



Totton and Eling
Town Council

Annual Report

2024/2025



Statement from the Chair of the Council



Our Town is a wonderful place to live and work. It is surrounded by glorious countryside – the New Forest, the Bartley Water and the River Test. Our Town has a supportive, hardworking community at its heart, so I'm sure it comes as no surprise that we're trying to make our collective heart stronger! As a Council, we're working on making the Town Centre, the heart of our Town, a better and more vibrant place to spend time.

This year work is beginning on the Town park – Testvale Park – to improve the War Memorial so more people will be able to see when it is in use. We're installing a performance area in the park for outdoor community performances and we're also looking at children's play equipment.

We recently held the first two Town Markets, which we hope will grow and help to start new businesses, while helping the established Town Centre businesses to flourish. We want everyone to enjoy a visit to the Town centre and feel it is for them, at every age.

To help residents find out more about what's happening in their Town and to be more open in what we're doing, we've changed our website to include more information. We have a Town Council strategy on the website so everyone is clear about what is happening and you can find out about services, where to go for more information on issues like flooding and about local community groups too.

Not everyone wants to look at websites though so we're getting more notice boards and of course our friendly Officers and Town Councillors are always happy to help.

Did I mention that Totton and Eling is a great place to live! We should all be proud of what's improving while we recognise the great services, facilities and resources we have here. Why not take a walk along our rivers or meet a friend in one of our cafés and support the hard work so many people are doing to make a great place even better.

Cllr Caroline Rackham

Chair, Totton and Eling Town Council.

Healthy governance of the Council

The Council acknowledge and respect the requirement for robust transparent governance and have formulated and implemented, over the last year, the following values, policies and procedures:

- Formulation of mission statement, core values and a 5-year strategic plan
- Introduction of numerous operational policies
- Setting up of Committees, which include:
Climate & Nature Group, Vision & Strategy

Group, Eling Experience Task & Finish Group, Wellbeing Group, and IT, Communications & Marketing Group.

- Creation of a draft neighbourhood plan.

All of the above will benefit the Town Council in focusing on our chosen core values for the provision of high standard services and the forging of improved communication to strengthen support for all in our community.

We listen to improve, as understanding is the key to a change for the better!

Connect to support

We are pleased to share a valuable resource provided by Hampshire County Council, designed to support the wellbeing of our community. Hampshire County Council has developed a comprehensive Support Services and Community Directory, which offers a wide range of information, advice, and guidance to residents.

This directory is a fantastic tool for anyone looking for local support services, ranging from health and wellbeing resources to community groups and activities. Whether you need help with finding care services, mental health support, or simply want to get involved with local community events, this directory has it all.

We encourage all residents to explore this resource to discover the support available in our area. The directory is easy to navigate and allows you to search for services specific to your needs.



To access the directory, please visit the Connect to Support Hampshire website here.



connecttosupporthampshire.org.uk

Totton & Eling Town Council Facilities

Allotments

- Salmon Leap with 133 plots
- Compton Park with 65 plots
- Water Lane site housing 128 plots
- Foxhills Site containing 35 plots

Community Buildings

- Calmore Community Centre
- Calmore Village Hall
- Hounslow Hall
- Totton & Eling Community Centre
- West Totton Centre
- Garage Youth Centre

Recreational Facilities

- Bartley Park BMX and skateboarding
- Totton and Eling Bowls Centre
- Testwood Pool
- Hanger Farm pool
- Eling Splash Park
- Hanger Farm Park Tennis Courts
- Testwood and Eling Tennis Courts
- West Totton Community Centre Squash and Badminton Courts
- Totton and Eling football grounds
- 30 play areas located in and around Totton and Eling
- Tennis courts at two recreation grounds

Arts & Heritage

- Eling Tide Mill Experience with Visitor Centre and Café
- Hanger Farm Arts Centre
- Various local walks in and around Totton and Eling

For more details on what facilities we provide, head over to our website tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Precept message

Council tax is a mandatory tax paid by residents to the District Council which is in turn distributed to local and County Councils. This money is known as a precept, and we rely on it to finance a wide range of services and initiatives that directly benefit the community.

