



Minutes Full Council Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 7:30 pm

held at
The Pavillion, Broomhall Recreation Ground, SL5 0QS

124 / 25 Chair Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and confirmed proceedings would be recorded to support accurate minute taking.

125 / 25 Attendance and Apologies for absence

PRESENT: Cllr Morgan (Chairman), Cllr Buxton, Cllr Coxon, Cllr Curtis, Cllr Evans, Cllr Grover, Cllr Hilton (Vice-Chair), Cllr Newman, Cllr Penney and Cllr Pike.

APOLOGIES: None received.

IN ATTENDANCE: Natalie Hayes (Clerk/RFO)

PUBLIC: ONE member of the public was present

126 / 25 Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other registerable interests

RESOLVED: No disclosable pecuniary interests or other registerable interests were declared.

127 / 25 Approval of the minutes Full Council 17 March 2026.

APPROVED: The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 17 March 2026.

128 / 25 Approval of the minutes HR Committee

RECEIVED: Minutes of the Extraordinary HR meeting of 4 December 2025 and the HR Committee meeting held on 15 January 2026.

A question was raised by Cllr Pike regarding BACS arrangements for payroll paperwork. Cllr Hilton advised that this would be brought to the next meeting of council, following further review by the HR Committee.

129 / 25 Approval of minutes Facilities and Services Committee

RECEIVED: Minutes of the Facilities and Services Committee held on 7 November 2025, 19 January 2026, 12 February 2026 and the 16 April 2026.

130 / 25 Public adjournment

No questions were received from any members of the public prior or during the adjournment.

131 / 25 Replacement trampoline for the play park at Broomhall Recreation Ground

RESOLVED: To approve the replacement of the trampoline at a cost of up to £11,500 + VAT, to be funded from the Playground EMR.

TO NOTE: Council requested that future reports include full specifications for repair or replacements. Council requested confirmation of guarantees and warranty arrangements for the new equipment.
Members noted the importance of distinguishing between strategic decisions and operational matters.

132 / 25 Events Calendar

RESOLVED: To approve the continuation of the events held over the past three years:
FREE bouncy fun days
Outdoor Cinema Events
Christmas Lights Switch On.

This approval was subject to budget constraints.

TO NOTE: Comments were made regarding officer time and the need for events catering to a wider range of age groups.
The Events Working Group was identified as the appropriate forum for developing new event ideas.
Members were encouraged to join the Events working Group.

During this item, a fire alarm sounded and all attendees evacuated the building. The Clerk confirmed this was a planned practice, successfully completed, and the meeting resumed thereafter.

133 / 25 Business Plan 2026 - 2031

UNRESOLVED: Consideration of the Business Plan was deferred to a future meeting due to an incorrect version of the document being circulated.

TO NOTE: Members provided initial feedback, including:
The need for a more proportionate level of detail and clearer supporting data
Consideration of whether existing EMRs remain appropriate
Concerns that survey data may be dated
A preference for collaborative discussion rather than individual written feedback

TO ACTION: The Clerk to arrange an informal meeting for all councillors to discuss the Business Plan collectively.

134 / 25 Community Grant application for Berkshire Vision for £450 to support visually impaired people in the community.

APPROVED: A community grant of £450 to Berkshire Vision, from the Community Grants budget.

TO NOTE: Members asked for reassurance that funding would support local residents and discussed whether conditions should be applied to future grants. The suggestion of a separate grant-review meeting with rotating councillor participation was noted.

135 / 25 Review of Effectiveness of Internal Controls

RESOLVED: To approve the Review of Effectiveness of Internal controls, subject to the following amendment:

Clarification be added regarding the absence of a training and development policy for officers. Cllr Coxon will share research with the Clerk to inform this.

136 / 25 Scheme of Delegation

Council reviewed the Scheme of Delegation.

APPROVED: To establish a Cemeteries Committee in place of the existing working group.

TO NOTE: Requests to streamline committee membership and review terms of reference
Clarification that some working groups may be more appropriate as sub-committees
Confirmation that the Tennis Working Group had completed its work
Suggestions to review committee structures to reduce overlap
To review the terms of reference in each committee and working group
A proposal to add dedicated budget-focused meetings to the Finance Committee and Full Council timetable

The member of the public left the meeting following this item.

137 / 25 Clerks Report

The Clerk provided an oral update on officer workload pressures and committee priorities.
The Clerk clarified procedures for raising finance queries and shared revised agenda templates for future meetings.

138 / 25 Information Sharing

TO NOTE: Cllr Buxton advised of a residents' meeting scheduled for 28 April at 7.30pm regarding a current planning application at Beverley Court.

Council agreed to extend the meeting by a further five minutes.

139 / 25 To resolve to exclude members of the public and press in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (Staffing arrangements)

RESOLVED: To exclude members of the public and press in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (staffing arrangements).

Confidential – Part 2

Although discussed in confidential session, the following minute is not itself exempt from disclosure.

140 / 25 Appointment of Internal Auditor 2026/27

RESOLVED: To set a budget of £1,000 for the appointment of an Internal Auditor for 2026/27 and to delegate authority to the Clerk to select an auditor with whom they can work alongside.

TO NOTE: Formal appointment to be confirmed at the May Council meeting.

The meeting opened at 7:30pm and closed at 9:43pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting:

Signed: _____

Dated: _____