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## **Bike Shed @ Mud Dock, Bristol, (UK)**



### **Facility:**

Bike Shed @ Mud Dock centre for cycle storage, service showers etc.

### **Provider:**

Mud Dock, Department of Transport/ National Cycle Fund, Bristol City Council.

### **Designer / Architect:**

BBA Architects: Jon Foulds.

### **Cost of Provision:**

Approx. £250,000 Department of Transport/Bristol City Council Contributed 50%

### **General Description:**

Mud Dock is a bicycle lifestyle centre, offering a shop, storage facility,



bar and restaurant, as well as education and training. It was founded by Jerry & Beverly Arron and opened in June 1994. The different amenities are synergistic and help promote bicycle culture in the city. It is a retail and catering company. You can register as an individual or as a company. If a company registers, it requests the number of lockers and spaces needed and Mud Dock gives passes to the users. The mechanics at the shop maintain and look after the bike shed. Future plans include a small bar with internet access for cyclists. Current customers include people in local offices surrounding the area.



## Location of Facility:

The Grove, Bristol, UK.

## Scale (Capacity):

30-40 bikes

## Length of Stay:

Unlimited. The facility is open on weekdays from 0730-1830, and Saturday from 0900.



## Charges (Cost to User):

### BIKE PARKING + LOCKER COSTS

One day	£2.00
One week	£7.50
One month	£25.00
Six months	£125.00
One year	£200.00

### BIKE PARKING + LOCKER + SHOWER

Per day	£4.50
One week	£17.00
One month	£55.00
Six months	£275.00
One year	£450.00

### SHOWER ONLY

Per shower	£4.00
One week	£15.00
One month	£50.00
Six months	£225.00
One year	£400.00

All costs as at 15/1/07



### **Access:**

Users have to fill out an information form. If you are registered through a company bike shed gives passes to the company for the users.

Users have to go through the store or bike repair service centre to get their bike. If you have a locker you are given your own key.

### **Signage:**

From outside the building, signage of the “Mud Dock” centre is clear and presented in large lettering from every angle. Signage as to the actual functions of the centre appears less obvious, with vinyl lettering on the glass of the entrance doors. No information is currently available regarding visual communication as to where the cycle parking facilities are within the building and how to use them.

### **Furniture:**

A Key Clamp railing system installed to park bikes and Sports Solutions hoists are also used. See links at end of document for more information. Hoists are used to store new merchandise, bikes in service and bike sold and waiting to be picked up.

### **Technical Requirements:**

Missing information.

### **Security, Guardianship and Lighting:**

Bikes are inside a staffed storage facility within the bicycle resource centre. There is very low risk of theft or damage to bicycles. Since the Bikeshed is so small the mechanics recognize regular users, and notice new ones.

### **Maintenance and Servicing:**

All maintenance is managed from within the Mud Dock centre.

### **Service Period (how long it will last):**

Indefinitely.

### **Strengths:**

- This centre provides a very good mix of facilities and services for the cyclist and even non-cyclists: shop, storage facility, bar and restaurant, as well as education and training. There is nothing else like this in Bristol. It is safe, secure and unique
- There is a need for secure bike parking in the area. Users complained about bikes being stolen in the city centre and they would not consider parking their bikes outside

## Weaknesses:

- The Centre's one-off, dock location makes it a good facility for those who are nearby but many cyclists would have to go out of their way from their daily routine to get to use the parking showering facilities there, for example. The costs of services are high. The cost for year-round access to the showers is more expensive than some gym membership fees
- Some users complained about space issues like crowding because they also store bikes that are waiting to be repaired, serviced, built, and also spare parts or stock in the bike shed. Some users wished the facility was bigger
- The owner said the bike shed would not survive if it was a stand-alone facility. The cost for the space and to hire someone to be on site is considerable. Having a repair centre, retail shop and cafe allows Mud Dock to be a lucrative and thriving business
- Limited access times. The shed is not open 24 hours. You can only access your bike when the repair shop is open

## Useful References:

MudDock Bike Shed:

[http://www.mud-dock.co.uk/bikeshed/30\\_bikeshed.html](http://www.mud-dock.co.uk/bikeshed/30_bikeshed.html)

Key Clamps page:

<http://www.fisherlvin.com>

Sports Solutions Hoists:

<http://www.sportssolutions.net>