SVHARA

STROUD VILLAGE HALL AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Stroud Village Hall & Community Garden

A year in review

April 2025 to March 2026



Highlights

Six events organised by the Trustees at the village hall including four free community events:

*VE Day Celebration (May) FREE
*Hampshire Open Studios (Aug) FREE
*Harvest Barn Dance (Oct)
*Christmas Fair (Nov) FREE
*New Year Quiz (Jan)
*Coffee Morning (Mar) FREE

As well as supporting our fantastic Social Committee with the annual STROUD REVELS 2025.







Highlights

£2,900 raised in grants – supporting improvements & running costs. Including £2,000 from **South East Water** for the Community Garden.

Two new Trustees joined the board – thank you Chris Holt and Heather Coulson! Both bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the team.





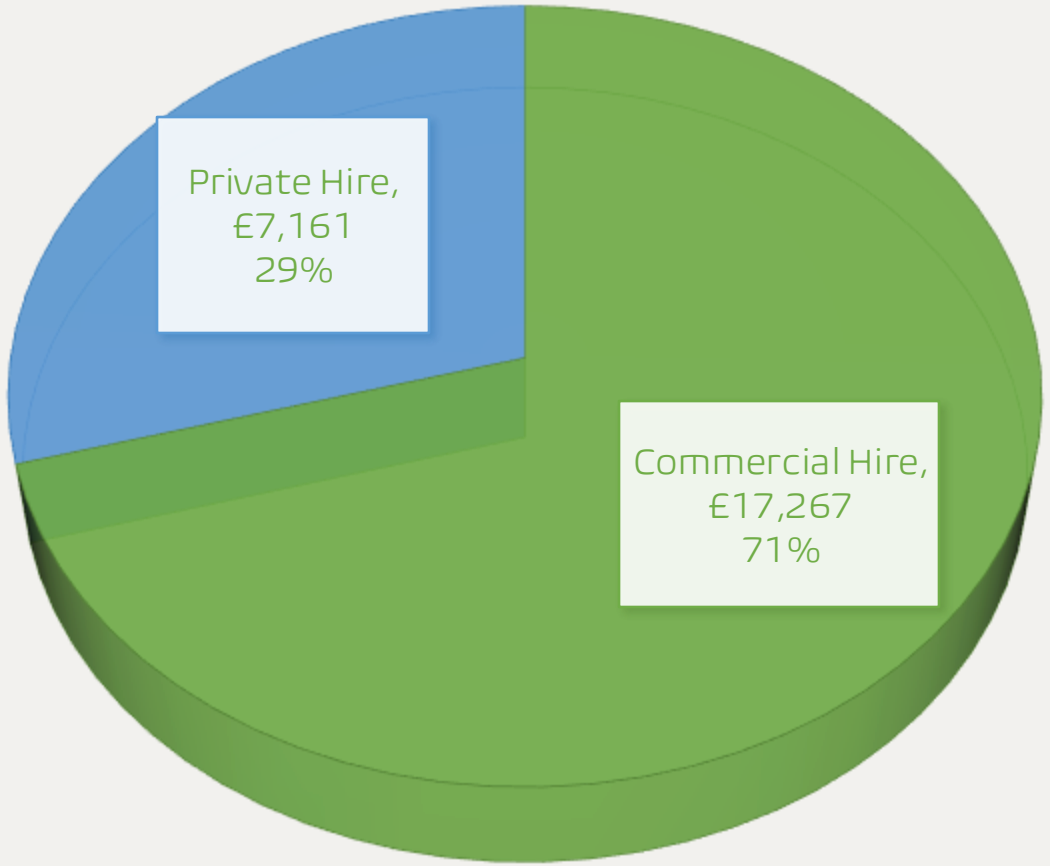


02 Hall Use

Total booking fees for the year are £24, 428.

Most of this comes from our regular commercial hirers who run a weekly program of clubs and classes at the hall. These classes bring a lot to the village and offer something for everyone from baby groups to craft clubs and fitness classes.

The remaining bookings come from private customers booking the hall for birthday parties, weddings and other events.



