

Committee: FULL COUNCIL

Date: 21 June 2022

Title: Ile Court – East Street Footpath via the Old Magistrates Court

Purpose of Report

For members to review allowing access from Ile Court to Silver Street to the general public through the gate in the Old Magistrate's Carpark

Recommendation:

Members resolve that access from Ile Court to East Street be allowed during office hours, subject to members of staff being on site at the Council offices.

Report:

1. There have been requests verbally communicated to members of the council staff and to members that the council consider opening up the pathway between Ile Court and East Street.
2. The council's ownership of the land extends only as far as the gateway underneath the walkway leading to the fire-escape. This gate is currently kept locked as to open it would allow unmonitored access through the carpark whilst the building is empty. Ownership of the path itself would appear to be with the Coop store.
3. It is intended that we will move into the building on a permanent basis in August 2022 and at this point it would be feasible for the pathway to be made accessible.
4. There were some concerns over who would be responsible for the pathway during inclement weather but that would fall upon the owners of the path although the Town Council would have to ensure that a safe way through the carpark was maintained.
5. The pathway is not a Public Right of Way and it is planned that it will be properly signposted as such.
6. Access to the path would only be at times when the staff are actually operating in the building and as such this would preclude access at weekends. The gates at both ends would be locked when ever the building is not occupied or unless special arrangements had been made. One of the

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vehicle gates would also be kept closed in order to prevent unauthorised vehicles entering.

7. It would appear that this way of operating would be similar to that allowed by the previous owners of the Old Magistrates Court.
8. Members are asked to resolve that access from Ile Court to East Street be allowed during office hours, subject to members of staff being on site at the Council offices.

Mark Tredwin
Town clerk
June 2022