



# **HALSTEAD COMMUNITY SHED**

Annual Report and Financial Statements  
For the year ended 10<sup>th</sup> February 2024

# Halstead Community Shed Trustee Report

## Legal and Administrative Information

### Trustees

Helen Catley  
Janet Caton  
Dave Gronland  
Alan Jackson  
David Jaques  
Heather Pryke

### Chairman

Kevin Pryke

### Vice Chairman

Philip Catley

### Registered charity number

1198208

### Registered office

Halstead Community Shed  
Fenn Road  
Halstead  
Essex  
CO9 2HG

### Independent Finance Examiner

Michael Radley  
4 Portway Court  
Halstead  
Essex  
CO9 2BP

### Bankers

Lloyds Bank Braintree  
2-4 Bank Street  
Braintree  
CM7 1UN

### Solicitors

Holmes & Hills Solicitors  
A12 Commercial Hub  
London Road  
Marks Tey  
CO6 1ED

# Halstead Community Shed Trustee Report

For the year ended February 2024

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended February 2024. The financial statements have been prepared following the charity's accounting policies and comply with the Charity's Constitution and applicable law.

## **Objectives**

<b><u>Vision</u></b>	Our mission is one of Levelling Up, Improving Health and Wellbeing, and preventing loneliness and isolation by providing destination-quality facilities for all.
<b><u>Purpose</u></b>	To improve the health and well-being of the residents of Halstead and the surrounding area and to prevent loneliness and isolation.
<b><u>Mission</u></b>	Our goal is to provide sustainable facilities that can be used to improve the local health and well-being of the residents of Halstead and the surrounding area via self-help.

## **We do this by providing:**

<b><u>Facilities</u></b>	By providing sustainable facilities and activities that can be used to improve the health and wellbeing of residents of Halstead and the surrounding area via self-help.
<b><u>Activities</u></b>	We provide a variety of activities that help develop relationships and opportunities for residents to improve their Health and Wellbeing and reconnect with their community.
<b><u>Opportunities</u></b>	To offer people the opportunity to learn new activities and skills in a non-judgmental atmosphere.

## **Values**

- Recognise that each member needs to get as much value out as they put into it.
- Sincerity and devotion to improving health and wellbeing.
- Honesty and integrity in all our activities.
- Responsiveness to the needs of members, their families and our community.
- Wisdom in applying technology and innovation.
- Respect for the value added by teamwork and participation in life-long learning.
- Appreciation of the value of contributions by partners and sponsors.
- Responsibility and generosity in giving back to the community.
- Shared responsibility and willingness, to accept delegated work.
- That there is no shame in asking



# Halstead Community Shed Trustee Report

## **Background**

Like most projects, it started with the idea of getting a group of men together interested in woodworking. In researching the idea further, the Trust came across the Essex Shed Network, also the UK Men's Shed Association and learnt about their work to prevent loneliness and isolation in older men, which gave a simple idea purpose.

## **Why a Shed?**

Community Sheds, Men's Sheds, or simply Sheds, provide a space similar to a garden shed - a place for pursuing practical interests, practicing skills, and enjoying making and mending. However, the key difference is that while garden sheds foster solitary activities, Sheds are centred around social connections, friendship building, and the sharing of skills and knowledge, often accompanied by laughter. Most importantly, Sheds have proven effective in reducing loneliness, isolation, and depression, ultimately improving men's mental health and wellbeing.

## **Formation**

Formed in February 2022, the trust aimed to establish a Men's Shed community project in Halstead. In their search for suitable premises, they discovered the St John's Ambulance Station on Fenn Road had been vacant for 3 years. Hoping to rent the workshop space, the trust approached St John's Ambulance, only to learn the organisation planned to sell the building.

## **Reassessment**

After further research the Trust approached Braintree District Council about purchasing the Ambulance Station and asked for their support. Through multiple meetings with Braintree's Community Services, the Trust was advised that securing grant funding would require a comprehensive project or business plan encompassing the entire building.

The trust spent the next few months developing the "Wellbeing at the Shed" project that would not only encompass the whole building but also protect the building for the future by creating a focal point for health and wellbeing in Halstead.

# Halstead Community Shed Trustee Report

## **Objectives for 2023/2024**

The Trustees and Volunteers had several key objectives for 2023/2024\:

- Installation of Solar Panels on Main building
- Completion of Health and Safety works
- Completion of Phase 3 of “Wellbeing at the Shed”
  - New Glass and aluminium front
  - New additional, very large Water Tank
  - Electrification of Shutters
- Install Signage

## **Achievements**

In September 2023, the Trust secured a £296,000 grant from the Halstead Community Fund to support its "Wellbeing at the Shed" initiative. This funding allowed the Trust to purchase the St John's Ambulance station on Fenn Road, Halstead (CO9 2HG) in December of that year - an acquisition they had long anticipated.

