

Treasurers Report for the period 1st January to 31st December 2019.

RATIONALE: SOURCES OF FUNDING

The income for the year under report was received from rental/room hire fees in the main. There was no grant income in 2019, though in other years we have received grants for a range of purposes mainly building works, and bringing the facilities up to a safe and modern standard-

In November 2019 the Aviva Community Fund invited PMH to apply to a Crowdfunding exercise to raise funds for innovative projects. This is described in the Chair's Report, and the receipt of funds will be registered and reported on during the 2020 financial year.

INCOME

An increase in the number of commercial providers in 2019 raised the income by £3000, compared with 2018. Other regular hall rentals were also up by £2500. This included including general & local election fees. Hire rates have stayed at this level for four years. In addition the U3A also makes a weekly donation for the Hall from its members.

This contrasts with a reduction in income from 'social dance' rentals and Donations.

Income from commercial providers and other renters were up £4,500 compared to 2018 whilst social dance and donations were £1,500 lower.

EXPENSES

Expenses were £1,000 less in 2019 than 2018, there were few major repair and maintenance costs in 2019.

To improve the halls setting we hired a gardener and we commissioned a front garden project leading to gardening costs of £4,140. Some materials used in the garden project were kindly donated by Covers Ltd; Stavertons Nursery supplied plants at a reduced cost. We receive a 95% reduction in business rates

BALANCE

We end the year with a bank balance of just over £37,300 which is compatible with our Reserves policy. As our income is below the threshold (£20,000) our accounts will not need to be audited before submission to the Charity Commission.

With statutory expenses increasing annually Trustees are careful to balance the income with outgoings and funding major improvements. Consequently we will review hire costs compared to other venues, in consultation with regular users in 2020 for implementation in 2021.

Hire Charge Policy:

The Trustees of Patcham Memorial Hall have set the hire rates to be affordable to hirers from the area of benefit, ie. Patcham Village and the surrounding area/Parish. This is compatible with being competitive in the light of other facilities in the area, and allows the Hall to be maintained as a safe, comfortable and welcoming venue.

Different rates apply for the hire of PMH: local voluntary and not-for-profit groups who have a regular weekly or monthly booking schedule qualify for the 'community' rate. Charities who have a similar schedule and who are longstanding hirers of the hall benefit from an annual advanced payment with a specific discount which acknowledges their longevity, specifically the WI and the U3A. In exchange, both of these organisations sit on the management committee, a longstanding contribution since the formation of the PMH as a charity in 1960s.

Private bookings for profit, such as individual classes, exercise groups, social dance classes, etc. pay a higher rental fee, and these hirers are obliged to have their own public liability insurance. Other private bookings such as for parties, public meetings, and other commercial providers, pay at different rates; this might include a returnable deposit against damage to the building especially the floor, which is maintained in ballroom dance condition. We have the discretion to charge new regular private groups/hirers at the community rate to begin with, for six months, to help them establish their presence. We can claim Gift Aid on private donations.