

U3a Railway Group – Door Lock

Non-Confidential

Report by: Elaine Atkin

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Report to: Parish Council 09/2026

U3a Rail Group requested a door lock for the changing room at Station Road pavilion at the same time they requested additional electrical sockets. Whilst they have now confirmed they no longer want to proceed with the additional sockets, they would still like a door lock to be considered:

I think we should at least investigate the possibility of fitting a lock on the changing room door, as the u3a insurance does require us to use locked facilities for storage of our equipment. I know that the risk should be minimal, but I suppose it's a chance that we shouldn't take.

Am I to assume that we will not be allowed to do this ourselves? I have experience of putting locks on doors, and I'm probably one of the least capable DIY-ers of our group, but I have worked on all our internal doors at home, including fitting locks on some. Having said that, I realise that the presence of intumescent strips might be a factor in any decisions that are made.

The pavilion is not open to the public although members of the Bowls Club (and their visitors) technically have access to the room used by the Railway Group. On odd occasions we may give access to the school, pre-school or other clubs who are using the recreation field and who have arranged in advance for access to the toilets in the pavilion. In those (rare) circumstances we request that the children are accompanied at all times, however there is a potential safety concern if any children wandered into the changing room where the Railway Group have all their tools.

For consideration

- Any door lock installation would need to ensure that the properties of the fire resisting door and/or intumescent strip is not compromised.
- Any door lock installed would need the ability to be unlocked from the inside without a key i.e. by the turn of a button or similar. This will ensure that nobody can be locked in the room with no means of getting out.
- The Parish Council must have a key to the lock.

Recommendation

Council to consider whether to agree to the request.