

Heritage Statement

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

On behalf of Hilton Parish Council

The Site

The pavilion sits within a conservation area, at the edge of The Green, an area of some 27 acres denoted as common land owned and maintained by Hilton Parish Council.

The Green is a significant and well used village amenity; it is an area accessible to all and is preserved as a green open space. The Green encloses a cricket ground and a football pitch, serving recreational pursuits which have taken place here for generations. The Green provides a venue for many village other events including Feast Week, sports day, and dog shows, as well as for community celebrations and commemorations.

Around The Green there are many buildings of importance, many of which are listed (described below). This is a country village setting and the pavilion occupies a prominent position in this scene. Hilton Parish Council intends to improve the value of the pavilion to the community and, in doing so, proposes to make changes to the exterior so that it will be more in keeping with the site and its surroundings.

History

Hilton Cricket Club can be traced back to 1850 and a pavilion has occupied the site since 1906. The first pavilion was a wooden building that remained in use until it was replaced in the late 1980s by the present building. The pavilion is immediately visible to anyone approaching Hilton Green from any direction. It is also observable from almost all of the listed buildings on the southern edge of Hilton Green and from the Turf Maze and Sparrow Monument. This prominence, together with its somewhat isolated location, means that the pavilion is a landmark in this area of Hilton.

Heritage Assets

The heritage assets close to, or within sight of the proposed works to the pavilion include the following:

The Common Land, known as Hilton Green, within which the pavilion is located.

The Turf Maze and the Sparrow Monument (Grade II)

Listed buildings on the periphery of Hilton Green. All are Grade II:

- Grange Farmhouse

- Barn to East of Grange Farmhouse
- Grange Farm Cottage
- Aisled Barn to Rear of Grange Farm Cottage
- Village Hall
- The Manor House
- The Limes
- The Rectory

Hilton Green

The Green is an amenity enjoyed by residents and visitors for centuries as a venue for sports, recreation and leisure activities. This historic, landscaped area of 27 acres accommodates a cricket ground and a football pitch. The pavilion is situated on the western boundary of the cricket ground. The ancient and mature trees surrounding the sports ground provide a beautiful setting, much remarked on by residents and by visitors to Hilton.

The Turf Maze and the Sparrow Monument

About 150 metres to the south-west of the pavilion lies the Turf Maze, cut by Captain William Sparrow in 1660, to commemorate the restoration of King Charles II. In the centre of the maze stands a stone pillar into which is carved Sparrow's coat of arms and an inscription in Latin recording the year of his birth and the year he "fashioned these circles". This heritage asset features in travel guides and historical literature on mazes and labyrinths. As a result, there is a regular flow of visitors to this site throughout the year.

Listed buildings on the periphery of Hilton Green

The listed buildings named above, with the exception of the Village Hall, all lie along the southern perimeter of Hilton Green. The pavilion is within clear view of most of these. The Village Hall is situated to the south-west of the pavilion, approximately 50 metres beyond the Turf Maze and Sparrow Monument. The named listed buildings characterise the unique setting of Hilton Green as a defining feature of the village of Hilton.

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