

The Port Men in Sheds CIO
Annual Report & Financial Statements
April 2025 – March 2026



The Port Men in Sheds CIO

(Charity Reg: 1191097)
Registered under the laws England & Wales

Patron: Mr. Justin Madders MP

Annual Report

(1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026)

Registered Charity Address:

Overpool Community Centre
Rivacre Road
Ellesmere port
CH66 1LL

Foreword from the Trustees

Another Year of Tremendous Change & Hard Work by All!

Our aim is to support men aged 18 and above within Ellesmere Port and the surrounding areas by providing a safe space to come together to socialise, gain and share skills and feel part of the wider community. We also act as a hub for other groups in the community.

Thanks to an asset transfer by Cheshire West & Chester Council, we moved into our current home in the Overpool Community Centre in January 2024 on a 25-year lease (and a nominal peppercorn rent of £1/year). The building had been empty for some time and heavily vandalised.

However, it soon became apparent that the scale and cost to remedy the years of decay and vandalism were beyond the scope of a charity such as The Port Men in Sheds therefore the trustees approached the National Lottery Community Fund for support. We received confirmation that we had been awarded a Lottery grant of £141,980 from the Community Fund in July 2024.

Thanks to the funding from the National Lottery, we have been able to undertake a variety of critical capital works to make the facility "fit for purpose" both for our Shed members and the wider community providing greater inclusion, reducing rural and social isolation, and supporting their health, wellbeing and education.

During the current year, we have been able to undertake a significant capital programme of works, activities and purchases including:

- Complete replacement of all five flat roofs on the building
- Conversion of the ladies toilet into an accessible unisex one.
- The purchase of various power tools and other items such as a compressor.
- Purchase of a TV and iPad for our music group
- Financial support for several shed members from our National Lottery Hardship fund
- Purchase of a van for collection/delivery of donated items.
- Facilitation of a Christmas party & Christmas meal for members

Pivotal to our success has been the employment our administrator. Having the administrative and financial functions under the control of a skilled and experienced individual, has made an enormous difference to our operation. Our administrator has become a critical member of the team.

Without National Lottery support, the task of fundraising the large sums needed for capital repairs such as the roof or funding an administrator would have certainly been beyond our reach.

Special thanks must also go to some of our other donors such as the ASDA Welfare Fund, The Cooperative Local Community fund, ENTEP and the Cheshire West & Chester Council Members budget.

During this period, our membership has increased from 70 in 2024 to 88 members in March 2026 and we continue to get enquires from individuals keen to join our shed daily.

The following chapters explain how we have used that funding and the benefits that been derived for our members and the wider community whom we continue to forge links with along with other charities and groups within the area.

Lastly, we must also thank all our volunteers and our Administrator Gail, without whom this place wouldn't function. The members should be rightly proud of the space we have all managed to create and the benefit which this place brings to us all.

The Trustees
The Port Men in Sheds

The Year in Review

Our previous report for 2024/2025 concluded that outstanding progress had been made since we moved into the Overpool Community Centre and during this reporting year there has been no let-up in the amount of work we have continued to undertake on our new(ish) home. We also continue to expand activities in the local area as part of our Community Benefit Agreement undertakings, which is an integral part of our lease agreement with Cheshire West & Chester Council.

Pivotal to much of the progress we have made this year was the award of a National Lottery grant in July 20024. This grant is split into capital items such as the roof, accessible toilet refurbishment etc. and revenue items covering areas such as training, hardship and the transport etc. We have also been able to fund a part-time administrator role, whose contribution to our success has been outstanding.

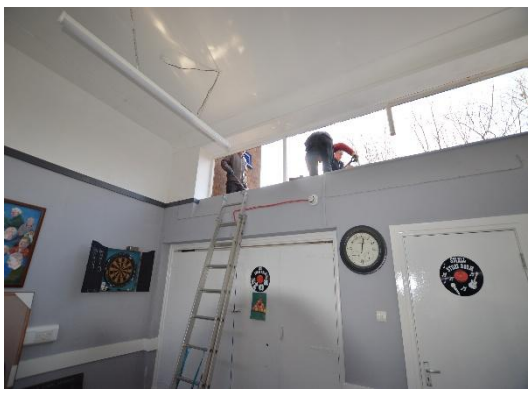
CAPITAL PROJECTS & PURCHASES

1. The Roof

A substantial part of our lottery funding (circa £73,000) has been spent replacing the five flat roofs on our building. These had all failed and despite some temporary repairs, serious water ingress and blown plaster was evident in many parts of the building.