The precept is utilised to provide essential services such as litter collection, maintenance of local infrastructure, green routes and parks. Cultural activities, recreational facilities and community events are also made possible through the allocation of these funds.

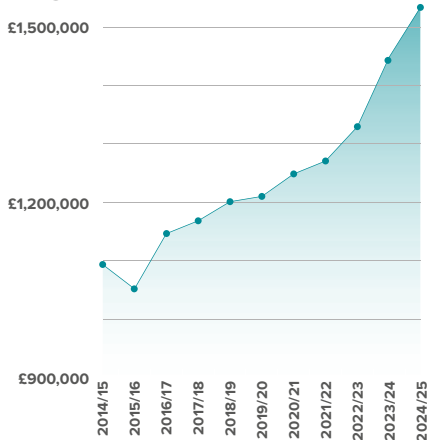
When compared to other Towns, it becomes evident that our Council offers a more varied

array of services than other Town or Parish Councils.

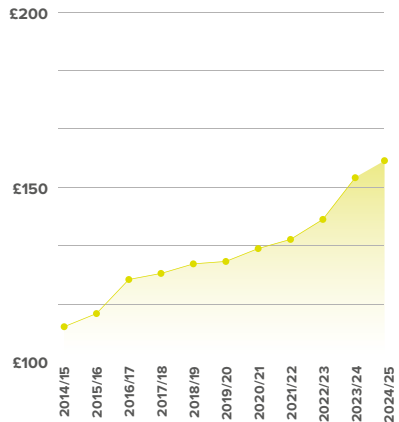
Below are two graphs showing the precept money we have received, and the Band D tax that residents have paid over the past ten years.

We have confidence that these figures illustrate outstanding value for money, especially given that no Town Council services have been terminated. Furthermore, in the past year, the Council has introduced numerous new and enhanced services. This newsletter highlights the extensive range of services administered by the Town Council, whilst keeping costs down to our residents through lower precept increases.

PRECEPT



TAX BAND D





Hope You Made a Splash

We were excited to unveil the newly renovated splash park, where every detail had been crafted to elevate your experience.

Months of dedicated effort have transformed Eling Splash Park into an oasis of excitement. From enhancing the base to ensure durability, to creating a seamless gradient for optimal enjoyment!

But wait, there's more! We've updated the park's charm with dynamic fountains and refreshing overhead sprays, making every visit a cool, interactive adventure.

Let's look forward to enjoying this ultimate summer fun facility again next year!

Climate and nature

Over the past year the Council have been actively introducing projects and practices to not only help reduce our carbon footprint, but to also assist in the education for the enhancement of biodiversity and nature prosperity in the Town.

Some of the things we have introduced over the past year are:

- The planting of over 766 trees supported by volunteers and funding
- Inclusion of electric vehicles onto the Council's vehicle fleet
- Identified and implemented numerous wilding areas
- Increased flower planting in the Town with emphasis on the introduction of popular pollinating species
- Formulation of a flood plan and provision of flood information packs to residents
- Offering free hedgehog garden gateways for residents
- Introduction of bird boxes, bat boxes and bug houses in and around the Town
- Expanded on the Council's website Climate and Nature page to include information on how residents can help in the reduction of the carbon footprint and assist with nature travel and progression
- Constantly striving to utilise environmentally friendly products and practices in the implementation of Council operations and services



Historic experience



The Grade II* listed Eling Tide Mill, which has stood at the centre of life in Eling for centuries, is one of only a handful of regularly working tide mills left in the UK.

The Eling Tide Mill, its gift shop, adjacent Visitor Centre, Mill Café and the surrounding riverside walks, combine to form The Eling Tide Mill Experience.



Our café provides high-quality casual dining in a light spacious area within the same building as the visitor centre, opposite Eling Tide Mill overlooking Bartley Water.

Free to enter, our Café is ideal for morning coffee, light lunches or afternoon tea.

We serve a selection of specialty teas and coffees, cakes and sandwiches.

We offer sandwiches, rolls and scones made by a local baker using our flour.

Please visit our website for opening times between October and March.

EXCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP

We are thrilled to be able to offer membership of the Eling Tide Mill Experience exclusively to Totton residents, to give an opportunity to support and enjoy the mill towards its next phase!

Benefits of this offer are:

- **Unlimited access** to the mill and visitor centre for just **£10 per year** (for a family membership card - up to four named people*)
- Bring family and friends to visit at a reduced rate of **25% off standard admission** prices.
- Receive **10% discount** in the **Mill Gift Shop**
- Receive **10% discount** in the **Mill Café**

In order to qualify for this exclusive offer, you must live in the following postcodes: SO40 2, SO40 3, SO40 7, SO40 8, SO40 9 and SO40 4 Marchwood

*All members must live at the same address and be named on the card.

To apply simply visit **elingtidemillexperience.co.uk** and click on the Exclusive Membership Offer button, which will guide you through the steps required to complete your application.

HANGER FARM

YOUR RELAXED LOCAL VENUE

AFFORDABLE AND UNFORGETTABLE ENTERTAINMENT



LIVE MUSIC



FILM



THEATRE



COMEDY



FAMILY



ENTERTAINMENT



BOOK NOW



HANGERFARM.CO.UK
or 02380 667683

AIKMAN LANE, TOTTON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO40 8FT

Providing employment and training for people with learning disabilities

Charity no. 1053319



Anyone for tennis

The Totton & Eling Tennis Centre, established in 2004, is managed by a dedicated family team in partnership with Totton & Eling Town Council.

What we offer

- eight outdoor **floodlit courts**
- available for **casual hire** up to 72 hours in advance
- online court booking - **totton.tennis/court-hire**
- junior and adult **coaching programme**, with around 350 local participants
- **membership packages** available, allowing play in box leagues and teams

How it works

Online court hire is available to everyone, providing a convenient way to secure a court. Once a booking is confirmed, you can use the supplied pin number to access the court gate. Floodlights will switch on automatically, where required. Bring your own racquets and balls.

Our popular **group coaching programme** specialises in introducing new children and adults to the sport, and then focuses on retaining them for the long-term. We offer a simple introduction to tennis, completely free-of-charge, which includes an initial

assessment with a coach, followed by a taster session of a suitable group. Please email to book.

Tennis club membership offers enhanced social and competitive playing opportunities, including free court usage when playing with other members, 30-day booking priority and box leagues. Membership payments are via monthly direct debit.

Hanger Farm, Aikman Lane, Totton
SO40 8FT

Phone: 023 8155 0122

Website: totton.tennis

Email: play@totton.tennis

 TottonElingTennisCentre

 [tottonelingtennis](https://www.instagram.com/tottonelingtennis)

 [@TottonTennis](https://twitter.com/TottonTennis)

Courts: open seven days per week,
7:30am - 9.30pm

Enquiries: we try to be available seven days per week by phone and / or email

Reception: generally, only open alongside coaching and club activities (please check with us)

Bowls Club

Calling all bowling enthusiasts, newbies and veterans alike! Welcome to our bowling club, where an exciting experience awaits you.



Open for Pay & Play or join Totton & Eling Bowls Club as a member, you'll have access to a diverse range of engaging activities throughout the year. Compete and showcase your skills in friendly matches and thrilling club competitions alongside fellow members. Our leagues for both ladies and gentlemen are affiliated with NFBA and S&D, ensuring top-notch standards.

Join our regular club outdoor roll-ups on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturday mornings. These sessions offer a fantastic opportunity for casual games and practice. And that's just the beginning – we have even more in store for our members.



We also offer winter and short mat memberships. Engage in friendly short mat club leagues that put a twist on traditional bowling. Additionally, we host various social events, allowing you to connect with fellow bowlers and forge lasting friendships.

Contact the centre regarding memberships, pricing and play times.

