

MINUTES OF THE ENHAM ALAMEIN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT THE LANDALE WILSON HALL, ENHAM ALAMEIN

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Amanda Cox, Cllr. Emma-Louise Deverell, Cllr. Leslie Francis, Cllr. Paula Lankshear, Cllr. Alan Matthews, Cllr. Adrian Miller

In attendance:

Kevin Hodder – Enham Trust/Aster Group

Cara Lewis – Enham Trust/Aster Group

Jenny Brain – Community Engagement 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. PUBLIC QUESTIONS NOT ON THE AGENDA

A member of the public commented that letters appear to have been sent to all Enham Trust clients, each one personally addressed and not just those with a lifeline/alarm system. The suggestion was made as to whether there is a way that future communication about lifelines/alarm systems can be sent only to those customers that have the equipment to avoid any confusion/anxiety for those that do not.

Cllr. Adrian Miller advised all present that he is aware that Test Valley Borough Council offers free lifeline/alarm system equipment for vulnerable people. The exact criteria is unclear or if this would indeed be compatible with Enham Trust systems but felt that this was of interest and worthy of further investigation.

Cara Lewis agreed to make enquiries on the above point with colleagues at the Enham Trust.

The matter of the grassed area in Landale Close being “churned up” by vehicles and vehicles parking on the grass was raised and that it is unsightly.

Kevin Hodder stated he would speak to the Enham Trust team accordingly.

The question regarding whether there is allocated parking within the communal car parks at Montgomery Road was raised as the member of the public was aware that there have been some recent neighbour disputes.

Cara Lewis agreed to make enquiries on the above issue with colleagues at the Enham Trust.

4. TO READ AND RESOLVE APPROVAL OF THE FULL COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 OCTOBER 2025

The Chair reviewed the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8 October 2025. Members unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the Minutes of this meeting as a true and correct record. The Chair signed the Minutes accordingly.


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5. CORRESPONDENCE

The Parish Clerk advised members of all correspondence received to date, which were noted without further comment. He made specific mention of the now expired consultation from Hampshire County Council on the future of Smannell and Enham Church of England Primary School, Smannell. This was noted without further comment.

6. TO RESOLVE THE FINANCE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURE FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2025

The Parish Clerk advised members of the income and expenses of the Parish Council for October/November 2025, which amounted to £359.27 expenses and £15.73 income as scheduled below, together with the latest financial position of the Parish Council.

EXPENDITURE

£349.27 – Kevin Glyn-Davies – October Salary – Gross payment £436.67 LESS PAYE £87.20 – Net Payment - £349.27

£10.00 – Leslie Francis – Refund for purchase of a plaque for the commemorative bench – Receipt 00248237 dated 1 November 2025 - £10.00 (VAT - £0.00) £10.00

INCOME

£15.73 – Interest for October/November 2025

Members unanimously RESOLVED the income of £15.73 and expenditure of £359.27 of the Parish Council for October/November 2025 as prescribed.

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

Kevin Hodder provided the below Enham Trust/Aster Group update report to all present.

1. Estates

Community Orchard & Walled/Sensory Garden – A week of Halloween activities took place at the end of October, over 50 people attended in total and £84 in donations was raised that will go back into the Community Orchard & Walled/Sensory Garden. It was also an opportunity to promote and provide information about the space.

Two new volunteers are signing up to help assist in the Community Orchard & Walled/Sensory Garden and two plots have been offered to interested parties and there are currently 5 plot holders confirmed. Plot rental remains at £20 per annum with updated terms and conditions being issued.

Enham Trust is currently exploring events to be held in that Community Orchard & Walled/Sensory Garden next year and will liaise with Leslie and the Parish Council as plans evolve. One event being explored is the joining of all the community gardens in the Andover area to hold an open garden event in Spring/early Summer next year, which will invite people to visit our space. This includes Rotting for Andover in Augusta Park, Garden for Mind at Leckford and any others that wish to join our network.

Enham Trust is keen to hear from the Parish Council and Enham Alamein residents about any events they would like to see hosted in the gardens.

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A big thank you to all those on the Orchard Committee, without you this project would not have happened.

Tree surveys – Results have been received from this year's tree survey which focused on the main village outlying areas e.g. Cambers Copse. There have been several trees identified as requiring to be felled due to poor health / safety hazards. Quotes are being obtained and then the relevant applications to Test Valley Borough Council will be submitted.

