

Hampshire Ornithological Society - Treasurer's Report

The Society's accounts for 31st December 2017 are attached.

Many thanks to Brian Leach, the previous treasurer for all his past work, a smooth handover of the accounts and for answering all my queries.

The accounts are produced on a receipts and payments basis and a copy will be filed, as required within 10 months of the year end, with the Charity Commission.

In summary the Society's receipts totalled £26,124 and expenditure was £25,325, thereby giving an excess of income over expenditure of £799 for 2017.

I would like to make a couple of observations on the accounts.

We have not yet paid out all the grants that the society approved in 2017. We have committed to pay out a further £5,100 in addition to the £3,969 shown in payments. This will be reflected in the 2018 accounts.

The timing of the invoices for the Kingfisher Newsletter led us to pay for five editions in 2017 and only three in 2016.

The switching of the Virgin Money deposit account, which credited interest half yearly, to the higher interest paying Hampshire Trust Bank account, which only credits interest annually, did mean that we received one interest payment less in 2017 than 2016, which explains the decrease in deposit account interest received.

We paid our insurance premium in January this year (2018) moving to a different company with a policy, which covers the society more comprehensively. This will also be reflected in the 2018 accounts.

Atlas production costs are zero for 2017, but Atlas sales continue, although not at the level of previous years.

The society's finances, I believe, are still very satisfactory. The committee's policy is still to gradually run down the funds held and allocate more money to grants and conservation work.

So far as remuneration or other benefits paid to trustees are concerned, the Society paid no sums by way of remuneration. As some committee members not only give up their free time, but often travel some distance to attend meetings, they are reimbursed their out of pocket travelling expenses.

I would like to thank Society member Ian Packer, our Independent Examiner and a chartered accountant, who examined the accounts at no cost and provided lots of positive advice and guidance.

Andy Mitchelmore
Hon Treasurer
18th March 2018