



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 6 April 2025 Period start date to 5 April 2026 Period end date

Charity name: Earth Balance Shed

Charity registration number: 1213089



Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	For the public benefit, the preservation and protection of good health among people in Northumberland and the surrounding area, including those who are retired, unemployed or have health problems, through the provision of facilities for hobbies, recreation or other leisure time occupation including practical interests, skills sharing, the learning of new skills, and helping with community based projects
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The provision of the community workshop in which members can meet and jointly or individually undertake and share creative, physical, social and recreational activities of their choice. This can include the provision of facilities for hobbies, recreation or other leisure time occupations including practical interests, skills sharing, the learning of new skills and helping the local community with specific projects 

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have considered and had regard to Charity Commission Guidance particularly on public benefit.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity is entirely volunteer run. The contribution made by all members who actively volunteer is vital and without which the charity could not provide activities.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The membership has continued to grow indicating that the benefits of the Shed in terms of promoting wellness, mental health and combating loneliness are reaching the community. We have had regular meetings two days every week, the number of members has increased over the year to 36, with up to 20 men and women on each day choosing and enjoying social contact. We have continued to open the shed regularly on two further days each week mainly for work with the local Veterans group. The range of projects has further developed following the interests of members in wood turning, laser cutting and refurbishing of furniture and very old machinery. Throughout the year our Shed has been active in supporting the local community with projects at a nearby church such as a memorial display in November and the supply of raised beds in the church grounds to provide a gardening facility for local school children. Also, we have been involved in repairing tables, chairs, decking and bird tables for the general public and also maintenance work for some of the other units on the Earth Balance site. Whilst benefits to health cannot easily be seen we think attendance indicates some measure of our success. The practical projects give an easy reason for people to talk to each other as UKMSA say 'shoulder to shoulder'.



The practical work encourages shoulder to shoulder chat. Always time for a sit down.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	As a small charity, annual performance objectives have not been set; other than our ongoing core objectives which are reported above.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	We have a new landlord since 4 th December 2024 and uncertainty about our tenancy continues. We have built up healthy reserves in anticipation of this change. Income Donations £10,532, Sales £1,926 Refreshments £270 Expenditure £1818
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Earth Balance 2000 our landlord until Dec 2024, supported us with a peppercorn rent and no cost services. We are therefore able to offer membership without any fees. Northumberland County Council, our new landlord has not yet been able to offer us a tenancy or terms for services and so we have aimed to put aside moneys as a buffer for future costs and any possible backdated costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£27,810
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Our new landlord seems to be maintaining the site so we have reason to hope we will continue with our building (a previous development plan had included demolishing our building) We hope that we can meet future rent and energy costs without too many costs falling to our members.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	When our previous landlord Earth Balance 2000 was wound up we received a significant donation from them of £10,310 in recognition of the impact we are making locally.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Foundation model constitution

How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees appoint new members of the trustees.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Earth Balance Shed
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1213089
Charity's principal address	Earth Balance Shed (Next to Blue Tower) Earth Balance Site Bedlington NE22 7AD

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)
1	Brian Pill	Chair		
2	Rob Ferguson	Treasurer		
3	Dennis Matthewson			
4	Adrian Hall			
5	Keith Brotherton			
6				
7				
8				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	none
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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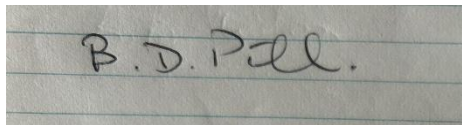
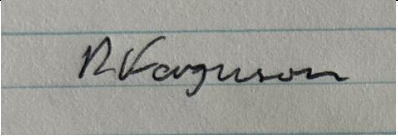
Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Brian Pill	Rob Ferguson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	28 th August 2026	



Earth Balance Shed

1213089

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period
from

Period start date

06/04/2025

To

Period end date

5th April 2026

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 £
Receipts				
Membership fees				
Donations	10,532.63		10,532.63	5,328
Grants				1,962
Sales / event income	1,926.45		1,926.45	1,412
Interest	318.33		318.33	286
Coffee + Tea Donations	270.00		270.00	209
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	13,047.41		13,047.41	9,197
Asset and investment sales				
Sale of assets				120.00
Sale of investments				
Sub total				120.00
Total receipts	13,047.41		13,047.41	9,316.78
Payments				
Shed premises costs	147.00		147.00	
Insurance	313.21		313.21	157.00
Materials & consumables	1,272.06		1,272.06	799.80
Small tools (<£25)				
Repairs and renewals	48.16		48.16	453.79
Refreshments & cleaning				
Admin/Office costs	8.50		8.50	4.25
Subscriptions	30.00		30.00	30.00
Sundry				222.22
Sub total	1,818.93		1,818.93	1,667.06
Asset and investment purchases				
Hand and power Tools (>£25)				
Workshop machines	200.00		200.00	2,496.57
Sub total	200.00		200.00	2,496.57
Total payments	2,018.93		2,018.93	4,163.63
Net of receipts/(payments)	11,028.48		11,028.48	5,153.15
Transfers between funds				
Cash funds last year end	18,493.56		18,493.56	13,340.41
Cash funds this year end	29,522.04		29,522.04	18,493.56

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

Categories

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total current	Last year
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Cash funds				
Current account	1,711.34		1,711.34	178.95
Instant access	10,057.89		10,057.89	18,314.61
35 Day Notice	17,752.81		17,752.81	
Total cash funds	29,522.04		29,522.04	18,493.56
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK	OK
Other monetary assets				
Stocks/goods for sale				
Debtors				
Investment assets				
Assets retained for the Shed's own use				
Buildings				
Large items of machinery				
Power tools				
Hand tools				
Other assets				
Liabilities				
Trade creditors				
Accrued expenses				

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

Signature

Rob Ferguson
B. D. Pill

Print Name

Rob Ferguson
Brian Pill

Date of approval

28/08/2026
28/08/2026