

Market Lavington Library – Area Board briefing Monday 6 September 2021

The library in Market Lavington is currently based in a Grade II listed building owned by the 1st Lavington Sea Scout Group. The library closed in March 2020 at the start of the pandemic and remains closed due to long term issues with damp. The landlords are seeking an alternative location for the Sea Scouts who use the majority of the building and Wiltshire Council have been researching new premises for the library as a result.

We're now pleased to announce we are considering a move to the Old School House, a community facility owned and managed by Market Lavington Parish Council. Relocating here would provide better public access and improved facilities for customers and volunteers, encompassing an adjacent car park, kitchen, toilets and disabled access. For those familiar with building, the library would be situated in the John Reid Room and provide a flexible space with moveable shelving for group visits and increased activities when volunteer support is available. The location is a 4-minute walk from the current library and central to the village.

A recent public consultation meeting in the village was attended by 34 residents who were unanimously in favour of the move. Positive comments were made about the location, facilities, additional space and opportunities to develop the building as a community hub and library for the residents of Market Lavington and the surrounding villages.

The Parish Council is meeting to discuss the library move to the Old School House on 7th September. This move presents an opportunity for both councils to work together, with local residents, in closer partnership to deliver a vibrant library at the heart of the community.

We hope to have further information about this project in the coming weeks.