

Meeting	Council
Date and Time	Thursday, 20th August, 2026 at 6.30 pm.
Venue	Council Chamber, Castle Hill, Winchester SO23 8UL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held at 6.30 pm on Thursday, 20th August, 2026 in the Council Chamber, Castle Hill, Winchester SO23 8UL and all Members of the Council are summoned to attend.

Note: This meeting is being held in person at the location specified above. Members of the public should note that the meeting will be streamed live to the council's You Tube channel (www.youtube.com/WinchesterCC).

A limited number of seats will be made available at the above named location, however attendance must be notified to the council at least 3 working days before the meeting. Please note that priority will be given to those having registered to speak during the Public Question session over those wishing to attend and observe. Please note that Questions must be received in writing by Democratic Services (democracy@winchester.gov.uk) prior to **10am**, five working days preceding the day of the council meeting.

AGENDA

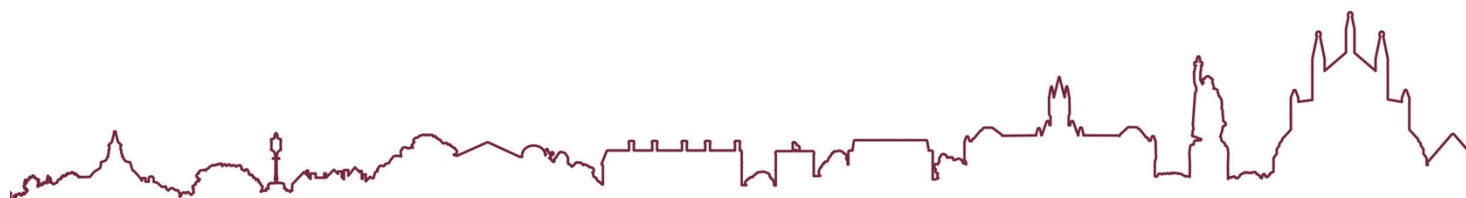
1. **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Council held on 20 May 2026 and the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 2 June 2026** (Pages 11 - 22)

2. **Disclosure of Interests**

To receive any disclosure of interests from Councillors or Officers in matters to be discussed.

Note: Councillors are reminded of their obligations to declare disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs), other registerable interests (ORIs) and non-registerable interests (NRIs) in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct.

3. **Announcements from the Mayor, Leader and Chief Executive.**



4. **Questions from Members of the Public**

To receive and answer and questions from the public.

(Questions must be received in writing by Democratic Services –

democracy@winchester.gov.uk – no later than 10am on Thursday 13 August 2026)

5. **To receive petitions**

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 22, a petition was submitted by Katy McNally containing 667 signatures.

Halt the £153,000 River Park Perimeter Path Project

Statement:

We the undersigned petition the council to immediately pause all works, suspend the funding allocation, and launch a meaningful public consultation to allow the community to protect our green space.

Justification:

We, the undersigned resident, stakeholders and users of River Park Recreation Ground, call on Winchester City Council to halt and reconsider its decision to allocate up to £153,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding towards a new all-weather perimeter path (Cabinet Report CAB3518).

This decision was based on a consultation in 2021 and therefore does not reflect current public opinion.

We object to the proposal for two principal reasons:

1. Harm to the park's natural environment

River Park is a valuable green space at the heart of Winchester. An all-weather perimeter path would further urbanise the park, alter its character, and reduce the natural setting that residents value. It could also have a detrimental impact on local wildlife and habitats.

2. Poor use of public funds.

The proposed expenditure of up to £153,000 on a new perimeter path is difficult to justify at a time when public services and community assets face significant financial pressures. We believe these funds could be better directed towards the higher-priority projects that deliver greater benefits to local residents.”

6. **To consider and determine the following Recommended Minutes: Cabinet held 17 June 2026 - Winchester Sport and Leisure Park improvements (CAB3561) (Pages 23 - 48)**

RECOMMENDED (TO COUNCIL):

That a capital budget of £740,000 be approved to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park.

RESOLVED:

That subject to budget approval by full Council as set out above:

1. That the allocation of £740,000 of District-wide Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding and associated capital expenditure to deliver improvements at Winchester Sport & Leisure Park (WSLP) be approved, subject to Full Council approval of the associated capital budget.
2. That an exception to the Contract Procedure Rules to enable one of the direct award options set out in section 3.6 of this report be approved.
3. That authority be delegated to the Strategic Director, to approve minor amendments to the detailed design, specification and scope of the project during delivery, provided such changes remain within the approved budget and do not materially alter the strategic objectives or overall outcomes of the scheme approved by Cabinet.

7. **Notices of Motion**

a) Motion: Beat the Heat—Preparing for an Overheating Climate

Proposer: Cllr Danny Lee

Seconder: Cllr Kelsie Learney

Council notes that:

Climate change is making extreme heat more frequent and intense, increasing risks to health, housing, workplaces, infrastructure and essential services. It is estimated that the May and June heatwaves in England and Wales this year led to 2750 excess deaths.[6]

1. Those most at risk include older people, young children, people with disabilities or existing illnesses, rough sleepers and residents of poorly ventilated or overheating homes. Income also affects people's ability to adapt their homes or afford additional heating or cooling, making thermal resilience an important equality issue.

