



Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust

Annual Report
March 2017 – March 2018

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1. Introduction

2017-18 has been an incredible year for Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust and the Board and I am pleased to be presenting this Annual Report to our members.

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.

The Purpose of this AGM and its supporting reports is to review the year ending March 2018. However, in this introduction I would just like to give you some current updates. Firstly, to the progress of the Tomintoul & Glenlivet Community Plan 2018-22.

1.1 Mixed Development in Tomintoul and Glenlivet

Affordable Housing – community feedback was clear that in Tomintoul that the development of the old secondary school site was the first

priority. The Trust is currently working with the site's owner and the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust to examine the feasibility of a development on this site. We are also considering one site in Glenlivet for a Live-Work Unit

Caravan Park/ Campsite – a site has been proposed by the Glenlivet Estate and they have indicated willingness that it might be sold to TGDT. Once we have progressed this a little further we shall consult with the community about the outline plan.

1.2 Development of the Glenlivet Bike Hub with further adventure activities

The Trust was advised by Savills that the current leaseholder of the Hub was not renewing the lease which would terminate at the end of October 2018. The development of the hub with further adventure facilities is a key part of our Development Plan and the Glenlivet Estate have indicated their support of our involvement. The current open tender for the lease by Savills makes it difficult for the Trust to respond. Should a new tenant be found, we hope that there will be an opportunity to work with them and the Glenlivet Estate on the further development of the centre.

1.3 Development of Dark Skies Observatory and Science Centre

The Board would like to thank David Newlands and Sam Robinson for their assistance to the Landscape Partnership staff on the 'Dark Skies Designation' application. It has been indicated that the preferred site for a

facility to support this initiative would be close to the Glenlivet Bike Hub. This further emphasises the importance of this site to the Community Development Plan.

1.4 Development of Community Woodland and Walking Infrastructure

A 'Memorial Wood' is planned for Drumin and Glenlivet Estate has indicated their support. The Trust has emphasised the need to provide 'disabled/easy' access to the castle as part of this project.

1.5 WILD in the park

Our first event in celebration of the Landscape Partnership Project took place at Glenlivet Hall on 12-14 October 2018. It was very well attended, and we had a very good mix of buzzing family friendly activities inside and out, together with well-attended illustrated talks, a WILD Film Night with feature film 'Edie' and a community café.

1.6 New Staff

We also welcomed new faces to the Smugglers Hostel and Museum teams and this session were pleased to welcome Kenny Harris and Vikki Jackson at the Hostel, Jules Irvine, Dawn Davison and Nicole Metcalf and Jeff Clare at the Discovery Centre and Rebecca Irons as our Participation Manager. In recognition of his increased responsibility, following his annual appraisal, Oliver Giles was promoted to the position of Development Manager.

1.7 Volunteers

We were delighted to welcome our volunteers to a thank-you lunch at the hostel recently. We have more volunteers than ever allowing us to keep the Discovery Centre open 7 days a week during a long season, helping with the hostel, events and hands-on project work. My thanks also to those on the Wildlife Group, the Dark Skies Project and the Oral History Project for the wonderful work that is producing real results.

Doug Nisbet (Chair)

2. Chair's Report

After the last AGM, the Directors elected me as Chair. Otherwise there was continuity on the Board with previously co-opted members John Polak and David Toovey being elected. On a somewhat sadder note, John Osbourne and Mike Terry, who were previous members of the Board passed away and our thoughts are with their family and friends. In the 2017-18 year, Mary Williams Edgar resigned and in the current year Mark Finnie, past Chair, resigned. Mark has moved out of the area to Ballater and we wish him well in his new venture 'over the hill'. The Board would also like to record its thanks to Mark for all his hard work over many years.



The Trust as a Social Enterprise

Although the Trust has succeeded in funding the Development Manager and core costs for the next three years, the Trust is aware that it must move towards self-sustainability in its core costs during this period. Thus, in order to maintain our mission we require to further develop our portfolio of revenue-earning assets as social enterprises benefiting the community and the Trust.

In terms of current assets, the asset transfer of the hostel and museum from Moray Council was formally agreed as a nil value transfer to TGDT in April 2017. This gave us the authority to make major improvements to both buildings and secures the long-term community ownership and management of these two vital resources in our area. Our energy efficiency project at the Smugglers Hostel is nearing completion with the installation of new double-glazed windows in 2017-18 and a new central heating system in the current session. Crown Estate staff donated time to create the link between the hostel and adjacent garden, which can be used for camping.

Our major project in 2017-18 was the re-development the Museum into the 'Discovery Centre'. This was the first project underway in the Landscape Partnership Project. We secured planning permission, building warrants and LEADER match funding in advance of our final submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). This exciting project with a budget of £445k is the most ambitious the Trust has undertaken. We are grateful for all the support we've received from volunteers and the community at consultation events and are confident that we can deliver a first-class facility, fit for visitor and community use alike. The Centre opened right at the end of the 2017-18 year on 31st March 2018, with the official opening by Clare Russell, the Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire a few days later.

