



Full council

Agenda for 15/06/26 @ 18:00 extraordinary meeting

melksham-tc.gov.uk/meetings



Melksham
TOWN COUNCIL



Melksham
TOWN COUNCIL

10 June 2026

Dear Councillors S Rabey (Town Mayor), J Westbrook (Deputy Town Mayor), P Alford, P Aves, E Calland, R Cleary, J Crossley, M Drewett, G Elson, A Griffin, J Oatley, T Price, C Stokes, A Westbrook, A Whitlock.

Ref: Full Council Extraordinary Meeting, Monday 15 June 2026 18:00

You are summoned in accordance with the Local Government Act (LGA) 1972, Sch 12, paras 10 (2)(b) to an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council of Melksham Town Council for the transaction of the business shown on the agenda below.

Monday 15 June 2026, to be held at 18.00 in the Council Chamber, Melksham Town Hall, Market Place, Melksham, SN12 6ES.

The quorum for Full Council is 8.

Public Participation

Members of the public and the press may attend this meeting in person or join the meeting on Teams via the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/3vfzksny>. Public participation will take place near the start of the meeting.

Each speaker is limited to three minutes, with a total public session of 20 minutes. Members of the public are requested to send their questions to CEO@melksham-tc.gov.uk by noon on the working day before the meeting. You should still attend the meeting, in person or online, to ask your question.

No decisions will be made on matters not already on the agenda. The Council may ask the public and press to leave if confidential matters need to be discussed.

The Seven Principles of Public Life.

All members are reminded of their duty under the code of conduct to uphold the Seven Principles of Public Life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, and leadership.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Hayley Bell
CEO



Full Council Terms of Reference

1. **Membership** – all 15 elected members of the Town Council.

The following matters shall be reserved for decision by Full Council, but the appropriate Committee(s) may make recommendation for the Council's consideration:

- 1.1 The Precept demand
- 1.2 Borrowing money
- 1.3 Making, amending or revoking Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Duties and Powers of Proper Officer provisions
- 1.4 Making, amending or revoking by-laws
- 1.5 Making of Orders under Statutory Powers
- 1.6 Matters of principle or policy
- 1.7 Addressing recommendations in any report from the Internal and External Auditors
- 1.8 Nomination of members of all proper and sub committees
- 1.9 New powers or duties
- 1.10 Prosecution or defence in a Court of Law
- 1.11 Nomination or appointment of representatives of the Council to any enquiry on matters affecting the town
- 1.12 To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts
- 1.13 To receive and sign off the Annual Internal & External Audit and Return
- 1.14 To receive reports referred to the Town Council from the various Committees/Sub-Committees
- 1.15 To set up Working Groups as necessary
- 1.16 To receive reports and consider recommendations from Working Groups set up by Full Council
- 1.17 To appoint representatives on outside bodies or joint bodies
- 1.18 To confirm the appointment of the Town Mayor/Deputy Mayor
- 1.19 To confirm the schedule of meetings of the Town Council/Committees and
- 1.20 Sub-Committees for the ensuing year



Melksham
TOWN COUNCIL

- 1.21 To receive petitions and deputations from members of the public or any organisations
- 1.22 Any other matters not delegated to a Committee or Sub-Committee or referred to the Council by Committees or Sub-Committees



Full Council Extraordinary Meeting

1. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

(Local Government Act, 1972 s.85)

2. Declaration of Interest

To receive any Declarations of Interest in respect of items on this agenda as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council.

Members are reminded that, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, they are required to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or other registrable interests which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. Members may however, also decide, in the interests of clarity and transparency, to declare at this point in the meeting, any such disclosable pecuniary interests which they have already declared on the Register, as well as any other registrable or other interests.

(Melksham Town Council Code of Conduct)

3. Public Participation

Members of the public are invited to attend the meeting and address the council.

Members of the public are requested to send their question to ceo@melkshamtc.gov.uk by noon on the working day before the meeting. This will make it more likely that we will be able to answer your question on the night. You should still attend the meeting, in person or online, to ask your question.

(Local Government Act 1972, s. 12)

4. Melksham Splashpad

To receive a report on the Melksham Splashpad.

For discussion.

MEETING
Full Council

DATE
10/06/2026

TITLE
Splash Pad

AUTHOR(S)
CEO

Report





Melksham Splash Pad – Summary

1. Overview & History

- The Melksham Splash Pad is a free public water play facility located in King George V Playing Fields, owned and managed by Melksham Town Council.
- It was originally approved around 2018–2019, with early references indicating it was built shortly before 2020.
- The facility plays a key role in:
 - Community wellbeing
 - Family recreation
 - Delivery of the council objectives on green infrastructure and inclusive facilities

2. Operational Timeline (Key Dates)

Earlier Operation (2025 season)

- 2025 season opened around Good Friday, running daily from approx. 11:00–18:00.
- Repeated closures occurred due to:
 - Water-quality issues
 - Equipment faults
 - Flooring defects (lifting / trip hazards)

2026 Season

- Planned reopening:
 - Saturday 2 May 2026 (daily use, typically 10:00–18:00)
 - Temporary closure 11–15 May 2026 due to pump fault and water testing requirements

Current Issue Timeline (2026)

- Ongoing problems identified:
 - Flooring lifting again
 - Safety concerns (trip hazard)
 - Pool Plant Pump is Faulty
- Confirmed action:
 - Closure continues
 - New pump being fitted 10/06/2026
 - Remedial works by Splash scheduled from 22 June 2026 lasting 2 weeks



3. Committee & Governance Structure

Key Committee

- **Amenities & Facilities / Community Development Committee**
 - Responsible for park assets including splash pad

Example Committee Meeting (Attendance referenced)

From RE: Splashpad:

- Councillors present:
 - Councillor S Crundell (Mayor)
 - Councillor P Alford
 - Councillor P Aves
 - Councillor G Cooke
 - Councillor G Ellis
 - Councillor J Hubbard
 - Councillor S Mortimer
 - Councillor S Rabey
 - Councillor Stokes
 - Councillor J Westbrook
- Officers:
 - Hugh Davies
 - Andrew Meacham (Committee Clerk)

4. Key Decisions & Resolutions

Strategic Decisions

Full Council 27 November 2023 (held over from 30 October 2023)

Agenda - To consider the report on Splashpad resurfacing. Members to decide whether to approve resurfacing of the splashpad, the preferred option and funding.

Minute

There was discussion on the best option for resurfacing, timing of resurfacing and usage of the splashpad.

It was proposed by Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Rabey and RESOLVED to approve the resurfacing of the splashpad with the non-porous option funded from Major

Projects and to instruct the budget group to allocate £5000 a year to a sink fund for the management of the splashpad.

Asset Management & Amenities 4 December 2023

Public Participation - asked why the Splashpad was being resurfaced. Councillor Rabey advised this was down to degradation of the surface. The Head of Operations confirmed this and that there had been instances of cuts to feet. Joe asked if the Splashpad was under warranty. The Head of Operations did not think so but confirmed that this work was to upgrade the surface, not to repair the surface

Agenda – Splashpad 2023 report. To note

Minute

The report on Splashpad usage was noted. Councillor Ellis noted that the usage statistics were recorded on the hour and actual usage would have been higher.

Asset Management & Amenities 5 February 2024

Agenda - To confirm the Splashpad opening dates and times for the 2024 season.

Minute

Members were shown a spreadsheet showing usage details for last year. There had been comments last year about later opening and it was recommended that opening hours be changed to 11am to 6pm, with a decision on opening dates.

There was general agreement on opening times. There was discussion on opening dates and whether opening should be based on temperature rather than a date. DE noted that he had been advised there was a minimum operating temperature, below which there was a risk of damage to the machinery. How resurfacing work might affect opening dates was also discussed.

It was proposed by Councillor Hubbard, seconded by Councillor Oatley and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Splashpad open for the Easter Holiday and then from half-term to mid September 2024, with officer discretion on opening between Easter and half-term. Opening hours to be 11am to 6pm.

Amenities & Facilities 15 September 2025

Agenda - To receive the report on Splashpad To approve opening times for 2026/27 season

Minute

The Chair and the Amenities Manager spoke to the item. The Amenities Manager confirmed that he had been speaking to a local expert. The Chair and Councillor J Westbrook declared a family connection (mother/sister) to the expert and confirmed there was no pecuniary issue.

