

Yateley Town Council
Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Monday 23rd March 2026 at 6:30pm
in The Oak Room, Council Offices.

Present COUNCILLORS (committee members)

Cllr Cockarill (Chairman)
Cllr Drage
Cllr Higgins
Cllr Phelps-Jones
Cllr Spencer
Cllr Wedlock

Absent COUNCILLORS (committee members)

Cllr Crisp
Cllr Harward
Cllr Jones

In Attendance- Non-Committee Members, Officers

Deputy Town Clerk- Alison Blanchard

1883 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Harward

1884 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

1885 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 9th February were confirmed as a true record.

1886 OPEN FORUM

There were no questions

1887 CRICKET ON YATELEY GREEN

Members considered a request from Yateley Cricket Club to replace the artificial cricket wicket on Yateley Green and resume playing on the green. They supported the club's desire to see an increase in provision, which could enable cricket to be more accessible to the community.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree in principle to the request and asked the Town Clerk to discuss, with the club, the details of how it will be used, booked and maintained once installed.

1888 REPLACEMENT OF FENCE ADJACENT TO DITCH ON FIRGROVE ROAD BY ST SWITHUNS CHURCH

The Committee **RESOLVED** to replace the fence at a cost of £5802.18 +VAT, using contractor Nick Robins Ltd.

1889 POLICY REVIEW- USE OF GREEN AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

The Committee reviewed the policy and agreed minor wording amendments to sections 2 and 3.8

1890 MOTORBIKES/STRAY HORSES AT SWAN LAKE PARK

The Committee discussed an incident of a motorcycle being ridden around Swan Lake Park and some incidences of horses, from a neighbouring property, wandering on to the meadow area from the main entrance. Members acknowledged that this was not acceptable.

Members agreed to attempt to make contact with the owner of the horses to understand why the problem is occurring and see if a solution can be found.

Members also discussed the potential for introducing CCTV in this area to deter crime and protect wildlife, and agreed that officers may explore options and implement a solution if appropriate and within existing delegated authority.

The committee decided to monitor the riding of motorbikes to ascertain whether changes to the entrances were required.

1891 HAMPSHIRE BUSES ACTION GROUP (HAMBAG)

Cllr Wedlock expressed thanks to the council, on behalf of HAMBAG, for endorsing their vision for improved bus services in Hampshire. The committee agreed to extend an invitation to them to share their stand at the May Fayre.

1892 BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT- BIRD AND BAT BOXES

The Committee **RESOLVED** to proceed with the project to install bird and bat boxes on Council owned open spaces and establish a School Wildlife Box Partnership Scheme. Funds will be allocated from the Biodiversity and Climate change budget.

The meeting concluded at 7.38pm

Chairman.....