

St John's Allotment Association 1983

Treasurer's Report 2021 AGM

As I write the 2019 and 2020 Accounts have not been audited. They have been with the auditor for a long time, but despite several attempts I have not been able to contact her to enquire about progress. I have absolute confidence that the accounts are correct, but it is vital for us all that my work is checked. Some of the records are held electronically, but there are paper records which I have left with the auditor and not all of these can be restored. If they cannot be located then we are heading for a qualified audit certificate, which in accountancy terms is a big black mark and I am really unhappy about this. I will continue my efforts to contact the auditor. Going forward we need to appoint another auditor. If you, or if you know anyone, who can do this please let me know. We are looking for someone with finance experience, not necessarily with accountancy qualifications. The accounts are very simple.

The meeting needs to approve the accounts to 30 September 2019 (2019) and 30 September 2020 (2020). Both sets of accounts are attached. The trading profit for 2019 was very small, and shop prices were increased as a result. The current prices in the shop are higher still as a result of increases by our supplier.

The 2020 accounts show our biggest trading profit ever by a long way. This is mainly the result of selling manure at £1 a barrow. Many thanks to all our satisfied customers! I am sorry we can no longer have manure delivered to the top of the cart roads, but modern tractors are too big to go up. I will continue to try to find a supplier with an older, smaller tractor.

In 2020 we had a very big water bill as our meter is read very infrequently. We are contacting Severn Trent to see if there is anything we can do to get the meter read more often. Future accounts will need to reflect the bigger bills.

The 2020 accounts show our increase in revenue from the rise in subscriptions, but our expenses are considerable so the increase was necessary. Future spending on the site may well result in a further increase. In recent years you have given the committee authority to increase rents should they think it necessary, as there is a year's delay before such an increase can be approved at an AGM. We would like you to give us this authority at the AGM, and you have our assurance that we will only increase the rents should it be necessary.

At the end of the 2020 year we had sufficient cash to cover our liabilities plus a cash surplus of about £5,000, so we are in good shape financially.