**Treasurer’s Report for the accounts to 28th February 2022**

Dear members,

Attached please find a copy of the statutory accounts which have been audited and signed.

We appreciate that the finalisation of the audited accounts and the AGM have taken longer this year than in the past and longer than we would have wanted and we apologise for the delay. This has been caused by a number of factors but mainly the ill health and subsequent retiring of our accountant. We are in the process of reorganising the accounting function and we will endeavour to ensure the timely presentation of accounts to the members in the future.

This will also be the final accounting year to the end of February. The council has decided to make the accounting year co-terminus with the calendar year and so all future accounts will be to 31st December. To this end, on 1st March 2022 members were billed only for the 10 months to 31st December 2022 to bring the billing year in line with the new accounting year. The bills for 2023 sent out in early January will be for the full calendar year.

As I did for previous year’s AGMs, I have created a set of simplified accounts which I hope members continue to find helpful.

The simplified profit and loss account, which is reconciled to the statutory accounts, shows a deficit pre- depreciation of £24,591 for the year. As depreciation is largely related to long term fixed assets it is this number you should concentrate on as the result for the year.

The points I would highlight are, regarding income, a reduction in membership fees of £34,782 (8.8%) following a reduction of £21,219 (5.1%) in the previous year. This was partly compensated for by an increase in donations of £30,844 and we thank our members for their continued support and generosity. However, a fall in education and miscellaneous income of £39,400 caused partly as a hangover from the Covid pandemic has led to a total reduction in income of £43,338 (6.9%). Regarding expenditure, despite increases in salary costs of £17,695 (5.3%) the exceptional administrative expenses incurred in 2020-21 were not repeated allowing us to reduce total expenditure by £8,535.

In terms of cash, there has been an outflow of £85,563 which is caused partly by the deficit od £24,591 and partly by a reversal of working capital. The Asylum Seekers account has a very healthy balance of over £150,000.

The policy of the synagogue is to retain cash of 3-6 months operating costs. At the end of February there were over 6 months of cash reserves.

As in 2020-21, the Synagogues’ investments grew substantially, by £148,138 (10.3%) to £1,574,785. This increase more than compensated for the cash reversal and led to the accounting surplus you see in the profit and loss account. We continue to invest these funds in very cautious asset classes but growth may prove harder to find in more turbulent stock market conditions.

**Brian Linden**

Treasurer