Andover Town Council

Council Minutes

Time and date 6.30pm on Thursday **8 October 2026**

Place Upper Guildhall, Andover

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

Officers Present:	Tor Warburton (Town Clerk/RFO) Nikki Barber (Community and Events Officer) Started at 6.30pm

Members of the Public:	3
County/Borough Councillors:	TVBC Deputy Mayor Cllr I Anderson TVBC/HCC Councillor Z Brooks and Councillor D Drew
Members of the Press:	1

Before the meeting started, the Town Mayor called for a minute's silence as a mark of respect for Councillor G Walters, who had recently passed away.	
PUBLIC SESSION	
C 205/10/26	A member of the public congratulated the Council on the sound system being trialled, commenting that it had taken around ten years to reach this stage.
C 206/10/26	A member of the public, speaking as a planning consultant, addressed the motion regarding the erection of flags on lamp columns (agenda item 11). He commended the sentiment of the motion but cautioned that it raised significant practical and planning issues. He explained that, other than in limited categories, flags could only be flown under deemed consent where the landowner's consent had been obtained and matters such as public safety had been addressed. He noted that the relevant land, including lamp columns, was generally owned by Hampshire County Council or Test Valley Borough

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	Council rather than by the Town Council, and suggested that the Council would be entering an area that could cause considerable difficulty.
APOLOGIES	
C 207/10/26	Apologies were received from Councillors K Hughes, J Goodwin and A Horsnell.
MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS	
C 208/10/26	The Town Mayor reported on the following engagements: • Although unable to attend the Macmillan Coffee Morning due to a pre-arranged holiday, the Town Mayor thanked officers for organising the event, the councillors and members of the public who supported it, and the Mayor of Test Valley Borough Council, Councillor Lashbrook, for allowing the free use of the Upper Guildhall. • On Friday 11 September 2026, the Town Mayor, together with the Deputy Mayor and Councillor R Hughes, took part in the Walk and Talk around Anton Lakes, joined by the organisers and members of the public. • On Saturday 3 October 2026, the Town Mayor attended the Black History Month celebration organised by Hope and Heritage, whose theme was "Honour Our Community". After saying a few words, the Town Mayor was given the honour of wearing traditional cultural attire and was the guest of honour at a fashion show, with dancing and music. Thanks were given to the organisers. • On Monday 5 October 2026, the Town Mayor visited the I Can Therapy Centre in Union Street to see its work in helping people to exercise and stay active, which also supports their social wellbeing.
EXTERNAL REPORTS	
C 209/10/26	Members noted that written reports from Councillor D Drew, Councillor C Connelly Councillor K North, Councillor Z Brooks, Hampshire County Council and Test Valley Borough Council had been circulated.
C 210/10/26	**TVBC Deputy Mayor Councillor I Anderson:** • **Flags:** Councillor Anderson stated that she would like to see flags in the town but asked whether permission had been sought from the relevant authorities to install flags in the town centre. She noted that the BID Manager had previously explored this without success, and that fixing poles to shop frontages required permission and incurred a cost. • **Former Marks and Spencer building:** Councillor Anderson expressed frustration regarding the condition of the former Marks and Spencer building, which had since been sold. She was working with Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) officers and explained that serving a Section 29 notice required strong justification. The owners had previously carried out repairs to the rear of the building, but further problems had since arisen, and negotiations with the owners were continuing. In response to a question from Councillor K Bird, Councillor Anderson explained that a Section 29 notice would allow TVBC to carry out any necessary repair works and recharge the costs to the owner, and was a measure of last resort.

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	• **Freedom of Information:** Councillor Anderson asked whether residents could submit Freedom of Information requests to the Town Council. It was confirmed that details were available on the Council's website.
C 211/10/26	**TVBC/HCC Councillor Z Brooks:** Councillor Brooks advised that the launch of the Family Hub Network would take place on Thursday 29 October, 2pm to 5pm, at Spring Meadows Hall, Smanell Road, with the network element being held at Andover Library. Councillor Brooks also offered to circulate a presentation recently received by TVBC for Members' information.
C 212/10/26	**TVBC/HCC Councillor D Drew:** Councillor Drew referred Members to his circulated reports for August, September and October, noting that Hampshire County Council had a turnover in the region of £3 billion, and offered to answer any questions. No questions were raised.
INTERESTS	
C 213/10/26	A non-pecuniary declaration was received from: 1. Councillor E Reynolds, as a member of the Drove Allotment Association and as an allotment plot holder at the same site.
MINUTES	
C 214/10/26	It was noted that legal advice was being sought regarding the publication of certain sections of the confidential minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 9 September, and that a response was still outstanding. The minutes would be presented for approval at the next practicable meeting following receipt of the advice.
C 215/10/26	The following Committee Minutes were received and noted: • Community & Events Committee: 29 July 2026 • Grants Committee: 15 September 2026
CONTRACTUAL & DELEGATED PAYMENTS	
C 216/10/26	Members received and noted the contractual and delegated payments that had been made in the period of: From: 1 September 2026 To: 25 September 2026
PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL	
C 217/10/26	Members considered two payments exceeding the RFO's delegated authority: one relating to the by-election and one contractual payment under a four-year agreement. In response to a question from Councillor K Bird, it was confirmed that the contractual payment related to the third year of the agreement. Councillor E Reynolds proposed, and Councillor S Hardstaff seconded, and it was **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that payment of the two invoices, which exceeded the RFO's delegated authority, be approved.
CREDIT CARD	
C 218/10/26	Members noted the credit card statement for September 2026.

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FINANCE	
C 219/10/26	The following items were proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor K Bird and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the following reports be approved: **A.** Bank Statements and Bank Reconciliation **B.** Cashbook **C.** Earmarked Reserves **D.** Financial Comparison to date
COUNCILLOR MOTION - FLAGS AND BANNERS ON LAMP POSTS	
C 220/10/26	**Proposer: Cllr Mark Farren** **Seconder: Cllr Thomas James** **Questions and Debate** Councillor M Farren introduced the motion and explained that ad hoc flag placement had sparked public debate and that an officially managed civic flag and banner scheme would help the Council reclaim control of public spaces, lower community tensions and generate revenue. Under such a scheme, only authorised displays would be permitted on public property, with the St George's Cross and the Union Flag displayed around official civic occasions such as St George's Day, national sporting events and royal anniversaries. He suggested that a managed scheme would allow flags and banners to be rotated to celebrate the full range of Andover's community and heritage, including Armed Forces Day, Pride, historical markers and seasonal and festival banners. He acknowledged that installing and maintaining banner holders would require initial capital outlay, but considered that corporate sponsorship and advertising opportunities could make the scheme self-funding or revenue-generating. Councillor T James, as seconder, reserved his right to speak. Councillor R Hughes stated that, having heard the concerns raised by the member of the public, he was not minded to support the motion in its current form. He considered that the scope of the motion was unclear and that it would place a significant workload on officers to determine what may or may not be achievable. He also noted that the proposal had moved from flags and banners to advertising, which were very different matters. Rather than vote against the motion, he proposed that it be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee (P&R), and that the proposer and seconder be asked to develop their proposal so that its scope was clear. Councillor K Bird seconded the referral and highlighted the potential costs involved. She noted that the installation and removal of the Christmas lights cost in the region of £11,000, and that monthly changes of flags or banners could cost in the region of £150,000 a year. She further noted that new banners cost between £70 and £200 per unit, that each lamp column would require testing at between £60 and £80 per column on a

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regular basis, and that permissions would be required as the Council did not own the lamp columns. She considered that corporate sponsorship would amount to advertising, which raised separate issues, and that a full report, including costings, should be prepared by the proposer and seconder for P&R.

In response, Councillor M Farren stated that the officer time required would be no different to that already spent on the Christmas lights, and that he and Councillor T James would be willing to work with officers. He expressed concern that referring the motion between committees could delay it and stated that he would vote against the referral. He requested a recorded vote on any amendment and, if the amendment fell, on the original motion.

Councillor T James stated that he supported flags being flown but recognised that further work was needed on the proposal, including whether it should be monetised. He expressed concern about the condition of flags currently attached to lamp columns with cable ties following recent sporting events, the potential safety and liability implications, and considered that the Council should provide guidance on the matter.