Immediately following the Christmas holiday, an enthusiastic team comprising our Trustees, volunteers, NHS volunteers, and local tradespeople commenced renovations on the ambulance station. Remarkably, phases 1 and 2 of the project were completed well ahead of the scheduled completion date at the end of February 2024.

Moving forward, the completion of phase 2 renovations will allow the Training Rooms to host a range of health and wellbeing activities focused on self-help starting in early March.

Currently we are in discussion with the following groups with some starting in March:

- Eyoga – Offering Yoga classes
- Senior Fit – Fitness classes for the over 60's
- Senior Fit – Pilates
- Crafty Girls - A social craft group
- Hearing Help Essex
- Sight Essex.
- The Trust is in conversation with Primary Health and NHS Social Prescribers and Provide.

# Halstead Community Shed Trustee Report

## **Financial Review**

This year, the Trust received substantial financial benefits provided by the Halstead Community Fund, Eastlight and Braintree District Council. Consequently, our annual income grew from £298 to £306,703. Over the same period, our expenditures as planned also increased, rising from £60 to £184,903. This has left us with a credit balance of £123,820 at the year end February 2024.

## **Grants**

The Halstead Community Fund grant of £296,229 is a capital expenditure grant and is designed to cover the capital expenditure of the “Wellbeing at the Shed” project. The trust anticipates spending the remaining funds to complete the project within the next financial year.

The Eastlight and Braintree District Council grant of £10,000 is to assist with the Trust's operating costs and will allow us to support other Charity groups such as , Crafty Girls, Hearing Help Essex, Sight Essex at this stage.

## **Reserves policy**

The Trustees' policy is to maintain a sufficient level of general reserves to enable the charity to continue in normal existence for three months. The Trustees aim to review this policy on an annual basis.



# Halstead Community Shed Trustee Report

Structure, governance and management:

## **Governing document**

Halstead Community Shed is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) under its constitution dated 10 March 2022.

## **Tax status**

As a registered charity, number 1198208, Halstead Community Shed is exempt from Corporation Tax and Income Tax on its charitable activities.

## **Trustees**

The Board of Trustees who held office during the year were as follows:

Helen Catley  
Philip Catley  
Janet Caton  
Dave Gronland  
Alan Jackson  
David Jaques  
Heather Pryke  
Kevin Pryke

## **Appointment of Trustees**

The charity's constitution requires a minimum of three Trustees. Trustees are appointed for a term of three years and are invited to join the Board and are elected by a resolution of the Trustees.

## **Public benefit statement**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

## **Reference and administrative details**

The principal addresses and details of professional advisers are included in the information sheet at the front of these accounts.

# Halstead Community Shed Trustee Report

## **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to financial statements**

The law applicable to Charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

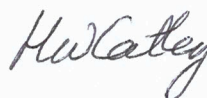
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments' and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on an going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees must maintain accurate, up-to-date accounting records that reflect the Charity's financial position. This enables the Trustees to ensure the financial statements adhere to the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the Trust Deed. Additionally, the Trustees are responsible for safeguarding the Charity's assets and taking reasonable measures to prevent and detect fraud or other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2024. and signed on their behalf by:



Kevin Pryke  
Chair of Trustees



Helen Catley  
Treasurer



From: 10/02/2023  
To: 09/02/2024

Halstead Community Shed  
Balance Report

15 Oct 2024  
17:24

This period only

Nominal Code	Name	As Of 09/02/2024	
		Debit	Credit
0010	Property - Cost	154,112.04	
0040	Fixtures and fittings - Cost	15,336.40	
0041	Fixtures and fittings - Accumulated Depreciation		77.00
0060	Equipment Purchase - Cost	292.27	
0061	Equipment Purchase - Accumulated Depreciation		1.00
1025	Work in Progress - building refurbishment	5,130.29	
1200	HALSTEAD COMMUNITY SHED	3,181.41	
1220	HALSTEAD COMMUNITY FUND	11,505.08	
1230	EASTLIGHT AND BDC FUND	8,286.53	
1240	32 DAY NOTICE ACCOUNT	100,847.60	
2100	Trade Creditors	3,548.82	
4200	Essex Lottery		108.50
4210	Easy Fundraising		103.12
4240	Eastlight and BDC Fund		10,000.00
4250	Halstead Community Fund		296,229.00
4900	Other income		500.00
4950	Bank interest received		1,600.74
7130	Insurance	691.66	
7200	Electricity and Gas Supply	69.52	
7460	Refreshments	30.66	
7600	Legal Fees	142.99	
7650	Miscellaneous equipment	541.56	
7800	Repairs and Renewals	4,849.69	
7810	Cleaning	79.80	
8040	Fixtures and Fittings Depreciation	77.00	
8060	Equipment purchase - depreciation	1.00	
9998	Opening Balances		104.96
TOTAL		£308,724.32	£308,724.32