

WOODCOTE (EPSOM) RESIDENTS' SOCIETY MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 10 MARCH 2026 IN THE BOARDROOM AT THE QUEENS STAND, EPSOM RACECOURSE.		
AGENDA NUMBER	<u>AGENDA ITEM</u>	ACTION
1.	<p>PRESENT:</p> <p>Committee Members – John Mumford (JM) (Chair) Cherrill Auton (CA) (Honorary Treasurer) Jane Clarke (JC) (Secretary) and Fred Mowbray (FM)</p> <p>Councillors - Bernice Froud (BF) and Steven McCormick (SM)</p> <p>Kim Spickett, Prospective candidate for Town and Downs Division in the 2026 elections for the shadow unitary council and 25 Woodcote & Langley Vale Ward Residents in person</p> <p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –</p> <p>Committee Members : Suzie Morris (SM) and John Steward (JS) Councillors : Liz Frost (LF) Members: Chris Frost.</p>	
2.	<p>MINUTES OF THE 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2025 AT THE EPSOM SPORTS CLUB, WOODCOTE ROAD</p> <p>The minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting were approved as a correct record.</p>	
3.	<p>APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2025</p> <p>The Chair (JM) presented the Accounts to the meeting. There were no questions on the audited accounts for 2025 which were approved as a true and fair statement.</p>	
4.	<p>APPOINTMENT OF THE HONORARY AUDITOR FOR 2026</p> <p>The meeting approved the re-appointment of Chris Bevis of Bevis and Co as the Honorary Treasurer for 2026 and thanked him for continuing to audit the accounts for the Society on a voluntary basis.</p>	
5.	<p>ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WOODCOTE(EPSOM) RESIDENTS' SOCIETY FOR 2025</p> <p>The meeting noted that Cherrill Auton (CA) Jane Clarke (JC), Suzie Morris (SM), Fred Mowbray (FM), John Mumford (JM) John Steward (JS) had agreed to continue to serve as members of the Committee.</p> <p>It was noted that the Committee had a number of vacancies and the Chair urged any residents willing to join the Committee or support the work of the Society by becoming a road representative to speak to him at the end of the meeting about what was involved.</p>	

<p>6.</p>	<p>2024 ANNUAL REVIEW AND UPDATES FOR BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.</p> <p>The Chair (JM) opened by acknowledging how fortunate the Ward was to have three such hard working and incredibly committed ward Councillors.</p> <p>The Chair took the meeting through the annual review a copy of which is available on the website.</p> <p>He highlighted the Society’s work related to the local plan; the key planning decisions taken over the past year and the successes the Society had. In particular, the Chair asked for the minutes to record the vital role the support of the residents of Langley Vale had played in the refusal of the Farm View planning application. It was noted that now we could only wait to see if/when an Appeal was submitted by the developer.</p> <p>On local government reform the Chair emphasised that the Epsom & Ewell RAs would be more important than ever in the new structure because of the much smaller number of representatives from Epsom & Ewell on the new unitary council. In answer to a question about the pressure for further housing growth he suggested that that the proposed election of a Surrey Mayor possibly in 2028 with a brief for strategic planning, housing and infrastructure might relieve some of the pressure off the housing target for our immediate area. The current system is on a borough by borough basis regardless of infrastructure capacity or environmental constraints.</p> <p>In response to another question about why, given the impending changes, we were pushing ahead to finalise the local plan Cllr McCormick explained there was a statutory requirement for every Borough to have an approved local plan and that it was expected that it would come into force early next year. The importance of the plan being based on the original (rather than the updated and much larger) housing target was also emphasised.</p> <p>In Cllr Frost’s absence the Chair highlighted the work she was undertaking as Chair of the Environment Committee especially on climate sustainability measures. Cllr Froud reported on the focus of her work as a Langley Vale resident and as Deputy Chair of the Community and Wellbeing Committee.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>PROPOSAL TO MERGE WOODCOTE WARD WITH COLLEGE AND TOWN WARDS TO FORM A UNIFIED RA FOR THE NEW TOWN AND DOWNS DIVISION</p> <p>The Chair explained that under the new arrangements all 3 of the current RAs would need to be represented on a single RA Committee.</p> <p>The meeting approved the proposed Merger which if signed off at the AGMs of all three current wards would take effect before the new unitary council took over in April 2027.</p>	

8.	<p>2026 SUBSCRIPTIONS</p> <p>The Chair confirmed that the annual subscription was remaining at £5 per household for 2026.</p> <p>He urged residents to pay their subscription if they hadn't already done so to enable the Society to continue to function and support residents and the election of our new shadow unitary Councillors in the year ahead.</p>	
9.	<p>ADOPTION OF THE PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES AS SHADOW UNITARY COUNCILLORS FOR THE TOWNS AND DOWNS DIVISION FOR THE EAST SURREY ELECTIONS</p> <p>The Chair (JM) explained the process for selecting the two candidates to stand as shadow unitary councillors for the Towns and Downs Division for the East Surrey Elections.</p> <p>The meeting formally adopted Kim Spickett and Steven McCormick as candidates for the Town and Downs Division in the East Surrey Elections in May 2026.</p>	
10.	<p>PRESENTATIONS BY THE PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES FOR TOWN AND DOWNS DIVISION</p> <p>Kim Spickett and Steven McCormick addressed the meeting as the two prospective candidates for the Town and Downs Division in the East Surrey elections in May.</p> <p>Kim introduced herself and talked about the things that are important to her and inform her priorities as a Councillor. She illustrated this by giving three examples of the projects she had championed – her roles in creating a new local nature reserve at Grafton Stables; bringing Shadbolt Park to life for families to enjoy local wildlife and putting together a successful Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy funding bid to instal lighting in a pedestrian tunnel to improve safety for users. Kim also highlighted her roles as a Member of the Epsom & Walton Downs Conservators' Committee, leading the Juniper Hill Sheep Project; Borough Heritage Champion; Chair of Surrey's Wildflowering Project and a member of the Hogsmill chalk stream monitoring team.</p> <p>Steven talked about his role as a County and Borough Councillor and how useful it had been to be part of both the Cabinet and Committee models of governance respectively. He was also a member of the East Surrey Voluntary Joint Committee which is overseeing the preparations and transition arrangements to the new structure. He highlighted the likely impact of the Government's fair funding review and the cost of home to school transport on Council Tax increases for the coming five years. This year there was a £73m overspend on home to school transport.</p> <p>Steven answered residents' questions about his current work under Any Other Business.</p>	

11	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Issues raised by residents at the meeting and responded to by Steven McCormick included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Governance Review – decision to be taken by Council on 12 March on recommendation not to take forward the Community Governance Review on the grounds of the results of the public consultation - Future arrangements for the management of Nonsuch Park and Bourne Hall Museum under the new structure - The management of potholes in the Borough using the Fix My Street app. Residents were urged to ring Surrey Highways or Surrey Police if they were reporting and emergency safety issue. - Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCL) funding. The meeting noted that the final round of funding was open until May 2026 and that any funds remaining in April 2027 would continue to be applied for projects in the Epsom & Ewell area. <p>Angela Clifford thanked the Councillors, Chair and Committee Members for all the work they carried out on behalf of residents.</p>	
12.	The meeting closed at 21.25	