1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group (1SV)

Chairperson’s Report for the Financial Year Jan- Dec 2025

Introduction

I am pleased to present the Chairperson’s Report for 1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group (1SV) Charity No. 1181922, highlighting the Group’s achievements, growth, activities, financial position and future development plans during the reporting year.

The Group has continued to thrive, providing valuable opportunities for young people to develop confidence, independence, practical skills and a sense of community through Scouting. This success reflects the commitment of our adult volunteers, the enthusiasm of our young members, and the continued support of parents, donors and local organisations.

Membership and Growth

1SV remains the largest Scout Group in the district, with membership growing to a total of 180 active members. This comprises 140 young people aged 4–14, three Young Leaders and 37 adult volunteers.

In response to increasing demand, the Group established a second Scout troop, Brownsea Scouts, to provide additional capacity and opportunities for young people to participate in Scouting. The Group now delivers eight weekly sessions, providing a total of 11.5 hours of Scouting each week.

Current section membership includes 28 Squirrels, 36 Beavers, 48 Cubs and 29 Scouts. This continued growth demonstrates the value of the programme we offer while highlighting the importance of developing our facilities and volunteer capacity to meet future demand.

Programme, Achievements and Community Engagement

Throughout the year, our young people participated in a varied programme of activities designed to develop skills, encourage teamwork and provide memorable experiences.

Nearly 2,000 badges were awarded during the year, alongside 25 Chief Scout Awards, recognising the commitment, progress and achievements of our members

Highlights included torchlight hikes at Parc Penallta, themed Pirate and Space sleepovers, visits from the fire service and paramedics, and participation in the All Wales Cub Funday. These activities provided opportunities for young people to learn through practical experiences, develop confidence and build friendships.

The Group remains committed to delivering an engaging and inclusive programme that supports the personal development and wellbeing of young people in our community.

Facilities, Equipment and Development

A significant achievement during the year was the construction of a new outdoor kitchen and work area. This project was made possible through a financial contribution from British Gas and corporate volunteer support from Coca-Cola Europacific Partners. We are grateful to both organisations for their generosity and practical assistance.

The Group also invested in new camping equipment to strengthen its ability to deliver outdoor activities, residential experiences and camps.

Financial Review

The financial statement for the year Jan - Dec 25. The Group maintained a positive financial position, with income exceeding expenditure.

The key financial figures were:

- **Total income:** £34,668.99
- **Total expenditure:** £33,196.74
- **Net surplus for the year:** £1,472.25

Fundraising activities generated £1,364.89 through initiatives including the Easter Raffle, SirhowyFest, the Duck Race and ongoing contributions through Easy Fundraising.

The Group also received donations totalling £3,608, including a significant contribution of £3,500 from Centrica and £108 received for badge sewing. These contributions provided valuable support for the Group’s activities, resources and development.

We are grateful to everyone who contributed financially or supported our fundraising efforts. The Group will continue to manage its funds responsibly, ensuring that expenditure supports its charitable purposes and the delivery of high-quality Scouting opportunities.

Headquarters Expansion and Future Plans

The continued growth of 1SV has placed increasing pressure on our existing headquarters, which is becoming constrained by the number of members and activities it must accommodate.

The Group has therefore agreed to explore two potential development options:

1. **Extension of the existing headquarters:** Reconfiguring the main hall as a central hub and creating dedicated spaces for storage, administration and showers. This would also make better use of the grounds for camps and sleepovers.
2. **Construction of a new headquarters:** Developing a purpose-built facility on the adjacent plot of land already owned by the Group. This option could allow current Scouting sessions to continue with minimal disruption during construction.

The next steps will involve developing architectural plans, investigating planning permission requirements and pursuing suitable fundraising opportunities and grant applications. Parents and members have also been invited to share contacts within the architectural, engineering and construction professions to help support the early stages of development.

These proposals represent an important opportunity to secure the Group's long-term future and ensure that our facilities can accommodate continued growth.

Looking ahead, plans have been announced to convert the Group's under-utilised bus into a simulated indoor caving experience. This proposed facility would provide an additional activity for 1SV members while offering potential hire opportunities to external groups, creating a possible additional source of income for the charity. Volunteer support will be sought as the project progresses.

Governance and Public Benefit

The Group's continued growth and development reflect its commitment to advancing the aims of Scouting and providing opportunities for young people to develop skills for life.

Through its weekly programme, outdoor activities, residential experiences and community engagement, 1SV supports young people to become more confident, capable and responsible members of society.

The Group recognises the importance of responsible financial management, effective oversight of its resources, appropriate safeguarding arrangements and compliance with relevant Scout Association policies and procedures. The Trustee Board will continue to oversee the Group's activities and resources in the best interests of the charity and its beneficiaries.

Acknowledgements and Conclusion

I would like to express my sincere thanks to our adult volunteers and Young Leaders for the time, dedication and enthusiasm they bring to the Group. Their commitment makes it possible to provide such a wide range of opportunities for our young people.

I also extend my thanks to parents and families, our fundraising supporters, donors, corporate partners and the wider community for their continued encouragement and generosity. In particular, the support received from British Gas, Coca-Cola Europacific Partners and Centrica has contributed meaningfully to our facilities and resources.

The year has been one of considerable growth, achievement and progress for 1SV. While this growth brings challenges, particularly in relation to our headquarters and capacity, it also provides an exciting opportunity to build on the Group's success.