Having undertaken a competitive tender process for the roof works, a local contractor was duly appointed and work commenced in April 2025. The works were complicated due to building regulations dictating that 150mm of expanded insulation foam be installed on the roof before being covered by a neoprene membrane. Unfortunately, in some parts of the building, we didn't have the necessary roof height to accommodate this, so additional blockwork had to be installed to raise some parapets before the work could even commence.

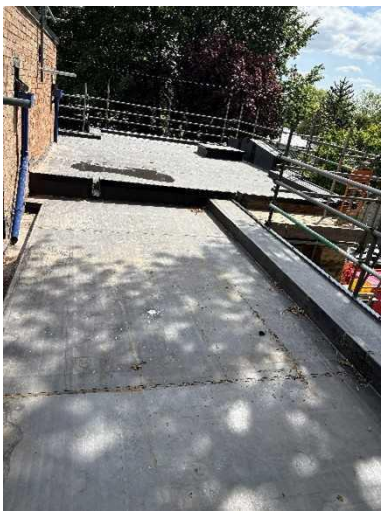
Increasing the height of the parapets also necessitated the removal of a number of windows before the openings were then boarded up until the roof work was complete. This work was carried out by shed members one weekend and is illustrated below.





One of the photographs shows how the block work raised the level of the sill to accommodate the thickness of the 'cold roof.'





Before 1



After 1



Before 2



After 2

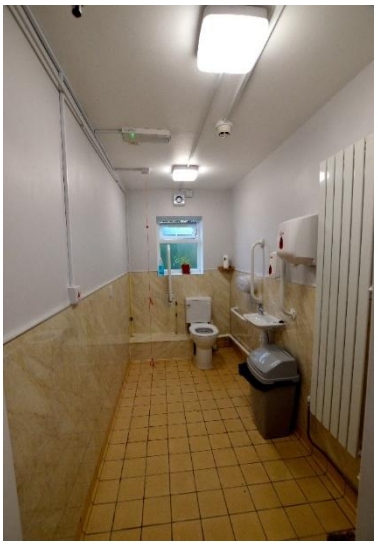
Our new roof was completed in June 2025 when we were finally fully waterproof so work could commence in the other areas of the building.

2. Accessible Toilet

The original disabled toilet was at the rear of the building and in a seriously dilapidated state, it was also inaccessible to anyone in a wheelchair! Thanks to the National Lottery funding, we have been able to upgrade the original ladies toilet into a dual-function accessible one. Despite approaching a number of local tradesmen to undertake this work, sadly none were forthcoming so the work was undertaken by our members and what a cracking job they did!







Before

After

Our new accessible toilet is now a bright and airy place which has been refurbished to the latest accessibility standards with a widened door and all the fittings and handrails are at exactly the right height and position to accommodate anyone with mobility difficulties.

3. Gents Toilet

Following the success in completing the accessible toilet, we are now about to start work on refurbishment of the Gents toilet. All existing wall tiles and sanitary fittings will be stripped out and the ceiling replastered. Plastic wall panelling similar to that used in the accessible toilet will then be fitted in place of the tiles. All exposed pipework will be boxed in and a new comfort height toilet and washbasin fitted in due course.

4. Kitchen Replacement

We were delighted to hear in September 2024 that we had been awarded £10,500 by the ASDA Foundation to fund the replacement of our aging kitchen.

Work began on gutting the kitchen in May 2025 at much the same time as both the accessible toilet and roofing was going on. After much hard work by our installer Keith and the members of the shed who painted and decorated, we now have a brand spanking new kitchen with all the mod cons from which we offer food and on occasions full meals.

Pictured overleaf is Adele (in the green top) who is the local ASDA Community Representative with Malcom our chef and some of the members.





Before





After

Since completing the kitchen, Malcom along with a couple of other members have completed their certification in food hygiene and have gained a food hygiene rating for the shed kitchen. Well done guys!

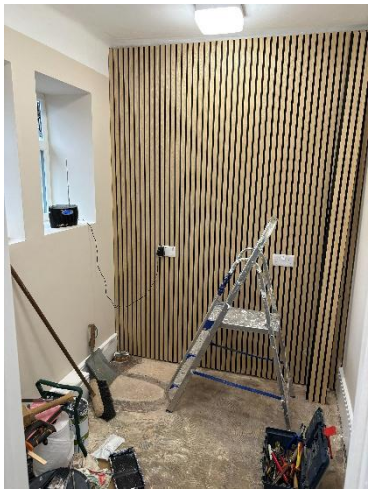
5. Quiet Room

With all the noise and activity around the rest of the shed, the Trustees felt it was as important to have an area which was quiet and calm where members could go and read or have a private conversion.



