u3a Shaftesbury & Gillingham

Treasurer's Report

These accounts cover the year ended 31st July 2026 and include figures for the two preceding years for comparison.

Income

- **Subscriptions and Gift Aid:** Income increased in line with membership, which approached 400 during the year.
- **Monthly meetings:** Income was lower because one fewer meeting was held. The January meeting did not take place because the first Thursday of January 2026 fell on a bank holiday.

Expenses

- **Meetings and speakers:** Costs were slightly lower because one fewer meeting was held.
- **Membership-based charges:** Charges from the Third Age Trust and for the Beacon system increased slightly because they are based on membership numbers.
- **Equipment:** This was the largest area of increased expenditure. A new laptop was purchased for scanning membership cards and for presenters who do not have their own device. A more powerful projector was also purchased for several groups because the lighting conditions in their meeting rooms required improved projection.

Summary

Despite the investment in new equipment the result was a small surplus for the year. The committee decided to keep the annual subscription at £12 but to increase the charge for the monthly meeting to £3 so that it covers speaker, room rental and catering costs. This also protects our ability to reclaim Gift-Aid on the annual subscriptions for those members who are taxpayers.

Peter Hurst

Treasurer