

Treasurers Report

The accounts cover the 12 month period to 30th June 2024

Trading on a cash basis produced a surplus of £4433 for the year . There were a number of exceptional items : the bridge club paid 18 months hire fees during the period and the payroll costs were reduced through advanced payments of Statutory maternity pay from HMRC being received .A portion of these exceptional items relate to the 2024/5 year so have been accrued out of these accounts producing a net deficit of £1,060 . On the costs , cleaning costs were much higher as we employed a cleaning contractor during the period of Jays maternity leave plus a temporary employee to cover the general caretaking duties.

Total adjusted income was £31,921 (prior year £34,682) split between :

Hiring fees & rent	£27,602	(£25,883 the previous year)
Events	£2,736	(£3,429 the previous year)
Donations	£850	(£403 the previous year)
Interest	£773	(£442 the previous year)
Grants	£0	(£4,525 the previous year)

Hiring fees benefitted from the 30% rate increase levied at the beginning of 2023 to cover increased energy costs. A further 5% increase has been applied from August 2024 to further ensure the costs are covered

Donations comprised contributions from Sir Richard Sutton Limited for which I record our thanks

Event income was slightly down on the year although the majority of this relates to the MiGZ concert where excess stock was purchased , but for this the events result would be broadly similar to last year. The unused stock will benefit event income in the coming year .

It is pleasing that our strong trading allowed various village community groups to continue using the hall free of charge plus continuing the heavily discounted rates to village residents thus clearly meeting our key charitable objectives of running a venue for the benefit of Stockcross.

The hall running expenses (excluding hall improvements) were £30,524 (£25,085 the previous year) . The increased expenses are reflective of the increased power costs of £9371 compared to prior year £4,725 , paying two wages during the caretakers maternity leave and additional cleaning costs , offset by SMP contributions from HMRC . I am pleased to report that the investment in the new heating system has paid dividends consistently reducing our power usage by over 20% every month over prior years . This has helped to contain the increased power costs .

Hall improvements of £2,457 this year comprised the completion of the hall redecoration and renewal of glassware .

The hall continues to be a high quality and popular venue. The hall improvements made over recent years have enhanced the facility . I therefore anticipate strong trading into the 2024/25 year. However, costs continue to increase , wages, consumables, maintenance all continue to rise . We have therefore applied a 5% increase in fees for the forthcoming year to ensure the hall remains financially viable

M C Nevitt
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SUTTON HALL, STOCKCROSS (REG. CHARITY 1071688)

I report on the attached accounts of the trust for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011 and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records within Section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should have been drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R D Beecroft F C A
Chartered Accountant
24 Enborne Lodge Lane, Newbury, Berkshire RG146RH
Date: 15th October 2024

