

Present:	Councillor	Annette Eyre (Town Mayor)
		Matthew Bayliss
		Chris Botten
		Don Hammond
		Graham Hill
		Matthew Kellermann
		Roger Lamb
		John Quincey
		Janice Treacher

106 Apologies for Absence

107 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

108 **Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7 January 2026 for Approval**

Councillor Kellermann proposed an amendment to change the first sentence of the second paragraph of minute 96 to:

This was seconded by Councillor Eyre, and the amendment was **carried** with all councillors voting in favour.

Thus, on the proposal of Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Hammond, it was:

RESOLVED
to APPROVE the amended minutes of the Full Council meeting
held on 7 January 2026

All councillors voted in favour.

109 Town Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor welcomed councillors and the public and thanked everyone for attending.

She announced the resignation of Councillor Richard Moore for Eastbrooke ward and reminded everyone present that if ten electors notify East Hampshire District Council by 5pm on Tuesday, 3 February, there will be an election. Otherwise, the Town Council will seek applicants for co-option.

She then reminded those present that “while I have no intention of implementing any standing orders that would limit freedom of speech, I must emphasize that any individual causing a disruption will be asked to refrain from such behaviour. Should the disruption continue, I may be forced to either exclude the individual (SO 10xiii), suspend (SO 10xiv), or even adjourn the meeting (SO 10xvi). Therefore, I kindly ask everyone to be mindful and considerate of all individuals present.”

Councillor Hill asked that his thanks be recorded to the Deputy Clerk for preparing excellent responses to the planning applications following the 7 January meeting.

110 Written Representations from the Public

110.1 Correspondence was received from Cycle Alton on 26 January regarding Planning Application EHDC-25-1488-OUT - Land North of Basingstoke Road, and was circulated to councillors. This can be seen in the supplementary reports on the website.

110.2 Correspondence was received from the Will Hall Farm Management Company on 26 January 2026 regarding Planning Application EHDC-25-1488-OUT - Land North of Basingstoke Road, and was circulated to councillors. This can be found in the supplementary reports on the website. The submission was later updated and the updated version can be found in Appendix A.

110.3 Correspondence was received from Ash Dolan-Shakeri of the Hopfield Place Residents Association on 26 January regarding Planning Application EHDC-25-1488-OUT - Land North of Basingstoke Road, and can be found in the supplementary reports on the website.

110.4 Correspondence was received from District Councillor Ginny Boxall on 27 January 2026 regarding Planning Application EHDC-25-1488-OUT - Land North

of Basingstoke Road, and was circulated to councillors. This can be found in the supplementary reports on the website.

110.5 Diane Correia submitted a written question on the morning of the meeting regarding the minutes of the last meeting, which was circulated to Councillors and can be found in the supplementary papers on the website.

110.6 The Mayor then told the meeting: “We have two written representations whose authors are present, and I would like to invite those individuals to speak if they wish. Please note that one of the speakers has requested to speak longer than the 5 minutes allowed in Standing Order 3g. If councillors wish to allow a longer speaking time for each speaker tonight under agenda items 5 and 6, I will need a councillor to put forward a motion now under Standing Order 10x. They will need to specify a new time limit and have their motion seconded by another councillor before it goes to the vote.”

110.7 Councillor Kellermann then proposed that, in accordance with Standing Order 10x, each speaker be permitted eight minutes. This was seconded by Councillor Hammond and so it was:

RESOLVED

To allow each speaker eight minutes speaking time at this meeting.

Councillor Kellermann requested a recorded vote for all subsequent items at this meeting.

All councillors voted in favour.

110.8 Angus Berry from Cycle Alton spoke first about their submission. He said that, while Cycle Alton do appreciate development is needed and will happen in the town, it is important that these developments are sustainable and that walking and cycling infrastructure is in place. He said we do not have a completed strategy for the town and so it is important that we assess each application carefully, taking into account the cumulative impact of the multiple developments. He said it is critical that we join these developments together so we have routes that people will feel safe using, which encourage people out of their cars and onto their feet and bicycles.

He went on to acknowledge that this development has made some effort but has not gone far enough, and that while they do make some good proposals, which Cycle Alton applaud, the main access onto the site is unsuitable for pedestrians and cyclists.

He said that because there are two developments opposite each other, Cycle Alton ask that Hampshire Highways be encouraged to look for funding from the developers and a joined-up approach to improve this route into town.

He urged the Town Council to help seek the infrastructure to complete route 210 laid out in the LCWIP so there is safe access all the way from Beech to the town centre.

110.9 Martyn Edwards then spoke, saying that this application is one of three major sequential developments (totalling 504 dwellings) built or planned on Alton's north western edge.

He said the Will Hall Farm Management Company (WHFMC) has identified some key issues that do not meet planning regs and policy frameworks. Three they believe are "game-stopping"; the other five are deficient but remediable with rework.

He headlined the most salient and pressing matters starting with the 3 "game-stoppers" in turn.

1: A Cumulative Environmental Assessment is missing
Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2017 establish that where multiple development projects are related, their cumulative impact must be assessed versus one by one individually.

2: The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)

He said the WHFMC had commissioned a local company who specialise in environmental sensing, and flood prevention to review the Applicant's submission. Their feedback shares 8 problems. Each is concerning. Together they're alarming.

The assessment fails compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), specifically that a development be "safe for its lifetime without increasing flood risk elsewhere", and mandates that assessments must "consider cumulative impacts in or affecting local areas susceptible to flooding".

He said the Applicant has relied on theoretical, desk-based assumptions that fail a basic 'stress test' when compared to the empirical reality of the site.

The Environment Act set the principle where flood and sewage risks are identified - the burden shifts to the developer to demonstrate safety . Not "It probably works" but "Proof it works".

3: Heritage Assessment

There are five Grade II listed buildings / structures at Will Hall Farm which sit today in an historic agricultural landscape. Even the Applicant acknowledges this site and landscape makes a significant contribution to the overall heritage setting of the listed buildings. But the three phase development of NW Alton will completely encircle Will Hall Farm. How this must be assessed is defined in regulation. However, a cumulative heritage assessment –is not provided. The Applicant only references their site and it contains worrying contradictions. It acknowledges the large contribution of the current site (fields) to the heritage setting, then states the impact of 225 dwellings will be ‘less than substantial’ and ‘limited’, that Will Hall Farm will “be affected to a degree” with “some new buildings higher than the tops of Will Hall Farm buildings”. He stressed that is incorrect – in fact they all will.

He said the application includes an image which shows that the plans will decimate the listed setting with an overbearing and dense built backdrop. (A copy of this image is in the document previously circulated.)

He added that, for outline planning, defining the extent of allowable built land (the “development framework”) is a key outcome / decision. So, a quantified decision on the “buffer zones” from the Will Hall Farm boundary to maintain the listed heritage setting cannot be deferred.

He said the WHFMC have met with Hallam Land (the Applicant) and alarmingly, iterative master plans show a reducing scope of proposed “buffer zones”. The significant contribution of the application site to the heritage setting of Will Hall Farm’s listed buildings is at real risk of decimation

He said that issues 4-8 on their list (covering landscape and visual impacts, the design and access statement, energy and climate sustainability, the transport assessment and biological/ecological assessment) also breach planning frameworks, but are capable of resolution through substantial rework / amendment.

In conclusion:

1. This is not opposition to development. The WHFMS support when it’s done properly. Objections are grounded in planning law and regulation.
2. Heritage and environment protection are not negotiable. Will Hall Farm's listed status and heritage setting are nationally significant. The Wey is a designated priority watercourse. These assets have protections grounded in law, not someone’s discretion.
3. The Applicant’s challenge is to demonstrate proof of regulatory compliance and deliver on effective assessments (that cover relevant scope), genuine flood risk issues, heritage mitigation, sustainability and

social infrastructure to meet Alton's priorities. If the Applicant cannot, then refusal is proper.

110.10 The Mayor then read out the following statement:

"We have received a question from Diane Correia, who is not able to attend this evening. The question has been published on our website in the supplementary paper for this meeting and it asks the council to "clarify what its expectations are regarding councillors' participation in voting?"

"I would like to thank Ms Correia for the question.

"The expectation in Alton Town Council is the same as that for councils in the UK in general. The law prohibits a councillor with a disclosable pecuniary interest from voting on a matter. In the case of an interest that is not pecuniary, a councillor may decide to abstain from voting to avoid a perception of bias.

