

President's Report at the AGM on 18th June 2023

[1/4/22 to 31/3/23]

Financial Matters

Accounts is a matter for the Treasurer and these have been audited. I have seen a copy and the Auditors are happy with the accounts. Comparing to 2022 there is an increase in income of Gurdwara from £92k to £102k but at the same time there was an increase in the expenses from £54k to £70k with the net result that there was a reduction in the surplus income from £38k to £33k during the year. However this was due to an increase in the cost of living mainly in our case the utilities charges went up from £3,679 to £15,514. And as well we had the second granthi and so the wage bill increased from £11k to £21k. Notwithstanding we managed to keep charges for ceremonies at the same level, in some cases, actually we managed to reduce them. Gurdwara as you know purchased next door property at 210 Pearl st for £185k. We did not have enough money to secure the purchase but with your help we managed to complete the purchase on the 12th may and thank you all those who contributed towards the purchase.

Punjabi School & Dharmick Classes

Due to pandemic as you know these classes were suspended but have since resumed. Channi ji however has retired from his role as school coordinator and he is replaced by Dr Simarmet Singh and the school is functioning very well as indeed it was before the pandemic. We thank Channi ji for his life time service to the Punjabi school and wish him all the best with his retirement.

Religious School

I have no information on this but assume that this is working satisfactorily.

Music & Tabla Classes

Harmonium and Tabla is taught by Bhai Sarbjit Singh ji and Bhai Baljit Singh ji. Classes are held every Sunday between 130 and 230pm Although we have made some progress in this respect eg you may see children performing kirtan at the darbar, a lot more need to be done.

Educational visits by schools and others

This Sewa is done by Mr Parampreet Singh ji with help from other volunteers from time to time. Pandemic and school closure had some effect on these visits but since the children are back in schools these visits have resumed. Between February 23 to June 23 there were six visits to Gurdwara sahib of groups of 50 to 60 students with ages from 3 years to 7 years. This is indeed a good way to preach Sikhism to the outside world and to encourage community cohesion, integration and respect for our students on schools.

Meditation & Yoga Classes for Ladies

Despite some efforts in this respect these classes remain suspended.

Communication and Public Relations

All programmes are displayed at the Gurdwara's web-site and communications to and from members Members are done by Whatsapp messages and by emails in some cases.

Covid 19

To protect community the usual precautions are still in place and all members are advised to maintain hygiene at all times.

Waheguru ji ka Khalsa Waheguru ji ki Fateh.

Gurmit Singh Randhawa MBE