

Northampton Community Sheds Annual General Meeting 2024

Chair of Trustees Annual Report – Philip Osborne.

First established in 2016 as 'Northampton Men's Sheds' and in 2019 as Northampton Community Sheds, when we registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

As well as a woodworking workshop, we have developed allotment, computing, upholstery and repair facilities.

The Shed is governed through its trustees and the members, and our activities are chosen and developed by the shedders themselves.

Our Aims

1. To serve the good health and wellbeing of individuals through their active participation in fulfilling and collaborative activities of their own choice; and by bringing companionship and active involvement in developing local community.
2. To reduce loneliness and social exclusion that results from people's uncertainties, unemployment, financial hardship, bereavement, ill health or older age.

Northampton Community Shed is currently hosted by Spencer Contact who provide us with a workshop of approximately 58 square metres at a reasonable rent. They also make available to us a wide range of damaged or waste items and materials which can be repaired or upcycled.

We currently open on Tuesday's and on Friday's. We provide a place for members to meet, socialise and undertake personal, team and community projects at their own pace and in their own time; with the advantage of guided supervision by people experienced as craft-people and professionals.

The Shed is governed through its trustees and the members. Our activities are chosen by the Shedders themselves.

The Shed continues to be a welcoming place, a place of good humour where creativity and positive enthusiasm blossom. Not to mention a good brew, plenty of cake and friendly banter.

Review of Activities

As a member led organisation, we constantly evolve to meet the needs of our members and the local community. New members bring with them a range of new interests and skills to share.

We have started a walking group at the request of our members. Our monthly newsletter was started during lockdown to keep our members connected and was so well received. We should look to continue this when we are able to.

Over recent years we have completed a number of projects on behalf of local charities including RSPCA, Elsie's Café, Night Shelter and Age UK.

We have supported many local community groups including Bradlaugh Barn Trust, Berrywood Community Allotment, Vernon Terrace Community Centre, The Bee Hive, Delapre Abbey, Moulton Allotments, Boothville Community Church.

Not to mention JAM and its fingers in every pie.

Members also complete projects for themselves or on behalf of individuals who have requested our support to repair or refurbish items.

Our Finances

Our accounts are in good health for our position and continue to move in the right direction. My thanks go to our treasurer Teresa for all her hard work and meticulous nature. Keeping our trustees and members focused is no easy ride.

Our reserve continues to grow which may give us opportunity in the future.

We are a self-funding group in our present situation, however, to take our Charity to the next level, so that we have access to larger premises with control on our opening hours, we must commit.

I would therefore seek your support for the proposal to increase subscriptions and move toward bank transfer payments.

We have continued for too many years on an informal payment scheme, which was introduced to start us off as a small charity, if we are to convince the community we are here to stay, and to grow our membership and our influence you must support the proposal today.

I would also like to thank South Northants Council for its recent offer of discretionary funding to the value of £6900.00. This will go toward our running costs for the coming year.

Structure, Governance, and Management

Our trustees are all people that support NCS, they.....

Meet once a month and....

- 🎬 Volunteer to support the operational management of the organisation
- 🎬 Ensure that the Charity carries out its purpose for the public benefit
- 🎬 Ensure that the Charity's Constitution is followed
- 🎬 Act in the Charity's best interests
- 🎬 Manage the Charity's resources responsibly
- 🎬 Act with reasonable care and skill
- 🎬 Ensure that the Charity is accountable. Arrange AGMs / EGMs
- 🎬 Regularly review the strategic development of Shed plans and activities

.....they do all this free of any charge or expense.

I must thank all our trustees who started the year with us.....

Teresa, Derek, Hars, Malcom and Marina.

.....and Anne and Martin for giving their time as advisors.

My particular thanks to Anne and JAM for their work projecting the Shed on Social Media and connecting us to other Northampton Charities. You continue to raise our profile within the Community and hope we can sustain this for the future.

I would also like to congratulate them all for their Rose of Northamptonshire Awards for vital community work. Surely our very own unsung heroes.

But especially Keith who has continued as our acting-secretary. He continues to put in the hours and commitment to ensuring we can all enjoy the opportunity that the shed provides. In my view if it wasn't for Keith there would be no Shed. I continue to be privileged to call him a friend and colleague.

