

**Minutes of the Valley Park Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 3 March 2025 at 7.00pm
Location: Valley Park Community Centre**

Present:

Cllr Mr A Dowden (Chairman)
Cllr Mr C Anderson (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mrs C Dowden
Cllr Mr J Fryer
Cllr Mrs K Woods-Townsend
Cllr Mr R Bryan
Cllr Mr S Shahi
Cllr Mrs D Green

Apologies: Cllr Mr S Cross

43 Valley Park Trail

The meeting started with a discussion with Lorraine Cooke – writer, who completed the Valley Park trail and presented the final product to our councillors. The councillors agreed to place the new Valley Park trail in our Parish newsletter, once it is completed and councillors to feedback comments about the leaflet. Councillors agreed to support with the cost of the initial printing of the leaflet.

Resolved that:

The Clerk to liaise with LC to promote the leaflet on the Council's Facebook page, website and in the Parish newsletter and to support with the cost of the initial printing of the leaflets.

44 Welcome and apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mr S Cross.

45 Declarations of interests

None on the agenda.

46 Minutes of the meetings held 6th January 2025

Resolved that:

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2025, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

47 Matters Arising

None

48 To receive and consider correspondence

An email was received from a resident regarding the location of the hanging baskets. It was agreed to inform the resident that the hanging baskets from the main streets would not be relocated in other areas.

The correspondence regarding the transport in Valley Park and different options for future were discussed.

49 Public questions

None

50 Grants

50.1 St Francis Church grant

Councillors discussed a grant offer for St Francis Church and unanimously agreed to offer £1,000 grant towards their revenue costs.

50.2 KWood Youth Club grant

Councillors discussed a grant offer for KWood Youth Club and unanimously agreed to offer £3,000 grant towards their revenue costs for the next financial year.

Resolved that:

The Clerk to organise the grants to St Francis Church and KWood Youth Club.

51 Accounts – ratification of budget approval

The Clerk informed councilors of the accounts received since the last meeting.

Resolved that: Councillors approved the accounts.

52 Borough and County member reports

Cllr C Dowden updated councillors on the Test Valley Borough Council's projects and the work in preparation for devolution. It was agreed that the Parish would publish the info about the devolution consultation on social media and the parish website. Cllr A Dowden stated that the parish element of the council tax has remained the lowest by far amongst all neighbouring parishes.

53 Projects and Activities - Summer 2025 floral display

The Clerk presented the proposal from Windowflowers for this summer's floral display. The Councillors approved the quote of £18,270 including hanging baskets, troughs, watering and maintenance. It was discussed and agreed that the colour scheme for this year display would be yellow/blue, as close as possible to the Ukrainian flag colours.

54 Planning Applications

The current planning applications were reviewed.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____