# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Shaftesbury & Gillingham u3a held at 10.30am on Thursday 6 November 2025 at New Remembrance Hall, Charlton SP7 0PL

**Present:** 80 people were present, of which 72 were members of sgu3a.

**1.** The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. Twelve members had given apologies. These were:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Catherine Drake | Hilary Curtis | Nigel Grugeon | Liz Lockwood |
| Joe Moore | Apryl Moore | Chris Spencer | Dee Warlock |
| Gil Watkinson | Ian Watson | John Porter | Margaret Porter |

**2.** **Minutes of the last AGM held on 7 November 2024**
Steve Hayle and Roger Lester proposed seconded the motion to approve the minutes which was carried unanimously. The Chairman signed a copy of the Minutes.

**3.** **Chairman's report**
The Chairman stated that this had been another successful year for sgu3a. Membership remained steady at around 340 and we had 34 groups. Our finances are healthy. We have hosted 11 excellent monthly speakers with attendances creeping up into the nineties. The Chairman commented that the committee, along with all the many group leaders had made this happen seamlessly and he had watched this with a sense of admiration for all those involved.

The Chairman added that sgu3a would not exist without his fellow committee members who had put in a lot of work to keep the organisation going. Barbara Hurst, who looks after the groups, and publicity and publishes the newsletter editor continually looks for and finds new avenues for groups, which are the core of the network of u3as. We must also thank Anita Adams who successfully edited the newsletter for some time and had relinquished the role for health reasons. Peter Hurst, our Treasurer, is an excellent financial controller. Peter Grange looks after the membership, the website and the Beacon management system. Barbara Watkinson, who took on the secretarial role and has brought in her expertise in maintaining us all in a very efficient manner. Helen Warley, who has continued in her role to welcome and advise new members at monthly meetings. Lorraine Dewey and her helpers who every month supply us with refreshments, and superb homemade cakes and biscuits.

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Libby Hague-Holmes, Vice chairman and speaker secretary. The quality of speakers is excellent, and we must thank Libby coordinating this.

And many thanks must go to our superb group leaders; without whom the sgu3a would not exist.

Finally, a thank you to all members who continue to hold up a very lively and happy organisation.

We have brought in some new procedures this year for group leaders; these arose as a result of direction from the Third Age Trust, our parent charity, to comply with up-to-date charity procedures. As part of this, the committee will be requesting the membership to approve a revised constitution. However, approval from the Charity Commission for these changes has come too late to be dealt with at this AGM.

The Chairman added that this was the last day in his role. He and his wife Pam had been members of sgu3a for 20 years and he had served on the Committee for 10 of these and had been Chairman for the last two. He would stand down in the knowledge there is an excellent group of people maintaining this u3a in a healthy and secure manner, as it has always been in its 26 years of existence. It had been a great privilege to be part of this team, and he looked forward to continuing to be a member for many years to come.

## 4. Treasurer' Report

The audited accounts for the year to 31st July 2025 were published on the website prior to the meeting and the Treasurer, Peter Hurst, presented his report.

| Income | 2025 | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Subscriptions | 4185 | 3530 | 3301 |
| Monthly Meeting | 1364 | 1234 | 1076 |
| Gift Aid refund | 502 | 374 | 433 |
| Interest on Savings | 33 | | |
| **Total** | **6084** | **5138** | **4810** |

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| Expenses | 2025 | 2024 | 2023 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Speakers | 1065 | 824 | 920 |
| Monthly meeting costs | 813 | 732 | 897 |
| Groups and Trips | 715 | 134 | |
| Third Age Cap and Ins | 1446 | 1450 | 1411 |
| Equipment | 431 | 761 | 2370 |
| "In Touch" | 162 | 249 | 149 |
| Admin and postage | 172 | 184 | 245 |
| Copyright license fee | 137 | | |
| Beacon U3A admin s/w | 328 | 329 | 295 |
| **Total** | **5269** | **4663** | **6287** |
| | | | |
| **Surplus (loss)** | **815** | **475** | **-1477** |

| Balances | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brought forward Balances | 1999 | 2092 | 3569 |
| Annual Surplus (loss) | 815 | 475 | -1477 |
| **Balance at Year End** | **2814** | **1999** | **2092** |

| Balances | 2024 |
|---|---|
| BSO Trips | 1723 |
| Garden Interest | 391 |
| Genealogy | 191 |
| Art Appreciation | 43 |
| Dancing | -52 |
| | |
| **Total Group & Event balance** | **2296** |

There were no questions.

**5. Approval of Examined Accounts**

Jennifer Day proposed and Lesley Frost seconded the motion to approve the accounts. The motion was approved unanimously.

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**6. Election of Account Examiner**

The Treasurer stated that Nic Griffin, a former Treasurer of sgu3a has agreed to examine the accounts next year and the Treasurer recommended that Nic be elected to this role. Lesley Frost and Joan Stewart proposed and seconded the motion to elect Nic Griffin as account examiner, and this was carried unanimously.

**7. Election of Committee**

(a) John Bush proposed and Helen Warley seconded the proposal to elect Barbara Watkinson as Secretary and the motion was carried unanimously.
(b) Janet Ball proposed and John Bush seconded the proposal to re-elect to the committee Barbara Hurst, Peter Hurst, Libby Hague-Holmes, Helen Warley and Peter Grange. The proposal was carried unanimously.
(c) Further elections. The motion to elect Ann Taylor and Jennifer Day to the committee was carried unanimously.

**8. Further nominations to the Committee.** There were none.

**9. Consideration of any motions from members.** There were none.

**10. Any Other Business.**

The Chair thanked Lorraine Dewey for providing coffee and biscuits to the meetings throughout the last year and presented gift cards to Lorraine, Sheila Davis, Mandy Gale, Maureen Lowe and Margaret Hale.

Libby Hague Holmes, Vice Chairman, thanked Roger Laidler for the last two years he had acted as Chairman and also for all the previous years he served on the committee. The Vice Chairman presented Roger with a small token of appreciation from the committee and added that he would also receive a lifelong membership of sgu3a. Roger thanked the meeting and recorded that it had been a pleasure to serve the organisation.

**11.** There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.03am.

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