

Appendix 6: Letchworth Men's Shed

=Document Control:

Version	Issue Date	Changes
1.0	NA	First Draft (BE)

Reference	6045		
Name of Organisation	Letchworth Men's Shed		
Organisation Type	Registered charity – Charity Number 1188445		
Ward	Covers the whole of Letchworth		
Project Type	Older men's workshop group		
Green option considered?	/		
NHC Councillor involvement that may constitute a conflict of interest	No councillors sit on the committee. In the past they had input from Cllr Daniel Allen when looking for premises in 2021. They also met with Cllr Daniel Allen briefly when advertising their group at the Hertfordshire Steam & Country Show at Standalone Farm in 2023.		
Previous financial support within six years	None		
Documentation reviewed and approved*	Safeguarding	Yes	Accounts
	Demonstrates clear governance	Yes	
Total applied for	£658	Total project cost	£707.92
Officer Summary			
<p>Letchworth Men's Shed are seeking funding to support their 'Lathe Lads' project. This will be for older men to learn skills in wood turning affordably and to keep brains active with mindful activity and develop the potential to earn income to sustain the Men's Shed in future.</p> <p>This project will teach new skills at 8 weekly sessions, initially for Shed members but hopefully to be extended to the wider community. For those new to woodturning this project will help discover the art and craft in a safe environment under expert supervision. For those with experience of woodturning they would have the opportunity to make items for resale and develop paid-for training courses to help sustain the Shed financially. Funding will provide PPE in the form of several rugged woodturning smocks and full-face protection visors, two folding workbenches and four quick-grip clamps.</p> <p>They source from reputable suppliers whose sell branded products that they know are at best price and are quality items made to last. This is a new development for the Letchworth Men's Shed but surveys of other Shed members by the UK Men's Sheds Association, of which Letchworth is a member, demonstrate the benefits to mental and physical health of bringing men together for purposeful activity. They operate from premises at Standalone Farm and currently have 11 Shed members from Hitchin, Letchworth, Royston. Within North Herts those who benefit are also the partners and families of their members, and the members of organisations for whom they have made items, such as the mud kitchen for a local pre-school.</p> <p>The Lathe Lads project is part of a wider plan to actively promote their offer and recruit new members. At their premises they have use of facilities on all days of the week and have only recently extended open days from one to two weekdays. As membership increases, they intend to open on more days. They are regularly contacted by Community Groups, Care Services, GP Link Workers and have people referred to them by doctors and outreach workers who increasingly understand the role Men's Sheds play in providing localised support for mental health, wellbeing and having a positive impact on physical health outcomes.</p>			

*Funding will only be released on receipt and approval of all supporting documentation