Chairman's Report 2025

"It's an ill wind that blows no good" and "Down the corn, up the Horn" are two well know agricultural sayings that have probably never been truer than in the last year.

The dry summer has not suited everyone, but for others in wetter areas it's been positively good. Similarly, for ACT, with our increasingly diverse range of products, we have had a solid year. We continue to expand the product range and drive sales to benefit the members.

During the year turnover increased to nearly £129 million while profit before tax and members bonus declined slightly to £1.37 million. Input volumes sold have mostly remained stable or shown growth.

As a result, on behalf of the Board, I have pleasure in announcing that the trading bonus remains unchanged at £8.75/£1000 of expenditure and 6 % interest on shares. This is a good result in a challenging market. As a true cooperative we are here for the benefit of our members. ACT are proud to be a cooperative that does not require membership or annual fees.

We strive for competitive pricing at point of sale but with the added incentive, to qualifying members, of the potential annual trading bonus, something which the board and senior management strive to maintain for members.

It gives me great pleasure to announce an event that occurred just one week after the financial year end. On 7th July 2025, the company completed the purchase of a property for the head office at Shrewsbury Business Park. The building which is split over 2 floors will finally allow all Shropshire based staff to work together again under one roof in a light, spacious and well-appointed office.

Through continued close monitoring and management of the company's cash position, the purchase was completed without any external finance.

Congratulations must go to all those involved with the purchase, it is a tremendous asset for the business, facilitating additional growth. The office has been purchased as a mixed-use property, the ground floor is currently on the market to be let to tenants, further diversifying the businesses income stream.

This is only my second Chairman's report, but sadly it will be my last. I will complete 12 years' service on the Board during February 2026 and as such will be standing down at this point.

I only hope that I have managed to give back as much as the position has given me. It has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to have been given the opportunity. I am more than happy that I leave the business in a strong position and in very capable hands.

Thank you for your continued support of ACT and may I wish you all the very best for the future.

Ian Davey