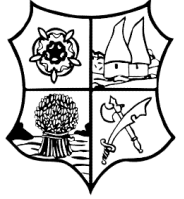


ALTON Town Council



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Town Clerk: Mr Tom Horwood

Town Hall
Market Square
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 1HD

14th January 2026

Dear Councillor,

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to a meeting of the **CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE** which will be held on **Wednesday, 21st January 2026 at 9.30AM** when the under mentioned business will be transacted.

Yours faithfully

Tom Horwood
Town Clerk

To: Councillor Barbara Tansey (Chair)
Councillor Don Hammond
Councillor Janice Treacher

ACAN: Rod Painell
Energy Alton: Kevin Ray
Energy Alton: John Hubbard
Active Travel representative: Chris Chappell
EHDC Representative – Pennie Brown
Scott Gudrich – Youth Representative

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY 2026
THE CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, ALTON AT 9.30AM
AGENDA

1. **Chairman's Announcements.**
2. **Apologies for absence**
Rod Painell sends his apologies, Jenny Griffiths will be attending the meeting in his place.
3. **Minutes** - to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 22nd October 2025
4. **Declarations of Interests & Requests for Dispensations** - Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of or vote on any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest. You must withdraw from the room when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.
5. **Correspondence and Questions Received**
Any written correspondence to go to the Climate Change Committee must be received 48 hours prior to the meeting. Any member of the public who wishes to speak must register at the start of the meeting and may speak for up to 5 minutes, with a total of 20 minutes allowed for public speaking.
6. **ATC Climate Change Action Plan (2023 – 2026)**
 - 6.1 Update all actions for next meeting
 - 6.2 Agree any new action
 - 6.3 At April meeting approve updated Action Plan including new dates.
7. **Update Alton Climate Change Strategy 2023**
 - 7.1 Agree any areas of the Strategy that need emphasising or strengthening
 - 7.2 Agree how to ensure Strategy is embedded in Alton Town Council's decision-making process.
8. **Actions on Climate Change Action Plan - SECTION ONE (Alton Town Council)**
 - 1.1 ATCs energy consumption
 - Annual utility data circulated with Committee papers.
 - 1.2 ATCs transport and carbon emissions
 - Annual fuel usage data circulated with Committee papers.
 - Research replacement of Grounds vehicle with electric version
 - 1.4 Retrofitting existing council owned properties.
 - Replacement boiler at Town Hall - reports from Energy Alton & Town Clerk– KR & BT
 - 1.5 Jubilee Pavilions project – DH
 - 1.6 Explore further renewable energy sources for Alton Town Council's premises
 - Solar Panel at Finnimore Pavilion in conjunction with Energise South Downs - KR
 - Solar panels for Energique through Energise South Downs proposal – DH
 - Update on solar panels at Rugby Club - WS
 - Update on solar panel at Wooteys allotments - WS

- Update on solar panels at The Kings Arms
- Project to install solar panels at Public Gardens Bowls Club - BT
- 1.7 Carbon sequestration from planting and feedback on hedge and tree planting – JT
- 1.7 Reinstatement of ‘in bloom’ schemes with environmentally sustainable alternatives around the town – HC
- 1.7 Management of Will Hall Meadow for biodiversity - BT
- 1.9 Update signage for walking and cycling routes - CC
- 1.10 Replace cycle planters and missing/broken cycle stands with more secure cycle parking – BT

9. **Updates on Climate Change Action Plan SECTION TWO (Community)**

- 2.1 Reduce waste ACAN report including update on small business survey – RP
- 2.3 Community Events and attendance
- 2.4 Reduce purchase of water in plastic bottles by Alton retailers and Alton Community groups and businesses. RP & SG
- 2.5 Support climate and nature action by young people, including update on hedgehog highways – SG
- 2.6 Energy Alton Update including promotion of services offered.

10. **Updates on Climate Change Action Plan SECTION THREE (Working with decision makers.)**

- 3.3 Commercial developers. Influence on the developing neighbourhood plan by ensuring that clean energy, active travel and biodiversity groups representatives are fully included in the new ANP Steering Group – BT/JT/DH
- 3.6 Update on LCWIP, the two routes through Alton include route to Beech and Basingstoke Road (see attached report) – CC

11. **District Council update** – PB

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 15th April 2026 at 9.30am

Future meeting dates

- Wednesday 22nd July 2026
- Wednesday 21st October 2026
- Wednesday 20th January 2027
- Wednesday 21st April 2027

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 21st JANUARY 2026
REPORTS

1.5 Jubilee Pavilions project

The S106 funding for this project is being applied for.

ATC are recruiting for a Project Manager to fill the vacancy at the Town Hall, this will be a full-time role and will manage this project along with others.

1.6 Solar Panel and water heating for showers for Finnimore Pavilion

Verbal update from Energy Alton on viability of project in conjunction with Energise South Downs.

1.6 Solar Panel at Wooteys Allotments

Overview

The Alton Allotment Association (AAA) are grateful for the £1,000 grant and have been successful in match funding of a further £1,000. The allocated funds for this project are £2,000. We have two quotes (attached) from local sources and unfortunately the costs are far higher than anticipated. We are seeking a third quote, and the overall view is that most organisations deem the project too small for interest. The impact has caused delay as we consider the options to allocate further funds and obtain a third quote. There may be a consideration to review the equipment needed as we progress and learn through this project. The capacity of the allocated members of the AAA working on this project is limited as they have other commitments. It is our intention to have a decision on the appropriate supplier in time to fully bring a working solution in time for spring 2026.

Our working plan is below.

Objective

This project aims to design and install a compact solar power system within a shipping container to provide reliable electricity for recharging portable power tool batteries on the allotment. The system will operate independently from the grid, ensuring sustainable and mobile power availability. The project if successful could be utilised across all allotments in Alton and serve as a case study for other interested parties.

System

The system is built around a solar photovoltaic (PV) array mounted on the container roof, which charges a battery bank through a solar charge controller. An inverter converts the stored DC power to AC for standard outlet use. The container will have external multiple charging stations for tool batteries and power outlets.

Operation

Daytime: Solar panels generate DC electricity, charging the battery bank via the charge controller.

Night/Cloudy Conditions: Stored battery energy powers the inverter, supplying AC to the outlets.

Users plug in power tool battery chargers into the provided AC outlets.

Safety and Maintenance

Fuses and circuit breakers protect the system from overloads.

Ventilation ensures batteries and electronics remain cool.

Regular cleaning of solar panels maintains optimal efficiency.

Monthly inspections are recommended to check wiring and system connections.

Advantages

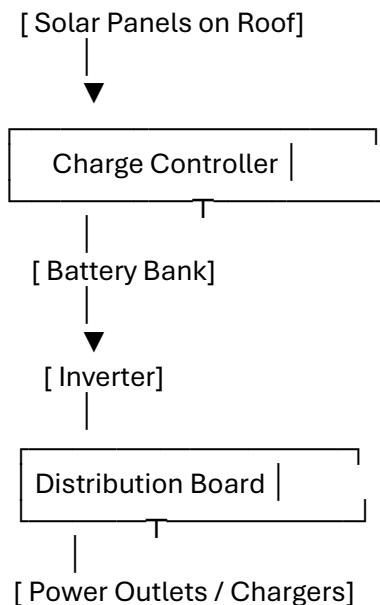
Fully mobile and self-contained unit

Zero fuel cost and reduced emissions

Provides continuous power for tools at remote sites

Diagram (Equipment Layout)

Diagram Description (below and attached):



1.7 Carbon sequestration from planting and feedback on hedge and tree planting

Hampshire Forest Partnership have allocated 8 large and 7 medium disease resilient Elm to ATC, plus stakes and ties. The location of these is shown on the maps included in the papers. The large trees were delivered on 23rd December, and the medium trees are being collected on 15th January. All trees are to be planted by 31st January and Eggars School have asked to be involved with this exercise.

ATC have successfully bid for two packs of hedging whips for use at Anstey Park, these are due to be delivered between 24th February and 6th March.

Location for three picnic tables with seating and two benches have been identified in the family recreation area at the bottom between the football stadium and the skate park. Grants for these are to be applied for in the new financial year.

1.7 Reinstatement of 'in bloom' schemes with environmentally sustainable planting

All the categories for the "In Bloom" scheme to be reviewed and where applicable brought back for 2026, in the past these have included:

1. **Best small garden** (under 5 metres including courtyards and balconies)
2. **Best large garden** (over 5 metres)
3. **Best new garden** (new build houses under 5 years old)
4. **Best planted container** (including pots, hanging baskets, window boxes and unusual containers)
5. **Best kitchen garden** (including vegetable and fruit plots, allotments, containers, polytunnels and greenhouses)
6. **Best nature friendly garden**
7. **Best community/communal garden** (community garden project or communal garden tended to by volunteers/residents)
8. **Best commercial building** (pub, restaurant, shop, community hall, local attraction)
9. **Best children's garden** (nursery, playgroup, pre-school, school, college)
10. **Best scarecrow**
11. **Tallest sunflower**

1.9 Installation of wayfinding in key locations across the town centre for pedestrians and cyclists

Update from Chris

1.10 Cycle Hoops

The Grounds Team are due to install these by the end of January subject to weather conditions.