

Funding Request: Proposed Upgrade of Great Hampden Village Hall Audio-Visual Facilities

To: Great and Little Hampden Parish Council

From: Great Hampden Village Hall Committee

Date: 28 November 2025

Dear Councillors,

In February, the committee 'approved in principle' funding of 75% of costs for a combined sound reinforcement and hearing support system for Great Hampden Village Hall. We are now in a position to proceed with the work, subject to funding.

Planned Upgrades

The scope of the work:

1. Audio System and Hearing Loop:

- This will enhance sound quality for meetings, events, and presentations while providing accessibility for individuals with hearing impairments.
- The system will have sufficient capacity to support activities conducted by the village hall committee, the cricket club and the local Women's Institute.
- The system we have identified would include an amplifiers, mixer, microphones, wall speakers, induction loop and required cabling.
- We believe the system will be straightforward for users.

2. TV:

- We previously investigated installing a projector for the hall
- However, on further investigation, we believe that a large screen TV will fit the range of uses for different stakeholders, whilst being cost-effective
- We will look to mount the TV on a portable stand, allowing for a versatility configurations. Given the portable nature, we will have security measures in place to minimise the risk of theft.

3. Labour Costs:

- Professional installation of all equipment to ensure safety and proper setup, along with provision for training of key users.

As requested, we sought two separate quotes:

Quote 1 (██████████): A bespoke configuration following a site visit to the hall, consistent with our scope of works. Within our original budget, they are also able to provide a portable speaker which would be particularly useful for events taking place at the front of the hall.

Our recommendations are as follows:-

Supply for Hall Sound System:	
1 x TOA Power Amplifier with built in Mixer.	£301.80
4 x White Pulse Speakers @ £48.	£192.00
2 x Audio Technica Hand Held Microphones @ £43.51.	£87.02
1 x Microphone Stand.	£24.00
1 x Hearing Loop Amplifier for Hall.	£275.00
2 x Hearing Out-reach Microphones @ £53.10	£106.20
Cable and Fixings for above.	£380.00
Fitting and Commissioning systems.	<u>£600.00</u>
	Total <u>£1966.02</u>

We have looked at a system for the Cricket Club to be used in the Hall Porch and we recommend a Proel unit (leaflet enclosed). You could then use the microphones from the Village Hall System to save on costs! This unit can be supplied for £310.20 to include a Speaker Stand.

Quote 2 (██████████): A fully installed bespoke system, costed at ~£15,000 excl. VAT.

I have made a few assumptions but the costs for a sound system and loop system for the village hall will be around £15,000 exc VAT.

This will include:

- 4 speakers to cover the hall, amplifier and cables
- Audio mixer with automatic processing and recalls
- 4 wireless microphones (2 lapel, 2 handheld), aerials, cables, batteries
- Bluetooth receiver and mic input
- Wall mounted equipment cabinet, power distribution and control
- Induction loop amplifier, loop receiver, cable
- Installation, commissioning, testing, training

DIY option A DIY option is possible, where installation would be undertaken by volunteers. The system is similar in scope to the ██████████ quote, though has a somewhat higher specification (notably 8 speakers rather than 4, and a separate mixer). However, it is also comparable in price, even before factoring in the volunteer time and risk associated with the lack of expertise.

TV Screen

A TV on a portable stand is our preferred option for displaying visual materials.

Given the potential size of the audience, we think that an 85" or 98" TV would be appropriate. Online sources¹ suggest that 85" is suitable for viewing distances up to 22 feet, which is the width of the hall. However, for events facing the stage (such as a quiz), this may not be sufficient.

We seek to budget £1,500 to cover the larger size, plus a further £300 to cover the stand (such as the Onkron TS2080) and security cables.

85" TVs under £1,000

Model	Panel Type	Refresh Rate	Smart OS	Key Features	Price
TCL 85T6C-UK QLED Fire TV	QLED	120Hz	Fire TV	Dolby Vision/Atmos, Alexa, HDR10+	£799
Hisense 85A6NTUK 4K Smart TV	VA	60Hz	Vidaa	Dolby Vision, Game Mode, ALLM	£759
Samsung Crystal UHD 85" U7000	LED	50Hz	Tizen	Object Tracking Sound, Gaming Hub	£899

98" TVs under £1,500

Model	Panel Type	Refresh Rate	Smart OS	Key Features	Price
TCL 98Q6C-UK QD-Mini LED Google TV	QD-Mini LED	144Hz	Google TV	Dolby Vision/Atmos, Onkyo 2.1, HDR	£1,499
Samsung 98" DU9000 Crystal UHD	LED	100Hz	Tizen	Supersize Enhancer, Gaming Hub	£1,241
Hisense 98U7KQTUK Mini-LED 4K	Mini-LED	144Hz	Vidaa	Dolby Vision/Atmos, Game Mode Pro	£1,499

¹ <https://smartway2.com/blog/whats-the-ideal-size-of-tv-for-your-conference-room/>

Rationale and Benefits

The planned upgrades will significantly enhance the hall's value to the community by:

- **Improving Accessibility:** The hearing loop will enable residents with hearing impairments to fully participate in events, promoting inclusivity.
- **Modernizing Facilities:** The TV will expand the scope of activities the hall can host, making it more versatile and attractive to users.
- **Supporting Financial Sustainability:** Upgraded facilities will enhance the hall's appeal to potential hirers, increasing bookings and revenue.

These improvements align with the hall's mission to serve as a welcoming, accessible, and functional space for all members of the community.

Summary of Funding Requested

Audio system ([REDACTED])	£1,966.00
Portable speaker ([REDACTED])	£310.20
Television	£1,500.00
Television Accessories	£300.00
<hr/> Total requested	£4,076.20

This is below the original funding request, which was for £5,000.

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