

DUNSTABLE MEN IN SHEDS

England & Wales · Charity number 1178575

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-05-31

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Meadway Allotments
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Dunstable
Bedfordshire
LU6 3JU

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Activities

Objects: THE AIMS ('THE OBJECTS') OF DUNSTABLE MEN IN SHEDS ARE: TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY PREVENTING PEOPLE (PARTICULARLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY OLDER MEN), WITHIN DUNSTABLE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, FROM BECOMING SOCIALLY EXCLUDED, RELIEVING THE NEEDS OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE SOCIALLY EXCLUDED AND ASSISTING THEM TO INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN WHICH THEY CAN MEET TO UNDERTAKE, JOINTLY OR INDIVIDUALLY, CREATIVE, PHYSICAL OR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, LEARN OR PASS ON SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER SOCIALLY. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLAUSE 'SOCIALLY EXCLUDED' MEANS BEING EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY, OR PARTS OF SOCIETY, AS A RESULT OF ONE OF MORE OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS: UNEMPLOYMENT; FINANCIAL HARDSHIP; BEREAVEMENT OR OLD AGE; ILL HEALTH (PHYSICAL OR MENTAL).

Activities: Dunstable Men in Sheds is a member of the UK Men's Sheds Association. The Men's Shed movement provides a community based atmosphere for men over 50 to engage in hobbies, community projects and general socialising. The Shed has workspace fitted with machine tools, etc, which are available for all to use. www.dunstablemeninsheds.org.uk will tell you more!

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Central Bedfordshire
- Luton

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£7,312	£6,206	-	-
2024-03-31	£5,854	£20,071	-	-
2023-03-31	£11,068	£4,094	-	-
2022-03-31	£14,551	£3,487	-	-
2021-03-31	£4,448	£3,153	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anthony Ernest Knock	Chair	2025-09-25
Andrew Mark Bolton		2025-09-25
BERNHARD BATCHELOR		2018-05-02
GLYNN ARNOLD ELLIS		2018-05-02
Kayson John Gurney Councillor		2021-12-13
Peter David Farrow		2024-03-22
Thomas Richard Waddington		2025-09-25

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Dunstable Men in Sheds
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Dunstable Men in Sheds

Trustees' and Chairman's Report for 2024 – 2025.

The major achievement during this period was the finalisation of our Lease agreement with Dunstable Town Council, which was signed by the Trustees in October 2024. We now have a lease for a period of 7 years at terms favourable to the Shed.

As a consequence of this, we will now be responsible for paying for our consumption of electricity and water. We will not know the full implications of this until the end of the first year, but to date we have seen no need to increase members subscriptions.

Through the year we have supported 8 local markets, as well as 10 other local events. Due to changes in the locality and national changes, we have seen varied levels of income from the markets, but still continue to support them. Over the year, our average sales from these events were just under £100 per event.

At the AGM held in July 2025, David Gould confirmed that he will be leaving the Shed as he is moving away from the area. Nigel Skinner also advised that, for personal reasons, he wishes to resign from his positions as Chairman, Secretary and Trustee – but remain a member of the Shed.

As a result of these changes, a new management team was elected at the AGM:-

Antony Knock will become Chairman and a Trustee.

Richard Waddington will become Deputy Chairman and a Trustee.

Andrew Bolton will become Secretary and a Trustee.

Peter Farrow will take on the role of Membership Secretary in addition to continuing as Deputy Treasurer and a Trustee.

Andrew Street will take on the role of Webmaster in addition to managing our training process.

These changes will be finalised following the submission of this report.

Our financial report is based on the last financial year and on banking information currently available. At this time, our members' subscriptions remain at £10 per month.

So, taking April 2024 as the starting point for this report:

1: Membership:

1.1: Membership Issues:

We have seen some 'churn' in membership, with some members leaving due to health issues or changing circumstances and other new members joining. Registered membership now stands at 26 – and we have workshop time available to accommodate further new members..

1.2: Social Prescribing:

We have had several contacts with local Social Services, which have resulted in some visits by prospective members, but for various reasons none have decided to join the Shed.

2: Insurance, Premises & Facilities:

2.1: Insurance:

The 2024 / 25 Insurance Policy provides comprehensive cover for all current and planned activities, Public Liability Insurance (including Employee's Liability Insurance) and Trustees' indemnity.

2.2: Premises:

There have been no significant changes to the premises in this reporting period.

2.3: Facilities:

Thanks to grants that we have successfully applied for from various funding bodies, we have been able to upgrade several of our machine tools although our basic capabilities remain the same.

