

MEN IN SHEDS

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31st JANUARY 2024

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A word from The Chair – Andrew Conlon

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as chair to this wonderful charity. I visit the shed on a weekly basis and see at first hand the positive impact that the various activities have on the shed members and the wider community. Everyone connected with the shed, both directly and indirectly, have a huge investment in the continued development of the charity and look forward to it becoming a growing and developing influence on all the groups it seeks to serve.

The story of our project this year.

Funding from The National Lottery Community Funds 'Reaching Communities' has given our project a stability that has allowed us to focus on our engagement with our members and our community, as well as a more strategic approach at board level, enabling our Trustees to identify skills gaps on the board and begin recruitment to ensure we have the right people in place to take the charity in the right direction.

We have been able to grow our membership and expand other projects like our walking talking groups which now run twice weekly and also launch a Basic DIY skills course where members of the local community will come along for 6 weeks to learn new skills, meet new people and have the opportunity to engage with the other projects within the shed.

Our direct engagement has increased significantly over the last 12 months along with the days that the shed provides activity. Membership to the shed has increased by 32%, our walking talking groups have increased by 54% and our volunteers by 40%.

The numbers of our engagements breakdown as follows –

- Shed Members 47
- Walkers 59
- Volunteers 10 (14 including Trustees)
- Total **116** **(120 including Trustees)**

As we move into year 2, we have identified that we will be recruiting a minimum of 3 new volunteers to lead/assist with the walking groups and potentially a further 3 Trustees. Membership to the shed will increase as space allows and our Basic DIY skills course which launches 5th April 2024 will allow us to engage with a further 52 new people from our local community each year. From 5th April 2024, the shed will have an activity covering 6 days per week.

The core of what we do at the shed has always been centred around reducing loneliness and isolation in men, by providing a social space and woodworking workshop. The introduction of more IT based activity such as 3d printing, laser engraving and vinyl cutting over the last 18 months has broadened our offer and has been received well by our members, the majority of whom are older people.

As space is a premium at the shed, and due to the increased number of enquiries for activity post Covid Epidemic, and the distinct lack of activity for men in our local community we

introduced our Walking Talking Wednesday. This gave us the ability to engage with those that were struggling with loneliness and isolation whilst increasing their physical health at the same time. This soon evolved as we recognised it was not only men that wanted to engage with us on this project, so we opened this offer to anyone aged 18+ to come along, meet new friends, and get some exercise.

We now have a good mix of walkers; some participants are the widows of our shed members that we have lost over the last few years, and they feel that we supported their husbands and that they are as part of the shed as they were. Friendships have been made amongst the group and now have nights out to the theatre together and are making plans for other events outside of the walking too. On the back of the popularity of the Wednesdays we added a session on Saturdays as we identified that are people in the community who may work weekdays but are isolated outside of their work.

The funding we received has also allowed us to focus differently on the items we produce in the workshop, previously we felt that we needed to generate money from donations for items made to contribute to the shed's survival. Having the stability from this funding has shifted this and we have been able to produce more items for other community organisations, charities, churches and even our local community policing team. Being able to provide these items, such as garden benches and planters, at no cost to them to help improve their outside spaces for their participants. This has given our members a sense of being part of the local community and a sense of pride in what they are able to produce to help others.

Here are a few examples of the activities our shed members have been involved with over the past year –

- Working with HLC's This Ability Project to provide work experience in our workshop for a participant interested in joinery.
- Our members made benches and planters for the above project for their allotment, we also made a bespoke wheelchair ramp so that one participant could access the polytunnel on the allotment and be involved in planting.
- When a local church was severely vandalised, our members made 82 small window frames so that they could replace the broken glass with toughened Perspex.
- Made a 4ft square, weatherproof community notice board for the Silverdale, Strathmore, Riversdale community group who we work closely with.
- Provided 2 benches for the Humber Bridge Wellness Hub as a place where people could talk and reflect, we also provided bird boxes to encourage wildlife to their garden area.
- Provide 2 large planters to a small charity Reubens Voice, who aim to encourage local children in the Hedon Area to come together in a safe space and be aware of support on offer to them.
- We donated 4 engraved signs to the new Library for Dogs that are available in local parks for them to share toys etc.
- We made and donated 2 Bra Pong tables to the Humber and North Yorkshire Cancer Alliance as a tool to get people talking when they are holding events.
- We have been making and distributing garden benches and Arbor seats to our fellow members of The Hull Champions Network, our aim is to make sure that all that need one get one.
- We also made 2 picnic benches for Humberside Police's new recruits to use for lunch at the training centre as they had nowhere to sit and enjoy the outdoors.

