

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the final accounts for 2017 – 2018 to the committee for approval: they have been inspected by Zara Lamb and found to be satisfactory. These accounts cover the period 1st October 2017 to 30th September 2018. In the first months booking was handled by Mrs Parker Johnston, but was then taken over by Lynn Vaughan and Philip Griffiths. The Treasurer thanked all of the booking officers for their help, accurate records, collection of hire charges and provision of receipts, without which it would not be possible to compile the accounts. She is also grateful to her husband Andrew for his help in checking and preparing the accounts for presentation and particularly to Zara Lamb for inspecting the accounts.

While our financial year ends on 30th September, the lottery and many of our most frequent users have a different financial year. This can lead to some irregularities in payment and direct comparisons of takings from year to year can be influenced by this. It is pleasing to note that hire income has increased slightly to £8105, despite there having been no elections this year, and has been sufficient to cover our running costs of £5608.18 this year. The more we use the hall, the better we can look after it, so thank you to everyone who gives time to organising events for the community and generating hire income.

We started the year with considerable funds in hand, derived from a gradual and planned accumulation of modest surpluses of annual income over expenditure, successful fundraising and generous donations from user groups and individuals, with the intention of carrying out a number of improvements. During the year we have replaced the doors and windows with double glazed units (£9182.34); repaired and painted bargeboards, guttering and down pipes and repainted the exterior of the Hall (£2170) and contributed to the refurbishment of the bar area (£6172.2), offset by a generous donation from the Village Club of £2070. Work on the club room has also been supported by the voluntary contributions of skill and labour by villagers and financial support from the Parish Council. These improvements have been favourably received by hall users and the village in general.

We have plans for further work to improve the kitchen facilities and fundraising has continued, masterminded by our active fund-raising volunteer Mrs Jan Edmonds. We receive regular payments from British Textiles for clothes recycling, and have had donations from Waitrose and St James's Place. We have also received donations from the village. In addition to £2070 from the Village Club, we have also had donations from Art in Coates, Coates Coffee Morning and from individuals, amounting to around £1500 and have raised £1900 from the lottery. We offer our grateful thanks to all these generous people. We have ended the year with £8770 in the Treasurer's account. Applications for grants to enable the plans for kitchen refurbishment to take place have been submitted, but a contribution from the village will also be needed and our efforts must continue – there is still work to be done to the exterior of the hall in drainage and the car park area. It is hoped we can look forward to further improvements in the year to come

Diana Crane

Treasurer