**Edith Weston Village Hall**

**Description of work and submission to EWPC – November 2023**

We, the Village Hall Committee have been applying for grants from various bodies but thus far have not been successful.

After many years of little or no action taken to keep the hall in good order, we are facing an ever-increasing bill. Albeit temporary due to cost restraints, we began with the repair to rotting doors and initial painting of exterior woodwork and partial painting of the entrance hallway.

We now have all the quotations in from contractors for what we consider is stage one of a long-term plan, to return the hall to a good condition offering more practical and attractive use for the community.

The work includes the painting of the main hall, rewiring the main consumer board to allow the light switching to be more easily accessed, replacing the broken gas heaters with a more efficient electrical heating solution with remote monitoring, creating a better solution for all (both managing committee members and users), along with automatic destratification fans. Plus changing the now redundant lighting in the main hall with more efficient units to again reduce our energy bill which we can then hopefully reflect to the community rates of hire.

So, to achieve the above, the painting/refurbishment of woodwork etc is quoted at £6,330.06, plus a few items such as outside railings, notice board etc that were missed from the initial quotation, and the electrical works which is quoted at £8,018.02. A total of approximately £15,000.00.

On the basis of the above information, I would like to submit a request for a contribution of £4,000.00 from the Parish Council to help fund this community project. However, any figure would obviously help and I ask the committee to consider our submission. (I have fully detailed quotations which I can send for verification).

Finally, as a mostly new committee, we have recently taken a hard look at the finances for the Village Hall. The total income from the two main fund-raising events that are shared between the three village charities, The Church, Tommy's Close and the Village Hall, plus the income from renting the hall out, DOES NOT actually cover our outgoings and means that we basically run at a loss. Our only support for the remaining figure of the projects listed above is from the remainder of two successful COVID Grants, which briefly boosted our funds.

**Now updated with a brief description of the further work that I detailed at the recent Parish Council Meeting…….**

A little more info about the Hall first…

*The Hall is a Memorial Hall bult in 1921 in the middle of the village and is a site of commemorative history integral to the village community. All residents surveyed have shown their interest in keeping the fabric of the building the same but improving the facility for users. Many older age groups met in the hall pre Covid and are now showing some reluctance to return due to the condition of the hall and is ease of use. We also wish to encourage more community type classes, coffee mornings, particularly helpful to those residents who do not meet people regularly, plus child and parent groups within the village where there is no other facility.*

So, beyond those items detailed on page one please read this in conjunction with the second document which is a draft plan of work we are planning.

Some of the major items I list below…

Refurbishment of the aged and failing kitchen facilities which will include new efficient cookers, improved lighting, heating and storage facilities, along with a new water heating system to again be more efficient but also save energy. This will include redecoration in line with the main hall.

Upgrade of the toilet facilities, currently the heating is obsolete and not working, plus there is no control for heating in this area of the hall. Again, to include redecoration and water saving devices.

The above has been estimated at over £60,000, including the original work we have already costed on page one.