

**Minutes of the Valley Park Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 7 January 2026 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 Mr W Mitchell

Apologies:

Cllr Mr S Shahi, Cllr Mrs K Woods-Townsend, Cllr Mr S Cross, Cllr Mrs D Green

31 Welcome and apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone at the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mr S Shahi, Cllr Mrs K Woods-Townsend, Cllr Mr S Cross, Cllr Mrs D Green.

32 Appointment of Co-opted Parish Councillor

Dr William Mitchell was co-opted and unanimously voted as a new Parish Councillor by the councillors present at the meeting.

33 Declarations of interests

None on the agenda. Cllr W Mitchell declared the acceptance of office and declared his pecuniary interest.

Resolved:

That the Clerk will send the declaration of acceptance of office and the register of pecuniary interest signed by Cllr W Mitchell to the electoral services at Test Valley Borough Council.

34 Minutes of the meetings held 3rd November 2025

Resolved:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2025, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members, were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

35 Matters Arising

The Chairman provided an update following a meeting held with the Community First Bus and representatives of Chandler's Ford Parish Council and Valley Park Parish Council. The Parish Council is now awaiting the outcome of the grant application and the approval of the proposed new bus service.

A meeting was held between Gladman and the representatives of Valley Park Parish Council (Cllr A Dowden and Cllr C Anderson). Gladman representatives presented their proposals for the new development on Flexford Road. Once the planning application is submitted, Parish Councillors will convene to review and comment on the proposal.

36 To receive and consider correspondence

None

37 Public questions

None

38 Accounts – ratification of budget approval

The Clerk informed councillors of the accounts received since the previous meeting. Councillors agreed to increase the service fee for newsletter distribution to £350.

Resolved:

The accounts were approved.

39 Borough and County member reports

An updated on the proposed local government reorganisation was presented by Cllr A Dowden.

Government wants all parts of the country with two tiers of local government to reorganise. Hampshire County Council and East Hampshire District Council have worked together to propose a new structure which will replace the existing two-tier system in our area. The plan recommends the creation of four new unitary councils built on the proven upper-tier services of Hampshire County Council, Isle of Wight Council, and Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, protecting vital services like adult social care, support for young people, household waste collection and housing.

Councillors were informed that the County would determine whether to proceed with the election in May or to postpone it, following the government's provision allowing elections to be deferred.

40 Planning Applications

The current planning applications were reviewed.

The meeting closed at 8.07pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____