

**Minutes from the Meeting  
held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 19:00  
at The War Memorial Hall, Abbots Ann.**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

	<b>In Attendance</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Councillor Jordan</b>	✓		
<b>Councillor Howard</b>		✓	
<b>Councillor Heather</b>	✓		
<b>Councillor Wallis</b>	✓		
<b>Councillor Mitchell</b>	✓		
<b>Councillor Rous</b>			✓
<b>Vacancy</b>	-	-	-

**Also, IN ATTENDANCE:**

Amanda Owen – Clerk, Borough Councillor Hasselman & no members of the public.

<b>250301</b>	<b>To receive Chairman’s opening remarks.</b> Councillor Jordan welcomed everyone to the meeting.
<b>250302</b>	<b>To receive and accept apologies for absence.</b> Apologies were <b>RECEIVED</b> and <b>ACCEPTED</b> from Councillor Howard and <b>NOTED</b> from Borough Councillor Flood and County Councillor Drew.
<b>250303</b>	<b>To receive declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests relating to items on this agenda.</b> No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests were received.
<b>250304</b>	<b>To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025.</b> The minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February were signed as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed by Councillor Wallis, seconded by Councillor Heather. This motion was passed on a vote of 3 <b>FOR</b> and 1 <b>ABSTENTION</b> .
<b>250305</b>	<b>To receive updates already published and any further updates provided.</b> Reports can be found at <b>APPENDIX A</b> .  Councillor Mitchell advised she had been in contact with Abbots Ann Primary School who are keen to forge a relationship with the Parish Council.  Councillor Wallis advised no further football games have been played due to pitch conditions.  Councillor Hasselman provided an overview of her report.  Councillor Drew’s report can be found at <b>APPENDIX A</b> .
<b>250306</b>	<b>To receive an update from Abbots Ann Community Land Trust.</b> The report from Abbots Ann Community Land Trust was noted and the Parish Council confirmed that their support still remained.  “The Tender specification to Developers is now in the course of preparation. AACLT has supplied all relevant material specifying our requirements and preferences for the project.  The tender list of 12 companies has been agreed. We shall be reviewing all documents and tender submissions in due course.  The next 2 months should show some good progress.”
<b>250307</b>	<b>To discuss progress on the new Bulbery facilities project &amp; discuss:</b> <b>Car Park Access   Car Park Fencing   Electric Charging Points</b> <b>Car Park Access &amp; Car Park Fencing</b> Noting that the new play area facilities will see an increase in visitors it will be necessary to build a fence around the car park perimeter to allow the car park to remain open to visitors. The Clerk is to seek

	estimate costs for fencing around the existing car park / over spill grassed area by sheds in a variety of styles and a height restriction bar for current entrance. <b>Electric Charging Points</b> To be discussed further as plans progress.								
250308	<b>To agree a funding solution for Bulbery play equipment.</b> The Clerk addressed the meeting and advised that a meeting was taking place between Councillor Flood and colleagues at Test Valley Borough Council with regards to S106 funding. Noting that the previously agreed quote was not fit for purpose, it was <b>AGREED</b> that Councillor Mitchell could design a playground space with the budget previously discussed ahead of final approval. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.  Councillor Jordan expressed his thanks to Councillor Mitchell for her continued support and drive towards the project.								
250309	<b>To consider comments to Councillor Drew’s ‘Devolution and local government reform’ email.</b> Abbotts Ann Parish Council expressed thanks for the information but no substantive comments to provide.								
250310	<b>To consider possible sites for Sakura Cherry trees.</b> After discussion, it was <b>NOTED</b> that Councillor Hasselmann would discuss tree availability with the Sakura Cherry Tree Project Manager and revert to the Clerk. It was noted that the Parish Council think that ten to fourteen trees would be able to be situated at Bulbery Playing Field, The Green and the War Memorial Grounds.								
250311	<b>To consider celebrating VE Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and funding options.</b> Following discussion it was agreed that Councillor Jordan would meet with The Eagle with regards to a potential event on Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> May. Dependent upon costings, it was agreed that a grant application will be submitted prior to the next meeting.								
250312	<b>To consider the adoption of Pillhill Brook Volunteers for insurance purposes.</b> It was <b>AGREED</b> to formally adopt the Pillhill Brook Volunteers. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.								
250313	<b>To consider the renewal of CPRE membership at a cost of £60.00.</b> It was <b>AGREED</b> to renew CPRE membership at a cost of £60.00. Proposed by Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Mitchell. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.								
250314	<b>To agree a payment of £15.00 to Stockbridge Parish Council to administer the Lengthsman Scheme.</b> It was <b>AGREED</b> to make a payment of £15.00 to Stockbridge Parish Council to administer the Lengthsman Scheme. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.								
250315	<b>To note the appointment of the internal auditor as Do The Numbers for financial year 2024 / 2025.</b> The appointment of Do The Number as the internal auditor for financial year 2024 / 2025 was <b>NOTED</b> .								
250316	<b>To agree the Test Valley Borough Council dog bin quote at a cost of £1212.85 for 2025 / 2026.</b> It was <b>AGREED</b> to accept the 2025 / 2026 Dog Bin quote from Test Valley Borough Council at a cost of £1212.82. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Wallis. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.								
250317	<b>To note the current financial situation and the reconciliation of the bank balance.</b> The current financial situation and the reconciliation of the bank balance were <b>NOTED</b> with the bank balance at 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2025 being £73,108.92. The bank reconciliation can be found as <b>APPENDIX B</b> .								
250318	<b>To approve the requests for payments for March.</b> The payments as listed in the table below were <b>APPROVED</b> for payment. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Wallis. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution. <div>March 2025 Payment Requests</div> <table><tr><td>TO</td><td>FOR</td><td>INVOICE NO</td><td>AMOUNT</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	TO	FOR	INVOICE NO	AMOUNT				
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	Staff	Salary	March	£1,147.51
	Staff	Expenses	February	£29.62
	Lloyds	Bank Charge 10 Jan - 09 Feb	449663871	£4.25
	John Heather	Expenses		£15.50
	Scandor	Grounds Maintenance	Inv 20561	£852.67
	Wessex Drainage Solutions	Drain Jetting – WMH	Inv 16359	£156.00
	Luke Rose Architect	Preapplication, planning stages & drawings	Inv ST0854	£8,858.72
				£11,064.27
<b>250319</b>	<b>To consider the following planning application(s):</b>			
<b>250319.01</b>	<b>25/00259/FULLN</b> <b>Replacement solid roof and glazing to conservatory.</b> <b>Curraghmore, 22 Hillside, Abbots Ann, Andover.</b> The Parish Council had <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.			
<b>250319.02</b>	<b>25/00375/TPON</b> <b>T1 - Horse Chestnut (TPO.TVBC.487) - Reduce primary and secondary limbs on north side and primary limb on south side by approximately 2.5m and installation of bracing system.</b> <b>The Chestnuts, 5 Farm Road, Little Park, Abbots Ann.</b> The Parish Council had <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.			
<b>250319.03</b>	<b>25/00403/TREEN</b> <b>T1 horse chestnut tree to be removed to ground level.</b> <b>Corner Of Cattle Lane And Duck Street, Abbots Ann, Andover.</b> No comment required as application withdrawn prior to meeting.			
<b>250319.04</b>	<b>25/00432/TREEN</b> <b>(T1) Cherry tree to front of house - Crown reduce by up to 2.5 metres</b> <b>Lane House, Dunkirt Lane, Abbots Ann.</b> The Parish Council had <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.			
<b>250319.05</b>	<b>24/02961/FULLN</b> <b>Replacement lean to roof and installation of solar panels.</b> <b>Faircroft, 43 - 44 Monxton Road, Abbots Ann, Andover.</b> The Parish Council had <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Wallis. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.			
<b>250319.06</b>	<b>24/02962/LBWN</b> <b>Replacement lean to roof and installation of solar panels.</b> <b>Faircroft, 43 - 44 Monxton Road, Abbots Ann, Andover.</b> The Parish Council had <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Wallis. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.			
<b>250319.07</b>	<b>25/00441/TREEN</b> <b>T1- Western Red Cedar - Reduce in height by up to 3m, specific reduction of scaffold limb with hazard beam (split) facing west, by up to 2m, trim remaining side growth by up to 1m.</b> <b>Far End, Abbots Hill, Little Ann.</b> The Parish Council had <b>NO OBJECTION</b> to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.			
<b>250319.08</b>	<b>25/00442/CLPN</b> <b>Application for lawful development certificate for proposed erection of outbuilding.</b> <b>St Vincents, Salisbury Road, Andover.</b> Application 25/00442/CLPN was <b>NOTED</b> .			

<b>250320</b>	<b>To agree the date of the Parish Assembly.</b> The date of the Parish Assembly was <b>AGREED</b> as Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April dependent upon the War Memorial Hall availability. If the WMH is available, the Clerk is to contact Community Groups for speakers.
<b>250321</b>	<b>To agree the date of the next meeting as Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.</b> The date of the next meeting was <b>AGREED</b> as Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April.
	<b>Admission to meeting to pass a resolution in accordance with the public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960 to exclude the public and press from the remainder of this meeting as publicity will be prejudicial to the confidential nature of the business.</b> Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Wallis. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.
<b>230322</b>	<b>To agree staff salary from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025.</b> Staff salary was <b>AGREED</b> .

There being no other business, the meeting closed 20:22.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Borough Councillor Report**

#### **Cllr Maureen Flood and Cllr Susanne Hasselmann March 2025**

##### **TVBC approves budget for 2025/26**

At the Council meeting on Thursday 27 February 2025, Test Valley Borough Council agreed the organisation's budget and the amount of council tax to be collected over the next year.

Councillors approved a balanced budget, without having to draw on any reserves. The Council is financially stable, a major achievement in the current financial climate. The Budget has built in some anticipated capacity pressures which will arise from the Local Government reorganisation process but the impact of that reorganisation is still unfolding. Councillors reiterated their determination to ensure that money raised through local taxes will be spent on local projects and services.

##### **Council Tax Increases by £5 for Band D property**

During its meeting on 27 January 2025, TVBC approved an increase of £5 a year to £168.91 for Band D Council Tax (excluding Parishes and Special Expenses). This represents an increase of 3.05%, broadly in line with current inflation.

TVBC's element of the overall Council Tax bill is 8%. In 2024/25 TVBC council tax levels continued to be the 27th lowest out of 164 district councils in England and £44 (20%) lower than the average charge.

Recently the Council also approved its new Council Tax Support scheme for 2025/26. This scheme helps to protect the most vulnerable households from the full effect of the Council Tax charge.

##### **Council raises the curtain on designs for Andover's new theatre**

Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) has unveiled the proposed designs for Andover's brand-new theatre. Since adopting the Andover town centre masterplan, the council has been progressing plans to deliver on the aspirations of the community and is moving ahead with creating the new venue.

TVBC has been working closely with specialist architects Burrell Foley Fischer (BFF) over the past few months to develop a vision for the multi-purpose theatre, which will be located at the entrance to the Chantry Centre.

The theatre is set to become a new home for The Lights, which has now outgrown capacity in its current location, and will offer modern facilities including a state-of-the-art multi-level auditorium, a separate performance and event space, a range of studios, meeting rooms and a café.

The theatre will feature an entrance leading onto the High Street and another leading onto Town Mills Riverside Park, which will offer a fresh outdoor space for visitors to enjoy in the warmer months. The new location puts the theatre in the heart of the town, close to shops, café's, restaurants and the multi-storey car park.

For more information and to keep up-to-date with latest news about the new theatre development, please see <https://www.thinkandovertowncentre.co.uk/theatre>

##### **Test Valley praised as "high-performing council" following peer review**

"High-performing", and "community-first" are how Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) has been described following an external review.

A corporate peer challenge team made up of senior cross-party councillors and experienced officers visited TVBC in November 2024, spending a week undertaking a comprehensive review of key finance, performance and governance information across all its services, as well as speaking to over 100 people including staff, councillors and external partners.

### New parent and child spaces coming to the Chantry Centre multi-storey as EV chargers set to relocate

Test Valley Borough Council has created three new parent and child spaces in the Chantry Centre multi-storey due to the relocation of the car park's four electric vehicle (EV) charging points. These are available from mid February.

The decision follows an independent review of the multi-storey car park and a recommendation to remove the EV chargers, due to incidents including the London Luton Airport car park fire. In their place, the council will install the new parent and child bays, which are wider than normal parking spaces to make it easier to get young children and babies out of the car.

The chargers, which are located on level 2a, have been switched off, with the replacements due to be installed in one of the council's other car parks soon. Alternative EV charging points are available at George Yard, South Street and Borden Gates. Users can also visit [Zap-Map](#) to find their nearest chargers.

### TARCA hedge laying at Bury Hill and visitors asked to keep off meadow areas



TARCA volunteers have been working at Bury Hill in February 2025, laying hedges and coppicing trees. This work is really beneficial for wildlife but may look quite stark at the beginning.

Posters are now up at the site, asking visitors not to walk on and to keep dogs off the meadow areas in order to allow birds and harvest mice to start nesting and allow wildflowers to bloom.

The poster has a teal background. At the top, it says 'Keep Bury Hill Meadows' in black, 'Blooming' in large yellow letters, and 'brilliant' in black. To the right is a white daisy with a butterfly. Below the title, it says 'Please keep yourself and dogs to the marked paths along the edges of the meadows.' in italics. There are two bullet points: '• Nesting birds and harvest mice breed on the meadows and will be disturbed.' and '• Trampled plants won't flower!'. At the bottom left are pink and blue flowers. At the bottom right is the 'Test Valley Borough Council' logo with a stylized animal.

Cllr Susanne Hasselmann, [cllrshasselmann@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:cllrshasselmann@testvalley.gov.uk)

Cllr Maureen Flood, [cllrmflood@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:cllrmflood@testvalley.gov.uk)

## **Update from Hampshire County Council – March 2025**

### **Hampshire County Council approves Council Tax increase to sustain essential services**

At the meeting of the full County Council, a 4.995% increase in Hampshire's portion of the council tax was approved from April this year alongside further savings proposals needed to help move the Authority towards delivering its core purpose and help address ongoing budget pressures in the years to come. With costs and demand rising in key areas such as social care, 2% of the council tax increase will go specifically towards adults' social care and supporting the county's higher numbers of older people and adults with complex needs and disabilities - in line with Government policy. This equates to an annual charge of £1,609.83 for a Band D property from 1 April 2025 – an increase of £1.47 per week.

The increase will generate an extra £50 million of vital revenue income towards the delivery of crucial services to the people of Hampshire in 2025/26, and still means that Hampshire has one of the lowest council tax precepts of any county in England.

Alongside revenue spending plans for the next financial year, the County Council also approved the capital budget for the next three years, with building and infrastructure projects totalling £1.167 billion - providing a major boost to the local economy through jobs, skills and construction, as well as ensuring necessary assets are in place to provide services to the people of Hampshire now and in the future. Under local government finance rules, the Council's capital resources cannot be used to shore up the running costs of the revenue budget.

The capital programme includes:

- £188m investment in new and extended school buildings to provide more school places for children in Hampshire
- £166m for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges
- £245m for Integrated Transport Plan schemes
- £107m to address condition-based enhancements to schools
- £50m for waste recycling infrastructure to meet legislative requirements

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250213Budgetdecision>

### **Devolution for Hampshire – have your say in the Government's consultation**

Hampshire residents are invited to have their say on once-in-a-generation devolution proposals for Hampshire and the Solent region in the eight-week public consultation launched today by central Government

The consultation invites residents' views on the proposal to form a Mayoral Combined County Authority for Hampshire, Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, and Southampton.

The consultation runs for eight weeks from 10am, 17 February 2025 to 11:59pm on 13 April 2025.

It can be found here: [Hampshire and the Solent devolution consultation - GOV.UK](#)

Devolution will shift more powers and flexibilities from Westminster to Hampshire and the Solent region, along with additional funding and investment. This transition will empower local authorities to make vital decisions closer to where residents live and work, driving economic growth, innovation, and productivity.

Further dedicated information about devolution in Hampshire, including Q&As, can be found on the County Council's webpages, [www.hants.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.hants.gov.uk/devolution).

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250217DevoConsultation>

### **More than 90 per cent of Year 6 pupils in Hampshire offered first preference secondary school**

More than 97 per cent of parents in Hampshire (13,903) have been offered a place for their child at one of their three preferences for a secondary school in September 2025

Of those who applied for a Year 7 place (for September 2025) by the application deadline, 90.8 per cent have been offered a place at their first preference school. The County Council received 14,230 on-time applications this year – a decrease of 357 applications compared to the number received for places in September 2024 (14,587).

Pupils who did not secure a place at one of their three preferences have been allocated a place at their catchment school or the next nearest available school. Parents have the right to appeal in these situations and their child's name will be added to the waiting list for any schools for which they receive a refusal. Places can become available via the waiting list for various reasons including parents changing their mind, or families moving home.

Parents who applied online have been notified of their offers by email. They can also view their offer by logging into the secure, online portal using the same log-in details provided when making their online application. Those parents who applied on paper, and did not provide an email address, have been notified by post and should receive their letters in two to three days.

A video and a set of Frequently Asked Questions to help with parents' queries has been published on the [Admissions webpages](#). This includes information on school transport assistance which may be available in certain circumstances, where the national eligibility criteria are met (application deadline 31 May).

The Admissions Team is now busy processing primary school applications with school place offers due to go out to parents on 16 April 2025.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250303nationalofferday>

David Drew

Test Valley Central Division, HCC

## APPENDIX B

Date: 03/03/2025	Abbotts Ann Parish Council	Page 1	
Time: 09:54	Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 28/02/2025 for Cashbook 1 - Lloyds Treasurers Account	User: AMANDA	
<u>Bank Statement Account Name (s)</u>	<u>Statement Date</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Balances</u>
Lloyds Treasurers Account	28/02/2025		73,108.92
			<u>73,108.92</u>
<u>Unpresented Payments (Minus)</u>		<u>Amount</u>	
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			73,108.92
<u>Unpresented Receipts (Plus)</u>			
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			73,108.92
		Balance per Cash Book is :-	73,108.92
		Difference is :-	0.00