

MINUTES OF THE ENHAM ALAMEIN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH OCTOBER 2026 AT THE RESOURCE CENTRE, ENHAM TRUST OFFICES, ENHAM ALAMEIN

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. James Cumpsty, Cllr. Emma-Louise Deverell, Cllr. Leslie Francis (Chair), Cllr. Paula Lankshear, Cllr. Alan Matthews, Cllr. Karen Wootten

In attendance:

Kevin Hodder – Enham Trust/Aster Group

Cara Lewis – Enham Trust/Aster Group

Jenny Brain – Community Engagement Officer – Test Valley Borough Council

Tim Goodridge – Planning Policy Officer – Test Valley Borough Council

Members of the public

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr. Rowan Jameson – Enham Alamein Parish Council

County Cllr. Kirsty North – Hampshire County Council

Borough Cllr. Phil North – Test Valley Borough Council

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None recorded.

3. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN PROGRESSION – TIM GOODRIDGE (PLANNING POLICY OFFICER – TEST VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL)

The Chair welcomed Tim Goodridge to the meeting and thanked him for his attendance. Tim Goodridge provided an update on Neighbourhood Planning and guidance on the ways forward to progress this project. He stated that the consultation must provide evidence of the Parish Council's public engagement and what people would like to see delivered. What are the aspirations of the parish in five to ten years time? What is the vision for Enham Alamein and the plans for the future? He advised the parish council to consider a set of achievable aims and objectives to attain. He stated that neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead. Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs and where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.

Tim Goodridge advised that there are grants available from Test Valley Borough Council of between £5,000 and £7,000 to help bring a neighbourhood plan to fruition. Representation and feedback from residents is vital and it was suggested to prepare a leaflet to deliver to every resident in Enham Alamein seeking views and opinions. He stated that Test Valley Borough Council would be happy to chat through matters and help in the production of any maps and possible use of a QR code. There are many examples of neighbourhood plans to help and support is always available. Members agreed that this does need to be progressed and discussed in some depth as an agenda item at the November Parish Council meeting.

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4. TO UPDATE ON THE CINDER TRACK IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Jenny Brain advised that she attended the Enham Summer Fete on 19 September 2026 and there was an excellent response. She advised that the way forward is now to liaise with key stakeholders, individually at first, then concurrently when suitable and as plans progress:

- Hampshire County Council – Rights of Way team
- Enham Trust / Aster Group (Landowner)
- Will Brooks (Landowner)
- Any other landowners (TBC)
- Smannell Parish Council

1. Agree all aspects of project with key stakeholders and produce plan

- New path width – 730-metre-long path will be increased in width by how much and on which side(s).
- Fencing – to increase the width of the 730-metre-long path, it will be necessary to identify which fencing will be removed and replaced, as well as to what specification.
- Footpath preparation – root protection, hedgerow protection, obstructive vegetation clearance, old fence removal (to be replaced), old gate removal (to be replaced), footpath surface levels improved where necessary
- Footpath resurfacing – a new surface which is suitable for wheelchair users and those who require additional mobility aids.
- Finger Posts – install new.
- Accessible Gates – install new if necessary.

Jenny Brain advised that the Hampshire County Council website for all Design Standards should be consulted

www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/countryside/designstandards

2. Confirm landowners permission in writing

3. Confirm Hampshire County Council permission in writing

4. Update community of Cinder Track Accessibility Improvement plans

- ✓ Enham Alamein Parish Council/ and Test Valley Borough Council CEO spoke to attendees of the most recent Public Meeting held at Landale Wilson Hall in July. The plans to improve the accessibility of the Cinder Track were shared with the attendees.
- ✓ Enham Alamein Parish Council has published items in two editions of the Parish Oak, notifying people of the plans and invited them to get in touch with any support, suggestions, comments or concerns. The Parish Oak is free and is delivered to every household each month. It is also readily available to pick up in places such as the shop, pub and church.

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She stated that a few emails have been received, which raised a handful of concerns about the path improvements including not making it too wide, choosing the correct surface material and it will enable cyclists to use the path. Responses provided to these emails and the concerns raised will be taken into account.

- ✓ As further evidence, she stated that the Cinder Track Accessibility Improvements has been an item on the Enham Alamein Parish Council meeting agenda for several months and therefore those in attendance, such as representatives from Enham Trust, Aster Group have been made aware. The details have also been included in the minutes of these meetings, which are publicly available.

5. Evidence of community support

- ✓ Registers of support and a map showing the path are available in the Enham Store & Post Office. 88 signatures of support and many positive comments gathered so far.
- ✓ Enham Alamein Parish Council ran a consultation stand at the Enhamfest 2026, where people could see the plans via an annotated map and talk to Parish Councillors and the Test Valley Borough Council Community Engagement Officer who were on hand to answer questions and describe the project. 91 signatures of support and many positive comments gathered at this event. Potential opportunity to keep residents up to date as progress develops. Especially those the project will benefit most and local neighbours.

6. Quotes

Jenny Brain advised that for a project of this kind, it is necessary to get up to date, like for like quotes where possible. Ideally from three different prospective contractors.

7. Match funding

The Community Delivery Fund cannot fund 100% of the project cost and applicants are required to contribute to the overall cost. TVBC Community Engagement Officer will help identify sources of the remaining costs required.

8. Community Delivery Fund Proposal Form

Complete proposal form and submit to jbrain@testvalley.gov.uk along with supporting documents stated on page 1 of the form. She advised to book time to chat through the Community Delivery Fund proposal form (via Teams). It is important to consider which date to aim for to submit the proposal form. Paperwork should ideally be received 10 days ahead of the meeting date, to give time for any final tweaks. The upcoming meeting dates are 2 December 2026, 13 January 2027 and 24 February 2027.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None recorded.

6. TO READ AND RESOLVE APPROVAL OF THE FULL COUNCIL MINUTES HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2026

The Chair and members reviewed the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 9 September 2026. Members unanimously RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of this

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meeting as a true and correct record. The Chair signed the Minutes accordingly.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

The Parish Clerk advised members of all correspondence received to date, which were noted without further comment. Of specific note, was an email received from the Andover Ramblers concerning a proposed possible footpath affecting Charlton and Enham Alamein (Charlton 758) to let walkers link Chalton footpaths 727 and 758. Members considered this and raised No Objection. In relation to a Hampshire County Council passenger transport meeting taking place on 24 November 2026 (10.00 to 12.00) and 27 November 2026 (13.30 to 15.30), members felt that it was important that there was Enham Alamein Parish Council representation at this meeting given the lack of any sustainable public transport serving the local area. Cllr. James Cumpsty offered to join online.

8. TO RESOLVE THE FINANCE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026

The Parish Clerk advised members of the income and expenses of the Parish Council for September/October 2026, which amounted to £4,661.51 expenses and £8,341.11 income as scheduled below, together with the latest financial position of the Parish Council.

EXPENDITURE

£349.27 – Kevin Glyn-Davies – September Salary - £436.67 LESS PAYE £87.40 – Net payment £349.27

£500.00 – Enham Trust – Invoice B60-014672 dated 22 September 2026 – Grant towards Enham Fest 2026 - £500.00 (VAT - £0.00) £500.00

£3,812.24 – Good as Gold – Invoice 001 dated 13 October 2026 – Design and manufacture of Badge of Office - £3,176.87 (VAT - £635.37) £3,812.24

INCOME

Test Valley Borough Council – Second Instalment of Precept - £7,325.50

Interest up to and including 30 September 2026 - £15.61

Enham Trust Donation to Chair's Badge of Office - £1,000.00

Members unanimously RESOLVED the expenditure of £4,661.51 and income of £8,341.11 for the Parish Council for September/October 2026, as prescribed.

9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE ENHAM TRUST/ASTER GROUP

Kevin Hodder provided the below update report on behalf of the Enham Trust.

1. Estates

Community Orchard & Walled Garden

Two new volunteers have signed up to assist with maintenance activities within the Community Orchard. As a result, Nigel is now working in the orchard on Friday mornings alongside two additional supported volunteers, providing valuable extra capacity to help maintain and develop the site.

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Corporate volunteering activities have been paused for the remainder of this year while our fundraising team reviews and reassesses the programme. However, we still have a small number of corporate volunteering sessions scheduled before December.

Unfortunately, due to limited staff capacity and resources, Nigel has not been able to organise a Halloween event this year. However, I am keen to work with the Parish Council to develop a wider programme of community events and activities throughout next year.

The remaining sections of the Community Orchard wall continue to deteriorate, with further areas of plaster becoming detached and falling away. Nigel has engaged a local specialist contractor, Hawk & Trowel, to assess the condition of the wall and provide quotations for repairs. The total estimated cost for the required works across all remaining sections is £61,945. As an interim measure, they have recommended covering exposed areas with hessian sheeting to help reduce weather penetration and prevent further deterioration until repairs can be undertaken. Nigel is currently exploring options to source suitable hessian sheeting for this purpose.

It has been reported that produce was recently taken from an individual plot within the Community Garden, which is disappointing for all involved.

As an immediate response, Nigel will be installing signage reminding visitors that plots are managed by individual plot holders and asking that these areas are respected. The issue will also be highlighted in the next edition of the Parish Oak newsletter to raise awareness within the community. Nigel has discussed the matter with the Parish Chair and agree that this is an appropriate and proportionate approach at this stage.