Since this opening, during October 2018 we recorded our 10,000th visitor, exceeding our expectations for the centre. Unfortunately, the 'coffee point' at the centre has become a source of dispute with some village businesses and the Trust received a petition against this hospitality facility. The Trust has continued to engage with the objectors in an attempt to resolve this issue and with the help of Highlands & Islands Enterprise, has engaged facilitators from Delfinity Consultants to help in this process. The Trust has staff and overhead costs to meet in the operation of the centre and we need to ensure that it does not become a drain on our other activities. Our Business Plan aspires to a break-even position for the centre at the end of next year, but we are still some way from achieving this. In the previous centre, we had hospitality facilities and the new machine reduces the staff time needed. We are looking at other creative ways to 'balance the books' and we welcome constructive ideas from the community.

Governing Document

It was reported at the last AGM that the Trust would finally progress to charitable status as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Institution (SCIO) in the current session. We engaged legal and other professional advice and a new SCIO Constitution was proposed at an EGM on 28th June 2018. There were considerable complaints about this new constitution and the meeting had to be abandoned. Since that time, the Board has taken further advice and agrees that the SCIO

is not the way forward. We are thus proposing to continue with the present constitution lodged at Companies House of a Company Limited by Guarantee. Some members will be aware that at the 2013 AGM there was a Special Resolution to eliminate the Annual Subscription to the Trust but that this had never been advised to Companies House. In order to regularise the current practice of not charging an Annual Subscription, an Ordinary Resolution is being proposed at this meeting to set the subscription for next session to zero. We are proposing that we should continue to do this at subsequent AGMs, unless or until a subscription is proposed.

Charitable Status

In August 2012, shortly after the Trust was established and with the support of its members, Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust (TGDT) applied for charitable status. This application was turned down by the Office for Scottish Charities Regulator (OSCR) as the application lacked some important detail about the proposed activity and how it linked with the charitable purposes of TGDT. Charitable status was revisited by the current board of TGDT in 2016-17 and the intention to progress this again was in the Chair's Report at the last AGM.

There are significant financial benefits to TGDT becoming a charity. We will be able to claim gift aid on donations at Tomintoul & Glenlivet Discovery Centre and donations made by Tomintoul Hostel Limited (our trading subsidiary) will also be maximised for the benefit of

the community. In addition, the charitable aspects of our activities will not be subject to Corporation Tax. On reflection, our ability to deliver significant parts of our Community Development Plan 2018-22 will be assisted by continuing to operate as a company and seeking charitable status for this entity. The only apparent downside is that we will have to make returns to both Companies House and OSCR.

The structure of TGDT is not changing and the day to day operation is not expected to change. We will remain an open membership, member owned and controlled organisation with a volunteer board elected from membership at an AGM. The Directors will have the same responsibilities and powers as currently and no additional powers will pass to staff or the Trust Board. We propose to outline a full rationale for Charitable Status to the membership and give opportunity for Members to comment on the proposal at a future Members Meeting. At present we understand that it will not be necessary to change the present constitution and thus once the Members have been consulted, the Board will be able to take this forward within the present Company Limited by Guarantee.

Board Governance

I am pleased to report excellent attendance and involvement of the members of the Board. We are sorry to be losing Malcolm MacGarvin due to his out of area business commitments. As well as his work on the Board,

Malcolm has been instrumental in keeping track of the frustrations of Broadband delivery and chairing the Wildlife Group. I thanked Jennifer Stewart for her work and vision for the Discovery Centre at its official opening. We are sorry to lose her at this AGM and her input to the Board will be missed. We are pleased though, that Jennifer has indicated willingness to continue to help us on some activities. I am encouraged that new directors have been nominated bringing local knowledge and expertise that is complementary with our aims.

Some community members met with our representatives from Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Cairngorms National Park and we are told that they were critical about the Trust's Board Governance. I am sure that most volunteer boards are not perfect, but to get an independent view HIE were able to fund a 'Board Health Check' which took place in October 2018. Initial feedback was that we were fulfilling the fundamental criteria for good governance. We await their proposed actions which should not be difficult to implement.

Communication

I'm pleased to report that we have continued to hold our "drop in" meetings to allow the community to hold face to face discussions with Directors and staff members about the work of the Trust. We have also attended meetings of the two Community Associations to inform and support each other in our common goals.

In addition, Rebecca Irons has undertaken some training to be able to update the Trust's website. We hope that members will see an improvement in this being 'up to date'.

In closing, I would like to thank all those who have served as Directors and Staff members of the Trust for helping us achieve so much in the 2017-18 session and since. On behalf of the Trust, its Directors and its staff members I would also like to thank all our funding partners for their financial and professional support.

In particular, I would like to thank our Development Manager, Oliver Giles, for his delivery of the Discovery Centre. Oli has balanced a hands-on involvement with the operation of the centre and the hostel with our longer-term development plans. In addition, he provides line management support for 8 staff, deals in a timely fashion with all the administrative matters such as grant draw-down and accounts. On behalf of the Board, I would like to record our confidence in Oli's abilities to support TGDT now and in the future.

