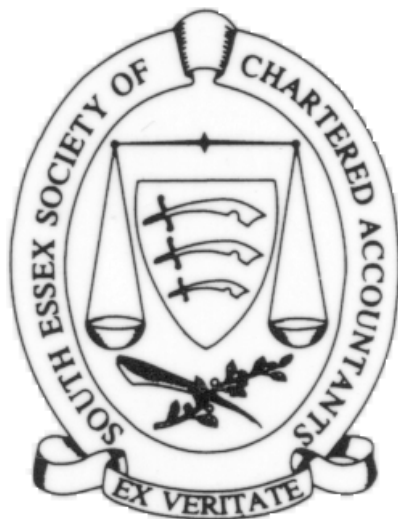


SOUTH ESSEX SOCIETY OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
2019**



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING FOR 2020

The annual meeting of

SOUTH ESSEX SOCIETY OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

will be held virtually on

Thursday 21 May 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

to transact the following business:

- a) receive the annual report of the Executive Committee and the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31st December 2019;
- b) elect Officers and committee members in accordance with Rules 6 and 8;

Duncan Sheekey
Treasurer
21 April 2020

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

It has been both a privilege and a pleasure to serve SESCA over the last two years. I am not certain that I know where the time has gone, although diligent review of my time sheets will probably give a few hints. Outreach visits to member firms, attendance at daytime events for retired members, regional business strategy meetings, and national district society office holders' conferences to name but a few. All different, all interesting and each giving a different insight to our profession and the challenges and environment in which we work.

Visits to other district societies and parts of the country I have not been to, and gaining a better understanding of what works elsewhere and consideration of how some of their initiative could work in Essex, has been both interesting and enjoyable.

Our committee has met regularly over the last year, discussing such matters as sustainability, and climate change, as we all have considered how best to protect our environment. We have been able to welcome new members and observers to our meetings which are kindly hosted by our colleagues at Rickard Luckin in Chelmsford. One of the challenges we are facing is getting greater engagement with our many members working outside of practices, but we are developing a programme of events which we hope will be of interest.

There are ongoing discussions about constitutional frameworks for district societies across the country and this piece of work is ongoing. However, when these are rolled out, along with changes to the way in which the ICAEW communicates with its members, we will also see changes to our boundaries, which will mean that our name will need to change as I expect that we will be representing most of Essex.

Our Charity Ball for 2019 took place again at the Chelmsford City Racecourse and during a really fun evening we managed to raise £1,428 for Havens Hospices. Please reserve 23rd October for this year's event which will also be held at the Racecourse and Simon Medcalf has chosen Great Ormond Street Hospital as the charity for the year.

The District would not run without the efforts of Claire Eve, our Regional Executive, and my first big thank you is to her, for putting up with me and chasing me for responses when needed. Our committee also needs other officers and our Treasurer, Duncan Sheekey works in a very understated way behind the scenes. Simon

Cobbin has taken over as our Council member at the ICAEW and we are grateful for his work.

Finally, my best wishes to Simon Medcalf as he takes over as President and to Colin Corrigan who will move to Deputy President. It does mean we have a vacancy at Vice President and so the search goes on for someone to take over the baton in 4 years' time.....

David Belbin
President

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Society has again reported a surplus for the year of £ 4,707 which continues to be driven by the support for our CPD Courses Programme. The Autumn Charity Ball, our flagship event, was well attended and made a surplus. It is pleasing to report that £ 1,428 was raised on the night for the benefit of Havens Hospices.

The principal source of income remains the commission that we receive from the CPD courses run for us by Mercia. Despite the availability of on-line lectures and other sources of CPD it is pleasing to see that the courses remain well supported.

The Society continues to put on a variety of events either business or social for the students, members and retired members in an effort to keep all involved in the District Society. The Annual Quiz and Karting Events are particularly well supported. There are plans for a variety of new events for 2020 which we hope will be supported by the members.

The Society is in a good financial position which has been built up over a number of years. The Committee continues to seek activities that will be of interest and value for all members and has in place funding to cover such activities.

The Bookkeeping team in Milton Keynes carry out an excellent service in maintaining the Society accounts and I am grateful for their continued support.

Duncan Sheekey
Treasurer

COUNCIL REPORT

Following my election to Council in December 2018, I am pleased to report my first year as the Council Member for the Society. Council Meetings have taken place at the Institute on a

regular basis, albeit the last meeting in March this year was undertaken remotely due to the current virus concerns.

I have attended all meetings and found them to be both very interesting and informative. There is both open debate and confidential matters discussed and attendance is generally very good, with debates being intelligent and well participated in.

Following on from last year's major issues, particularly Trust in the Profession, a considerable amount of time has been spent discussing Audit Reform. In the light of the publication of the Kingman Report into the review of the audit regulator (the CMA Report being a review of the audit market and, in December, the Brydon Report looking into the quality and effectiveness of audit), this debate continues and I would urge members to look at the Brydon Report, which I believe is available on the ICAEW Website.

Some time at Council Meetings was given over to the operation of the ICAEW and appointment and resignation of officers etc.

As in previous years, the issues of governance and representation remain in the debating arena and a focus for the Institute, including how local societies run and are financed.

The Council also heard how the Chartered Accountant brand continues to expand around the world and the President's overseas trips to promote this still further.

I have greatly enjoyed my year as Council member, in particular learning how the ICAEW operates and seeing at first hand the quality, enthusiasm and dedication of the Institute's executive and staff, and would like to express my sincere thanks to Claire Eve for her assistance and support during the year.

Simon Cobbin
Council Member

DISTRICT TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE

South Essex's District Society Technical Committee (DTAC) discusses UK and international consultation papers and ICAEW technical initiatives, focusing on practicality and cost benefit aspects, often in an SME context. The group meets in Chelmsford and members also correspond by email from time to time.

Importantly, the DTAC has up to two seats on ICAEW's National Technical Advisory Committee (NTAC). NTAC is comprised of representatives of DTACs and plays an important role in influencing ICAEW thinking on technical, ethical and practice issues, primarily as a sounding board on the practicality of proposals for change. It meets around four times a year, conveying information from local members and vice versa. One South Essex seat remains vacant, and the other (held by DTAC member Cameron Maxwell since mid-2018) is likely to fall vacant from the end of 2020. **I would be pleased to hear from any local members who might be interested in assuming this important national role at a time of intense scrutiny of audit, reporting and the profession generally.**

The DTAC can also convey views to the centre by submitting comments directly to ICAEW technical staff. These often relate to external consultation papers of interest, but also issues of concern to members that are being addressed by ICAEW's technical department. In 2019, for example, these issues included aspects of the major ongoing reviews of audit and regulation, auditing standards for SMEs, and accounting issues around Brexit.

The issues discussed by the DTAC and NTAC can significantly impact the profession and business. 2020 will again see some very important papers requiring local input as major review processes roll-on in relation to the future of audit, the reform of the audit market, the abolition of the FRC and profound changes to UK regulation of audit and reporting. The future audit and regulatory landscape may look very different by 2021. Brexit too will again generate much relevant activity.

The DTAC is a small group. Discussions are very informal but lively. We're keen to hear from potential members. Participation at both DTAC and NTAC meetings provides a valuable contribution to CPD and technical knowledge and is an opportunity to 'have your say' on technical issues. Members of the DTAC and NTAC do not have to be technical specialists by any means, and the time commitment involved is not high.

My thanks once more to the members of the group for their efforts during 2019.

Nigel Sleigh-Johnson FCA

Chairman, South Essex DTAC
Head of ICAEW's Financial Reporting and Audit and Assurance faculties

PROGRAMMES, CONFERENCES AND COURSES

I am pleased to present my first annual report as Chair of the Programmes, Conferences and Courses Committee, having taken over from Duncan Sheekey last year.

The 2019/20 annual programme consisted of 14 courses which focused on the key areas of accounting, auditing and taxation to provide our members with appropriate and relevant technical updates to support the practical work they undertake. Attendance has been maintained at a good level demonstrating that there is still demand for the core courses on offer despite continued competition from online seminars.

The committee are planning to continue with this same trusted format for the 2020/2021 course programme, which we believe offers great value for money and convenience for our members. We are always open to suggestions for future topics if there is anything different our members would like to see from the courses on offer.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their support in my first year as Chair and the District Society's administration which is valuable in ensuring the course programme runs so smoothly.

