

CHILLERTON & GATCOMBE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

AGM 2020

Treasurer's Report

This has not been a normal sort of year, so this will not be a normal sort of Treasurer's report. Having said that I shall start with the standard figures.

We started the financial year 2019/20 with total funds of £11,961. We ended it with total funds of £30,829, a net surplus of £19,138. However, we had received grants totalling £20,000 from the Government via the County Council to support us during the Covid 19 lockdowns. Without the grants we would have made a loss of £862, a result of the loss of our normal income for the first three months of the initial lockdown.

I wish to express our thanks to Steve Holloway for auditing our accounts this year.

That was the position at the end of June, five months ago. Since then things have moved apace. Total funds stand currently (26th November) at £21,263. So, what have we done since the end of June with £9,566?

Our income has remained negligible, largely made up by the hiring of the Village Hall between the two lockdowns. Running expenses have of course continued including insurances, licences and energy. We have continued to pay our cleaners when the buildings have been closed so as not to affect them financially. However, the main expenditure results from the decision of the committee to use the shutdown caused by the pandemic and the funds granted to us by the government to carry out an extensive refurbishment of the Reading Room.

Up until today the refurbishment has cost just over £8,000. We expect that the total cost will come to about £12,000. Peter Whiteman has produced a report on the work so far which accompanies this one. Peter has led the work on the Reading Room with great skill and energy through many difficulties and has been assisted by members of the old committee and others, including Doug Barber. The email giving you the link to the AGM will include a number of pictures of the interior showing the work so far.

We have also been carrying out the urgent work that was needed on the end walls of the Village Hall. We have obtained a grant of £3,505 from the Isle of Wight Foundation to cover this which arrived on 26th November. So far, this work has cost £1,690. We do not expect the total bill for this to significantly exceed the amount of the grant.

The new committee will be able to make the decisions that need to be made in the near future. There are a number of future works that it would be desirable to carry out including the provision of a small kitchen in the Reading Room, the refurbishment of its toilets and the replacement of the fence around the Village Hall. It may also look further and consider the future role of the Association as it, hopefully, rises like a phoenix from the ashes of the

Covid year. I see it as potentially the central part of a network of bodies serving our parish, and the point at which they all come together by providing much of the infrastructure for community activity. The committee already has a representative from the Parish Council (currently Peter Whiteman). There is provision in the constitution for other organisations, with the agreement of the committee, to also appoint a representative. Possibilities include the Horticultural Association, the Church, the School and the Snooker Team. Bringing these groups onboard may be a means to connect us all further together.

I would like to finish by thanking those members of the old committee, Paul Wells, Sue Barber and Brenda Rowntree, who have retired, for their efforts during the past year. I think we should all be grateful for the time and effort they have given in the service of our community.

Nigel Phillips