

Charity name: Allerton Men's Shed  
Charity number 1206590

Allerton Men's Shed  
St Peter's Church  
Allerton  
BD15 7QX

Annual Report for the period 18 January 2024 to 31 March 2025

It has been a very productive and positive first year.

We are a CIO and are governed by a formal constitution, and this is what we say about ourselves:

*The objects of the CIO are for the public benefit for all, the preservation and protection of good health primarily among men aged 18 years and older, living in Allerton and the surrounding area, including those who are employed, retired, unemployed or have health problems, through the provision of facilities for hobbies, recreation or other leisure time activities, including practical interests, skills sharing, the learning of new skills, and helping with community based projects.*

A team consisting of four trustees and Andy Ryland, from Community First Yorkshire set about establishing a Men's Shed for Thornton and Allerton. The initial four trustees were self-appointed, and all retire at the first AGM in 2025. Subsequent trustees are voted into office by our members.

Andy found the crypt of St Peter's Church Allerton as a potential location and a hire agreement was obtained.

We then set about forming the charity and this was completed in January 2024. Soon after this a bank account was set up.

We then worked together on the writing of policies (eventually writing 23 policies), undergoing DBS checks, taking safeguarding and first aid training. We also set up a web page, registered a domain name, set up a Facebook group and had flyers and a banner printed.

During the development phase we met regularly at Cafe West and organised outings to Bradford Industrial Museum, Denby Dale Men's Shed, Bingley Men's Shed, Shipley Men's Shed, Grassington Men's Shed, Keighley (Lions Den) Men's Shed, and Spen Valley Men's Shed. Later, we went to Ripon Men's Shed. Some of these visits were to look at tools and equipment such as dust extraction and laser cutting.

Once we had insurance and policies in place, we could gather members.

Soon after being established, we were able to start clearing and decorating the crypt. We were also able to collect donated tools, many of which came from two widows who were looking for a good home for their husbands' collections. Other tools came from Keighley Men's Shed.

Clean up and improvement to the grounds around the church have been made. We were then in a position to apply for grant funding for our start-up costs and initial purchase of materials and equipment. £750 was obtained from the Affinity Care Community Partnership (ACCP) and £1,500 from Community First Yorkshire (CFY). A Portaloo was purchased to remove the need to access the church hall. Two items on our wish list were a laser cutter and a dust extractor. We were successful in our application to Bradford Small Grants to cover the cost of the laser cutter.

Allerton Men's Shed has been open every Monday morning from 10.00 till 12.00. During our early development phase, we have not attempted to recruit new members but find that we have a regular attendance of about 10 people. We have members who have been referred by local GP practices, social prescribers, and in a couple of cases, their wives! The feedback we have had from members has been universally positive, not just evidenced by the regular attendance but also attested to by members saying how much the shed has helped them. One member lost his wife a year ago and says that the Shed has given him a reason to get up on a Monday morning. Others say that they have made new friends. A member felt much less depressed because of attending the shed. Another member was given information about Bradford Council's e-bike scheme and now regularly comes to the shed on an e-bike he has obtained through the scheme.

Once the shed is fully open, we expect to be in a position to recruit more members. We are planning local marketing, including providing information about the shed in local GP surgeries, pharmacies, churches, hairdressers, cafes and other businesses. We are currently recruiting and training additional session leaders so that we can open more hours and on different days of the week. We are recruiting trustees to complement and enhance those drawn from the shed members.

Clean up, organisation and repairs to the shed have continued steadily over nine months in the two hours a week that we have been open. These have included repairs to the rear door, stripping of the floor, painting of the floor and walls, building of four work benches (with vices), installation of new LED lighting, repairs to the water heater, purchase and installation of the laser cutter, building of a storage rack and partition, purchase of a dust extractor, establishment of a kitchen and social area with kettles, toaster, mugs, tea towels and supplies, PAT testing of tools, building of panels for mounting tools onto the walls, three trips so far to Tite-fix for screws and pallet wood. People have been making lots of different contributions to the life of the shed, making tea and coffee for others, painting walls, using their existing skills and learning new ones in administration, electrical installation, woodworking, community liaison and being a listening ear.



An application to the British Heart Foundation (BHF) was successful and has enabled the installation of a defibrillator. This is now a valued community resource and is registered on the national defibrillator database.

The shed has been active in developing local community links. We are a member of the Allerton and Lower Grange community support network and regularly attend networking events. Notable community partners are Café West Community Centre, Bradford Council Ward Officers, local GP surgeries and their social prescribers. Mind and other well-being organisations have visited and we display their leaflets and materials. We have had excellent support and guidance from Community First Yorkshire and the UK Men's Sheds Association and have attended shed networking and training events run by them.

We are grateful for all the support we have received from St Peter's Church, particularly the administrator, church wardens, curate and vicar. We have also been supported by Sandy Lane Baptist Church and have received donations of tools and materials from:

- Other men's sheds in Yorkshire
- Café West Community Centre
- Aire Valley Railway Modellers Railway Club
- Northern Woodwork School
- And individuals who have donated tools and materials such as flooring and dado trunking.
- Asda have supported us with the provision of tea, coffee and biscuits.

We have passed unwanted donations of tools on to other shed groups and Tools with a Mission (TWAM).

We answered a request from our network and helped Café West Community Centre with their bike build at Christmas 2024 to provide thirty bikes for children.

As we plan for growth, we have sought grant funding to allow the installation of a new electrical supply to the shed. This funding has recently been approved and we await the contractors' availability to complete the work. We also plan to provide more space. This could be through the purchase of a shipping container to provide storage space for materials, spare tools and work in progress, especially larger projects, as our current workspace is quite tight.

We are close to being operational and expect members to be able to work on their own projects and we also plan to make items for sale to raise money for the shed.

We have been invited to work on the local church community garden and expect in the near future to help with a community event. There is also enthusiasm amongst members to enter the soap box derby in May 2026.

Fourteen people have signed up as members.

The substantial progress this year is due in no small part to the industry and enthusiasm of the members. Many have been regular attendees and have worked really hard each week to get the shed to where it is today.




In summary, it has been a very busy and productive year.

Phill Andrew, Brian Johnson,  
John Mellor. April 2025

Trustees who served during the period:

- Phill Andrew, Chairperson, 18 January 2024 to 31 March 2025
- Brian Johnson, Secretary, 18 January 2024 to 31 March 2025
- John Mellor, Treasurer, 18 January 2024 to 31 March 2025
- Gordon Sitch, Trustee, 18 January 2024 to 14 October 2024

Report authorised:

Name	Phill Andrew	John Mellor	Brian Johnson
Position	Chairperson	Treasurer	Secretary
Date	07/07/25	7.7.25	7.7.25
Signature			



## FINANCIAL REPORT

### Receipts and payments accounts

Financial summary 2024-2025

Charity name: Allerton Men's Shed  
Charity number 1206590

#### Summary

The organisation was registered on 18/1/24 and has a financial year end of 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.

This financial report covers the period up to the first financial year end (18/1/24-31/3/25).

There are no accounts for the previous year as this is the first year of operation.

#### Income (receipts and payments)

Funds provided by grants all have restrictions on what the funds can be spent on, these are categorised throughout this document as "restricted" funds. There have been no endowments funds received or any income from the sale of assets.

The income for the organisation has been categorised into the following types:

Type	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Comments
Grant - ACCP		750	750	Insurance and tools
Grant – CFY		2,000	2,000	Organisation setup
Grant – Give Bradford		2,500	2,500	Laser cutter
Grant – CFY-Electrics		2,000	2,000	Electrical work
Interest / Cashback	27		27	
Donation	159		159	
Attendance donations	530		530	
Membership fee	375		375	
Product sale				No sales this period
<b>Total income for the year</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>7,250</b>	<b>8,341</b>	

The grants received were:

- Affinity Care Community Partnership (ACCP) £750 – insurance, tools and furniture
- Community First Yorkshire £2,000 – organisation and room setup
- Give Bradford (The Bradford Fund Microgrants) £2,500 – Laser cutter
- Community First Yorkshire £2,000 – Electrical supply

In addition to the financial contributions there have been many donations of tools and consumables from various people and organisations, these are not considered within this financial report.



### Payments / Expenditure

The expenditure has been categorised into the following types:

Type	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Comments
Consumables	5	339	345	
Hire	21	386	407	Room and equipment
Mobile phone		50	50	
Other	4	47	51	Postage and fliers
PPE		56	56	
Refreshments	40		40	
Insurance	418	361	779	2 years insurance
Room setup		970	970	
Tools		2,685	2,685	
Training	19		19	
Utilities / subscriptions	68		68	
<b>Total</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>4,894</b>	<b>5,483</b>	

This results in a surplus remaining in the organisation bank account:

- £2,356 restricted funds (from the CFY initial grant and electrical work grant)
- £502 unrestricted funds
- Total £2,858

The cash funds at the end of the year are:

Type	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Comments
Current account	100		100	
Savings account	402	2,356	2,758	
<b>Total</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>2,858</b>	

The other assets are:

- Chairs and table
- Powered woodworking tools, including drills, drivers, saws and sanders
- Manual woodworking tools, including drivers, hammers, saws
- Laser Cutter

There are no liabilities.

Report authorised:

Name Brian Johnson

Position Chairperson

Date 18-7-25

Signature

