



Hawkwell Sports Pavilion
East Essex Hackspace CIO
Hawkwell
SS5 4HF
07832 118490

<http://eehack.space>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/eastessexhackspace/>

Twitter: @EEHackSpace

Report of the Trustees Committee for the year ended 30th June 24

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: East Essex Hackspace CIO

Charity Registration Number: 1190927

Company Registration Number: CE023644

Registered Office and Operational Address:

East Essex Hackspace CIO
Hawkwell Pavilion
Park Gardens
Hawkwell
SS5 4HF

Trustees

Tim Neobard - Chair
Alex Chiolo - Treasurer
Steven Tong - Secretary
Nick Reynolds
Stephen Ford
Matthew Emerick-Law

Accountants:

Graham Stapleton
Howard & Stapleton
2nd Floor Offices, 26-28 West Street, Market Square
Rochford
SS4 1AJ

Purpose and Aims

To advance the education of the public in the subjects of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) in Essex and the surrounding areas by establishing and operating a workshop for the benefit of the local community.

Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review looks at what we achieved and the outcomes of our work in the previous 12 months. The review looks at the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought to those groups of people we are set up to help. The review also helps us ensure our aim, objectives and activities remain focused on our stated purposes. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Focus of our work

EEH opened our doors in early June 2021 and since our opening, each of the workshops is in a usable state with tools and equipment.

We continue to have a large presence in the community with around 500 people utilising our space on a weekly basis. The space is now well utilised during the day and evenings by both the U3A and independent members, with some use in the very late evening to early morning (11-6am).

Since last year our membership has grown by 24, though a few have left, we are now at 120 active paying subscribers, as of the end of June 2024. We have now moved away from active recruitment, though we will continue to engage the public at events and through social media.

The workshops continue to see light use outside of regular meetings, which means we still have scope for growth. The trustees have begun discussions with the local council to discuss whether the building could be expanded and the lease extended by at least 30 years to allow for lottery funding to be sought.

Outreach

We are looking to engage the full local community of all ages. All under 18s have to be accompanied by an adult.

We have several workshops currently running, namely:

- The sewing & textiles group running on Wednesdays in the social space has been targeting social isolation, bringing together people from different walks of life working on individual and group projects either for themselves or the community.
- The woodworking group run by Clarke in the woodshop meets Wednesdays and has been successful in teaching the basics and made or refurbished tools, wall units and tool benches in the wood workshop.
- The board and card games group have been meeting the first Friday of the month, again aimed at reducing social isolation & encouraging people to be mentally active.
- Every other Monday the Guitar group has been meeting, starting from complete beginners they have increased their membership and have a tutor visiting to help them expand their skills.
- Essex HAM radio used the space regularly and have been invited to become a regular part of the hackspace, and permission has been secured to attach radio antenna brackets to the outside of the space for easy aerial installation.
- EcoEssex has also used the space for non-commercial eco outreach meetings

The space continued to find and distribute more laptops for children and continue corporate outreach. We have provided another 100 laptops in the course of the year to needy children and Ukrainian refugees.

This year we have officially attended EMF Camp 2025 and run a “village” with STEM outreach activities such as our paper rockets and minecraft local area network. As part of the festival, a sponsored electronic programmable badge is produced. On this occasion Matt has produced a series of EEH branded “Hexpansions” which link into the badge which he has donated to the space through Justgiving.

