Wednesday 20th August 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the funding application for the Toucan Café, which has been a vital community initiative. The café provides a welcoming and supportive environment for unpaid carers, bereaved individuals, and those experiencing isolation.

As the Prevention and Wellbeing Team Manager within Wiltshire Adult Social Care, I can attest to the importance of community-led initiatives like the Toucan Café. My team works to help people reconnect with their communities, fostering sustainable friendships and reducing loneliness. However, this work is only possible when there are inclusive and accessible spaces available for people to engage with.

The Toucan Café is one such space. It removes a significant barrier for many of the individuals we support: the anxiety around not being able to afford a drink. Something as simple as a free cup of tea or coffee can make the difference between someone attending or staying at home. The café's approach, providing refreshments at no cost, welcoming volunteers, and hosting health professionals and support organisations creates a safe and dignified environment for those who might otherwise feel excluded.

Without community groups like the Toucan Café, my staff would face considerable challenges in helping people reintegrate into their communities. The café not only complements our work but enhances it, offering a consistent and compassionate presence in our communities that many rely on.

I support this funding application and hope the Parish Council will consider contributing to the continuation of this invaluable service.

Kind regards

Steve Hubbard

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