

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting of
WOODGREEN PARISH COUNCIL held in Woodgreen Reading Room on
Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 7.30pm.**

24/25.137 Members present: Lance Benest (LB)(Chair), John Clarke (JC), Helena Datta (HD), Mark Flannigan (MF), Guy Rafferty (GR) and Pete Skinner (PS)

Also present: Amanda Johnson (Clerk), Janet Richards, NFDC District Councillor, Simon Kampa and Annie Collins from Play Matters.

Apologies for Absence: Stewart Hall (SH)

24/25.138 Declarations of interest: None

24/25.139 Minutes of previous meeting held on 14/01/2025.

24/25.139.1 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.

24/25.139.1 Matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items.

Speed Indicator Devices - Formal notification has been received from the National Park Planning Authority that planning permission is not required. Approval has been received from The Verderers and Forestry England and the sites will now be assessed by Hampshire Highways before a licence is granted. The result of the CIL application for funding for the SID's will be known in April.

Densome Wood - AJ will continue to try to contact the owners of the copse regarding some necessary tree work.

24/25.140 Public Participation: Members of Play Matters spoke under 24/25.140

24/25.141 Update on proposed play area in Woodgreen: Simon Kampa and Anne Collins updated councillors on the current progress of the proposed play area in the village. The group has asked 3 suppliers for designs and are awaiting for the final one to come through. All designs are based on 2 to 3 pieces of play equipment alongside planting and notice boards. Pre-application planning advice has been sought and the NPA would prefer a location behind the shop away from the road. When the designs are finalised LB and GR will meet members of Play Matters on site to assess how much land would be required.

Play Matters are working with the Woodgreen Village Trust to form a constituted group to take the project forward. Legal advice has been taken and a sub-committee of the Woodgreen Village Trust has been formed which consists of two members of the Village Trust and the members of Play Matters. This enables the group to be properly constituted and carry out the necessary legal and monetary functions. The Village Trust have agreed to fund the maintenance of a play area for 10 years.

24/25.142 Report by New Forest District Councillor.

Cllr Richards updated councillors on the current government plan for devolution following the White Paper published in December. Hampshire CC have been accepted for the government's Devolution Priority Programme and therefore the process will go ahead quite quickly. This involves the creation of a new Strategic Authority (led by an elected Mayor) covering Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight and below that 4 larger unitary authorities. NFDC would prefer to merge with Test Valley and Winchester, however all details will be decided over the next year. The County Councils elections have been postponed until 2026. There will be a public consultation on the process of devolution in the summer.

24/25.143 Planning: The following applications were discussed:-

Proposal Prune 2 x Conifer trees (T1 & T2 on the plan)
(Trees above are part of W1 of TPO/0069/05)
Site Silver Cloud, 9 Lower Densome Wood, Woodgreen, SP6 2BE

Case Number 25/00082TPO
Proposal Prune 1 x group of Holly trees
(Hollies are protected by W1 of TPO/0069/05)
Site Hollybush, Upper Densome Wood, Woodgreen, SP6 2QU

Case Number 25/00101CONS
Proposal Fell 1 x Ash tree (T1 on the plan)
Site Forest Gate Cottage, Woodgreen Common Road, SP6 2BQ

Case Number 25/00114CONS
Proposal Prune 1x Yew tree (T1 on plan)
Site Holly Cottage, Brook Lane, Woodgreen, SP6 2AZ

PS and HD visited all the sites 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.

24/25.144 Meetings Attended: No meetings have been attended.

24/25.145 Annual Parish Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 23rd April at 7pm in Woodgreen Village Hall. Details were not finalised but it was agreed that a similar format to last year would be followed with local groups invited along with PCSO Steve May. Cllr Heron and Cllr Richards will be present to report and answer questions. Full details will be published in the April parish magazine. Cheese and wine will be provided.

24/25.146 Village Signs: As previously discussed WPC would like to install wooden signs on some of the unmarked lanes in the village e.g. Love Lane, Trimm's Drove. HD has contacted the Avon Valley Shed in Alderholt who will make the signs at no cost if materials are provided. It was approved to spend a maximum of £100 on the project. PS to source the wood. GR and JC to scope the requirements. LB to confirm placement of signs with the HCC countryside team.

24/25.147 Village Maintenance and Parish Council Property (including the cemetery, roads, hedges, footpaths, ditches) :

Lengthsman - The Lengthsman will be working in the village on 17th Feb, jobs include clearing Trimm's Drove, Love Lane, the permissive path and clearing any brambles at the cemetery.

Newly planted elms - 6 disease resistant elm trees have been planted along the field boundary of Halls Field. More substantial guards will be placed before the sheep return to the field. PS to source materials for the sheep guards,

Gate post - A new gate post is required behind the shop. A quote of £200 has been received from J. Steward and it was agreed to proceed with this work.

Parking - PS suggested that a small car park at Woodgreen Common would be advantageous to users of the common e.g. dog walkers, the cricket club, village events. Currently users sometimes park on the grass. LB and AJ will make enquiries regarding the feasibility of such a project which would involve Forestry England, the Verderers and Natural England.

24/25.148 Financial - Review of Ongoing Budget, approval of payments and review of any surplus budget.

a. Current Balances -

- Lloyds Treasurers Account £16,215.10 as at 04.02.2025;
- Lloyds 32 Notice Account £79,829.10 as at 04.02.2025;

The accounts were approved and balances noted. Spend of any surplus budget will be discussed at a future meeting.

b. **Expenditure:** The following payments were approved.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	METHOD
A.Johnson	Salary - January	430.30		Bank Transfer
TP Jones	Payroll costs	59.40	9.90	Bank Transfer
Woodgreen Village Hall	New Fire extinguisher for Reading Room	115.30		Bank Transfer

24/25.149 Consultations and Correspondence up to 04/02/2025

The following correspondence was noted.

- 13/01/25 NFALC Agenda for NFALC meeting on 27th January.
- 13/01/25 The Verderers - Invitation to Higher Level Stewardship Scheme Celebration evening.
- 14/01/25 New Forest Association - January Newsletter
- 15/01/25 National Park Authority - New Forest Volunteer Fair 2025 26th January.
- 16/01/25 National Park Authority - Newsletter
- 20/01/25 Loveofwater.org - Fordingbridge Bathing Water Public meeting 18th Feb 2025.
- 23/01/25 CPRE - Hampshire Hedge Newsletter January 2025
- 23/01/25 NFDC - New waste and recycling service start dates.
- 23/01/25 HALC - January Newsletter
- 24/02/25 NFDC - Invitation for Chair to Civic Service on March 23rd.
- 31/01/25 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner - January Newsletter
- 02/02/25 National Park Authority - Have your say on Local Plan review

Parishioner emails

Email regarding use of Reading Room. *Clerk will respond.*

24/25.150 Any other business and matters to be raised on the next agenda.

Local Plan Review - Consultation response

Date of next meeting - March 11th 2025 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room.

The meeting ended at 9.20pm

Signed by the Chair

Date

