

History of Alyth Halls Committee

Burgh of Alyth 1665-1975

The following are held in Perth & Kinross archives

Police commissioners' minutes, 1875-1901;
Town council minutes, 1901-1975;
Police court register, 1888-1975;
Dean of guild court registers, 1901-1947;
Plans, 1901-1975;
Cash books, 1952-1974;
Register of slaughterhouse licences, 1914-1939;
Poisons and pharmacy register, 1925-1927;
Miscellanea including Meigle Cottage Hospital Committee of Management letter book, 1944-1963;
Housing registers, 1926-1975;
Abstracts of account, 1930-1975;
Assessment rolls, 1958-1970;
Accounts books, 1933-1963;
Wages books, 1947-1963;
Letter books, 1924-1975;
Files and papers relating to the administration of the burgh, 1665-1975

Alyth, Perthshire, was created a burgh of barony in April 1488 by King James III (1460-1488) in favour of Alexander Lindsay, Master of Crawford. A burgh of barony was presided over by the feudal superior, Alexander Lindsay and his successors, who had authority from the Crown to administer justice and to hold barony courts dealing with crimes and matters of good neighbourhood up to 1747 and thereafter solely matters of good neighbourhood.

Alyth was created a police burgh in 1875 under the terms of the General Police and Improvement (Scotland) Act, 1862 (25 and 26 Vict c101). Burgh administration was carried out by police commissioners who were responsible for the cleansing, lighting, policing and public health of the burgh.

Under the terms of the Town Councils (Scotland) Act 1900 (63 & 64 Vict., c.49) the police commissioners were replaced by Alyth Town Council in January 1901. The population of the burgh in 1971 was 1,701.

Alyth Town Council was abolished in 1975 under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (c. 65). Its powers were assumed by Tayside Regional Council and Perth and Kinross District Council. At this time the Alyth Halls Association was established to locally manage the public halls under an agreement.

These in turn were replaced by Perth and Kinross Council in 1996 under the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 (c.39). The Alyth Halls Association then became known as the Alyth Halls Committee operating under a Constitution and Management Agreement with the regional council.