

# Alwarestoch Lodge No 7805

## Additional notes for the Annual Lodge Accounts

These should be read in conjunction with the **Notes to the Accounts**, on the third page of the examined accounts. I apologise for the type size on those, but they are written in a protected spreadsheet, and changing font sizes is not possible without the Provincial Treasurer's password!

I also apologise for the length of these additional notes, but, if there is anything that you want clarified, or want to discuss any of the points, please contact me.

### Section 2

The Provincial Treasurer (PT) recommended that subscriptions should rise to the region of £200 per year, but any increase could be deferred to January 2026. The Lodge General Purposes Committee (at its September meeting) felt that smaller increases in January 2025 and January 2026 would be preferable. I believe that **provided** there are no **unusually** high rises in rent and dues to UGLE and Province, I will only have to increase to £190 for January 2026.

### Section 3

As you will see from the notes to the accounts, the PT assessed the deficit in the Dining Fund to be in the region of £800. At the GPC meeting in September, I was made aware that historically, the Christmas Party has been subsidised from the General Fund to keep the surcharge for entertainments, table decorations etc. as low as possible, and that the band is actually a registered charity, and would not have been "paid" for its performance.

The PT had allocated all these costs to the Dining Fund which has given rise to the deficit. In my (layman's) opinion, were these charges to be allocated (within the General Fund account) differently, then the deficit would be just over £100, which is much more manageable. I intend to raise this with the PT in the near future, discussing with him at the earliest opportunity should it prove necessary.

(Reallocating these costs within the accounts would be a case of moving them from one spreadsheet column to another, and **would have no effect** on the overall balances.)

However, moving forward, we should ensure that the Lodge's decision to subsidise any future events is recorded for each event, either within the GPC meeting minutes or within the Lodge Meeting minutes.

### Section 4

In effect this means that we can expect to see fairly regular proposals in open Lodge for money to be transferred from the General Fund to the Almoner's Fund for the Almoner to use for **non-charitable** payments e.g. Festive gifts for Lodge Widows etc.

### **Section 5**

In general terms, the late Tom Savage's legacy to the Lodge was for the benefit of the Lodge and its members, and the GPC was in agreement that it was for ***the Lodge*** to decide how it would be used.

### **Section 6**

At this time there is no intention to dispense with the Benevolent Fund account and amalgamate it with any other account.

WBro Paul Speak PPGStdB  
Treasurer at Alwarestoch Lodge No 7805