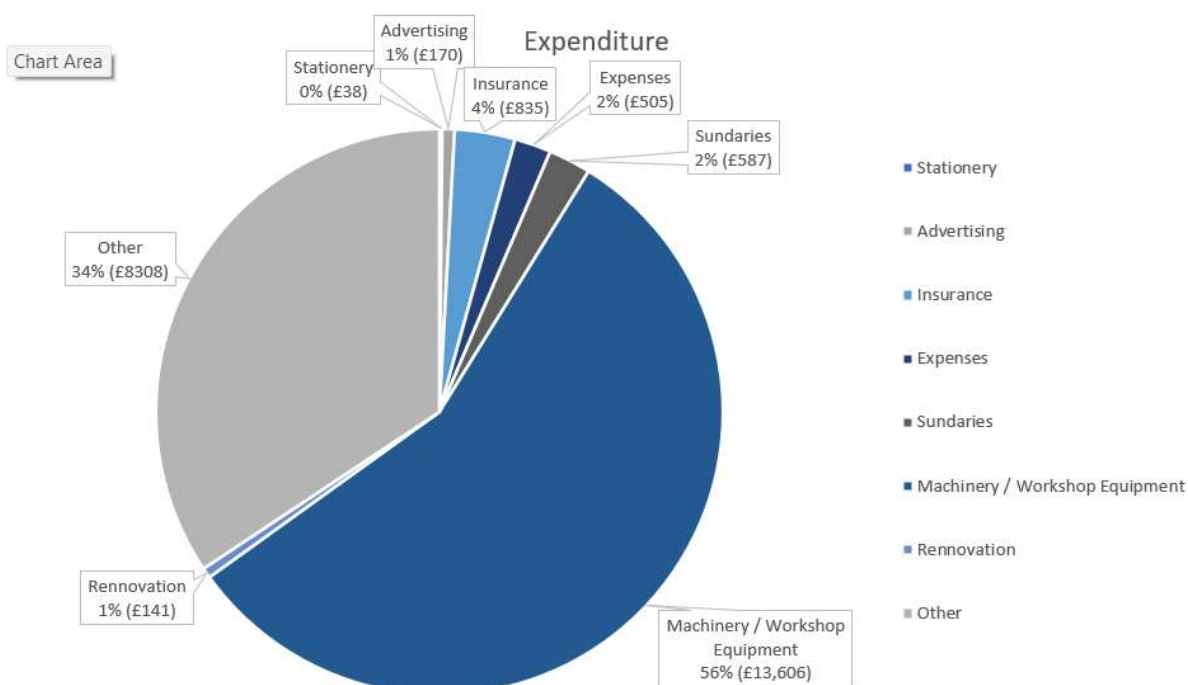
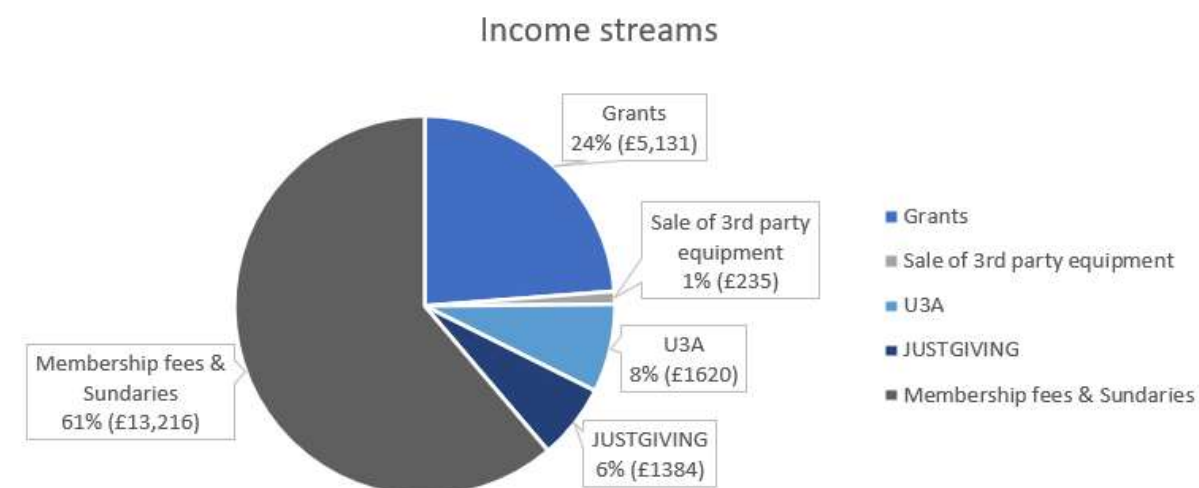
For the event, we purchased a 2nd all weather double gazebo to be used at future summer events and refreshed our hackspace sticker supply (noted in advertising expenses).

Other notable points was the creation of the “potato of the infinite” a GPS enabled large fibreglass art object approximately 3 ft in width and weighed a not inconsiderable 10kg which tracked itself back to our camp. The object was left around the event to bring people to our camp - which it successfully did - where people were rewarded with a potato and a sticker for their trouble. The “potato of the infinite” was given an honourable mention by the camp's organisers as one of the more unique entries they saw during the week.

The event was very well attended by over 3,000 attendees and our “village” was similarly well attended by numerous children and adults from 8am to 11pm daily, reaching an estimated 600 people.

Principal Funding Sources

All funds for the past 12 months have been raised from grants, donations, subscriptions and disposal of assets no longer required for operation of the Hackspace. A total of £21,565 has been raised; the amount is comparable to 2022-2023 although the previous year included significantly more income from grants, reflecting our increased membership size.



Our expenditure of £24,190 includes the cost of 6 months of energy usage carried over from the previous year due to billing issues with the local council.

The “other” category includes the costs of cleaning, ICO, electricity (including previous years), water and council rates. In a normal year, we would expect this to be approximately £4,500.

It has been noted that our insurance is being withdrawn in October and we will need to seek other providers.

We have managed to reduce our internet outgoings by arranging a free dedicated fibre broadband connection to the space, which was funded by ASELA and would have cost the space between £20-60k. In addition, the space has been granted 12 months of free internet, which will revert to the cost of standard connection rather than that of a dedicated fibre line fee for up to 7 years. Further to this, we have been approached by the same team to host a LoRAWAN node to be mounted on the side of the space for an additional free 6 years of broadband usage. The connection takes us from 35mb/s to 1000mbps and will be a great boon for video conferencing.

Investment Policy

At present we do not have any funds to invest.

Reserves Policy

We aim to have 6 months of reserves for ongoing expenses (electricity, water and telecommunication services). This remains at £2,000

The electricity issue reported previously has been resolved.

Plans for Future Periods

We are continuing to procure tools and organise the workshops to make them more practical.

Our spending on tools and machinery policy going forward is to buy better equipment than people are likely to have access to at home. This ensures that the space will remain relevant with an excellent selection of tools and machinery which would be too large, bulky or specialist and provides a useful resource in the community.

Trustee Induction and Training

All trustees were inducted on the 1st June on the health and safety policies of the hackspace. These have also been published online.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name East Essex Hackspace CIO	No (if any) 1190927
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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 01.07.2023	To	Period end date 30.06.24
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	5,110	-	-	5,110	6,500
Donations	1,434	-	-	1,434	2,105
Membership fees	13,216	-	-	13,216	10,728
Rental income	1,620	-	-	1,620	1,660
Other income	185	-	-	185	1,519
Monies transferred from EEH CIC	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	21,565	-	-	21,565	22,512
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	21,565	-	-	21,565	22,512
A3 Payments					
Small tools and other consumables	7,598	-	-	7,598	9,538
Advertising	170	-	-	170	-
Premises costs	8,415	-	-	8,415	2,350
Insurance	835	-	-	835	523
Computer expenses	505	-	-	505	593
Postage & stationery	38	-	-	38	21
Miscellaneous expenses	621	-	-	621	22
Accountancy	-	-	-	-	240
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	18,182	-	-	18,182	13,287
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Improvements to premises	-	-	-	-	-
Plant & machinery	6,008	-	-	6,008	12,062
Sub total	6,008	-	-	6,008	12,062
Total payments	24,190	-	-	24,190	25,349
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 2,625	-	-	- 2,625	- 2,837
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,424	-	-	7,424	10,261
Cash funds this year end	4,799	-	-	4,799	7,424

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Bank balance	4,799	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,799	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Plant and machinery	General	12,062	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	