New Classes

New **Toddler Sense Class** with Hayley on Fridays (in addition to the popular Monday morning session).

New **weights class** on Monday evenings with Chandni (in addition to her weekly yoga class).

New monthly **Yoga Therapy** class on Fridays with Lou Rose (in addition to her weekly Pilates class).

A big thank you to all our wonderful regular hirers. Your support helps to keep the hall open!



School donation scheme

Customers who live in Stroud and/or with children at Langrish Primary School are currently entitled to a 10% discount on their booking fee.

From May they will have the option to donate their 10% discount to Langrish Primary School.

The aim is both to support our local village school AND to incentivize more private bookings.





03 Community Garden



Improvements made:

- New raised vegetable beds installed
- Fruit trees planted
- Seating area created by the stream with handwoven willow fence
- Spring bulbs planted
- Wildflower patch sown
- Regular rota for mowing, weeding and pruning to keep the gardens at their best.



03 Community Garden



Plans for 2026

Project planned with local Beavers group to create a children's vegetable patch and a new bug hotel to encourage multi-generational use of the gardens.

More hedgerows as a haven for wildlife

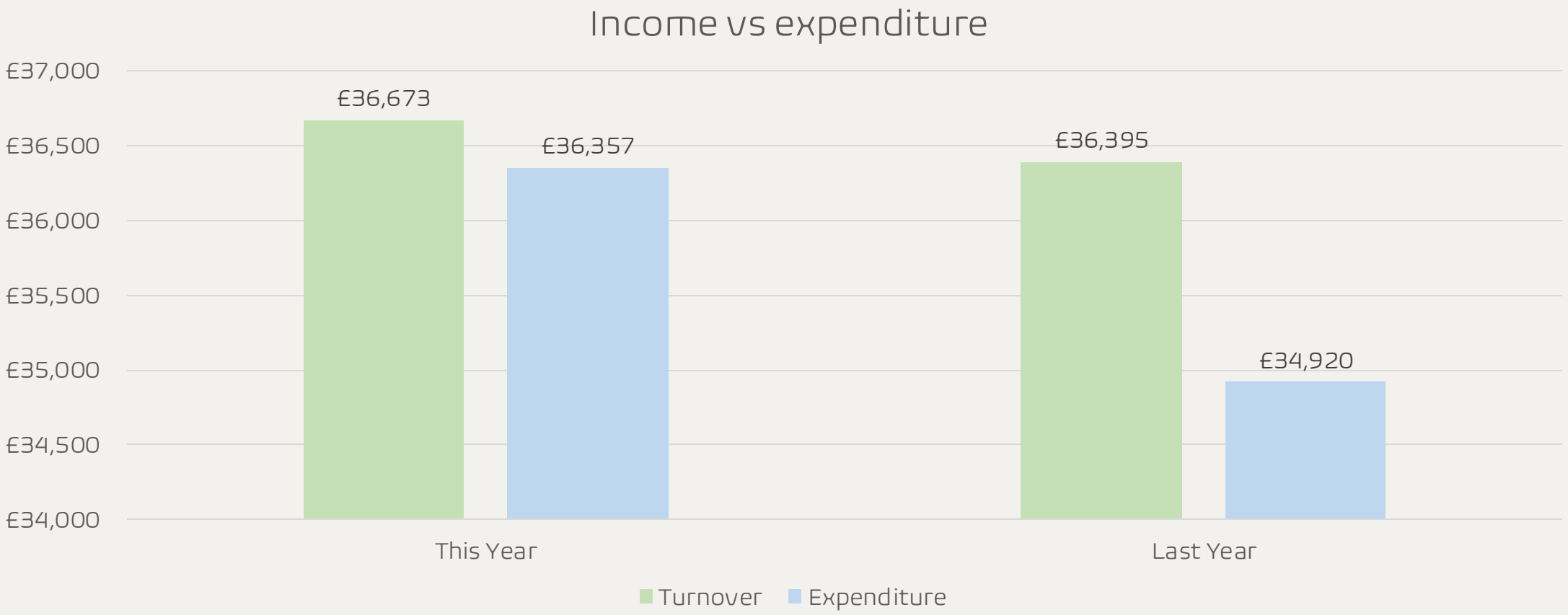
New water butts to help make the garden more sustainable