3: Health, Safety & Well-being:

3.1: Trustees Actions: Training and recording continue in line with the improved processes that we implemented last year.

3.2: The Members General Meeting: The AGM was held on 21st July 2025.

3.3: Actions: No Actions were recorded at the AGM – although we still have a requirement to arrange further First Aid training.

3.4: Health & Safety Policy Statement: The Shed Health and Safety Policy and Risk Assessment documents were reviewed and updated in February 2025. All members are now required to sign the H and S Policy to confirm they have read it and will comply with it.

3.5: Health & Safety File: Contains a comprehensive set of instructions and guidelines regarding the management of accreditation, use of machine and hand tools, etc.

3.6: PPE: This is available free issue, except for safety footwear, the purchase of which is the responsibility of members.

3.7: Fire Safety: The inspection of the fire extinguishers remains the responsibility of DTC and has been undertaken as required. Fire Safety training has yet to be given to members.

3.8: First Aid: There are now four First Aiders, three of whom have only been trained to deal with heart attacks. Additional training is required.

3.9: Accidents and Near Misses: Unfortunately, one of our members sustained a minor injury requiring hospital attendance in December 2024. This led to the critical review and update of our H and S Policy and Risk Assessment referred to above. Following our submission of a report under RIDDOR, we were inspected by a Health and Safety representative from Central Bedfordshire Council and received confirmation that no further action was required. The member concerned made a quick and full recovery.

4: Finance, Fund Raising / Community Activities and Products:

4.1: Finance:

The Shed continues to raise sufficient funds for activities to continue and investigates sources of external funding as we become aware of them.

4.2: Fund Raising / Community Activities:

- **Dunstable Town Council:** We continue to support DTC with projects including planters and headphone stands.
- **Trade and Craft Fairs:** We have attended 18 trade and craft fairs during the year, which have contributed significantly to our income. We also use these as opportunities to publicise the Shed and meet potential new members.
- **The 2024 Dunstable / Anglia in Bloom Project:** We continue to offer our assistance to support the 2024 project. Again, we have supplied the Award Plaques for the prize giving ceremony.
- We have developed links with the Co-Op, the Whitbread Fund and Bedfordshire Local Community Fund, and have received grant funding from them for new tools and equipment etc.

4.3: Other Items of Note:

- We arranged a Christmas Dinner for members and their guests at a local golf club in December. This proved to be a better (quieter) venue than the restaurant we have used for the past few years.
- Unusual products this year included a Prayer Tree for a local church, bird box kits for a local Wildlife Trust (to be assembled by children, a Tombola Drum for a local amateur theatre group and a pair of locking plates to secure the ailerons of a glider in ground transit.
- We continue to attend events to publicise the Shed and our activities, including at a local sheltered housing complex and local Rotary meetings.

5: Corrective Management Actions: Implemented for 2024 / 25.

There have been no significant corrective management actions required in this period except for the policy updates referred to above.

6: Future Plans:

The Shed is now entering a period of stability, where we continue to grow. We have workshop time available for new members and continue to see support in terms of donations and commissions for the local community.

Trustees' and Chairman's Report signed by:

Nigel Skinner: Chairman, Secretary & Trustee.

Date:



25/9/25

Cllr. John Gurney: Trustee & Town Council Rep.

Date:



25/SEPTEMBER
2025

Glynn Ellis: Trustee & Project Mgr.

Date:



25.9.25.

Bernhard Batchelor: Trustee & Treasurer.

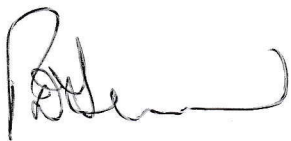
Date:



25/9/2025

Peter Farrow: Deputy Treasurer and Trustee.

Date:



25-9-25

(Note that David Gould was a Trustee during the period of this report he is no longer available to sign.)

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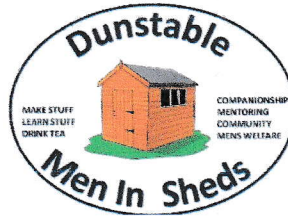
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Dunstable Men in Sheds

Trustees' and Chairman's Report for 2023 – 2024.

Undoubtedly, the major achievement for the Shed during this period has been the final completion of our long planned major refurbishment. We now have an internal WC, new kitchen units, a firewall between the workshop and mess areas, new wiring, new lighting, a new ventilation system and new security doors at both ends of the building.

Our thanks go to Dunstable Town Council, their subcontractors and other local businesses for their support through this program.

