



Ilminster Sports Club
 Archie Gooch Pavilion
 Brittens Field
 Ilminster
 Somerset
 TA19 9FE

Ms Joy Norris
 Town Clerk
 Ilminster Town Council
 North Street
 Ilminster
 Somerset

Our Reference: MC_1_1_2018

1 January 2018

Dear Town Clerk

Re: The Archie Gooch Pavilion Car Park

The Ilminster Sports Club Directors, the body responsible for the maintenance and running of the Archie Gooch Pavilion, are approaching a number of organisations for grant funding to enable the car park to be tarmacked.

The inclement weather we have experienced already this year is taking its toll on the surface of the car park. If the tarmac work is not carried out in the near future we will be forced to restrict the use of the car park and we have no desire to see that happen.

The Pavilion may be home to the Ilminster Town Football Club but it is also very much a 'community building'. You only have to look at the list of the regular users: Slimming World, the Ilminster Guides, the Minster Milers, Moo Music and the Music Bugs to name but a few. If you also take into account the events that take place in the Pavilion, such as Bingo nights, Sunday Roasts, live music, birthday parties, and Charity tea parties you will appreciate that the volume of cars using the car park is quite high.

The provision of a car park at the site has meant Canal Way is far less congested and much safer. Furthermore, the car park is not a restricted car park and is often used by walkers and during the summer months by the Ilminster Cricket Club.



Our aim has always been to create a community building and car park that is of benefit to Ilminster residents and one that can be accessed safely by all members of the community. We would really appreciate the Town Council's support with this endeavour to improve the car park.

So far we have received three quotes for the completion of this work, the lowest of which was £11,200.00.

SSDC officers have advised us that as this is a community facility, we can apply for a Capital Grant. We will be seeking a total of £5,600.00 from SSDC. However such a grant would require matched funding and this is being actively sought.

So far we have secured funds from the Clarks Foundation (£1,000.00) and the Ilminster Sports Club Ltd (£2,240.00) giving us a total of £3,240.00. We will be asking South Somerset District Council for a contribution of £5,600.00. We would hope that the Town Council would consider providing a grant of £2,500 to support the improvement of the car park.

Please would you let us know if and when this matter might be discussed at a Council Meeting and we will ensure that at least one of the Directors is in attendance at the meeting to answer any questions. Should you require additional information prior to the meeting please let us know.

Yours sincerely

Ms Emma Jane Taylor
on behalf of all the Ilminster Sports Club Directors