Treasurer’s Report for AGM October 2021 by Miti Rach

This is my first report to you as a treasurer and it is with pleasure I present to you our position in the last year since taking over from Jane Newman.

Firstly, I would like to thank the executive board for welcoming me to the board as a trustee and treasurer and for their support I have had over the last year. Also, thank you to Jane Newman who has been incredibly generous with her time and patience with the handover in my settling in phase.

I am pleased to say that we have now completed one year in Xero, our accounting software used by Shaw Gibbs (SG) and this has made the process of bookkeeping efficient, streamlined and secure.

With the success of Xero, we have recently introduced Xero Expenses to the existing finance system to allow us to integrate the approval and payment of expenses in our existing finance processes. This system will cut down administrative time of our bookkeepers, cut out any inaccuracies in the accounts in most cases means that the reimbursement is quicker. Xero Expenses comes at no extra cost to POGP

Light Media have been a pleasure to work with and we will be completing one year since the successful launch of our website in October 2020. I am pleased to say that the proposed cost of £55K has been paid off completely. The website continues to be an asset and following on from feedback from members; we have since worked with Light Media to further improve the functionality of the website. Most of these costs of upgrades are covered in the annual maintenance package of £2K.

I would like to acknowledge that many people have worked exceptionally hard on adjusting to the virtual format, particularly Ruth Hawkes and her team. The trustees are still analysing the impact of changing our courses to a virtual format. I am hoping to give you a better picture next year on how POGP has adapted to the change but our bank balance is healthy and we have confidence that we shall be able to meet the challenges.

With the current Website Admin and Course Organiser leaving, the trustees at the moment are assessing the best options to support the working of the charity and also create growth.

Finally, I would like to say that I have valued working with Kate Lough in another challenging year for POGP, while it becomes an even more influential organisation.