difference to the village's appearance, new members have joined and our Playpark Upgrade project enjoyed constructive feedback from the community engagement process and as a result we're hopeful of commencing a project later in 2026 which will ultimately see a village polytunnel and community garden all within the open space adjacent to the playpark, pavilion and playing fields.

Trustee Remuneration & Expenses

The trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses during the year.

Reserves

There was a deficit of income over expenditure of £21,563.38 at the end of the financial year, however this included the payment of replacing the roof which had been funded during the previous financial year for the charity.

The treasurers account stood at £10,013.11 and a cash float of £611. The National Savings Investment account stands at £101.75.

We continue to earn RHI (Renewable heat incentive) payments since our hall and boiler renovation in 2013, and due to internal process issues within RHI Organisation we have calculated and claimed approx. £3500 which is owed to us.

This is an issue that our committee is aware of and appropriate action is being taken to regularise this situation as a priority.

Approved by the trustees & signed on their behalf.

Boyd Ross
Chairman
28th October 2025