

East Preston Men in Sheds - Chairman's Report

13th March 2023 to 5th April 2024

Our Charity application was officially granted and registered on 13th March 2023.

To support our ongoing work, we built and launched a website (epmis.org), and embarked upon a wider campaign to create awareness, attract membership, and to raise the required funding to build our Mens Shed. Fundraising became a priority task, and thankfully we were successful in raising monies from our own activities, and the receipt of charitable grants. That income met a large proportion of our financial needs, and we continued to seek further finances throughout the year.

Throughout most of 2023 we volunteered as a group to work at our local Comprehensive School and help them to 'tame' a large overgrown garden area, make a number of potting tables, and paint preservative on their log cabin. June 2023 turned out to be a very busy month as we were also in the process of building a 'float' to exhibit in the East Preston Festival Parade. The hard work paid off with the raising of our profile in the Village, and also in raising additional monies.

At that time we were busy searching for a site for the build of our Shed, and consequently became involved in discussions with the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Trustees and East Preston Parish Council. In anticipation of further grants we moved ahead with plans to build the Shed at the Village Hall premises. That was in turn followed by one of our members drawing up detailed plans for the build, and securing planning permission from Arun District Council on the 8th June 2023. We received two significant grants from The National Lottery, and The Sussex Community Foundation, as well as a number of smaller but valuable financial contributions.

However, the total estimated building costs at that time were greater than we had hoped, and our financial reserves were not large enough to proceed. In addition, other hoped for grants did not materialise.

We made changes to our Trustees following the resignation of three Trustees (Kelvan Gale, Tony Page and Ken Glover) for various personal reasons. Pat Gander became a Trustee to maintain the required quorum of three Trustees (Neil Ellis (Chairman), Adrian Miller (Secretary) and Pat Gander (Treasurer)).

We raised more funds through our stall at the Christmas Street Fayre, and we celebrated the year with a Christmas meal at a local hostelry.

We were fortunate when both The Lottery Community Fund, and The Sussex Community Foundation, allowed us a change of usage of their Grant monies to put towards the capital build of our Shed. We now had advanced discussions and negotiations with the East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Trustees and East Preston Parish Council and secured a detailed agreement to go ahead with the purchase and installation of The Shed in the grounds of the Village Hall.

The Charity has given consideration to major risks to which the charity is exposed, and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

So, a busy year, with a great deal progress made in terms of awareness, memberships, structure, fundraising, planning permission, and agreements to allow the commencement of the build.

Signed..........Neil Ellis, Chairman.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

East Preston Men in
Sheds

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period	Period start date	Period end date
	13/03/2023	05/04/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Income				
c/f in bank	251.47		251.47	
Membership fees	£420.00	-	420.00	-
Donations	£21,338.52	-	21,338.52	-
Sales	£289.45	-	289.45	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	22,299.44	-	22,299.44	N/A

Payments				
Meeting Expenses	19.05		19.05	-
Website etc.	20.39		20.39	-
Stationery	-		-	-
Village Hall/plans etc	2,721.80		2,721.80	-
Fund raising expenses	67.28	-	67.28	-
Insurance	87.00	-	87.00	-
Community Projects	512.44			
Miscellaneous	32.05	-	32.05	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	3,460.01	-	3,460.01	-

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,460.01	-	3,460.01	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	18,839.43	-	18,839.43	N/A
Cash funds this year end	18,839.43	-	18,839.43	N/A

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

Signature	Date of approval
	22/10/24
	22/10/24