

Treasurer's Report for 2012

Correction and Apology for 2011 Accounts

The 2011 Accounts presented at the last AGM in March 2012 contained a very obvious error. When preparing that document, I had incorrectly transcribed the Community Account figure shown in the Balance Sheet. Every other figure was correct, including the totals. Thus the columns appeared not to add up. The 2012 Accounts show the correct figures for 2011. My apologies if members were misled.

Overview of 2012

In financial terms 2012 was extremely straightforward. The increase in membership subscription fees to keep up with inflation went a long way to replenishing funds after our deficit in 2011. This increase appears to have had little effect on membership of the Group.

Membership

At the end of 2012 the Group had 178 members, 3 more than 12 months previously. Whilst this is a little below our all-time maximum, it reflects very well on the public standing of the Group and the efforts of fellow members in making the Group more widely known.

Income

Virtually all of the extra income compared to last year is due to the increase in subscription fees. The proportion of members paying their subscriptions by BACS/FPS after growing steadily appears to have plateaued at around 40%. For 2013 the Group is trialling accepting debit and credit card payments.

Expenditure

The only significant differences in expenditure from the previous year were that:-

- None of our speakers during 2012 claimed expenses;
- The costs of one edition of the journal slipped from 2010 into 2011; and
- We did not hold a seminar in 2011.

As ever we are grateful to Arup for generously hosting our meetings. The Group has not had to pay towards the use of the meeting facilities nor the provision of refreshments during 2012. However, it is always possible that in the future we may be required to contribute towards the costs of this hospitality.

Administrator

Thanks are due to Melanie Buchan who took over as Group Administrator in autumn 2010. It is through her continued efforts that members are kept informed of the activities of the Group, events at related organisations and other items of potential interest.

Loss & Reserves

Overall the Group made a surplus of £1,620 in 2012. This means the Group has sufficient reserves to cover its continued operation in line with the financial principles adopted at the AGM in March 2008 and to promote further seminars if desired.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions were raised in line with inflation to £28 at the beginning of 2011. No further increase is expected to be necessary in the near future. The half rate concession for full time students in the UK remains.

Gregory Marchant

Treasurer & Membership Secretary

2nd March 2013