

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, MARKET PLACE, NEWBURY
ON MONDAY 12th JANUARY 2026 AT 6.45 PM**

PRESENT

Councillors: Vera Barnett, Nigel Foot, Roger Hunneman, Ian Jee, David Marsh, Vaughan Miller

In Attendance

Martin Kavanagh, Services Delivery Manager.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Services Delivery Manager

Cllrs Chris Hood, Sarah Slack, Meg Thomas and Martha Vickers.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Services Delivery Manager

The Services Delivery Manager declared that Councillors Nigel Foot & David Marsh are also Members of West Berkshire Council, which is declared as a general interest on their behalf and a dispensation is in place to allow them to partake in discussions relating to West Berkshire Council business.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Chair

PROPOSED: Cllr Foot

SECONDED: Cllr Miller

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on Monday 15th December 2025 are approved and signed by the Chairperson.

4. QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Services Delivery Manager

There were no questions or petitions received.

5. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Members

There were no questions or petitions received.

6. ALLOTMENTS, RULE CHANGE

Chair

TO APPROVE: recommendation for the addition of a new rule to be added to the Allotment Rules. As follows:

"WATER USE

- To help conserve water, sprinklers and unattended hosepipes are not permitted. Tenants may use handheld watering cans or hoses but must remain present at all times and disconnect hoses immediately after use.
- Water is a shared resource for the benefit of all plot holders. Tenants are asked to avoid excessive or wasteful use. Continued overuse may result in a formal reminder, additional charges, or, in extreme cases, termination of tenancy.
- Tenants are encouraged to install water butts or other rainwater harvesting systems. Mulching and other water-saving practices are also strongly recommended.
- Permanent irrigation systems and any modifications to the mains water supply are not permitted. Any unapproved connections may result in termination of tenancy.
- For efficiency and to minimise evaporation, watering is ideally undertaken in the early morning or evening."

RESOLVED: Members APPROVED the addition of a new water use rule for all allotments as detailed above.

PROPOSED: Cllr Miller

SECONDED: Cllr Foot

There being no further business, the chairperson thanked all those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 7:01 pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY 30TH MARCH 2026 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

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