Doug Nisbet – October 2018

3. Development Manager's Report

3.1 Heritage Lottery Funded Landscape Partnership Project

It's been another busy year on the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Tomintoul & Glenlivet Landscape Partnership project. Having recruited a dynamic and multi-skilled team, the job of delivering the 20 projects began in earnest.



TGDT is the lead partner responsible for the delivery of 3 projects in the Landscape Partnership:

1. Tomintoul and Glenlivet Discovery Centre
2. The Community History Project
3. TGLP Events and Celebration Programme



The team supported TGDT in the delivery of the Discovery Centre and

had other successes, including the creation of a wildflower meadow and bird hide on the land adjacent to the Conglass and the development of a logo and branding for the partnership. The trust also hosts two of the Landscape Partnership staff and provide the Landscape Partnership team with office accommodation above the Discovery Centre. The trust is committed to a lasting legacy for this HLF-funded project beyond the end of the funded period to September 2020.



3.1.1 Tomintoul & Glenlivet Discovery Centre

The refurbishment of the Tomintoul & Glenlivet Discovery Centre was the Development Trust's most ambitious project yet and this year saw the centre transformed. In April 2017 we completed the asset transfer process and the museum was brought into community ownership. In addition to refurbishing the museum space we converted the first floor into office accommodation for the Landscape Partnership team enabling them to be based in the village.

The physical refurbishment works was a two-phase process. Phase 1 - building

works contract including changes to the layout and improvements to the building fabric, Phase 2 - fit out, the installation of interpretation, graphics and interactives.



The physical works contract was completed by Andersons, our main contractor in September 2017, on time and under budget.

The fit-out began in October 2017 and was undertaken by our Phase 2 team led by Urban Display. During one of the hardest winters for years, the fit out team designed, built and installed the Running in tandem with the fit-out contract was a recruitment and re-

stocking programme. Our new Participation Manager Rebecca Irons recruited seven volunteer Discovery Centre ‘Ambassadors’ to help us run the centre during the busiest times and Julianne Irvine and Jeff Clare were employed as Discovery Centre Assistants, completing the team.

The HLF funded refurbishment has been complemented by the installation of a Virtual Reality (VR) exhibit. The exhibit which depicts an ‘illicit still’ site was funded through a Highlands & Islands ‘Year of History and Heritage’ grant. We secured £30,000 to develop and deliver the VR installation in partnership with St Andrews University.



This academic partnership has been very productive for TGDT and the St Andrews staff have shown great enthusiasm and commitment to the project and its ongoing development. The exhibit has proved incredibly popular and it's always great to see young and not so young folk

experiencing our landscape and heritage in such a modern way.

3.1.2 Community History Project

The Tomintoul & Glenlivet 'Oral History Project' continues to inspire and unite our communities through sharing our shared heritage. The 'Memory Days' held in 2016 generated a huge amount of material including photographs and sound recordings. This material has been catalogued and key-worded in 'Adobe Lightroom' and is ready to be exported to a more user-friendly database. This massive task has been co-ordinated by Jennifer Stewart and Malcolm MacGarvin on an entirely voluntary basis. We're incredibly grateful for their contribution and commitment to this important community history project.

The images collected by the Oral History Group were fundamental to the refurbishment of the museum. Having a rich database of key-worded images to choose from, made the graphic design and interpretation phase of the museum fit-out significantly easier. We were able to choose the best images knowing that they had been scanned and stored at the right resolution and in the right format graphics and structures in time for our grand opening on 3rd April 2018.



You can see many of the images collected during the memory days in our Discovery Centre, either on the graphic panels or the digital displays integrated into the panels.

The space for the digital archive and the hardware to access it were installed during the fit-out phase of the museum refurbishment. A contract to develop the user-friendly database is being let in 2018.

3.1.3 TGLP Events and Celebration

With the Trust's staff and volunteers fully committed to the on-time and on-budget delivery of the Discovery Centre, the expansion of our Events Programme had to take a back seat.



The board of TGDT took the opportunity to discuss and refine the programme, seeking feedback from our communities at our community plan consultation events. Heritage Lottery Fund approval for our detailed

programme, which has evolved since the development phase, was also sought and received in June 2018. This gives us the confidence our communities and funders are supportive of our proposal which includes: A Book, Art and Film Fair, located at Glenlivet Public Hall; a Tomintoul & Glenlivet Country Fair; Lighting up The Wolf@Drumin Castle and The Glenlivet Whisky Food and Fiddle Festival. It is anticipated that these events will become part of the legacy of the HLF funded Landscape Partnership and we are consciously designing them to be sustainable in future years.

