

**Somerset Levels and Moors Shed (SLaMS)**  
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

**Charity Number 1182815**

**Trustees' Annual Report  
and Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended  
31st December 2022**

## **Somerset Levels and Moors Shed CIO**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

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## **Somerset Levels and Moors Shed CIO**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

#### **Legal and Administrative Information**

##### **Status**

The Somerset Levels and Moors Shed (SLaMS) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered on 5th April 2019.

##### **Registered Number**

Registered charity number: 1182815

##### **Principal Address**

Canal Workshop  
Canal View  
Old Taunton Road  
Bridgwater  
Somerset  
TA6 3NS

##### **Trustees**

The trustees who served during the year were as follows

Colin D Gorton	Chair)	(appointed 10th January 2019)
Tom Hart		(appointed 10th January 2019)
Stuart H Jackson	(Treasurer)	(appointed 30th June 2020)
Michael G Brown		(appointed 30th June 2020)
Gerald Swayne	(Secretary)	(appointed 10th August 2021)

##### **Trustees who resigned during the year**

Cherrill Kelly	(resigned 17th May 2022)
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##### **Trustees appointed during the year**

Gordon A Godfrey	(appointed 17th May 2022)
Peter J Smith	(appointed 17th May 2022)

## **Somerset Levels and Moors Shed**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The Somerset Levels and Moors Shed (SLaMS) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). The CIO is governed by a constitution, with charity trustees to be elected by members at its Annual General Meeting. Any vacant seats may be filled by nomination, election and verification process held by the existing trustees during the year.

The charity trustees are responsible for the management and overall control of the CIO. All trustees are volunteers and undertake activities to further the objects of SLaMS as required, with no remuneration or financial benefit received for their time, which is given freely. No remuneration or benefits or expenses were paid to any connected persons during this period.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The objects of the charity are to promote for the public benefit of persons living in Bridgwater, its adjacent towns, villages and the isolated rural communities of the Somerset Levels and Moors, in particular but not exclusively older men, preventing them from becoming socially excluded, and assisting them to integrate into society through the provision of a venue ("Shed") or venues ("Sheds") in which they can meet and jointly or individually undertake and share creative, physical, social and recreational activities of their choice.

SLaMS offers a practical skills sharing environment, where all members contribute to the life of the Shed, working on their own projects, community based projects or those commissioned by members of the public.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

Our beneficiaries include men and women aged 18+, though our members are predominantly male retirees. Many are dealing with issues around physical or mental health, social isolation, ageing, unemployment and include carers seeking respite and ex-offenders/probationers re-integrating back into society.

Our members' life experiences are quite diverse. This diversity is a strong feature of Shed life and contributes significantly to our aims of being welcoming and inclusive for all, irrespective of background, aptitude or ability. Our social space and practical workshop environment provide an opportunity for men, who may be struggling to cope with mental health and social isolation, to connect with other men through shared practical activity.

## Somerset Levels and Moors Shed

### Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2022

The resultant community is one of mutual support, good humour and a strong *esprit de corps*, and greatly contributes to maintaining each individual's sense of worth, acceptance and wellbeing.

As might be expected given the life circumstances of many of our service users, our membership numbers fluctuate, though we retain a core group of around 12 members, providing sufficient continuity for volunteer Trustees and Session Supervisors, and which also enables us to plan ahead in accepting community and other commissioned projects.

2022 has largely been a year of modest, but steady, recovery from the effects of Covid 19 lockdowns and reduced operations in the preceding two years. Despite the further loss of some members, our membership has grown steadily such that at year end we had attracted 11 new members and retained a total membership of 25. We were able to sustain twice weekly sessions throughout the period, with an average attendance of 8 members per session. The table below provides the comparison with previous years.

	(SLaMS UA) 2019	(SLaMS UA) 2020	(SLaMS UA & CIO) 2021	(SLAMS CIO) 2022
Membership	30	11	19	25
Total Sessions	150	40	54	101
Total Attendees	1337	266	330	811
Average attendees/ session	8.9	6.6	6.1	8.0

In respect of community involvement our members have been busy constructing a number of commissioned items, amongst which are :

- For The Friends of Blake Museum charity - a very large octagonal memorial planter.
- For Bridgwater Rotary Club - a "Talking Bench" to encourage socially isolated people to sit and converse - for installation at Bridgwater Library.
- For Hamp Infants School - wellington boot storage units - for safer storage of outdoor footwear and to encourage children's participation in outdoor curricular activities.

