

## **Shirley Men's Shed**

Annual Report for the year ended 30 September 2019

### **Origins and objectives**

Shirley Men's Shed ("the Shed") is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, formally established on 1 October 2018. It was initiated by members of St James Road Methodist Church and stands independently from the Church. The Shed will be tenants of the Church as soon as the largely agreed lease is finalised, hopefully in the spring of 2020.

The objects of the Shed are to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing men aged 18 or over, within Shirley and the surrounding area, from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society through the provision of facilities in which they can meet to undertake creative, physical or recreational activities, learn or pass on skills and knowledge, and support each other socially.

The trustees, as at 30 September 2019, were Ian Tyas, Hugh Evans and Brian Hooper. Also on the Committee were Colin Lockwood, Peter Hill, Yolanda Patzia, Malcolm Kirk and Andy Blunsden.

### **Development in the year to 30 September 2019**

The Shed was formally set up at a public meeting on 1 October 2018, when a committee was formed. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer were appointed as trustees and CIO status was received on 2 November 2018.

The Church Council of St James Road Methodist Church had already agreed to allow the Shed to use part of its land, subject to legal agreement of an appropriate lease; that has taken a long time to finalise, and is expected to be signed in the spring of 2020.

Committee members visited several nearby Men's Sheds, obtained commercial costings for building a workshop on the site, and also made scale drawings for a self-built workshop. A firm decision on the construction of the workshop was not made, and consequently a planning application was not submitted; that work continues.

### **Activity in the year to 30 September 2019**

Committee members and other supporters cleared the site of brambles and other growth, overhanging trees were trimmed and a gate and fence were put in place. A garden-style shed was obtained and built, with completion happening just after the year end. Volunteers worked together on the construction, and that developed a nucleus of people which has continued to meet and work together.

Several Open Meetings were held, and committee members ran an information stall at two fun-days at St James Park. From those events we built up a mailing list of around 50 interested people. We also established a website and social media links, which are well used.

## **Subsequent developments**

In line with our objectives on social inclusion, a weekly social meeting was initiated in October 2019. It meets at Sainsbury's cafe in Shirley, on Thursday mornings, and has attracted several 'regulars' who discuss Shed activities, health issues, work and occasionally sport.

The garden-style shed ("Shed A") was completed shortly after the year-end, and opens each Monday morning with up to nine attendees.

One of the trustees, Ian Tyas, resigned in January 2020, and Malcolm Kirk also resigned as a committee member.

A formal membership scheme was established in February 2020 and at the time of writing (in March) we have 12 paid-up members. Activities have, regrettably, ceased for the time being due to the Covid-19 pandemic. That includes committee meetings, so this report has been approved by email.

Brian Hooper  
Trustee and Secretary

# Accounts for The Shirley Mens Shed up to September 30th 201

<b>Income</b>				
SJR Supper Club		266.05		
Supporters donations		180.00		
Southampton City Council grant		2500.00		
Other		87.90		
<b>Total income</b>		<b>3,033.95</b>		
<b>Payments</b>				
Fosters Tree Sur - Brian H		624.00		
E&G Insurance Services LTD		91.64		
Spectrum signs		90.00		
15 by 10 shed A		799.99		
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>1605.63</b>		
<b>Balance</b>		<b>1,428.32</b>		

