



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/01/2023 Period start date To 31/12/2023

Period end date

Charity name: Letchworth Men in Sheds

Charity registration number: 1188445

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Men in Sheds are community spaces for men to connect, converse and create. Our Letchworth Shed aims to reduce loneliness and isolation for primarily older and often retired men by developing that sense of personal identity, and purpose and restoring the camaraderie which is so often lost after retirement.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>In 2022 we moved into and began repairing our premises at Standalone Farm, Letchworth, 2023 has been about making these premises habitable, safe and functional with members taking on various voluntary jobs for our own benefit that has included building work benches, shelving, installing roof insulation, opening a new doorway, constructing a specialist lathe bench for woodturning tuition. These activities support our aim to reduce loneliness and isolation by providing a place to meet up with and engage with others whilst focusing on a common purpose.</p> <p>Having a functioning workshop (mainly using publicly donated machinery), has enabled us to deliver local community projects. In particular, we have repaired table tennis tables for the local Letchworth Sports and Tennis Club, built (from reclaimed timber) a large flower planter for a local Baldock retirement home and made barn owl boxes for a nearby farming & wildlife group.</p> <p>Our tenancy at Standalone Farm requires us to take on various make and repair projects around the Farm in return for our use of premises. In 2023 we have been involved with preparing a new build polytunnel for general use with ground works and wood cladding, repairing many public rubbish bins, making shelving for a refreshment kiosk, as well as completing several small repair projects,</p> <p>Having workshop projects of various kinds, gives purpose and provides our members with</p>

		many opportunities to engage with others in line with our purposes.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>We began this year with three trustees, voted on and accepted a fourth in July but finished the year with three, following the untimely death of one in October. All trustees are members, fully participate in group activities and are registered with the Charity Commission.</p> <p>We continue to operate in our charities best interests and manage its resources with care and to the best of our ability.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Our membership continues to grow, with many who have been meeting with us for more than 2 years and in some cases, 3 years.</p> <p>Currently we have around 25 members and continue to attract interest from mainly retired men who are keen to join us for camaraderie and to be involved in something that gives purpose and gives back to the community.</p> <p>We hold regular weekly sessions that are well attended by more than 10 members.</p> <p>Grants that we obtained in 2022 continued to be spent in 2023 on essentials like, dust extraction equipment, PPE overalls / masks/ visors/ gloves, a new woodturning lathe and accessories, fire appliances & training and first aid. And we have been successful in raising our own funds from donations made in respect of items our members have made for local organisations and groups, in particular a large flower planter and number of owl boxes.</p> <p>The regular sessions we hold and workshop activities we undertake substantially meet our charity objectives of fighting social isolation and loneliness, as well as bringing people together in common purpose.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>We did not receive any grants in 2023.</p> <p>We were able with agreement to re-purpose a grant from HCF received in 2022 to use in 2023 for buildings work towards roof insulation, safety handrails, fire protection, first aid, converting a window into a door.</p> <p>We continued to spend a grant received from the Co-op towards new workshop machinery (woodworking lathe, dust extractor, chip extractor, power tools, oscillating sander, professional sharpener and insurance.</p> <p>At the beginning of 2023 our funds were £9545 at the end of 2023 our funds were £2675, which includes member subscriptions, donations from individuals as well as donations made to us by way of items made to order.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We do not have a policy for holding reserves. We have underspent on grants received
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Cash currently in our community bank account is £2675
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We occupy our premises by way of an agreement called a License to Occupy (LTO) from the owner of the Farm in which we reside. The owner is The Letchworth Garden Heritage Foundation. We know that they have been working on a revised LTO since November 2023. We do not know yet if the terms of our occupation will change. And so there is uncertainty for us into 2024.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Our principal sources of funding have been two grants from the Hertfordshire Community Foundation and the Co-op and, a donation from the local Masonic Lodge. All received in 2022.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	n/a
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	We began 2023 with a minimum three trustees and gained a fourth during the year. The untimely death of one trustee leaves us again with a minimum. We will look to take on another trustee from the membership.

		Space to operate our workshop is at a premium. We have approached the owners of the farm but have not been successful in acquiring more space. We will look to open more sessions on other days of the week to spread the member load.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		We have no trusts
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its charity trustees
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	All our trustees are volunteers, elected from and by our membership, in line with our CIO Constitution

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Letchworth Men in Sheds
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1188445
Charity's principal address	c/o 1, Milestone Close, Stevenage, Hertfordshire
Postcode	SG2 9RR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Peter Hill	chair		The membership
2	Neill Withington	treasurer		The membership
3	Mike Elsdon	membership	01/01/23 to 03/10/23	The membership
4	Chris Lee	membership	21/07/23 to 31/12/23	The membership
5				
6				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	none
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure


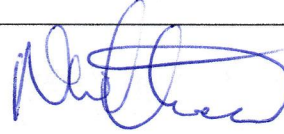

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

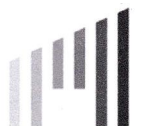
Other optional information

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signatures			
Full Names	Peter Michael Hill	Neill Withington	John Christopher Lee
Position	Chair	Treasurer	Membership
Date	15.3.24	15.3.24	22/3/24



Member

Letchworth Men in Sheds

1188445

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period
from

Period start date

01/01/2023

To

Period end date

31/12/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted to the nearest £	Restricted to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts				
Membership fees	216.00	0.00	216.00	296.00
Donations	169.19	0.00	169.19	1,159.19
Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,866.21
Sales / event income	459.60	0.00	459.60	0.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	854.79	0.00	854.79	10,321.40
Asset and investment sales				
Sale of assets	80.00	0.00	80.00	0.00
Sale of investments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	80.00	0.00	80.00	0.00
Total receipts	934.79	0.00	934.79	10,321.40
Payments				
Shed premises costs	3,028.92	0.00	3,028.92	571.98
Insurance	441.60	0.00	441.60	505.90
Materials & consumables	1,112.91	0.00	1,112.91	0.00
Small tools (<£25)	581.32	0.00	581.32	0.00
Repairs and renewals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Refreshments & cleaning	446.24	0.00	446.24	0.00
Admin/Office costs	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
Subscriptions	19.19	0.00	19.19	49.19
Sundry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub total	5,640.18	0.00	5,640.18	1,127.07
Asset and investment purchases				
Hand and power Tools (>£25)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Workshop machines	2,164.92	0.00	2,164.92	0.00
Sub total	2,164.92	0.00	2,164.92	0.00
Total payments	7,805.10	0.00	7,805.10	1,127.07
Net of receipts/(payments)	-6,870.31	0.00	-6,870.31	9,194.33
Transfers between funds	0.00	0.00		
Cash funds last year end	9,545.37	0.00	9,545.37	351.04
Cash funds this year end	2,675.06	0.00	2,675.06	9,545.37

Categories

Coop account summary			£
Opening Balance	as at	01/01/2023	0.00
Receipts and net transfers			8,901.32
Payments			-6,262.76
Closing Balance	as at	31/12/2023	<u>2,638.56</u>