Thanks to a grant from ENTEP (a partnership between Essar and Cheshire West and Chester Council), we were able to secure funds to create a quiet room by refurbishing the old disabled toilet area. This room and the adjacent hall area had suffered extensive damage from the leaking roof which required replastering, new windows, new electrics sockets/lighting and re decoration.

Again, the majority of the work was undertaken by our members and we hope to have it finished by the summer.





6. Mess Room, Workshop & Community Room Windows

Making the building watertight was our top priority and now the roof works were complete, attention turned to the windows, many of which were rotten, had been vandalised when the building was empty or had to be removed as part of the roof works.

Thanks to Cheshire West & Chesters members budget (with support from a number of local councillor's including Katy Kenndrick OBE), we managed to get some financial assistance which was put towards the replacement of a number of windows now making our shed completely watertight and secure.







The above photographs illustrate some of the new windows in the machine shop, community room and messroom which were funded from the CWAC Members Budgets. As the result of the insulation on our new roof combined with the new uPVC double glazing, our shed is a warmer environment and our energy bills are lower.

7. Community Room Improvements

Whilst much of the community room works had been completed in the previous financial year, there were a number of outstanding items. The first of which was the renovation of the old storage room (which was lined with asbestos) to create additional working space and storage. However, due to the leaking roof, and water still pouring in, this area had to wait until the roof works were completed.

As the walls were lines with asbestos, this had to be removed by a specialist removals firm and the shed closed whilst the work was done. Again, thanks to the Members budget, we had been able to secure funds to do this, along with the replastering and electrical works.

We have also installed an additional central heating radiator and purchased some new chairs thanks to a donation from the Marjory Boddy Trust.

8. Tools & Other Items

Whilst we hold a wide range of power, hand tools and other items needed for the activities we provide. These get well used and don't last forever and the funds and donations we receive ensure we can upgrade and replace them when required.



In the last 12 months thanks to National Lottery funding, we have been able to purchase a number of new tools including a Router, Branding Iron, Angle grinder and a new compressor for our workshop. We have also purchased a tablet for our music group and art materials for the painting group.

9. Transport

Before having the Lottery grant, we used one of the member's vans and trailer to move items to/from the shed, but this was impractical for insurance and liability cover. However, without suitable transport, we would struggle to perform the activities we need to do e.g. collection/delivery of donated items and disposal of unsold/unwanted stuff.

Our original plan was to lease a suitable vehicle for the period of the National Lottery funding, but given the modest amount of award available, it was insufficient to fund a vehicle. Fortunately, one of our members had a serviceable van which appeared to be suitable for our needs and it was duly purchased.

It may not be elegant, and the matt black stripes do not add 10mph to the top speed but it fulfils our needs perfectly.



EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

10. Our mayor – Katy Kendrick OBE

Katy Kendrick, OBE is our local councillor and a great supporter of the shed. She is immensely proud of the work we do and over the last 12 months as Mayor of Ellesmere Port, she has visited us on numerous occasions. On one of her visits in July 2025, she agreed to formally open our new kitchen and is pictured with Malcom our chef and one of the trustees.







The Port Men in Sheds is one of Katie's designated charities for her fundraising during her term in office as Mayor and she hopes to be able to make a substantial donation to the shed for which we will be eternally grateful.

11. Open Day September 25

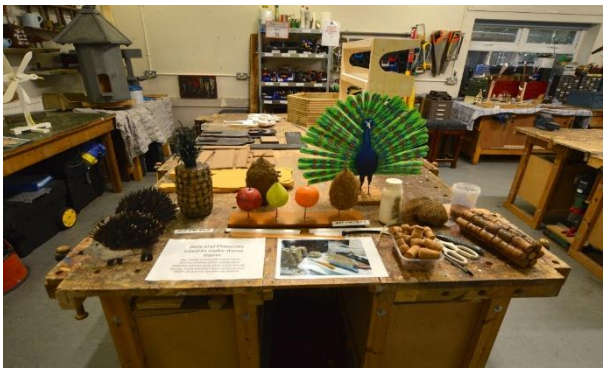
We held our second open day on 20 September and although the weather was foul it did not deter visitors. Visitors arriving at the shed were drawn immediately to our new kitchen where a continuous production line of bacon batches and burgers were on sale. Needless to say, such warming fayre was most welcome along with plenty of hot drinks and the sale of food helped swell our finances.





In the community room both the Art group and the Music Group were demonstrating their talents as shown above which generated great interest from our visitors.





In the main workshop there was an extensive display of craftwork including planters, bird boxes, hedgehog houses and turned items many of which were for sale. Katy Kendrick the mayor was also on hand to support the event.

