MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD 6 JANUARY 2026

Councillors Present: Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Jim Mitchell, Cllr Jim Paine, Cllr John Shepherd

In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, it was resolved that Councillor Corben take the Chair for the meeting.

P1499 Apologies: Cllr Maggie Allingham, Cllr Keith House, Cllr Derek Pretty

P1500 To consider the Minutes of the meeting held 2 December 2025.

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2 December 2025 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

No matters arising not on the agenda.

P1501 Correspondence

- Citizens Advice Annual Report 2024/25
- Citizens Advice Community Help & Information Points. Councillors acknowledged that this was a worthwhile initiative; however, it was noted that the proposed sites already provide good coverage within the village. Consideration could be given to extending provision to the north of the village, with potential locations including the Salvation Army or St Luke's. Concerns were raised regarding unknown resource requirements and the overall practicality of the proposal. Councillors indicated that the matter could be reviewed in the future.

P1502 City Fibre Limited

Councillors considered the previously circulated report and noted that City Fibre may not have been aware of the new housing development taking place across the road. Concerns were raised regarding the potential ecological impact and the lack of supporting technical drawings. **RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to respond to City Fibre, considering the proposed alternative site.**

P1503 Local Government Reorganisation Consultation

Councillors considered the response submitted by Eastleigh Borough Council. It was agreed at Full Council that the EBC response should form the basis of Hedge End Town Council's own response. Given that the responses are being analysed using AI, the Council agreed to focus on local issues, indicating whether Hedge End Town Council supports or does not support specific proposals. **RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that the response be submitted on behalf of Hedge End Town Council.**

P1504 Turnpike Pavilion External Doors & Shutters

Councillors considered the previously circulated report and noted that the proposed expenditure on external doors and shutters would be funded by developer contributions. **RESOLVED: Councillors agreed the expenditure.**

P1505 Tender for Drummond Community Centre Refurbishment

Councillors considered the previously circulated report and tender documents, noting that the costs associated with the PWLB are already included in the budget. **RESOLVED: Councillors approved the tender documents.**

P1506 2026/27 Budget Setting

Councillors considered the revised budget and noted that the Eastleigh Borough Council Special Expenses figures had now been received. A provisional Council Tax increase of 4% was indicated; however, if Special Expenses were included, the increase would rise to 11.5%. The current precept of £131.19, with a 4% increase, would be £136.44. Accounting for the LGR assets, this would increase to £146.28, although this is offset by a corresponding reduction in the Eastleigh Borough Council Tax, resulting in a net increase of 7.5%. **RESOLVED: Councillors noted the revised budget and the projected Council Tax implications**

P1507 Clerks Update

The Clerk gave an update on the interest in the WLNR tender, and the additional footpaths works at Nelson's Gardens and Cheltenham Gardens to join up the tarmac sections.

P1508 All members of the public and press are requested to leave the meeting - Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960

P1509 Clerks support to Hound Parish Council

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed to submit the recharges as outlined.

P1510 EBC Asset Transfer

RESOLVED: Councillors noted the update.

P1511 EBC Asset Transfer Strategic Sites

RESOLVED: The update was noted by Councillors.

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 19:56 hours.