Relocate compost heap to a more permanent location

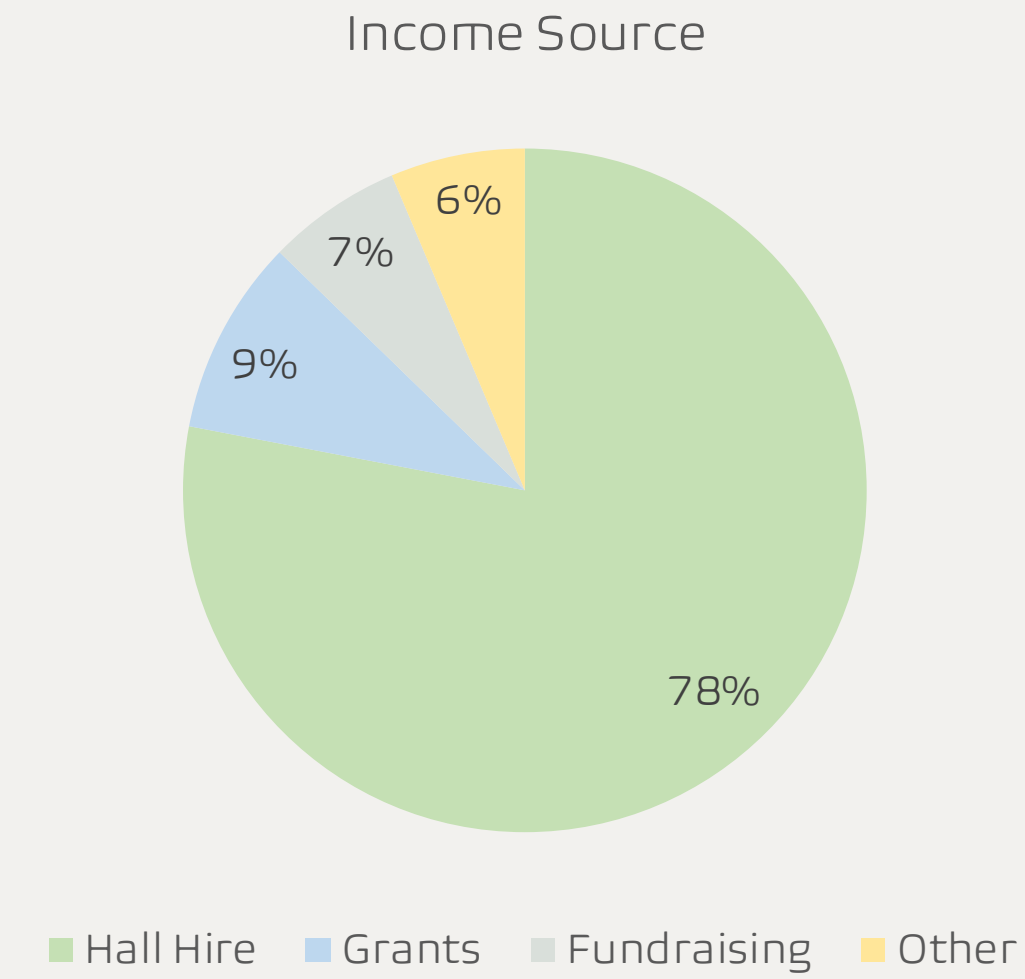


04 Financial

Our financial accounts for the year just ended 31.03.26 are still being finalised, but currently they are showing a break-even position before depreciation. The main pressure on expenditure is the increased price of gas and inflationary pressure on day to day running costs.



