

# Funding Request: Proposed Groundworks to Improve Surroundings of Great Hampden Village Hall

*To: Great and Little Hampden Parish Council*

*From: Great Hampden Village Hall Committee*

*Date: 07 February 2025*

Dear Councillors,

Following the memorandum shared in December, we are pleased to submit this funding request for groundworks around the village hall. These works aim to enhance the hall's appearance and improve its surroundings, particularly in the area facing neighbouring properties.

## Planned Groundworks

The scope of the work:

1. **Clearing and Excavating the Area:** Removing overgrowth, debris, vegetation and uneven ground to create a clean, level base. This work will be commenced by a band of volunteers and completed by our contractor.
2. **Installing a Terram Membrane:** This durable membrane will significantly reduce weed growth, requiring minimal long-term maintenance.
3. **Laying and Compacting Type 2 Stone:** Adding a compacted layer of aggregate will create a neat, stable surface that improves drainage and enhances the hall's surroundings.
4. **Taking Down the Existing Chimney:** We have allowed for the existing chimney to be dismantled to a point below the roofline. We are seeking advice regarding any permissions which may be required to complete this work, and as such this may be deferred from the other work.

**Total Estimated Cost:** £2,500, to include all materials, labour and waste removal, contingency and VAT.

## Rationale and Benefits

These groundworks will deliver several benefits to the hall and the surrounding community:

- **Improved Aesthetics:** Tidying the area will create a more attractive and welcoming environment, particularly for neighbours of the hall.
- **Reduced Maintenance:** The high-quality membrane will minimize weed growth for many years, reducing the need for frequent upkeep.
- **Enhanced Usability:** A clean and stable surface will make the area more practical and appealing for outdoor use during events.
- **Community Relations:** This project demonstrates a commitment to maintaining the hall's surroundings in a way that respects and benefits neighbouring properties.

## Next Steps

We have received initial quotations which give us confidence that the work could be completed within this budget. We are now looking for funding sources to be able to complete the work, with our ambition to do so no later than May 2025.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain and improve this vital community asset.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Maton  
Chair, Great Hampden Village Hall Committee