Debbie Wakefield
Chairman

GROUPS

SOUTHEND ON SEA

We are continuing with putting on topical courses at a local venue. These continue to be well attended, bringing together friends old and new.

May I thank my fellow committee members for their valued support. New members are always welcome.

Julian Francis
Chairman

HIGHAMS PARK

The Highams Park Group continues to meet monthly primarily to view the Lexis Nexis CDs, which the members find to be a cost effective way of keeping them up to date with professional developments and in meeting their CPD requirements. The meetings also provide an

invaluable opportunity for the members to discuss any problems encountered in their practice and to benefit from each other's experience. Occasionally there are guest speakers on subjects of mutual interest.

The Group usually meets on the penultimate Wednesday of each month. The current venue at The Training Centre of Total Security Services (TSS) Ltd at 18 Hickman Avenue, Highams Park, is spacious enough to accommodate new members, who are always welcome.

The membership is by no means confined to those who live and work in Highams Park.

Peter Jayawardene
Chairman

SOUTH WEST ESSEX

The SWEG Committee met in June 2019 to plan the 2019/20 season of evening presentations to members. This has provided first class speakers on topics such as Property and Estate Administration & Insolvency Update; Practice Assurance Update & ICAEW Regulations; Finance Act; IHT, Retirement Planning & Care Home Fees; Legal Update; and Tax Update. The presentations are held at Chigwell Hall in Chigwell and they have been well attended. If you would like information on future SWEG events please contact claire.eve@icaew.com.

On behalf of the Committee and all those who have attended SWEG events this year, I would like to record our most sincere appreciation of the work done by our regional executive, Claire Eve, to make this year's programme a success.

Simon Cobbin
Chairman

SOUTH ESSEX SOCIETY OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2019**

SOUTH ESSEX SOCIETY OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019	2018
		£	£
Income			
Course Rebate		9,900	9,900
Activities	3	293	-1,221
Bank Interest		86	24
		<u>10,279</u>	<u>8,703</u>
Less: Expenditure			
Communications		2,209	2,166
Marketing		454	0
President's expenses		2,374	-347
President's gift		0	0
Treasurer's honorarium		500	500
Committee expenses		0	662
Sundry		35	35
		<u>5,572</u>	<u>3,016</u>
Net surplus	6	<u><u>4,707</u></u>	<u><u>5,687</u></u>


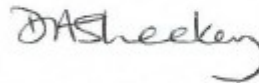
SOUTH ESSEX SOCIETY OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

BALANCE SHEET

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	£	2019 £	£	2018 £
Current Assets:					
Debtors	4	7,312		4,936	
Bank Balance		<u>88,801</u>	96,113	<u>91,295</u>	96,231
Current Liabilities:					
Creditors	5		8,252		13,077
Bank Balance			<u>87,861</u>		<u>83,154</u>
Financed by:					
Reserves	6		<u>87,861</u>		<u>83,154</u>

Approved by the Executive Committee and signed on their behalf by:


David Belbin
President

Duncan Sheekey
Treasurer

24 February 2020

SOUTH ESSEX SOCIETY OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

1. Basis of Preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. Course Rebate

The Society collects course fees as agent for the members' course provider and receives a rebate from that provider.

3. Activities	2019	2018
	£	£
Autumn Ball	1,005	-223
Business Confidence Monitor	-500	-561
State of the Nation	375	-497
Other Activities	-587	60
	<u>293</u>	<u>-1,221</u>
4. Debtors		
Debtors for courses and activities	6,454	3,735
Prepayments	858	810
VAT owed	0	391
	<u>7,312</u>	<u>4,936</u>
5. Creditors		
Course fees due to provider	7,620	8,940
Advertising campaign fees received in advance	533	533
VAT due	99	0
Other creditors	0	3,604
	<u>8,252</u>	<u>13,077</u>
6. Reserves		
Reserves at 1 January 2019	83,154	77,467
Surplus for year	4,707	5,687
Reserves at 31 December 2019	<u>87,861</u>	<u>83,154</u>
7. Related party transactions		
Expenses reimbursed to 2018-19 President	0	1,153
Expenses reimbursed to 2019-20 President	2,374	0
Honorarium paid to Treasurer	500	500