Feb'2026 Trustee Annual Report

Our Men's Shed had been running for 4 years in February'2026 and this report is published along with our Accounts with the Charity Commission for the 15-months since the charity was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 17-December 2024 (number 1211449).

The Dengie Men's Shed (also known as Southminster Men's Shed) exists to reduce social exclusion, mainly for older men, in the Dengie Hundred area (Southminster, Burnham-on-Crouch, Althorne, Asheldham, Bradwell-on-Sea, Creeksea, Dengie, Latchingdon, St Lawrence, Mayland, Steeple). It helps people who might otherwise be socially excluded (for reasons such as unemployment, poverty, youth or old age, physical or mental ill health) by providing places and activities where we meet, learn, share skills, take part in creative or physical activities, and support each other. This purpose has not changed since our registration as a charity.

We opened a 4th session on Monday afternoons, to accommodate new members. It was quickly filled and we again have a waiting-list of future joiners.



We undertook commissions for projects such as: Train Planters for Wakes Colne Railway Station, signs for Dengie Animal Sanctuary, waggon wheels for The Three Horseshoes, goods for the Xmas Fayre, navigation lights for Cirdan Sailing Trust, a Dragon-themed planter for Bures Station, window boxes for the Three Horseshoes, storage racks for the Cirdan Sailing Trust and a Playground Boat for the Burnham Nursery School.



On the social front we've had meals at the Three Horseshoes, Wibblers brewery and Swallowtail restaurant, along with several quiz nights, allowing members to get together between sessions. Although the Quiz Nights at the Three Horseshoes have ended, we're exploring possibilities with The Star in Burnham for the coming year.

We've purchased various new tools, built our own storage units and rebuilt a bench to provide more space underneath.

Having exhausted the available space in our current 2 rooms, all of us feel the frustration of the cramped workshop and machine room. Trustees explored several options to expand and overcame the prohibitive cost of renovations to the main Southminster Station House building by successfully applying for various grants. Having submitted hundreds of pages of plans, technical and safety information to Greater Anglia, we are close to gaining their technical approval, before getting to the detail of negotiating the lease itself.

The committee and trustees appreciate everyone who contributed to the stationhouse design decisions made at our 'All-Shedder' meeting in November at Wibblers brewery.



We're equally grateful to those who completed the Shed Survey in Jan/Feb last year, that gave all members a say in our future direction of the charity. As a direct result, we have improved the coverage of training and as planned a year ago, we've now added 2 more committee members and shared their roles, bringing our compliment to a healthy total of 7.

Although we are still a few months away from starting the Station House project due to the slow uptake of Greater Anglia and we've said that we don't want to take on *major* external projects.



We carry out our own scheduled maintenance of machines & tools. Any issues identified are dealt with straight away and leave us with a very safe environment in which to work. Cutter and blade sharpening are carried out regularly to always ensure safe and sensible use of machines.

We were more successful with our Christmas sales this year through local outlets at On the Latch and at the Limes, following the strategy we communicated a year ago to look for other options rather than have 'all the eggs in one basket'. We were successful with sales at the recent Dengie 100 Ladies group and have a couple of opportunities for stalls at the Southminster Flower Show and Burnham School during the summer to fuel future growth of the shed.



Our financial year remains 1 March – 28 February. We operate our own bank account, and we are now 'cashless' thanks to almost every member paying subs by quarterly bank transfer, ideally by standing order.

We transferred-in £1,953 to the charity from previous years and over the past 14½ months have added £5,246 in restricted grants, and £4,041 in other unrestricted income (fees, donations, sales & commissions. Our expenditure has been £1,288 on Machines, tooling, materials and consumables, leaving a closing balance of £9,952 at the end of Feb'26.

Because our income is less than £25,000, we are not required to have an independent examination of accounts or audit undertaken, nor has any been conducted. Two trustees have examined and verified the financial accounts.

The charity trustees believe we are in a sound financial position with income exceeding our costs and our expected Station House project costs fully funded by promised future grants. While our future running costs will certainly increase significantly if and when we take on the Station house lease (particularly with insurance and utility costs) the charity trustees fully expect the shed to remain sustainable.

Each of the four named trustees remain in place, unaltered since charity registration. (Dennis Price, Glenn Phillips, Tony Coates & Gerald Robinson).

Lastly and despite the obvious space difficulties that we experience, we continue to operate safely and successfully - and most importantly, without accidents.



Trustees and Committee alike, all value every Shed member keeping to the Safety procedures and use of PPE that enables us all to continue enjoying the use of the Shed - and the health benefits we all take from it.

Document History:

Ver.	Date	Status / Action Taken	By Whom
1.0	10/2/2026	Draft for discussion	Dennis
1.1	12/3/2025	Minor wording changes, Pictures added	Tony
1.2	18/03/2026	Include Purposes, Charity details and top-level financial summary	Tony
1.3	25/03/2026	Wording refinements from Glenn	Tony

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Southminster Men's Shed	1211449

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	17th Dec 2024		28th Feb 2026

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					
Ford UK Grant	-	246	-	246	-
Essex & Suffolk Community Rail Partnership	-	5,000	-	5,000	-
Transferred in Funds	1,953	-	-	1,953	-
Membership & Subscription	1,568	-	-	1,568	-
Donations	897	-	-	897	-
Commissions	862	-	-	862	-
Sales of Goods	715	-	-	715	-
	-	-	-	-	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	5,994	5,246	-	11,240	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,994	5,246	-	11,240	-
A3 Payments					
Machines & Tooling	187	246	-	433	-
3rd Party Membership Fees	48	-	-	48	-
Materials & Consumables	808	-	-	808	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,043	246	-	1,289	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,043	246	-	1,289	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,951	5,000	-	9,951	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	4,951	5,000	-	9,951	-

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

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Cash held in Bank	4,951	5,000	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	**4,951**	**5,000**	**-**
	(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)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

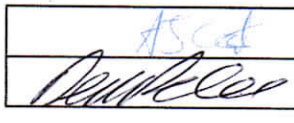
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

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
	**Tony Coates**	**30-Mar-2026**
	Dennis Price	**30-Mar-2026**