The last stage of this program was the installation of new double glazed windows, aided by successful funding grants.

Inevitably, this work meant that there were some times when normal Shed activities could not proceed, but members stayed in touch and several completed home projects. The Shed formally re-opened in May, with an event supported by local dignitaries including our MP and local radio.

Through the year we have supported 8 local markets, as well as other local events. Due to changes in the locality and national changes, we have seen varied levels of income from these, but still continue to support them.

During the year, we also welcomed our first lady member.

Our financial report is based on the last financial year and on banking information currently available. During this period, we settled our account with DTC for the cost of the refurbishment. Although a significant sum, we were able to fund this from our existing bank balance, without having to ask members for any additional contributions. At this time, our members subscriptions remain at £10 per month.

So, taking April 2023 as the starting point for this report:

1: Membership:

1.1: Membership Issues:

There has been no significant change in membership numbers since last year's report; with registered membership remaining at 25.

1.2: Social Prescribing:

We have had several contacts with local Social Services, which have resulted in some visits by prospective members, but for various reasons none have decided to join the Shed.

2: Insurance, Premises & Facilities:

2.1: Insurance:

The 2023 / 24 Insurance Policy provides comprehensive cover for all current and planned activities, Public Liability Insurance (including Employee's Liability Insurance) and Trustees' indemnity.

2.2: Premises:

Now that the refurbishment is complete, we are in discussion with Dunstable Town Council about the long term lease arrangement for the Shed. This will include, for the first time, the Shed taking responsibility for electricity and water costs for the building.

2.3: Facilities:

Other than the improvements outlined previously, our facilities remain largely unchanged.

3: Health, Safety & Well-being:

3.1: Trustees Actions: Training and recording continue in line with the improved processes that we implemented last year.

3.2: The Members General Meeting: The AGM was held on 14th July 2023.

3.3: Actions: All Actions from the AGM, with the exception of arranging for further First Aid training, have been completed.

3.4: Health & Safety Policy Statement: As per last Report.

3.5: Health & Safety File: Contains a comprehensive set of instructions and guidelines regarding the management of accreditation, use of machine and hand tools, etc.

3.6: PPE: This is available free issue, except for safety footwear, the purchase of which is the responsibility of members.

3.7: Fire Safety: The inspection of the fire extinguishers remains the responsibility of DTC and has been undertaken as required. Fire Safety training has yet to be given to members.

3.8: First Aid: There are now five First Aiders, three of whom have only been trained to deal with heart attacks. Additional training is required.

3.9: Accidents and Near Misses: There have been no accidents or near misses in the reporting period.

4: Finance, Fund Raising / Community Activities and Products:

4.1: Finance:

The Shed continues to raise sufficient funds for activities to continue and investigates sources of external funding as we become aware of them.

4.2: Fund Raising / Community Activities:

- **Dunstable Town Council:** We have seen less activity directly for DTC in the last year.
- **Trade and Craft Fairs:** We have attended eleven trade and craft fairs during the year, which have contributed significantly to our income. We also use these as opportunities to publicise the Shed and meet potential new members.
- **The 2023 Dunstable / Anglia in Bloom Project:** We continue to offer our assistance to support the 2023 project. Again, we have supplied the Award Plaques for the prize giving ceremony.
- We have developed links with the Co-Op, and have received grant funding from them for new tools and equipment etc.

4.3: Other Items of Note:

- We arranged a Christmas Dinner for members and their guests at a local restaurant in December.
- Unusual products this year included a number of plywood shapes, to be used as backing boards for ceramic mosaics for a local crafter and a ladder to enable elderly cats to climb a fence...
- We continue to attend events to publicise the Shed and our activities, including a Veterans Breakfast Club and local Rotary meetings.

5: Corrective Management Actions: Implemented for 2023 / 24.

There have been no significant corrective management actions required in this period.

6: Future Plans:

The Shed is now entering a period of stability, where we continue to grow. We have Shed time available for new members and continue to see support in terms of donations and commissions for the local community.

Trustees' and Chairman's Report signed by:

Cllr. John Gurney: Chairman, Trustee & Town Council Rep.



Date: 30 JAN 25

Nigel Skinner: Trustee & Secretary.



Date: 30 JAN 25

Glynn Ellis: Trustee & Project Mgr.



Date:

30TH JANUARY 25.

Bernhard Batchelor: Trustee & Treasurer.



