

Romsey Town Council Allotments Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 07:30pm on the **5th March 2026** at the Mayor's Parlour, Romsey Town Hall, Romsey.

Those present: Mr Chris Davies, Mrs Clementine Kingstone, Mr John Waterman, Mr Elvin Mullinger, Mrs Eleanor Vamplew, Cllr Colin Burgess, Mr Bob Dalton.

Apologies: Mandy Berendsen, Eric Gussin.

Minutes of the last meeting: Agreed by all present.

Matters arising

3.1 Correspondence

3.1.1 Discussion has been ongoing with the tenants of plot 87 regarding current state of plot and their ability to maintain it. In light of the tenants' recent illnesses, they have decided to give the plot up.

3.2 Finance Report

3.2.1 Spreadsheets illustrating the finances for the year to date and, budget, were issued to the committee prior to meeting.

3.2.2 The Current finances for this year reflect an income of £4,434.20 and an expenditure of £4573.94. The earmarked reserve currently stands at £4272 with £798 reserves being carried forward into the coming year totalling the reserves to £5070. The expenditure includes the payment of £1500.00 rent to Broadlands.

3.2.3 EV explained that water usage, based on the meter readings, has been added to the bottom of the spreadsheet to gain a better understanding of usage across site during the year. EV is currently taking meter readings monthly.

3.2.4 EV confirmed all plot rents have been received, including rents from new tenants.

3.1.5 Although an expenditure of £1344.28 has been paid for the water to date, EV confirmed it is likely to increase the bill even further for the current year 25-26.

The volume of water used has raised some concern as it has doubled from the previous year.

3.3 Allotments:

3.3.1 EG not present but the following noted from committee members & recent correspondence.

- a) Following a work party of CD, EM & EG to tidy up plot 2, this has been let to a new tenant.
- b) Plot 87 was noted on previous minutes as unworked due to illness, see 3.1.1 above, now vacant.
- c) Current vacant plots are: 21 and 98 which are in poor condition, 41, 47 80a and plot 118 and of course plot 87.
- d) At present there is no waiting list.

3.3.2 RTC have kindly agreed to place advert on their community website advertising vacancies.

3.4 Plot Assessments JW and LF have undertaken an assessment quite recently and report that as so many plots are unkempt and in poor condition, given the winter and spring weather conditions, have deferred the assessment proper until next month by which time we hope tenants will have commenced tending their plots.

3.5 Councillor's Report: report attached. The following was noted:

3.5.1 Constitution – The Chief officer and Councillor Burgess will discuss the document tomorrow, 6th March.

3.5.2 Vacant plots - CD agreed to discuss potential advertisement with Town hall for placement on community notice board.

3.5.3 Social Media accounts. RTC has agreed to the setting up of social media accounts with some proviso's as to what can and cannot be included. Agreed to move discussion to the next meeting.

3.5.4. Community Plot – Agreed to move item forward until the next meeting when all committee present.

3.5.5 Defibrillator Training -Lots of options have been proposed mainly online training with intention to show them at upcoming crime prevention talk, jointly with Kings Chase and RAHA. CK suggested Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance, who give free training including CPR.

3.5.6 CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) Funding – £40, 000 may be available from CIL funding for allotments and a number of options have been proposed which are yet to be determined. However, the tenants have been asked for any suggestions but, to date, very little feedback has been received from them on this matter.

3.5.7 Southern Boundary – A proposal has been discussed with CPRE (Campaign for Protection of Rural England) for the placing of a new hedge along our southern boundary. JW expressed concerns regarding the ongoing maintenance of a hedge.

It was agreed that this could only go ahead if approval has been provided by all the tenants forming the southern boundary, i.e. plots 59a, 58, 60 and 61. CD to contact relevant plot holders seeking their approval/ comments.

3.5.7. CB informed the meeting of the intention of a developer, 'Metis homes' to promote the land in the field south of the allotments for housing. CD expressed concerns for potential flood levels.

3.6 AOB:

3.6.1 CB to obtain quotes from RTC for a potential deer fence alternative to hedging to Southern Boundary.

3.6.2 CD to send an invite to all tenants for the upcoming crime prevention joint meeting with RAHA and Kings Chase.

The meeting closed at 09:20pm.

Chris Davies

General Secretary
Date *13th April 2026*

Clementine Kingstone

Chair

Next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 14th April 2026, 7:30pm at the mayor's parlour,

ROMSEY TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENT ACCOUNT

Statement of Income and Expenditure

01.04.2025 to 30.01.2026

Income	£	Expenditure	£	Budget £
Rents	4365.00	Broadland's Rent	1500.00	1500
Distribution Centre	69.20	Southern Water	1344.28	750
		NSALG	70.00	70
		Card Reader Charges	3.61	0
		Dist Centre Stock		180
		Stationery/Post/Misc		0
		Maintenace/Equip		150
		Concrete Base	850.00	
		Defib & case	668.00	
		Air horn	16.65	
		Alum Sign	95.00	
		Hedge Cutting		220
		Rat Poison/Pest Control		250
		Skip Hire		
		Sundries	26.40	
Totals	4434.20		4573.94	3120
Income less Expenditure	-139.74			
Earmarked Reserve	4272			
C/F 2024/25	798			
	5070			

Water Meter Reading

Date	Reading	Unit cost	Usage	Sub Total	Fee	Total
01/12/2025	2857	2.647				
01/03/2026	3363	2.647	506	£ 1,339.38	4.9	£ 1,344.28
01/04/2026						
01/05/2026						

Romsey Town Council Southampton Road Allotments Management Committee

Meeting 5 March 2026

Councillors' Representative Report

Constitution

The Chief Officer and I plan to jointly review the draft tomorrow (5 March).

Vacant Plots

If you wish to take up the Chief Officer's offer to advertise vacant plots on Social Media, then please forward your advertisement to her.

Proposed Social Media account(s)

The Chief Officer has confirmed agreement to the setup of Social Media accounts. They can be independent of the official Town Council accounts. In addition to the standard good behaviour rules set for members, there must not be any political statements or comments critical of the Town Council, individual members of Staff or Councillors, the Management Committee or indeed each other. A minimum of two administrators who are prepared to regularly "police" accounts is recommended.

Mains Water Supply Billing

Discuss at meeting.

CIL Funding

As mentioned previously, an indicative figure of £40,000 appears to have been set aside for the allotments.

Ideas so far considered by the committee include:

Project	Decision
Replace garage	Rejected – No tangible benefit
Track Upgrade	Rejected for CIL funding application. Continue ongoing pothole maintenance* using volunteers. Buy edging for track and instal using volunteers.
Replacement of underground mains water supply pipe to troughs	To be decided
Water supply from boreholes	To be decided

*Ongoing maintenance is not eligible for CIL funding.

Apart from track repairs I'm not aware of any new project suggestions from plot holders.

The Committee needs to decide what projects, if any, they wish the Town Council to consider for CIL funding.

Crime Prevention Presentation by H&loW Police

Romsey Police have offered to give the presentation on 7 April. RAHA and KC are both keen for their members to hear the presentation. The Court Room has been booked for 19:30. I need to confirm the arrangement with all 3 Allotment Society Secretaries.

Would it be worthwhile showing the H&loW Ambulance Service AED training videos?

Meantime, members should be encouraged to report crimes to the online 101 service. It'll be a great opportunity to network with "friends" in the other two societies.

Southern Boundary

You'll be aware CPRE Hampshire will be planting a hedgerow along our southern boundary on Friday 27 March. This is a joint venture with Network Rail. Besides the southern boundary, planting is also happening on Network Rail's side their boundaries with both us and RAHA. Planting on the southern boundary will have to be on our land due to planned development on the other side (see below). I hope to speak to CPRE Hampshire tomorrow. I suspect the compost pile on plot 61 will need to be relocated.

As well as asking for a volunteers "kit list" for the planting day, I will ask them for their advice for ongoing maintenance of the new hedge.

Once all the requirements for the day are finalised, I'll share these with the Secretary to seek volunteers from the membership.

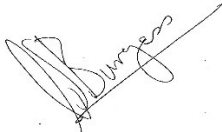
Though CPRE Hampshire has not sought a contribution to costs, I will ask the Town Council to consider donating.

Though Broadlands Estate are keen supporters of CPRE Hampshire and replanting hedgerows, I will be seeking their agreement.

Land to the south of the Southern Boundary

In case you're unaware, [Metsin Homes](#) are holding a public consultation in the Crosfield Hall on 25 March where they'll exhibit their current proposals for a housing development in the field to the south. Please see appendix for more details.

I share this for your information only and not to generate discussion about the forthcoming planning application!



Cllr Colin Burgess
Councillors' Representative
4 March, 2026

Land East of Southampton Road, Romsey

Public Consultation



METIS
HOMES



View Our Virtual Exhibition

16th March - 30th March 2026

southamptonroad.onlineconsultation.co.uk



Contact Us

If you have any questions, or require any assistance, please contact our information line on 0203 5763 469 or email feedback@onlineconsultation.co.uk.

Our contact channels are routinely monitored, and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible.