

1. Operations & Activity

During the year the remaining items in the original (2020) establishment plan for the Shed were completed. The Shed is fully functioning and is sufficiently well equipped to enable a wide range of projects to be undertaken. There is a small group of regular attendees who provide a core set of skills and expertise, which is shared with new and less experienced attendees.

During the year Trustees were again concerned with responding to, and countering, objections to the Shed operation. As in previous years, a small number of fervent opponents to the idea of a “Men’s Shed” pursued their ill-considered campaigns through formal Elmbridge Borough Council Planning objections. Finally, on 1 March 2024, with the submission of the ninth Planning Application by Trustees as required by EBC since 2021, the last of these formal objections was rejected and the Shed is now able to operate as originally intended, consistent with the operations of other sheds in the UK. This outcome has boosted the morale and engagement of attendees immeasurably. The Shed has never received any substantiated complaint about its activities, and the Objectors are no longer actively pursuing their grievances.

The Shed continues to operate with just 3, three-hour sessions per week. It undertakes projects for the Community in general, ranging from building and installing planter boxes in public areas to installing the town’s Christmas trees. The Shed also takes on selected commissions and projects for individuals as a means of: (a) providing opportunities for attendees to participate together, and (b) to raise funds for operational expenses. Now that the Shed is well established within the community, there is steady supply of commissions and projects in which attendees can engage.

The Shed has enjoyed the support of local individuals and businesses who have made financial contributions and/or donated tools and materials. Most notably Alsford Timber, whose donations of materials have been much appreciated. The collection of unwanted tools and other items from family estates and other donors has become a routine activity valued by these donors. This in turn has led to the establishment of a strong relationship with WorkAid, a Charity refurbishing and exporting tools to projects and education establishments in developing countries.

The Shed makes a meaningful contribution to waste reduction and the recycling/upcycling of items that would otherwise be destroyed or go to landfill.

The Shed’s newly-formed Beekeeping Section continues to flourish; the presence of three colonies of pollinators has been welcomed onto the site by allotment holders.

Trustees continue to promote the use of the Shed facilities to other community groups and charities, for example, Dreams of Hope, Samaritans, SCC Displaced Men, Surrey Choices, Weybridge Society, Cook 4 Care etc. In this way the community benefit of the Shed extends well beyond its primary purpose. The principal constraint to expanding the range of activities, membership, and hours of operation in the coming year, is the (limited) availability of volunteers available to provide oversight at more shed sessions.

In the coming year, and in addition to the continuation of the now well-established activities to mitigate social isolation and loneliness of older men, though not exclusively men, Trustees hope to:

- (a) expand connections with other charities & community groups
- (b) undertake one non-remunerated major community project
- (c) expand the hours of operation to enable more Shedders to participate
- (d) increase sales revenues towards a reduced reliance on third party funding
- (e) enhance procedures for oversight of maintenance and other physical activities at the Shed.

Trustees and Shedders value the ongoing support and encouragement of the community, Elmbridge Borough, and Surrey County Councils.

2. Finance

Increased utility costs was the primary contributor towards the financial challenge faced in the year, with only increased commission sales of £3,693 and a Trustee loan of £2,000 enabling the Shed to end the year with a small £221 bank balance.

Residual funds of £8,076 received from the Your Fund Surrey award had already been earmarked for a Workshop heater, a 3-D router and flooring for the Leisure Shed, whilst another £2,155 was required to complete the delayed rainwater harvesting project, for which an EBC Grant had been awarded in 2022/23.

The final planning permission, costing another £298, was granted early in the year.

Donations totalling £1,023 had been received from 5 sources, and the Elmbridge Lottery had produced £94.

With a healthy project schedule and a further Grant award of £3,750 from Elmbridge Borough Council, the Shed has secured the necessary cashflow for the coming financial year.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
WEYBRIDGE MEN'S SHED

No (if any)
1187384

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01.04.23		31.03.2024

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 £
A1 Receipts					
Grants and awards	8,067	-	-	8,067	2,000
Donations	1,023	-	-	1,023	1,078
Commissions & sales	3,693	-	-	3,693	721
Lottery	94	-	-	94	114
Loan	2,000	-	-	2,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	14,876	-	-	14,876	3,913
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	14,876	-	-	14,876	3,913
A3 Payments					
Shed buildings & other construction costs	4,680	-	-	4,680	15,598
Workshop tools & consumables	4,773	-	-	4,773	249
Infrastructure costs for utilities etc.	-	-	-	-	118
Project expenditure	1,720	-	-	1,720	4,889
Media & IT expenses	1,344	-	-	1,344	1,570
Legal & professional fees	300	-	-	300	1,754
Utilities, rent etc.	1,796	-	-	1,796	1,161
Insurance	294	-	-	294	278
Sundry expenses	211	-	-	211	84
Grant repaid	800	-	-	800	-
Sub total	15,918	-	-	15,918	25,700
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	15,918	-	-	15,918	25,700
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,041	-	-	- 1,041	- 21,786
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,264	-	-	1,264	23,050
Cash funds this year end	222	-	-	222	1,264

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Current Account	222	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	222	-	-

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(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

Unrestricted funds

Restricted funds

Endowment funds

to nearest £

to nearest £

to nearest £

Details

B2 Other monetary assets

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details

B3 Investment assets

Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

Details

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Buildings & infrastructure expenditure	67,364	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-
	-	-

Details

B5 Liabilities

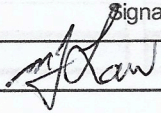
Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Loan	2,000	
	-	
	-	
	-	
	-	

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

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval



MURRAY JAMES LAW

24/10/2024