Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of WOODGREEN PARISH COUNCIL held in Woodgreen Reading Room on Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 7.30pm.

26/27.21 Members present: Lance Benest (LB)(Chair), John Clarke (JC), Helena Datta (HD), Guy Raffety (GR) and Pete Skinner(PS).

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

Apologies for Absence: Mark Flannigan (MF) and Stewart Hall (SH)

26/27.22 Declarations of interest: None

26/27.23 Minutes of previous meeting held on 12/05/2026.
26/27.23.1 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.
26/27.23.1 Matters arising from previous minutes not appearing as agenda items.
Reading Room Garden - A parishioner has come forward to use the Reading Room garden as an allotment, the area will be strimmed by the lengthsman on Monday 15th June.

26/27.24Public Participation: No members of the public were present

26/27.25 Update by Play Matters: Simon Kampa and Karen Hunt reported. Play Matters have been successful in receiving planning permission for the play area in Halls Field however final approval will not be awarded until a fee of £7300 is paid for a 30 year Biodiversity Net Gain monitoring fee. Play Matters feel this is unjustified on such a small project, especially as the rules are due to change this year which would then make this size of project exempt. The parish council shared Play Matters views and will contact David Illsley to see if there is a solution to this matter. Play matters are concerned that grant applications may be unsuccessful due to lack of planning and are not willing to commence fund raising until permission has been granted.

26/27.26 Report by New Forest District Councillor.
Following legal advice NFDC have agreed not to pursue a judicial review into the decision made regarding the Local Government Reorganisation, as it is clear there is no chance of success. HCC may pursue a judicial review but for different reasons. NFDC are going ahead with the processes to move towards the new unitary authority which can commence once the government passes a Structural Change Order in the autumn.
NFDC Local Plan review- Due to the government reorganisation NFDC may review the timescales for this process.
CIL bids - A new round of Community Infrastructure Funds are available for community projects. The window for bids runs from 1st June until 7th August. For further information see the NFDC website.

26/27.27 Planning: To discuss the following application and agree recommendations.

Case Number	26/00589CONS
Proposal	Prune 1 x Cedar tree, Prune 1 x group of mixed Willow and Hazel trees
Site	Cedar Cottage,Hale Road, Woodgreen, Fordingbridge, SP6 2AJ

Case Number	26/00505CONS
Proposal	Fell 1 x Ash tree,Fell (unspecified amount of) Ash trees
Site	Lea Cottage, High Street, Woodgreen, Fordingbridge, SP6 2AY

HD and PS 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.

26/27.28 Meetings Attended:

Members of the Parish Council attended the Woodgreen Community Shop 20th anniversary celebration on 6th June.

26/27.29 Speed Indicator Devices: It was proposed to purchase a further 2 posts from HCC at a cost of £120 each. This was unanimously agreed.

26/27.30Village Maintenance and Parish Council Property (including the cemetery, roads, hedges, footpaths, ditches) :
Lengthsman - The Lengthsman will be working in the village on Monday 15th June, Jobs will include strimming the permissive path behind the shop, strimming the garden at the Reading Room and clearing ditches.
Cemetery - NFDC has agreed that they will continue to collect the business waste.

26/27.31 Woodgreen Parish Council Asset Register: The Asset Register has been updated following information from the auditor and The Practitioners Guide and the amended register was unanimously approved.

26/27.32 Internal Audit 2025/26 It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Internal Audit for 2025/26 and accept the recommendations.

26/27.33 To Certify Woodgreen Parish Council as Exempt from a Limited Assurance Review During The Financial Year 2025/26 (As Woodgreen Parish Councils Gross Income or Gross Annual Expenditure for the year did not exceed £25,000.00)
It was **RESOLVED** to approve Woodgreen Parish Council as exempt from a Limited Assurance Review for 2025/26; this was signed by the Chair and RFO.

26/27.34To Approve Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2025/26 Form 2.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR Form for 2025/26 and both were signed by the Chair and RFO.

26/27.35 To Review and Approve Dates for The Period For the Exercise of Public Rights.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the dates 16th June to 27st July as the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights. AJ will put a notice on the website and noticeboard.

26/27.36 Financial report, Review of Ongoing Budget and approval of payments:

a. **Current Balances -**
- Lloyds Treasurers Account £10,778.24 as at 03.06.2026.
- Lloyds 32 Notice Account £81,999.79 as at 03.06.2026.

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 - May	360.10		Bank Transfer
HMRC	Salary costs - Apr to June	271.90		Bank transfer
Gallagher Insurance Brokers	Annual Insurance Renewal	570.14		Bank Transfer
British Gas	Reading Room supply	13.40		Direct Debit
Cutting Edge	Cemetery cut- May	180.00		Bank Transfer

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	METHOD
Lloyds Bank	Monthly bank service charges	4.25		Direct Debit
Pennon Water	Cemetery water	69.21		BACS
Jeff Butt and Co	Internal Audit	275.00		BACS

26/27.37 Consultations and Correspondence up to 03/06/2026 and any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised and not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.
For information (previously circulated) -
28/05/26 Woodgreen Community Shop -invite to 20th Anniversary event.
27/05/26 NPA News Release - £1.3million nature recovery project.
27/05/26 NFDC - Update on Local Government Reorganisation.
26/05/26 National Grid- Information regarding pylon refurb works to be carried out.
22/05/26 HCC announces Leader and Cabinet team
22/05/26 NPA - May Newsletter
21/05/26 NFDC - Dave Penny elected as Leader
20/05/26 NFDC - Reopening of CIL bid window.
Parishioner email
27/06/26 Parishioner email regarding brambles, TPOs and finger post. *This has been actioned and AJ will respond.*

26/26.38 Any other business and matters to be raised on the next agenda.
The Hampshire Forest Partnership is planning for the Winter 2026/27 tree planting season and are inviting Expressions of Interest for tree planting projects they may be able to support by providing FREE trees, hedgerow whips, orchard trees, and disease-resistant elms.This project is available to local community groups, farmers and landowners. For more information please contact the clerk.
Reading Room - The council has received a request to regularly use the Reading Room. The clerk will check insurance and other regulations prior to this being agreed.

Date of next meeting: Ordinary Parish Council Meeting - Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 7.30pm in the Reading Room

The meeting ended at 20:40

Signed by the Chair ……..

Date ……...