3.2. TGDT Social Enterprise

3.2.1 The Smugglers Hostel

The 2017 season at the Smugglers Hostel was challenging in many ways, we had a high turn-over of staff and were without a dedicated warden for much of August, our busiest month. However, despite this we continued to develop the operation at the hostel and improve the physical asset which we own and operate on behalf of our communities. The main improvement we secured funding for in this reporting period is the addition of central heating. It has long been the ambition of the Board to upgrade from the expensive and inefficient electric heaters. Diligent and careful financial management of our core grant during the three-year funding period gave

TGDT the financial resources to undertake this project in early April 2018.



Despite the issues with recruiting staff, the hostel had a busy season, like for like bookings during the main season were up 11% and the improvements at the Lecht ski centre saw a 20% increase in winter bookings too. This is particularly significant for TGDT, as extending the visitor season and incrementally reducing the seasonality of our assets are two of our business priorities.

The summer season saw the return of the Gaelic language group for the third year in a row. We thoroughly enjoy hosting and catering for this great group of young people who are so passionate about our area and our heritage.

The hostel has retained its 4 Star rating from Visit Scotland and our certificate of excellence from TripAdvisor.



The Trust would like to thank the community for their ongoing support and help with the Smugglers Hostel. The Hostel attracts visitors to Tomintoul from all over the world. Just over half our guests come from the UK, many also come from Europe with Germany, France and the Netherlands being key markets, not to mention those that come from further afield including the USA, Canada and Australia. The Smugglers Hostel is set in a great location for outdoor enthusiasts, back-packers and it also plays host to many return customers who come back each season for events such as the Tomintoul Motorcycle Gathering and the Tomintoul Highland Games.

3.2.2 Participation Project

In April 2017 the Scottish Government 'Aspiring Communities' funding stream was announced. The fund for new activity undertaken by communities aspiring to own land and other assets, was considered a good fit with TGDT activity and priorities and in November 2017 our application for a Participation Project was approved. We began a recruitment process for a Participation

Manager to deliver the project and in March 2018 announced Rebecca Irons



as the successful candidate. Rebecca has the challenging task of increasing levels of participation throughout our communities and was instrumental in bringing back some familiar (and some new) faces to the Discovery Centre. Rebecca's 'Participation Project' is funded until May 2019 and we'll report fully on the project in the next Annual Report covering the 12 months April 2018-April 2019. Rebecca can be contacted at rebecca@TGDT.org.uk

3.2.3 Events

Our headline Skerryvore gig moved up a gear and in May 2017 we put on the biggest and best Skerryvore Concert in our area. Skerryvore, Scotland's number 1 Traditional Scottish rock band played to a sell-out crowd at Glenlivet Distillery on Friday 28th April. The gig organised by Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust kicked off an exciting weekend of Whisky-themed events in the area organised by others as part of the 'Spirit of Speyside

Whisky Festival', including a whisky masterclass by The Whisky Castle and a pub quiz at the Glen Avon Hotel.



The gig was the third time TGDT have bought Skerryvore to the area and the new venue at the 'Malt Barn' was provided exclusively and free of charge by Chivas Brothers. This doubled capacity of previous years and provided an excellent atmosphere, with plenty of space yet the intimacy we've come to expect from Skerryvore.

The night's proceedings were opened by young local band 'Footerin' About' who played a great mix of traditional classic Scottish folk songs mixed with the band's own material, including songs from their iTunes top 10 album 'Red Mist'. The young band got things



off to a great start and proved they're one to watch out for in the future!

Next up were Drums & Roses, a drums and pipes band from Paisley whose audience interactions and mixture of classic tunes and modern pop covers proved irresistible to most and the party really got underway! The culmination of this was a conga round the Malt Barn led by the band.

After a short intermission to draw the raffle, with prizes kindly donated by Chivas Brothers, The Whisky Castle, The Glen Avon Hotel, The Cairngorm Reindeer Centre and Spindrift, it was time for Skerryvore to step on stage. The band instantly connected with the crowd playing 'Call of the Sea', 'Showman' and a cover of the Johnny Cash classic 'Folsom' in quick succession. After their signature 'Everyone Down Low' they continued plucking classic after classic from their extensive catalogue with highlights including 'Caledonia', 'Rocket' and 'Angry' and before long the band were getting everyone off their seats with their last song 'Path Home'. After leaving the stage to rapturous cheers they returned to play 'Crooked' and finished an amazing night of Scottish music.

3.3 TGDT Development Projects

3.3.1 The Community Development Plan 2018-2022

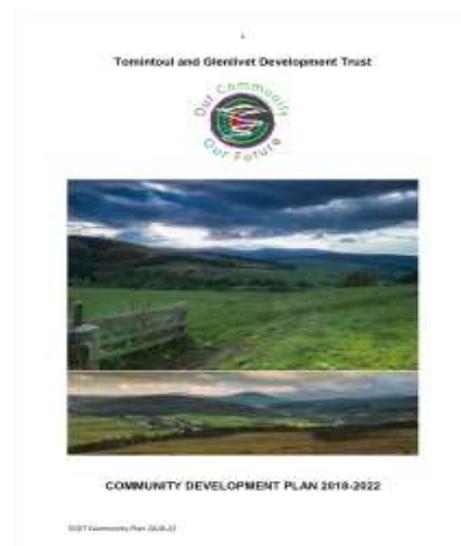
The 2017 / 18 financial year was the final year in the second phase of core funding from our project partners for TGDT. Recognising the importance of funding for TGDT's core activities and the potential gap in earned income the board began a dialogue with funders to secure another phase of core funding. Given the pressure on public sector budgets we knew we'd have to make a very strong case to secure the £40,000 per annum required to run the Trusts core operations.