The Enham Trust Estates Team recently installed a new bench for the Parish Council within Landale Close.

Christmas Tree Field – The field will be open on the following dates: 30th November, 6th, 7th, 13th & 14th December and Santa will be in residence on the 14th December. Access to the site has now been improved for wheelchair users, If anyone would like to volunteer to assist on these dates, please contact Nigel Sully.

2. Community & Commercial Assets

We are excited to be moving forward with our plans to refurbish the Enham Hub. The Enham Hub (Resource Centre) closed to both colleagues and customers on Sunday 2nd November and is expected to reopen in April 2026.

3. Partnerships & Engagement

A drop-in session is being held on Thursday 6th November between 3pm and 7pm in the Landale Wilson Hall regarding the proposal to move 163 general needs properties from Enham Trust to Aster 3 Ltd, one of Aster Group's other Registered Providers, by March 2026.

We are committed to securing the long-term sustainability of Enham Trust as a charity. By moving some homes over to Aster 3 Ltd, we would be able to remove these as assets from Enham Trust's balance sheet. These assets are having a negative impact on the charity accounts due to the levels of investment required to be made into the properties, which were therefore making it more difficult to raise the necessary funds for its charitable activities.

Aster has provided a significant amount of money for Enham to invest into its homes and other properties since the merger in 2022. The proceeds from this internal transfer of the homes from Enham to Aster would be used to repay a loan that Enham also took out to enable such investment to happen. This transfer would now mean Aster would be able to directly invest in the properties, ensuring homes continue to meet the Decent Homes Standard and both reach and perform at an EPC rating of C or above, better supporting our tenants now and in the future. Homes will continue to be let under Enham's allocation policy, with priority for disabled people being upheld in accordance with Enham's charitable objects.

We were pleased to host visitors from Fortnum & Mason for the day in late October, they came to see 3PL and meet the team, as well as to discuss areas of mutual interest.

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I have spoken to Nigel about this and he is happy to support adjustments to the area including erecting the board once purchased/received and removing the fence etc. I said we would keep him updated as this progresses.

Kevin Hodder raised the matter of Ned on the Village Green and that it does need to be protected to ensure it continues to be a respectful area. Members felt that the area does need to be regularly maintained and that an alternative edging is needed rather than the current existing picket fencing. A discussion took place of having an interpretation board erected and that this would be appropriate for the area, explaining the history and containing details of those who have fallen in service to their country and containing a QR code for further information. Members felt that Liz Cosgrove should be approached to obtain additional and accurate information.

Kevin Hodder advised that he would speak to Nigel Sully and the Enham Trust design team accordingly.

8. TO DISCUSS CINDER TRACK IMPROVEMENT PLANS – JENNY BRAIN – TEST VALLEY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

The Chair warmly welcomed Jenny Brain to the meeting. Jenny Brain advised members that she has been looking into the proposed project for the Cinder Track improvement and looked at the quotes from Brennans of Wiltshire and Purbeck. She advised that she has been in contact with Rights of Way at Hampshire County Council, regarding the logistics of the potential improvements and some technical pointers have been provided, which need to be taken into consideration when assessing the project viability. She also confirmed to members that two sums of Section 106 are available. They are for £581.87 (Purpose – Parkland) and £885.11 (Purpose – Playspace).

She has established from the Rights of Way team at Hampshire County Council that there can be no financial support from them towards this project. The specification produced by the suppliers for quotations will need to be updated as Hampshire County Council has specific standard guidelines to which works must comply.

The initial observations and quote for the project as prepared by the Countryside Service team at Hampshire County Council is as set out below:

Enham Alamein Footpath 717:

The PRoW is 730m long and in places less than 1m in width. The footpath has a strong hedge line along one side with an open arable field on the other bordered by occasional hedging and a stock barb wire fence. The fence and posts are in poor condition and it should be considered when deciding whether to replace, as to replace the fence after the footpath has been surfaced would potentially undo the work completed. The surface throughout is good, however, it is uneven with some tree roots and rutting making it difficult to access as a wheelchair user. There is a large accessibility gate at the western edge of the path that is not used as the path is open to the left-hand edge, consideration should be given to removing this as it is an unnecessary obstacle for users.

