



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date
From 01/04/2023

Period end date
To 31/03/2024

Section A	Reference and Administrative details
Charity name	Ascot Shed
Other name the charity uses	Ascot Men's Shed
Registered charity number	1196147
Charity's principal address	Surrey House, Course Road Ascot Berkshire SL5 7HQ

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)
Hamilton Ford	Chair		
Dalwinder Sidhu			
Paul Gibbinson			
Peter Richards	Secretary		

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any (for example, custodian trustees)

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisors (optional information)

Type of advisor	Name	Address

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

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Section B Structure, Governance and Management	
Description of the charity's trusts	
Type of governing document	Constitution, adopted 20/09/2021.
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).
Trustee selection methods	Trustees are appointed or reappointed every 2 years at the AGM held around calendar year end.

Additional governance issues (optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them 	<p>Ascot Shed has been a member of the UK Men's Sheds Association since 2021 and follows their guidance relating to governance and codes of conduct.</p> <p>The single biggest risk to the charity is the potential loss of the workshop space. The building is rented and space is generously provided to Ascot Shed for free by the tenant. The security of that tenancy is uncertain so we are seeking to obtain our own dedicated premises or to secure a long lease affordably.</p>
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Section C Objectives and Activities	
Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p>To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people particularly but not exclusively older men within Ascot and the surrounding area, from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society through the provision of facilities in which they can meet jointly or individually to undertake creative, physical or recreational activities, learn or pass on skills and knowledge and support each other socially.</p> <p>For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of one or more of the following factors: unemployment; financial hardship; youth or old age; ill health (physical or mental).</p>
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts	<p>Ascot Shed provides a variety of workshop areas where locals can engage in practical activities, learn and practise skills, share their experience & expertise, and socialise with like-minded people. Equipped with donated tools and materials our members are empowered to repair, create and collaborate on projects of their own choosing, or to engage in 'Shed Projects' which are generally focussed improving the facilities or making items to sell at fundraising events.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	<p>All trustees follow the Charity Commission's guidance and are committed to making decisions that ensure Ascot Shed provides benefit to a sufficient section of the public, without prejudice or discrimination, in accordance with its defined objects.</p>

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• policy on grant making;• policy programme related investment;• contribution made by volunteers	<p>Ascot Shed is almost entirely run by its membership, with several members volunteering many hours every week to provide supervisory cover and key-holder responsibilities. Our members continue to build out and upgrade the facilities, and also give tours to prospective members visiting for the first time. Increasingly, training sessions are being organised to provide opportunities for learning and skills development; a magnanimous undertaking which is completely self-driven and is a testament to the collaborative and supportive environment we have endeavoured to foster from day one.</p> <p>The trustees are immensely grateful for the time, camaraderie and compassion volunteered by these members, without whose contributions we would not be able to grow the Shed's capabilities and extend a welcome to even more people.</p>
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Section D	Achievements and Performance
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year</p>	<p>This year we further expanded the workshop facilities to incorporate the broadening skillset of our membership, adding a 3D printing lab and a dedicated metalworking area.</p> <p>We more than doubled our membership from 20 to 45, with new members integrating quickly and strong friendships being forged as they integrate with kindred spirits with shared interests.</p> <p>In the summer we were invited to collaborate with Lock5 at Ascot Racecourse again, reclaiming a significant amount of framing timber from temporary structures built for Royal Ascot race week, in what has become an annual team-building event.</p> <p>Having a stock of free-to-use timber available to members has enabled the construction of dozens of individual and group projects & prototypes, and resulted in the production of numerous wooden 'goods' intended for sale at fundraiser events such as Christmas fairs, on the suggestion of members.</p> <p>In September we seized an opportunity to acquire a second-hand 3.5 Tonne, 2-Post Automotive Lift, using £500 of reserve funds to make the purchase. Vehicle maintenance, repair and restoration are activities that many members have shown an interest in, particularly with the rising costs motoring.</p> <p>Our AGM was held at the end of November and a proposed monthly membership fee of £5 per month was agreed upon, with concessions available for those with limited income. Payments began being made in December, providing us with a sustainable maintenance budget for consumables and machine spares going forward. Not a single prospective member has taken issue with paying 'subs' and we we're delighted to be told by many that it's excellent value for money.</p> <p>Also at the AGM, Peter Richards was unanimously voted onto the board of trustees, replacing David Putt who moved to Devon earlier in the year. Peter brings a phenomenal wealth of expertise and experience, having previously been a Design Technology teacher and school workshop manager. He's one of our longest-standing members and has been instrumental in keeping us organised and compliant with regulations.</p> <p>The Shed received a record number of tool donations from residents in Sunninghill, Ascot and Bracknell, yielding enough to fill 2 large crates with spare hand tools which we donated to a local 'Tools For Africa' collection point. Surplus power tools were offered for sale to members to raise funds and some of the larger or more 'niche' items were sold on eBay, further boosting our cash reserves.</p> <p>Networking with other Sheds in geographic proximity produced a surprise benefit in March when Teddington Men's Shed (Sheddington) offered us their surplus Table Saw.</p> <p>For the third year in a row, Ascot Fire Brigade Trust graciously provided us with a grant of £367.68 to cover our insurance costs.</p>