Date: 30th January 25

David Gould: Trustee, Webmaster & Membership Secretary

Date:

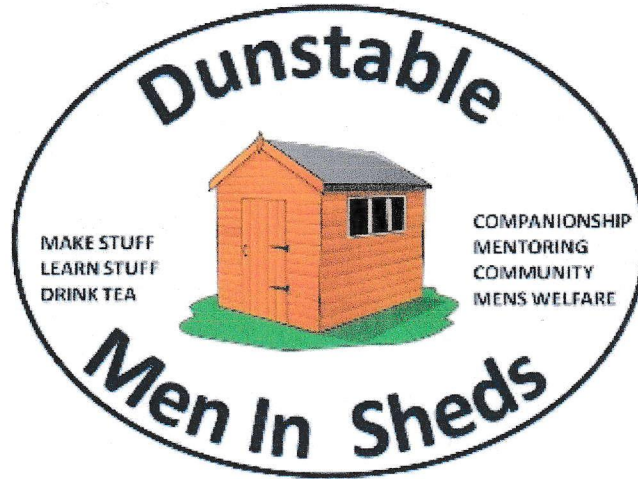


30 JAN '25

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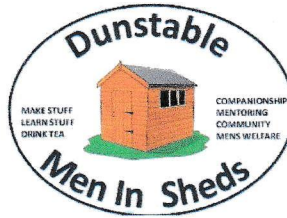
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Dunstable Men in Sheds

Trustees' and Chairman's Report for 2022 – 2023.

2022 – 23 has been a period of significant improvements for DMiS, although our aims and objectives remain the same.

We have continued to complete commissions for Dunstable Town Council (DTC) and other local organisations as well as private individuals and continue to support local markets and other events. These provide the majority of our income.

We have started afternoon sessions to offer members more time in the Shed and to suit those who may not be available in the morning.

The major achievement for us this year has been the completion of the majority of the planned refurbishment of the Shed premises. This work has had a long gestation, due to planning delays, Covid restrictions and the following increases in building costs and the need to ensure that we had sufficient funds for the project.

Our financial report is based on the last financial year, and includes a detailed account of the recouped cash and is based on banking information currently available.

So, taking April 2022 as the starting point for this report:

1: Membership:

1.1: Membership Issues:

There has been no significant change in membership numbers since last year's report; with registered membership remaining at 25.

1.2: Social Prescribing:

We have had several contacts with local Social Services, which have resulted in some visits by prospective members, but for various reasons none have decided to join the Shed.

2: Insurance, Premises & Facilities:

2.1: Insurance:

The 2022 / 23 Insurance Policy provides comprehensive cover for all current and planned activities, Public Liability Insurance (including Employee's Liability Insurance) and Trustees' indemnity.

2.2: Premises:

We have agreed a tenancy agreement format with DTC, based on a seven-year occupancy at zero rent and rates. The formal agreement will not be agreed until the refurbishment is finally complete.

The refurbishment project, including a new ambulant disabled WC, an updated mess area, a fire resistant partition between the workshop and mess area including a fire resistant door and window, new lighting and power distribution and new security doors at access points to the building, has been completed with the exception of 2 items. The new ventilation system is yet to be fitted as are the new internal main access doors. It is expected that these will be completed in April 2023.

DTC identified additional funding that could be made available for the project, which enabled the replacement of barge boards, soffits and rain water goods – and the removal of the only identified asbestos in the building a significant improvement.

2.3: Facilities:

See the improvements outlined above.

3: Health, Safety & Well-being:

3.1: Trustees Actions: Training and recording continue in line with the improved processes that we implemented last year.

3.2: The Members General Meeting: The AGM was held on 26th May 2022. It was attended by the Trustees and ten Shed members.

3.3: Actions: All Actions from the AGM have been completed.

3.4: Health & Safety Policy Statement: As per last Report.

3.5: Health & Safety File: Contains a comprehensive set of instructions and guidelines regarding the management of accreditation, use of machine and hand tools, etc.

3.6: PPE: This is available free issue, except for safety footwear, the purchase of which is the responsibility of members.

3.7: Fire Safety: The inspection of the fire extinguishers remains the responsibility of DTC and has been undertaken as required. Fire Safety training has yet to be given to members.

3.8: First Aid: There are now five First Aiders, three of whom have only been trained to deal with heart attacks. Additional training is required.

3.9: Accidents and Near Misses: There have been no accidents or near misses in the reporting period.

4: Finance, Fund Raising / Community Activities and Products:

4.1: Finance:

The Shed continues to raise sufficient funds for activities to continue and investigates sources of external funding as we become aware of them.

4.2: Fund Raising / Community Activities:

- **Dunstable Town Council:** We have seen less activity directly for DTC in the last year.
- **Trade and Craft Fairs:** We have attended nine trade and craft fairs during the year, which have contributed significantly to our income. We also use these as opportunities to publicise the Shed and meet potential new members.
- **The 2022 Dunstable / Anglia in Bloom Project:** We continue to offer our assistance to support the 2022 project. We have recently provided a number of Award Plaques and have completed two Sign Boards.

4.3: Other Items of Note:

- We arranged a Christmas Dinner for members and their guests at a local restaurant on December 5th.
- We arranged Shed outings to Pitstone Museum and Bletchley Park – a relatively new activity for members which proved popular.
- We have made some unusual products this year, including a batch of thin, turned 'prodders' for use in needlework and a batch of 8 NUC boxes (used for transporting bees) for a local beekeeper.

5: Corrective Management Actions: Implemented for 2022 / 23.

There have been no significant corrective management actions required in this period.

6: Future Plans:

Following the completion of the refurbishment of the Shed we will be in a better position to attract new members and will be actively promoting the Shed with this aim.

We have strengthened the management of the Shed by involving more members who have skills to offer to the Shed. One member has taken responsibility for fundraising grant applications and a second is managing our trainings records.

We will continue to support the UK Men's Shed Association and maintain contact with other local Sheds.

Trustees' and Chairman's Report signed by:

Cllr. John Gurney: Chairman, Trustee & Town Council Rep.

Date: 15/MAY/2024



Nigel Skinner: Trustee & Secretary.

Date: 15 MAY 24



Glynn Ellis: Trustee & Project Mgr.

Date: 15TH MAY 24.



Bernhard Batchelor: Trustee & Treasurer.

Date: 15TH MAY 24



David Gould: Trustee, Webmaster & Membership Secretary

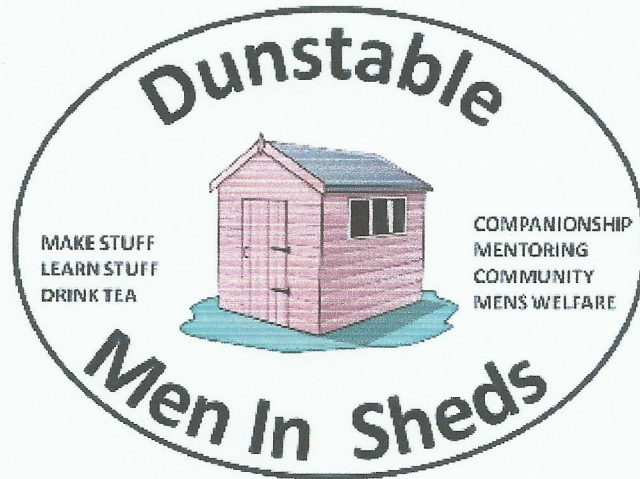
Date: 15 MAY '24



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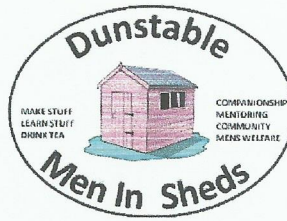
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Dunstable Men in Sheds

Trustees' and Chairman's Report for 2021 – 2022.

2021 – 22 has been a period of significant change for DMiS, although our aims and objectives remain the same.

We have appointed a new Chairman and revitalised our training procedures to bring them more into line with established practice, as required by our landlord, DTC.

We have continued to complete commissions for DTC and other local organisations as well as private individuals and continue to support local markets and other events. These provide the majority of our income.

We have started regular afternoon sessions to offer members more time in the Shed and to suit those who may not be available in the morning.

For various reasons outside our control, at the time of this report the planned refurbishment of our Shed has yet to commence. We are working closely with DTC and their Building Services contractor to move towards a contract start and are addressing funding issues caused by the inflation in building material prices since this project was first conceived.

Our financial report is based on the last financial year, and includes a detailed account of the recouped cash. Based on the current banking information available.

So, taking May 2021 as the starting point for this report:

1: Membership:

1.1: Membership Issues:

There has been no significant change in membership numbers since last year's report; with registered membership remaining at 25.

1.2: Social Prescribing:

One man has been referred to us under social services management. He attended a number of sessions in the Shed, but has not returned following Covid restrictions.

2: Insurance, Premises & Facilities:

2.1: Insurance:

The 2022 Insurance Policy provides comprehensive cover for all current and planned activities, Public Liability Insurance (including Employee's Liability Insurance) and Trustees' indemnity.