The community planning process and stakeholder conversations were led by Doug Nisbet, TGDT Chair and in December 2017 we held public consultation meetings in Tomintoul, Glenlivet Hall and the Braes Hall. In addition, questionnaires seeking project ideas and asking our communities to comment on priorities were widely circulated. The feedback was analysed and fed into the plan which by then was in draft format. Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) expressed a strong desire to see the hard work of TGDT continue and agreed a new three-year grant offer that would enable TGDT to retain the Development Officer role until 2021. Moray Council were unable to continue funding TGDT due to the extreme pressure on their own budgets and Crown Estate Scotland although keen to retain a partnership working arrangement were not able to guarantee the in-kind support of office

space for the three-year duration of the funding agreement.

Glenlivet & Inveravon Community Association (GICA) helped bridge the shortfall left by Moray Council and we're incredibly grateful for their support. The Trust has also committed earned income from the Smugglers Hostel and Events programme to core operations. This is recognising that in this three-year funded period we'll have to take more steps towards financial self-sustainability of our core operations.

Our Community Plan 2018 - 2022 sets out the vision of Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust and reflects the aspirations and needs of our community. Successful delivery of the plan in partnership with stakeholders and our communities, will see the regeneration of our area continue and its future as a thriving place people want to live, work and visit secured.



The Tomintoul & Glenlivet Community Plan 2018 – 2022 can be found in the downloads section of our website or obtained from the TGDT office.

3.3.2 Broadband

Following the end of Cairngorm Community Broadband and Community Broadband Scotland (CBS), we have four routes, set out in detail in Appendix 1, for getting broadband into poorly served parts of our AB37 9 Development Area—the Scottish Government funded R100; the new EE mobile and broadband network; Community Broadband; and BT. One key consideration is how much time individuals and community bodies in the area can put into this, and whether they have the necessary skills. Another is whether and how the communities might help fund these works, if other public funding sources are insufficient, lack urgency, or otherwise fail. Notably, Dornell Windfarm ‘top-up’ monies, spread over the next couple of decades, appear sufficient to help make any of these options viable, without excessively draining the funding ‘pot’ for other uses, and provide a service at reasonable cost to subscribers. It carries risks, and the results of attempted interventions by TGDT and others to date have not been encouraging – although circumstances change. For sure, the communities should not pay commercial providers twice for infrastructure, whether that provided through EE’s 4G mobile mast Emergency Service Provision contract; through reasonable expectations of routine BT upgrades; and/or moneys that received by a winner of the R100 government-sponsored provision. Urgent discussions with providers and influencers are the next step, possibly including the cautious and conditional

offer of Dornell ‘top-up’ funds if the fund managers are agreeable.

The short report in Appendix 1 sets out various options for our communities to consider. But a key question is who is going to co-ordinate and deliver this – is there a role requested of TGDT, and (whoever does it) can the resources required to fulfil any such role be covered for a period long enough to establish a going concern?

To summarise our main objectives in the 2018 / 19 financial year are:

Supporting the Tomintoul & Glenlivet Landscape Partnership in delivering the programme. Beyond the delivery phase TGDT will ensure the programme has a deep and lasting legacy securing our natural and cultural heritage for the next generations

Achieving greater financial sustainability in our core operations through income raised from events, The Smugglers Hostel and other appropriate assets which become available

Building on the success we've had with the new team by adding new volunteer roles and hosting two Landscape Partnership posts in our organisation.

Maintaining the high standards achieved in the operation of the Smugglers Hostel and the Discovery Centre.

Developing a respected Trust delivering tangible benefits in an engaged community

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. We can only achieve this with the help and support of

others, so if you would like to get involved or have an idea for a project we want to hear about it!

4. Membership

Members are vital in realising the Trust's vision for Tomintoul & 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 & Glenlivet!

Membership benefits

- A share in Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust
- Entitlement to vote at the AGM
- Regular newsletter
- Demonstrate support for your local community development trust
- 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 & 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 & 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

To become a member, you are required to complete an application form and pay a membership fee. Your membership fee helps to support the core operations of Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust. Application forms for membership can be found at <http://tgdt.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/TGDT-Membership-Form-updated-May18.pdf>

5. Acknowledgements

TGDT would like to thank all individuals and organisations who have assisted the Trust in its work throughout the year. In particular:

Discovery Centre & event volunteers
Kirkmichael & Tomintoul Community Association (KATCA)
Glenlivet & Inveravon Community Association (GICA)

TGDT would also like to acknowledge the funding and other support received from:

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE)
Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA)
Glenlivet & Inveravon Community Association
Moray Council
The Crown Estate Scotland
Scottish Government
Heritage Lottery Fund
Cairngorm LEADER
Community Broadband Scotland

Appendix 1

The Broadband Waltz (one step forward, one step back) Continues

*Report on Broadband for the TGDT AGM, 2018
Dr Malcolm MacGarvin*

Following the end of Cairngorm Community Broadband and Community Broadband Scotland (CBS), we have four routes, set out in detail in Appendix 1, for getting broadband into poorly served parts of our AB37 9 Development Area—the Scottish Government funded R100; the new EE mobile and broadband network; Community Broadband; and BT. One key consideration is how much time individuals and community bodies in the area can put into this, and whether they have the necessary skills. Another is whether and how the communities might help fund these works, if other public funding sources are insufficient, lack urgency, or otherwise fail. Notably, Dornell Windfarm ‘top-up’ monies, spread over the next couple of decades, appear sufficient to help make any of these options viable, without excessively draining the funding ‘pot’ for other uses, and provide a service at reasonable cost to subscribers. It carries risks, and the results of attempted interventions by TGDT and others to date have not been encouraging – although circumstances change. For sure, the communities should not pay commercial providers twice for infrastructure, whether that provided through EE’s 4G mobile mast Emergency Service Provision contract; through reasonable expectations of routine BT upgrades; and/or moneys that received by a winner of the R100 government-sponsored provision. Urgent discussions with providers and influencers are the next step, possibly including the cautious and conditional offer of Dornell ‘top-up’ funds if the fund managers are agreeable.

This short report sets out various options for our communities to consider. But a key question is who is going to co-ordinate and deliver this – is there a role requested of TGDT, and (whoever does it) can the resources

required to fulfil any such role be covered for a period long enough to establish a going concern?

Option 1) Rely on R100. (R100 is a Scottish Government initiative to bring most rural broadband up to a certain minimum standard). It is of concern that R100 delays mean the minimum specification is now well behind typical broadband speeds now obtained in urban and suburban areas where most people live. Typical broadband speeds determine what web designers design for. To guarantee any form of future-proofing over the next decade the minimum prudent requirement is, in my view, ten-fold that guaranteed by R100). Performance and upgradability will depend on who, if anyone, wins the R100 contract. Given past experience, it is not wise, in my opinion, to base plans on what R100 may, or may not, achieve. As the communities have limited influence, let us hope we are pleasantly surprised.

2) EE Mobile broadband (and mobile phone 4G). People will have seen the masts erected throughout the area by EE to provide 4G Emergency Service Provision, with the planning application for the last mast, in the Braes, now in the works. 4G is a fast mobile phone connection that can provide an internet service of equivalent speeds to BT’s flagship ‘Infinity’ landline connections. It is also upgradable. According to EE, at the Braes Hall meeting held early this year, this should also provide a public 4G service, at least to EE mobile phone subscribers, throughout most of the area, with speeds similar to BT Infinity landline services. However, in addition, EE promoted the point that anyone can also take out an EE broadband subscription (called *4GEE WiFi*: note this is separate and additional to any existing EE mobile phone contracts). This replicates the functionality provided by a landline broadband connection for computers, tablets and other devices; the only difference is that it connects through the mobile mast rather than through a land line). EE broadband should provide internet speeds similar to BT ‘Infinity’ and could be reasonably ‘future-proof’. However, data usage would be metered, and it is likely that this will cost most subscribers more than the equivalent BT Infinity subscription, although less (and with more data) than satellite internet, especially if you intend to use it for video services, such as BBC iPlayer. Concerns have been raised, including at the public meeting in the Braes earlier this year, regarding the capacity of the mast to simultaneously deliver fast services to many users.

The EE technicians assured the meeting that the capacity should be sufficient, although if everyone tried to watch BBC iPlayer at the same time some slowing might be seen. This point requires detailed clarification and assurance.

3) Community Broadband. TGDT and the Community Associations in the Dornell Windfarm funding catchment area, including GICA, have met to explore another option, community provision of broadband, in the light of possible windfarm monies. For this meeting TGDT produced an initial paper exploring the options and costs, and also the reasons why only a few community broadband initiatives, in the long run, have been truly successful. This boils down to community members either having, or being able to pay for, the skills and time required to produce a realistic business plan, covering the skill requirements and costs of setting up and maintaining a network, and running billing and support services, and addressing the likely slow initial uptake, albeit potentially followed by rapid growth as others become convinced of the benefits. It also depends on how commercial service providers respond to the arrival of a potential rival. Note that once up and running, successful schemes have created enough revenue from subscriptions (and other reliable long-term funding, if available), to create paid employment to run all the necessary technical, field and office jobs. It is the initial production of the business plan, and possibly the early stages of roll out, that can be heavily dependent on community volunteers (such as farmers and other digging trenches for cable), and this is a demanding hurdle for the community.

Our initial assessment suggested that it could be commercially viable (indeed, potentially providing a revenue stream to the communities for other purposes), but TGDT and the communities should be leery of any simplistic and over-optimistic assessment. The biggest challenge may not be the technical assessments and costs (we do have a significant number of technically skilled people in the area) but having the voluntary commitment and time to properly work through the business and financial planning of setting up a small business, to run the Community Broadband scheme. If it involved Dornell monies, the communities would want there to be a proper assessment of any competing demands for these funds – for example one alternative floated by the Dufftown Community Association was the expansion of piped gas supplies.

Our initial assessment took especial note of B4RN, a rare successful initiative in NW England to provide fibre direct to premises. Since then another possible route has been advanced, of expanding a potential mast-based system already being explored for Tomintoul Distillery. TGDT have some experience (working with Badnoch Broadband) with this from the connection to the Braes and did considerable work on upgrading and expanding this through the area, before the funding stream was withdrawn as a result of the creation of the Cairngorm Community Broadband. There are commercial companies such as Boundless Networks who support the installation of such networks. Were the communities wanting to explore community-based provision, both fibre and mast-based systems would need to be evaluated.

Last, although the recent consideration of community provision has involved the four communities receiving Dornell funding, I believe it would be prudent to involve the Cairngorm National Park Authority in our thinking, as there may be economies of scale of implementing across at least part of the Park, even if the Dornell communities have a fortunate source of funds to enable them to consider the pros and cons of taking a lead.

4). BT now provides 'BT Plus' which uses both landlines and mobile masts to maintain a seamless connection. This is likely to influence the shape of things to come: residential and business connections, drawing upon both landlines and mast infrastructure will become the norm. Provision via masts is made easier if the masts themselves can be connected to fibre landlines. The EE masts furthest from BT fibre lines (EE is now part of BT) are Altnaha (Strathavon), which is 4km from the anticipated Drumin fibre cabinet, and the Braes, which is 7 km from Ballandalloch – Glenlivet fibre line. Setting aside the connection costs that BT seeks to realise, the actual cost of a commercially installed line is around £10,000 per km, and has a life of 30 years plus, our community could consider offering to cover some or all of the cost. However, EE is already being paid to provide 4G throughout the area for the emergency service provision of 4G, and the communities should not be paying for capital costs for which EE have already been paid.

Consideration of the options:

Option 4) is less demanding of our communities than setting up Option 3) a Community Broadband operation. Whichever option is favoured, we should, in any case, push as hard as we can for the best possible implementation of option 2, for EE mobile broadband and mobile coverage throughout the whole of our area), as this has the potential to provide the fastest improvement to the greatest number of people and businesses.

We have limited ability to influence option 1, R100; we may find that option 4) providers BT and/or option 2) providers EE submit bids that tie in their provision to R100 funding. Or we may find that, for example, EE's 4G new service means that provision via the R100 contract in our area becomes a low priority.

Next Steps:

The communities to ask sources of influence, including to urgently assist a dialog with EE regarding role out of the EE 4G provision unless these can be speedily and favourably resolved by direct contact. To also raise, with influencers, issues regarding R100 and BT provision, and help us explore possible use of Dornell top up funds, if this gets the community 'a good deal';

Providing there is sufficient capacity (skills) and interest from the communities due to receive Dornell Wind Farm monies, to work up a full business plan (allowing for the possibility that we conclude it is not viable). This should include consideration of a budget for expert advice, and include consideration of who is best positioned to carry this forward.

To continue a watching brief on developments with broadband, including community broadband elsewhere in the country.

NB This report represents the personal views of Malcolm MacGarvin, a Director of Tomintoul & Glenlivet Development Trust, in response to a request to produce a report for the TGDT 2018 AGM.

REGISTERED NUMBER: SC424813 (Scotland)

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

FOR

TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST

Anderson & Co
15 Boyndie Street
Banff
Aberdeenshire
AB45 1DY

**TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

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**TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

	Year ended 31.3.18 £	Period 1.6.16 to 31.3.17 £
TURNOVER	92,357	89,168
Other income	8,779	751
Staff costs	(60,836)	(46,030)
Depreciation and other amounts written off assets	(946)	(388)
Other charges	(20,919)	(19,951)
Taxation	-	-
SURPLUS	<u>18,435</u>	<u>23,550</u>

**TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: SC424813)**

**BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2018**

	2018	2017
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	516,267	13,219
CURRENT ASSETS	92,150	25,295
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year	<u>(50,956)</u>	<u>(2,430)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>41,194</u>	<u>22,865</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	557,461	36,084
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME	<u>(502,942)</u>	-
NET ASSETS	<u><u>54,519</u></u>	<u><u>36,084</u></u>
RESERVES	<u><u>54,519</u></u>	<u><u>36,084</u></u>

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland. The company's registered number and registered office address are as below:

Registered number: SC424813

Registered office: Glenlivet Estate Office Main Street
Tomintoul
Ballindalloch
Banffshire
AB37 9EX

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2018.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

**TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST (REGISTERED NUMBER: SC424813)**

**BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 MARCH 2018**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
D Toovey - Director

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF
TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust for the year ended 31 March 2018 which comprise the Income Statement, Balance Sheet and the related notes from the company's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of ICAS, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://www.icas.com/accountspreparationguidance>.