OFFICE OPENING TIMES

1 April to 30 September

Monday and Wednesday	12noon to 6.00pm
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	12noon to 4.30pm
Saturday	10.30pm to 3.00pm
Sunday	Closed

October

Monday to Saturday	11.00am to 3.00pm
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1 November to 28 February

Monday to Friday	12noon to 3.00pm
Saturday	11.00am to 2.00pm

March

Monday to Saturday	11.00am to 3.00pm
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CONTACT

The Bowls Pavilion
Crabbs Way, West Totton SO40 8FA

Tel: 023 8086 8846

Email: bowls@totton-eling.co.uk

Web: tottonandelingbowlsclub.com



THE GARAGE

We offer a safe welcoming space for young people to socialize, receive support, learn new skills, and engage in activities of their choice. Our sessions provide games, activities, refreshments, and snacks from our Tuck shop, with our team available for guidance and assistance.

Join us for activities like pool, table tennis, cooking, and arts and crafts. Each evening, we tailor sessions based on young people's preferences. We aim to create an environment that caters to their interests.

Additionally, we run a walk in sexual health clinic on the first Tuesday of the month from 4pm to 6pm, led by a certified NHS nurse. It provides services including Emergency Contraception, Free Condoms, Contraception, Contraceptive Implants, HIV Testing, Pregnancy Advice and Testing and Sexual Assault- Support & Advice.

As part of the wider Youth Options charity, we run a mentoring group to upskill young people to become Youth Leaders within their settings. A series of monthly training sessions are put on to develop the young people's skills & empower them to grow into the roles. The young people will have a mentor within their setting to support the young people in their journey. The skills & knowledge they gain will also be accredited via the LASER levels qualification scheme & will be a significant boost to their CV.

**The Garage, Eling Recreation Ground,
Totton SO40 9JG**

Who for:

Ages 8 to 18

Days we open:

Monday 3.00pm to 7.00pm

Tuesday 3.00pm to 7.00pm

Wednesday 3.00pm to 7.00pm

Thursday 3.00pm to 7.00pm

Sexual health clinic - the first Tuesday of the month

Facebook: the garage

Email: enquiries@youthoptions.org.uk

Phone: 07394 800274

Totton facilities



Parks and nature reserves

- 1 King George V Recreation Ground
- 6 Hanger Farm Paddling Pool
- 8 Testbourne Play Area
- 14 Goatee Beach
- 13 Eling Water Park
- 15 Eling Boardwalk
- 21 Testwood Walk
- 22 River Test Boardwalk
- 23 Testwood Paddling Pool
- 24 Cheam Way Park
- 25 Testwood Lakes Nature Reserve

Council and community buildings

- 2 Calmore Community Centre
- 3 Hanger Farm Arts Centre
- 7 West Totton Centre
- 12 The Garage Youth Centre
- 18 Civic Centre
- 19 Totton Library

Sports and clubs

- 4 Totton and Eling Tennis Centre
- 5 Totton and Eling Bowls Centre
- 9 Bartley Skate Park
- 10 BMX Track
- 11 Basketball Court
- 17 Totton and Eling Cricket Club
- 20 Tottonians Rugby Club
- 26 Totton and Eling Football Club
- 27 AFC Totton Football Club

Eling Tide Mill

- 16 Eling Tide Mill

♥ Defibrillator (defibrillator.uk for availability and access)

⛶ Bleed kits

Wellbeing

The Town Council is dedicated to improving the wellbeing of the Town residents and visitors.

We are delighted to report actions taken, thus far, and projects for betterment to increase the quality of life for all.

- Launching of a Town Market
- Creation of sensory walks in and around Eling
- Installment of further defibrillators in the Town
- The introduction of three bleed kits around salient locations in the Town
- Improvements to the War Memorial area to aid in all visitors being able to visually participate
- Refurbishment of the Eling Splash Park facility
- Expansion of sports facilities at West Totton Centre
- Addition of inclusive play equipment in and around the Town
- Introduction of play equipment along the green route and in the Town park
- Development towards the establishment of a Youth Council
- Support of feasibility studies for the expansion of CCTV cameras in the Town
- The design, creation and installation of more benches and notice boards individual to Totton & Eling
- Introduction of a performance area and human sundial in the Town park
- Refurbishment of the rockery and ponds in the Town park
- Development of a new Council website, with upgraded navigational access for information on both Council facilities and services, together with support available via help-group provision



Calmore Community Centre



Vibrant hub

The Calmore Community Centre serves as a vibrant hub for a wide range of activities and events, facilitated through our diverse collection of halls. Our facility accommodates numerous groups, including but not limited to bingo, Brownies, quiz nights, yoga and a multitude of other engaging programmes.

