

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Town Hall, Assets & Services Committee Meeting		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	11th April 2024	LOCATION	Congleton Town Hall
REPORT FROM	Town Hall Manager – Mark Worthington		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	9 Town Hall Updates		
Background	<p>Following the completion of the decarbonisation report carried out by Tomson Consulting in 2022, Officers have been investigating options to implement recommendations within the report to reduce the Town Hall's carbon footprint. Improvements to the heating zones and heating/building management system were among these recommendations and work to improve these areas was initially started in January.</p>		
Update	<p>Electricians were on site during January to install additional cabling required as part of the zoning of the heating system. Cables were installed between the 6 x fan convectors located in the Grand Hall and the heating control panel in the boiler room. A separate space thermostat has also been installed in the main office to assist with the zoning of the heating system. During March alterations were made to pipework and valves on the heating system, as well as upgrades to the building management system software. The cabling from the 6 x fan convectors in the Grand Hall was connected to the building management system as was the new thermostat in the main office.</p> <p>Upgrades to the pipework and building management system software now permit the heating system to operate the Grand Hall as a separate zone from other areas of the building. When the offices and smaller meeting rooms reach temperature the heating will shut down in these areas but continue to heat the Grand Hall if required until it reaches temperature. The 6 x convector fans in the Grand Hall will now also shut down when the room reaches temperature. Previously the convector fans continued to run, even when the room reached temperature, meaning they would continue to run but blow cold air. During these works, it was found that 3 of the fan convectors were not operating correctly and required new fan motors. This work has been scheduled. Total costs for electrical wiring, pipe/valve alterations and upgrades to the building management system software was £9,917.57. A grant application for these works has been submitted to the Cheshire East Council Improved, Greener, Community Facilities Fund (this is a</p>		

	<p>separate grant application to the much larger Salix grant application) Grants are currently available to improve community facilities and buildings, energy efficiency and save carbon through the Improved, Greener Community Facilities Fund, funded by the UK Rural and Shared England Prosperity Fund. The scheme is aimed at organisations and community buildings that wish to improve the energy efficiency of their building to help reduce energy costs. Organisations can apply for 75% of project costs up to a maximum of £15,000. Applications will be considered from organisations for local projects, meeting the fund objectives and criteria. Following our initial application in early March, the Improved, Greener Community Facilities Fund has contacted Officers at CTC to request further information about the project to establish whether it meets the criteria. CTC Officers will update Committee members as the grant application progresses.</p>
Financial	<p>Improvements to the heating system will reduce energy costs. A successful grant application could supplement the cost of this project by 75%.</p>
Environmental	<p>Reduced use of fossil fuels due to more energy efficient system.</p>
Equality	<p>Where applicable in the procurement of services this is taken into consideration.</p>
Decision Request	<p>To receive the report relating to Town Hall Updates.</p>