2.2: Premises:

We have agreed a format of tenancy agreement with DTC, based on a seven-year occupancy at zero rent and rates.

The plan for the refurbishment project is to include a new ambulant disabled WC an updated mess area, a partition between the workshop and mess area, new lighting and power distribution and new security doors at access points to the building. The requirements for the new ventilation system have also been finalised and a suitable system identified.

2.3: Facilities:

No basic changes to last year.

3: Health, Safety & Well-being:

3.1: Trustees Actions: A review of our training and recording processes revealed that changes to these processes were required. These have been implemented and accepted by members.

3.2: The Members General Meeting: The AGM was held on 26th May 2022. It was attended by the Trustees and ten Shed members.

3.3: Actions:

3.3.1: NS to update members on the current Shed layout for the refurbishment – COMPLETE

3.3.2: David Gould to publicise the Amazon Smile charity donation system to members - COMPLETE

3.4: Health & Safety Policy Statement: As per last Report.

3.5: Health & Safety File: Contains a comprehensive set of instructions and guidelines regarding the management of 'self-accreditation', use of machine and hand tools, etc.

3.6: PPE: Is available free issue, except for safety footwear, which is the responsibility of the member to purchase.

3.7: Fire Safety: The inspection of the fire extinguishers remains the responsibility of DTC and has been undertaken as required. Fire Safety training has yet to be given to members.

3.8: First Aid: There are now six trained First Aiders. Only three have full first aid training. The new recruits have only been trained to deal with heart attacks. Additional training is planned.

3.9: Accidents and Near Misses: One member sustained a relatively minor injury when using one of our machine tools, although this did require some medical attention. It was this incident that prompted the process review by the Trustees outlined above.

4: Finance, Fund Raising / Community Activities and Products:

4.1: Finance:

The Shed continues to raise sufficient funds for activities to continue and investigates sources of external funding as we become aware of them.

4.2: Fund Raising / Community Activities:

- **Dunstable Town Council:** We have seen less activity directly for DTC in the last year.
- **Trade and Craft Fairs:** We have attended a number of trade and craft fairs during the year, which have contributed significantly to our income. We also use these as opportunities to publicise the Shed and meet potential new members.
- **Beecroft Academy:** One commission from last year is still outstanding.
- **The 2022 Dunstable / Anglia in Bloom Project:** We continue to offer our assistance to support the 2022 project. We have recently provided a number of Award Plaques and have completed two Sign Boards.

5: Corrective Management Actions: Implemented for 2022.

Apart from the review and update of training and recording processes referred to above, there have been no significant corrective management actions required this year.

6: Future Plans:

Once the refurbishment of the Shed is complete we will be in a better position to attract new members and will be actively promoting the Shed with this aim.

We will look to strengthen the management of the Shed by involving more members who have skills to offer to the Shed.

We will continue to support the UK Men's Shed Association and maintain contact with local Sheds.


Trustees' and Chairman's Report signed by:

Cllr. John Gurney: Chairman, Trustee & Town Council Rep.



Date: 8/2/23

Nigel Skinner: Trustee & Secretary.




Date:
7 Feb 23

Glynn Ellis: Trustee & Project Mgr.



Date:
7TH FEBRUARY
2023

Bernhard Batchelor: Trustee & Treasurer.



Date:
7 February 2023

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Dunstable Men in Sheds

Trustees' and Chairman's Report for 2020 – 2021.

Synopsis:

As for all, it has been a hard year, and we deeply appreciate the help, understanding and good will given to us by the staff of Dunstable Town Council, and the Councillors (DTC and CBC) who have willingly supported us to get our Refurbishment Project progressed to the stage where we anticipate the work to start within the next few months.

March 2020 marked the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. All activities at the Shed were suspended.

It was decided that subject to Government guidance, if the opportunity arose to re-open at some point in the year, limited access for selected members would be allowed to undertake finishing of commissions. However, although the pandemic severely restricted shed-based activities for the majority of members, the Trustees continued, with their main focus being on progressing our plans to improve the Shed facilities. To progress, negotiations continued with Dunstable Town Council (DTC) who own the property. The negotiations made during the year have proved successful in that the Change of Use application was approved. The building is now registered as a 'Community Workshop', to which we found that Building Regulations were applicable. These Regulations clearly state that a 'Ventilation System' has to be installed. Additional funding has been sourced from the Section 106 Grant aid, and Covid-19 Impact Grant Aid from Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC).