This report is made solely to the Board of Directors of Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust, as a body, in accordance with our terms of engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Board of Directors of Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust, as a body, in this report in accordance with the requirements of ICAS as detailed at <http://www.icas.com/accountspreparationguidance>. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and its Board of Directors, as a body, for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory financial statements that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust. You consider that Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of Tomintoul And Glenlivet Development Trust . For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory financial statements.

Anderson & Co
15 Boyndie Street
Banff
Aberdeenshire
AB45 1DY

Date:

**TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

**DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

	Year ended 31.3.18		Period 1.6.16 to 31.3.17	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
HIE - local development office	69,062		65,973	
Sportident UK Ltd	-		127	
CNPA Landscape museum refurbishment	-		23,068	
CNPA Landscape Partnership staff costs	<u>23,295</u>		<u>-</u>	
		92,357		89,168
Other income				
Rents received	6,000		-	
Sundry receipts	11		750	
Donations	459		-	
Management fees	2,308		-	
Deposit account interest	<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	
		<u>8,779</u>		<u>751</u>
		101,136		89,919
Expenditure				
Wages	59,869		46,030	
Pensions	967		-	
Rates and water	1,781		-	
Insurance	3,106		-	
Light and heat	782		-	
Telephone	398		304	
Post and stationery	1,132		83	
Advertising	180		241	
Travelling	3,138		2,341	
Hall hire	27		130	
Household and cleaning	235		-	
Repairs and renewals	1,788		245	
Subscriptions	644		499	
Training	148		625	
Event expenses	-		299	
Visitor Information Centre	-		13,134	
Sundry expenses	279		189	
Consultancy fees	967		344	
Accountancy	1,208		1,345	
Fundraising expenses	1,178		-	
Legal fees	3,780		-	
Donations	-		100	
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>946</u>		<u>388</u>	
		<u>82,553</u>		<u>66,297</u>
Carried forward		18,583		23,622

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

**DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

	Year ended 31.3.18		Period 1.6.16 to 31.3.17	
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward		18,583		23,622
Finance costs				
Bank charges		<u>148</u>		<u>72</u>
NET SURPLUS		<u><u>18,435</u></u>		<u><u>23,550</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

**TOMINTOUL AND GLENLIVET DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

**DETAILED BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2018**

	Year ended 31.3.18 £	Period 1.6.16 to 31.3.17 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Freehold property	502,942	-
Improvements to property	11,210	11,800
Computer equipment	2,015	1,319
Unlisted investments	100	100
	<u>516,267</u>	<u>13,219</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade debtors	42,989	-
Other debtors	10,000	12,339
Prepayments and accrued income	3,257	-
Current account	16,890	8,811
Deposit account	3,550	3,550
Landscape Partnership account	15,464	595
	<u>92,150</u>	<u>25,295</u>
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(47,706)	-
Accruals and deferred income	(2,108)	(2,163)
Amounts owed to group undertakings	(1,142)	(267)
	<u>(50,956)</u>	<u>(2,430)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>41,194</u>	<u>22,865</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>557,461</u>	<u>36,084</u>
ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME		
Deferred government grants	(502,942)	-
NET ASSETS	<u>54,519</u>	<u>36,084</u>
RESERVES		
Income and expenditure account	<u>54,519</u>	<u>36,084</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

TOMINTOUL HOSTEL LIMITED
TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

	Year ended 31.3.18		Period 1.5.16 to 31.3.17	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Sales	38,894		37,725	
Event income	9,276		850	
Craft income	<u>23</u>		<u>-</u>	
		48,193		38,575
Cost of sales				
Crafts	-		621	
Events	<u>6,287</u>		<u>820</u>	
		<u>6,287</u>		<u>1,441</u>
GROSS PROFIT		41,906		37,134
Expenditure				
Rent	6,000		-	
Rates and water	423		596	
Insurance	351		1,168	
Light and heat	5,961		5,132	
Wages	7,915		17,880	
Pensions	84		-	
Telephone	778		1,718	
Post and stationery	160		530	
Advertising	166		301	
Travelling	405		-	
Catering	3,918		2,620	
Repairs and renewals	2,825		5,381	
Training	851		-	
Household and cleaning	459		176	
Subscriptions	538		1,086	
Sundry expenses	214		43	
Accountancy	1,150		885	
TGDT Management fees	2,308		-	
Subscriptions	-		151	
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	66		78	
Commission paid	<u>2,403</u>		<u>915</u>	
		<u>36,975</u>		<u>38,660</u>
		4,931		(1,526)
Finance costs				
Bank charges	204		226	
Merchant card fees	673		928	
Corporation tax interest	<u>9</u>		<u>-</u>	
		<u>886</u>		<u>1,154</u>
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)		<u><u>4,045</u></u>		<u><u>(2,680)</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements