

Report for Wickham Market Village Hall Modernisation Committee

4 February 2025

Car Parking Update

Wickham Market Parish Council and members of the previous Village Hall Modernisation Working Group have been in discussion with East Suffolk Councils (ESC) parking team to address concerns about the over-use of the village hall car park, its poor exit onto the High Street by the Co-op, and how the car parking could be improved if the village hall is modernised.

Options being discussed in principle only are:

- Could the existing car park be re-lined, signed for limited time parking and enforced by ESC? At present the village hall car park is free and unrestricted in its use attracting many users in the daytime and overnight. This restricts the availability of parking for legitimate users of the village hall and often results in damaging parking on the grass football pitch.
- Could there be an exit of all vehicles from the village hall through the Percy Mason long stay car park with traffic then exiting onto The Hill?

Discussions continue with ESC into whether these options are practical, deliverable and affordable. The Committee would want to widely consult on these options if they were progressed.

Discussions are also ongoing with SZC Ltd about the potential loss of some on-street car parking if the proposed SZC related traffic calming proceeds and whether improvements to the village hall car park might mitigate these losses.

David Chenery
Vice-Chairman
February 2025