

Treasurer's Report, Annual Report 2016/17

The club managed an excess of income over expenditure of just under £10,000 against a projected estimate of just over £12,000 (Annual Report 2015/16) in the 12 months from 1st March 2016 to 28th February 2017. This is impressive given that these figures include the exceptional costs of legal fees relating to charitable reconstitution, transitional pitch hire fees for potentially displaced youth footballers, exceptional redundancy payments and a variety of items of expenditure associated with Simplythebest Caterers who were contracted on a trial basis from September to December.

Without such exceptional items, it has been estimated that the club's surplus could have been as high as £50,000, thereby enabling it to begin to rebuild its reserves in line with levels required by its investment and maintenance needs but not enjoyed for the last decade or more.

So it is clear that many measures have been put in place over the course of the last 12 months to stabilize services, minimize waste and recruit more members to prepare the club for a much improved performance in its current financial year.

In particular, the decision was taken last summer to combine bar and catering services into a single offering. While one unfortunate outcome of this was to part company with the club's then longest-serving member of staff, the subsequent development of more flexible working practices has resulted in greater productivity.

This, combined with the re-alignment of opening hours more closely with peaks in demand from early New Year 2017, and a greater commitment to staff training and development, provides for a prompt return to surplus in the 12 months to 28th February 2018 in this area of the club's activity.

Some of this surplus which would have otherwise appeared within next year's estimates has been offset by the projected cost of utilities previously borne by NPL. However, with invaluable cost-control advice from Jamie Genge (NPL), innovative recruitment initiatives from Dave McCormick (NPLSC) and continuing support from its partners in and out of school terms (Newland House School and England Sports Group) the club may expect measured growth and prosperity in the year ahead.

So I commend the attached Unaudited Financial Statements 2016/17 and Estimates 2017/18 to you. Please support the new Main Committee 2017/18 in its commitment to provide services and offerings sufficient to meet the demands of all new and existing members while maintaining financial security with a prudent eye on costs.

Peter Taylor

Treasurer, 2016/17