

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

West Lavington Village Hall Car Park Resurfacing

Applicant	West Lavington Parish Council
Site	West Lavington Village Hall, Sandfield, West Lavington, Devizes SN10 4HL
Proposal	Resurfacing and improvement of the existing village hall car park
Supporting drawing	AWA Consulting Engineers drawing 14730-D-106 C1 - External Works and White Line Layout

1. Introduction

This Design and Access Statement has been prepared on behalf of West Lavington Parish Council in support of a planning application for the resurfacing and improvement of the existing car park serving West Lavington Village Hall.

The Parish Council is the custodian of the village hall car park and wishes to improve its condition, appearance and usability for the benefit of the village hall and the wider local community. The works are essentially an improvement to an established parking area rather than the creation of a new car park.

2. Existing Site and Use

The application site is the existing car park associated with West Lavington Village Hall at Sandfield. It currently has a mix of degrading tarmac and crushed aggregate surface which has become uneven and potholed through use and weathering.

The car park supports bookings and activities at the village hall, including local clubs, meetings, events and performances. It also provides a useful community parking resource for users of the adjoining and surrounding recreational amenities, including the playing field and playgrounds. In addition, parents and carers associated with Dauntsey Academy Primary School (DAPS) make use of the car park at school drop-off and pick-up times.

The proposal does not introduce a new use to the site. Its purpose is to provide a safer, more durable and better organised surface for the existing community use which will include a non-permeable surface, hence the planning application.

3. Proposed Design

The existing aggregate car park will be resurfaced using a compacted MOT Type 1 sub-base with a non-permeable tarmac surface. This will replace the present loose, potholed aggregate finish and provide a level, durable and readily maintainable surface.

The layout follows the accompanying AWA Consulting Engineers drawing 14730-D-106 C1. The drawing provides marked parking bays, with standard bays shown at 4.8m x 2.4m. Accessible parking bays are also provided, each based on a 4.8m x 2.4m bay with a 1.2m surrounding access strip. White lining is specified as hot-applied thermoplastic road marking material or paint in accordance with BS EN 1871.

Kerbs, flush channels and transitions are used within the detailed design to define the parking area and assist movement and drainage. The overall approach is deliberately simple and functional, reflecting the existing use and character of the site.

4. Drainage

As the proposed tarmac finish is non-permeable, surface water drainage has been incorporated into the scheme. The supporting drainage information identifies a below-ground system serving the village hall car park, including chambers and pipes, silt traps, a by-pass separator and a modular storage soakaway.

A maintenance schedule has been prepared for these drainage elements. It provides for regular inspection and clearance of chambers, pipes and silt traps, monitoring and maintenance of the by-pass separator, and periodic inspection of the modular storage soakaway. This provides a practical regime to help ensure the drainage system continues to operate effectively after completion of the works.

5. Appearance and Amenity

The proposal will materially improve the appearance of the existing car park by replacing a worn, loose and potholed surface with a consistent tarmac finish and clearly defined parking bays.

The works are modest in character and remain within the established car parking area. No new building is proposed. The improved surface and organised bay layout will make more efficient use of the available space and reduce the informal and sometimes uneven parking associated with the current aggregate surface.

The Parish Council considers that the works will improve local amenity by providing a cleaner, safer and more reliable parking facility for village hall users, local residents, school-related parking and users of nearby recreation facilities.

6. Access and Inclusive Use

Vehicular access to the car park will remain as existing. The proposal does not seek to alter the established access arrangements from Sandfield.

The new tarmac surface will provide a firmer, smoother and more predictable surface than the existing loose and potholed aggregate, improving conditions for pedestrians, wheelchair users, people with limited mobility and those using pushchairs. The marked layout also includes dedicated accessible parking bays with surrounding access strips.

Overall, the proposal improves accessibility without changing the established relationship between the car park, village hall and surrounding community facilities.

7. Conclusion

The proposed works represent a straightforward improvement to an existing and well-used community car park. The resurfacing will address the poor condition of the current aggregate surface, provide clearer and more accessible parking arrangements, and improve the appearance and usability of the site.

The design is proportionate to its village setting and existing use, while the supporting drainage arrangements provide for the management and ongoing maintenance of surface water arising from

the new non-permeable finish. The scheme will support the continued use of West Lavington Village Hall and the wider community facilities that the car park serves.