Tomintoul & Glenlivet
Development Trust

Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust









Directors Annual Report

1st April 2024- 31st March 2025

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1. Contact information



Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust

Scottish Company Number: SC424813

Scottish Charity Number: SC050269

Registered Office: 43 The Square
Tomintoul
Ballindalloch
Moray
AB37 9ET

Email: info@tgdt.org.uk

Web: www.tgdt.org.uk

2. Board Directors

Ellie Richardson resigned in July 2024 and Linda Morris resigned in March 2025.

At the end of the reporting period the board members were as follows:

Tilly Smith (Chair) David Toovey (Treasurer), Sam Robinson, Alastair Sharp, Robert Mintram and Chloe Clay.

3. Chairs Statement

Affordable Housing:

The year was dominated by issues regarding the housing. Alpha Projects returned during the summer to undertake some of the snagging but there were still considerable areas to be addressed.

In August there was an EGM called by the members to discuss the affordable housing. This resulted in TGDT board members meeting with local representatives of some of the residents and it was agreed to commission a report based on the building condition of three of the houses. Savills undertook the inspections in December 2024

The final report was made available on the website on 21 March 2025.

No more snagging took place despite numerous attempts by TGDT to encourage Alpha back on site.

Campsite/Motorhome site

Despite full planning permission being granted by CNPA , progress of the proposed Campsite beside the CES Industrial Units came to a halt during the year because of lack of funding.

Although TGDT had managed to secure a loan and grant from Social Investment Scotland (SIS) of £250K, there was no other match funding forthcoming. As a result the board reluctantly agreed in early 2025 to return the loan and shelve the project.

Dark Skies

The Dark Skies Group (which is made up of Cairngorm Astronomy Group (CAG), Dark Skies/Heritage ranger and Crown Estate Scotland (CES) ranger) organised frequent talks on astronomical and dark sky topics throughout the period. The majority of talks were held in the Discovery Centre, and the new SkyHide dedicated viewing facility at the Field of Hope. The SkyHide was put in place by CES and was designed as a joint effort between CAG and CES. Dark Sky walks were also initiated along the old military road and were well attended.

Following a survey in 2024, work commenced in 2025 on upgrading the outside lighting of around 20 domestic properties in Tomintoul. These works were undertaken using legacy funds from the Landscape Partnership.

Engagement continued with local distilleries on upgrading outdoor lighting to dark sky compliance with Tamnavulin Distillery achieving 100% compliance, a first for any Scottish whisky distillery.

The Cairngorms Astronomy Group website continued to be a showcase for the Dark Sky Park, contributing significantly to attracting dark sky tourists to the area. Online membership of the group's Facebook page continued to expand past 1700 members.

Glenlivet & Inveravon

Glenlivet and Inveravon development projects gained major ground during this period, picking up new projects and gaining traction on existing ones. We began the funding and planning process for the Braes Memorial Garden, a place of remembrance and contemplation in the grounds of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. We also worked with the Glenlivet and Inveravon Community Association (GICA) on their work to purchase the Inveravon Church. During this period we assisted them in applying for funding to complete a feasibility study & business plan, structural survey, condition survey and valuation.

We built on existing projects such as the Dorenell Cross Area Footpath Network where we employed Outdoor Access Trust Scotland who made progress on the Dufftown to Aberlour route by clearing Gorse and replacing a bridge. We also worked in partnership with the Glenlivet Public Hall who completed a technical options appraisal and were successful in their application to Dorenell Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund to purchase a ride on lawn mower.

We also completed a full suite of events for the area including Create & Connect sessions where local artists took people into nature and encouraged them to be inspired to create art. It culminated in an exhibition at Tea in the Park. Speaking of, Tea in the Park 2024 was a great success with the biggest amount raised yet. Other events put on included an end-of-Summer Ceilidh, Behold Ye Ramblers at the Braes Hall, The Four Magicians and Caledonia at the Glenlivet Hall.

Smugglers Hostel

Smugglers Hostel- Rebranding of the Hostel was put on hold due to shelving of the Campsite. Electric Vehicle charger was installed and the car parking area mapped out and new storage/bike/drying sheds installed.

Discovery Centre

Discovery Centre- Visitor numbers were a total of 2587, the Discovery Centre was open all day, 6 days a week with 2 members of staff up to September 2024 when staffing levels were reduced to 1 and opening hours were reduced.

Post office numbers were 5253 and open 4 days a week up until September 2024 when it was decided to open on a Tuesday morning which extended opening days to 5 days a week,

The ATM was installed in February 2025 and was up and running in March, we had initial teething problems, which were solved. It may still take the occasional card due to the wi fi dropping out.

Food Bank.

This was open and well used throughout the year with 3 -4 weekly collections from Elgin to keep it topped up.

Kind regards,

Tilly Smith

Chair of the Board

4. Objectives and activities

The stated **Aim** of TGDT is:

To develop, inspire and embrace a sustainable, vibrant future for the Tomintoul and Glenlivet area.

The **Vision** of TGDT is:

A vibrant and sustainable community for Tomintoul and Glenlivet, providing opportunities for employment, enterprise and cultural regeneration that can support the infrastructure necessary for a quality way of life.

