

**Minutes from the Meeting
held on Thursday 5th February at 19:00
at The War Memorial Hall, Abbots Ann.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent
Councillor Jordan	√		
Councillor Howard	√		
Councillor Heather	√		
Councillor Wallis	√		
Councillor Mitchell	√		
Vacancy	-	-	-
Vacancy	-	-	-

Also, IN ATTENDANCE:

Amanda Owen – Clerk, Borough Councillors Flood & Hasselmann, County Councillor Drew, Jonathan Leigh – CL Planning, Janet Wright – Pillhill Brook Association, Michelle Penn – Community Support Officer & one member of the public.

260201	<p>To receive Chairman’s opening remarks. Councillor Jordan welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised the meeting is recorded.</p> <p>By the way of opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - drainage works causing issues consisting of gridlock through the village twice a day. - Numerous reports have been sent to police, due to damaged cars and altercations on Duck Street. - Unfortunately, Highways cannot help and the Police haven’t responded. - Outstanding outcome with regards to the War Memorial Hall solar panels on the roof in a conservation area. <p>Councillor Jordan then advised that the meeting was going to deviate from normal format, under updates a presentation would be received from Jonathan Leigh – CL Planning with regards to Woolsington One, owned Bellway Homes. Unfortunately, the presentation could not make the original agenda as the agenda was already issued.</p>
260202	<p>To receive and accept apologies for absence. None.</p>
260203	<p>To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests relating to items on this agenda. No declarations of pecuniary interest were received.</p>
260204	<p>To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 4th December 2025. The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th December 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 FOR and 2 ABSTENTIONS.</p>
260205	<p>To receive updates already published and any further updates provided. Reports can be found at APPENDIX A.</p> <p>Councillor Mitchell provided information of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Playground feedback has been noted. Follow up on Sovereign on pending actions. - Mobile prostate screening & a talk at the War Memorial Hall. - CY Fence. - Large pothole between Dobbie’s garden centre and the flyover bridge of the A303. <p>Councillor Heather advised of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Footpath inspections have been completed. The paths are in good condition, although muddy. - Complaints have been received with regards to pruning at the Drove. The Estate Owner conducts this work every 5 years and several trees have been planted within their small woods. - Reported blocked drains along Duck Street. - Tankers are present in the village.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A meeting is taking place with Southern Water tomorrow, the predominant issue is the amount of ground water. <p>Councillor Howard ran through the action list.</p> <p>Borough Councillor Hasselmann provided an overview of her report.</p> <p>County Councillor Drew provided an overview of his report.</p> <p><u>Jonathan Leigh – CL Planning, Dorset</u></p> <p>Jonathan addressed the meeting and advised of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Worked within the public sector and Neighbourhood plan preparation. - Aim of the meeting is to receive comments and feedback. - The site is listed as a draft residential option on Duck Street in Test Valley Borough Council Local Plan NA20. - The indicative plan has highlighted the aim to make walking to school safer with a community car park to reduce parking frustrations which was recognised early in plans. An allotment site and community woodland has also been discussed. - Traffic concerns at St John's Cross will be reviewed by Hampshire County Council who will determine suitable traffic measures. - Initial plans propose approximately 60 homes which will be made up by a mixture of properties, which will include affordable homes. - Consideration will be expressed to the Abbotts Ann Community Land Trust project. - A pre application was submitted to Test Valley Borough Council in July 2025. - Outline planning is due to be submitted in April 2026. - All relevant surveys are underway or has been undertaken. - Proposed images of the homes are currently unavailable but housing character and integration in to existing surroundings will certainly be considered. - A website will be created where documents can be reviewed with details of a public consultation so residents can view the plans and make suggestions / leave feedback. <p>Councillor Jordan thanked Jonathan for attending.</p>
260206	<p>To receive an update from Abbotts Ann Community Land Trust.</p> <p>Jon Barlow of Abbotts Ann Community Land Trust provided the following update:</p> <p>"I have not yet been told that the developer partners are ready to proceed. I understand that the delay is down to some of the investigations for Services in relation to the site. I understand that discussions continue between Vendor and Purchaser.</p> <p>I am acutely aware that the timetable previously noted has slipped but you will understand that the CLT has no control over it.</p> <p>I am keeping in touch with the developer and Vendor's agent and I hope for firmer news soon."</p>
260207	<p>To receive an update relating to the Community Clubhouse & Play Area.</p> <p>Clubhouse project review with Luke on 20th January with FOTAAS and a few other key individuals. The Parish Council are looking to continue with a bid for additional funding from Test Valley Borough Council. Some feedback has been received with regards to Councillor Jordan's presentation from outside of the council, which needs to be finalised by the middle of next week. Councillor Jordan encouraged those present to submit comments. The presentation to TVBC will take place on 13th March at 16:00. Since budget originally set, we have to consider inflation – additional funds will be required to complete the budget.</p> <p>Councillor Mitchell and Borough Councillor confirmed that cherry trees are due in November.</p> <p>Councillor Mitchell confirmed that the roof turret had been removed from the new playground and the potential of rubber matting at entrance points to the playground was discussed. The Clerk will research and provide details at the next meeting.</p>