2. The Climate Change Committee's *A Well-Adapted UK* concludes that stronger adaptation is required across homes, public services and infrastructure as climate risks increase.[5]
3. From 30 Nov 2026, Phase 2 of Awaab's Law will extend social landlords' duties to significant excess heat and cold hazards.[8]
4. WCC already has relevant climate, housing, emergency-planning, asset-management and resilience arrangements and has responded to issues of overheating within its Council housing estate. Ongoing Council work provides an opportunity to strengthen **Beat the Heat** guidance and support to Council and communities.

Council believes that:

1. Protecting residents from extreme temperatures is a shared public-health, housing and climate-resilience responsibility. The Council's response should be evidence-led, proportionate and targeted at greatest risk, embedded within existing arrangements and avoiding unnecessary duplication or unfunded new workstreams.
3. Climate adaptation and emissions reduction must be pursued together. Protecting people from extreme heat should complement, rather than conflict with, decarbonisation.
3. Wider guidance sets out practical measures for keeping people and buildings cooler [1–3] which can be highlighted in the Council's forthcoming Housing Strategy update; however, the Housing Revenue Account is ring-fenced and financially constrained. Investment should therefore be targeted by statutory duty, assessed risk and household need, avoiding unfunded blanket programmes that could undermine essential housing services.

Council resolves to:

1. Ask Cabinet to report how extreme heat is being addressed in the Council's adaptation and resilience work, including implications for the transition to a new Unitary authority, using existing governance arrangements.
2. Invite Cabinet to ensure that overheating and resilience to extreme heat are considered through the preparation of the new Local Plan, informed by the evidence base, the new Gateway process, public consultation, national planning policy and the relationship with Building Regulations.
6. Invite Cabinet to set out the Council's developing approach to assessing and managing excess heat and cold in council housing, having regard to its statutory responsibilities under Awaab's Law, and resources available within the Housing Revenue Account.

4. Continue, through existing communications and partnerships, to promote appropriate practical advice before and during periods of extreme heat.
5. Request the Health and Environment Policy Committee to consider the establishment of a time-limited working group to identify practical measures the Council can undertake to reduce the impact of extreme heat on our residents in the short term and in the context of local government reorganisation.
1. Ask the Leader and cabinet to advocate for action on overheating locally and nationally including:
 - heat adaptation to be integrated into public-estate decarbonisation;
 - enforceable sector-specific maximum-temperature standards or action thresholds for schools and workplaces;
 - stronger building and retrofit standards addressing overheating.

References

1. UK Health Security Agency, *Beat the Heat: Staying Safe in Hot Weather*.
2. NHS, *Heatwave: How to Cope in Hot Weather*.
3. Energy Saving Trust, *How to Keep Your Home Cool in Hot Weather*.
4. Health and Safety Executive, *Temperature in the Workplace: What the Law Says and Heat Stress*.
5. Climate Change Committee, *A Well-Adapted UK: The Fourth Independent Assessment of UK Climate Risk*, 20 May 2026.
6. Met Office, *More than 2,700 excess deaths estimated in England and Wales during May and June heatwaves*, 13 July 2026.
7. Office for National Statistics, *Climate-related mortality, England and Wales: 1988 to 2022*.
8. Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, *Awaab's Law Phase 2: Guidance for social housing landlords*, 13 July 2026 (effective 30 November 2026).
9. Urban Heat Index - Heat mapping service – <https://www.linkedin.com/company/urban-heat-index/>

b) Motion - Natural Capital as Strategic Infrastructure

Proposer: Cllr Danny Lee

Seconder: Cllr Liam Bailey-Morgan

Environmental degradation is not a single, isolated risk. It is a systemic process that intensifies multiple, interconnected challenges — from flooding and water insecurity to poor health, food insecurity and economic disruption. To futureproof our economy and provide resilience against the increasing impacts of climate change, it is important natural capital is recognised as critical infrastructure and integrated more effectively into our economy.

Council notes that:

1. The emerging Hampshire and Solent Combined County Authority will shape economic growth, housing, transport, infrastructure investment and strategic planning through its Local Growth Plan and future Spatial Development Strategy.
1. The Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals' June 2026 paper, *Redefining Nature*, argues that natural capital should be recognised as critical infrastructure essential to society, the economy, public safety and resilience.
3. Rivers, aquifers, soils, wetlands, woodlands, coastlines, biodiversity and ecological networks underpin water security, food production, flood resilience, air quality, public health, climate adaptation and economic prosperity.
7. The paper estimates that UK ecosystem services are worth approximately £1.8 trillion and warns that environmental degradation could impose substantial future economic costs.
5. The Dasgupta Review concluded that economies, livelihoods and wellbeing depend upon nature and that economic prosperity is embedded within nature, not separate from it.
6. Devolution and local government reorganisation do not, by themselves, ensure that natural capital, climate resilience and nature recovery will be fully integrated into future growth and infrastructure decisions.

