

## **Design & Access Statement**

to support proposed alterations to  
**The Pavilion, The Green, Hilton, Huntingdon PE28 9NE**

On behalf of Hilton Parish Council

### **Introduction**

A pavilion has for over a century provided a useful function in support of sports within the village, particularly cricket and football. It sits at the heart of the traditional country village of Hilton.



The Parish Council who own and maintain the building believe that it is an important asset to the village and with potential to provide amenity throughout the year, not just in the summer months, if the building was made more comfortable.

### **An explanation of the rational for the design**

Reflecting its original design as a cricket pavilion, the building has no heating, and the window openings at the front are not glazed, but shuttered. These limitations mean that the pavilion is occupied only fleetingly – for use of changing room or toilet facilities – outside the summer months. Hilton Parish Council is concerned by the low utilisation of the pavilion. Its new design proposal will mean the building can be used comfortably through the winter months and continue to fulfil its original function as a cricket pavilion with changing rooms and storage for kit.

Extra storage to the rear will further improve the utility of the building and provide storage for equipment used for village events.

The rather stark exterior of the existing pavilion will be softened by the use of weather boarding and replacement of the brick pillars with ornamental cast metal.

The effect will be to make the pavilion sympathetic to the surrounding buildings and in keeping with the rural heritage of the village of Hilton. The building will become more Victorian in character, a period when many village pavilions were built.

The new extension to the rear will not be visible from the front and will be shielded by trees to the side and rear.

### **Proposed details of works**

Existing building:

- Add wood cladding to external walls
- Remove the brick piers and replace with metal pillars
- Change boarded openings to double glazed security windows
- Add new side window for PC office
- Repair roof and retile where necessary
- Additional hard landscaping for ramps- disabled access
- Remodel internal layout to provide two changing rooms and PC office
- General electrical upgrade to current standards and improve lighting
- Replace toilet facilities
- Replace kitchen facilities
- Improve insulation to walls and ceilings
- Install central heating

Proposed Extension:

- Walls to be block and timber clad
- Roof to be slate with roof lights

### **Access**

Paths leading to the building are compacted stone with a gravel dressing. One path leads directly from the Village Hall carpark to the front of the pavilion. The grass around the pavilion is mown short as part of the ongoing maintenance regime employed by the Parish Council.

Parking is not permitted next to the pavilion as the building stands on common land where motorised vehicular access is restricted by law.

Access into the building is hampered by a step into the two access points, the door at the front and at the side. It is proposed a new ramp will provide wheelchair access to the side door. The toilet facilities will be constructed in compliance with current building regulations.

## Conclusion

Whilst the role of Hilton Green in the community life of the village continues to flourish as a place for residents and their families to spend leisure time or participate in sports or other organised events through the year (such as Hilton Feast Week, companion dog shows and various commemorative occasions), the full use of the pavilion has been restricted to a few weekends each summer. Some facilities are also made available to a local youth football team in the winter months. There is a further limitation in that both entrances to the pavilion are stepped, making unaided wheelchair access impossible. Finally, it is noticeable that nearly thirty years of wear and tear have affected the external façade overlooking Hilton Green and the other heritage assets.

The proposed works will have the effect not only of improving the internal facilities to enable use of the building at all times of the year by the whole community – and not just for organised sport, but the external and structural works are also intended to make the building readily accessible to all and to enhance this landmark's visual aspect.

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