

Trustee Report for Charity Commission

Despite COVID restriction, our charity has continued its work throughout the year, although in a limited form.

Before the restrictions in March 2020, we managed to hold a Christmas Lunch for the members (in the local Harvester) where over twenty members took part.

Both the management committee and the trustee managed a physical meeting early in 2020, but obviously most the plans and objectives had to be delayed or changed due to government restrictions around COVID. However, we have recently approved a comprehensive three year business plan and the charity is well placed for moving forward in 2021.

Despite being unable to physically meet up, from April 2020 the charity started weekly Zoom meetings for members, and later in the year we started having management committee meeting on Zoom too. In addition to this, we promoted our WhatsApp Men In Shed Bedford chat group, and this results in around a hundred messages a day. The charity also grouped members into small physically local groups (non-physical contact support bubbles), so that they could support and chat to each other. We have also started producing monthly newsletters to keep members engaged with the charity.

In September, the Trustee made the decision to re-open the Workshop Area for a maximum of six members (following Government recommendations of social distancing). Prior to this, the management committee prepared the workshop so as to meet all the other guidance produced by the Government, that was applicable to our charity, and workshop area.

Opening the workshop with COVID restrictions involved several challenges. We needed to providing PPE for members (some of this was provided free by the UKMSA organisation), sterilizing chemicals and cleaners, and hand sanitisers. Risk assessments were undertaken and published, and a system for attending the workshop and limiting numbers was installed, along with the workshop being divided into working zones to keep members at a distance. The workshop was deep cleaned and significantly de-cluttered over several days. A major piece of work was undertaken to replace the fire escape steps with a disabled friendly exit ramp (allowing a separate entrance and exit through the workshop). The ramp was built by the members and funded by a local firm who provided £500 towards the cost of the materials.

While the charity was able to run session for several weeks in September, and into October, once the Government COVID restrictions were reinstituted again, the charity had to close access to the workshop area again. Currently we are still closed, with the likely opening date to be in June 2021.

Additionally, we were finally able to replace the basic pillar drill with a more substantial semi professional version. Although we obtained a grant from the local councillor to replace the bench saw, we have not yet been able to acquire the new saw.

Financially, the charity has remained on a good footing. Aside from the monthly standing orders from members, there have been several financial contributions from individuals (who we have done work for) and a charity that decide to support us this year (after members made a presentation to them). While we have had to continue to pay for insurance and monthly internet connection, the insurance company provided several extra months cover for the same cost of the usual twelve months. Inevitably our membership has decreased over the year, although we did manage to join up a member over zoom. Several others have joined in our Zoom sessions and we are optimistic that they will become members in the future.

Finally, one of the charity major business objective has been to expand our available space and acquire several unused rooms in the council building next to the workshop area. A sub committed was recently set up in December 2020 to oversee this project. They have written a draft document laying out our planned use and written a detailed project plan. Currently the sub committee is in discussion with the various influencers and decision makers in the council to progress formal acquisition of this area (now referred to as the Craft area).



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Men in sheds Bedford

No (if any)
1174339

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/11/2019		30/10/2020

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Petty Cash	952	-	-	952	1,294
Bank A/c	5,503	-	-	5,503	2,977
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	6,455	-	-	6,455	4,271
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,455	-	-	6,455	4,271
A3 Payments					
Petty Cash	852	-	-	852	1,171
Bank Account	1,630	-	-	1,630	721
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,482	-	-	2,482	1,892
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Bench Pillar Drill	361	-	-	361	
Ramp	500	-	-	500	
Sub total	861	-	-	861	-
Total payments	3,343	-	-	3,343	1,892
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,112	-	-	3,112	2,379
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	3,112	-	-	3,112	2,379

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Petty Cash	99	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	-	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Insurance	Bank Account	500	14 March 2020
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		J. Honner		