

## **Treasurer's Report to the AGM for 2015**

### ***Membership***

At the end of 2015 the Group had 174 members (including 8 Honorary Members), 2 fewer than at the same time in 2014. Even so, membership remains strong at a time of increasing pressure on people's time and resources.

### ***Income***

Differences occur every year between reported membership numbers and annual income due to the accounts being compiled on an accruals basis. Subscriptions from new people joining from September onwards, whose membership extends until December of the next year, are included in the following year's income. Hence, with slightly fewer members we still had an increase of £210 in subscriptions income for the year.

The number of subscription payments via BACS/FPS continued to rise in 2015, with 76 subscriptions paid via this facility. Judging by renewals for 2016 this is likely to become the preferred means of payment and does simplify the work of your Treasurer. In addition, there were 16 payments using debit/credit cards; these cost the Group on average just over £1 each. Donations are almost the same as last year at £60 and show very little correlation with the number of visitors attending particular meetings.

The joint seminar with TSUG generated a modest surplus of £500 shared equally between the two organisations. Both committees agreed to donate some of these proceeds to charity in recognition of the hospitality provided by Arup (see below).

### ***Expenditure***

In general expenditure items were broadly in line with previous years. Given the continued free hospitality the Group has enjoyed from Arup over the year, we were happy to make two contributions to their fund raising efforts for local charities – one in respect of our regular meetings and the other for the joint seminar mentioned above.

### ***Balance Sheet***

Last year the Treasurer reported that, whilst he had resolved the outstanding payment issues for printing the journal with London Metropolitan University (LMU) mentioned in the 2013 report, a new issue had arisen with LMU over a cheque which had not been presented. This has been carried forward in the 2015 Balance Sheet as a liability; however, if the debt is not resolved in 2016 our auditor recommends it be credited against expenses.

### ***Surplus & Reserves***

Thanks to a continuing high level of subscriptions and the surplus from the joint seminar, the Group was again able to make a healthy surplus in 2015. This means the Group continues to have sufficient reserves to cover its regular activities in line with the financial principles adopted at the AGM in March 2008 and can confidently become involved in special events, such as further seminars and social or networking events for members.

### ***Recommendation***

The AGM is invited to approve the attached Accounts for 2015.

*Gregory Marchant*

*Treasurer & Membership Secretary*

*16<sup>th</sup> February 2016*