



Community Engagement Report

Mens Shed – Lease Extension for Erril Street

Men's Shed Proposed Lease Variation

Engagement Summary

At its meeting on 19 May 2026, Mansfield Shire Council resolved to provide in-principle support for the future allocation of a portion of land to Mansfield Men's Shed. This decision enables the organisation to pursue external grant funding opportunities for the construction of an expanded Men's Shed facility.

Council's support was subject to several conditions, including:

- ▶ Completion and certification of the subdivision (completed);
- ▶ Transfer of the relevant land into Council ownership (completed on 29 July 2026); and
- ▶ Completion of a community engagement process.

The purpose of the engagement was to inform the community and stakeholders of the proposal to allocate a portion of the north-west corner of the newly acquired former Bowls Club site at 19 Erril Street, Mansfield, to facilitate the expansion of the Mansfield Men's Shed.

The engagement process sought community feedback regarding the proposed lease variation and future use of the land before Council makes a final decision.

The public consultation period was open from **3 June to 17 June 2026** and was promoted through:

- ▶ The *Mansfield Courier*;
- ▶ Council's Facebook page; and
- ▶ The Engage Mansfield website.

Key Findings

- ▶ Seven formal submissions were received through the Engage Mansfield platform.
- ▶ Six submissions expressed support for the proposed lease variation and expansion of the Mansfield Men's Shed.
 - ▶ One submission raised concerns regarding the future use of the former Bowls Club land and the potential loss of future parking opportunities.
- ▶ Respondents broadly recognised the Men's Shed as a valuable community asset that provides social connection, wellbeing benefits, volunteer support and practical services to the wider community.
- ▶ Several submissions highlighted that the organisation has outgrown its current footprint and requires additional space to meet growing demand and membership needs.
- ▶ Facebook engagement generated three comments and nine reactions. Comments primarily related to concerns about future parking provision and accessing the survey link. No additional substantive objections were received.

Scope of Engagement

The consultation was hosted on the **Engage Mansfield** platform and promoted through Council's social media channels, the Mansfield Courier and Mansfield Matters communications.

Participation Summary

- ▶ **Total engagement interactions:** 10
- ▶ **Engage Mansfield visitors:** 25
- ▶ **Survey responses/formal submissions:** 7
- ▶ **Facebook comments:** 3
- ▶ **Facebook reactions (likes):** 9

Engagement Response Summary

The Men's Shed Proposed Lease Variation consultation attracted 25 visitors to the Engage Mansfield project page and resulted in 7 formal submissions.

Community feedback was predominantly supportive of the proposal, with respondents recognising the important role the Mansfield Men's Shed plays in supporting community wellbeing, social inclusion and volunteer initiatives. Several submissions described the Men's Shed as a valuable and longstanding community resource that delivers significant benefits to both members and the broader Mansfield community.

A recurring theme throughout the feedback was the need for additional space to support existing operations and accommodate future growth. Respondents indicated that expansion of the current site would allow the Men's Shed to continue delivering services and activities while avoiding the significant costs and disruption associated with relocating to an alternative location.

One respondent questioned the proposed allocation of land, noting that the former Bowls Club site had previously been identified by Council as land that could support future parking and community infrastructure. The submitter sought clarification as to how the proposal aligns with the site's longer-term strategic purpose.

Facebook engagement reflected similar themes. One community member expressed concern that allocating part of the former Bowls Club land to the Men's Shed could reduce potential future parking capacity. Another comment reported difficulty locating the survey on the Engage Mansfield page, while a third comment simply indicated interest in following the proposal. No formal objections were subsequently submitted through the engagement platform. Based on the survey responses received, the concern regarding future parking provision was not widely reflected in the broader community feedback.

Key Themes Identified

- ▶ Strong support for the proposed expansion of the Mansfield Men's Shed.
- ▶ Recognition of the Men's Shed's significant social, health and community benefits.
- ▶ Support for retaining and expanding the facility at its current location.
- ▶ Recognition that additional space is required to meet growing membership and operational needs.

