



Environmental Policy

Statement

THGI Ltd aims to minimise any adverse impact on the environment, by improving the building and careful regulation of its use. Retaining the Hall will in itself prevent the unwelcome environmental impact of demolition and rebuilding, followed by increased traffic and parking congestion, which replacement with a housing development would inevitably bring. It is intended to retain the frontage and the building in its present form so that the visual environment is not damaged by the refurbishment.

Sustainable Travel Plan

Measures will be taken to combat the effect of the expected increase in footfall due to greater use of the building. The majority of Hall users are expected to be from the Prestonville area and its immediate environs, most of whom will be able to walk or cycle to the hall. Cycle racks will be provided. All Hall hirers will be asked to encourage users from further afield to use public transport rather than cars: there is a bus route less than 5 minutes away in Dyke Road and the train station is approximately 15 minutes' walk away. Car travel will be further deterred by the high cost of parking in Exeter Street. Regular user surveys will record modes of travel.

Noise Reduction

Conditions in the letting agreement will include limiting use of the Hall to reasonable hours, setting acceptable levels for music and asking hirers to ensure their users or guests arrive and depart quietly and quickly. Persistent disregard for these conditions would result in terminating the contract of the Hall hirer concerned. Installation of secondary glazing and incorporation of insulating material into the new roof will greatly reduce noise emanating from inside the building. See separate Noise Management Policy.

Sustainable Refurbishment Measures

Proposed actions include:- reduction of heat loss by draught-proofing and insulation, installation of a carbon neutral heating system, energy saving devices such as switch-off signs and people-activated lighting, using grey water from a rain harvesting tank to flush the toilets, and removal of the wasteful urinals currently in use. Recycling will be implemented, waste minimised and properly disposed of and ecological cleaning materials and office supplies used. THGI Ltd is already consulting architects and green building specialists on ways to make the hall as environmentally friendly as possible.

Consultation and Conclusion

THGI Ltd will widen the consultation to include neighbours and others with an interest or expertise in the area. A detailed action plan and management system will be drawn up and implemented. Adherence to the 10 Principles of One Planet Living will be considered. Management, staff and hall users will be made aware of the environmental policy. THGI's intention is to enhance people's living environment in this densely populated area by providing a high quality community facility sensitive to all aspects of environmental concern.