

## Treasurer's Report to the AGM

15<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### Introduction

For those of you who want to see a copy of the full accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 there is a copy available with the other AGM papers. I will however try and summarise the main points in my presentation which I suppose I should call my Autumn Statement.

### Income

Firstly, with regard to income we had a total income for the year of £12,605 compared to £7,929 in the previous year, an increase of £4,676. Clearly the fact that our fantastic team of volunteers were able to open the Café for approximately half the year and our social committee were able resume our social events is the main reason for the substantial increase in our income

The majority of our income of course comes from Plot rentals and related income which amounted to £6,649 compared to £7,059 in the previous year. This decrease of £430 in plot related income is due to the fact that we stopped taking waiting list deposits during the year.

Events were a great success this year and we were blessed with a beautiful day for our Autumn Social on 11<sup>th</sup> September. I would like to thank all those involved in organising the day and in particular Joanie for her efforts in organising the Raffle which raised almost £450 and Ruth who as ever did a brilliant job in organising the home produce, competitions and judging team. We had a wonderful turnout and there was a real buzz around the site and I felt it marked the start of a return to life as we knew it in our community here at RPA.

The Centenary book has been a huge success and we have already sold almost £1,500 worth of books. If you have not yet got a copy we still have them on sale for £10. Contact [info@rpa.org.uk](mailto:info@rpa.org.uk) They make marvellous gifts. I would personally like to thank all those involved in the production and publication thereof. You can also buy the Centenary bags and tea towels from Anne and her team at the Café on Sundays.

### Expenditure

With regard to expenditure, we spent £5,433 this year compared to £12,465 in the previous year. It was a year in which we built up our reserves following some significant expenditure in the previous three years on the tracks around the site and "dead hedges". Our major project expenditure this year was on extending the provision of "dead hedges" and the completion of a live hedge where we spent a total of £2,036.

All major expenditure is approved by the Committee and we are able to keep a tight control of expenditure which of course means we can keep the annual Plot rents at a very modest

£24 per annum. We are blessed to have a very committed team of volunteers with significant expertise who undertake many maintenance tasks either individually or in teams which means we only use external contractors on major projects. Thank you for all you do for the benefit of our community on the site.

### **Summary result**

In summary we achieved a surplus for the year of £7,173 compared to a loss of £4,537 in 2021. Our surplus for the year has been added to reserves. We enter the new financial year with reserves of £31,734 which is well in excess of our agreed minimum reserves of £10,000. However, we have plans for a continuation of some of the projects we have undertaken over the last few years and indeed the Committee welcomes ideas for future improvements to the site.

### **Concluding remarks**

Finally, I would like to thank two people in particular for their help in my fourth year as Treasurer.

Firstly, I would like to thank Martin Scotton for his diligence in collecting the rents which takes up a lot of his time at the end of the year with almost 300 plots on the site. He informed me today that all rents have now been collected for this financial year so I thank you all for the timeliness of your payments

Secondly, I would like to thank Len Cowking for undertaking an independent review of the accounts and underlying papers so efficiently and my fellow Committee members including our new chair Karen Saywell for their support and perseverance and positivity during another year impacted by the pandemic

If you have any questions on the detailed accounts or what I have just said please ask now or you can email me at [treasurer@rpa.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@rpa.org.uk)

Andrew Stanley

Honorary Treasurer

Royal Paddocks Allotments