Treasurer's Report 2022/2023

For a second year, as predicted and planned, we have a shortfall of expenses over revenue on this year's accounts and a forecast of next year's accounts shows a similar pattern. This had been agreed by the committee to provide a better quality of speaker (and hence more expensive) and also to spend money on behalf of members on workshops with model fees involved. Despite these agreed overspends, we have maintained control but we are eating into reserves such that we will need to seek further investment next year to benefit members.

We have experienced variable attendances and need to examine the reasons as it is anticipated that quite a few members will not renew. We had a disappointing level of recruitment from our annual exhibition but we need to expand our membership, not only to maintain a financial base, but also bring in new blood with new points of view.

As we have all experienced pressure on living expenses, so speaker expenses may well increase and it is also possible that with new management at Earl Shilton Constitutional Club, we may be requested for an increase in room rental. We have maintained the membership fee at a reduced rate of £40 for the past few years, but I recommend that members must consider an increase of £5 next season, returning to our pre-covid subscription rate of £45 per annum, yet still offering high value and will be seen to be a very competitive subscription compared to other local photographic clubs.

With the Accounts having closed only two weeks ago, the attached Income & Expenditure Statement is in Draft form and after the Auditor has reviewed, a confirmed Account will be produced together with a Balance Sheet. I have also included a cash-flow forecast for next season, with some assumptions as described above.

We will be applying to Earl Shilton Town Council for a Community Grant, but we must also consider how we can play our part in expanding our membership so that we are genuinely making an application for benefitting the community and not just subsidising a small number of people.

John Langham
Treasurer
19th May 2023