12. Eaton Estate Charity Day

In June we were invited by Chapter Mental Health, a local charity which supports people with mental ill-health issues, to attend a Garden Open day at Eaton Hall, the home of the Earl of Grosvenor. These open days are few and far between and attendance by the public is by prior application only and each

event is in support of a charity. The open day was well attended and was an ideal opportunity to promote our shed and we were also able to raise a modest amount from the sale of craftwork.





13. Shed Christmas Party & Christmas Meal

Within the revenue element of our National Lottery award is a hardship and activities fund. We wish to make our shed as inclusive as possible, and we make every effort to welcome anyone who wishes to join including individuals who attend with their support workers to comply with our health and safety policy. This fund has meant we can support members who struggle with the monthly fees as well as being used to support activities like a Christmas party and a Christmas dinner.





The Christmas party was attended by over 40 of our members and volunteers who tucked into a fantastic spread and a few drinks. Entertainment was provided by Nigel and Bill and followed by a raffle organized by Gail our administrator.

Thanks to our in-house chefs Malcom and Jim, and our other volunteers, we also hosted a sit-down full Christmas dinner with all the trimmings for 25 members.





We would like to thank Tesco in Helsby for providing all the ingredients free of charge.

In the coming year we also plan to organize some external trips and excursions.

At the time of writing, we serve a Full English Breakfast on Monday mornings and a hot lunch on Wednesdays and Thursdays. For a number of the members this is what may be their only properly cooked and nutritious meal of the day.





Though it is in no way intentional, the shed does receive a modest income from the hot meals we provide and great credit should go to Malcolm – an ex Royal Navy chef along with Jim and Colin for all their hard work and devotion. In the photograph above, Malcolm is serving Beef Bourguignon, Lyonnais potatoes and cabbage followed by pudding.

14. The Gardening Group



We are fortunate that our shed does have a considerable amount of outside space some of which has been turned into what can be best described as an allotment. Several of our members are keen horticulturalists and over the summer of 2025 they grew their own vegetables, some of which were sold to the men for a small donation and some of which were used to make healthy meals in our new kitchen.



The adjacent picture shows one of our well stocked greenhouses providing tomatoes and courgettes – there was also had a crop of pumpkins which sold well in time for Halloween!

15. Music Group

The shed has a growing number of members in the music group who meet twice weekly for practice as well as other sessions which have been organised for new members wanting to learn to play guitar.





Some new members have joined the shed specifically because of the music.

Recently the group wrote and performed a song at the funeral of one of our longtime members. They have also played for the mayor.





16. The Art Group

The art group meets every Tuesday and are guided by one of our trustees who is a keen artist (he says he lacks any woodworking skills, but we don't believe him).

It is attracting more members and it's especially pleasing to see members who have never held a paint brush producing some fine works of art.





COMMUNITY RELATED ACTIVITIES

It is important to mention that since we moved into Overpool our shed has become rooted within the community and we have supported a number of local schools and other community groups supplying planters, benches etc.

In January, we were pleased to provide a memorial bench to Rivacre Valley Primary school following the death of one of their school teaching assistants.





In October, the shed came to the assistance of the Ellesmere Port Round Table to repair their Santa Sleigh which was in desperate need of a little fettling to make it save for this year's Santa collections. Thanks to Brian and our welder Nigel, Rudolf was back on the snow in the nick of time to raise over £6000 for local good causes.

For the second year running we facilitated a local Brownie group who made bird boxes and hedgehog





houses for a local park. The brownies assembled ready prepared kits which had been made by our members, and a group of men were seen the following two Saturdays climbing up trees and installing bird boxes!







This work is vital to support our community benefit agreement with Cheshire West and Chester Council and we are developing different initiatives in support of this. For example, one of the local mental health charities (Chapter) is planning to use our facilities monthly to host an evening where their clients can meet in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. The community space, Mess room and our new quiet room are all ideal for this purpose.

FUNDING & DONATIONS

The Port Men in Sheds is primarily funded from the monthly subscriptions our members make. However, this alone does not cover our running costs. Thanks must go to the National Lottery, The Asda Foundation, ENTEP, Cheshire West & Chester Council, The Marjory Boddy Trust and Stanlaw Abbey Development Trust who through their generosity have enabled us to fund many of the major repairs and purchases of those items needed for our new home e.g. The Roof, Kitchen, Toilets etc.

We are eternally grateful to a number of other notable organisations and Charities who have been able to provide additional funds that enable us to continue our work providing a safe and secure environment for our members.

These include:

The Cooperative Members of Ellesmere Port who nominated the shed to be one of the three recipients of their community profit scheme. To date we have received £4,300 some of which is being used to refurbish our Gents toilets.