- ▶ A concern from a small number of community members regarding the potential impact on future parking provision and the long-term strategic use of the former Bowls Club land.

Conclusion

Overall, the community engagement process generated a modest level of participation, with seven formal submissions and limited social media discussion. Despite the relatively low participation rate, the feedback received demonstrated a strong level of support for the proposed lease variation and expansion of the Mansfield Men's Shed.

The majority of respondents endorsed the proposal and emphasised the important contribution the Men's Shed makes to the Mansfield community. Feedback highlighted the benefits of enabling the organisation to expand at its existing location and continue to provide services, programs and social support to its members and the wider community.

While concerns were raised regarding the potential future loss of parking opportunities and the strategic use of the former Bowls Club land, these concerns were raised by a minority of participants and did not represent the predominant view expressed through the engagement process.

The engagement process has provided Council with valuable community feedback to inform its consideration of the proposed lease variation and future allocation of land to facilitate the continued growth and operation of Mansfield Men's Shed Inc.

- Your News
Mansfield Matters

Thank a First Responder Day!

Mansfield Shire Council will be hosting a Thank a First Responder Day to and celebrate the dedicated local emergency service workers who community year-round. The event will be held from 11.00am to the High Street median strip opposite IGA and will include a free barbecue.

Warmly invited to come along, meet local first responders and show appreciation for the important role they play in keeping the Mansfield Shire safe.



ender Mansfield Heritage Museum Landscaping

A public tender for the detailed design and construction of surrounding the Mansfield Heritage Museum within the

Other important step in delivering the Station Precinct enhance the museum surrounds while celebrating the character. The landscaping works are expected to improve upcoming public open space and strengthen connections and surrounding precinct.

and will close at 12.00pm on Thursday 18 June 2026. Interested contractors to submit a tender through the public

Contact the Capital Works team on (03) 5775 8555 or field.vic.gov.au



Proposed Lease Extension - Mansfield and District Potters Inc.

Council is proposing to enter into a long-term lease arrangement with Mansfield and District Potters Inc. (MAD Potters) for the use of the Mansfield Police Stables. The proposed lease would provide for a ten (10) year term, with an option for a further ten (10) year extension. This proposal supports the ongoing use of the facility by MAD Potters and aims to provide security and continuity for this valued local community group.

Proposed Lease Variation - Mansfield Men's Shed

Council has provided in-principle support for an expansion of the Mansfield Men's Shed at the Ailsa Street site, once the land is transferred to Council. The proposal involves increasing the existing leased area to enable the construction of a new shed facility adjacent to the current building, supporting the continued growth and activities of the Mansfield Men's Shed.

Copies of the proposed concept plan will be available to view on Council's engage page:
engage.mansfield.vic.gov.au.

Council invites community feedback on both proposals. For further information or enquiries, please contact Renee Archibald on (03) 5775 8563 or email property@mansfieldvic.gov.au

mansfield.vic.gov.au

Cr Tim Berenyi, Cr Bonnie Clark, Cr Mandy Treasure

TTY 133 677

   

**Mansfield Shire Council**

4 Jun · 🌐



Mansfield Shire Council is seeking community feedback on the proposed lease variation to the Men's Shed.

Click the link below to share your thoughts:

<https://engage.mansfield.vic.gov.au/men-s-shed-proposed-lease-variation>



9



7



1



Facebook Post 4 June 2026

11:36



5G

65

**Mansfield Shire Council**

4 Jun · 🌐

**Heather Ingpen** · 8w

The land was acquired from the Bowling club for the purpose of parking. I feel it is inappropriate take portion of this area to erect a building, thus reducing the proposed parking space. Should the men's shed need further space in the future maybe they could consider relocating to a more suitable site.

Reply



2

**Mansfield Shire Council** · 8w · [Author](#)

[Heather Ingpen](#) Hi Heather, thanks for reaching out. Please head to our engagement platform linked above to enter your feedback.

