



Town Clerk's Report to Full Council – 8 June 2026

1. Operational Update

Automated Hall Booking

We have now booked over to our new booking system which is working well. We will have the door pin code system implemented shortly which will be integrated into the booking system.

Replacement office windows Replacement of the office windows is nearly complete with 1 window and 1 door still to complete.

Churchill Crescent Play Area – Refurbishment Update

The public consultation on the refurbishment of the Churchill Crescent Play Area has now closed, with a strong response received both online and in person at the May Fayre. It was particularly encouraging to receive feedback from younger residents, which has been helpful in shaping the project requirements.

A contractor has been appointed and the Town Council is aiming to have the new play area installed before the end of the summer.

Local Council Award Scheme – Gold Award

Following our success in achieving Silver, we have submitted the application for the Gold level Award and will find out later in the year whether it has been successful.

2. Crime & Disorder

Graffiti

There have recently been incidents of graffiti vandalism affecting the public toilets, play equipment, and other items of the Town Council's street furniture and buildings as well as the wider community. Clear CCTV footage was obtained and passed to the Police, who are making good progress with their investigation.

My thanks go to staff, as well as the cleaning and grounds maintenance contractors, for their prompt action in removing the graffiti and restoring the affected areas.

Arson

A fire was started last week in woodland off The Link. A member of staff witnessed those responsible and alerted the Fire and Rescue Service. There has been a swift police response, and officers will continue to monitor and patrol the area.

Community Safety Outreach

Hart Community Safety Team, in partnership with the local Police, will be holding two outreach sessions on 18 and 19 June in a gazebo on Yateley Green aimed at engaging with young people. Councillors' attendance from 4:00pm onwards on either day would be welcomed.

3. Finance

Successful Grant Applications

- i) **Hart District Council – Climate Change Grant** (Monteagle Community Centre)
The Town Council has been awarded £4,500 from Hart District Council's Climate Change Grant scheme, from an application totalling £8,000. The funding will support the installation of solar panels and infra-red heaters at Monteagle Community Centre. The grant has now been received into the Council's bank account.
- ii) **Police and Crime Commissioner – Emerging Needs Fund (Road Safety 2026/27)**
The Town Council has been awarded £12,160 from the Police and Crime Commissioner's

Emerging Needs Fund to support the purchase of three Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) for use within the town.

iii) Hampshire County Council – Parish Council Bus Shelter Grant

The Town Council has been awarded £23,020 from Hampshire County Council to fund the replacement of two bus shelters.

4. Events Attended

I have attended the following events:

Mayor's Ramble Rally - Saturday 9th May 2026

The Mayor's Ramble Rally took place in fine weather, which contributed to a well-attended and enjoyable event for all participants. The local Community Policing Team also attended and engaged with those present. The event was positively received and successfully raised in excess of £350.

5. Upcoming Events

Frogmore & Darby Green Fete – Sunday 14th June 2026, 1:00–4:00pm (Frogmore Green)

Members are reminded to note the time slots they have agreed in order to assist with this event. If any other councillors are available to attend on the day, their support would be very welcome.

Britain in Bloom – Judging Day 6th July

The Council has once again submitted an entry to the Britain in Bloom competition. Judging for this year's entry is scheduled to take place on 6 July 2026.

6. Climate Change

- The Town Council's existing solar panels have continued to generate renewable energy, contributing to reduced electricity use across council buildings. Later this year, solar panels and infra-red heaters will be installed at Monteagle Community Centre, improving energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions. This project is part-funded by a £4,500 Climate Grant from Hart District Council.
- Windows at The Tythings have been upgraded, with replacement of the Council Office windows due to be completed within the next weeks, improving insulation and reducing heat loss.
- Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) have now been obtained for all council-owned buildings. The Tythings, Monteagle Community Centre and Darby Green have all achieved a B rating, representing a significant improvement on the 2022 assessments.
- Yateley Town Council has taken the decision to work in partnership with local schools to support biodiversity by providing bird and bat boxes, alongside installing additional boxes on Town Council-owned open space land across the parish.
- Work continues on delivery of the Biodiversity Action Plan. Initial works have taken place at Darby Green Pond, and the Council is working with the local *Help a Toad Across the Road* group and a local reptile and amphibian wildlife group to explore further opportunities to enhance this site for wildlife.
- The next Community Climate Forum will take place on 27th July where we will be putting on a screening of the 'People's Emergency Briefing', a short film about climate change. You can see the PG trailer on our website on <https://yateley-tc.gov.uk/climate-response/community-climate-forum/>.

Julie Routley, Town Clerk

3 June 2026