- The Charity Foundation - £250
- The Leonard Curtis Foundation - £500
- Ellesmere Port Round Table - £500
- Cheshire Freemasons Society - £375

In addition, we would also like to thank all those other members of the local community who have made donations including money and tools for our shed – thank you.

And finally, to those families who have allowed us to clear their loved one's garages and gardens for all those items no longer needed in those difficult times. All goods obtained are offered to our members or cleaned and offered for re-sale to provide valuable additional funds for our charity.

Governance & Management

The Port Men in Sheds charity is constituted as a 'Charitable Incorporated Organisation' (CIO), whose only voting members are its charity trustees (Foundation Model). It is registered under the charity laws of England and Wales; Registration No: 119097 dated 1st September 2020.

Trustees: The constitution of the charity does not specify a maximum number of trustees but does specify a minimum of 3 of which at least 2 must be registered members (beneficiaries) of the CIO. All trustees are appointed upon the unanimous resolution of the Board of Trustees.

Trustees are not paid for their services and may, when reasonable, claim back those expenses incurred whilst undertaking their duties as a trustee. All trustees (and indeed shed members) are required to sign the charity's 'Code of Conduct' policy which strictly forbids possible conflicts of interest or any associated personal gain obtained through their position as a trustee.

Trustee Movements during the reporting period:

Trustee	Date Appointed	Date Resigned	Comments
David Watson	09/06/2023		Trustee (charity member)
Robin Golding	15/06/2023		Trustee + Community Relations (charity member).
Frank Hayes	25/02/2023*	30/06/2025	Independent Trustee + Treasurer. * Reappointed on expiry of previous term.
David Evans MBE	02/04/2025		Independent Trustee + Safety Officer
Martin Gronow	1/08/2024		Trustee + Secretary (charity member).
David Taylor	1/08/2024		Trustee (charity member)
Samantha Walker	1/08/2025		Independent Trustee + Treasurer.

The Board of Trustees does not appoint a permanent Chairman. The position of Chairman is held on a rotational basis and is appointed at each and every trustee meeting by a vote of those trustees present. A quorum of 3 is established in order ratify Board decisions and to pass resolutions (except when required to appoint a new trustee).

Trustee candidates are identified through recommendation or by identifying candidates based on skills deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed following interview by at least 2 trustees and following unanimous resolution of the Board of Trustees.

Diversity: The current Board of Trustees has identified that a greater degree of diversity of trustees on the current Board may prove beneficial – this will remain an objective of the Board of Trustees during the coming 12 months.

Current Trustees as of date of this annual report:

Trustee	Date Appointed	Comments
David Watson	09/06/2023	Trustee (charity member)
Robin Golding	15/06/2023	Trustee + Public Relations (charity member)
Samantha Walker	01/08/2025	Independent Trustee + Treasurer
Martin Gronow	01/08/2024	Trustee + Secretary (charity member)
David Taylor	01/08/2024	Trustee (charity member)
David Evans MBE	02/04/2025	Independent Trustee + Safety Officer (charity member)

Shed Steering Committee: The day-to-day operational management of the shed is under the control of a 6-man Shed Steering Committee elected by all charity members. Once elected, the committee sits for 18 months after which a new election for the Steering Committee are held.

The Shed Steering Committee has wide powers to manage the day-to-day operational matters and is also provided with an operational budget set and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Volunteers

No charity can be effective without the dedication and time given by its volunteers – The Port Men in Sheds is no exception. The vacating of our old premises and the relocation to the new placed a herculean burden on our volunteers and indeed, shed members generally, who all brought their skills and time to the task. Amongst its volunteer team and shed membership, we are blessed with a wide range of trade skills and talent without whose input would add considerably to the operational running costs of the charity.

The Board of Trustees have appointed a total of 9 volunteers into formal positions of responsibility for which specialist training will have been provided when required.

Sadly, after a number of years as both Secretary then Treasurer, Frank Hayes resigned in June 2025. Frank had done a sterling job managing the shed finances through a difficult period in the sheds history and been a major contributor to the National Lottery application and its subsequent award. We wish him well in his new ventures.

Thankfully Sam Walker joined us in August 2025 as our new treasurer and has taken on the challenge of managing our finances along with our administrator Gail. Sam is a finance manager with a major UK telecoms company so our accounts should be a doddle.

12 Month Financial Review

During the financial year the charity has had remarkable success in raising new funds and increasing membership numbers. This success is reflected in the annual accounts as follows:

- Total revenues from all sources were up from £83,410 to £149,915.
- Membership fees were stood at £19,400 up from £16,200 the previous year. (Members now pay a monthly membership fee of £22/month).
- Cash in bank at year end stood at £39,665, an increase of £15,325 over the previous year.
- The charity's balance sheet was significantly strengthened at year end with total assets of £40,676 compared to the previous year total of £25,578.