Reply

**Doug Tarrant** · 8w

Doesn't seem to be much chance to engage via the link provided or can I not see for looking.

Reply

**Mansfield Shire Council** · 8w · [Author](#)

[Doug Tarrant](#) Hi Doug, thanks for letting us know. If you head back to the Engage Mansfield page the survey should be up there through which you can provide feedback.

Reply



▼ View 1 reply

**Georgie Deyell** · 8w

I'm following this.

Comment as Renée Archibald



Facebook Post 4 June 2026

Survey Responses

12 June 2020 - 28 June 2026

Submit your feedback

Engage Mansfield

Project: Men's Shed - Proposed Lease Variation



VISITORS

25

CONTRIBUTORS

7

RESPONSES

7

7

Registered

0

Unverified

0

Anonymous

7

Registered

0

Unverified

0

Anonymous



Respondent No: 1

Login:

Email:

Responded Jun 04, 2026 20:12:29 pm

At:

Last Seen: Jun 04, 2026 10:11:10 am

IP Address: 116.91.213.131

Q1. Submit your feedback

Great Idea, will do a lot for our Mens Shed and Mansfield Community



Respondent
Login:
Email:

No: 2

Responded Jun 04, 2026 21:58:14 pm
At:
Last Seen: Jun 04, 2026 11:57:10 am
IP Address: 125.63.8.176

Q1. Submit your feedback

Absolutely agree with Council decision.



Respondent No: 3

Login:

Email:

Responded Jun 04, 2026 22:51:01 pm

At:

Last Seen: Jun 04, 2026 12:40:38 pm

IP Address: 103.137.15.62

Q1. **Submit your feedback**

I fully support this project to assist the Mansfield Mens Shed to expand their facilities to cater for their membership. The Mens Shed provides a first rate service for not only its members but also to the Mansfield community as a whole. Their work and contribution to the community is invaluable.



Respondent No: 4

Login:

Email:

Responded Jun 05, 2026 09:13:45 am

At:

Last Seen: Jun 04, 2026 23:11:01 pm

IP Address: 1.145.141.131

Q1. Submit your feedback

I am thoroughly in favour of expanding the Shed. It provides a service unavailable elsewhere in town but is increasingly wanting for space.



Respondent No: 5

Login:

Email:

Responded Jun 05, 2026 20:54:43 pm

At:

Last Seen: Jun 05, 2026 10:51:59 am

IP Address: 179.65.145.233

Q1. **Submit your feedback**

This looks like an excellent use of the space. The men's shed definitely needs the area for expansion, and not reserving this area and allowing the men shed to build there would in the end result in significant additional costs for all involved if a new location was to be found and buildings were to be built. I fully support this proposed land allocation and expansion of the men's shed.



Respondent **No:** 6
Login:
Email:

Responded Jun 06, 2026 16:46:32 pm
At:
Last Seen: Jun 17, 2026 06:32:30 am
IP Address: 121.200.6.23

Q1. **Submit your feedback**

Mansfield Mens Shed Inc is widely recognised as an extremely valuable community resource and an empathetic, often silent partner. The support infrastructure that has grown and evolved, since 2005 for members, flows on to the community. It seems that the Shed is ideally positioned thanks to the foresight of the Council that originally supported the first Shed. Now in 2026 it's extremely serendipitous that our current Council has the resources to afford extra land. It's wonderful that this Council has enabled a "future" for the Shed.



Respondent No: 7

Login:

Email:

Responded Jun 10, 2026 16:21:49 pm

At:

Last Seen: Jun 10, 2026 06:19:01 am

IP Address: 121.200.5.141

Q1. **Submit your feedback**

concerned about the almost doubling of space being allocated to the men's shed. August 2024 council says - "Every dollar counts for our ratepayers and we need to make sure our assets and investments are working for our future. The Ailsa Street land abuts existing car parks and community facilities. As the town grows, we have to plan for the future and make sure our community can continue to enjoy the amenities of the Mansfield township," said Cr Rabie. I'm not sure how this usage fits with this statement
