

Report for Extraordinary Meeting of Evesham Town Council

August 15th 2022

MEND Fund

Following the submission of the Expression of Interest to the MEND Fund, we have been invited to apply for £2.6m for the restoration of the Almonry including new heating, lighting and upgrades to our intruder and fire alarm systems. The completed application is due on 30th September.

A condition of the grant is that a minimum of 10% match funding is provided. The MEND Guidance state that as part of the mandatory attachments required with the application we must submit

‘Partnership funding evidence...evidence of any contribution of your own funds (e.g. board minutes)’

I am looking at other funding opportunities and I have submitted a pre-application to the Historic Houses Foundation who will be meeting in September and will decide if we can apply for the amount requested.

I have attached a copy of the costed condition survey and a further breakdown of M&E costs. All costs have been set by a Quantity Surveyor who has worked with the M&E engineers who scoped the electrical works at the Almonry and with the programme lead for the surveys we commissioned last year.

We have had to include a contingency at 25% although that may be conservative with the current rise in prices.

At the last council meeting it was agreed in principle that the council would contribute the 10% match funding required and there was some discussion as to where the funds would be taken from either from reserves or through a PWLB loan.

Recommendation: That Evesham Town Council agree and confirm that they will contribute the 10% match funding required and commit to making the funds available for the start of the project in April 2023 should the application be successful