

ALTON Town Council



Telephone (01420) 83986
www.alton.gov.uk
info@alton.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Tom Horwood

Town Hall
Market Square
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 1HD

10 December 2025

**ALTON TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL – 10 DECEMBER 2025
REPORTS PREPARED BY THE TOWN CLERK AND DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

Supplement

ITEM 5: CORRESPONDENCE AND QUESTIONS RECEIVED

FOR NOTING

4. King's Pond

The following correspondence was received from John Grace on 8 December 2025.

On reading the Agenda for this full Alton Town council meeting I see that Kings Pond is a major item. Unfortunately I am unable to attend the meeting in person. If it is permitted I would like to ask you to read out at the meeting my observations, thinking and recommendations.

The Agenda on Kings Pond states:-

The five options in the summary are:

- A. Just dredge*
- B. Dredging plus improve pond margins and paths (previous 2a)*
- C. Pond and river: dredge and improve pond margins and paths, create stream (previous 3c)*
- D. Light touch: nature recovery with limited dredging to improve margins and paths*
- E. Do nothing*

Councillors may decide:

- To proceed with Stage One for any of the options A-E,*
- To stop the project (option E: do nothing), or*
- To defer a decision for a specific reason or for some specific further information.*

Given the amount of time and effort already spent on this Project I would urge councillors to Proceed with Stage One for any of the options A-E. To do nothing or defer a decision are unacceptable.

Of the options A to E, Option E, Do nothing, is tantamount to dereliction of duty and is not acceptable. Because of the ownership of land, option B (previously 2a) is probably unworkable. That leaves options A, C and D which should be now fully costed and together with the benefits and

disadvantages of each , put before the people of Alton who are on the electoral register for them to decide.

I would guess that the cost of A, C or D would be substantial so it is imperative that the final decision should be by the people of Alton who are on the electoral register and whose council taxes would pay for the work.

I would also point out that at no stage have my ward councillors approached me or my immediate neighbours in Wooteys Ward to ask us in person what we would like to see happen. That is very disappointing.

Conversely the project manager for ATC, councillor Don Hammond, has presented his findings in person at meetings to which the people of Alton have been encouraged to attend and via the ATC website, in a right and democratic manner.

The result of the proposed December 15th Parish meeting called by just 6 people, could be that a referendum would need to be held which would cost £10,000. That money would be better spent on whichever of the 3 options I have identified A, C and D , the residents of Alton decide on.

I hope that at the Full Alton Town Council meeting the Kings Pond Agenda point is held in a civilised fashion and is not de-railed by thoughtless , over emotional attendees.