"Every councillor has three options when considering a formal motion: to vote for it; to vote against it; or to abstain from voting. How a councillor votes is entirely a matter for that councillor; there is no requirement in law or in Alton Town Council's rules for a councillor to vote for or against a motion.

"The National Association of Local Councils says: 'If a councillor has no view on a proposal, or cannot decide, they can abstain from the vote – but this should not happen frequently, because an important part of the role of a councillor is to decide what they feel best serves to benefit the community'."

Councillor Bayliss then added as a point of personal explanation:

"In addition to the response from the Town Mayor to the written representation from Diane Correia, I would like to add the following:

"I carefully consider each motion before the council, and it is rare that I choose to abstain. Any decision to abstain is because I consider it either not necessary, not appropriate or not desirable to vote for or against the particular motion.

"In relation to recent motions concerning Kings Pond, I have looked back over the last twelve months and see that I abstained on two occasions:

- on 8 January 2025 in relation to the motion, 'To conduct a technical and financial assessment of the Pond and River option in parallel with the technical and financial assessment of the Dredging option', and

- on 10 December 2025 in relation to the motion, ‘Take forward Stage One of the King’s Pond project on the basis of Options B and C and to authorise the Town Clerk to make necessary changes to the Invitation to Tender and recommence the tendering process, including the panel assessment agreed by the 6 August Council meeting’.

“Due to the passage of time, I cannot recall the exact reason why I abstained on 8 January 2025, but I would note that the motion had in fact already been carried with the support of nine out of the eleven councillors present.

“On 10 December 2025, I was asked to take a decision about which option to pursue regarding Kings Pond. On that evening, I jointly proposed and voted for an amended motion to pursue only Option B (Dredging plus improvements), but this amendment was not carried, with only six councillors voting for it and seven councillors voting against. The defeat of my proposed amendment meant that the motion to pursue both Options B and C would have the support of the same seven councillors who voted against my proposed amendment, ie. a majority of those present, which it did and was duly carried. Following the defeat of my proposed amendment, I resolved that, whichever way I voted on 10 December regarding the motion to pursue both Options B and C, I could not change the outcome, so I chose, on that occasion, to neither vote for the motion nor against it.”

Councillor Hill proposed that the correspondence and further comments be noted. This was seconded by Councillor Quincey, and it was:

RESOLVED
to note the correspondence received.

All councillors voted in favour.

111 Questions and Statements by the Public

The Mayor invited members of the public present to speak on any item on the agenda.

111.1 Charles Kaye of the Amery Hill Residents Association (AHRA) spoke first, asking the Town Council to think about the care and welfare of the River Wey, and also about flooding in the town. He said the two things are connected.

He said no one is looking at the entire length of the river through the town and he thinks the Town Council is the appropriate body to do that and consider all the changes going on along its length.

He said Hampshire County Council had advised to set up a group to look at flooding and to cope with it when it happens. He added there has been flooding in some of the shops in the town, and there has been a report from an independent body that shows it will happen and in what conditions. He said AHRA think it is important that this body should be convened and prepare such a plan.

111.2 Michael Hannan then spoke to support everything Cycle Alton had said.

111.3 Haydn Chappell, Vice Chair of the Alton Community Association (ACA) which runs the Community Centre then spoke, saying it has been a difficult year. He reminded councillors that the cost of employing people has gone up and that they have an application before them this evening for £10,000 which he hopes they will consider favourably.

He added that they will shortly be starting work to develop the Community Centre and the development will put more pressure on the staff and increase the number of hours they need to work and therefore their costs.

111.4 Jenny Griffiths asked for support for ACAN's core costs grant. She said that their core costs help to support a number of important groups, including the Repair Café, AVLAN, Young ACAN, etc. She pointed out that their two highest costs are insurance and financial costs as, although they are run and managed by volunteers, they do have to pay for some accountancy services to support them. She finished by saying ACAN is not viable without this grant.

Councillor Kellermann proposed that the questions and statements be noted. This was seconded by Councillor Lamb, and it was:

RESOLVED

To note the questions and statements by the public.

All councillors voted in favour.

112 Planning Applications

112.1 EHDC-25-1488-OUT – Land North of Basingstoke Road, Alton

Councillor Eyre proposed that the Town Clerk be allowed to pull together appropriate responses to each of the applications after listening to councillors' comments. This was seconded by Councillor Hammond.

There was extensive discussion on the application, and it must be noted that councillors felt at this stage there is lots of missing information, especially on access and sustainability.

The following comments were recorded from Councillors:

Material Consideration	Designation / Issue	Response
Flood Zone	Environment Agency Indicative Flood Mapping and SFRA Area at Risk of Flooding	Flooding is a huge concern on this site. The Environment Agency has submitted an objection today and the development seems like a non-starter. There is a lot of rain that runs down the hill and causes problems which can already be seen on wet days, particularly on Brick Kiln Lane. This will only get worse if much of the ground is covered over with hard surfacing. If water is not properly controlled within the site it will go into the River Wey and cause problems elsewhere. It is important to note that the sequential test has not been considered on this site – if a site is high risk they MUST explore whether another site is better and there is no evidence to suggest they have considered this.
Environmental Designations	Special Protection Area RAMSAR Site Site of Special Scientific Interest National Nature Reserve Site of Nature Conservation Importance	There needs to be a cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment due to the other development opposite and at present there is no EIA at all. A visual impact assessment is also missing.
National Park and Landscape	National Park or AONB	The development will form the new gateway to the town. In the most recent draft (June 2024) of the revised Alton Neighbourhood Plan, the views across the site towards the town are denoted as “key views” in Figure 27 of the Alton Design Guidance and Codes, along with the following text: “Development proposals that impact on key views and gateways [including the gateway at the junction of Basingstoke Road and Pertuis Avenue, alongside the site] into and out of the town, as defined in Figure 27...., must demonstrate how they have responded positively to these views and gateways.” Thus, any development on the site should have sufficient planting to preserve as far as possible those green key views from Beech, Wyards Farm and the A339 east and south towards Ackender Wood. The height of the buildings will be detrimental to the listed buildings of Will Hall Farm. In particular, the height of the land does not lend itself to three-storey buildings.
Contamination or Unstable Land Issues	Land contamination or unstable land issues	Unable to comment.

Noise Issues	Noise issues relating to existing land uses or transport corridors	No comments from councillors on this.
Residential Amenity	Location of site in relation to existing dwellings	The density of the development is low, and it has a good percentage of affordable housing which is good, but the impact on the neighbouring Will Hall Farm is considerable.
Historic Environment	Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) Sites of Archaeological Importance Historic Park and Garden Conservation Area Listed building	There is no heritage assessment and this needs to be done. There needs to be a buffer to protect the listed buildings at Will Hall Farm.
Highways	Traffic Impact Assessment Access to A and B roads Proximity to known points of traffic congestion	The access into and out of the site is important and a joined-up approach to the A339 in this area needs to be taken with the new development on the opposite side of the road. Traffic lights would suddenly hit you when traveling from Basingstoke and it would be much better if there were a roundabout there. Cycle Alton makes some incredibly good points about the need for a joined-up approach and the importance of safe routes into town for pedestrians and cyclists. Active travel is important both for people's health and wellbeing and for climate change, and there needs to be a safe route from this location into town so people can safely access the services. Each development is an opportunity to add to the LCWIP and join it up more. It is incredibly important that Hampshire Highways carefully consider this application and comment, in particular on the cumulative impact of the multiple developments and find the right solution. The road at this location already has speed cameras which record a high volume of vehicles exceeding the speed limit and this would be a good opportunity to introduce measures to reduce those speeds and make the roads safer.
Availability of community services such as Doctors Surgery, Dentist, Health Clinic	The scheme either provides for or has close access to community facilities	Overstretched facilities in the town already cannot cope. There are inadequate dental and GP provision, indeed the local NHS has declared that the two GP surgeries in the town have no spare capacity and there are no current plans to rectify that. There is no provision in this application for any further facilities. In addition to this, the facilities that are there need to be accessible, which brings us back once again to the walking and cycling network and the importance of safe routes into and out of town.

Infrastructure	The scheme either provides for or has close access to necessary infrastructure	The scheme provides no additional infrastructure and while it is technically 'close' to it, being on the edge of town, it needs to provide better, safe routes for active travel.
Open Space	Provision of policy compliant Public Open Space (POS)	The provision of open space in relation to the number of houses looks good but there is insufficient detail to know for sure.
Availability of utilities, Water, Gas, Electricity, Gas, Broadband, Telephone.	The scheme either provides for or has close access to a range of utilities	No comments from councillors on this.
Availability of Educational facilities	The scheme either provides for or has close access to necessary education provision	Hampshire County Council have said 'no objection' to this but have asked for £1.8million to pay for additional facilities. It is important that these additional facilities are delivered in a timely manner to cope with the demand.
Foul and Surface water drainage	Adequate foul and surface water drainage must be in place	There is frequently large amounts of water flowing from this land at the moment and this will increase significantly with the increase in hard surfaces covering the land. There does not currently appear to be sufficient provision to deal with this in the plans.
Availability and conflict with other policies	Promoted sites, public land ownership, etc.	See above reference to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Thus, on the proposal of Councillor Eyre, seconded by Councillor Hammond, it was

RESOLVED

To authorise the Town Clerk to respond to East Hampshire District Council on planning application EHDC-25-1488-OUT at Land North of Basingstoke Road, reflecting the points raised in the debate.

All councillors voted in favour.

112.2 EHDC-25-1490-LBC – William Curtis House, 25 Lenten Street, Alton GU34 1HG

Councillor Eyre proposed that the Town Clerk be allowed to pull together appropriate responses to each of the applications after listening to councillors' comments. This was seconded by Councillor Hammond.

Councillors had no objections and would support the repurposing of this building.

Thus, on the proposal of Councillor Eyre, seconded by Councillor Hammond, it was:

RESOLVED

To authorise the Town Clerk to respond to East Hampshire District Council on planning application EHDC-25-1490-LBC, William Curtis House, reflecting the points raised in the debate.

All councillors voted in favour.

113 **Grant Applications**

113.1 **Neighbourhood CIL**

Each application had been considered carefully at a workshop on 14 January and was further debated in the meeting.

1. On the proposal of Councillor Bayliss, seconded by Councillor Kellermann, it was

RESOLVED

To award First Friends Day Nursery £32,865.00 (thirty-two thousand, eight hundred and sixty five pounds) for conversion of a 20sqm care room on the first floor of a new children's day nursery to form a sensory room, to be spent on up to 75% of each item of the following costs, with any underspend on each budget line non-transferable to other items:

Item	Budget	75%
Internal wall, floor and ceiling finish upgrades	£3,600	£2,700
Adaptations to power and lighting including specialist light fittings	£6,000	£4,500
Supply and fit radiator cover and pipe boxing	£2,400	£1,800
Supply and install sensory room fittings	£19,320	£14,490
Additional specialist wall treatments (mirrors, textures, etc)	£4,800	£3,600
Black out blinds and heavy curtains for window	£1,000	£750
Air conditioning	£2,500	£1,875
Specialist training for key staff	£1,800	£1,350
Professional fees covering mechanical and electrical design	£2,400	£1,800

All councillors voted in favour.

2. On the proposal of Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Bayliss, it was

RESOLVED

To award £9,100.00 (nine thousand and one hundred pounds) to Treloar's College to fund 10 hoists to safely manoeuvre young people who are physically-disabled with complex needs, to enable them to access education.

All councillors voted in favour.

3. On the proposal of Councillor Bayliss, seconded by Councillor Botten, it was

RESOLVED

To award £150,000 (one hundred and fifty thousand pounds) to Alton Town Council to go towards the provision of a new 3G Pitch at Anstey Park.

All councillors voted in favour.

113.2 **Community Grants**

Seven applications were received for a total of £49,270. The budget set for this type of grant is £30,000 so not all applications could be met in full. All of the applications had the same opportunity to present their case and it was important that the level of scrutiny applied to each is consistent. The applications were carefully considered at a workshop on 14 January and subjected to further debate now.

Councillor Hammond proposed that the council determine which of the applications have been successful and how much funding each would receive. This was seconded by Councillor Botten.

Councillors went through each application and each councillor voted to indicate whether they agreed with the amount proposed.

