

# SHOREHAM DISTRICT ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## Treasurer's Report for the Annual General Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Report on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

My report to the Annual General meeting will be brief this year as there are detailed notes attached to the accounts.

Advance sight of the accounts has been provided to all members with an e-mail address in our records. *A number of copies are available on the seats tonight for you to share for the purposes of this meeting. If you were not a recipient of an e-mail copy (i.e we do not have an e-mail address for you) please take a copy tonight and advise Sue Miles as the rest of the thirty remaining members without e-mails will be sent a copy with their Spring Newsletter. For that purpose we will gather up unrequired copies. Our endeavour is to minimise the printing expense.* A copy of the accounts and this report will be placed on our Web-site.

Having provided copies and notes with the accounts my report will be a summary of financial events during the year.

Subscription income continues at a respectable level which is adequate to cover membership commitments (*hire of the hall, insurances, speakers, newsletter, information technology, etc.*).

We continued to closely control costs with economies on printing. Postage shows an increase this year as new stamps were purchased after a minimal purchase requirement in recent years while running down old stamp stocks. Over several recent years there has been a substantial postage cost reduction due to members kindly delivering post by hand in their localities. Subscription income is topped up by the proceeds of the Raffle currently run by Jayne Rudge, previously by Mary Darby, which contributed a very helpful £268; profit from catering and some donations from members which includes the sale of books donated by the personal representatives of late members. In this latter respect, while the financial figure is not shown in the accounts, valuable birding scopes have also been passed to our society and are made available for field events .

The balance carried forward on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 is £7,035.61. Some of this is required to cover membership commitments (*as above*). Providing membership numbers are maintained at the current level of approximately 200 individuals our financial position is healthy. Until all 2020 subscriptions are received an exact position cannot be quoted but allowing for 2020 membership cost commitments it is estimated there is in excess of £5,500 available for appropriate future educational, conservation or amenity projects. Membership subscriptions can be maintained at the current level.

At the time of this AGM report being presented we **have 204 individual members of which 10 (9 memberships)** are overdue for renewal at the date of the AGM, 4 being new members in 2018/9.

With effect from January we have moved membership records to the new secure online 'Membermojo' database system which I use to administer subscription collection. Members can now personally check their own data on-line. If you have not done so, you are invited to check the data held and can add or change details such as e-mail or postal addresses and telephone numbers. Instructions for this user friendly system are set out on the membership page of our website [www.sdos.org](http://www.sdos.org) . For this new system to operate efficiently an up to date email address needs to be held and it may help if a telephone number is provided. Subscriptions can be paid by annual standing order, internet banking, cheque or cash and 'Membermojo' will email a receipt in due course. Members with email addresses should already have received an e-mailed receipt for their 2020 subscription. If you are unable to access Membermojo on-line any data changes can be advised to Sue Miles, our Membership Secretary.

Your data is strictly confidential and only used for our societies purposes and is not shared with any other organisation or persons.

Questions were invited. Jerry Campbell questioned the figure for speakers fees which is higher in 2019 than 2018. The cost of invited speakers varies and in house speaker costs are minimal. We endeavour to work within a maximum annual cost of £600 and subject to Council approval.

Tony Benton proposed acceptance of the accounts seconded by Ron Bewley and those present gave their approval.

We thank David Titcomb and Richard Coatsworth for examining the accounts. David is agreeable to continuing as accounts examiners for another year. Richard is resigning as he plans to move away. We are grateful to Richard for undertaking an examining role these past few years.

Val Bentley proposed a resolution to approve David Titcomb's continuance seconded by Ron Bewley and those present gave their approval.

**With Richard resigning another accounts examiner is required in time to perform that role early next year. Please speak to me (Tim Holter, Treasurer) or anyone on SDOS Council if you are able to volunteer. You do not need professional accountancy or book-keeping skills but need to be numerate. SDOS accounts are relatively simple.**

Tim Holter  
Treasurer