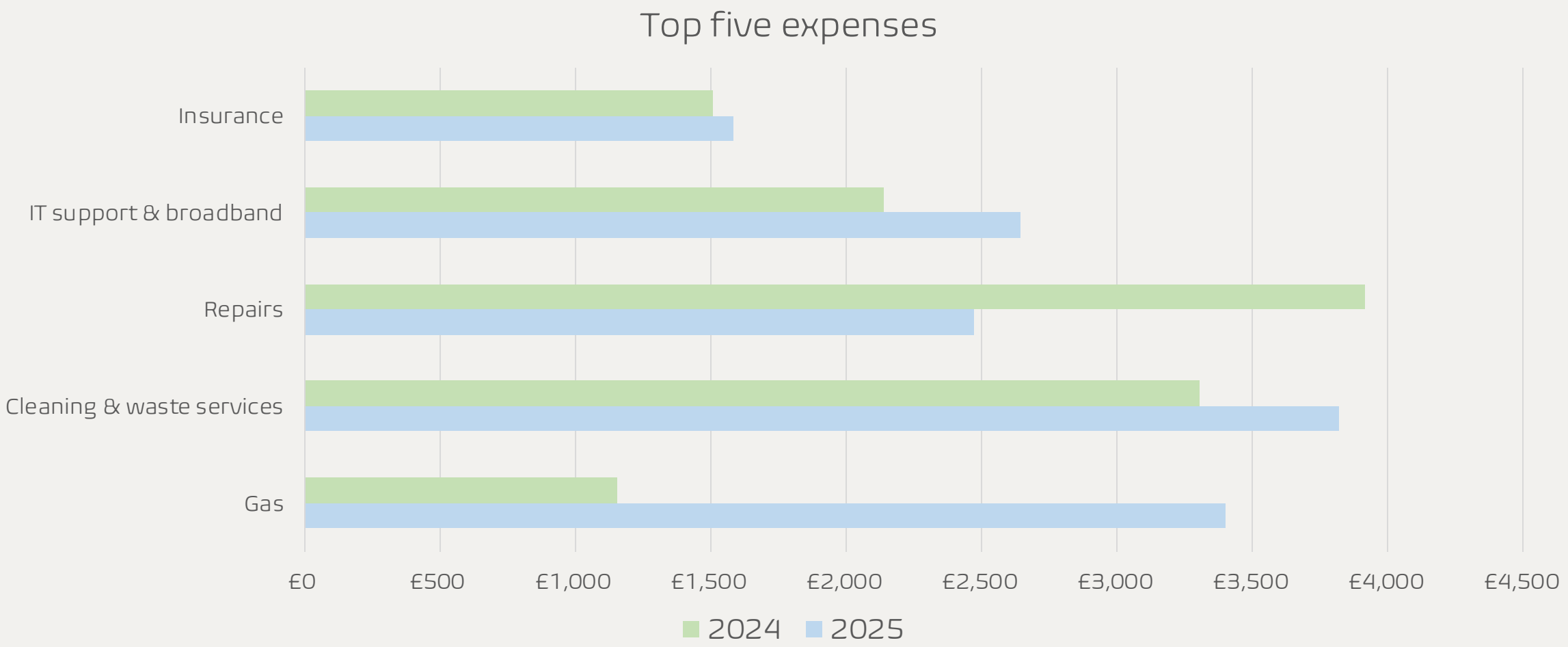
04 Financial



Our income comes mainly from hall hire, supported by grants, fundraising, and a small amount of other income.

04 Financial

Most costs have risen in line with general living costs, except for repairs. The biggest single increase has been in gas prices, which has risen by 98%.



04 What's next



Increase private bookings

- In line with our long-term goal to become financially self-sufficient without reliance on grants.
- The school donation scheme is part of this

Community engagement

- We'd like to run more free community events to help bring people together.
- This will depend on volunteer capacity, so we'll be encouraging more people to get involved.

Communication

- We're planning to improve how we communicate both offline and online.
- We'll be setting up a postal distribution list for residents who don't use the internet.

Summary

Our financial position is stable

And we are working towards full financial self-sufficiency

A mix of community events

Continue to bring people together and ensure the hall is accessible to all

The community garden is thriving

Thanks to the hard work of our gardening volunteers

We'd love more people to get involved

Even a little bit of help makes a big difference

This is your community space

We'd love you to get in touch and share your ideas.

A huge thank you to all our volunteers

We couldn't do any of this without you.