

THE BELSIZE SOCIETY

CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 2019

Thanks for your support of the Society during 2019. It has been another busy year.

The Committee have put in place a series of changes following the conversion to charitable status. There have been improvements to the website, which has a new look and feel. The Society's branding was developed, and a new leaflet was designed. We have engaged with members about key parts of the change, asking members to permit us to claim Gift Aid on their behalf.

We successfully concluded a year of pollution monitoring in the Belsize area with Society members collecting air samples from points agreed with Camden Council's environment team. We are awaiting the results, but Society members maintained collections across all 10 monitoring sites for each of the 12 months required. The costs are to be met by funds from the Community Infrastructure Levy.

We continue to monitor local tree applications, commenting on or objecting to 13 out of 134 that were reviewed. We examined 89 planning applications, commenting on or objecting to 36 of them. On the planning front, BelSoc has been participating in a dialogue with Camden about planning enforcement activity, working with other resident bodies to highlight the issues around the construction of larger developments in residential areas. We made a deputation to the Council on this matter. The Society contributed to the recent Local Government Boundary Commission for England consultation on ward boundaries for Camden, requesting significant changes from initial proposals made by the Council. The input has led to revisions, and current proposals position the Belsize ward boundaries to meet our concerns.

Our financial position remains healthy, continuing the improvements reported in the past years. Reserves are continuing to rise towards the levels before the expenditure on the 100 Avenue Road planning appeal in 2015. We were able to make donations to support local activities, including the St Peter's Clock Appeal and WAC Arts.

There have been some successful BelSoc events. We had a sunny day for the annual summer garden party and this year's carol singing was well attended, raising a considerable sum for the Marie Curie Hospice. There was a new members event introducing recent joiners to the BelSoc's work. Many of the events were accompanied by tea, and cakes baked by members.

The quarterly newsletters covered the usual diversity of local news and events, and members received the 2019 edition of Tradesmen You Can Trust with the May newsletter. We continue to send electronic communications to members.

During the year, 24 new member households joined the Society. The total membership fluctuated during the year, but remained above 540 during 2019. Over 200 members also returned gift aid forms to the Society.

It is thanks to all the hard work of the Committee and many other members that we are able to maintain our wide range of activities successfully. We are very grateful to everyone who continued their work for us in 2019 and to all those who took on new tasks. A list of candidates standing for election will be circulated at the AGM.

Prabhat Vaze - Chair

The Belsize Society

ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31ST DECEMBER 2019

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

INCOME	2019	2018	2017
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£5,550.00	£5,145.00	£5,645.00
OVERSEAS EXCESS	£5.00	£15.00	£15.00
INTEREST	£41.83	£0.83	£8.11
DONATIONS	£115.00	£510.00	£20.00
OTHER (BRA Cards)	£5.00	£0.00	£35.00
TOTAL INCOME	£5,716.83	£5,670.83	£5,723.11

EXPENDITURE

PROVISIONS FOR EVENTS	£33.65	£24.34	£144.84
STATIONERY	£344.00	£0.00	£60.55
PRINTING	£1,977.73	£1,470.00	£2,034.86
PHOTOCOPIES	£0.00	£0.00	£11.94
POSTAGE	£409.61	£168.36	£185.48
GIFTS	£0.00	£0.00	£85.00
HIRE OF ROOMS	£239.00	£443.00	£192.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS REFUNDED	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
WEBSITE	£642.40	£161.40	£518.40
DONATIONS (see below)	£1,050.00	£1,000.00	£650.00
ENTERTAINMENT	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
INSURANCE	£220.00	£213.00	£213.00
NOTICEBOARDS (Inc. Printing)	£370.99	£219.92	£149.10
OTHER (New Logo £210 + Carols Fee £150)	£360.00	£150.00	£150.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£5,647.38	£3,850.02	£4,395.17
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	£69.45	£1,820.81	£1,327.94

BALANCE SHEET AT:	31/12/2019	31/12/2018	31/12/2017
BANK BALANCES	£13,706.04	£13,836.59	£11,815.78
LESS UNPAID DONATIONS	£0.00	£200.00	£0.00
TOTAL NET BALANCE	£13,706.04	£13,636.59	£11,815.78

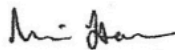
REPRESENTED BY:

SURPLUS AT START OF YEAR	£13,636.59	£11,815.78	£10,487.84
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	£69.45	£1,820.81	£1,327.94
SURPLUS AT END OF YEAR	£13,706.04	£13,636.59	£11,815.78

Donations made

St Mary's (Carried Over From 2018)	£200.00
Save Swiss Cottage Group	£300.00
St Peter's Clock Appeal	£200.00
WAC Arts	£200.00
HIVE Project	£200.00
Christmas Lights for Belsize Village	£150.00
Total	£1,250.00

Neil Harris
Treasurer



Date 17/1/2020

Having examined the documentation and bank statements I confirm that the above figures are an accurate and true representation of the state of the accounts for the 12 months to 31 December 2019.

Jill Tyrrell
Independent Examiner



Date 17/1/2020