Officers were continuing to attempt to liaise with the company that laid the floor.

Standing Orders were suspended to allow the member of the press to speak.

Does the Council have any plans to install a backup system, as used in Warminster?

The Amenities Manager confirmed the Warminster backup was to use “grey water” when the dosing system was down. The Melksham Splashpad water pressure could not operate this system but he was in contact with Wessex Water and it may be an option in the future. Standing Orders were reinstated.

It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the following will apply for the 2026 season • The system will be recommission in middle of March • Start date for the season will be an operational decision taking into account weather conditions, but by 1st May 2026 at the latest • End date for the season will be Sunday 27th September 2026 Sunday 27th September • Opening time and other matters will be an operational decision.

Amenities & Facilities 9 February 2026

Public Participation - Q. Splashpad running costs. For openness and transparency would the Council consider using separate cost centres for the KGV and the Splashpad. Budget for 2026/27 shows costs centre for King George V, including the Splashpad. Total budget is £48k but how much is for the Splashpad? A. Plan for 2026/27 was for Splashpad to have separate cost centre and cost code for 2026/27. CEO will check with RFO.

Agenda - For decision on work to the Splashpad (Quotes included) To note public consultation and Birthday Party hire.

Minute

The Chair, Councillor A Westbrook, thanked the Amenities Manager for his work on the problems with the Splashpad.

The report was noted.

It was proposed by Councillor A Westbrook, seconded by Councillor Aves and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to accept the quote of Topline for the injection system and Splash for recommissioning and maintenance.

Assets & Facilities 1st June 2026

Agenda - For decision on funding for a new pump and to note.

Minute

Not yet written but decision was to proceed with purchase and allocate funds from the Splashpad Sinking Fund.

Operational Decisions

- Introduce:
 - Improved dosing system for water safety
 - Updated operating procedures

Financial / Investment Decisions

- Budget allocated for:
 - Equipment repairs
 - Maintenance contracts
 - Replacement systems (e.g. chlorine system upgrade referenced in discussions)

5. Procurement, Contractors & Contacts

Primary Contractor

- "Splash" (flooring/surfacing contractor)
 - Responsible for installed flooring system

Current Situation

- Council held contractor accountable for defects:
 - Flooring failure acknowledged
 - Contractual responsibility enforced

Additional suppliers / contacts (operational support)

From Splashpad:

- Colin Davis – Pool plant training
- Tara Parry / Clearway Pools & Spas – inspections
- Tom Palmer – water sampling

Procurement challenges

- Difficulty sourcing alternative flooring suppliers:
 - Some suppliers unable to quote or support splashpad-specific installations

6. Key Issues Identified

6.1 Flooring Failure (Major Issue)

- Repeated issue:
 - Surface lifting → **trip hazard risk**
- Concerns raised:
 - Installed in unsuitable conditions
 - Patch repairs rather than full replacement
 - Potential underlying structural defects

6.2 Operational / Technical Issues

- Pump failures causing closure
- Water quality and filtration challenges
- Equipment reliability concerns (e.g. dosing system, filters)

6.3 Staffing & Training

- Identified risks:
 - Insufficient trained staff
 - Lack of specialist pool plant knowledge

6.4 Communication

- Councillors and residents raised:
 - Poor communication during closures
 - Lack of on-site signage explaining issues

7. Meetings & Decision Events (Recent)



Splash Pad Meeting with Contractor

- Held 10 June 2026, 10:00–11:00
- Organised by Hayley Bell
- Attendees included:
 - Saffi Rabey
 - Adrienne Westbrook
 - Jennie Westbrook
 - Andrew Griffne
 - Pat Aves
 - Evies Kitchen
 - External: Greg Seale (Splash contractor)

This meeting directly led to:

- Agreement on remedial works, agreed to be undertaken entirely at the cost of the contractors, with no financial implication or liability for Melksham Town Council.
- Closure extension
- Contractor accountability
- Full closure during works
- Start date: 22 June 2026
- Duration: 2 weeks

Works to be carried out:

- Removal of existing flooring
- Installation of new sub-surface
- Re-laying of surface tiles

Council position:

- Contractor formally held to account
- Strong dissatisfaction expressed:
 - Repeated failure impacts residents and families
 - Discussed compensation
 - Impact on council reputation