

## 1993 – National Association of SACREs - 2018

### AGM 2018: Treasurer's Report

The accounts for the Financial Year January to December 2017 show a useful surplus of Income against Expenditure of approximately £3,150. While this is encouraging on the surface, the figures need further comment and scrutiny.

At the year end, NASACRE had several liabilities, payment for which will appear in the current year's transactions. A sum of £2,500 has now been paid in consultancy fees for work carried out in 2017 to revise and update the FAQ pages of NASACRE's website. This should be regarded as a separate one-off cost. AREIAC is owed (February 2018) the 50% share of the aggregate surplus from the two Joint Conferences (see below), approximately £700, pending the finalisation of the Conferences account. An honorarium of £100 re. the later Joint Conference will appear in the 2018 accounts, as will the Annual Subscription to the REC for 2017-18 (£250) and the cost of room hire for a Committee Meeting (£100).

Leaving aside the Consultancy Fees, therefore, the surplus of Income against Expenditure for the year on our normal activities should be reduced by a little over £1,100. This still leaves a surplus of over £2,000 for the year, which has enhanced NASACRE's core balance. During 2017, the balance at the bank varied in fact from around £25,600 to £35,600 – quite a wide range. Regrettably but unsurprisingly, bank interest on this substantial sum was nil!

Our main source of income, the Annual Subscriptions paid by SACREs, is beginning to show a downward trend. For 2015-16, 138 SACREs were paid up (out of a potential 154). In 2016-17 the figure was 131. We are unlikely to reach much beyond 120 this year, 115 SACREs being paid up by the end of 2017. Patterns of payment suggest that the situation is becoming more erratic, the result not only of financial pressures on Local Authorities but also perhaps of loss of continuity and regular admin support within many Authorities.

Conference events should pay for themselves through attendance fees. Their success in this respect depends largely on how many paying participants they attract. The detailed figures are not easy to extract from this Accounts Summary. The first Joint Conference with AREIAC had a shortfall of ca. £375, being poorly attended. This was compensated by the second Joint Conference, which made a surplus of ca. £1,750. AREIAC and NASACRE are sharing the resulting aggregate surplus 50/50. The York Annual Meeting made a surplus of ca. £1,635. Fewer attended than in London 2016, but the venue cost less also.

Expenditure on travel costs shows a significant increase. Some travel costs relate to Conference events, and have been taken into account in calculating the surplus or shortfall in those events. There has also perhaps been more travel activity for officers and representatives, while the general cost of travel is in any case inexorably rising year on year. Miscellaneous expenditure comprises a complimentary gift to the scrutineer and a farewell “thankyou” to a long-standing NASACRE Exec member and officer.

*Rev. Prebendary Michael Metcalf*