

Men in Sheds MK

Registered Charity Number 1156425



Giving a welcome and support for men with time on their hands

A message from the Acting Chair - Michael West

Dear All,

Many of you will not know a great deal about my involvement so far with the Shed so I thought it a good idea to write an introduction about myself as Acting Chair, as I prepare to stand for the substantive Chair role.

First, I would like to extend my thanks to Peter Gallagher, who has left a very large void to be filled, along with the other departing Committee and Trustee members. We have worked closely together over the past two years that I have been involved in the Management Committee and also later as a Co-opted Trustee. The Makerspace has been operating from the Shed for over three years now. I was one of the original people to join it and I have seen significant changes during this period as it has grown.

Although I have a full time job, I am very lucky in that my employer is flexible about how and where I can work, enabling me to spend more time at the Shed than I would perhaps be able to in another job. However, some of you will remember that a couple of years ago, Peter got to the "burn out" stage of being Chairman. I will not, and cannot, allow that to happen to me.

As was said at the AGM, there are other Committee members who will be in day to day attendance at the Shed who can assist with the requirements of members, as I am simply unable to dedicate my time during the working day as Peter has. This means that other Sheddors - both within the Committee and outside it - will need to continue to step up to the mark to assist with the running of the Shed.

The Committee is very appreciative of those who do make an active contribution to not just the running, but also the wider community 'giving back' aspect of the Shed, and we ask that you continue to do so. It would please me greatly to see the closer working together of the various sub groups that exist within the Shed, especially the Makerspace - they are members of the Shed as well. If you can, drop by of an evening to see what the Makers get up to.



News in Brief

Lease

We are now the formal leaseholders of the Shed. As it is a 'Repair' lease we need to make a careful assessment of works that need to be carried out to maintain the premises in good order and to keep this under regular review. This is in hand.

Machine accreditation

The Didac training method has now been discontinued as they were unable to deliver the customised training materials that we need. They have been forthcoming in returning our unused subscription that we had been paying towards the continuing access to training materials and record keeping system. Thanks to the work of Peter Gallagher and David Sawyer we are now using the Classmarker system for machine accreditation and a number of Sheddors have already succeeded in achieving accreditation on a range of machines. We will be rolling this out across the Shed over the next few months.

Enlightenment

The lighting within the workshop area has now been completed at a not insignificant cost. The new light units

renewal of the Committee will re-ignite the enthusiasm that I know is there. I would also like to reassure members that the Committee and I do not foresee any sweeping changes to the way the Shed is run.

In quick succession we have had the conclusion of the lease negotiations and installation of new workshop lighting. There is also now a requirement to have Committee members and Trustees elected for the coming year. In this Newsletter we announce an EGM (Extraordinary General Meeting) which will give members the opportunity to vote for those people who wish to stand for the vacant positions. Impressions from the first Committee meeting following the AGM are that those in the current acting and co-opted roles are working well together already.

As the miles appear on my clock, I would like to think that we can work together and continue to make the Shed a place to be proud of, that plays an important role for its members and in the local community.

Yours

Michael

Notice of EGM - Wednesday 1 August 2018 12 noon Unit 30 Burners Lane

Thank you to all that attended the AGM on the 23rd May 2018, and to David Towell for again providing us with excellent food.

There were a number of Trustee and Management Committee positions that did not have permanent people elected. Because of this, we need to call an EGM – Extraordinary General Meeting. Some of those in the acting positions are prepared to convert those positions in to full 12 month roles if members consent.

An EGM is therefore called for Wednesday 1 August 2018 at 12 noon at Unit 30 Burners Lane. We are required to give 14 days' notice to allow for any other notifications for positions that may be proposed ahead of a meeting.

There is no requirement to attend in person; It is merely to vote. Options to vote electronically and for those without the means to do so will be made available at the next notification following the close of nominations.

Shed Management Committee following the 23rd May 2018 AGM:

- **Michael West** – Acting Chair; prepared to stand for full role
- **David Sawyer** – Acting Treasurer; does not wish to continue so there is a vacancy
- **Nigel Pigott** - Secretary, prepared to continue
- **John Orme** – Co-opted Member Representative - metal working; prepared to stand as Treasurer
- **Nigel Paterson** - Co-opted Member Representative - woodworking prepared to continue
- **Andy Selby** – Co-opted Member Representative - Makerspace
- **David Towell** – Co-opted Member
- **Les Hubbard** – Co-opted Member

consume less than half of the energy. The payback time for the outlay is many years but it does mean that the safe operation of equipment can be carried out as you can see what you are doing. Thank you to the MK Community Foundation for the rent relief to allow us to carry out the work

Up and over

Some repair work to the roller shutter door has been carried out to improve insulation and draughtproofing. Further work appears to be needed however, and this is under investigation.

Hot Work and Metalwork areas

Thanks to the efforts of a number of Shedders, but David Sawyer and Steve Heath in particular, the hot working area, containing a flux-cored gasless welding set up, the metal chop saw and grinding wheel is almost ready for use and the metalwork area has been substantially re-organised by John Orme and Andy Selby, with a Myford ML7 lathe currently being rebuilt

Clearing up and clearing out

A reminder to all Shedders to please clear up after you have finished working and return tools to where they belong, and to clearly label any ongoing projects. Unidentified projects will be disposed of. We will also be regularly reviewing stocks of materials and disposing of any that we believe are taking up too much space and are unlikely to be used.

Donate. Please!

Single Donation

Give Monthly



Remember you can very easily donate to the Shed and help it remain a going concern, by going to [this link](#). Thank you. We have also identified a couple of comparatively

nomination needs to be made to Nigel Pigott (info@meninshedsmk.org.uk), by the close on xxx so that due notice may be given for voting prior to the EGM. Note that there is no limit on the co-opted positions so if you wish to join the Committee, let us know ASAP. Contact Nigel Pigott with any nominations.

Current Trustees following 23rd May 2018 AGM

- **Michael West**- Ex Officio Trustee (Acting Management Committee Chair); Prepared to continue
- **David Sawyer**- Ex Officio Trustee (Acting Management Committee Treasurer); standing down.
- **Nigel Pigott** - Ex Officio Trustee (Management Committee Secretary), continuing subject to retaining role as Secretary
- **Nigel Paterson** - Elected Trustee, prepared to continue
- **John Orme** – Co-opted Member Representative
- **Andy Selby** - Co-opted Member Representative
- **Dave Towell** - Co-opted Member Representative
- **Les Hubbard** – Elected “External” Trustee.

Although the nominated external trustee position has been vacant all last year, Les Hubbard is a trustee of the Milton Keynes Play Association and has proposed to be nominated for this role until a fully external trustee can be found. Other sections

The agenda for the EGM is:

1. Election of Officers of the Management Committee
2. Election of Member representatives on the Board of Trustees

Although all positions are open to nominations, there is a pressing need for nominations for those positions vacant or becoming so, see above.

[Nominations, to Nigel Pigott \(info@meninshedsmk.org.uk\), close on Wednesday 18 July at 17.00 so that due notice may be given for voting prior to the EGM.](#) Note that there is no limit on the co-opted positions so if you wish to be so co-opted, let us know ASAP, ideally before the EGM. Contact Nigel Pigott with any nominations.

[Give as you Live](#) and the second is though [Amazon Smile](#). Both of these enable you to sign up so that anything you purchase through their websites generates a donation to the charity of your choice. Why not sign up now and choose Men in Sheds MK as your charity? It costs nothing and doesn't commit you to buy anything

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

[RSS](#)



Milton Keynes Christian Foundation



[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2018 Men in Sheds MK, All rights reserved.



[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)