The charity's strengthened financial position is a reflection of the determined effort of the charity's trustees, volunteers and members to actively promote the charity and mobilise local community involvement. The charity is extremely grateful to the many local organisations and individuals who supported us during the year, of note are:

- ASDA Foundation. Donated £10,660 in 2024 enabling the full refurbishment of the kitchen. Now completed, the charity is able to offer catering services to its members and the public.
- Cheshire Freemasons. Donated £375 unrestricted cash funds.
- CW&C Councillor's donated a total of £3,894 in unrestricted funding for the replacement of several windows.
- Cooperative Members. Donated £4,193 in unrestricted ca
- sh funds.
- In 2024, the charity was able to secure lottery funding over a 3-year period totalling £141,980. This had funded many of the significant capital repairs required on the building fabric (particularly the urgent roof repairs which cost £72,624) as well as funds for capital equipment for the workshop. Significantly the funding is supporting our part-time charity administrator for a 3-year funding period.

The charity would also like to acknowledge the very many smaller personal donations, corporate donations and bereavement donations made by our local community and members.

We would take this opportunity to thank our trustees, volunteers, members and the general public whose personal efforts and donation of their time and material donations have been gratefully received.

Cost Management

The trustees take great care in the financial management of the charity, particularly in terms of the management of our costs. Policies and procedures are in place to ensure good financial control and security of charity funds. These financial controls are ensured by:

- Formal written financial policies revised and approved by the trustees annually.
- The appointment of external Financial Verifiers/Auditors.
- Defined spending limits and approved individuals with specified financial authority. These are reviewed regularly.

- The maintenance of adequate *Financial Reserves*. The level of cash reserves held by the charity are reviewed regularly and adjusted dependent on financial outlook and expected expenditures.
- Monthly financial statements are prepared for review by the trustees.
- Cost reduction – ensuring we are getting value for money from our purchasing and from our suppliers (including re-negotiation where appropriate).

From 1 April 2025 we moved all of our accounts onto an online software package called Xero (this was previously done using spreadsheets). This is an effective and integrated approach that enables our administrator to manage our finances as well as share data with our accountants if required, thus making the preparation of annual accounts and reports much easier.

An important aim of our capital works programme was to reduce our energy consumption/carbon footprint wherever possible. Over the last 12 months, we have seen a significant reduction in our energy usage. For example, over the period of Dec 24 to Feb 25, our average monthly gas bill was £350. For the same period in 25/26 our average gas bill has been just £130.

This was made possible through a combination of better roof insulation (as part of the National Lottery funded roof replacement), installation of new double glazing throughout the building, upgrading of all internal lighting with energy efficient LEDs and the installation of smart controllers for heating.

Volunteer Training

Over the last 12 months, 3 Members have undergone Food Safety & Hygiene training.

Administration

One of the greatest impacts we have seen in the last year has been from the appointment of a part-time administrator. As a relatively small group of trustees and volunteers, we have in the past been struggling to properly oversee the finances, manage the budget, order consumables and pull together everything that makes our shed run efficiently and smoothly. Moving many of the administrative duties to a paid professional role has been transformative for us.

Not only do we have proper control on our spending and resources but now that we have moved our accounts to an online solution, we have also strengthened our financial controls whilst simplifying the operational overheads. We know what we spend, where and by whom.

This was only possible due to the funding from the National Lottery, and we will be exploring all options for funding sources in order to continue funding this role when our current lottery grant expires at the end of 2027.

What Our Members Tell Us

Whilst we talk to our members every day, we also hold several regular meetings in the workshop (we call them toolbox talks) so we can update them on what's happening in the shed as well as getting their feedback on important issues. There is also a member's suggestion box which is reviewed monthly by our six strong Steering Committee.

More recently we circulated a questionnaire to a random selection of our members to gain insight into what motivated them to join and what they got out of the shed.

Many of our members have joined since retiring and understandably the majority find the change difficult. Most notably is the loss of mixing and interaction with other people. Here are just a few of the comments made.

"At the time I was going through a bad patch and was introduced to a social worker…going to the Men in Sheds was put on the cards and the rest is history."

"I finished work in 2024 and did all the normal things…. I lost interaction with other people. Saw an advert for Men in Sheds, bit the bullet then came along. Since then, I haven't looked back."

Mental Health is a key reason for many joining.