Tree Surveys

This year's tree survey is currently underway, with the final report expected by late October. Once received, the findings will help inform the prioritisation and planning of any necessary tree works.

We are beginning to see the effects of the prolonged drought conditions experienced over the last two years on parts of the village's tree population. As climate patterns continue to change, these challenges are likely to become more significant. As part of our Nature Plan, we will be considering future tree planting strategies, including the selection of species that are more resilient to changing environmental and climatic conditions.

Enham Fest

Nigel would like to give a special mention to the Enham Estates Team, whose hard work and commitment were instrumental in ensuring the successful delivery of Enham Fest.

The team played a key role in both the event set-up and take-down, as well as providing support throughout the day by assisting stallholders, moving equipment and resources, and helping to ensure everything ran smoothly. Their willingness to help wherever needed contributed significantly to the success of the event, and I hope the wider village shares my appreciation for their efforts and dedication.

2. Partnerships & Engagement

Enham Fest was a great success attracting more than 800 attendees from across the local

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community. Enham Trust and Aster Group would like to thank both the Parish Council and Test Valley Borough Council for their valued support in helping to make the event possible.

The event is a great opportunity to bring the community together and we would welcome any suggestions, feedback or ideas from residents and stakeholders to help shape future events and ensure they continue to meet the interests of the community.

Proposed Refurbishment of Landale Wilson Hall

Whilst the planning application decision is awaited, we are actively exploring funding opportunities and are delighted to have received support from Test Valley Borough Council through their Community Delivery Fund with an award of £200,000.

3. Commercial Estates

A Dance school will be moving to the Hawkins Sports Hall in November, and we are in the process of agreeing Heads of Terms for a new nursery moving into Unit One of Carpenters Cottage.

We will be requesting an adjustment from the Local Authority Planning departments to enlarge the nursery unit within Carpenters cottage remove the “Doctors Use” from Unit Two. We will be advertising the available Carpenters Cottage Units 2, 3 & 4 (Hairdressers) and the two available Cedar Apartments by early November, hoping to attract some amazing businesses and services to the village.

We are working to get new signage for the Café on the main Newbury Road to attract passing customers, it's been great to see so many new faces coming in and using the Café, we would welcome continued support advertising this space.

Bradbury House & The White House are all now completely empty, the space is being managed as a residential void however, we are being vigilant around the security of the space. If anyone should see anything they do believe to be suspicious please can they make us aware.

4. Care Services

The care homes (William and Michael Houses) have achieved a 97% occupancy rate this month with only one vacancy to fill. The community-based Care@Home service has added 17 hours per month new business and is benefiting from additional business capacity month on month since being accepted onto the Hampshire framework for domiciliary care. Elizabeth House is currently supporting 13 people and has 5 vacancies to fill.

Fire Safety: Michael and William Houses successfully passed the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service fire safety audit, with no significant findings identified. The service was advised that a further routine visit is not expected for at least five years.

Enhamfest 2026: Care home residents had the opportunity to participate in Enhamfest 2026. The event brought together some of our residents, families, staff, volunteers and the wider community, with a range of inclusive activities and entertainment.

10. TO UPDATE ON THE CHAIR'S BADGE OF OFFICE

The Chair's Badge of Office has been successfully completed and Kevin Hodder had

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collected the finished article from the supplier. The Chair made a brief speech and thanked everyone who has been involved in this project and bringing this to fruition. She especially remarked on the high quality of the product and that it was an honour and a privilege to wear it.

11. TO DETERMINE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Clerk advised members of one planning application that has been received as set out below.

26/02139/PDQN - Poultry Houses, Hill View Farm, Malthouse Lane, Enham Alamein, Hampshire. Application to determine if prior approval is required for proposed change of use of an existing agricultural building to form one dwelling house (Use Class C3) together with building operations reasonably necessary to facilitate the conversion. **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

26/02188/FULLN – Landale Wilson Hall, 15 Newbury Road, Enham Alamein, Hampshire, First floor and ground floor front extensions, installation of external fire escape staircase, alterations to fenestration, replacement railings, creation of terrace and ramps, redesign car park layouts, removing existing vehicle access and associated landscaping. **RESOLVED: NO OBJECTION**

12. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE TO NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

It was reported that there have been incidents of illegal poaching locally and that this must be reported to the police.

13. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

None recorded..

14. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Cllr. Karen Wootten raised a query on how many dog bins there are in Enham Alamein and where they are sited. The Chair advised her accordingly.

There being no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 20.05 hours. The next meeting of the Enham Alamein Parish Council will be on 11 November 2026 starting at 18.30 hours at the Resource Centre, Enham Trust.