



Treasurer's Report 2023/24

The accounts for this financial year are a little more complicated than normal as the club became a limited company on 1 January 2024, which was the start of the 4th month of our financial year. We therefore have 2 sets of accounts, one covering October to December 2023 and the other covering January to September 2024. Further there are different and more strict requirements on how to report for a limited company, which has resulted in a change of format for the accounts moving forward.

Collectively the accounts show a loss of just under £19,000. This was a budgeted loss and is primarily a result of planned improvements and maintenance to the club's facilities, most notably the new flooring in the main club building and the new roof on the garage/sail lockers along with some exterior maintenance to the main club house. All of these represent significant one time spend with different rules applied when it comes how they are represented in our accounts with respect to depreciation.

Key Points

What is more relevant to the day to day running of the club is managing and planning our cashflow ie our situation when we exclude noncash assets and depreciation.

- In 2021/22 we took just under £87,000 in subscriptions
- In 2022/23 we took just under £84,000 in subscriptions
- In 2023/24 we took just under £87,000 in subscriptions

Subscription income, which is by far our largest source of income, has therefore remained broadly consistent.

Many of our other expenses have been hit in the same way as all of use have individually by the high inflation over the last couple of years. However, I'd like to recognise the efforts of Debbie who has worked very hard to review and renegotiate some of our key contracts. This work has helped to partly offset the worst of the cost increases that we would otherwise have experienced.

The club had previously made the move to using Xero (a subscription-based Software as a Service accounting platform) for all of our accounting. This has significantly driven efficiencies in how we operated during the year and produce our year end account and VAT returns. As a committee we had continued to use a legacy spreadsheet-based approach to our budgeting. This was inefficient

and created unnecessary admin workload with rekeying of data and a non-alignment of budget categories with the Xero accounting categories. Moving forward starting in October we have now transitioned budgeting into Xero and we have moved the budgeting to use the same categories as accounting. This makes it far simpler to look at where our money comes from and goes. After an initial period of development and refinement, the exclusive use of Xero for all budgeting and management reporting in addition to accounting will provide a much clearer view of current cash flow and enable more accurate modelling of predicted cash flow.

A highlight of the year, which sadly can no longer be shown with its own profit and loss in the new accounting format, is the ongoing success of the bar. This is open at least 3 times a week year-round, providing a fantastic facility for the benefit of members, whilst still being able to make a healthy profit to contribute to the clubs income.

Clearly the most important aspect of managing the clubs cash flow is our “cash at bank”

- In 2021/22 we reported cash at bank of just under £149,000
- In 2022/23 we reported cash at bank of just under £143,000
- In 2023/24 we reported cash at bank of £112,000

In the last 2 years the club has knowingly undertaken significant spend improving buildings, equipment, and facilities. We remain in a healthy position with our financial reserves, but they have clearly been reduced.

In the coming financial year we need to address the painting and repair of the rendered portion of the building, and in the following financial year it will be time to replace our oldest RIB. We therefore still need to consider further significant one time spend in our ongoing financial planning.

With respect to our lease, the situation remains as reported last year. The lease has now expired but we continue to pay as per the terms of the expired lease. As per last years report the club has contacted the council and stated that we intend to remain, but negotiations on the terms of the new lease are still pending.

Fees for 2024/25

The “early bird” offer agreed at last years AGM work very well, with most renewals coming in on time and much reduced admin effort to chase late renewals. We therefore propose to do the same again this year.

We are proposing a 2.5% increase for 2024/25, which taken against the backdrop of the published figures for inflation (ie that which has typically hit our expenditure over the last 3 years) means our membership fee growth is still significantly behind inflation. As with last year it is proposed that the increase will be implemented on 1 March meaning those that renew before this date avoid the increase this year.

Andrew Smith

24 November 2024