We encourage you to visit our website, where you can explore our weekly calendar and discover the exciting events taking place. Should any activity pique your interest, we invite you to get in touch with us for more detailed information on how you can participate.

At Calmore Community Centre, we are dedicated to fostering a welcoming environment that promotes community engagement and enriching experiences. We look forward to connecting with you and helping you become a part of our vibrant community.

Calmore Community Association, which has been in existence since 1979 occupy a large part of the building and host a variety of events throughout the year for its members and the local community. These include Christmas, Easter and family fun events. If you wish to join, details are obtained through centre office.

HALL HIRE

The Community Centre is the ideal venue for any occasion. We have two halls for hire: each with kitchen facilities and bar, plus one meeting room.

THE HUNTER HALL

Ideal for children's parties, weddings, birthday parties and family celebrations
200 people

THE RUFUS HALL

Ideal for children's parties, weddings, birthdays parties and family celebrations
100 people

FOREST ROOM

Ideal for meetings, conferences, seminars
50 people

MULTI-SPORT

All weather multisport area

GYM

Situated within the centre is a well-equipped gym, details of joining are obtained through the centre office.

BAR

We also have a social lounge within the Community Centre which is open to members of the Community Association, their guests and users of the centre. The bar runs many events throughout the year including live music.

Calmore Community Centre
Calmore Drive, Calmore, Totton
Southampton SO40 2ZU

Landline: 023 8086 8455

Email: calmorecc@hotmail.co.uk

Web: calmorecommunitycentre.co.uk

Facebook: CalmoreCommunityCentre

Charity number: 270 240

Office hours

Monday - Friday	9.00am - 12noon
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

Community FOCUSED

West Totton Centre
A Totton and Eling Town Council Facility

The West Totton Community Centre provides a range of sports facilities, including Badminton, Squash, Pickleball, Racketball and Table Tennis. On top of these excellent sports facilities, the centre also offers various non-sporting activities including clubs, groups and classes such as Yoga, Pilates and Martial Arts. The halls are available for booking parties/children's parties.

See below details of each hall available for booking, for further information about our halls and their operating hours please contact the Centre.

The Main Hall

Ideal for dances/discos, birthdays, weddings and children's parties

Capacity: 300 or 200 seated theatre style

The Small Hall

Ideal for children's parties, christenings, baby showers, clubs/groups and smaller events

Capacity: 100 or 60 seated theatre style

The Community Room

Ideal for meetings and smaller groups

Capacity: 25

Table Tennis Area

Our new Table Tennis Area will be open from September 2024, we have 2 table tennis tables available. This area is also ideal for small classes i.e. Yoga/Pilates and meetings.

Capacity: 15/20



Our Small Hall and Community Room are used by Squirrels pre-school from Mondays to Fridays 7.55am to 3.55pm during term time and are not available to the public for hire.

There is a Cafe Bar on site, SO40 Cafe Bar provides tasty refreshments and delicious food. Enquire when booking for availability.


The bar has a Facebook page where you can see events and opening times

 [SO40cafebar](https://www.facebook.com/SO40cafebar)

Hazel Farm Road, Totton SO40 8WU

Telephone: 023 8086 1712

Email: wtc@tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

 [westtottoncentre](https://www.facebook.com/westtottoncentre)

Opening hours

Monday to Thursday	9.00am - 10.30pm
Friday	9.00am - 9.30pm
Saturday to Sunday	9.00am - 7.30pm

Contacts

Totton and Eling Town Council

Civic Centre
Totton
Hampshire
SO40 3AP

Email: info@tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

Web: tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

Open to the public

Monday to Thursday 9.00am - 4.30pm

Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm

For telephone calls

Contact us on **023 8086 3138**

Monday to Thursday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Friday 9.00am - 4.30pm