"After retiring I felt alone… my mental state was deteriorating"

"A friend was a member, and I joined in Nov 24. I joined following a stroke and my mental health wasn't good, I thought it might help"

About half our membership of 88 souls are regular attendees and come to the shed at least once a week. Many come more than twice and at least 6 come every day.

In terms of the benefit of being a member, here are some of the reasons given.

"Just being able to talk to people of my age and getting out of the house"

"Gained a lot more confidence in asking for help"

"It helps me take my mind off my mobility issues. To be able to pass my small knowledge of woodworking on to others"

"Making friends"

"It was good to play music with others which improves your playing"

SUMMARY

In summing up the reporting year of 2025/6 has shown that not only has The Port Men in Sheds consolidated its position of establishing itself in it's new(ish) home but has gone on to complete the planned works such as the roof, kitchen, accessible toilet etc.

The funding by the National lottery of an administrator for a period of three years, has been transformative for our operation. Our administrator has become an effective member of the team who is valued and respected by every member of the shed and she has contributed to our many achievements during the last twelve months.

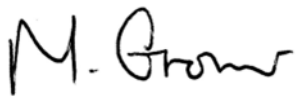
Our shed is proud of the fact that it supports its members socially, emotionally and nutritionally too! On a practical basis, thanks to the lottery grant, support from our local councillor's, local businesses, voluntary groups and sheer hard work we have built a secure watertight shed that sits comfortably within the local community. Our shed reaches out to the local area supporting groups from local schools and Brownies, the local community and Cheshire West and Chester Council who hold our achievements in high regard.

It's been quite a year!

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the following individuals and organisations who have been so supportive over the last twelve months and we hope will continue to support us in the years ahead: –

Justin Madders MP, elected members and officers from Cheshire West and Cheshire Council, particularly Katie Kendrick OBE, The National Lottery Community Fund, Stellantis (Vauxhall Motors), The Co-op, ASDA Foundation, Stanlaw Abbey Development Trust, The Majorie Boddy Foundation, Cheshire Freemasons, ENTEP, The Leonard Curtis Foundation, Ellesmere Port Round Table.

Signed for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees
The Port Men in Sheds



Martin Gronow
Trustee (Secretary).


THANK
YOU
GRACIAS
ARIGATO
SHUKURIA
DANKSCHEEN
BÏYAN
SHUKRIA
TINGKI
YAQHANYELAY
TASHAKKUR ATU
SUKSAMA
EKHMET
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EFCHARISTO
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PALDIES
BOLZÏN
MERCI

The Port Men In Sheds CIO

(Charity Reg: 1191097)

Patron: Mr Justin Madders MP (Ellesmere Port & Neston)

Annual Accounts

(1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026)

Registered Office:

The Port Men in Sheds
Overpool Community Centre
Rivacre Road
Ellesmere Port
CH66 1LL

Declaration from the Board of Trustees:

The Trustees of The Port Men in Sheds declare that:

- All necessary information required to correctly prepare these accounts on a '*Cash Basis*' in accordance with Charities Commission (England & Wales) Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP; FRS 102, dated October 2019) has to the best of our knowledge been provided and retained for audit purposes.
- These financial statements have been prepared and approved with reference to the Charity's own approved '*Finance and Accounting Policy*'.
- Financial Statements have been prepared on the basis of an '*Ongoing Concern*'.

The Board of Trustees additionally confirms that these accounting statements consisting of:

- Statement of Financial Transactions
- Balance Sheet
- Additional Notes to Accounts

represent a *true and fair view* of the financial affairs of the charity 'The Port Men in Sheds, Reg: 1191097*'* for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. For greater context it is strongly recommended that these financial statements be read in conjunction The Port Men in Shed's Annual Report for the same period.

Finally, as required by the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of SORP:2019, the Trustees confirm that these financial statements have been subject to verification by the Charity's appointed *Independent Verifier*. A copy of the independent verifiers report is attached to the financial statements as Appendix 1.

Independent Verifiers: Lounds and Co.
Chartered Accountants
367 Chester Road
Little Sutton
CH66 3RQ

On this basis these financial statements, along with the Charity's Annual Report for the period 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026, have been approved by the Board of Trustees by Board Resolution dated: 24th September 2026

Signed for on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Date: 24/9/26
Mrs Samantha Walker
Trustee (Treasurer)

Date: 24/9/26
Mr Martin Gronow
Trustee (Secretary)