Council believes that:

1. Nature is not simply a constraint on growth but is essential infrastructure upon which sustainable growth depends.
2. Hampshire and the Solent's natural assets should be recognised, protected and managed as strategic infrastructure.
3. Failure to account for natural capital risks increasing future costs, weakening resilience and undermining sustainable development.
4. The emerging Combined County Authority has an opportunity to demonstrate national leadership by embedding natural capital and nature recovery into its plans and investment decisions from the outset.

Council resolves to:

1. Recognise the principle that **natural capital should be treated as strategic critical infrastructure** in policies, plans and investment decisions affecting Winchester district and the wider Hampshire and Solent area.
2. Ask the Leader and relevant Cabinet Members to advocate for natural capital, climate resilience and nature recovery to be embedded within:
 - a. the Local Growth Plan;
 - b. the future Spatial Development Strategy; and
 - c. strategic infrastructure, investment and monitoring frameworks.
3. Ask the emerging Combined County Authority to consider developing a Hampshire and Solent natural capital framework.
4. Seek alignment between the Local Growth Plan, Spatial Development Strategy, local plans, Local Nature Recovery Strategies, protected-landscape management plans and climate adaptation strategies.
5. Ensure that Winchester's Local Plan evidence base appropriately addresses natural capital, water resilience, nature recovery and climate adaptation.
6. Ask the Leader to write to the Chair of the emerging Combined County Authority Board requesting consideration of the following question:

How can natural capital be recognised and integrated as strategic infrastructure within the Local Growth Plan, Spatial Development Strategy and investment framework to support resilient and sustainable economic growth?

7. Request a proportionate update through existing reporting arrangements on the response and subsequent progress.

Refs:

1. [New guide urges businesses to consider the decline of the natural environment as a material financial risk](#)
2. [Natural capital must be recognised as critical national infrastructure to futureproof the economy - Water Magazine](#)
3. [Future-proofing our Economy | Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust](#)
4. [Why Treating Nature As Critical Infrastructure Would Help Grow The Economy | Institution of Civil Engineers \(ICE\)](#)
5. [Nature as infrastructure: A three-point plan for growth and delivery](#)
6. [Nature as Critical Infrastructure: Implications for Resilience Planning from the UK's National Security Assessment | BCI](#)

8. **Confirmation of Appointments to Voluntary or Full Joint Committee Arrangements (CL181)** (Pages 49 - 52)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Council confirms the decision of Cabinet in respect of appointments to the Mid-Hampshire Unitary Authority voluntary and full joint committee, established under section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, as follows:

- i. Leader (Councillor Tod)
- ii. Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler) - deputy

The appointments shall take effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the committee, unless otherwise determined by Council.

2. That Council confirms the decision of Cabinet in respect of appointments to South-East Hampshire voluntary and full joint committee, as follows:

- i. Deputy Leader (Councillor Cutler)
- ii. Leader (Councillor Tod) - deputy

The appointments shall take effect immediately and shall continue for the duration of the committee, unless otherwise determined by Council.

3. That Council note that authority is delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and the Director (Legal) to agree the terms of reference and any associated procedures of the two voluntary or full joint committees.

9. **Changes to Committee Memberships**

To receive any resignations from committees and to make any necessary re-appointments.

10. **Information for Council - South Downs National Park Authority: Cllr Jerry Pett**

11. **Questions from Members of Council**

The total time for questions and the answer and supplementaries thereto shall not exceed 40 minutes.

LAURA TAYLOR
Chief Executive

All of the Council's publicly available agendas, reports and minutes are available to view and download from the Council's [Website](#) and are also open to inspection at the offices of the council. As part of our drive to minimise our use of paper we do not provide paper copies of the full agenda pack at meetings. We do however, provide a number of copies of the agenda front sheet at the meeting which contains the QR Code opposite. Scanning this code enables members of the public to easily access all of the meeting papers on their own electronic device. Please hold your device's camera or QR code App over the QR Code so that it's clearly visible within your screen and you will be redirected to the agenda pack.



12 August 2026

Agenda Contact: David Blakemore, Democratic Services Team Manager
Tel: 01962 848217 Email: dblakemore@winchester.gov.uk

Quorum = 15 members

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public may ask questions of the Leader, Cabinet Members and Committee Chairs at Ordinary Meetings of the Council. The total time allocated for questions by the public shall normally be limited to 20 minutes.

A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing to Democratic Services no later than 5 working days preceding the Council meeting. For example, if the Council meeting is being held at 7pm on a Wednesday then the question would need to be received by 10am on the preceding Wednesday. Please email to democracy@winchester.gov.uk.

FILMING AND BROADCAST NOTIFICATION

This meeting will be recorded and broadcast live on the Council's website. The meeting may also be recorded and broadcast by the press and members of the public – please see the Access to Information Procedure Rules within the Council's Constitution for further information, which is available to view on the [Council's website](#).

DISABLED ACCESS:

Disabled access is normally available, but please phone Democratic Services on 01962 848 264 or email democracy@winchester.gov.uk to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place.