

Report To CHAFT Committee - October 2023.

Hall Report.

Longer Term - Hall improvements & Energy Audit

Following the decision made by the subcommittee to replace the existing ceiling heaters with more modern Infrared Heaters, a heating specification was compiled and three companies approached for quotes. The subcommittee decided that on the basis of cost alone we should consider the Jigsaw quote. However, it on further investigation it was established that the quote did not include an amount for removal of the existing heating or the possible upgrade of the distribution board. It is thought that this might add as much as £1500 to the quote making it comparable to the ARC quote.

In the meantime, the sub-committee have been getting quotes for replacement doors and windows in Upvc or aluminium. 3 quotes from local companies have been received and an average cost looks to be in the region of £8000. We need to check with VWHDC that we can do replacements without planning consent.

Earlier in the year Vale of White Horse District Council were considering grants for projects that tackled climate change. Having contacted the Vale we were told that the project for heating might be considered but we were advised to look at insulation first. In any case we were not advanced enough with a project plan to forward an application.

The Vale have been contacted recently and have advised that there may be similar grants available in the next financial year. The heating and replacement doors and windows would cost approx. £16000. Since we could only make one application it makes sense to wait and submit for all parts so the improvement project. The sub-committee will therefore in coming months establish the additional costs for broadband, hearing loop, acoustics measures, lighting upgrade and redecoration.

The hall fabric fund stands at £24000 at present so we do have the necessary funds however if we were able to get some grant funding, we could in the future also consider the flooring.

For now, therefore we have put the heating upgrade on hold.