

Decking Project Brief

2026

Current Facility

Over 20 Years ago the 1st Woodham Scout Group installed an outdoor covered decking area to the side of our Hut. This provides an outdoor sink alongside covered storage space, but most importantly a dry outdoor area to extend the accommodation space for our young members to undertake activities outdoor and in poor weather. With a double door from our main hall onto the decking and the installation of electric lighting, the space can be used throughout the year.



State of Repair

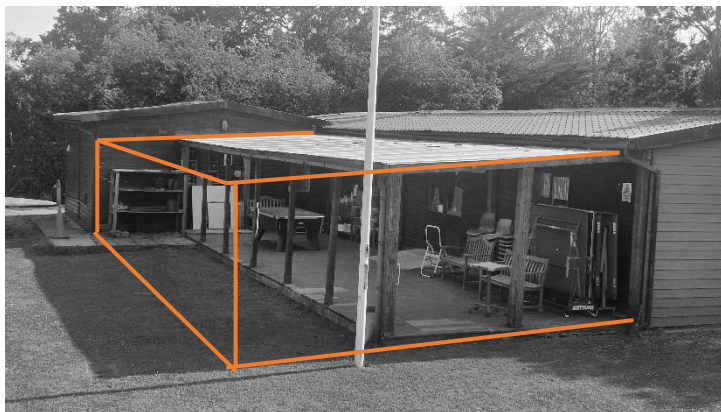
The decking has seen a lot of use over the past 20 years and with increasing age, the maintenance and repairs are growing each year. This year the roof has started leaking and water has been entering the light fittings in the decking area. Whereas the Scout Group has fun raised and replaced the wood cladding on 3 of the main walls of the hut, the walls surrounding the decking, along with the east facing wall, is currently unclad and also in poor repair.



Proposed Project

Due to the poor condition of the decking and roof, the entire structure will need to be removed. However, this gives us the opportunity to accommodate our growing numbers and provide a more versatile space. We are proposing to increase the overall decking area by about 50% to approximately 13m x 6.7m as shown highlighted on the right.

The replacement consists of 3 separately costed elements however practically they need to be undertaken at the same time:



- 1) Following old decking removal it will be replaced with hollow board composite decking, featuring an anti-slip tread. This should have a lifespan of 30-40 years.
- 2) The old wooden cladding will be removed and replaced with cement fibre cladding to match the rest of the building and will last 40+ years. This will also include replacing the double doors onto the decking with modern uPVC doors, and window into the recently refurbished kitchen to act as a serving hatch.
- 3) Finally, the Roof of the decking will be replaced with a larger clear 25mm poly sheeting and aluminium weather bars. This will also include reinstating the electrics and installation of a new gutter.



Left: Window to kitchen (currently partially obscured) and Right: current strip lighting



Funding Situation

The 1st Woodham Ferrers Scout Group has been fundraising for a number of years with activities such as Quiz nights, Family Breakfasts, Asda Bucket collections, and a 100 Club lottery. In addition, we have been making maximum benefit of Gift Aid claiming additional funds from HMRC.

The 3 elements have been costed by a local firm (who have in the past undertaken work for us at competitive rates). The amounts including VAT and all associated rubbish disposal are:

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|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Decking : | £10,875 |
| 2) Cladding/Windo and Double door: | £11,400 |
| 3) New Roof Structure: | £ 9,150 |

The total cost for these 3 projects is £31,425 which is much more that we would expect for any single grant. As a result, we are hoping to find grants from a number of sources towards each of 3 parts of this overall project, and for which the Scout Group would be able to match any funding from exiting or future fundraising.

On Behalf of 1st Woodham Ferrers Scout Group

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