

Melksham Town Council
Minutes of the Full Council
on Monday 27 April 2026

PRESENT:	Councillor S Rabey	Town Mayor and Chair
	Councillor J Westbrook	Deputy Town Mayor and Vice Chair
	Councillor P Alford	
	Councillor P Aves	
	Councillor E Calland	
	Councillor R Cleary	
	Councillor A Griffin	
	Councillor J Oatley	
	Councillor T Price	
	Councillor C Stokes	
	Councillor A Westbrook	
	Councillor A Whitlock	

IN ATTENDANCE

OFFICERS	Hayley Bell	CEO/Town Clerk
	Ian Cunningham	Community Officer
	Dave Elms	Amenities Manager
	Amelie Huxtable	Placement Student
	Andrew Meacham	Committee Clerk
	Dominic Rutterford	Communications Officer

PUBLIC One member of the public was present and one member of the public was present virtually.

255/25 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Crossley, Councillor Drewett and Councillor Elson

256/25 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

257/25 Minutes

The minutes of 30th March 2026, having been previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair Councillor.

258/25 Public Participation

Resident 1 – Glad to see investment in the parks. What will the council do to stop illegal activity in the parks?

Councillor Griffin entered the chamber.

Resident 2 – Grateful for the opportunity to have spoken to Community Development Committee and as part of consultation suggested more Legal Art Space. Councillor J Westbrook advised member that she and the Community Officer had an upcoming meeting with the resident and hoping to involve the Canberra Centre as well.

259/25 Play Areas

The Town Mayor Councillor expressed thanks to councillors who took part in Play Area tours and Amelie for her report.

Councillor A Westbrook spoke to the item.

It was proposed by Councillor A Westbrook, seconded by the Town Mayor Councillor Rabey and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to carry forward £53000 from 2025/2026 Play Area Budget of, to be added to the £100000 allocated in the 2026/2027 budget for play area refurbishment.

Councillor Alford entered the chamber.

Amelie Huxtable spoke to her report.

Some sites were removed from the discussion and members then voted for their 5 preferred sites.

There was discussion on:-

- sites that needed less work and could possibly be done in-house
- Leases and asset transfer
- Designating one site as a SEND site
- Grants that might be available.

It was felt that SEND equipment should be available in all play areas, so far as is practicable.

Councillor Alford left the meeting at 6:30.

Councillor Griffin left the meeting at 6:50.

It was proposed by Councillor A Westbrook, seconded by the Town Mayor Councillor Rabey and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to

- Make Dunch Lane and Riverside the top priority and go out to tender for the work
- Authorise fencing repairs to Speedwell Close, so long as the cost is under £10000. If above £10000 to be referred back to full council
- Authorise work by the Amenities Team on Hazelwood (not MUGA) up to £5000.
- Seek costing and ideas for all other play area.

260/25 Branding

The Communications Officer spoke to the item.

Members were generally positive on the proposed branding and felt that the proposed roll out as and when needed approach was appropriate.

Questions were asked and issues discussed. Members wanted written guidelines on the use of the Crest, Shield and Heart.

It was proposed by the Deputy Town Mayor Councillor J Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Oatley and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to

- Approve the proposed shield as the new Melksham Town Council logo, to be used as “end of life” replacement and on new assets.
- The Crest was to continue to be used for all Civic and Ceremonial events and communications.
- The Heart to be used on campaign material
- Full usage guidelines to come back to the September 2026 Full Council meeting for approval
- Approve the Communications strategy for the Brand Rationalisation.

Meeting closed at: 7:45

Signed

Dated