

Hampshire Ornithological Society - Treasurer's Report for year ending 31/12/2019

The Society's independently examined accounts for the year ended 31st December 2019 are available on the HOS Website.

The accounts are produced on the 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 it has been another steady year for us financially; the Society's receipts totalled £41,206.33 and expenditure was £35,296.21, thereby giving an excess of income over expenditure of £5,910.12 for 2019.

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

The excess was significantly augmented by the extra income from the surveys referenced in the Chairman's report. If all goes to plan there will be similar survey income in 2020.

Membership income increased because the increase in membership subscription to £16 started to come through in November and December 2019. We also had an increase in membership numbers, which is encouraging and always good news.

On the expense side the new style Kingfisher Newsletter, which has received good feedback, resulted in increased costs. The excellent 2018 Bird Report appears to be less expensive than the previous year, but one cost component for £840.00 was not paid for until January 2020. Members' Day last year also increased in cost.

The Society's finances, I believe, are still very satisfactory and it has been a steady year consistent with previous years. The committee's policy remains to gradually reduce the funds held and allocate more money to grants and conservation work.

The Society paid no sums by way of remuneration to committee members and trustees. As some committee members not only give up their free time, but often travel some distance to attend meetings, they are reimbursed for their out of pocket travelling expenses.

I would like to give many and sincere thanks to Society member Ian Packer, our Independent Examiner and a chartered accountant. Ian examined the accounts at no cost and has provided a huge amount of positive advice and guidance over the last three years. I believe our processes are a lot more effective and robust as a result of his input. Ian is stepping down from performing this role for us and we will have a different auditor next year for the 2020 accounts.

Andy Mitchelmore
Hon Treasurer
24th February 2020