

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of
WOODGREEN PARISH COUNCIL held in Woodgreen Reading Room on
Tuesday 12th August 2025 at 7.30pm.**

25/26.50 Members present: Lance Benest (LB)(Chair), John Clarke (JC), Helena Datta (HD), Mark Flannigan (MF), Pete Skinner (PS) and Guy Raffety (GR).

Also present: Amanda Johnson (Parish Clerk)

Apologies for Absence: Stewart Hall (SH), Janet Richards NFDC District Councillor,

25/26.51 Declarations of interest: None

25/26.52 Minutes of previous meeting held on 08/07/2025.

25/26.52.1 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 Chairman.

25/26.52.2 Matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items.

Proposed Play area - LB contacted Planning Officer Joshua Dawes who seemed agreeable to a planning application being submitted by Play Matters for a play area at the top end of Hall's Field. LB and GR met Play Matters on site to discuss this and other issues relating to its position.

25/26.53 Public Participation: No members of the public were present

25/26.54 Report by New Forest District Councillor: Cllr Richards was unable to attend.

25/26.55 Planning: To discuss the following application and agree recommendations.

Case Number	25/00812FULL
Proposal	Removal and replacement of existing thatching; repair and alteration of 3no. chimneys
Site	The White Cottage, Woodgreen common Road, SP6 2BD

The application forms part of Listed Building Consent and councillors had no issues with the proposed work and therefore recommend Option 1 - We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed below, but would accept the decision reached by The National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.

25/26.56 Meetings Attended:

North West Quadrant meeting 21st July- JC and HD attended.

NFDC updated on the current government reorganisation. HCC has submitted a different proposal to NFDC and therefore the decision will be made by the government in September. NFDC is proposing to extend the two active Public Space Protection Orders and have carried out a public consultation on the matter.

National Park Authority - A new ranger reported on some of the projects associated with nature recovery in the Forest, she plans to attend a future parish council meeting.

Forestry England - Due to cuts in Defra funding the proposed car parking fees across the New Forest will go ahead. Local people will not be able to buy a "parking clock" but can benefit from free car parking by annually becoming a member of Forestry England. FE are beginning a large amount of rhododendron removal.

25/26.57 Public meeting held on 31st July re: Horse and Groom License Application - The parish council hosted a public meeting regarding a license application submitted by the Horse and Groom Pub. The meeting aimed to clarify the proposed changes to the licence which were minimal and were not considered significant by the parish council. MF outlined the changes to the licence at the meeting and answered questions from parishioners. LB wrote to licensing (NFDC) after the meeting to inform them that a meeting had taken place and that some people may withdraw their objections in the light of the clarity of the application. Some objections have been withdrawn. A license hearing will take

place on August 14th. Many thanks to LB for facilitating the meeting and to MF for presenting the application and answering questions.

25/26.58 Speed Indicator Devices: The specifications required have been clarified and a quote has been received from the chosen provider. A CIL bid has been submitted. AJ will contact HCC regarding installing the required posts as this may take many months.

25/26.59 Full Fibre Broadband - Wessex Internet will be installing full fibre broadband into Woodgreen sometime in 2026. LB has been in contact with the new Project Manager Paul Cleary who will attend a future Parish Council meeting. A public meeting will be held prior to work commencing.

25/26.60 Village Maintenance and Parish Council Property (including the cemetery, roads, hedges, footpaths, ditches) :

Benches - SH has placed an order with Harrod Horticultural for 2 benches to replace those in the cemetery. The benches will need to be installed by a contractor.

Fence - Fence repairs are required at Halls Field. Jason Steward will carry out this work when the ground is less hard,

Cemetery - LB received a quote for £360 to jet wash the railings. A work day will be arranged in the near future and some jetwashing carried out to see how effective it is.

Signs - The wooden signs have been installed around the village by JC, GR and HD. These have been installed in the Drovers which have never had any signage. The lanes now signed are Trimms Drove, Steels Drove, Little Drove and Love Lane. Love Lane starts when you go through the kissing gate.

Lengthsman Visit - The Lengthsman will visit on 18th August, jobs will include cutting back brambles in the droves and strimming around the village entry signs.

25/26.61 Financial report, Review of Ongoing Budget and approval of payments, and review of clerks salary:

a. **Current Balances** -

- Lloyds Treasurers Account £13,821.03 as at 06.08.2025.
- Lloyds 32 Notice Account £80,709.36 as at 06.08.2025.

Ongoing annual expenditure was noted and approved.

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	METHOD
A.Johnson	Salary - August	433.90		Standing Order
Cutting Edge	Cemetery cut- July	180.00		Bank Transfer
Lloyds Bank	Monthly bank service charges	4.25		

c. **Salary Changes:** The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has agreed new rates of pay applicable for clerks from 1st April 2025. The clerks' pay will be adjusted as applicable (from April 2025) in accordance with the employment contract. This was unanimously agreed.

25/26.62 Consultations and Correspondence up to 06/08/2025 and any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised and not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

The following correspondence was noted.

10/07/2025 NPA - National Park Authority launches official Whatsapp Channel.

14/07//2025 NFDC - Consultation to extend Public Spaces Protection Orders.

18/07/2025 - NPA Newsletter - Warm days, wild ways.

19/07/2025 - New Forest Association - Devolution and local government re-organisation.

21/07/2025 - NFALC meeting 7th August

21/07/2025 - HCC - Request for support for Breamore Railway Path Improvement bid.
31/07/2025 - Jill Cleary, NFDC- Have your say on Local Government Reorganisation
31/07/2025 - Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner - Newsletter July.
03/08/2025 - New Forest Association - More about Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation.

25/26.49 Any other business and matters to be raised on the next agenda. None received.

Path along the road to the A338 - Many people from Woodgreen walk along the road to the A338 to get on the X3, this is currently quite a dangerous route. PS suggested some form of pathway on the verge to improve the access for walkers and young cyclists. AJ will contact HCC to find out how this may be instigated. Liaising with Breamore PC may also be beneficial.

Parking at the village hall - The village hall committee is happy for other village users to park in front of the hall when it is not being used for a hall event, however the current signage is contradictory to this. MF will talk to Kevin Flack regarding possible changes to the signage.

The meeting ended at 20.45

Signed by the Chair

Date