I am aware that Malcolm and Marina will not be standing, and I have thanked them personally for their contribution.

I know that other members have been nominated as Trustees and I would ask that you give these people your support. We may not agree on all subjects, and no doubt differ on our politics, however a broad range of ideas and opinions on any board is a good sign. It is a team effort, and when we work as a team, we will make the correct decisions.

Our Members

My thanks must go to...

As always Bill and Maureen for fronting our sales both online and by way of Fairs and Fetes.

And the support to them by Brett and Pam.

John Perkins for his bird boxes, and keeping tools sharp.

Kev continues to manage our Health and Safety, First Aid and Social Events.

John Haynes for tutoring on the Lathe.

Malcolm Gray for those marvellous illustrations which have raised funds for us.

Alan and Noel for your work in picking up donations and keeping Derek gainfully employed.

Izzy - Israr - for helping everyone in the Workshop.

Everyone a star in my eyes.....

It only takes for everyone to do a little bit and a lot gets done, leave it to one person and we will fail.

Hence I leave you on this note, our search for new premises goes on, we have tended to hope that a benefactor may appear or that our local council would help.

It may just be that we have to act ourselves and commit ourselves financially to new premises.

Whatever the route we should commit ourselves to ensuring we can expand our Shed and welcome more of our community in, because if we don't, they may just knock the door down and walk right in.

Thank You

NORTHAMPTON COMMUNITY SHEDS

Registered Charity Number 1184438

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 2024

Receipts and Payments account	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 total £	2023 total £
Receipts					
Grants		0.00	-	0.00	4,000.00
Local Giving		467.50	-	467.50	371.31
Craft Fairs		834.13	-	834.13	1391.13
Sales of donated tools & shed made items		1,886.70	-	1,886.70	1124.96
Donations & member subscriptions		4,232.35	-	4,232.35	2,573.90
Total receipts for the year		7,420.68	-	7,420.68	9,461.30
Payments					
Rent		5,040.00	-	5,040.00	5,040.00
Insurance		447.68	-	447.68	427.33
Telephones		48.00	-	48.00	125.52
Local Giving membership fee		180.00	-	180.00	96.00
Professional fees incl website costs		12.46	-	12.46	216.00
Tools & consumables		1,245.97	-	1,245.97	2,867.08
Social & organised trips		146.13	-	146.13	294.04
Moulton Allotments		20.00	-	20.00	37.60
First aid training & supplies		213.95	-	213.95	150.00
Office / admin costs		12.98	-	12.98	288.59
Craft stall rental		123.78	-	123.78	155.00
Transport / mileage		10.00	-	10.00	129.23
Donations		30.00	-	30.00	0.00
Meeting costs		98.60	-	98.60	95.95
Total payments for the year		7,629.55	-	7,629.55	9,922.34
Net Receipts / (Payments)		-208.87	-	-208.87	-461.04
Cash funds at 01.09.23		20,086.23	-	20,086.23	20,547.27
Cash funds at 31.08.24		19,877.36	-	19,877.36	20,086.23

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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2024

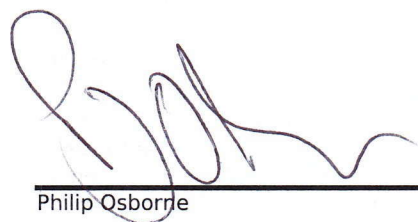
There are no employees at present

During the year the Trustees received no remuneration

Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024 total	2023 total
	£	£	£	£
Assets				
Cash funds				
Current Account	19,877.36	-	19,877.36	20,086.23
Debtor	0.00	-	0.00	150.99
	<u>19,877.36</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,877.36</u>	<u>20,237.22</u>
Liabilities				
None	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>0.00</u>

	Opening Balance 01.09.23 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	Closing Balance 01.09.24 £
Charity Funds					
Unrestricted Funds					
General Reserve	11,454.23	7,420.68	7,629.55	-	11,245.36
Designated Fund - new premises	8,632.00	-	-	-	8,632.00
	<u>20,086.23</u>	<u>7,420.68</u>	<u>7,629.55</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,877.36</u>

Approved by the trustees at a management meeting held on 8th October 2024 and signed on their behalf:



Philip Osborde

Chair