

# UNISON Environment Agency Thames Branch

## July 2022 - Treasurer's Report

### Branch finances

- Accounts are reconciled until the end of June.
- Income is all from Unison branch funding and we have received £7,025.84, which includes July's receipt.
- Expenditure has been very slow, with only £987.33 so far this year.
- Our current account balance is still rather too healthy at nearly £109 thousand.

General Fund Income and Expenditure Account for Environment Agency Thames (M)					General Fund Balance Sheet for Environment Agency Thames (M)				
For the year ended 31 December 2022					For the year ended 31 December 2022				
All Items	2022 (£)	2022 (£)	2021 (£)	2021 (£)	All Items	2022 (£)	2022 (£)	2021 (£)	2021 (£)
<b>Income</b>					<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Branch Funding	7,025.84		12,287.60		Freehold Properties	0.00		0.00	
Branch Levy	0.00		0.00		Leasehold Properties	0.00		0.00	
Investment Income Received	0.00		0.00		Equipment, Fixtures & Fittings	436.50		654.75	
Tax deducted or paid on Investment Income	0.00		0.00		Investments (Quoted & Unquoted)	0.00		0.00	
Retired Members Subscriptions	0.00		15.00		<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		436.50		654.75
Other Income	0.00		43.10		<b>Current Assets</b>				
Regional Pool Income	0.00		0.00		Branch Funding	0.00		0.03	
Transfer from Industrial Action Fund	0.00		0.00		Third Party Debtors	0.00		0.00	
Transfer from Dedicated Action Fund	0.00		0.00		Loans	0.00		0.00	
Locally collected subscriptions	0.00		0.00		Building Society	0.00		0.00	
<b>Income total</b>		7,025.84		12,345.70	Bank Deposit	0.00		0.00	
<b>Expenditure</b>					Current Account	108,855.81		102,599.02	
Fighting Fund	0.00		0.00		Prepaid Card	0.00		0.00	
Staff Salaries	0.00		0.00		Cash	0.00		0.00	
Rent	0.00		0.00		<b>Total Current Assets</b>		108,855.81		102,599.05
Rates	0.00		0.00		<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Utilities	0.00		0.00		<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		0.00		0.00
Other administration	218.25		653.46		<b>Net Current Assets</b>		108,855.81		102,599.05
Honoraria	0.00		0.00		<b>Total Assets</b>		109,292.31		103,253.80
Conferences and group meetings	589.00		18.30		<b>Accumulated Funds</b>				
Branch Committee	0.00		1,851.76		Accumulated General Fund at year beginning	103,253.80		94,071.50	
Other Meetings	0.00		14.00		Brought Forward Balance Adjustment	0.00		0.00	
Publicity	0.00		0.00		Surplus/Deficit	6,038.51		9,182.30	
Education	180.00		270.75		<b>Accumulated General Fund at year end</b>		109,292.31		103,253.80
Donations	0.00		0.00		<b>Total Funds at End of the Year</b>		109,292.31		103,253.80
Affiliations	0.00		0.00						
Local Activities	0.00		0.00						
Transfer to Industrial Action Fund	0.00		0.00						
Transfer to Dedicated Fund(s)	0.00		0.00						
Other Expenditure	0.08		115.13						
Other Branch Funding Deductions	0.00		240.00						
Tax	0.00		0.00						
<b>Expenditure total</b>		987.33		3,163.40					
<b>Surplus for the year</b>		<u>6,038.51</u>		<u>9,182.30</u>					