Voting was as follows:

Applicant	Amount proposed	In favour	Against	Abstained	Comments
A31 Primary Care Network	£5,000	All			Health on the High Street has now moved off the High Street and is much less accessible.
ACAN	£3,770	Cllrs Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Hill, Lamb	Cllrs Kellermann and Quincey		

		and Treacher			
Alton Community Association	£0	Cllrs Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Kellermann, Quincey and Treacher	Cllrs Hill and Lamb		The application lacked detail and gave very little information about what the grant was needed for, in comparison to the other applications. While some councillors did indicate that representatives were in attendance and could be asked for further information it was made clear that all applicants have the same opportunity and are asked to fill in the same form and it would be unfair to go back to some asking for further information after the deadline.
Alton Foodbank	£7,500	All			The amount awarded was that requested minus the amount that the Foodbank passed to Citizens Advice. The Council already supports the CA so chose not to contribute further by way of a third party.
Alton Hard of Hearing Group	£500	All			Clear benefit demonstrated for a modest amount..
Bushy Leaze Family Support	£10,000	All			A strong application.
Home-Start Hampshire in Weywater	£3,000	All			More mention of help given in Bordon than Alton.

Councillor Hill then proposed an amendment to increase the Community Grants budget by £5,000 to give a grant to the Community Centre. This was seconded by Councillor Lamb.

The Town Clerk commented that this proposal would exceed the budget that had been agreed recently for 2026/27. While the Council could agree to a draw on Reserves, as Responsible Financial Officer he could not recommend exceeding a budget they had only just agreed in December before the financial year commences.

Councillor Kellermann objected that the amendment was procedurally incorrect as the amounts had been voted upon. The Town Clerk said that he understood that the amounts for each application had been voted upon, but that Councillor Hill was seeking to amend the tabled recommendation (which had not yet been determined) to add a grant which would require a further draw from reserves. The Clerk acknowledged the point that Councillor Kellermann had made and said that his objection would be recorded in the minutes.

The amendment was **not carried** with voting as follows:

In favour: Councillors Hill and Lamb

Against: Councillors Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Kellermann and Quincey

Abstained: Councillor Treacher

Thus, on the proposal of Councillor Hammond, seconded by Councillor Botten, it was:

RESOLVED

To award:

- **£5,000 (five thousand pounds) to A31 Primary Care Network.**
- **£3,770 (three thousand, seven hundred pounds) to Alton Climate Action Network (ACAN).**
- **Nothing to Alton Community Association on this occasion.**
- **£7,500 (seven thousand, five hundred pounds) to Alton Foodbank.**
- **£500 (five hundred pounds) to Alton Hard of Hearing Group.**
- **£10,000 (ten thousand pounds) to Bushy Leaze Family Support.**
- **£3,000 (three thousand pounds) to Home-Start Hampshire in Weywater.**

In favour: Councillors Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Kellermann and Quincey

Against: Councillors Hill and Lamb

Abstained: Councillor Treacher

113.3 Event and Project Grants

1. On the proposal of Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Hammond, it was

RESOLVED

To award £1,000 (one thousand pounds) to the Alton Arts Festival CIC.

All councillors voted in favour.

2. On the proposal of Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Hammond, it was

RESOLVED

To award £500 (five hundred pounds) to the Alton Lions Club (CIO).

All councillors voted in favour.

114 Allotment Rents

The Town Clerk had received seven written requests prior to the meeting to revisit the decision made at the Full Council meeting held on 10 December 2025. These were from Councillors Eyre, Hammond, Hill, Kellermann, Lamb, O'Brien and Quincey.

Councillor Treacher proposed that the Council:

“Reconsider the rent rise that was resolved at the 10 December 2025 Council meeting and to apply the following:

- a) To maintain allotment fees at £30 for 2026,
- b) To increase allotment fees to £32 per year from 1 April 2027, and
- c) To follow the principle of an annual inflationary increase, subject to confirmation of the actual amount by the Full Council each year as part of the budget-setting process.”

This was seconded by Councillor Quincey.

Councillor Kellermann proposed an amendment that:

“there be no increase in allotment fees in 2027”.

There being no seconder the amendment was **not carried**.

Thus, on the proposal of Councillor Treacher, seconded by Councillor Quincey, it was:

RESOLVED

To reconsider the rent rise that was resolved at the 10 December 2025 Council meeting and to apply the following:

- a) To maintain allotment fees at £30 for 2026,**
- b) To increase allotment fees to £32 per year from 1 April 2027, and**
- c) To follow the principle of an annual inflationary increase, subject to confirmation of the actual amount by the Full Council each year as part of the budget-setting process.**

In favour: Councillors Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Hill, Lamb, Quincey and Treacher

Against: Councillor Kellermann

115 Anstey Park Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)

Councillor Kellermann raised a point of order about information in the report, saying that his involvement with the project was nothing to do with his role as ‘Open Spaces Champion’ but was entirely separate.

Councillor Kellermann proposed that The Council

“a) Recommence the project to extend the MUGA at Anstey Park.”

This was seconded by Councillor Botten and all councillors voted in favour, so Councillor Kellermann then proposed that the Council:

“b) Approve that Councillor Kellermann chair a working group for the extension of the MUGA, and

c) Appoint another councillor or councillors to the working group.”

This was again seconded by Councillor Botten.

Following indications from Councillors Botten and Quincey that they would like to help on this project, Councillor Kellermann then proposed an amendment “that Councillors Botten and Quincey join him on the Task and Finish Group and that non-councillor members be invited to join from the stakeholders previously involved in the project”.

This was seconded by Councillor Botten, and the amendment was **carried** with all councillors voting in favour.

Thus, on the proposal of Councillor Kellermann, seconded by Councillor Botten, it was

RESOLVED

To

a) Recommence the project to extend the MUGA at Anstey Park.

b) Approve that Councillor Kellermann chair a working group for the extension of the MUGA, and

c) Appoint Councillors Botten and Quincey to the working group and invite other stakeholders to join.

All councillors voted in favour.

116 Statement of Accounts to 31 December 2025

On the proposal of Councillor Hammond, seconded by Councillor Hill, it was

RESOLVED

To approve as tabled:

1. The Balance Sheet to 31 December 2025.

2. The Income and Expenditure Report for the period 1 - 31 December 2025.

3. Bank reconciliations to 31 December 2025

4. Payments over £500, issued between 1 – 31 December 2025

In favour: Councillors Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Hill, Lamb, Quincey and Treacher

Abstained: Councillor Kellermann

117 Internal Audit Report for Quarter 3, 2025-26

On the proposal of Councillor Hill, seconded by Councillor Eyre, it was

RESOLVED

To note the Internal Auditor's report for Quarter 3 for the 2025-26 financial year.

In favour: Councillors Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Hill, Lamb, Quincey and Treacher

Abstained: Councillor Kellermann

118 Reserves Strategy

On the proposal of Councillor Eyre, seconded by Councillor Hill, it was

RESOLVED

To approve the updated Reserves Strategy as tabled

In favour: Councillors Eyre, Bayliss, Botten, Hammond, Hill, Lamb, Quincey and Treacher

Abstained: Councillor Kellermann

119 AutoSpeedWatch Cameras Subscription Renewal

On the proposal of Councillor Eyre, seconded by Councillor Kellermann, it was

RESOLVED

Not to renew the subscription for the AutoSpeedWatch cameras and remove the units from Basingstoke Road.

All councillors voted in favour.

120 Calendar of Meetings 2026-27

Councillor Eyre proposed that the calendar of meetings be accepted as tabled. This was seconded by Councillor Kellermann.

Councillor Eyre then proposed an amendment that
“in light of the 2027 elections date the date of the Annual Meeting be moved to 19 May so it falls within the time required by law after councillors take office.”

This was seconded by Councillor Kellermann and the amendment was **carried** with all councillors voting in favour.

Thus, on the proposal of Councillor Eyre, seconded by Councillor Kellermann, it was

RESOLVED

To approve the Calendar of Meetings with the Annual Meeting being moved from 26 May to 19 May 2027.

All councillors voted in favour.

121 On the proposal of Councillor Eyre, seconded by Councillor Lamb, it was

RESOLVED to:

exclude the press and members of the public in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section 1, subsection 2, and to be clear, as per subsection 3A, where the public are excluded from a meeting of a relevant local government body under subsection (2), the body may also prevent any person from reporting on the meeting using methods-
(a) which can be used without that person's presence at the meeting, and
(b) which enable persons not present at the meeting to see or hear the proceedings at the meeting as it takes place or later.

All councillors voted in favour.

122 On the proposal of Councillor Eyre, seconded by Councillor Hill, it was

RESOLVED to:

Approve the confidential minutes for 3 September 2025 and 10 December 2025 Council meetings.

All councillors voted in favour.

The meeting closed at 9.28pm.