The Town Mayor stated that P&R was the appropriate committee under its Terms of Reference to scope the proposal, after which any recommendation would return to Full Council for consideration.

Councillor R Hughes asked that the referral expressly include the request that the proposer and seconder develop the proposal. This was agreed and is reflected in the resolution below.

Cllr R Hughes proposed and Cllr K Bird seconded that, under Standing Orders 1(r)(vi) and 10(a)(iv), the motion be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee for an initial scoping review only; that the motion proposer and seconder be invited to submit to the Town Clerk, by 9 November 2026, a written brief setting out the intended outcomes, the types of flags or banners envisaged and the locations proposed; that no expenditure be incurred and no detailed feasibility work be undertaken by officers until P&R has considered that brief; and that P&R report to Full Council with its recommendations no later than 17 February 2027.

Councillor M Farren requested a recorded vote

Recorded vote

Councillor	For	Against	Abstention
Cllr Katherine Bird	✔		
Cllr Tony Burley	✔		
Cllr John Cockaday	✔		
Cllr Mark Farren		✔	
Cllr Luigi Gregori	✔		
Cllr Steven Hardstaff	✔		
Cllr Joseph Hughes	✔		
Cllr Robin Hughes	✔		
Cllr Thomas James		✔	

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	Cllr Richard Kidd	✔		
	Cllr Rebecca Meyer		✔	
	Cllr Ted Reynolds	✔		
	Total	9	3	
	It was **RESOLVED** that**:** under Standing Orders 1(r)(vi) and 10(a)(iv), the motion be referred to the Policy & Resources Committee for an initial scoping review only; that the motion proposer and seconder be invited to submit to the Town Clerk, by 9 November 2026, a written brief setting out the intended outcomes, the types of flags or banners envisaged and the locations proposed; that no expenditure be incurred and no detailed feasibility work be undertaken by officers until P&R has considered that brief; and that P&R report to Full Council with its recommendations no later than 17 February 2027.			

EXTERNAL AUDIT 2025/26

Members received the following documents, as reviewed by the Policy and Resources Committee:

- Notice of Conclusion of Audit 2025/26
- External Auditor Report and Certificate 2025/26

C 221/10/26

The Town Mayor requested that thanks be minuted to Micha for her excellent work in achieving this outcome.

It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit and the External Auditor Report and Certificate 2025/26 be received and approved.

SERVICE PROVIDER GRANT

Members considered the following documents:

- Service Provider Grant Policy
- Service Provider Grant Agreement
- Service Provider Grant Application Pack
- Service Provider Grant Quarterly Monitoring Report

It was agreed that the documents be taken together. The proposal was put forward by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff.

C 222/10/26

Questions and Debate

Thanks were recorded to the officers and councillors who had contributed to the documents.

In response to a question from Councillor L Gregori, it was confirmed that the policy was a working document that could be amended, although it was recommended that it be given time to bed in.

Councillor L Gregori thanked those involved but raised the following concerns:

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	• The £10,000 per project per year limit was likely to be insufficient, citing examples of comparable youth and community projects elsewhere costing in excess of that amount, before overheads. • Three months to remedy non-compliance was too long, particularly for significant breaches of conditions. • Providers, rather than the Council, should determine the level of insurance appropriate to their activity and provide the Council with a copy of their policy. • The requirement to demonstrate continuity was unrealistic for services supporting vulnerable people, which would generally require ongoing external funding. He asked that his comments be noted and confirmed he was happy to support the documents as a living document. Councillor K Bird interpreted the continuity requirement as ensuring that providers had a managed exit, so that service users were signposted to alternative support, rather than requiring services to continue indefinitely. Councillor R Hughes noted that match funding and sponsorship were not precluded and would be desirable. He observed that the services to be funded had not yet been defined, so their costs were unknown, and that as a living document the award amounts could be adjusted to be fit for purpose. He also considered three months too long for non-compliance and proposed that this be reduced to six weeks.
C 223/10/26	**Amendment:** It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor L Gregori that the period allowed to remedy non-compliance be reduced from three months to six weeks. It was **RESOLVED: FOR: 9, AGAINST: 0, ABSTENTIONS: 3,** that the amendment be carried. The amendment became part of the substantive motion. Councillor L Gregori noted that the framework reflected the intent of a commissioning approach, which he welcomed.
C 224/10/26	It was **RESOLVED: FOR: 9, AGAINST: 0, ABSTENTIONS: 3,** that the Service Provider Grant Policy, Agreement, Application Pack, and Quarterly Monitoring Report be approved, as amended.
C 225/10/26	It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor K Bird and **RESOLVED: FOR: 9, AGAINST: 0, ABSTENTIONS: 3,** that revenue grants be removed from the combined Grants Policy, to be replaced by the Service Provider Grant, and that all grant-related paperwork be updated accordingly.
C 226/10/26	It was proposed by Councillor R Hughes and seconded by Councillor K Bird and **RESOLVED: FOR: 9, AGAINST: 0, ABSTENTIONS: 3,** that the Service Provider Grant be financed from budget lines 4700/26 Youth Services and 4700/27 Pensioner Services, and that all other grants continue to be funded from budget line 4190/1 Grants.
VIREMENTS	

