HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16 JULY 2025

Cllrs. Present: Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Helen Corben, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Tonia Craig, Cllr Leigh Hadaway, Cllr Keith House, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Dave Kinloch, Cllr Rupert Kyrle, Cllr Jim Mitchell, Cllr Ron Nichols (Chair), Cllr Jim Paine, Cllr John Shepherd

In attendance: 8 Members of the public, Nigel Paterson – KCC

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Maggie Allingham, Cllr Cynthia Garton, Cllr Lucy Jurd, Cllr Cliff Morris**,** Cllr Derek Pretty

2. **Public Questions not on the Agenda**

Local Government Reorganisation

Nigel Paterson thanked Councillors for the last update at the last meeting on the Local Government Reorganisation and asked what option Eastleigh Borough Council are favouring. Cllr Keith House noted that the Borough Council has not come to a final decision yet, the options are being consulted on and there are preferred options. One being a boundary change including parts of New Forest, Test Valley, Southampton and Eastleigh. Eastleigh are keen to retain identity and the local.

Woodhouse Lane Skate Park – CCTV Proposal

Sonia Chivers presented a proposal for the installation of CCTV at Woodhouse Lane Skate Park supported by a petition with 1,023 signatures. The Police have increased their presence, and the community are aware there are some community resolution orders. This is not limited to Woodhouse Skate Park as there has been incidents outside the skate park from students of Deer Park on their way home. The CCTV would help parents to feel safe using the space. There is an appreciation that funding might be an issue as there are lots of community solutions and financial streams to provide this safe community. Sonia's son also made representation to the Council.
A member of the public also reported that her son had suffered theft from the site and now doesn't want to go to the skatepark.

PC Amanda Turner stated that incidents are attributed to three individuals. One individual is subject to an Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC). A second if being placed on an ABC. A third individual, who resides outside the area, is being managed in collaboration with Southampton authorities. Curfew checks are ongoing. The ABCs will be reviewed at the end of the summer holidays. Criminal investigations are active and may result in further sanctions. The Police encouraged continued reporting to ensure an accurate representation of incidents. The Police & Crime Commissioners Anti-Social Behaviour Fund details to be sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Ron Nichols advised that the matter will be referred to the Recreation & Amenities (R&A) Committee for a feasibility study.

Cllr Ian Corben thanked Sonia's son for his statement.

Cllr Helen Corben inquired if schools were aware of the issues. PCSO Tracey Chilcott confirmed that individuals involved have been excluded from the skate park and were not in education.

PCSO Chilcott noted difficulties in evidence collection, often being one person's word against another. PC Turner emphasised the need for specific reports to review CCTV footage as it would not be monitored.

Cllr Paul Carnell asked whether the Police had received the report. Sonia confirmed they had received some of the information.

Cllr Tonia Craig queried whether the CPS was accepting CCTV footage, given past challenges. PC Turner confirmed footage must be clear and show identifiable individuals; aerial views and obscured faces are not suitable.

Cllr Helen Corben asked if incidents were still occurring. Sonia confirmed there had been no incidents in the past five days.

Cllr Dave Kinloch thanked the community for their engagement and confirmed that R&A would review the broader security concerns and conduct a feasibility study for CCTV.

Speeding Concerns

A local resident in Hobb Lane raised concerns about speeding during school hours and the removal of the school crossing patrol.

Cllr Tonia Craig requested that the Council write to Hampshire County Council regarding these safety concerns.

Cllr John Shepherd noted this issue had previously been raised when he served as a school governor.

Cllr Ian Corben asked that the residents contact the Town Clerk so we can involve Speedwatch to consider Hobb Lane from Freegrounds down towards Whitebeam.

3. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

4. To Receive a Police Report

PC Amanda Turner and PCSO Tracey Chilcott were in attendance and statistics were provided in advance.

Main priorities were discussed including anti social behaviour. Improvements have been noted in St Luke's area since last summer. Key concern areas: Woodhouse, Greta, and Turnpike. Shoplifting remains an issue, particularly at the Co-op.

Speeding issues around Maunsell, Tollbar, Chalcroft towards Boorley Green. Complaints have been received including direct to the Chief Inspector. Police request specific times, dates, and locations to target enforcement effectively.

PCC funding supports UK Pact initiatives targeting prolific shoplifters.

Cllr Ian Corben reiterated concerns about speeding and the difficulty of reporting issues online. Cllr Ian Corben asked that the Chief Constable takes a moment to try and report an issue online as its not easy.

PC Turner would like to have a larger operation taking into more neighbourhoods to prevent them moving on from area to area. PCSO Chilcott reported that there is a planned operation.

Cllr Rupert Kyrle noted that the bypass has turned into a racetrack and commented on the disconnect between resident experiences and reported incidents.

PC Turner noted that the use of the drone giving further reach enabling the team to concentrate on certain areas.

Cllr John Jupe thanked the police for attending.

5. To receive the Speedwatch results

Cllrs noted the speedwatch results.

Cllrs were also circulated information from PCSO Mica Woodcock regarding advertising for more volunteers.

6. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18 June 2025.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

7. Chair's Remarks

Cllr Ron Nichols noted that he was disturbed by the reports of the issues at the skatepark.

8. Resolved Items for NOTING Only:

(a) Highways & Planning Committee – 4 June 2025 and 18 June 2025 (Minute H815 and H819)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 4 June and 18 June be received.

(b) Policy & Resources Committee – 1 July 2025 (Minute P1455 and P1458)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 1 July be received.

(c) Recreation & Amenities Committee – 9 July 2025 (Minute R563i, ii and R564)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 9 July be received.

9. Borough and County Reports

Cllr Ian Corben reported on the HEWEB (Hedge End, West End and Botley Local Area Committee) meeting held on 23 June. Planning applications were reviewed during the meeting. A motion was brought forward by Cllr Dave Kinloch regarding concerns over speeding on Kings Copse Avenue, following a recent fatality. As a result, HEWEB will be writing to Hampshire County Council (HCC) to request a reduction in the speed limit and the installation of a pedestrian crossing in the area.

Cllr Keith House referred to a recent public consultation concerning proposed housing development on Kings Copse Avenue. Feedback highlighted the importance of improving connectivity between local communities, particularly regarding pedestrian access to schools.

There are some developer contributions from Bargate Homes and Bellway Homes for improvements to the Norman Rodaway area.

Cllr Paul Carnell welcomed the news that a footpath is planned along Kings Copse Avenue, improving pedestrian safety and access.

Cllr Rupert Kyrle had no further updates from a County Council perspective. He noted that a County Council meeting is scheduled for the following day, during which the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) proposals will be discussed.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 20:47pm.