



MINUTES OF THE KING'S POND TASK & FINISH GROUP

Wednesday 7 October 2026

Present: Councillor Don Hammond - Chair (DH)
Councillor Chris Botten (CB)
Councillor John Quincey (JQ)
Tom Horwood – Town Clerk (TH)
Hayley Carter - Deputy Town Clerk (HC)
Natalie Beckell – Alton Town Council (NB)
Nic Budd – Alton Town Council (NTB)
Cathy Ayres – Resident representative (CA) (via video call)
Angie Owens – Resident representative (AO)
Eric Phillips – Resident representative (EP)
Tim Pinchen - Resident representative (TP)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ryan Doran (RD) and Paul Ebbutt (PE).

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

On the proposal of JQ, seconded by EP, the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 30 September 2026 were approved.

3. Review of Five Rivers Design Information

The majority of the documents had been received on Friday 2 October and the group had gone through them and responded to Five Rivers with further queries on Tuesday. A short Teams meeting was then held with them to run through the comments and changes required.

There are still a few changes to be made to the drawings and there are concerns over the artists impressions. The group felt that for some people they may be the only thing they look at and therefore they need to be accurate.

The Flood Risk Assessment is also a very important document and what they have sent so far needs to be added to or even rewritten. The main designer had given a very good, understandable explanation of why there is no increased risk

to downstream and how the water can be managed within the design on-site, but it is imperative that this is put into writing for the consultation.

DH said he felt confident that with the information we have so far a good presentation can be put together. However, we are still awaiting the costs and then the group and officers need to go through them in detail to make sure everything has been included, including such things as Stage 2 design, tarmacking the path along the railway side of the pond and so on.

4. Progress on Consultation

TH updated the meeting on the finalised survey which Enventure have put together, including the removal of questions such as gender that members of the group had concerns about.

ACTION – Invite specific groups to respond to the survey including:

- **The Environment Agency**
- **Hampshire County Council**
- **East Hampshire District Council**
- **Hampshire Rivers Trust**

The ‘Information Required for Public Consultation’ document was then run through and updated. Copies of documents handed out in the meeting to be circulated to the whole group, including ‘What are the Problems with King’s Pond’, ‘What happens if we do nothing’, and the draft risk assessment.

ACTION – All group members to continue working on the tasks allocated to them and report on progress at next week’s meeting.

5. Review of Outstanding Actions from Previous Meetings

TH updated the meeting on the appointment of the dam engineer and also reported there had been no further communication from Waterside Court.

DH still to update list of Engineering Sub Projects with work that is in progress or completed due to the tight turnaround in comments back to Five Rivers this week.

TP’s report on upstream drainage will be included in the consultation documents.

6. **Programme**

NTB had circulated an updated programme and will make further updates after the meeting and recirculate.

Five Rivers sending all costings on Friday and are working on the other necessary updates / documents.

7. **Date of next meetings**

There are weekly meetings of the Task & Finish Group at 1.30pm on Wednesdays for the foreseeable future.