

Markinch Town Hall Management Committee

Chairperson's Report – AGM – Year Ended 31 March 2026

Good evening to you all and welcome along to Markinch Town Hall Management Committee's Annual General Meeting. It is appreciated that you have taken the time this evening to come along and hope you take something positive away from the evening.

We have now completed another year of successfully providing a well maintained safe space for various users both near and far. Our daily/weekly lets continue providing childcare through MASK for working parents/carers. An opportunity for the 60+ to socialize, meet new people and be entertained through the Wednesday Club. For those who have a passion for singing/acting or to be part of the team, we have both MAOS and GAMA who rehearse weekly with MAOS also holding their annual show, "Me and My Girl". And classes for the youngsters include , Scottish country dancing, taekwondo and a toddlers club. As well as these regular groups, we have held a number of birthday parties, quiz nights, ceilidh, fundraisers to name a few as well as larger ticket events including music events and comedy shows. Together, all these events bring visitors to the area and the hall and financially this allows the committee to continue to make necessary improvements and upgrades. As part of an upgrade with MAOS equipment, it was agreed that the hall would purchase new stage lighting which would then be available for lets to use if required.

Our main hall floor was completely refurbished during the Christmas break followed by the stage and the side room, something we had planned to do for some time. We have continued to maintain the paintwork with touch up work being done regularly along with painting exterior doors/windows and down pipes. Fife council have spent a considerable amount of time over the past year attempting to fix the various roof leaks and it seems that finally they have now managed to achieve this. They continue to keep the committee informed of any policy/regulation updates and assess the hall regularly. The fitting of our Hive system last year has now proved to be beneficial with our heating costs clearly lower than the previous year and we hope in the coming year to move forward with new lighting to further reduce these costs.

The hall requires a scheduled cleaning rota to allow us to provide a clean and safe environment for our lets and we have been fortunate to receive a grant to help cover these costs. The more lets we have in the hall the more cleaning required and we are keen to keep our newly refurbished floor looking good with regular cleaning. Having recently reassessed our PHS contract, we have also managed to make cost savings which will be reflected in the year to come.

We are in the process of obtaining quotes for a full refurbishment of our accessible toilet and the work for this will continue into the following year.

Most of our meetings are attended by our local Councillor Peter Gulline who has guided and assisted us with many aspects of running the hall and is always happy to help support us in any way he can. I would like to thank him on behalf of the committee for his support during the past year both as a Councillor at our meetings and as a resident of Markinch attending events.

The hard work and dedication from our committee are the only reason the hall continues to be kept in as good condition and whilst our numbers are fairly small, we are committed to keeping the hall available for all the community to enjoy. I thank you all for your continued support over the year.

Last but by no means least, by far our greatest achievement this year was making it all the way to a feature on BBC News for our little hedgehog friend who got stuck down “a rusty underground drain” and with the help of Yvonne from MASK and Burntisland Hedgehog Haven he was rescued unharmed. Fife Council were quick off the mark to provide us with brand new drain covers so a win win for all.

Until next time.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mandy Gray-Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal dotted line.

Mandy Gray-Brown (Chairperson)

21 May 2026