Out of Hours Emergency

Contact out of hours on

07876 513970

Service feedback



Scan the QR code with
your smart phone to go
to our feedback form

Community contacts

Calmore Community Centre

023 80 86 8455

Calmore Village Hall

023 8086 1712

Eling Tide Mill

023 8086 9575

Garage Youth Centre

023 8066 9908

Hanger Farm Arts Centre

023 8066 7683

Hounslowdown Hall

07501 336498

Totton and Eling Bowls Centre

023 8086 8846

Totton and Eling Community Centre

023 8086 3769

Totton and Eling Tennis Centre

023 8066 7532

Community Warden

07584 166107

communitywarden@tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

West Totton Centre

023 8086 1712

Neighbourhood Plan Enquiries

023 8086 3138

Totton and Eling Town Council

Councillors

Central Ward



Stephen Shepherd
Stephen.Shepherd@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

North Ward



David Penny
David.Penny@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Cameron McDonald
Cameron.McDonald@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Dave Hills
Dave.Hills@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Neville Penman
Neville.Penman@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

East Ward



Barry Light
Barry.Light@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Mahmoud Kangarani
Mahmoud.Kangarani@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Alex Brunsdon
Alex.Brunsdon@
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Steve Hardingson
Steve.Hardingson@
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South East Ward



Patrick Mballa
Patrick.Mballa@
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Lindsey Shelley
lindsey.Shelley@
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Caroline Rackham
Caroline.Rackham@
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David Harrison
David.Harrison@
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Linda Francis
Linda.Francis@
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South West Ward



Len Harris
Len.Harris@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



John Penfield
John.Penfield@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Ben Thompson
Ben.Thompson@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

West Ward



Kate Crisell
Kate.Crisell@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



Lesley Edwards
Lesley.Edwards@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk



John Sleep
John.Sleep@
tottoneling-tc.gov.uk

Achievements 2023 - 2024

(December 2023 - December 2024)

Governance:

- Create Town Council Core Values
- Create Town Council Mission Statement
- Create Town Council 5-year strategy plan

Financial:

- Successful completion of both internal and external Audit for 23/24
- Increased grant budget from £8,000 to £10,000

Policy:

The following Town Council policies were reviewed/ formulated:

- Review of Grants Policy
- Formulation of Procurement Policy
- Formulation of a Vehicle Fleet Policy
- Biodiversity & Crime Statement formulation
- Review of Reserves Policy
- Holding an Event or Organised Activity on Town Council Land Policy
- Review of Complaints Policy
- Introduction of Dispensation Policy
- Introduction of Press + Media Policy
- Recording at Meetings Policy
- Members/Officers Best Practice
- Councillors Code of Conduct
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Climate & Nature Emergency Declaration
- Violence & Aggression Policy
- Annual Leave Policy
- Additional Hours Policy

Facilities:

The following Town Council facilities were instigated or refurbished:

- Improvements to Eling Splash Park
- Defibrillators and Bleed Kits installation
- Town Benches
- Notice Boards
- Bollard painting
- New play equipment

Wellbeing and Health & Safety:

- Health & Safety Newsletter
- Introduction of Sensory Walks at Eling
- Flood packs for residents in flood areas
- Installation of three lockable 'bleed kits' at Calmore Community Centre, West Totton Centre and the Civic Centre

IT, Communications and Marketing:

- Design and development of new website and social media platforms
- Instigation of Totton & Eling Town Council email for all Councillors
- Use of digital mapping

Grants:

The following grants have been awarded:

- PCC of the Ecclesiastical Benefice
- Friends of Bartley Park
- Totton Baby Bundles

Formulation of the following Sub Committees, and Task & Finish Groups:

- Personnel Sub Committee
- Wellbeing Group
- Garage Youth Centre Scrutiny Panel
- Climate & Nature Change Group
- Eling Experience Management Board
- Strategy & Vision Task & Finish Group
- IT, Communications & Marketing Task & Finish Group
- Eling Experience Task & Finish Group

Nature & Environment:

The following actions have been implemented:

- Electric replacement of maintenance vehicles
- Declaration of a Climate & Nature Emergency
- Hedgehog travel and improvement scheme
- Understanding and improving of the Town Council's present carbon footprint
- Introduction of Climate and Nature Plans
- Introduction of Bird Boxes, Bat Boxes and Bug Hotels on Council owned facilities and land

