

**Hythe & Saltwood Sailing Club - request to use Sports Pavilion car park for occasional events.**

Dear Mrs Abbott

I am currently the Commodore of Hythe & Saltwood Sailing Club ("HSSC"). I am contacting you at the suggestion of Jeremy Speakman, who is both a district councillor and a member (and former Commodore) of HSSC.

As well as regular sailing and windsurfing racing for its members, HSSC also hosts occasional "open" events which are attended by visitors from around the country. For example, this year we were scheduled to host an event for Kent Schools Sailing Association, and we held a successful Open Meeting (and Eastern Area Championships) for the International Contender Class.

Although, we are fortunate, in Hythe Bay, to have a great and largely unrestricted area of water to sail in, onshore we are pushed for space when we host events like these. We struggle for space in our dinghy-park to house the visiting dinghies, and sometimes additional rescue boats. Also, a good number of visitors who travel to these weekend events have small camper vans and (as is possible at many other sailing clubs which we travel to) would ideally wish to stay close to the club overnight on the Saturday evening and, for some travelling from further afield, on the Friday evening.

A little while back Jeremy Speakman kindly spoke to Laura Cook (copied on this message) and to a few Town Councillors about whether it would be possible, on these odd occasions when HSSC is hosting sailing or windsurfing events with visiting participants, for us to make use of the Sports Pavilion car park for overflow boat/camper parking. We would of course, be able to notify the Council well in advance of the dates on which such use was proposed. At the moment, in our calendar for 2024 we only have one such event scheduled - a Contender Open Meeting - which will be on or around the first weekend in July.

The club would be very grateful if the Town Council would kindly consider allowing the proposed occasional use of the Sports Pavilion car park. If the Council is agreeable to this proposal, it would be of great assistance to HSSC in continuing to attract visitors to enjoy our club and the town.

I look forward to hearing from you. Please do let me know if there is any further information which you require in order to assist you to consider our request. I have copied this email to James Eberlein, who is currently our Rear-Commodore, sailing but who is standing to take over from me as Commodore of the club from late November onwards.

Many thanks, in advance, for your attention.

Kind regards

Commodore - HSSC