



Time and date

6.33pm on Wednesday **14 January 2026**

Place

Upper Guildhall, Andover

Councillors Present:		Arrival time noted if after meeting start						
Cllr H Neate (Town Mayor)	P		Cllr T Burley (Deputy Town Mayor)	P		Cllr M Farren	P	
Cllr K Bird	P		Cllr J Cockaday	P		Cllr S Hardstaff	P	
Cllr J Goodwin	P		Cllr L Gregori	A		Cllr K Hughes	P	6:38pm
Cllr A Horsnell	P		Cllr J Hughes	P		Cllr R Meyer	P	
Cllr R Hughes	P		Cllr R Kidd	P				
Cllr E Reynolds	P		Cllr G Walters	P				

Officers Present:	Tor Warburton (Town Clerk/RFO) Micha West (Deputy Town Clerk/Deputy RFO) Started at 6.33pm
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Members of the Public:	0
County/Borough Councillors:	Cllr D Drew
Members of the Press:	0

PUBLIC SESSION	
C328/01/26	There were no comments from the Members of the Public.
APOLOGIES	
C329/01/26	Apologies were received from Councillor L Gregori.
MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
C330/01/26	<i>(Cllr K Hughes arrived at 6.38pm)</i> Since we last met in December, I attended along with many other councillors, our Carols around the Christmas Tree event, which was well attended and good fun. Thanks to everyone who came along for helping out.

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	<p>On Ward business over the Christmas and new year break, I have been looking into why there was so little notice of extensive roadworks along Walworth Road. Although these will hopefully result in much needed improvements to road safety on Walworth Road, the roadworks will disrupt families' lives and access for businesses for the next 4 months with little explanation. I have lodged a question to the Planning Committee about improving communications in the future.</p> <p>This is our first Full Council meeting for 2026. We kick off with a lively agenda of business that meets our Council strategy and business plan. I hope to begin this new year at a timely pace and with civility and respect. We have a number of items to consider, most of which have been considered by committees. We have all had the chance to read the papers and I draw your attention to our Standing Orders, especially on points of order. I will consider a comfort break of 15 minutes before item 14 if members would like one and an extension to the meeting if necessary. Included tonight are approving the budget and council tax precept in line with our financial regulations which in particular, state that any member with council tax unpaid for more than 2 months is prohibited from voting on the budget or precept by s106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and must disclose at the start of the meeting that s106 applies to them.</p> <p>Does this apply to any member this evening? Then we will move onto item 4, external reports.</p>
EXTERNAL REPORTS	
C331/01/26	Councillor R Hughes reported that TVBC were waiting on HCC for feedback on the LGR responses.
INTERESTS	
C332/01/26	<p>Non-pecuniary declarations were received from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillor E Reynolds, as a member of the Drove Association and as an allotment plot holder. 2. Councillor R Hughes, declared an interest in Item number 13 as a member of the King Arthurs Hall Community Association.
MINUTES	
C333/01/26	It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and RESOLVED: FOR - 14, AGAINST - 0, ABSTENTIONS - 1 , that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10 December 2025 , be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
C334/01/26	The following Committee Minutes were received and noted: Planning Committee: 24 November 2025 Policy and Resources Committee: 6 November 2025
CONTRACTUAL & DELEGATED PAYMENTS	

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C335/01/26	Members received and noted the contractual and delegated payments that had been made in the period of from: 1 December 2025 to 31 December 2025
PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL	
C336/01/26	It was noted that there were no payments above the RFO's delegated authority.
CREDIT CARD	
C337/01/26	It was proposed by Councillor T Burley and seconded by Councillor K Bird and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that credit card payments due up to 2 January 2026, be approved. (C261/11/25 refers.)
FINANCE	
C338/01/26	It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor T Burley and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the following reports be approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Statements & Bank Reconciliation • Cashbook • Earmarked Reserves • Financial Comparison to date
DEPOSIT LIMIT INCREASE	
C339/01/26	Members received and noted the Deposit Limit Increase report , relating to the Unity Trust Bank Deposit Account and Redwood Bank Account.
C340/01/26	It was proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff, seconded by Councillor E Reynolds and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the increased FSCS deposit protection limit amount for the Unity Trust Bank Deposit Account and Redwood Bank Account to £120,000, be approved.
C341/01/26	Officers were instructed to action the transfer of funds as approved.
UPCOMING PROJECTS AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2026	
C342/01/26	Members received and noted the upcoming/proposed events and projects calendar for 2026.
PROJECTS	
C343/01/26	Members reviewed the Warm Hub project report and supporting documentation. It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor G Walters and members went into discussion. It was RESOLVED: Unanimously that the project be rejected. (<i>R Hughes did not participate in the vote</i>)
C344/01/26	It was recommended that the council approach the existing warm hubs and ask them to apply for a grant to fund their warm hub through Andover Town Council's small grants process.

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C345/01/26	Members reviewed the U-Choose Project . It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor J Hughes and members went into discussion.
C346/01/26	It was proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor M Farren and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that the U-Choose Project be referred back to the Community and Events Committee and brought back to the next Full Council meeting to report on progress.
C347/01/26	Members reviewed the Community Cookery Project . It was proposed by Councillor G Walters and seconded by Councillor K Bird and members went into discussion.
C348/01/26	It was proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor R Hughes and RESOLVED: FOR - 13, AGAINST - 0, ABSTENTIONS - 2 , that the Community Chef Project be referred back to the Community and Events Committee for further information and a report to be brought back to Full Council.
C349/01/26	It was proposed by Councillor H Neate and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and RESOLVED: Unanimously , that a 10 minute comfort break be taken, commencing at 7.24 pm. The Full Council meeting reconvened at 7.34pm.
BUDGET FOR 2026/2027	
C350/01/26	Members considered a report on the 2026/2027 budget . It was proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor E Reynolds and members went into discussion. Councillor G Walters requested a recorded vote.
C351/01/26	Prior to the vote, Councillor S Hardstaff addressed the Council on the budget report, outlining the reasons for the proposed budget and the implications for the Council.
C352/01/26	Councillor E Reynolds congratulated and thanked Councillor S Hardstaff for the preparation and work that had gone into the report and for presenting the budget report. He confirmed that he fully supported the proposals.
C353/01/26	Members then proceeded to questioning.
C354/01/26	An amendment was proposed by Councillor J Goodwin and seconded by Councillor M Farren, that the budget percentage increase be reduced to 3.5% to bring it in line with the current Consumer Price Index (CPI). Councillor K Bird advised that the current CPI was 3.9% and asked where were Councillor Goodwin's revised budget figures to support his amendment. Councillor J Goodwin withdrew his amendment proposal as he was unable to provide any supporting figures in the meeting. Councillor M Farren confirmed he was happy to acknowledge the withdrawal.
C355/01/06	A second amendment was proposed by Councillor J Goodwin and seconded by Councillor M Farren and RESOLVED: FOR - 1, AGAINST - 13, ABSTENTIONS - 1 , that the Over 55's budget line at £20,000 be zeroed. MOTION FAILED

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C356/01/26 Councillor R Hughes proposed and Councillor K Hughes seconded and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that that all zero valued lines in the budget be removed.

C357/01/26 It was proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor E Reynolds that the Budget 2026/2027 (option 3) of £697,980.32 (six hundred and ninety seven thousand, nine hundred and eighty pounds and thirty two pence) be approved. A recorded vote was taken as follows:

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTION
Cllr A Horsnell	Cllr G Walters	
Cllr J Hughes	Cllr J Goodwin	
Cllr J Cockaday	Cllr M Farren	
Cllr S Hardstaff		
Cllr R Meyer		
Cllr K Bird		
Cllr E Reynolds		
Cllr R Kidd		
Cllr K Hughes		
Cllr R Hughes		
Cllr T Burley		
Cllr H Neate		
12	3	0