The above activities are just a snapshot of some the work that the shed has been able to do over the last 12 months without receiving any financial reward, this has been made possible by the funding we received. Not only does this have a positive impact on those organisations we can donate to and their participants, but our members feel that they have achieved something extremely worthwhile in the process.

A few words from those we support –

- K said, “Before I came to the shed, I was really suffering with my depression, my family don’t understand it, if it wasn’t for the shed, I’m not sure I would still be here”.
- J said, “I get so bored and lonely at home, the weekends feel so long, I can’t wait to get back in the shed on Mondays with the rest of the lads”.
- N said, “I’ve been coming for the last 5 years and after losing my wife, the shed has been a life saver to me”.
- G said, “The shed’s been a lifeline for me, it’s the best thing that could have happened to me”.
- R said, “I used to stay in bed until lunch time, I had nothing to get up for, I love coming to the shed, I’ve made some friends and enjoy coming every day”.
- T said, “Walking talking is helping me process the loss of my husband”.
- I said, “The walking routes are always varied and fun, we have some great times and experiences, we see some different sights and meet new people”.

Through our networks we continue to invite and engage with organisations to come along and talk to our participants about matters that impact their health and wellbeing, access to services and around financial support that may be available to them. We encourage all participants to engage with one to ones and presentations from all visiting organisations who are offering their support and information.

Feedback on the services we offer is collected regularly both formally and informally, through feedback forms and verbal discussions. This feedback provides a basis for us to continually improve our services and our upcoming planned Basic DIY Skills course is testament to us listening to the feedback received from our participants and our local community.

What we have learned

Targeted recruitment of new Trustees is needed to fill the skills gaps on our board and enhance the diversity of skills and knowledge and experience needed to take the charity further.

Surprisingly, inviting the local community in to join our walking groups highlighted that some local residents who are on our doorstep were aware of us being here for some time now but thought we were just a joinery workshop business. Collaborating more closely with them over the past 12 months has helped to change this and we opened our doors to them in summer when they held their annual party in the park where we are located.

On the back of feedback from the walking group and general members of the public it appeared that there was a growing amount of people who had no basic DIY skills at all and wanted to learn. On the back of this and along with a local tradesman we developed a 6-week course that will teach them the basic skills from changing a plug to refitting guttering.

There has been mixed interest in this course so far with females being in the slight majority at present, and there some really good signs of a joined up offer so far as for example, a lady whose husband was a shed member who has now passed away joins our walking group, he did all the DIY tasks around the home, she now joins the DIY course as well as the walking group and is engaging with even more people than before, learning new skills and becoming more confident. This, for us, is fantastic and humbling to know that we can keep supporting that family and others alike.

So, we plan ahead for the next 12 months.

- Commence and refine our Basic DIY skills course on Fridays, if successful this could be extended to either the same or a more advanced course delivered in the evenings.
- Recruitment of Trustees for the specific roles needed.
- Volunteer recruitment for the walking groups and DIY skills support roles.
- Shed member recruitment is always ongoing, with caution due to space constrictions.
- Continue to work closely within the local community to provide positive engagements with the shed and our participants.
- Continue to grow our networks and increase engagement with local providers to enhance the support we offer to our participants.

Donations & Local Business Support

Men in Sheds Hull receive generous donations and support from the local community and wider business community in Hull. Third generation business FR Scott Ltd have pledged to supply the shed with all its fixings and ironmongery needs whilst Belles Timber have been supplying timber that can be used for members projects and the community projects we undertake. Local residents kindly make donations to the shed in regard to tools, paints and wood stain. Individual fundraisers from both the business and local community have raised money for the shed as it has become something close to their hearts.