260207.01	<p>To agree the quote from Aluco Ecology Ltd for Habitat Management & Monitoring Plan at a cost of £800.00 ex VAT and mileage at 45 pence per mile.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the quote from Aluco Ecology at a cost of £800.00 ex VAT and mileage at 45 pence per mile.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Howard.</p> <p>This motion was passed on vote of 4 FOR and 1 ABSTENTION.</p>
260208	<p>To consider a response to the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan.</p> <p>The Parish Council had no comment to submit.</p>
260209	<p>To agree the part funding of the Pillhill Brook Association membership to the Angling Trust at a cost of £8.58 and to note the information poster 'The Pillhill Brook'.</p> <p>It was AGREED to part fund the Pillhill Brook Association membership to the Angling trust at a cost of £8.58.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Howard, seconded by Councillor Heather.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p> <p>The information poster was NOTED & volunteer details to be decided to personalise poster.</p> <p>It was AGREED to contribute £5.00 to produce replica award plaques for display within the village.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Heather, seconded by Councillor Mitchell.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
260210	<p>To discuss the Eagle Inn as a potential Asset of Community Value.</p> <p>It was AGREED to commence works to list the Eagle Inn as an asset of community value.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Howard.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
260211	<p>To discuss a SID device and installation of 'clean up after your dog' signs.</p> <p>It was AGREED to Investigate purchase of a SID (speed indicator device), and to explore sharing options with neighbouring parishes.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Howard.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p> <p>Michelle Penn advised she will enquire as to whether TVBC can help with dog signage.</p>
260212	<p>To agree the quote from Gillett & Johnson for the Church Clock motor repair.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the quote from Gillett & Johnson at £275.00 + VAT for one hour on site and £75.00 + VAT per hour thereafter, additional mileage costs 0.75p per mile after 50 miles for the Church Clock motor repair if a grant can be obtained.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Howard, seconded by Councillor Heather.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
260213	<p>To agree the following quotes from Test Valley Borough Council for 2026 / 2027:</p>
260213.01	<p>- Grounds maintenance (The Green & The Sportsfield) at £2122.72.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the grounds maintenance quote for grass cutting at the Green and the Sportsfield at a cost of £2122.72 ex VAT.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Mitchell.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
260213.02	<p>- Dog bin emptying at £1491.78.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the dog bin emptying quote at a cost of £1491.78 ex VAT.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Mitchell.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
260213.03	<p>- Play Area Inspections at £1016.63</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the play area inspections quote at a cost of £1016.63 ex VAT.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Mitchell.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
260214	<p>To agree the Grounds Maintenance quote from Scandor Landscape Contractors at a cost of £8867.76.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the grounds maintenance quote from Scandor Landscape Contractors at a cost of £8867.76 ex VAT.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Howard.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
260215	<p>To agree a contractor to complete tree works within St Mary's Churchyard and the Burial Ground.</p>

