

Treasurer's Report

A new stock of designed silk ties was a major investment for Stalham Farmers' Club alongside the increasingly-popular website.

As the last of the polyester ties were sold, an enhanced woven silk design, featuring the club's distinctive Stalham hoe, was ordered this autumn this represented a significant cost as a minimum of 150 had to be ordered in the three colours – navy blue, claret or maroon and green.

In a report to members at the annual meeting on Tuesday, February 11 at the Sutton Staithe Hotel, 7.30pm, the treasurer/ secretary will report a deficit for the year of more than £2226.86

The ties cost £1964. In the first month of this financial year, sales to members have topped £250.

Following the decision to forge closer relationships with two young farmers' clubs, members of North Walsham and Acle were invited as guests to supper last year. This cost a total of £458 and was repeated again in January although the cost was more modest on this occasion.

Further, there has been interest in the club's website – and webmaster Tim Papworth has been the driving force since the launch in January 2014. This cost a total of £528, partly because of the one-off cost of building the site. But it has attracted plenty of traffic – almost 13,000 visitors in just over a year.

The annual dinner was again a success. The summer garden visit to Oxnead Hall was also well supported and a donation of £200 was made by the club to the East Anglian Air Ambulance von behalf of the hosts, Beverly and David Aspinall.

The club is deeply grateful to the East Norfolk NFU branch for paying the cost of insurance for the silver cups, currently more than £202, and also for posting the annual programme to members.

The fund's bank deposit balances remain strong and no doubt in the coming weeks and months, the stock of ties will be reduced, thus boosting cash reserves.

The club earned a whole 5p extra in deposit account income – a heady £1.89 for the year.

Membership has risen by 10 to a total of 167 in the year – an increase of eight over the year.

If these extra mainly one-off (headline) costs had not been incurred, then the club would have recorded a modest surplus for the year of about £100. Last year, it was about £280.

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