

8th July 2021

To whom it may concern:

Banff & District Men's Shed

On Monday afternoon, we had the privilege of attending the open day organised by the Banff & District Men's Shed at the Fife Street School.

We found our time there to be very encouraging. Firstly, the good condition of the building itself was very evident and a credit to past investment. Secondly, listening to members of the Men's Shed, their vision for what can be achieved through the resource, was inspirational. What was particularly impressive was how they envisaged the use of the building as something that will not only be of benefit to themselves, but more particularly to the wider community and many local groups.

The contributions of Men's Sheds towards the health and wellbeing of individuals have been well documented. We have had the privilege of contact with other groups and heard testimony of these benefits and of the contribution of groups to the wider community. There can be no question that for our local group to have a permanent base in the former Fife Street School would greatly enhance what they are doing for their own members and for the community.

As people who have lived in the area for 40 years and who are closely connected to the local community through the Church, Rotary and other groups as well as social contacts, it is not difficult to see how, under the management of the Men's Shed, the building and grounds will prove to be an invaluable resource for local groups and activities. The facilities will allow other community groups to expand their activities which can only be of benefit to develop a positive local ethos and in supporting the regeneration of our area.

We would be delighted to hear that that a community transfer of the property to the Men's Shed could take place. Such a decision would undoubtedly be very well received and prove a fantastic asset to our area.

Yours faithfully,
Andrew & Louise Simpson