

Yateley Town Council
Minutes of the Extraordinary Finance & Policy Committee on
Monday, 27th April 2026, 10:30am at The Oak Room, Reading Road, Yateley

Present – Councillors (committee members):

Cllr Stuart Bailey (Chairman for this meeting)
Cllr Mark Higgins
Cllr Bob Harward

Absent - Councillors (committee members)

Cllr Graham Cockarill
Cllr Greg Easterbrook
Cllr Nicky Jones
Cllr Mark Vernon

In attendance – Non-Committee Members, Public & Officers:

Julie Routley - Town Clerk

2184 Apologies for Absence

In the absence of Cllr Easterbrook, Cllr Bailey, as Vice-Chairman, opened the meeting.
Apologies had been received from Cllrs Cockarill, Easterbrook, Jones and Vernon.

2185 Declarations of Interests

No interests were declared.

2186 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

2187 Information Technology (IT) Support Contract

Members considered a report relating to the Council's IT support arrangements following notification that the Council's current IT support provider will cease trading on 30 April 2026. It was noted that, due to the short timescale, quotations had been obtained from alternative suppliers to ensure continuity of service and minimise the risk of disruption to the Council's day-to-day operations. Quotations had been sought from six suppliers, with two submissions received, and Members considered the costs and service provisions offered.

Members discussed the importance of securing a reliable IT support arrangement able to commence immediately upon the cessation of the existing contract.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

1. Supplier A (Cloudy IT) be appointed as the Council's IT support provider for an initial one-year contract, commencing 1 May 2026, at an annual cost of £5,605.80 + VAT, together with one-off set-up costs of £1,625.00 + VAT.
2. That the Town Clerk be authorised to approve and make immediate payment of relevant invoices, including any advance or set-up costs, in order to secure the service within the required timescales and ensure continuity of IT provision.

2188 IT Security: Cyber Essentials Certification

Members considered a report on Cyber Essentials certification and the quotations received for undertaking the required assessment and specialist labour.

It was noted that Cyber Essentials is a UK Government-backed certification scheme providing assurance that appropriate technical controls are in place to protect against common cyber threats. Members also noted that discounted rates were available where certification was undertaken alongside an IT support contract.

Members considered the three quotations received and agreed that obtaining Cyber Essentials certification would provide appropriate assurance and reduce cyber risk. It was further agreed that Supplier A – Option 2 represented best value for money when procured in conjunction with the approved IT support contract.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

1. That the Council proceeds with obtaining Cyber Essentials certification and that Supplier A (Cloudy IT) – Option 2 be appointed to undertake the work at a cost of £1,200.00 + VAT, noting that additional costs may be incurred should system changes be required in order to achieve certification.
2. That the Town Clerk be authorised to approve and make prompt payment of all associated invoices, including any initial set-up or advance payments, in order to secure Cyber Essentials certification at the reduced rate alongside the IT support contract.

Date of next meeting: TBC at the meeting held on 11th May 2026

Meeting closed at 10.41am.