The Port Men In Sheds CIO

(Charity Reg: 1191097)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Year (Total)
Income				
Donations & Grants:				
Donations & grants:	13,935	104,749	118,684	43,477
Other trading activities:				
Sale of donated goods:	5,103	-	5,103	4,172
Donated assets:	-	1,909	1,909	10,660
Charitable activities:				
Membership fees:	19,400	-	19,400	16,200
Product sales:	3,771	-	3,771	5,602
Misc:	48	-	48	3,299
Total income	42,257	106,658	148,915	83,410
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities:				
Employment costs:	-	13,787	13,787	4,645
Volunteer training:	-	-	-	801
Lease and service costs:	-	-	-	-
Utilities:	5,109	-	5,109	6,385
Waste disposal:	1,436	-	1,436	1,824
Bank charges:	-	-	-	5
Insurance:	1,765	-	1,765	2,273
Telecoms & internet:	1,117	-	1,117	1,492
Professional fees:	870	-	870	4,528
Workshop consumables:	3,033	343	3,375	4,507
Storage unit costs:	-	-	-	2,530
Misc:	1,517	488	2,005	2,736
Printing & marketing:	-	-	-	655
Stationery & office:	565	-	565	842
Expensed tools & equipment:	1,067	374	1,440	521
Catering:	1,072	-	1,072	1,751
Building maintenace:	3,669	2,570	6,239	2,880
Building capital repairs:	-	86,374	86,374	12,138
Transport:	70	2,009	2,079	981
Memberships covered:	-	490	490	-
Asset write offs:	3,570	-	3,570	1,770
Depreciation:	5,122	-	5,122	5,605
Total expenses	29,982	106,433	136,415	58,869
Transfer between Funds	1,454	- 1,454	-	-
Surplus/(Loss)	13,729	- 1,230	12,500	24,541

The Port Men In Sheds CIO

(Charity Reg: 1191097)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Year (Total)
Fixed Assets:				
Tangible assets:	27,847	- 0	27,847	29,774
Total Fixed Assets	27,847	- 0	27,847	29,774
Current Assets:				
Cash in bank:	30,681	8,984	39,665	24,340
Petty cash:	981	-	981	634
Other debtors	30	-	30	604
Total Current Assets	31,692	8,984	40,676	25,578
Current Liabilities				
Creditors due within 12 months:	266	405	672	-
Total Current Liabilities	266	405	672	-
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	31,426	8,578	40,004	25,578
Total Assets/(Liabilities)	59,273	8,578	67,852	55,352
Charity Funds:				
Current year Surplus/(Loss)	13,729	- 1,230	12,500	24,541
Brought forward	33,231	22,121	55,352	30,811
Transfer between funds	12,313	- 12,313	-	-
Total Charity Funds	59,273	8,578	67,852	55,352

Notes

1 These financial statements have been prepared on a '*Cash Basis'* in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charities Commission (England & Wales) dated October 2019 and further in accordance with FRS 102. The trustees confirm that there has been no material departure from these reporting standards. Due to the small size of the charity (and as allowed under SORP guidelines), no *statement of cashflows* has been made. Additionally, accounts prepared on an '*Activity Basis'* are also deemed superfluous.

2 These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with applicable charity law pertaining in the England and Wales.

3 ***Going Concern:*** The trustees report that the charity currently remains viable as a '*going concern'*. It has a proven record in its fund-raising capabilities (both internally and externally) and strong financial management controls and procedures. ***Going Concern Uncertainties:*** With the recent acquisition of premises on a 25-year lease at a peppercorn rent combined with self-generated income streams no material uncertainties are deemed to exist.

4 The charity 'The Port Men in Sheds' is a Public Benefit Entity.

a fresh perspective...

lounds&co
Chartered Accountants

367 Chester Road,
Little Sutton, Cheshire, CH66 3RQ.
T: 0151 339 9454
E: info@loundsandco.co.uk
www.loundsandco.co.uk

The Port Men in Sheds Financial Accounts for the Year to 31 March 2026

Independent verification

Testing was carried out on a sample of transactions from the Income and Expenditure Accounts. The transactions were either agreed back to the source documents or to the bank statements.

The opening and closing bank balances per the Accounts agreed back to the actual Bank Account Statements.

Petty cash summaries were checked.

Findings

I can confirm that the testing identified no material differences between the source documents and the Accounts.

As always with these type of businesses, it is impossible to confirm with 100% assurance that all of the income generated at events was paid into the business' bank account although signed paperwork/receipts were seen for the sample checked.

Monthly Bank reconciliations and Petty Cash reconciliations are carried out and are signed and kept.

Recommendations

There are currently no recommendations to make.

Sign off

I can confirm that the information contained in the Accounts for the year to 31 March 2026 are in line with the underlying transactions and that they fairly represent the data that is available to review.

Signature: _____ Date: 19/8/26.

Name: Paul Lounds, FCA