Section E Financial Review	
Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	<p>At year end, £3,289 in unrestricted funds was held as cash at bank. Reserves are retained to fund facilities maintenance and upgrade expenditure, and for investments in specialist equipment.</p> <p>Should we have to vacate the current premises, reserve funds will be held to cover removal expenses and, if necessary, storage costs until a suitable alternative site is secured.</p>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Not applicable

Further financial review details (optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted 	<p>Principal sources of funds (in no particular order):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Membership fees 2. Grants from local charities 3. Sale of surplus donated tools & equipment 4. Sale of reclaimed timber & scrap metal 5. Sale of goods made by members (fundraising) <p>Expenditure on improvements to facilities has enhanced the effectiveness of the work spaces and raised comfort levels in the communal areas, benefitting all members and visitors alike.</p> <p>Expanding our range of workshop environments, procuring essential tools and machinery, and making dedicated spaces for more activities, has attracted a broader demographic, with a noticeable increase in applications from women and younger age groups.</p>
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Section F Other optional information
<p>Our primary focus is ensuring the long-term future of Ascot Shed so that it may continue to benefit those members of society that want a productive space to tinker in and a sympathetic community to socialise with. To that end we will be redoubling our efforts to secure a 'forever home' property in the vicinity of the existing site, potentially with Parish or Borough Council assistance or from a philanthropic landowner. The possibility of having to pay rent in future may be compensated for by seeking financial assistance from Councils, charities and supportive individuals, should the need arise.</p>

Section G Declaration	
The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.	
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees	
Signature(s)	<div>Hamilton Ford</div> <div>Peter Richards</div>
Full name(s)	<div>Hamilton Ford</div> <div>Peter Richards</div>
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	<div>Chair</div> <div>Secretary</div>
Date	<div>31/01/2025</div>



Ascot Shed			1196147	CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	01/04/2023	To	31/03/2024	

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 £
Receipts					
Membership fees	684	-	-	684	800
Donations	380	-	-	380	1,000
Grants	368	-	-	368	408
Trading/event sales	-	-	-	-	908
Interest	-	-	-	-	-
Other/misc.	3,343	-	-	3,343	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4,775	-	-	4,775	3,116
Asset and investment sales					
Asset sales	-	-	-	-	-
Sale of investments	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,775	-	-	4,775	3,116
Payments					
Shed premises costs	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	368	-	-	368	432
Materials & consumables	1,640	-	-	1,640	1,183
Small tools (<£25)	79	-	-	79	-
Repairs & renewals	-	-	-	-	160
Refreshments & cleaning	-	-	-	-	-
Admin/office costs	-	-	-	-	-
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry	13	-	-	13	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,099	-	-	2,099	1,774
Asset and investment purchases					
Hand & power tools (>£25)	-	-	-	-	79
Workshop machines	500	-	-	500	150
Sub total	500	-	-	500	229
Total payments	2,599	-	-	2,599	2,004
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,176	-	-	2,176	1,113
Cash funds last year end	1,113	-	-	1,113	-
Cash funds this year end	3,289	-	-	3,289	1,113

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

Categories					
	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £	Total current Period to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
Cash funds					
Co-operative Bank	2,792	-	-	2,792	1,103
PayPal	487	-	-	487	-
Cash	10	-	-	10	10
Total cash funds	3,289	-	-	3,289	1,113
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK	OK
Other monetary assets	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £		
Stocks/goods for sale	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Investment assets	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)		
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
Assets retained for the Shed's own use	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)		
Buildings		-	-	-	-
Large items of machinery		-	-	5,380	-
Power tools		-	-	250	-
Hand tools		-	-	435	-
Other assets		-	-	1,925	-
				7,990	-
Liabilities	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)		
Trade creditors		-	-	-	-
Accrued expenses		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
Signed by two or more trustees on behalf of all the trustees.	Signature		Print Name		Date of approval