The **Mission** of TGDT is:

To achieve the Vision through the delivery of development projects and ongoing initiatives, supported by a small portfolio of managed sustainable social enterprises.

5. Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

The operation of Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust is governed by its Memorandum of Agreement (constitution), the written statement that sets out our purpose, structure and describes how we operate.

The document is available on our Companies House page where you also find our accounts and details of current and former directors https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/SC424813/filing-history?page=3

Trustee recruitment and appointment

TGDT board currently has spaces open so if you would like to work with us to help achieve our aims please get in touch info@tgdt.org.uk

6. Financial review

Income in the reporting period was £221,197 (2024 -£924,902) and expenses were £215,791, (2024 - £898,924) resulting in net income of £5,406 (2024- £25,978).

The Charity Statement of Financial Activities shows a net assets position of £1,902,298, (2024- £1,896,892). There is a balance of unrestricted funds of £9,683 and a balance on restricted funds of £1,892,614.

a. Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust recognises that holding reserves is good practice for a community body that owns and manages assets on behalf of the community. Generating unrestricted funds with a project delivery focussed agenda is challenging but progress is being made through the implementation of financial procedures that enable the tax efficient transfer of funds from our trading subsidiary Tomintoul Hostel Ltd to Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust a registered charity.

b. Deficits

Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust continue to bridge a funding gap at Tomintoul & Glenlivet Discovery Centre/Post Office using unrestricted funds from the operation of the Smugglers Hostel which prides a valuable source of revenue as well as keeping this vital service in the village.

c. Donated facilities and services

We are grateful to our funders and supporters who share our vision and invest in our mission including Glenlivet & Inveravon Community Association, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Dorenell Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, Scottish Land Fund and Crown Estate Scotland.

8. Membership

Membership of Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust is free and open to anyone resident in the AB37 9 postcode area. Our members are vital in realising the Trust's vision for Tomintoul and Glenlivet and in delivering the wide range of projects in its Community Plan. Becoming a member of TGDT will enable you to have a positive impact on your community; to help influence decisions that will change Tomintoul & Glenlivet for the better. So why not join us, share our successes and help us to achieve even greater things for Tomintoul and Glenlivet!
Membership benefits include:

- Entitlement to vote at members meetings
- Regular newsletter
- Demonstrate support for your local community development trust, its vision and mission
- The opportunity to be elected as a Director of the Trust

Types of membership:

- Full Membership is available to any person aged 18 years or over, who lives or works in the Tomintoul and Glenlivet (AB37 9 postcode) area and is entitled to vote at a local government election
- Junior Membership is open to individuals aged between 12 and 17, who live in the Tomintoul and Glenlivet (AB37 9 postcode) area
- Associate Membership is open to individuals not ordinarily resident in or employed in the AB37 9 postcode area, and to any organisation who would like to support the work of the trust

How to join

All you have to do to become a member is complete and submit an application form. Your membership helps to support the core operations of Tomintoul & Glenlivet

Development Trust. Application forms for membership can be found here or by emailing info@tgdt.org.uk

9. Future plans in the financial year

In the 2025 – 2026 financial year Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust will focus on the following areas:

1. Completion of affordable housing development
2. Support Glenlivet Hall and Braes Hall with plans to refurbish their halls
3. Promoting our areas Dark Sky status to maximise benefits to the area
4. Working towards financial sustainability for the Trust and its operations through diversified income streams given Core Funding is due to end
5. Continuing to support our community through the provision of the community larder facilities at the Discovery Centre
6. Maximising the benefits that charitable status brings

10. Additional information

Thank you to members for attendance of events and engaging with the trust this year.

11. TGDT Balance Sheet (extract from page 9 of the consolidated group accounts)

Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust

Statement of Financial Position Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	16	1,972,315	1,966,500
Investments		100	100
		1,972,415	1,966,600
Current assets			
Stocks	17	929	929
Debtors	18	8,870	22,800
Cash at bank and in hand		234,101	271,170
		243,900	294,899
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	63,074	111,292
Net current assets		180,826	183,607
Total assets less current liabilities		2,153,241	2,150,207
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20	250,944	253,315
Net assets		1,902,298	1,896,892
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		1,892,615	1,889,578
Unrestricted funds		9,683	7,314
Total charity funds		1,902,298	1,896,892

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 23/12/2025. and are signed on behalf of the board by:

D Toovey

D Toovey
Trustee

12. Tomintoul Hostel Limited Balance Sheet (extract from page 2)

Tomintoul Hostel Limited
Balance Sheet
As At 31 March 2025

Registered number: SC447891

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fixed assets	791	969
Current assets	26,238	18,311
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	(7,178)	(6,421)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	19,060	11,890
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	19,851	12,859
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year	(4,629)	(5,449)
Accruals and deferred income	(1,008)	(6,258)
NET ASSETS	14,214	1,152
CAPITAL AND RESERVES	14,214	1,152

Notes

1. **General Information**

Tomintoul Hostel Limited is a private company, limited by shares, incorporated in Scotland, registered number SC447891 . The registered office is 43 The Square, Tomintoul, Ballindalloch, AB37 9ET.

2. **Average Number of Employees**

Average number of employees, including directors, during the year was: NIL (2024:)

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

On behalf of the board

Mr David Toovey

Director
20th October 2025

Mr David Toovey

Director