	<p>It was AGREED to accept the quote from One Two Tree at a cost of £6660.00 (inc VAT) to complete ALL tree works within St Mary’s Churchyard and the Burial Ground.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Howard.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>																																																																																																
260216	<p>To agree the retrospective approval of a 1 meter gap beside the vehicle access gate at Bulbery.</p> <p>It was AGREED to retrospectively approve the installation of a 1 meter gap beside the vehicle access gate at Bulbery.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>																																																																																																
260217	<p>To note the current financial situation and the reconciliation of the bank balance.</p> <p>The current financial situation and the reconciliation of the bank balance were NOTED with the bank balance at 31st December 2025 being £76,259.24 and the bank balance at 31st January 2026 being £62,324.09. The bank reconciliations can be found at APPENDIX B.</p>																																																																																																
260218	<p>To approve payment requests.</p> <p>The payments as listed in the table below were APPROVED for payment.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather.</p> <p>All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p> <table><tr><th colspan="4">January 2026 Payment Requests</th></tr><tr><th>TO</th><th>FOR</th><th>INVOICE NO</th><th>AMOUNT</th></tr><tr><td>Staff</td><td>Salary</td><td>January</td><td>£1,264.29</td></tr><tr><td>Staff</td><td>Expenses</td><td>December</td><td>£28.72</td></tr><tr><td>Lloyds</td><td>Bank Charge</td><td></td><td>£4.25</td></tr><tr><td>Scandor</td><td>Grounds Maintenance</td><td>Inv 21195</td><td>£852.67</td></tr><tr><td>Sonnies Landscapes</td><td>WMH Drainage Work</td><td>Inv 001</td><td>£1,329.00</td></tr><tr><td>Defib Store</td><td>Defib Pads</td><td>Inv 59492</td><td>£148.80</td></tr><tr><td>EDF</td><td>Electricity 1 - 31 December</td><td>DD Inv KI-CC1F4FE6-0002</td><td>£36.34</td></tr><tr><td>SLCC</td><td>Membership 2026</td><td>Inv MEM256908-3</td><td>£200.00</td></tr><tr><td>Sovereign</td><td>Play Area</td><td>Inv 0000151119</td><td>£17,223.34</td></tr><tr><td>Business Stream</td><td>Pavilion Water - 15 Sept to 14 Dec</td><td>Inv 2785274 / 9514385</td><td>£249.44</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>£21,336.85</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th colspan="4">February 2026 Payment Requests</th></tr><tr><th>TO</th><th>FOR</th><th>INVOICE NO</th><th>AMOUNT</th></tr><tr><td>Staff</td><td>Salary</td><td>February</td><td>£1,264.29</td></tr><tr><td>Staff</td><td>Expenses</td><td>January</td><td>£22.96</td></tr><tr><td>Lloyds</td><td>Bank Charge</td><td></td><td>£4.25</td></tr><tr><td>Scandor</td><td>Grounds Maintenance</td><td>Inv 21266</td><td>£852.67</td></tr><tr><td>Fencing Direct Hampshire Ltd</td><td>Fencing at Bulbery</td><td>Inv 1642</td><td>£2,190.00</td></tr><tr><td>EDF</td><td>Electricity 01 - 31st Jan</td><td>DD Inv KI-CC1F4FE6-0003</td><td>£47.30</td></tr><tr><td>Plane Arboriculture Limited</td><td>Report Updates</td><td>Inv-1612</td><td>£170.00</td></tr><tr><td>St Mary’s Church - Abbotts Ann</td><td>Church Clock Service</td><td>Inv 31035</td><td>£270.00</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>£4821.47</td></tr></table>	January 2026 Payment Requests				TO	FOR	INVOICE NO	AMOUNT	Staff	Salary	January	£1,264.29	Staff	Expenses	December	£28.72	Lloyds	Bank Charge		£4.25	Scandor	Grounds Maintenance	Inv 21195	£852.67	Sonnies Landscapes	WMH Drainage Work	Inv 001	£1,329.00	Defib Store	Defib Pads	Inv 59492	£148.80	EDF	Electricity 1 - 31 December	DD Inv KI-CC1F4FE6-0002	£36.34	SLCC	Membership 2026	Inv MEM256908-3	£200.00	Sovereign	Play Area	Inv 0000151119	£17,223.34	Business Stream	Pavilion Water - 15 Sept to 14 Dec	Inv 2785274 / 9514385	£249.44				£21,336.85	February 2026 Payment Requests				TO	FOR	INVOICE NO	AMOUNT	Staff	Salary	February	£1,264.29	Staff	Expenses	January	£22.96	Lloyds	Bank Charge		£4.25	Scandor	Grounds Maintenance	Inv 21266	£852.67	Fencing Direct Hampshire Ltd	Fencing at Bulbery	Inv 1642	£2,190.00	EDF	Electricity 01 - 31st Jan	DD Inv KI-CC1F4FE6-0003	£47.30	Plane Arboriculture Limited	Report Updates	Inv-1612	£170.00	St Mary’s Church - Abbotts Ann	Church Clock Service	Inv 31035	£270.00				£4821.47
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260219	<p>To consider the following planning application(s):</p>																																																																																																
260219.01	<p>26/00135/TPON</p> <p>T1 - Walnut - Re-pollard back to old cuts, T2 - 2 x Hazel - Re-Coppice to ground, T3 - Holly - Remove, G1 - Conifer - Remove to ground, G2 - Lime x2 - Re-pollard back to old cuts</p> <p>14 Kingsmead, Anna Valley, Andover, Abbotts Ann.</p> <p>The Parish Council had NO OBJECTION to this application.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Wallis.</p>																																																																																																

	All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.
260219.02	26/00141/TREEN T1 - Silver Maple - Reduce height by up to 3m and sides by up to 2m Faircroft, 43 Monxton Road, Abbots Ann. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTION to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Heather. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.
260219.03	26/00148/TPON T1 - Lime - Crown raise lower branches to gain 5m clearance, T2 - Sycamore - Cut back lateral growth on garden side, south side by up to 2m, T3 and T4 - Ash - Cut back lateral growth on garden side , south side by up to 2m, T5 - Ash - Crown reduce leaning stem on garden side by up to 3m to finished height 16m and finished width up to 4m, T6 - Leyland Cypress - Cut back lower overhanging growth by up to 1m 14 Abbots Hill, Little Ann, Andover, Abbots Ann. The Parish Council had NO OBJECTION to this application. Proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Wallis. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.
260220	To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 5th March 2026. The date of the next meeting was agreed as Thursday 5 th March.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:46.

APPENDIX A

Borough Councillor Report Cllr Maureen Flood and Cllr Susanne Hasselmann February 2026

Full Council Motion – Land Banking and "A Drain on the Nation" report

Following a Council Motion on the 15 October 2025 calling for sustainable development and the Government's continued pressure on house building, it was resolved that the Council would write to the Minister of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on the proposals to reduce land banking including incentives and penalties to encourage delivery including on brownfield sites and to respond to the Home Builders Federations (HBF) report, "A Drain on the Nation" in which they call for the Government to resolve development delays due to wastewater infrastructure. In particular they are calling for:

- Reassertion of paragraph 201 of the NPPF and remind local planning authorities that questions relating to wastewater should not intrude into development management decisions.
- Remind local authorities that water companies operate under a statutory duty to meet the requirements of the land-use planning system and home builders pay them charges to ensure that they do so.
- Insist that water companies, working with Ofwat and the Environment Agency, make provision for the Government's home building targets by fully reflecting requirements in their Water Resource Management Plans and the Wastewater Infrastructure Plans.

The council has received a response from Government to both letters. Amongst the detail they refer to the consultation on the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and have included specific detail on the preservation of chalk streams:

'The government is consulting on a new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that includes clearer, more rules-based policies for decision-making and plan-making, designed to make planning policy easier to use and underpin the delivery of faster and simpler local plans. The consultation includes policies on the protection of chalk streams. The consultation on changes to the NPPF is available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-planning-policy-framework-proposed-reforms-and-other-changes-to-the-planning-system>. It will remain open for responses until 10th March 2026. We have included explicit recognition of chalk streams in both the natural environment and pollution chapters of the proposed NPPF as features of high environmental value.'

Council to explore landscape protection potential for Test Valley chalk streams



Test Valley Borough Council are investigating whether Test Valley's chalk streams could become a National Landscape, previously known as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Early feasibility work will help the local authority understand whether areas might be suitable for designation.

The work will focus on protecting the River Test, its tributaries and other chalk streams across Test Valley and beyond.

A National Landscape designation is made by Natural England and is one of the highest forms of landscape protection in the country. It recognises the natural, cultural and historic importance of an area and helps protect places from pressures such as climate change and habitat loss.

Please contact your Councillor if you would like more information.

Man fined for fly-tipping bathroom waste near Andover



A man has been ordered to pay over £1,700 after admitting to fly-tipping bathroom fittings and household waste in Privet Lane near Andover.

Around 19 April 2024, Christian Godwin, 29, from Newbury, was hired to fit a new toilet, cistern and basin at a home in Aldershot and dispose of the old ones.

The waste, which included a toilet, cistern, sink, as well as wood, polythene, plumbing fittings, cardboard boxes and packaging, was later found dumped in Privet Lane, near Andover.

Building energy efficiency support service available for community groups

A support service for community groups and not for profit organisations on how they can make their buildings more energy efficient and, in the long term, help to reduce their energy bills is still available.

Arthian, who were appointed to undertake this service, will provide their support in four stages:

1. An initial conversation via phone call or Teams meeting will take place to understand more about the level of support required;
2. A site visit will be undertaken to inspect the building;
3. A bespoke report will be produced, outlining the findings, to highlight what could be done to make the building more energy efficient;
4. A follow up conversation will be scheduled with the community organisation to review the findings of the report, answer any queries and clarify next steps.

The service will be available until the middle of March 2026. For more information, please contact your Councillor.

Pond on Bury Hill Meadows

TVBC are planning to dig an ephemeral pond at Bury Hill in the southwest corner of the meadows (see image). This area tends to collect water as it runs off the hill and is often very wet after a heavy rain fall.

The pond will be unlined, making it seasonal and so it will dry up in summer months. The seasonal nature of these types of ponds' really benefits amphibians, as fish don't establish thus reducing predation of their young. A bund will be constructed with the spoils along the back of the pond to enhance structural diversity and create new habitats. The corner will be fenced off to prevent dogs swimming in the pond.

Work is expected to start by the end of February 2026.



Cllr Susanne Hasselmann, Borough Councillor cllrshasselmann@testvalley.gov.uk

Cllr Maureen Flood, Borough Councillor cllrmflood@testvalley.gov.uk

Useful contacts:

Michelle Penn, Community Engagement Officer, Anna Ward, mpenn@testvalley.gov.uk



More than 100,000 illegal vapes and tobacco products seized by Hampshire County Council in 2025, marking record haul

A record 116,000 illegal vapes and tobacco products, valued at £138,000, were seized by Hampshire County Council's Trading Standards team last year – part of ongoing efforts to protect communities from unsafe and unlawful products

Trading Standards officers conduct regular inspections, often alongside Hampshire Police, and undertake test purchasing with young volunteers, to detect unlawful sales and protect responsible businesses.

Illegal vapes and tobacco aren't just a problem because they break the law - they often contain unknown ingredients and higher levels of nicotine, posing serious risks to people's health. Trading Standards works closely with the County Council's public health team, including sharing intelligence on the sources of illegal products and where they are being sold.

Traders found selling to underage customers or stocking illegal products can face investigation and potential criminal prosecution. Adults who buy these products on behalf of someone underage, also risk a fine.

More information about Hampshire County Council Trading Standards can be found at:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/business/tradingstandards>.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20263101TradingStandardsVapes>

Hampshire County Council outlines congestion-reducing 'lane rental' proposal in submission to Government

Proposals that could lead to the introduction of a new lane rental scheme aimed at reducing delays on 500 of Hampshire's busiest main roads during peak times, are being submitted to Government

The introduction of a lane rental scheme would enable the County Council to charge a daily fee of up to £2,500 for the duration of roadworks, including any delays, on more than 750km (nearly 500 miles) of Hampshire's roads. If approved by the Department for Transport, the scheme could be introduced later this year. The goal is to reduce traffic disruption on Hampshire's busy road network, by providing financial incentives for organisations to carefully plan and execute their works so that they cause minimum disruption.

The County Council agreed in January 2025 to progress plans for a lane rental scheme, which would complement the existing road permitting system. A final proposal on how the scheme would operate includes which roads are considered to be the busiest.

Lane rental schemes are already in place in several parts of the UK, and they must comply with national legislation. Charges can only be applied to the most highly trafficked roads managed by the highway authority and under current legislation, the County Council would be permitted to charge up to £2,500 per day - the maximum allowed.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20262001LaneRentalSubmission>

Get winter savvy with help and advice at your local library

With temperatures dropping and budgets stretched following the recent festive period, Hampshire County Council's libraries remain on hand to provide helpful advice about energy bills and the cost of living

Funded by the Government's [Household Support Fund](#), the authority's 'Warm and Welcome' events have already enabled more than 500 library visitors to access critical support and guidance from over 130 local organisations and charities. This includes information on managing the costs of food and fuel, as well as advice on parenting, home safety, mental health and much more.

Sixteen events have already taken place in libraries across the county this winter, with a further seven due to run on the following dates. All events are free to attend, with no prior appointment required, including:

- **Romsey Library** – 16 January, 1pm-4pm

Visit the Hampshire libraries website for [details of other upcoming events](#).

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260112warmlibraries>

Hampshire helps thousands of adults to live safely at home

As 2026 begins, tens of thousands of Hampshire residents are starting the year where they most want to be, at home – feeling safe, supported, and living independently

Hampshire County Council is caring for more adults than ever before in the comfort of their own homes, enabling people to live independently at home for longer. According to latest figures, over 40,000 residents in Hampshire now benefit from a range of tailored support – from telecare to Meals on Wheels, and from respite care to help recovering following a stay in hospital.

This commitment to keeping people safe and independent is a cornerstone of the County Council's new [Strategic Plan](#), the Local Authority's blueprint for serving Hampshire through to 2028.

Technology Enabled Care (TEC) – Hampshire is leading the way in care innovation. From falls detectors and GPS trackers to smart speakers, TEC helps people live safely at home. Over 14,300 residents now use TEC, and more than 47,000 have benefited over the past 12 years, making Hampshire one of the UK's largest providers

Meals on Wheels - delivering 120,000 meals annually, combining nutritious food with welfare checks to help prevent hospital admissions and reduce reliance on carers

Carers Support Service – nearly 6,000 referrals in nine months, offering vital help to those caring for loved ones. One carer described the service as "the light at the end of the tunnel"

Occupational therapy and reablement – with a 99% satisfaction rate these services help people regain independence and reduce longer term social care costs

Extra Care – 974 self-contained apartments designed to support independent living whilst offering the security of care and support on-site, and reducing the need for more expensive residential care

For anyone starting to plan for later life, a good place to start is [Connect to Support Hampshire](#), the County Council's trusted online hub for advice and local resources. With over 425,000 visits to the website last year, it's the go-to place for information about staying independent and finding support in your community.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20260109morepeoplelivingindependentlyathome>

Man sentenced after dumping household waste in Kings Somborne

A man has been ordered to complete unpaid work and pay more than £1,000 after admitting to dumping household waste along a rural lane in Kings Somborne.

Around 26 May 2024, the council received reports about a fly-tip across a number of locations on Eldon Road, which consisted of bagged and loose household waste.

Evidence within the waste led officers to a resident who informed the council she had paid Leighton Smith, 22, of Southampton, to remove her rubbish.

Appearing at Southampton Magistrates Court on 21 January 2026, Smith received a 12-month community order, requiring him to complete ten rehabilitation activity requirement days and 80 hours of unpaid work. He must also pay £950 in costs and a £114 victim surcharge, totalling £1,064.

Residents can report fly tipping online at www.testvalley.gov.uk/fly-tipping.

<https://testvalley.gov.uk/news/2026/jan/man-sentenced-after-dumping-household-waste-in-kings-somborne>

Man fined for fly-tipping bathroom waste near Andover

A man has been ordered to pay over £1,700 after admitting to fly-tipping bathroom fittings and household waste in Privet Lane near Andover.

Around 19 April 2024, Christian Godwin, 29, from Newbury, was hired to fit a new toilet, cistern and basin at a home in Aldershot and dispose of the old ones.

The waste, which included a toilet, cistern, sink, as well as wood, polythene, plumbing fittings, cardboard boxes and packaging, was later found dumped in Privet Lane, near Andover.

Appearing at Basingstoke Magistrates' Court on 20 January 2026, Mr Godwin pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a £520 fine, a £208 victim surcharge and £1,000 in costs.

<https://testvalley.gov.uk/news/2026/jan/man-fined-for-fly-tipping-bathroom-waste-near-andover>

Council to explore landscape protection potential for Test Valley chalk streams

Test Valley Borough Council is to investigate whether Test Valley's chalk streams could become a National Landscape, previously known as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Early feasibility work will help the local authority understand whether areas might be suitable for designation.

The work will focus on protecting the River Test, its tributaries and other chalk streams across Test Valley and beyond.

A National Landscape designation is made by Natural England and is one of the highest forms of landscape protection in the country. It recognises the natural, cultural and historic importance of an area and helps protect places from pressures such as overdevelopment, climate change and habitat loss.

National Landscape status strengthens long-term conservation, supports nature recovery, and helps communities thrive in a sustainable way.

Initial investigations will also determine what other potential protection designations could be pursued, such as green infrastructure planning or Local Nature Recovery strategies, if National Landscape status is unattainable.

"The rolling chalk hills, ancient woodlands, historic villages and the River Test create a landscape rich in wildlife, heritage and character. These qualities make the area distinctive and valued by residents, visitors and communities across the region.

"While achieving National Landscape status isn't easy, we believe this is worth pursuing, and it would also be worth knowing what other avenues could be explored to make sure it's protected for the future. It would help safeguard what makes our borough special, while supporting the needs of our communities."

"Protecting our chalk streams has been a priority for Test Valley Borough Council for many years and if we can achieve this status it would be a game-changer, giving stronger protection to this unique ecosystem.

David Drew

Test Valley Central Division, HCC

Harewood ward, TVBC