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C 227/10/26	It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor R Hughes and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that a virement of £1,150 be made from the Corporate Management earmarked reserve (current balance £15,000) to the following budget lines: • 4210/9 Stationery: £600 • 4210/10 Postage: £150 • 4210/2 Office Sundries: £400 The virement replenishes these budget lines, which had been depleted by the cost of posting rent increase notices to all allotment tenants. The notices were required to be sent between the end of the season on 29 September and 1 October.
C 228/10/26	It was proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and **RESOLVED: FOR: 11, AGAINST: 0, ABSTENTIONS: 1,** that a virement of £180 be made from the Operational Reserve to budget line 4731 Council Christmas Tree to accommodate additional costs, as set out in the report.
STRATEGIC PLAN 2026 TO 2036	
C 229/10/26	Members received the draft Strategic Plan 2026 to 2036 and accompanying report. The Town Mayor reminded Members that the plan was a living document. **Questions and Debate** Councillor L Gregori asked whether it was wise to agree a final version in March 2027, ahead of the elections in May 2027. The Town Clerk advised that the intention was to provide continuity, that advice had been taken, and that adopting the plan ahead of the elections would give the incoming council a starting point. As a working document, it could be changed by a future council. The proposal was put forward by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor K Bird. Councillor L Gregori thanked officers for a significant piece of work but expressed concerns regarding the proposed growth in staffing, uncertainty about the year ahead, the need to monitor the work of any shadow authority, and the absence of a clearly defined desired outcome for the type of town council Andover wished to be. The Town Clerk responded that the document was intended to provide a structure for discussion and to build upon over the next ten years. It contained two streams: one addressing local government reorganisation (LGR), if and when it happens, supported by a risk assessment; and one building on the services the Council already delivers. Councillor K Bird considered that a living document gave a future council a significant advantage over a blank sheet of paper. She noted that existing staff were at capacity and that the Council would need to demonstrate capacity and capability in order to be taken seriously in any discussion about the transfer of assets or services.

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	The Town Clerk added that the plan was based on a collaborative approach with TVBC, that capacity would be built only once areas had been agreed and before anything was taken on, and that nothing would be taken on without accompanying funding. Councillor M Farren supported the plan as a springboard for a future council. He had been concerned about increasing staffing without first having the work to justify it, but was satisfied with the Town Clerk's clarification. He noted that a ten-year plan would span several elections. Councillor R Hughes noted that all tiers of local government were operating in a period of uncertainty regarding LGR. He considered that the plan offered a possible way forward and a starting point for future councils, and thanked the Town Clerk for the work undertaken.
C 230/10/26	Having been proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor K Bird it was **RESOLVED: FOR: 11, AGAINST: 1, ABSTENTIONS: 0,** that the Council: A. agrees in principle the draft Strategic Plan 2026 to 2036 as a basis for further engagement and development; B. authorises the Town Clerk to share the draft with Test Valley Borough Council, Hampshire County Council and other partners and to invite their views during October to December 2026; C. agrees that residents are invited to give their views on the draft plan in early 2027; D. agrees that the Year 1 priorities are considered alongside the 2027/28 budget in January 2027; and E. agrees that a final version, reflecting the feedback received, is brought back to Council for adoption by March 2027.
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS	
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - POLICIES	
C 231/10/26	**Co-option Policy** Members considered the Co-option Policy, as reviewed by the Policy and Resources Committee on 7 October 2026, with the following recommended amendments: • Paragraph 4, bullet point 2: "The Town Clerk will confirm each applicant has completed all forms and has confirmed eligibility before candidates are put to Council, and will treat applications confidentially until the meeting papers are prepared." • Paragraph 5, bullet point 4: "The successful candidate becomes a councillor on making the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, must complete a Register of Interests within 28 days, and will be encouraged to undertake induction training in line with the Training and Development Policy." The proposal was put forward by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor L Gregori.

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	Councillor M Farren asked whether an applicant who declined to complete the application form, including their reasons for applying and relevant experience, would be rejected. It was clarified that applicants were required to confirm their eligibility, but that providing further information was optional and a matter of best practice, which Councillor J Cockaday supported as an additional opportunity for applicants to present themselves. Councillor M Farren noted that the policy did not address the situation where there was a single candidate. It was clarified that the policy was to be read alongside Standing Orders, which address this, and that a policy, unlike a procedure, need not cover every eventuality. It was further noted that the number of applicants did not affect the Council's discretion as to whether to co-opt. Councillor M Farren proposed that the policy be revisited to address single-applicant scenarios before being approved, no seconder was received therefore the proposal was not taken forward to a vote. Having been proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor L Gregori it was **RESOLVED: FOR: 11, AGAINST: 1, ABSTENTIONS: 0,** that the Co-option Policy be adopted with the amendments recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee.
C 232/10/26	**Environmental and Biodiversity Policy** There were no recommended amendments. It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Environmental and Biodiversity Policy be adopted.
C 233/10/26	**Pay Policy** There were no recommended amendments. It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor J Hughes and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Pay Policy be adopted.
C 234/10/26	**Safeguarding Policy** There were no recommended amendments. It was proposed by Councillor E Reynolds and seconded by Councillor K Bird and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Safeguarding Policy be adopted.
C 235/10/26	**Sexual Harassment Policy** Members considered the Sexual Harassment Policy with the following recommended amendments: • Paragraph 7, bullet point 6: "The Chair of the HR Sub-Committee." • Paragraph 8: "The Council will arrange an independent investigation of the complaint promptly, sensitively and impartially." • Paragraph 11: responsibilities to sit with the HR Sub-Committee. It was proposed by Councillor S Hardstaff and seconded by Councillor L Gregori and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Sexual Harassment Policy be adopted with the recommended amendments.
C 236/10/26	**Sickness and Absence Policy** There were no recommended amendments. It was proposed by Councillor J Hughes and seconded by Councillor L Gregori and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Sickness and Absence Policy be adopted.
C 237/10/26	**Unreasonable Complainant Behaviour Policy**

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	Members considered the policy with one recommended amendment to the final paragraph of paragraph 4: "If the behaviour continues, the Town Clerk will prepare a short report for the appropriate committee." It was proposed by Councillor L Gregori and seconded by Councillor S Hardstaff and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Unreasonable Complainant Behaviour Policy be adopted with the recommended amendment.
C 238/10/26	**Volunteer Policy** There were no recommended amendments. It was proposed by Councillor T James and seconded by Councillor J Hughes and **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the Volunteer Policy be adopted.
ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE	
C 239/10/26	Members noted that the works to the fence at Old Winton Road had been scheduled to commence during the week commencing 12 October 2026. The Town Clerk advised Members that, due to a change in the tree surgeon's availability, the works were now expected to commence in November 2026.
COMMUNITY AND EVENTS COMMITTEE	
C 240/10/26	Members noted that the Community and Events Committee, at its meeting on 30 September 2026, approved sponsorship of £500 for the town centre Halloween event, in line with previous years. The funding will be met from the sponsorship budget and is within the Committee's Terms of Reference.
GRANTS COMMITTEE	
C 241/10/26	Members noted that the Grants Committee, at its meeting on 29 September 2026, awarded the following grants for one-off events under its Terms of Reference: • £2,500 to Hope and Heritage • £1,000 to Me and My Dad Club
C 242/10/26	Councillor R Hughes noted that these decisions had been made under the Committees' delegated powers and suggested that, in future, such decisions be reported to councillors by briefing note rather than as agenda items. The Town Clerk explained that the items were included to provide an audit trail with minute references, supporting the Council's clean audit record. Councillor L Gregori commented that it was useful to have such items noted. The Town Mayor acknowledged the point.
PLANNING COMMITTEE	
C 243/10/26	It was noted that there had been no recommendations from the Planning Committee since the last Full Council meeting.
SPEAKER SYSTEM	
C 244/10/26	Members noted that the speaker system from Supplier A was currently under trial and considered whether it met the Council's needs. The supplier was present at the meeting. **Questions**

