



KING'S POND COMMUNITY & STAKEHOLDER FOCUS GROUP

WEDNESDAY 15th JULY 2026

6:30 PM

TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present:	Councillors	Councillor Don Hammond (DH)
	C&SFG members	Jenny Griffiths – AVLAN (JG) James Willis – Resident (JW) Cathy Wilson – Alton Natural History Society (CW) Terri Quincey – Resident (TQ) Dr June Chatfield (DJC) Will Seabury – KP Preservation Society (WS) Ash Dolan-Shakeri – Hopfields Residents Association (ADS)
	T&FG members	Cathy Ayres (CA) Eric Phillips (EP)
	Officers	Hayley Carter – Deputy Town Clerk (HC) Natalie Beckell – Events and Marketing Lead (NB)

1. Apologies for Absence

Council Officers - Tom Horwood – Town Clerk (TH)
Group members – Charles Kaye, David Simpkins, Patrick Swaby
T&F Group members – Councillor Chris Botten and Councillor John Quincey, Paul Ebbutt
Other - EHD Councillor Ginny Boxall

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2026 were proposed by DH and seconded by JG and were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.

DH went through things that had happened since the last meeting, including:

- the appointment of contractor Five Rivers to undertake the Stage One designs and get us to public consultation.
- An Invertebrate Survey is now in progress.
- Investigation has continued on Engineering sub-projects.
- A Draft Consultation Plan has been prepared and reviewed by Councillors.

- Full Council has approved funding for an independent survey company to advise, conduct the survey and collate the results.

3. Draft Consultation Plan

JG said she was very impressed, a lot of work has gone into the plan and real effort made to address all the various groups. She said ATC have set a lot of work for themselves and she really liked that the Gunning Principles had been included. She went on to say that she thought a fresh start was important, so wording needed to be correct and not just 'update' previous information.

CW requested that Alton natural History Society be removed from section 4, pointing out they are in the document later. She said the consultation materials need to show clearly the 'cost benefit' not just in monetary terms but in terms of mental health and so on. There was discussion around this, saying that pros and cons would of course be listed but it would be difficult to quantify because some of it is subjective.

There was much discussion around the importance of getting people to complete the survey, making sure that it has reached the right people, making sure that one person cannot fill it in multiple times or that AI cannot complete it. It was explained that this was the reason for getting advice and support from an independent, experienced company, and that all these points would be raised with them.

ADS raised the possibility of a parish poll. WS pointed out that they were very limiting and you would not get a good response rate. HC pointed out that it restricted responses to those on the electoral register and would mean that 16–17-year-olds could not respond. DH pointed out that it is a very blunt tool with limited questions asking for a yes/no answer and does not enable the council to gather good feedback.

4. Ashdell Road Drainage

The full list of Engineering Sub-projects were explained and discussed and DH updated the meeting on an on-site meeting members of the T&FG had with Hampshire Highways, the outcome and the next steps.

5. Stage One Design - progress

DH went through the first draft of the designs from Five Rivers, pointing out they were only preliminary thoughts to prompt feedback and discussion. There is a long way to go with calculations, illustrations and so on to get to a final design. The T&FG had reviewed the plans and their response to Five Rivers was discussed.

DH explained than an updated version of the plans would be expected soon. The intention is that these can be discussed at the next meeting

6. Dates of Next Meetings

Wednesday 12th August – 6:30pm – Town Hall

Monday 21st September – 6:30pm – Town Hall

Monday 2nd November – 6:30pm – Town Hall (this will be the first briefing of the consultation)

The meeting closed at 19.53