As Chairperson, I look forward to working with the Trustee Board, volunteers, families and supporters to develop our facilities, strengthen our programme and ensure that 1SV continues to provide valuable Scouting opportunities for future generations.

1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group Accounts 1st January 2025 - 31st December 2025

2025		
Summary		
Account Balance Brought Forward	**£**	**12,481.66**
Total Income	**£**	**34,668.99**
Total Expenditure	**£**	**33,196.74**
Net Income	**£**	**1,472.25**
Account Balance Carried Forward	**£**	**13,953.91**
Bank Account vs Cashbook anomaly	**£**	**-**

Income		
Admin	£	22.90
Bank Interest	£	95.59
Bus	£	-
Donation	£	3,608.00
Events	£	16.00
Events - Beavers	£	446.89
Events - Cubs	£	-
Events - Scouts	£	-
Events - Squirrels	£	-
Fundraising	£	1,364.89
Gift Aid	£	-
Grants	£	-
Hall hire	£	1,135.00
Internal Transfer		
Membership Fees	£	23,273.72
Ready for Purchasing		
Rent	£	4,000.00
Uniform	£	706.00
Venue Maintenance		

Account balances 1 Jan 2024		
Expense Account	£	1,099.19
1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group	£	816.08
Activity Account	£	626.36
Membership	£	9,015.96
Spare	£	-
External	£	924.07

Account balances 31 Dec 2025		
Expense Account	£	402.77
1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group	£	2,346.47
Activity Account	£	2.57
Membership	£	10,022.44
Spare	£	1,000.00
External	£	179.66

Expense		
Activity Equipment	£	331.52
Admin	£	1,253.78
Badges	£	2,373.97
Bank Fees	£	0.03
Bus	£	-
Camping Equipment	£	1,032.45
Events	£	205.64
Events - Beavers	£	2,700.73
Events - Cubs	£	759.28
Events - Scouts	£	1,402.14
Events - Squirrels	£	471.66
Fundraising	£	-
Hall hire		
Insurance	£	1,078.59
Meetings	£	481.25
Meetings - Beavers	£	815.43
Meetings - Cubs	£	478.00
Meetings - Scouts	£	279.86
Meetings - Squirrels	£	993.02
Membership Fees	£	7,546.50
Ready for Purchasing		
REFUND	£	(19.49)
Training	£	314.63
Uniform	£	1,065.85
Utilities	£	4,384.96
Venue Maintenance	£	5,246.94

Completed by Sarah Paul

Print Name Sarah Paul

Date 12 May 2026

Checked by Bethan Persa-Meale

Print Name Bethan Persa-Meale

Date 14-Jul-26

1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group Accounts 1st January 2025 - 31st December 2025

2025		
Summary		
Account Balance Brought Forward	£	**12,481.66**
Total Income	£	**34,668.99**
Total Expenditure	£	**33,196.74**
Net Income	£	**1,472.25**
Account Balance Carried Forward	£	**13,953.91**
Bank Account vs Cashbook anomaly	£	**-**

Income		
Admin	£	22.90
Bank Interest	£	95.59
Bus	£	-
Donation	£	3,608.00
Events	£	16.00
Events - Beavers	£	446.89
Events - Cubs	£	-
Events - Scouts	£	-
Events - Squirrels	£	-
Fundraising	£	1,364.89
Gift Aid	£	-
Grants	£	-
Hall hire	£	1,135.00
Internal Transfer		
Membership Fees	£	23,273.72
Ready for Purchasing		
Rent	£	4,000.00
Uniform	£	706.00
Venue Maintenance		

Account balances 1 Jan 2024		
Expense Account	£	1,099.19
1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group	£	816.08
Activity Account	£	626.36
Membership	£	9,015.96
Spare	£	-
External	£	924.07

Account balances 31 Dec 2025		
Expense Account	£	402.77
1st Sirhowy Valley Scout Group	£	2,346.47
Activity Account	£	2.57
Membership	£	10,022.44
Spare	£	1,000.00
External	£	179.66

Expense		
Activity Equipment	£	331.52
Admin	£	1,253.78
Badges	£	2,373.97
Bank Fees	£	0.03
Bus	£	-
Camping Equipment	£	1,032.45
Events	£	205.64
Events - Beavers	£	2,700.73
Events - Cubs	£	759.28
Events - Scouts	£	1,402.14
Events - Squirrels	£	471.66
Fundraising	£	-
Hall hire		
Insurance	£	1,078.59
Meetings	£	481.25
Meetings - Beavers	£	815.43
Meetings - Cubs	£	478.00
Meetings - Scouts	£	279.86
Meetings - Squirrels	£	993.02
Membership Fees	£	7,546.50
Ready for Purchasing		
REFUND	£	(19.49)
Training	£	314.63
Uniform	£	1,065.85
Utilities	£	4,384.96
Venue Maintenance	£	5,246.94

Completed by Sarah Paul

Print Name Sarah Paul

Date 12 May 2026

Checked by Bethan Persa-Meale

B. Persa-Meale

Print Name Bethan Persa-Meale

Date 14-Jul-26

I confirm that I have had access to all available financial records, supporting documents and information necessary to examine these accounts. Based on my examination, I am satisfied that the calculations are correct and have been checked.

Bethan Persa-Meale

B. Persa-Meale