Despite this success, we have been unable to make the planned improvements, due to ongoing issues of the pandemic lockdowns and access restrictions. It is now planned to start the major work of the Refurbishment Project some time in June.

Not being able to trade at Craft Fairs and other events has meant that we have suffered a known financial loss of £2900 which has reduced the funding we have available for the Refurbishment Project.

It is fortunate that both DTC and CBC have 'ring-fenced' their available funding for when are in a position to draw down.

Members formed the 'Help Our Cause' initiative. This has resulted from various projects being undertaken, from on line sales, other donations or donations gained from products made in home workshops, where we have managed to recoup approximately £4000, which is pleasing as it over the known loss of the £2900. One community project undertaken by a small team of seven members was the refurbishment of school playground equipment. This was done after the first lockdown had been eased.

Our financial report is based on the last financial year, and includes a detailed account of the recouped cash. Based on the current banking information available.

So, taking May 2020 as the starting point for this report:

1: Membership:

1.1: Membership Issues:

There has been no significant change in membership numbers since last year's report; with registered membership remaining at 25. Of these approximately twenty have had to self-isolate for the duration of the pandemic.

One Trustee suffered a fatal heart attack in December last year.

We have accepted a local Town Councillor onto our Board of Trustees.

1.2: Social Prescribing:

One man has been referred to us under social services management. He was visited, to discuss joining the Shed, but has since the visit has not been in contact.

2: Insurance, Premises & Facilities:

2.1: Insurance:

The 2021 Insurance Policy provides comprehensive cover for all current and planned activities, Public Liability Insurance (including Employee's Liability Insurance) and Trustees' indemnity.

2.2: Premises:

As detailed on page 1.

The format of the tenancy agreement shall be based on a seven-year occupancy at zero rent and rates.

To ensure that all negotiations and decisions made are compliant with law; duty of care and due diligence have, and are being exercised as a DTC/DMiS 'Joint Venture' initiative.

The DTC commissioned Building Services Consultant (BSC) has issued the draft Specification and Scope of Works Document for review by DMiS. The review has been completed and the findings, technical and financial, have been sent to the BSC. When amended and approved, the document shall be sent out for tender.

2.3: Facilities:

No basic changes to last year.

The draft Specification and Scope of Works Document now clearly indicate what the refurbishment plans consist of. The plans address the building of a unisex, ambulant disabled internal toilet and an amenities / mess room, segregated by partitions from the workshop area.

The Workshop: The final layout of the machine tools and work benches shall be in full compliance with all statutory Health and Safety Regulations and guidelines.

HSE and Building Regulations relating to mitigating or eliminating high noise, improving lighting, airborne dust levels and ventilation requirements shall be adhered to.

3: Health, Safety & Well-being:

3.1: Trustees Actions: A number of our Trustees have considerable experience in managing projects where Health & Safety at Work and members well-being is top priority.

At the recent Trustees' Meeting it was decided by a unanimous vote that full implementation of H&S best practices and statutory requirements shall be undertaken. This initiative includes compiling a comprehensive set of Method Statements and Risk Assessments, that shall cover working areas and the use of tools and all machines.

3.2: The Members General Meeting: Not held this past year.

3.3: Actions: N/A.

3.4: Health & Safety Policy Statement: As per last Report.

3.5: Health & Safety File: Contains a comprehensive set of instructions and guidelines regarding the management of 'self-accreditation', use of machine and hand tools, etc.

It is planned that once the Shed reopens, all members shall be reappraised of their respective competencies to the equipment and machines they elect to use.

3.6: PPE: Is available free issue, except for safety footwear, which is the responsibility of the member to purchase.

3.7: Fire Safety: the inspection of the fire extinguishers remains the responsibility of DTC. DTC have requested that Fire Safety training be given to members. Training courses shall be arranged with the local Fire Brigade. Training postponed due to the pandemic.

3.8: First Aid: There are now six trained First Aiders. Only three have full first aid training. The new recruits have only been trained to deal with heart attacks. Additional training is planned.

3.9: Accidents and Near Misses: None reported.

It is the intention to revisit the accidents and near misses reported last year, and implement corrective actions and procedures,

4: Finance, Fund Raising / Community Activities and Products:

4.1: Finance:

The main focus has been recouping the lost funding for the planned refurbishment of the premises and facilities.

4.2: Fund Raising / Community Activities:

- **Dunstable Town Council:** We have made a small wooden picket fence to surround the grave of a young child who died in tragic circumstances during the 19th Century.
- **Trade and Craft Fairs:** One town Craft fair attended last year, and one recently attended last month. Donations for products were received as were new commissions. Attendance of more Craft Fairs and events are planned for this year: subject to Covid-19 restrictions.
- **rBeecroft Academy:** Two commissions from last year are still required. Designs for these commissions has started.
- **Remap:** No activities this past year.

- **The 2021 Dunstable / Anglia in Bloom Project:** We continue to offer our assistance to support the 2021 project. We have recently provided a number of Award Plaques, and are now working on two Sign Boards.

5: Corrective Management Actions: Implemented for 2021.

5.1: Regular Trustee Meetings are required. *Implemented*

5.2: Recruit suitable new Trustees to bring the total to five. Each prospective new Trustee shall make himself fully aware of the role and demonstrate his understanding of all the responsibilities relating to the position. (Refer to 5.4) *Implemented*

5.3: Communication: Better recording in the Minutes of Meetings of the decisions made and actions required, and by whom: including acceptance sign offs. *Implemented*

It is a CC requirement that Minutes of Meetings are correctly recorded. *Implemented*

5.4: Better recording on the annual Membership Forms of the member's age, more detail on 'underlying' health issues, and précised career or work experience – instead of just DIY.

Posting of 'In Case of Emergency' contact details.

5.5: Better financial controls: Management of the weekly Petty Cash transactions and membership fee payments. *Implemented*

5.6: Inductions of Members: Comprehensive membership inductions shall be implemented using the formatted guidelines given in the Shed 'Welcome Pack' booklet. Revision 04. Chapter 1: Induction Checklist.

Those not implemented shall be on re-opening of the Shed to members.

5.7: Amend or reissue the following documents: For 2021

- the Shed Constitution to align with the new Trustees. *Completed*
- the Trustee Declaration with the new Trustees entered and signed *Completed*
- the Safety Policy Statement – amend 'review date' to 2030. Amend item 13. Misspelt word 'Behaviours'. *Amended*
- the Safety Policy Statement: To be signed off by all Trustees (refer to 5.2). *Signed Off.*

6: Future Plans:

We aim to continue to act as a 'beacon of light' that guides others into the cosy world of Men in Sheds, and be a successful and respected contributor to all of the local communities.

But for this year it is planned to focus on the refurbishment of the Shed.

The offer of the seven-year tenancy is a bonus, which means that the urgency to find alternative premises is not required. However, pursuit of the two possible options previously identified shall continue.

MEN IN SHEDS DUNSTABLE: INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT 2020 - 2021

INCOME	Costs	EXPENDITURE	Costs	Creditors	Costs	CBC Covid Impact Funding
Subscriptions	£1,425.00	Equipment	£1,167.10	1. Insurance (2021-22)	£405.31	£1,000.00
Sales of all projects and surplus equipment	£2,077.21	Materials	£947.43	2. City Storage Unit (2021-22)	£28.80	
Palmer Family Donation	£519.05	Pitch Fees	£25.00	3	£0.00	
Commissions	£0.00	Advertising	£100.00	4	£0.00	
Easy Fundraising	£62.95	Website (GoDady)	£146.86	5	£0.00	
Sale of Scrap Brass	£14.00	Insurance (2020-21)	£440.77	6	£0.00	
Dunstable Town Rotary Donation	£250.00	Sundries	£255.90	7	£0.00	
Town Council Raffle Tickets	£70.00	Town Council Raffle Tickets	£70.00	8	£0.00	
Operating Float	£30.00			9		
Total	£4,448.21	Total	£3,153.06	Sub - total	£434.11	

MEN IN SHEDS DUNSTABLE BALANCE SHEET as at 5th April 2021

Balance Brought Forward 1st April 2021		£4,839.70		Income Total	£6,134.85	
Net Income for 2020-21 from our activities		£1,295.15		Covid Impact Funding(CBC Councillors)	£1,000.00	
				Total Funds available	£7,134.85	
				Note: The Impact fund has not	The Covid Impact Funding is promised (CBC Councillors) but has not yet been received	

Trustees' and Chairman's Report signed by:

Martin Young:
Trustee & Chairman.



Date: 8-6-2021.

Nigel Skinner:
Trustee & Secretary.



Date: 8 June 21.

Glynn Ellis:
Trustee & Project Mgr.



Date: 9th June 21

Bernhard Batchelor:
Trustee & Treasurer.



Date: 8 June 21

Cllr. John Gurney:
Trustee & Town Council Rep.



Date: 10 June 21