Costings:

Based on an estimate from Hampshire County Council Project Team 12-18 months ago. This will be costed for surfacing in line with the Hampshire County Council path

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specifications.

Footpath resurfacing 730m x £100 = £73,000

Footpath preparation (root protection, vegetation clearance) 730m x £20 = £14,600

Fencing 730m x £30 = £21,600

Finger posts x 2 = £300.00

Total = £109,500 (based on an estimate made 12-18 months ago)

Jenny Brain advised that Hampshire County Council has a vested interest in the surface of the path and it is a statutory requirement for the council to maintain this route. Parish councils can also take responsibility for maintenance and upgrades to their local public rights of way, provided they have the agreement of the Highway Authority.

Jenny Brain stated that the parish council must demonstrate that it has community support and that the necessary consultation has been undertaken. Members commented that the footpath is essentially unusable and it should be an access to all footpath.

A discussion took place to suggest that Nigel Sully (Enham Trust) be approached concerning the feasibility of clearance of the track. Kevin Hodder advised that he would liaise with Nigel Sully accordingly.

9. TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE BUDGET 2026/2027

The Parish Clerk reminded members that this is the time of year to start considering capital projects to be included in the budget for 2026/2027 and that the precept must be resolved by January 2026. A discussion ensued regarding the current devolution taking place and the potential impact on parish and town councils. The Parish Clerk advised members that he has contacted David Ayers (Revenues and Welfare Officer) regarding the potential taxbase for 2026/2027. For 2025/2026, the taxbase was 260, the DRAFT taxbase is estimated to be 263. This is an increase of 3 or 1.15%.

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

Kevin Hodder stated that he needs to discuss the funding-raising initiatives with Cllr. Leslie Francis as income/fund generation is needed. Members agreed to DEFER this agenda item until the January 2026 Parish Council meeting.

11. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT

None received.

12. TO DETERMINE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None recorded.

13. TO DISCUSS THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Parish Clerk advised members that he contacted Tim Goodridge as requested and his detailed evaluation of the necessary initial steps has been circulated to all members. Tim Goodridge has advised that perhaps the first action he would encourage, would be to agree to designate the Parish as a Neighbourhood Plan area. It was explained that in order to undertake a Neighbourhood Plan, it is essential to designate the Neighbourhood area. The Neighbourhood Area will define the area covered by the proposed plan. Most

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parishes use the parish boundary as the Designated Area. There can only be one plan per Neighbourhood Area. The next stage is to apply to Test Valley Borough Council to designate a Neighbourhood Area by submitting the necessary form, together with an Ordnance Survey map showing the plan area together with a copy of the relevant Parish Council meeting minutes agreeing to designate the area.

Members considered this advice carefully and **RESOLVED** to agree to designate the Enham Alamein parish as a Neighbourhood Plan area.

Jenny Brain advised that the Test Valley Borough Council Toolkit will provide guidance the whole way through the process. She emphasised that Tim Goodridge and Sarah Hughes are on hand for additional guidance as well as herself to support with any community consultation. The community must be involved and it is essential that the content of the Neighbourhood Development Plan represents the views of the wider community, not just the parish council. It was explained that if the parish council involves the wider community in all stages of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, it will be more likely to reflect their aspirations and priorities and gain support at the referendum.

Jenny Brain advised all present of the current list of Test Valley Borough Council Grant Schemes available for application for various diverse projects for potential financial aid.

14. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE TO NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

None received.

15. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

None received.

16. MEMBER QUESTIONS

Cllr. Amanda Cox voiced her concerns in respect of the high service charges applied by Enham Trust on tenants and the way in which this has been managed by the Enham Trust. Kevin Hodder advised all present the extent of his knowledge on the matter but stressed that this was not his portfolio of expertise.

The Chair advised that the Christmas Lights Switch-on event for the village is on 29 November 2025. The event will run from 3.00pm to 5.30pm with the village Christmas Lights Switch-on at 5.00pm, Activities will include: live music, Santa's grotto with free gifts for children, Christmas games, mince pies and mulled wine and a raffle at 4.30pm.

In the absence of any further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 20.15 hours.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 10 December 2025 at the Landale Wilson Hall, Enham Alamein, starting at 18.30 hours.

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