**AGM Treasurers Report 03/11/2020**

2019 was a transformative year for our community centre. A freshly signed lease with the council and new occupational license agreed with the social club, it proved to be a time when both committees would align on common objectives and work together on overcoming joint challenges.

That said, 2019 brought its fair share of challenges that I’m pleased to report have been overcome. Unfortunately, the nature of the head winds faced means 2019 concluded with an unavoidable loss of just under £8,500:

* The main challenge being debts owed to Carlsberg by the centre’s social club. FPCA assisted the social club firstly with a rent-free holiday followed by a low interest loan (that was fully repaid on time).
	+ The crucial joint action means that the social club (and there fore the centre as whole) has no burden of debt to any 3rd party organisation and as such has stabilised the business of the centre going forward.
* In addition, the cost of our PRS license (to be able to play music of any kind) tripled from what we paid in 2018.

This loss would have been still higher though was thankfully off set in part by improvements across all other key revenue streams. Rooms bookings, events activities (both in house and 3rd party) were all up on 2018 – as were memberships and donations.

In addition, we secured grant funding to bring the back garden into use, which many people enjoyed at the various events through the Summer.

And then 2020 happened, despite the first 3 months getting off to a flying start with a record-breaking panto as well as increases in other bookings and activities. This all led to a 12% increase in revenue compared with the same period in 2019. Added to this a new rent agreement with the Social Club was agreed with regular bar rent payments being made.

Lockdown changed everything. Even so the centre has adapted and continues to fulfil its objectives in helping those in and around the Florence Park community.

Financially, the centre has needed to adapt with most normal revenue streams effectively disappearing overnight. The Centre did benefit from a Government issued £10,000 grant. Sara, the Centre Manager also was successful in securing 3 separate grants totalling £7200 to fund the Friday free meals initiative until the end of January 2021.

I’ve also been surprised and delighted with the generosity and support for the centre. Donations in 2020 have already topped £3,800. This is almost triple what was achieved for the whole year for 2019, which in itself was a strong year in terms of donations. Much of this increase is down to the efforts of our amazing community. Some examples are:

* Shiela Tree whose masks raised almost £1000
* FloGlo Vitual raised £1,400
* The other volunteer led events including the Virtual Variety nights, Day of the Dead, Quiz and Bingo
* Plus other generous donations from various individuals within the community and beyond

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated their time and/or money to help keep the Centre running through these difficult times.