

KNOWSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

A meeting of Knowsley Town Council's
Finance and General Purposes Committee
was held on Tuesday 7 July 2026 in the Community Pavilion,
Committee Room, Pool Hey, Stockbridge Village, commencing at 5.20 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillors: M Burke, J Donnelly (Chair), N Joseph (Vice-Chair),
L Tomlinson.

Also in Present: Jane Thomas (Clerk of the Council).
Phil Hurst, Green Space Development Officer, Knowsley Metropolitan
Borough Council (KMBC).
Natalie and Robyn, Friends of Knowsley Village Recreation & Green Spaces.

APOLOGIES

Councillors: L O'Keeffe.

ABSENT

Councillors: D Baum, B Donnelly.

43. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received from members.

45. PHASE 2 PLAYAREA IMPROVEMENTS, UPDATE FOLLOWING APRIL 2026 MEETING, GRANT FUNDING REQUESTS AND VEOLIA TENDER PROCESS

Members considered the report of the Clerk of the Council regarding Phase 2 play area improvements at Knowsley Village Recreation Ground, following the item previously considered by the Finance and General Purposes Committee in April 2026.

Phil Hurst, Green Space Development Officer, KMBC, attended the meeting and provided Members with an update on the project. Natalie and Robyn from Friends of Knowsley Village Recreation & Green Spaces were also in attendance.

Members noted the update provided in relation to the Veolia Environmental Trust funded works and were advised that the tendered prices had come in within the available budget. Due to increases in equipment costs, the available Veolia funding would not extend to the proposed pathway to improve wheelchair and pram access to the new playground area. The pathway would therefore require separate consideration and an alternative funding source if Members wished this element to be progressed.

Cllr Burke suggested that KMBC be asked whether it would be possible for KMBC and Knowsley Town Council to fund the pathway on a 50/50 basis. Phil Hurst agreed to make enquiries with KMBC and report back as to whether this may be a possibility.

Any potential financial contribution from the Town Council would need to be considered and approved by Full Council before any commitment is made.

Members asked questions regarding the proposed National Lottery Awards for All application, technical specification, delivery arrangements, contract management, timescales and ongoing responsibilities.

Phil Hurst confirmed that he would provide the Clerk with full support in relation to the proposed National Lottery Awards for All application. He further confirmed that KMBC would prepare the technical specification for the works and would manage the contract and supervise delivery of the project.

Members also noted that Friends of Knowsley Village Recreation & Green Spaces intended to apply for funding through the Stronger Communities grant programme, with the backing and support of KMBC and Knowsley Town Council.

Following consideration, it was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) the report be noted;
- b) the update regarding the Veolia Environmental Trust tender process be **noted**;
- c) the information provided by Phil Hurst regarding the proposed National Lottery Awards for All application, technical specification, contract management and delivery arrangements be **noted**;
- d) the Clerk be authorised to progress the National Lottery Awards for All application, with support from Phil Hurst and Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council;
- e) it be **noted** that KMBC would prepare the technical specification for the works and would manage the contract and supervise delivery of the project;
- f) the Town Council support, together with KMBC, the Friends Group's application to Stronger Communities grant programme, noting that no financial contribution, grant management responsibility or accountable body obligation is required from the Town Council, and that the grant application only requires agreement from the Town Council as leaseholder and KMBC as landowner.
- g) Phil Hurst make enquiries with KMBC as to whether they would be willing to consider funding the proposed pathway on a 50/50 basis with

the Town Council, and that any potential financial contribution from the Town Council would need to be approved by Full Council before any commitment is made.

The meeting closed at 6:50 p.m.

Date: 7 July 2026

Signed.....
Cllr J Donnelly
Chair of the Committee