

Report from the Secretary and Acting Treasurer 2022-23

At the 2022 Annual General Meeting I reported on the resumption of 'normal' operations following a period of virtually no hire income and very little activity due to Covid-19. This review of the period April 2022 to the end of March 2023 reflects the first fully operational year of activity since 2019.

Almost all of the regular hirers have resumed activities and both the Pavilion and Playing Fields have been busy with football and cricket teams, clubs and societies as well as private hire for parties and events.

Income from hiring out the building and playing field increased from £8,224 (2021-22) to £11,427. Additionally, we continued to receive refunds of VAT paid from HMRC and donations received amounted to £1,500.

Total income for the year was £15,893 significantly down on 2021-22 when income totalled £27,989. However, it must be noted that, of this sum, over £12,000 was attributable to post pandemic re-start grants received from the Government and local authorities.

In terms of outgoings, the figure for the full year was £24,753 compared to £15,437 (2021-22). During the year the Trustee Board of Management actioned repairs to the Pavilion roof (£1,700) and fire doors (£1,600) and a replacement boiler was installed at a cost of £3,100. In addition, alterations were made to the cctv system to improve security (£1,500). The charity also purchased several picnic benches from the Parish Council (£949).

There has been little change in general overhead costs apart from utilities where the increase reflects that this has been a full year of operation:

Utilities £3,752 (up from £2,574 in 2021-22)

Cleaning £2,069 (down from £2860 in 2021-22)

Event costs £200 (down from £1266 in 2021-22)

Admin costs £702 (up from £487 in 2021-22)

The charity started the financial year with £30,080 at the bank and ended with £21,220 – a decrease of £8,860.

This has been a year of transition in that my role as Acting Treasurer came to an end in January 2023 when a new Treasurer took over. In addition, in line with HMRC requirements for submission of VAT returns, the accounts were transferred to Xero accounting software. The year end accounts were audited by Chris Noake who found them in order although he did note some minor issues with aligning the manual cashbook with the computerised system. I wish to thank him for his support in completing the year end accounts and with the submission of accounts to the Charities Commission.

Throughout the year the Community Café continued to provide refreshments for the football teams and their supporters on a Saturday morning and has been able to support the Pavilion and other community groups by way of much-appreciated donations. The Pavilion has been in regular use by the Playgroup and the Art, Garden, Dog, Lunch and Table Tennis Clubs. The Parish Council uses the Pavilion as the venue for its meetings. The cricket and football clubs continue their regular fixtures on the pitches and discussions are underway with a number of these clubs who wish to enter into long-term Licence Agreements. It is hoped that this will give the Foundation access to additional grant funding to improve changing rooms and other facilities. Feedback from hirers is positive with the amenities and quality of facilities on offer appreciated.

I wish to thank all members of the Trustee Board for their support during the year.

Jacqui Baldwin

Secretary

11th October 2023