

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting of
WOODGREEN PARISH COUNCIL held in Woodgreen Reading Room on
Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 7.30pm.**

24/25.98 Members present: John Clarke (JC) (Chair) , Helena Datta (HD), Mark Flannigan (MF), Stewart Hall (SH), Guy Rafferty and Pete Skinner (PS)

Also present: Amanda Johnson (Clerk), Janet Richards, NFDC District Councillor, Simon Kampa and Karen (representing “Play Matters”)

Apologies for Absence: Lance Benest (LB)

24/25.99 Declarations of interest:

24/25.100 Minutes of previous meeting held on 08/10/2024.

24/25.100.1 Following a review of the minutes, it was then unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

24/25.100.1 Matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items.

Breamore Bridge Repairs - The application for Listed building Consent has been approved by the National Park planning Authority. AJ will contact HCC for clarification of when the work is proposed to be carried out.

Speed Indicator Devices - A CIL bid will be submitted before Dec 13th to fund a Speed Indicator Device and associated posts.

24/25.101 Public Participation: Play Matters representatives reported under 24/25.107

24/25.102 Report by New Forest District Councillor.

NFDC is holding an Emergency Planning Community Forum on 4th December.

Community Infrastructure Levy Bids – The second round of grant funding is now available and bids can be made until 13th December. All community groups are eligible to apply for CIL funding for projects to enhance the infrastructure in the local area.

24/25.103 Planning: To discuss the following application and agree recommendations.

Case Number	24/01227FULL
Proposal	Replacement of existing cess pit with new treatment plant
Site	Meadow Cottage, High Street,, Woodgreen, SP6 2AR

Councillors discussed the application. It was **RESOLVED** to recommend Option 5- To accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority’s Officers under their delegated powers.

Case Number	24/01327TPO
Proposal	Prune 1 x Spruce; Prune 4 x Common Beech; Prune 1x Holly; Fell 1x Common Beech; Fell 4 x Common Ash; Fell 1 x Silver Birch
Site	North Densome, Densome Wood, Woodgreen, SP6 2QU

HD and PS visited the site and had no issues with the proposed works and therefore recommended to accept the decision of the National Park Authority Tree Officer. This was unanimously agreed.

For noting only as date passed:

Case Number	24/01239CONS
Proposal	Prune 1 x Beech tree, Prune 1 x Himalayan Birch tree
Site	Little Orchard, Brook Lane, Woodgreen, SP6 2AZ

24/25.104 Meetings Attended:

NFDC Community Infrastructure Levy - LB and AJ attended an online meeting. Information was given on how to apply for a bid and the criteria required.

North West Quadrant meeting 21st October - JC and LB attended. PCSO Steve May and PC Matt Thelwall discussed rural crime and highlighted the need to keep an eye out for vehicles left in the Forest in off-road areas as these are often stolen.

24/25.105 Consultations:

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan - GR collated a response which was submitted to HCC. Comments were also sent to NFALC who submitted a collective response to represent all local councils.

Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting This consultation runs until 19th December and seeks views on allowing remote and hybrid attendance at meetings. Councillors agreed that a response by Woodgreen PC would not be submitted however all councillors are also able to respond individually.

NFDC Parking Strategy Review – This consultation is now live until 1st December and allows all residents to have their say on the future of parking in the NFDC car parks via [www.newforest.gov.uk /ParkingConsultation](http://www.newforest.gov.uk/ParkingConsultation).

24/25.106 Village Maintenance and Parish Council Property (including the cemetery, roads, hedges, footpaths, ditches) : To receive any updates & consider/approve any action and/or spending required.

Hedges and areas of brambles previously discussed will be cut back in the next few weeks.

24/25.107 Proposed Playground in Woodgreen:

Two members of the Play Matters group presented the findings from the replies to their survey, recently circulated to all households with the Parish Magazine. There were 83 individual responses although the number of households that replied is unknown. The council is aware of a number of residents that question the need for a play area in a national park village with all the benefits that brings, but there are also a number of residents, 59% of those that replied, in favour. The replies also showed that there are 18 children in the village under the age of 12 years and 12 children aged 12-15 years. The group also reported that the total number of children is thought to be little higher as the 2021 Census for the area circulated, reported a total of 39 children under the age of 16 at that time. The group gave their assurances they will independently raise all the funds needed to create, maintain, insure and run a play area.

At the moment the group lack a site and asked us to consider allowing them to use an area of 100 square metres for play at the rear of the community shop, plus some additional parking.

The council debated at length the pros and cons of this change to a green field site and decided to support the request for a play area. However, given the proximity of the shop footpath and the vision presented of how the play area would be utilised and reached, mostly by children walking and cycling, councillors did not feel that the extra car parking was appropriate as they did not wish the field to be overdeveloped.

The clerk will inform the Play Matters group of our decision and continue to liaise with them so that the council can agree the final design for the area.

24/25.108 Christmas Tree Festival:

It was agreed to approve the purchase of a christmas tree and any associated costs for entry into the Woodgreen Christmas Tree Festival to be held in St. Boniface Church. The festival will be launched at 11am on Friday 13th December during the festive Fair Trade coffee morning.

It was agreed to grant a request by St Boniface Church to create a nativity scene in the bus shelter.

24/25.109 Financial report, Review of Ongoing Budget, Approval of payments and Approval of pay increase:

a. From 14th Jan 2025 Lloyds bank is changing the Treasurer's Account to a new Community Account, this account will incur charges of 4.25 per month.

Current Balances -

- Lloyds Treasurers Account £18,691.88 as at 12.11.2024;
- Lloyds 32 Notice Account £79,358.74 as at 12.11.2024;

b. **Expenditure:** Invoices received since the last meeting to be approved & payments authorised to include (& not limited to):

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	METHOD
A.Johnson	Salary - October	415.00		Bank Transfer
Cutting Edge	Cemetery maintenance - October cut	175.00		Bank Transfer
St. Boniface Church	Grant	200.00		Bank transfer
ICO	Data Protection Annual Fee	35.00		Direct Debit
Pennon Water Services	Water bill - cemetery	32.66		Bank Transfer
Stewart Hall	Plaque for bus shelter	83.00		Bank Transfer

c. Clerk’s Salary:

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the salary award and backdated payments for the Clerk in accordance with the Local Government Services Pay Agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

24/25.110 Consultations and Correspondence up to 06/11/2024

The following correspondence was noted.

- 09/10/24 NPA News Release - Popular New Forest Walking Festival returns for Autumn.
- 10/10/24 Friends of the New Forest - Wilding Film and Panel Discussion
- 11/10/24 HALC Newsletter - October
- 22/10/24 NFALC Formation of a working party to work with NFNPA.
- 22/10/24 Steve Avery - Information regarding repairs to Breamore Bridge.
- 28/10/24 NFALC - LCWIP consultation
- 29/10/24 HALC - Remote Attendance and Proxy Voting
- 29/10/24 NFDC - Public consultation on district-wide parking strategy
- 01/11/24 Police and Crime Commissioner - Newsletter October 2024
- 05/11/24 HALC Community Forum 28th November
- 06/11/24 NFDC - Parking Strategy briefing.
- 06/11/24 NFALC - Agenda for meeting on 13th November.
- Parishioner emails
- 27/10/24 Email regarding proposed play area.

24/25.111 Any other business and matters to be raised on the next agenda.

At the next meeting the budget for 2025/26 will be approved.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th December 2024

The meeting ended at 10.15

Signed by the Chair

Date

