

NASACRE AGM May 2022 – Treasurer’s Report

The Accounts Summary for the year Jan 1st to Dec 31st 2021 shows total receipts of around £20,300 and total outgoings of around £14,900, giving an operating surplus of nearly £5,400. This figure is somewhat misleading, as it includes a £1,430 refund from the venue we were obliged to cancel for the 2021 AGM. Nevertheless, NASACRE’s core reserve has undoubtedly risen during the year.

Regarding income, NASACRE received annual fees from 8 SACREs for 2020-21, and from 115 SACREs for 2021-22. Fees for the online AGM were charged at a much lower level than for a face-to-face meeting; this probably encouraged a good take-up of places, and furnished the Executive Committee with the confidence and experience to launch a series of online training webinars later in the year.

The expenditure for the year largely comprises administrative services provided by our Admin Officer, Marie Cooper, and computer and website services, both of which show a marked increase. We have taken the opportunity during the year to redesign and update our website, while Marie’s work has grown substantially with the development of our online activity, and she was also involved in work on the website. For the second year running, officer and committee costs have been kept very low because of lockdown. The cost of the AGM was likewise quite low, but the given figure does not include administrative and online costs.

The “repayments” figure needs some explanation. Following the cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting, those SACREs which had already paid in advance were asked either to request repayment, or to allow their payments to be “carried over” to the next Annual Meeting. Most chose this latter option. However, when it became necessary to hold the 2021 Annual Meeting online, the new fee figures did not tally with what had been carried over. To avoid confusion, and to arrive at a clean sheet going forward, SACREs were asked to reclaim the amounts which had been carried over.

The accounts as presented give a snapshot of NASACRE’s financial standing at a particular moment, but do not convey the fuller picture. Several consultancy fees and other expenses will have been paid in the early part of the current financial year, which will have reduced our core reserve, and we are monitoring the financial profile of the ongoing virtual training programme, to see how this might be sustained. The Executive Committee is actively envisaging further initiatives which would have considerable financial implications.

This will be my last Treasurer’s Report to NASACRE’s AGM. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving NASACRE and our SACRE members as Treasurer for the 29 years since NASACRE was inaugurated. Much has happened in the RE and general educational world during this time, needless to say. It’s been a stimulating ride! It has also been a privilege and a pleasure to have known and worked with such a galaxy of congenial colleagues on the Executive Committee. In more recent years, it has been especially appreciated to have had the benefit of the unfailing and highly professional support of our Admin Officer, Marie. Floreat NASACRE!

Michael Metcalf