MEN IN SHEDS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st January, 2024

The Association was established under a trust deed dated 7th April, 2015 to provide and promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing men socially excluded Under charity number 1161177. The principal office is The Pavillion, Oak Road Playing Field, HU6 7EY

The trustees who administer the charity and meet three times each year were -

Governor Trustees - Andrew James Conlon Chairperson

Trustees - Richard Andrew Bayford Treasurer
 Ian Watson
 Donna Jackson

Bankers CAF Bank
Accountants Accounting Solution (Hull) Unlimited, 15 The Square, Anlaby, HU10 7AY

Overview

There is a surplus of receipts over payments of £24,727

The above report and information was approved by the trustees on 26th March, 2024 and signed on their behalf by -

Richard Bayford (Treasurer)

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF MEN IN SHEDS

In accordance with instructions given to us we have compiled the annual accounts of Men In Sheds which comprise Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and Notes, from the records and information and explanations provided to us.

Our work has been undertaken so that we may compile the accounts, report that we have done so, and report any matters to you which we consider necessary. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the trustees for our work or this report.

You have approved the accounts for the year ended 31st January, 2024 and have acknowledged your responsibility for them and for providing all information and explanations necessary for their compilation.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the accounts or other information.

Accounting Solution (Hull) Unlimited
Accountants
26th March, 2024

MEN IN SHEDS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31ST JAN 2024

	<u>2024</u>	
INCOME		
Grants and fundraising		72,434
Investment income -		
Interest Income	25	
Deposit Account Interest	233	
	-----	258
Donation		0

		72,692

EXPENDITURE		
Rent, Water, gas and electricity		7,460
Repairs and maintenance of buildings		3,597
Insurances		731
Motor and Travel		380
Accountancy charges		420
Tools and workshop supplies		0
Sundry and office expenses		6,564
Bank Charges		60
Wages		28,754

		47,965

SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	£	24,727

MEN IN SHEDS

BALANCE SHEET - 31ST JANUARY 2024

	Note	<u>2024</u>
FIXED ASSETS		
Tangible assets	2	-
CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments	3	-
Debtors	4	-
Cash at bank		43,239

		43,239

CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within 1 year	5	-

NET CURRENT ASSETS		43,239

		43,239
PROVISIONS		
Accruals		-420
Future costs		-

		£ 42,819

RESERVES		
Revaluation reserve - Property	6	0
Revaluation reserve - Investments	7	0
Revenue reserve	8	£ 42,819

These accounts were approved by the trustees on 26th March, 2024 and signed on their behalf by -

_____ (Trustee)

MEN IN SHEDS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of Properties and Investments, and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at revaluation plus additions at cost, less grants received

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

LAND and Buildings

Cost or valuation

At 1st February, 2023

0

Additions

0

At 31st January, 2024

0

Depreciation

At 1st February, 2023

0

Charge for the year

0

At 31st January, 2024

0

Net book value

At 31st January, 2024

£ 0

At 31st January, 2023

£ 0

MEN IN SHEDS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2024

		<u>2024</u>	
3.	INVESTMENTS		
	Charities Official Investment Fund - Income Units	0	
	Charities Official Investment Fund - Accumulation Units	0	
	Charities Deposit Fund	0	
	Charities Accumulation Shares	0	

		£ 0	£

	Valuation at 1st February 2023	0	
	Addition	0	
	Deposit interest	0	
	Withdrawals	0	
	Increase/(Decrease) in valuation	0	
	Conversion Stock and War Loan	0	

	Valuation at 31st January, 2024	£ 0	

4.	DEBTORS		
	Maintenance contributions	0	
	Prepayments	0	

		£ 0	

5.	CREDITORS : Amounts due within 1 year		
	Maintenance contributions in advance	0	
	Other creditors and accruals	0	

		£ 0	

MEN IN SHEDS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2024

		<u>2024</u>
6.	REVALUATION RESERVE - HOUSING PROPERTY	
	At 31st January, 2023 and 31st January, 2024	£ 0

7.	REVALUATION RESERVE - INVESTMENTS	
	At 31st Jan, 2023	0
	Increase/(Decrease) in asset value	0

	At 31st Jan, 2024	£ 0

8.	REVENUE RESERVE	
	Unrestricted Funds	38,780
	Restricted Funds	4,039

	At 31st Jan, 2024	£ 42,819

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Men In Sheds

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Men In Sheds (the Trust) for the year ended 31st January, 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under s. 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Name: Michael Dunn AFA FFTA ICPA

DIRECTOR of Accounting Solution (Hull) Unlimited

Address: 15 The Square, Anlaby House Estate, Beverley Road, Anlaby, HU10 7AY

Date: 26/03/2024