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	It was noted that a member of the public appeared to have struggled with a microphone at the start of the meeting, and that spare microphones were available and could be placed on a stand. It was also noted that back-and-forth conversation was awkward but that Members would become used to it. Councillor K Bird asked whether the equipment would be manageable to transport. Officers advised that the office trolley could comfortably carry it. Councillor R Hughes noted that needing to switch on a microphone to speak would bring a degree of discipline to meetings, and that the system operated in a similar way to those used by TVBC and HCC.
C 245/10/26	It was proposed by Councillor M Farren and seconded by Councillor J Hughes and **RESOLVED: FOR: 9, AGAINST: 1, ABSTENTIONS: 2,** that Standing Orders be suspended to allow members of the public to give their views on the system. *Standing Orders suspended.* A member of the public stated that the effectiveness of the system depended on it being used correctly, with speakers needing to be within four to six inches of the microphone, and suggested headset microphones as an alternative. It was noted that the speaker was set at 50% volume. A second member of the public stated that this was the first meeting in ten years with a decent sound system and that councillors needed to learn to use the microphones properly. It was noted that the Council required a system of this kind to meet its accessibility obligations.
C 246/10/26	It was proposed by Councillor M Farren and seconded by Councillor L Gregori and **RESOLVED,** that Standing Orders be reinstated. *Standing Orders reinstated.*
C 247/10/26	The proposal to purchase the system was put forward by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor M Farren. During debate, Councillor K Bird noted that the Council had been considering a sound system for around sixteen years and that the alternatives previously considered had been bulky, difficult to transport or prohibitively expensive. Councillor T James suggested that the speaker could be positioned closer to the public seating. Councillor E Reynolds noted that the system could be refined with use. Having bee proposed by Councillor K Bird and seconded by Councillor M Farren it was **RESOLVED: Unanimously,** that the speaker system from Supplier A be purchased at the quoted cost of £8,341 plus VAT.
COUNCILLOR REPORTS	

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C 248/10/26	**Councillor M Farren:** Over the last month I have been working with Councillor Z Brooks and residents of Denning Mead on road adoption. My involvement so far has been limited, but I expect this to grow as residents develop their plans. My work on Floral Way continues, with various meetings having taken place, and I will be visiting the area tomorrow to meet residents regarding Hampshire County Council's claim that it does not own, or have responsibility for, all of the parking spaces there, despite collecting residents' money for permits. I also briefly attended the event at the pocket park on Saturday and spoke with the local police, who will be approaching Councillor T James for help with their latest recruitment drive.
C 249/10/26	**Councillor R Hughes:** I attended the Walk and Talk, which ended at King Arthur's Way Hall for coffee, and had a very good chat with people, some of whom have since returned to use other facilities at the hall. Vegetation on the estate continues to be raised, including hedgerows, self-seeded saplings (particularly sycamore) and the need for regular maintenance of some open spaces. I have approached Aster, who have always responded very quickly, and on behalf of a resident I submitted an idea which they are now considering. I am grateful to them for working with me so positively.
C 250/10/26	**Councillor K Bird:** I attended the Macmillan Coffee Morning, which was excellent and the best attended event of its kind I have seen here. Thanks again to all the officers. The final total is awaited, but a good amount was raised.
NEXT MEETING	
C 251/10/26	Members noted that the date of the next Full Council meeting would be Wednesday 4 November 2026 in the Upper Guildhall, Andover, at 6.30pm.
MEETING CLOSURE	
C 252/10/26	The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.56pm

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