At year end we were in discussion with SHAL Housing Association for the provision of recycling bin storage units for properties with no side access. The expected impacts of this proposed project include encouraging residents' recycling behaviours, improving the external visual appearance of properties and delivering an element of "social uplift" to the immediate neighbourhood.

We have continued our contacts with signposting agencies and others, including *inter alia* the Probation Service, NHS Adult Community Mental Health Service, responding to individual needs as required. We are also engaged with the Somerset Integrated Care System - Bridgwater Connect initiative which seeks to improve the connections among health, care and other services and the local VCSE sector of which SLaMS is a small, but niche, element.

## **Somerset Levels and Moors Shed CIO**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2022**

#### **Reserves Policy**

Our aim is to retain a minimum 12 months of annual overhead costs in unrestricted reserves as a operational buffer in the event of funding sources substantially reducing or ceasing. This has been achieved.

#### **Financial Review**

Income in 2022 amounted to £5193 of which £1600 was as a result of members completing commissioned projects. No grants were received during the period. Operating payments were £8543, of which the single largest item (£5651) was rent for the workshop. The only major capital expenditure during the year was £543 for a compound mitre saw, bringing total payments for the year to £9086. The charity made a net loss of £3893, and at year end cash funds of £13028 were available.

Of note, the pre-Covid 2020 opening balance of SLAMS (at that time operating as an Unincorporated Association) was £13492. As a result of the Covid-19 lockdowns, reduced shed operations and the time required for community confidence to return, the Shed has been operating at approximately a £3500 annual operating loss for the last 3 years. The Government Covid grant of £10,000 awarded in 2020 to SLAMS UA , via Sedgemoor District Council, has served its purpose, and buffered the impact of Covid.

The accounts were reviewed and passed by an independent examiner on 26th April 2023 and found to be an accurate record of the Shed's financial operations.

Approved by the Trustees on 27th April 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



C D Gorton  
Trustee (Chairman)



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Somerset Levels and Moors Shed

1182815

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01-Jan-22

To

31-Dec-22

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Transfer of Cash from SLAMS UA Bank	-	-	-	-	18,434
Transfer of SLAMS UA Cash in Hand	-	-	-	-	123
Members Contributions	3,313	-	-	3,313	601
Earned Income	1,600	-	-	1,600	535
Donations and Bequests	280	-	-	280	55
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-	-	10
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>5,193</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,193</b>	<b>19,758</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
Sale of Tools	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>5,193</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,193</b>	<b>19,758</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Rent	5,651	-	-	5,651	1,343
Insurances	651	-	-	651	-
Utilities	335	-	-	335	95
Professional and Legal Services	119	-	-	119	1,226
Comms and Marketing	497	-	-	497	19
Training	500	-	-	500	-
Tools and Equipments Maintenance	311	-	-	311	-
Materials and Consumables	420	-	-	420	154
PPE and First Aid	59	-	-	59	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>8,543</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,543</b>	<b>2,837</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Compound Mitre Saw	543	-	-	543	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>9,086</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,086</b>	<b>2,837</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 3,893</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 3,893</b>	<b>16,921</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>16,921</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,921</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>13,028</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,028</b>	<b>16,921</b>

ilities



## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Coop Bank	13,028	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	13,028	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

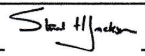

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Machinery	Unrestricted	-	1,821
	Hand Power Tools	Unrestricted	-	250
	Tools	Unrestricted	-	527
	Workshop Fixtures	Unrestricted	-	540
	Domestic/Safety Infrastructure	Unrestricted	-	258
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Stuart H Jackson	17-Feb-23
	C. D. Gorton	26.4.23

INDEPENDENTLY  
CHECKED

J Roche.

JUDITH ROCHE

24.4.2023





# Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

## Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/members of

Charity Name

**Somerset Levels and Moors Shed (SLaMS)**

On accounts for the year ended

**3 1 1 2 2 2**

Charity no (if any)

**1 1 8 2 8 1 5**

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~\*):

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed

*J Roche*

Date

**24-4-2023**

Name

Judith Roche

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any)

**NONE**

Address

The Willows Woodhill

Stoke St Gregory

Taunton

Somerset TA3 6BN