**B re-written**

The project is to fund a new boiler to heat the Hall so that it can continue to provide its range of community functions and services. The existing boiler is outdated, inefficient, and has recently been condemned and requires replacement.

A replacement boiler will provide a significantly more energy and cost-efficient heating system that offers greater control of heating across the entire building. Different areas of the building are in use at different times, and a new boiler will address this variability by providing a ‘zoning’ function and smart technology, which will enable us to control areas independently, optimising energy use and comfort throughout the building. *Full specification will be provided.*

Replacing the boiler is urgent for the Hall to continue to be able to provide its current range of services through the winter, including, but not limited to, blood transfusion sessions; older peoples activities; various surgeries for disadvantaged groups; none of which can be provided from the venue if it is not heated. It should be noted that, alternative venues in the area are extremely limited risking provision of these services ceasing altogether during the winter months or being run remotely thus precluding some users attending because of mobility and travel issues.

The new boiler will enable the organisation to achieve the following outputs -

* to reduce energy usage, saving circa £5k per year
* reduce Carbon emissions by 30%
* make the building more attractive to a wider range of users
* increase usage by a minimum of 500 individuals per year
* reduce hire costs, for community groups – e.g., main hall hire could be reduced by as much as 20%’ smaller rooms by as much as 25%

Predictions are that we expect to see an increase in usage by at least 20% or 500 individuals per year, having tested this with two potential users who are currently using premises outside of the town but would move provision to the hall if heated well and priced accordingly.

This has been tested with Age UK who wish to run Knit and Natter group (currently provision is 12 miles away from the area) and youth services provision that currently use commercial premises locally that have 30% higher charges.

This project contributes to the local councils net zero objectives and the organisations own commitment to making environmentally conscious decisions.

The outcomes and impact of this project would be -

* greater provision of services locally
* more accessible services attracting greater numbers of individuals some of whom currently excluded
* improved wellbeing for disadvantaged groups and individuals
* increased income for the venue
* reduced environmental impact (including reducing travel for those individuals that are able to attend services currently based elsewhere)
* greater sustainability
* be more cost effective overall

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