

Friends of Highgate Library – Treasurer’s report – March 2026



The association’s inadequate banking arrangements create a good deal of extra stress, particularly in the interesting times we have been through. The central issue is that whilst all income goes through the FOHL bank, most expenditure goes from our personal bank account, needing to be re-funded. When Linda became chair, I agreed to interim support as Treasurer. We did not get to changing the bank signatories and we still do not have online banking. We have recently made efforts to rectify that, but have not managed to do so in time for this meeting. The result must be that we can pay suppliers from the association account by card and access the bank statements online.

Preparing a statement like this, even without my disability, without having access to all the bank information, is approaching impossible, even though Linda and I have kept receipts. In particular, we do not have complete records of income.

Sarah, as membership secretary, has not had a functioning Windows computer to access the membership list for some time, so we have also been supporting it in a limited way.

So what is presented is based on the last solid figures and the known expenditures, but there is more to be done, and help is needed, as well as getting the banking arrangement sorted.

In addition to members' magnificent subscriptions, we had income from Eventbrite donations in relation to our Zoom events, and donations in cash. Also, one of our authors generously shared some of the proceeds of his book sales with us, for which we are grateful.

In the hope that it will make the limited information provided digestible, I have presented our expenditure into two blocks: the extended period since 2022 and the current quarter. Providing the current quarter gives an indication of the ongoing running costs (although postage has been purchased in advance). The printing costs, which are the greatest cost, for the newsletter and brochure will be similar when rolled forward for each quarter.

I have subtracted the effects of the Lefevres being involved in reinstating the AV equipment we gave to the foundation. The foundation’s expenditure was £2,629.04, so this is effectively a receivable that should be added to determine the true balance.

The previous balance reported in March 2022 was £4,826.51, to which a reimbursement of £3,119.31 was added soon after, giving a balance of £7,945.82 in 2022.

Expenditure since October 2022

Newsletters and brochures printing	1,746
Postage	449
Stationery	47
Wine	161
Zoom, Vimeo, website	719
Exhibition printing and food	95
Alternative venues hire during closure	980
Hosting Highgate network	145
Total	4,341

Expenditure last quarter

Newsletters and brochures printing	318
Postage (bought for future)	246
Stationery	67
Wine	123
Zoom, Vimeo, website	50
Total	804