

Treasurer's Report

2019

The 2019 Accounts show a surplus after tax of some £16000, down from £31000 the previous year.

I have noted in previous reports that our aim is only to make a modest profit to allow for reinvestment and otherwise to keep subscription levels as low as possible. In 2019 we again held subscription fees constant and our increased function and member catering income and the growth in memberships largely offset our increase in costs.

Despite significant capital expenditure, particularly on the Wheelhouse, and repaying the balance on our mortgage, cash at the year end was healthy at £178000. This was very helpful given the events which arose in 2020.

2020

If 2019 was a benign year 2020 was anything but! When we were locked down in March we switched to managing for cash rather than profit, particularly as we had committed to stage 1 of our pontoon replacement. We ran a series of scenarios at that time modelling possible outcomes. In the event we ended the first half of 2020 in a much better situation than we had feared. This was due principally to

- Fantastic support from members. Apart from a brief flurry of resignations early on the vast majority of our members paid subscriptions loyally through the lock down.
- Enormous support from government. We applied for every grant going and besides £96000 of grant income in the first half (£25000 direct grant and the rest furlough payments) we have benefited from a rates holiday.
- Great work from our senior staff who have worked tirelessly to keep the club functioning.

As a result, we made a small profit in the 6 months to June and cash of £177000 was virtually unchanged from the year end.

Government support will continue to benefit the second half, with July furlough payments, a continued rates holiday, reduced VAT and Eat out, help out. However, we will be much more reliant on restaurant sales now the club has reopened. This is particularly so as our function income has been decimated. We also have paid the balance on the pontoon, helped by a £50000 Bounce Back loan from Barclays but backed by the government.

Currently we are forecasting a satisfactory year end cash position. However the actual year end cash, and our second half results, could vary widely depending on the progress of the Covid second wave and any resulting government measures. Your continued loyal support will be critical.

Roger Marshall