

Treasury and Website reports for the HIGNA ASC 31st October 2023

Treasury Report (as of 30/10/2023)

Balance at close of August ASC £1,220.40

Current financial status:

PayPal Balance: £1,176.25 (as of 30/10/2023)

Bank Act Balance £189.95 (as of 30/10/2023)

Expenses Out since last ASC: £51.55

(£50 Contribution for September RSC, £1.55 postage Key Tags)

Closing Balance: £1,364.65 (as of 30/10/2023)

Prudent Reserve: £500.00 (as of 30/10/2023)

Tradition 7 surplus: £864.65 (as of 30/10/2023)

Current fixed annual expenses: Now adjusted to reflect slight increase for 2022/23

Website + Domain etc. £49.15 (per year)

Bluejeans account £170.90 (current Bluejeans Enterprise Account annual fee 2022/23)

Total £207.64 (= @ £0.38p / \$0.45c per meeting per week at current rates)

Tradition 7 contributions via the Bank have slowed in the last few months as have contributions via PayPal but nowhere near as much. Treasurer has submitted a year-end report in which they have noted the above and expressed concern that the Bank Balance, where we have traditionally held our prudent reserve (500.00), is currently £310.05 below that figure. We have agreed to and made a total of £850.00 contributions to Region from the bank account this year which, as can be seen by the bank balance, has added to its decline. Given the current state of flux with the meeting platform and the uncertainty of any potential expenses that will be required to address that issue over the next few months Treasury is recommending that we remain prudent and make no more donations to Region until that situation is resolved.

Website report:

The website is running well with no reported issues. Backups are being taken regularly, website content, software & plugins are being updated as required, new site security protocols working well.

ILS Steve A

Addendum:1 Report Re status of HIGNA Area Meetings Platform

As many may be aware we were notified by Verizon/Bluejeans that they intended to “Sunset” the Bluejeans platform which would cease operating at some point in the early Spring of 2024.

Assurance’s were made that Enterprise level accounts like ours would be given advanced warning prior to those accounts being turned off. This, as we all know, was not the case and the joint HIGNA/NA@Home account was summarily switched off without warning at the beginning of October. An alternative was quickly found and thanks to the generosity of another group using Bluejeans the meetings links were changed to enable both Area’s meetings to continue and the nessacery steps were taken to update other systems where our meetings are listed such as UKNA.

The Tech Team believing initially that we had several months to look at and find a suitable alternative to Bluejeans had already begun the process of looking at the option available to us. It has been made clear, for a wide variety of reasons and on a number of occasions, that the conscience of both HIGNA and NA@Home was not to use Zoom unless and only as a last resort.

Commensurate with that conscience it was decided that we focus on one possible alternative known as “Visonable”, which was already being used in collaboration with UKNA H&I and HMP to bring Virtual meetings into prisons and facilities across the UK.

To that end a number of positive conversations have now taken place between us and Visonable and a test room created and looked at. The next step is for us to have a further, in person, meeting with Visonable at their headquarters in Kent (UK) which will give us the opportunity to work directly with their management and tech teams and to hopefully start on developing a suitable platform specifically tailored for user by regularly scheduled Virtual Meetings.

Taken that this process may not meet our needs as quickly as we might like, or at least within our time frame, the proposal is, if needed, that we temporarily swich our meeting to Zoom when the account of our kind and current hosts is due to expire at the end of December.

So far, given our interactions with Visonable and their existing relationship with NA, our work with them has given us the confidence to believe that, long term, this project is worth our time and effort to develop. There are still lots of unknowns with how this might work, if at all, but hope to have more information after the proposed meeting above which will take place towards the end of November.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service....