MOTION PASSED

PRECEPT FOR 2026/2027

C358/01/26 Members received and considered the Precept level for 2026/2027 and noted the Policy and Resources Committee’s recommendation. It was proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor E Reynolds that option 3, 5% with agreed amendments be approved. That the precept level for 2026/2027 at £669,105.33 (six hundred and sixty nine thousand, one hundred and five pounds and thirty three pence) based on a tax base of 17,482 @ £38.27 per annum per Band D Equivalent Dwellings, be accepted and approved. A recorded vote was taken by show of hands:

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTION
Cllr A Horsnell	Cllr G Walters	
Cllr J Hughes	Cllr J Goodwin	
Cllr J Cockaday	Cllr M Farren	
Cllr S Hardstaff		
Cllr R Meyer		
Cllr K Bird		
Cllr E Reynolds		
Cllr R Kidd		
Cllr K Hughes		

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	Cllr R Hughes		
	Cllr T Burley		
	Cllr H Neate		
	12	3	0
MOTION PASSED			
HR CONTRACT			
C359/01/26	<p>It was noted that the current contract with the HR provider had expired and that the current provider had submitted a quotation for renewal.</p> <p>The Proper Officer's advice was also noted that in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations, further quotations should be sought. Officers were delegated to obtain further quotations and present the available options at the next Full Council meeting.</p>		
DATA PROTECTION POLICY AND PROCEDURE			
C360/01/26	<p>Members received and noted the Policy and Resources committee's recommendation on the Draft Data Protection Policy and Procedure.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor H Neate and seconded by Councillor E Reynolds and RESOLVED: Unanimously, that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Data Protection Policy and Procedure be approved. • The website be updated with the approved Data Protection Policy and Procedure. • That ROPAs data protection impact assessments be completed for data processing, that is considered higher risk data. • A progress report be presented to Full Council in six months. 		
C361/01/26	<p>It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor T Burley and RESOLVED: Unanimously, that the Full Council meeting be extended by fifteen minutes.</p>		
GRANTS			
C362/01/26	<p>Members reviewed the Countess of Brecknock grant application.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor T Burley and it was RESOLVED: FOR - 0, AGAINST - 15, ABSTENTIONS - 0.</p> <p>MOTION NOT CARRIED as the application for a closed event did not meet the grants policy criteria for benefitting all local people.</p>		
COUNCILLOR REPORTS			
C363/01/26	<p>Councillor M Farren:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been dealing with issues raised around Papa Johns opening hours and have passed this onto a TVBC councillor for the area. • Still working on finding the Burghclere Down fence. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been continuing to deal with issues related to potholes, roads and parking. • Been sharing Cllr R Hughes' letter with residents of Harrow way. • Recently been made aware of parking issues in Winton – my colleagues are looking into this, as representatives of the area.
C364/01/26	<p>Councillor R Hughes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCC has an amber on their potholes however I believe if King Arthurs were included this would be red. • Merlin public house on King Arthurs Way estate has recently had numerous reports on young people getting onto the roof of the building. I am trying to find out who actually owns the building for sure.
C365/01/26	<p>Councillor E Reynolds:</p> <p>I will be helping at the HALC LGR presentation at Chilcome House in Winchester, on Thursday 29 January 2026. I will be taking notes and distributing.</p>
C366/01/26	<p>Councillor R Kidd:</p> <p>In the future I would like to get back to going on allotment site visits with the officers.</p>
FUTURE ITEMS	
C367/01/26	<p>The following items were requested to be considered at the next Full Council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andover Road Scheme report – update report
NEXT MEETING	
C368/01/26	<p>Members noted that the date of the next Full Council meeting would be Wednesday 18 February 2026, at the Upper Guildhall, Andover, at 6.30pm.</p>
MEETING CLOSURE	
C369/01/26	<p>The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8:37pm</p>

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