

## **Lover Community Trust**

### **Treasurer's report 2019**

From a financial perspective, 2019 has been our most successful year yet, if you leave aside the tremendous response to the initial fund raising which enabled us to buy the building in the first place.

Income was an incredible £67 846. Our members continue to be very generous with financial contributions, in addition to the invaluable practical (and money saving) contribution that they make by helping to maintain the building and by running and supporting LCT events. In addition, all our fundraising initiatives equalled or exceeded previous levels, in particular the Valentine's Post following its featuring on BBC Countryfile. The icing on the cake was the three grants totalling £25 000 that we were awarded towards Community Room project. Our thanks go to the National Lottery Community Fund, the Garfield Weston Foundation and Wiltshire Council Southern Area Board for these.

As I mentioned last year, a key feature of our fundraising has been our ability to bring in money from outside the area. This minimises the impact on the local purse and the danger of impacting adversely on other local organisations. At a very conservative estimate, at least £50 000 of our income last year was from outside the immediate area.

Expenditure can be broken down into two main components. Just under £21 000 has been spent to date on the Community Room project. The remaining £6348 is the day-to-day cost of running the building and the Green – insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance etc. Hire charges and membership fees more than cover this expenditure, meaning that all the money raised through donations, fundraising and grants can be invested in the fabric of the building and Lover Green.

Of course it's not all about raising money. Fundraising is a means to an end, not an end in itself and we have yet to achieve our primary objective of creating a thriving community centre used to its capacity for village level recreation and events. We will only achieve this once we have completed the building programme and there is a regular flow of people using the building and the field for their intended purpose. But we enter 2020 with sufficient funds to complete the Community Room project and plan with confidence for the next stage of the refurbishment.