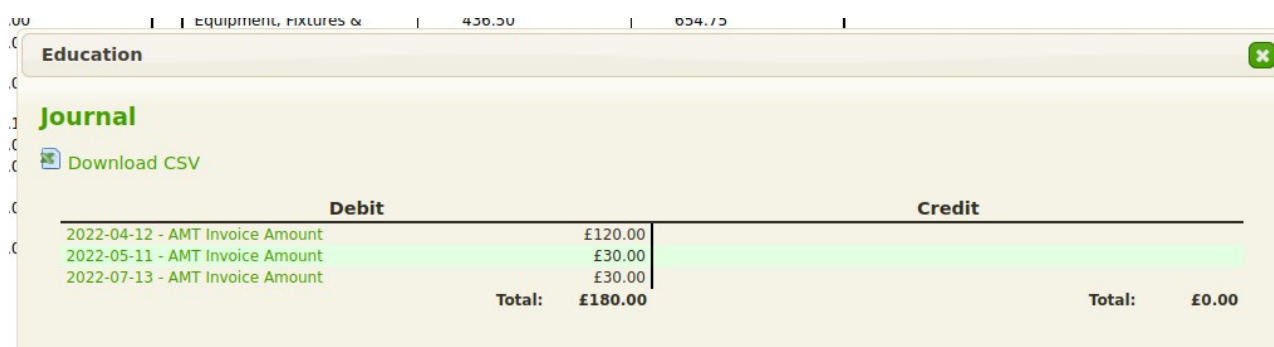
## Requests from the Treasurer

Managing finances electronically has been working well and I want to continue this for expenses.

- Please do send me electronic copies of your receipts. I will need to start loading these into the Olba finance system.
- And please fill out and Expenses form “UNISON EA Thames Expenses 2022.xlsx”, which you can get to from here: <https://alto.chrisbeales.net/index.php/s/a5YxjwstaCozFG5>

There are great Unison education opportunities, which hopefully more of our members can take advantage of.

- Please do let me let me know if you are going on a course though (including date and cost) so I can log it. All I get to see through the system is as follows:



The screenshot shows a window titled "Education" with a "Journal" section. It contains a table with two columns: "Debit" and "Credit". The table lists three entries for AMT Invoice Amounts on different dates, with a total debit of £180.00 and a total credit of £0.00. There is a "Download CSV" link above the table.

	Debit	Credit
2022-04-12 - AMT Invoice Amount	£120.00	
2022-05-11 - AMT Invoice Amount	£30.00	
2022-07-13 - AMT Invoice Amount	£30.00	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£180.00</b>	<b>Total: £0.00</b>

## Website

Our branch website is looking good, with massive thanks to all of the work that Tams has done co-ordinating things, adding articles, and making sure the content is up-to-date. There is a lot of potential with the site to reach out to our members, which is particularly important given the big changes towards remote working. It does need a bit more input from us in the Exec to make it that extra bit useful though: the more we put in, the more everyone will get out!

- Mike Tregent, Tams and I have been meeting regularly to talk about content. And Mike has been cross-posting to Yammer, which will hopefully help drive traffic to the site.
- We've been focused on raising awareness of the benefits of being in the Union (see <https://eathames-unison.org.uk/tag/benefits>). There are a couple more posts to add to this (legal cover that you can use for your family [Rebecca's experience], and training courses). Any more idea are very welcome.
- Getting the 'Our Branch' > Pages up on Education & Training is coming, which is great...and will help get people on courses (and money spent).



**Chris Beales – Branch Treasurer** 25 February 2022

Hi, I'm Chris. I've been working for the Environment Agency for over 20 years. That sounds like a crazy long time but it has flown by. I've been a union ...

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- It would be great to see more of us with little biogs on why we do what we do, and thoughts about being in the union. Mine is here in case that helps:  
<https://eathames-unison.org.uk/chris-beales-branch-treasurer>
- It will be great to post up summaries of the Branch Exec minutes to the site, in the spirit of open democracy. Hopefully we are all happy with this.

## Branch finance course and thoughts for the Exec

I went on the 'Finance and the Organised Branch' course, which run by Barry and Amanda Mayers. It was really good: especially the opportunity to meet other branch Treasurers and share our experiences.

It has got me thinking about how we can use our money better, and I've got some actions on myself to get proposals to the Exec over the coming year. Things to consider:

- We are cash-rich and time-poor. We could revisit the idea of employing some extra help for the branch. There are challenges to this, which we would need to take seriously, but it could massively boost our output for members.
- Whether we do that or not, we should work on a 'strategic plan' of what we want to do with our money. We have over £109k in the bank, which is increasing every year.
  - What do we want to do with it? What should our budgets look like over the next 5 years? How much money do we want in the bank at the end of that time?
  - What do our members want / need? Do we know? We could do a survey?
  - Can it be used to support in the cost of living crisis?
  - Can it be used to help with potential industrial action (and potential loss of earnings associated with some actions)?
  - Can we support home / hybrid working?
  - Can we support long-term members as much as focusing on lower paid (newer members)?
- There is Unison support for members facing hard times called "There for you" – we could donate to this. Given the enforced lack of activity with the Covid lock-downs, I think this is a justifiable call. I could work out how much we accrued in that time (approx £20k).

Wishing you all well

**Chris Beales**  
Treasurer  
25 July 2022