WEYBRIDGE MEN'S SHED

Chairman's Report
April 2025 – March 2026

1. Operations & Activity

Attendances at the Shed continue to increase year on year. Average attendances per Shed session (12.2) now are 58% ahead of the 2023 attendance, and 12% ahead of the 2025 year. Experience at sessions with up to 22 attendees indicates that 15 attendees is a comfortable working number and produces interesting and healthy banter at tea break.

Trustees recognise that there is demand for more sessions and thereby for more shedders to participate. We are limited by the need for additional suitably experienced volunteers able to commit to overseeing any additional sessions. This is a challenge in other Men's Sheds.

Shed sessions are held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. This significantly limits opportunities for those in full time employment to attend the Shed.

The Shed is fortunate to now have several Shedders who have become regular attendees and provide continuity and assistance to newcomers.

It remains the case that attendees are typically older men in retirement looking for social connections and/or pursuit of an interest in woodworking and doing "something for the community".

The collection of donated tools and materials is a regular and important activity of the Shed. These donations are a vital source of additional or replacement tools for the Shed, and those tools collected that are not retained at the Shed are a source of supply to WorkAid (Charity # 1041574) for refurbishment and onward to projects, typically in Africa.

The Shed facilities are made available to other community groups at no cost to those groups. The predominant use is as a meeting venue.

For the coming year, the Shed objectives remain largely unchanged from previous years. The objective of adding additional sessions to better cater for demand for those unable to attend on weekdays and others remains a priority.

Through our active social media activity and connections to community groups and businesses, the profile and standing of the Shed in the community continues to grow. This has direct benefits in providing new funding opportunities and creates opportunities for the Shed to undertake projects in the community.

Our expenditure on media and communication costs are significant (19% of the total operating costs). However, Trustees remain confident that our social media activities provides good value by enhancing our standing in the community, attracting new Shedders and significantly supporting our product sales.

During the year, Trustees agreed formal terms for a new ground lease on which the Shed's own buildings are sited.

2. Finance

Total receipts during the year were £10,201 a modest increase from £9,797 the previous year.

We have sought financial support from new sources to reduce our historical reliance on grant funding from local Councils. To this end, our increased numbers of regular attendees have enabled production of more saleable and commissioned items, along with the sales and marketing efforts of two of our Shedders.

During the year we initiated what is intended to be the last of our building works. These required challenging time consuming, but eventually successful Planning Applications, and subsequently grant funding from both local Councils. This manifested in the accounts for the year by creating a higher than planned cost for building expenses and a short term funding issue which was covered by an unsecured loan.

Excluding these building related costs, the operating costs for the year would have been £7,500, and in total similar to the total operating costs (£7,699) in the 2025 year. An aggregate £600 reduction in tooling and consumables costs reflects the benefits of receiving donated tools and consumables. In the coming year, due to wear and tear, we expect that costs for replacement tooling and maintenance will increase.

Since the year end the cash position has improved significantly and at the time of this Report, Cash at Bank was £9,596 compared with £438 at year end.

It is anticipated that in future it should be possible to operate a Reserves Policy, based on a 6 month expenses formula, equivalent to £3,500.

3. Future considerations

Trustees have a number of medium term objectives.

a. Increasing the number of weekly Shed sessions remains a priority.

b. Creating a new community amenity to acknowledge the support given to the Shed is an aspiration and for that purpose we are exploring the feasibility of some options.

c. We continue to make the Shed resources available to support the activities of Discover Weybridge and as a meeting place for other community groups.

We are exploring options to support the activities of the Man & Boy Charity #1153633 by providing a venue, equipment and materials for their mentoring of boys to encourage creative activities that would not otherwise be available to them.

Trustees expect and plan for the Shed continue in its now widely acknowledged role addressing social isolation and loneliness of older men in the community.

M J Law
Chair of Trustees
23 October 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
WEYBRIDGE MEN`S SHED	1187384

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01.04.25		31.03.2026

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants and awards	4,718	-	-	4,718	5,750
Donations	200	-	-	200	1,684
Commissions & sales	3,483	-	-	3,483	2,291
Lottery	50	-	-	50	72
Loans	1,750	-	-	1,750	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total *(Gross income for AR)*	10,201	-	-	10,201	9,797
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,201	-	-	10,201	9,797
A3 Payments					
Shed buildings & other construction costs	5,374	-	-	5,374	937
Workshop tools & consumables	1,050	-	-	1,050	1,655
Donations	-	-	-	-	200
Project expenditure	609			609	572
Media & IT expenses	2,351	-	-	2,351	1,377
Legal & professional fees	300	-	-	300	300
Utilities, rent etc.	972	-	-	972	1,838
Insurance	832	-	-	832	733
Sundry expenses	95	-	-	95	86
Loans repaid	500	-	-	500	-
Sub total	12,083	-	-	12,083	7,699
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	12,083	-	-	12,083	7,699
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,882	-	-	- 1,882	2,098
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,320	-	-	2,320	222
Cash funds this year end	438	-	-	438	2,320

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account	438	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	438	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Buildings & infrastructure expenditure	Unrestricted	73,675	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Loans	Unrestricted	3,250	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval