

View Response

Response Details

From [Weald Memorial Hall \(John Parker\)](#)

Date Started: 27 Nov 2020 18:36. Last modified: 30 Dec 2020 15:44

Status Complete

Email Address [REDACTED]

Title Mr.

Firstname John

Surname Parker

Company / Organisation Name Weald Memorial Hall

Position / Role in organisation Chairman

Address 1 [REDACTED]

Address 2 [REDACTED]

Address - Town [REDACTED]

Address - County [REDACTED]

Postcode [REDACTED]

Telephone Number [REDACTED]

Which consultations would you like to be [CIL Charging Schedule](#)

told about?

Which
Neighbourhood
Plans would you like
to be told about?

Sevenoaks Weald Parish Council

Internal
Categorisation

==uncategorised==

Response ID #870012

Visibility Unknown.

Thank you for expressing your interest in applying for CIL funding.

The purpose of CIL is to provide financial assistance to deliver local and/or strategic infrastructure projects across Sevenoaks District to support development and mitigate any adverse impacts from it.

Before continuing with your application, we would advise that you answer all questions as fully as you can. This will help the CIL Spending Board to better understand your proposal for your funding application.

If you still require further assistance and guidance, please do not hesitate to contact the Planning Policy team on 01732 227000 or please email cil@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

Privacy Notice

The personal data which is collected within this form is reasonably necessary for its public task of processing your application for CIL grant funding. This includes considering whether to grant the application and to ensure the effective management of CIL grant funding if approved.

If your application is unsuccessful then personal information will be retained for a period of 10 years after the application is refused. The personal data shall then be deleted except for any information made public under the Council's other legal obligations (including the Access to Information provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 or the Freedom of Information Act). If your application is successful then your data will be retained for the duration of the project applied for and for the full period in which the contract under which the monies are transferred is enforceable. The personal information will then be deleted, except for any information made public under the Council's other legal obligations. Any information relating to this application which is deleted will be deleted in accordance with the Council's standard record retention practice.

Unless otherwise stated we will generally handle personal information in accordance with the Council's Privacy Policy, which can be found through our website at www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/privacy.

Section 1 - Project Details

Please answer all questions as fully as possible. If you wish to supply additional information and attachments to support your bid, you can add these in "Section 6 - Supporting Information".

Scheme Name

Weald Memorial Village Hall

Description of the Scheme

Provide needed maintenance and renovations as laid out in the January

2019 Building Survey Report in order to provide a safe and functional village Hall for Weald and the surrounding community and to extend the life of the building. Specific projects to be undertaken include replacing original windows with energy efficient double-glazed windows; replacement of front entrance double doors with improved security; enhanced insulation to improve energy efficiency; interior updating and redecorating.

Is this scheme promoted by your organisation in partnership with another organisation(s)?

Yes

No

If you answered YES please provide the following details:

- Organisation Name(s)
- Responsible individuals(s)
- Signature(s) on behalf of other supporting organisations(s)
- Details of the Agreements you have in place with your partners. Including the % of money guaranteed for the scheme from each organisation.

Weald Parish Council

John Caird, Town Clerk

Is planning permission required for the scheme?

Yes

No

If YES, has this been applied for?

If NO, please explain why?

Replacing original windows and doors and redecorating does not require planning permission.

If planning permission has been granted – please details and a reference number.

«No response»

Please provide details of any other consent required (if appropriate (e.g. conservation, Listed Buildings, other Government bodies), including the date it was applied for/granted:

«No response»

Section 2 - Need for the Scheme

Please answer all questions as fully as possible. If you wish to supply additional information and attachments to support your bid, you can add these in "Section 6 - Supporting Information".

List of projects or development that result in the need for this scheme:

Providing excellent services to enhance lifestyle choices and meet the needs of our residents as outlined in The Council Plan. The Hall hosts a number of fitness and pilates groups promoting healthier lifestyles. Local groups including the Weald History Group and the Horticultural Society provide regular opportunities for important social gatherings and learning.

How is the scheme related to these developments (additional information, such as usage forecasts and existing and alternative capacity assessments, can be attached as an appendix):

The Memorial Village Hall has been a cornerstone of Weald Village and the surrounding since 1958 and will remain an important venue to provide critical community services to support well-being in a time of unprecedented uncertainty.

(Please see appendix A for historical usage statistics). Covid has reinforced the importance and need for the Memorial Village Hall to provide a welcoming and important meeting place for cultural, social, educational and fitness activities.

Please provide an explanation of the 'public benefit' of the scheme proposed for residents in Sevenoaks District, in terms of:

- Economic
- Social
- Environmental

Economic

The Hall generates income used primarily for upkeep and maintenance and to provide local programmes and events. The Hall provides a local and cost-effective venue for many village organisations, enabling groups to form and flourish, creating a stronger sense of community and inclusion.

Several local businesses hire the Hall on a regular basis thereby supporting local employment in the Sevenoaks area.

It is important to ensure the building has proper security as there was a break in in the past where vandals caused noticeable damage resulting in increased concern from the trustees about providing a safe and secure facility to avoid costly damage and theft.

Social

The memorial Hall is a critical venue for the community, providing activities, programmes and events. It is an important centre for many who are unable or unwilling to travel outside the village thus providing a much-needed primary point of social activities. The Hall hosts various exercise classes, supporting the well-being and health of all residents of all ages. The Hall hosts over 200 private events annually including many children's birthday parties, providing an important link between the Weald Primary School and the community. The new Chairman and committee have ambitious plans for the Hall. Owing to the Covid pandemic there will be a desire for elderly residents to stay in their homes longer and delay moving to care homes if at all possible. In addition, we have an increasing number of young families in Weald who will benefit from their local Hall, obviating the need for travel. This makes the need for a functional, vibrant and multipurpose village Hall all the more important.

With reduced bus services in Weald, having a more self-sufficient community revolving around the Memorial Hall, particularly for the elderly and those with young families, is a necessary and important goal.

The Hall sits at the edge of the Village Green and adjacent to the Children's Play Area and Memorial Hall Field. As the building is now over 60 years old, the Trustees and the Parish Council are committed to updating the Memorial Hall as it is one of the central features of Weald in meeting changing needs of our residents and those in the surrounding vicinity.

Environmental

It is important to improve the energy efficiency of the Hall as the building

still has the original inefficient windows from 1958 in addition to a lack of appropriate insulation under the floor and in the roof space. Additionally, the Memorial Hall provides one of the very few local meeting places for all residents, reducing the need for travel and supporting the wellbeing of our community. With reduced bus services, people are more likely to travel by car if leaving the village. Providing local services and opportunities has the added benefit of reducing local car travel.

Is the need for the scheme identified in any adopted strategy/plan? E.g. Neighbourhood Plan, Work programme of a Statutory Body, Infrastructure Plan. If so, which?

The Memorial Hall is the centrepiece of Weald Village and a critical meeting point for all residents. As such, the importance of keeping the Hall functioning, safe and attractive as a preferred venue for social engagements is key to long term village planning. The importance of the Village Hall was clearly identified in a recent public consultation process conducted by the Parish Council.

How does the scheme identify with the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) and its priorities?

As part of the Sevenoaks District Infrastructure Delivery Plan, having community facilities to support the needs of existing residents and any future growth is key to achieving sustainable communities.

Section 3 - Funding

Please answer all questions as fully as possible. If you wish to supply additional information and attachments to support your bid, you can add these in

"Section 6 - Supporting Information".

Total Project Cost

£30,000

Funding required from CIL:

£15,000

Please identify other funding sources for this project, what contribution they are making and why these can not be used to fund the scheme in its entirety.

Please provide the status of each source of funding for example whether it has been formally agreed, whether it has already been paid, whether it has been agreed in principle, if you are waiting for a decision in regard to the funding, or whether you are investigating the source of funding etc.

1) Weald Parish Council has agreed to provide up to £15,000 in immediate funding in order to ensure the Hall remains safe and in operable condition. This funding has been agreed and will be made available upon the success of this application to the CIL. It is important to note that the Parish Council's proposed participation represents 30% of its annual precept and has to be funded against other village priorities, such as the traffic management project.

Is this bid for staged payments?

Yes

No

Will staged payments be accepted?

Yes

No

Please provide details of anticipated funding requirements and timetable

Funding requirements are dependent upon the outside contractors scheduling. Most contractors require up to 50% upfront payments with the balance upon completion. We would like to proceed as soon as possible in order to conduct work while the Hall is closed due to Coronavirus Tier 4 status. Each of the individual projects should take less than one week but it is presently not clear if they can be done simultaneously or in stages.

Has a bid(s) for CIL funding been made to relevant town and parish councils?

Yes

No

If YES, please provide the following details:

- Details of bid

- Decision made; and
- Details of decision

«No response»

If this bid is being made by a Parish or Town Council and no CIL funds have been contributed by them, please provide an explanation for this.

n/a

Would the scheme be fully funded if the CIL contribution is agreed?

- Yes
- No

Has this scheme already benefited from CIL funding through the CIL Spending Board?

- Yes
- No

If YES, please provide further justification as to why further CIL funding is required for this project.

n/a

Has this scheme/land/building already benefited from funding from Sevenoaks District Council?

Note - this can include grants, section 106s, a Community Fund etc.

Yes

No

If YES, please provide further details of amount and the project involved.

«No response»

Section 4 - Deliverability

Please answer all questions as fully as possible. If you wish to supply additional information and attachments to support your bid, you can add these in "Section 6 - Supporting Information".

Does your organisation have the legal right to carry out the proposed scheme?

Yes

No

If not, you must attach documentation showing that the statutory provider of this service supports this scheme.

«No files»

Anticipated start date for delivery of the scheme

February 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter. Our goal is to complete the work during the imposed lockdown period where possible as the Hall is currently closed so there will be no business interruption caused by the proposed work.

Anticipated finish date for the delivery of the scheme:

April 30th or as soon as possible thereafter. Replacing the windows will be the most significant project and the present quotes suggest the work will take 3-4 days. However, we would plan for a two week window depending on weather and unforeseen circumstances that arise with contractors. This would then apply to the other key projects (doors, redecorating).

Anticipated date when CIL funding will need to be made available:

February 2021 or as soon as possible thereafter

Does land need to be purchased to facilitate the scheme?

Yes

No

If YES, please provide details

«No response»

Please provide a consultation plan to let SDC know when they can expect progress reports on the project.

The Memorial Hall Trustees commissioned a Building Survey in January 2019 and are working through the most serious defects that need to be repaired, replaced or investigated. Currently, these defects compromise the structural integrity of the property or impairs the intended function of the building element. Once the funding is confirmed the Committee will create a more detailed project timeline plan as we confirm the individual contractors that will execute the work. Throughout the proposed work, the Committee will provide weekly updates on progress to the Parish Council and the CIL Spending Board.

Please provide details of the management and timescales of the project.

As there will be 3 or 4 separate contractors, three Trustees / Committee members will be responsible for individually managing the suppliers. Each individual project should last less than a week but it is currently uncertain if projects can run concurrently, depending on contractor availability and whether multiple projects can be executed simultaneously. The Trustees have secured competitive bids for the windows and doors and broad estimates for the redecorating and insulation work. Final contractors to be

selected upon approved funding.

Has consultation been carried out on the scheme or is any planned?

- Carried out
- Planned
- No consultation planned

Please provide details (Note - results can be attached separately if necessary)

The Weald Parish Council recently conducted a broader village consultation process and the Memorial Hall was clearly identified to be vitally important to the Village. The Chairman of the Memorial Hall has been in regular contact with Parish Council. The Parish Council is fully supportive of this initiative to bring the Hall up to an updated functional level as we are replacing original windows and doors and redecorating for the first time in many years. This will be the first phase of what will be a more ambitious plan for the Memorial Hall driven by the new Chairman and fully supported by the Parish Council as part of the evolving Village Design Statement (currently on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic and Sevenoaks District Council's own local plan, with which our statement needs to be consistent).

Is a relevant SDC ward member(s) supportive of the scheme?

You may provide the signature of an SDC ward member or an email from them to cil@sevenoaks.gov.uk.

- Yes

No

Is the relevant town/parish council supportive of the scheme?

Signature of a town/parish council chairman, clerk or chief executive (Note: An email from them to cil@sevenoaks.gov.uk would also be sufficient).

Yes

No

Do you have any other local support for the scheme?

This can be in the form of businesses, community groups etc.

Yes

No

Please provide details of local support. (Note: An email from a relevant party to cil@sevenoaks.gov.uk would also be sufficient).

Appendix B – Emails from Users supporting our plan

Copies of Emails received from Hall users. These have been forwarded by email to CIL@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Judy Whiddett

Re: Memorial Hall

To: john.parker@wealdhallsociety.org.uk

Good afternoon John

As I am chairman of the Weald Horticultural Society Richard Gidman has asked me if I could email you with some information to reinforce your application to SDC.

The WHS was formed in 1908 and so has been using the Weald Memorial Hall ever since the building was first opened. We currently have about 180 members and use the hall regularly. We have 4 Shows a year, in the hall, when members, their friends and other villagers come to admire the society's produce. We have 3 talks, during the winter months, our AGM and the Annual Dinner and all these take place in the hall. Our equipment (for Shows, outdoor events and advertising) is all stored in the loft there.

The Weald Memorial Hall is invaluable to our society and indeed to the whole village community and I know that any refurbishment would be greatly appreciated by everyone.

If you want any more information, John, please let me know.

Judy Whiddett

Sent from my iPad

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

29th December 2020

John Parker

Chairman of the Trustees

Weald Memorial Hall

Dear John

I'm writing to you to add my voice to others who are supporting the Memorial Hall Trustees proposal to enhance the Hall making it an up-to-date warmer, more attractive, fit-for-purpose venue.

For the past five years I have written a newsletter for the village called 'Weald News' and much of what I write about takes place in the Memorial Hall or on the adjacent village Green; the list of activities and events is a long one.

Ever since its construction in the late 1950s, the Hall has been a focus for all kinds of village activity from individual events such as classical concerts, parties and wakes, fundraisers, quizzes, children's discos and other Christian Aid Week events, 10K & Fun Run Registration, as well as a wide variety of exercise classes and group meetings such as Soup & Scrabble, Baby Massage, Women of Weald, Weald Horticultural Society, Weald Brownies, Bee Keepers Society and more.

The Hall often marks milestones in the village's history. For instance, it was the venue for the launch of the Weald history book, 'The Changing Face of Weald', the focus for events marking the centenary of the Great War and an acknowledgement of the young men from the village who did not return. It was also used as a temporary shop when our last village shop closed its doors and was pivotal in keeping going a vital service to villagers before the Community Shop moved into its permanent home.

In addition to village use, the Hall is also used by other local groups. The acoustic is particularly good so it has been booked as a venue for practise by Kent Opera, the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra and a number of professional chamber groups. Members of the chamber group, CIRRUS, were particularly impressed and when their leader, David Burrowes, was changing his piano he offered the Trustees the chance to buy his Broadwood Boudoir Grand. CIRRUS played the first classical dinner concert in the Hall using the piano and, following several further concerts enthusiastically supported by villagers, the piano was paid for.

It is important to the life of the village, to the future of the activities and events taking place in the Hall, to modernise it and bring it up-to-date. Please add my voice of support to others you will have received.

Yours

Susan

Susan Gidman

Designer and Editor, Weald News

President, Women of Weald

----- Original Message -----

From: Sheralyn Silvester [REDACTED]

To: Bookings Weald Memorial Hall <bookings@wealdmemorialhall.org.uk>

Date: 30/12/2020 12:05

Subject: Re: URGENT HELP PLEASE!!! - UPGRADE OF WEALD MEMORIAL HALL

I am a regular user of the hall on a Wednesday morning.

I teach PIYO which does have people at the beginning standing around in poses, I often have to put the heating on, and this obviously takes time to heat and we are often part way through the class before it warms up.

Double glazed windows and roof insulation would make a huge difference to the early morning classes such as mine, and I expect those attending in the Evening as well.

My clients are residents in Weald, and the hall is a vital facility to them all.

I hope to continue using the hall going forward, and any improvements such as insulation and better widows would be appreciated.

Sheralyn Silvester

PIYO instructor

Section 5 - Maintenance

Please answer all questions as fully as possible. If you wish to supply additional information and attachments to support your bid, you can add these in "Section 6 - Supporting Information".

Which organisation will be responsible for ongoing maintenance?

Weald Memorial Hall Trustees and Committee

Are funding arrangements in place for maintenance?

Yes

No

Please provide details

The Memorial Hall generates annual income from renting the facilities to various village groups which collectively cover the annual maintenance and running costs for the Hall under normal circumstances. The Memorial Hall retains the support of the Weald Parish Council should it be required due to revenue shortfalls from the Covid situation. We also continue to identify alternative sources of external funds if needed.

Please provide any further comments here.

This could include if there are any other infrastructure projects that are related to this bid or any that rely on this bid.

«No response»

Section 6 - Supporting Information

You can provide any supporting documents for your application here.

Please note that you are only able to upload a maximum of 10 documents.

If you do not wish to provide any additional documents, please go to the next section.

 Usage Statistics Q1 2020.xlsx

Section 7 - Declaration and Further Information

Please read the following declaration and provide the additional information required.

DECLARATION

I am authorised to submit this bid for funding on behalf of the organisation that I represent. At the time of writing, the information contained in this submission (including appendices) is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. If CIL funding is committed and circumstances change prior to the completion of the scheme, the organisation that I represent will notify

Sevenoaks District Council. The Council will reserve the right to reconsider the allocation of funding. If CIL funding is committed to the above project then the organisation that I represent commits to providing Sevenoaks District Council with sufficient information to enable it to undertake its reporting requirements under the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended), or any subsequent relevant regulations.

- On behalf of my organisation, I agree to the Declaration as stated above
- On behalf of my organisation, I do not agree to the Declaration as stated above

Please provide the following additional information

Name, role and contact details of the person that will be the contact for this bid:

John Parker, Chairman-Weald Memorial Hall.
Memorialhallchairman@icloud.com . [REDACTED]

Name, role and contact details of the person that will be attending SDC's CIL Spending Board to support this bid

Please note that if a representative does not attend the CIL Spending Board, your bid is likely to be referred to a committee that they can attend.

John Parker, Chairman-Weald Memorial Hall.
Memorialhallchairman@icloud.com . [REDACTED]

James Hinchey, Treasurer-Weald Memorial Hall.
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Name, role and contact details of the person that will be the point of contact and responsible for the Legal Contract:

John Parker, Chairman – Weald Memorial Hall
Memorialhallchairman@icloud.com . [REDACTED]

Name, role and contact details of the person that will be legally responsible for receiving the CIL funds

James Hinchey, Treasurer-Weald Memorial Hall.
[REDACTED]

Full company/charity name

Weald Memorial Village Hall

Registered No:

Registered Charity Number: 1142263

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Application Complete

Thank you for your application to the CIL Spending Board for CIL funding.

Your application will now be reviewed and assessed by Officers. If any part of your application requires further information or clarification, you will be contacted with the details you have provided.

You will be notified as soon as possible as to whether your application has been successful and to be considered by the CIL Spending Board.

Please click the "Finish" button to complete and submit your CIL funding application.

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From: john.parker
To: [CIL Mailbox](mailto:CIL_Mailbox)
Subject: Fwd: URGENT HELP PLEASE!!! - UPGRADE OF WEALD MEMORIAL HALL
Date: 31 December 2020 12:08:05

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see below additional emails from users of the Hall to support our CIL application.

Kind regards,

John

John Parker
memorialhallchairman@icloud.com

----- Original Message -----

From: Maureen carter [REDACTED]
To: Bookings Weald Memorial Hall
<bookings@wealdmemorialhall.org.uk>
Date: 30/12/2020 17:01
Subject: Re: URGENT HELP PLEASE!!! - UPGRADE OF WEALD MEMORIAL HALL

The Weald Memorial Hall is a focus for residents of Weald and including many people in the surrounding area.

The art group has been a thriving and well supported group since the early 1900's. Some members coming from its early days as a group started as an outpost for the Sevenoaks Adult Education Art Classes around 1993. There are at least 6 members from that time who still belong, and are now regular members as it functions as an art group that encourages and enthuses new members, while more experienced members work on developing ideas and helping and encouraging new artists.

All the societies and groups are well supported and there is a great appreciation of all the facilities in and around the village green. From outdoor use of the village green for the school's sports days and exhibitions, the Running for Charity days, and many other activities for which the Hall is vital for it's facilities and nourishment needed.

Now there is an exchapel shop manned by mostly volunteers every week day by the Green making it even more an attractive venue for folk to want to be in and enjoy.

Sincerely. Maureen Carter.

From: [john.parker](#)
To: [CIL Mailbox](#)
Subject: Fwd: Weald village hall
Date: 31 December 2020 18:34:56

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Another email supporting our CIL application

Regards,

John

John Parker
Chairman Memorial Hall
[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Kate (Baby & Toddler Explorers)" <kate@babyexplorers.com>
Date: 31 December 2020 at 17:13:58 GMT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Weald village hall

To whole it may concern

As a regular hall hirer at the Weald Memorial Village Hall I know the huge importance of having such a venue for people to be able to attend. I run baby classes for new parents and babies aged up to 12months and these social and educational gatherings are a huge support to local parents and the community.

With improvements made to the hall it would be a more comfortable, welcoming space for our parents and other hirers and I'm sure only increase the use of the hall by local residents.

Kind Regards,

Kate Firman
Baby Explorers (hirer of the hall on a Wednesday)

www.babyexplorers.com

From: john.parker
To: [CIL Mailbox](mailto:CIL_Mailbox)
Subject: RENNOVATIONS OF WEALD MEMORIAL HALL - support emails from community
Date: 31 December 2020 12:06:59

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see below additional emails from users of the Hall to support our CIL application.

Kind regards,

John

John Parker
memorialhallchairman@icloud.com
[REDACTED]

John Parker
[REDACTED]

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Bookings Weald Memorial Hall
<bookings@wealdmemorialhall.org.uk>
Date: 30/12/2020 16:59
Subject: Re: URGENT HELP PLEASE!!! - UPGRADE OF WEALD MEMORIAL HALL

Dear John,

I asked Pauline as Chair of WOW for her comments :

“The Memorial Hall provides a lifeline to many of Weald's older ladies as it provides a meeting place each month for the Women of Weald members.

However it would be even more appreciated if they could take off their coats in the winter months and relax in comfort with their friends

Pauline Taylor, WOW”

Sheila (Turley)

From: [john.parker](mailto:john.parker@wealdmemorialhall.org.uk)
To: [CIL Mailbox](mailto:CIL_Mailbox@wealdmemorialhall.org.uk)
Subject: RENOVATIONS OF WEALD MEMORIAL HALL
Date: 31 December 2020 12:08:51

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see below additional emails from users of the Hall to support our CIL application.

Kind regards,

John

John Parker
memorialhallchairman@icloud.com

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Bookings Weald Memorial Hall
<bookings@wealdmemorialhall.org.uk>, John Parker
[REDACTED]
Date: 30/12/2020 17:40
Subject: Re: URGENT HELP PLEASE!!! - UPGRADE OF WEALD MEMORIAL HALL

The Weald History Group came up with a 'group' answer :

Weald History Group

Weald Memorial Hall is a vital community building for this Society because:

1. It is the only village amenity that is suitable for our meetings and talks
2. The membership of the Society is predominantly made up of older people who need a local facility, and is within walking distance for many.
3. There is not another community building that is suitable in hosting our exhibitions.
4. It is a meeting place that is, not only, convenient but also a safe meeting place.
5. It enables village community inter-action and thereby helps to confront the serious issue of loneliness
6. This Village Hall is the fulcrum of life and activities in Weald, relating to the history of the village.
7. Our members use this hall by being members of other societies and groups and it is a place that is hired by villagers celebrating important events and anniversaries. These include personal milestones as well as the recent remembrance events relating to the two World Wars (the hall was built in memory of those villagers who did not return from the Second

World War in order to provide a village meeting place for residents of Weald)

Thanks

Sheila (Turley)

From: [Susan.Gidman](#)
To: [CIL Mailbox](#)
Subject: Support for CIL application by Weald Memorial Hall Trustees
Date: 30 December 2020 10:49:53

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Below is a copy of a letter I have sent to John Parker as the Chairman of the Weald Memorial Hall Trustees.



29th December 2020

John Parker
Chairman of the Trustees
Weald Memorial Hall

Dear *John*

I'm writing to you to add my voice to others who are supporting the Memorial Hall Trustees proposal to enhance the Hall making it an up-to-date warmer, more attractive, fit-for-purpose venue.

For the past five years I have written a newsletter for the village called 'Weald News' and much of what I write about takes place in the Memorial Hall or on the adjacent village Green; the list of activities and events is a long one.

Ever since its construction in the late 1950s, the Hall has been a focus for all kinds of village activity from individual events such as classical concerts, parties and wakes, fundraisers, quizzes, children's discos and other Christian Aid Week events, 10K & Fun Run Registration, as well as a wide variety of exercise classes and group meetings such as Soup & Scrabble, Baby Massage, Women of Weald, Weald Horticultural Society, Weald Brownies, Bee Keepers Society and more.

The Hall often marks milestones in the village's history. For instance, it was the venue for the launch of the Weald history book, 'The Changing Face of Weald', the focus for events marking the centenary of the Great War and an acknowledgement of the young men from the village who did not return. It was also used as a temporary shop when our last village shop closed its doors and was pivotal in keeping going a vital service to villagers before the Community Shop moved into its permanent home.

In addition to village use, the Hall is also used by other local groups. The acoustic is particularly good so it has been booked as a venue for practise by Kent Opera, the Sevenoaks Symphony Orchestra and a number of professional chamber groups. Members of the chamber group, CIRRUS, were particularly impressed and when their leader, David Burrowes, was changing his piano he offered the Trustees the chance to buy his Broadwood Boudoir Grand. CIRRUS played the first classical dinner concert in the Hall using the piano and, following several further concerts enthusiastically supported by villagers, the piano was paid for. The Hall has been used as a polling station for many years as the venue for local and national elections.

It is important to the life of the village, to the future of the activities and events taking place in the Hall, to modernise it and bring it up-to-date. Please add my voice of support to others you will have received.

Yours

Susan
Susan Gidman

Designer and Editor, Weald News
President, Women of Weald

Concert facilitator

Weald Parish Council

31st December, 2020

Sevenoaks District Council

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Spending Board

Bid for Funding from Weald Memorial Village Hall

Weald Parish Council fully supports Weald Memorial Village Hall's Bid for Funding and will itself contribute £15,000 towards the development of the Scheme detailed in the Hall's application to the CIL Spending Board.

Weald's Memorial Hall play a vital role in the life of our village and the Parish Council is proud to support the planned renovation of our Hall.

Best Regards,

John Caird

Clerk

Event Type	Total	Weekly Usage First 12 weeks of 2020											
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Pilates	21		2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Private Event	50	4	2	3	4	5	4	2	7	5	4	5	5
Fitsteps	11		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wow-Keep Fit	11	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1
Wow-Art	6		1		1	1	1		1		1		
Sound Right Phonics	10		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
7Oaks Beekeepers	5		1					2			1	1	
Weald Horticultural Society	1				1								
Weald History Group	2								1				1
Wow	2						1			1			
Total number of events	119	5	9	8	11	11	11	7	14	11	11	11	10

*PreCovid the Memorial Hall forecasts for 2020 were for over 500 events, including over 200 private events (birthdays, anniversaries, private dinners, etc.). Keeping in mind the current condition of the hall, we believe the opportunity is much greater as needed improvements are made.