

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL
THURSDAY 14th MAY 2026 - held at 7.00pm in the VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Councillors Marshall-Grint, Border, Harper, Blood, Hemeter, Blackmore, Thomas, Edwards, Scott

Also in attendance - Clerk Rachel Curtis, 11 members of the public and County Cllr Jacquie Fry

1. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, Responsible Finance Officer, election of Committees and Representatives

Chair – Cllr Blackmore, proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Harper. Cllr Marshall-Grint, proposed by Cllr Hemeter and seconded by Cllr Edwards. There followed a vote and the majority voted in favour of Cllr Blackmore and he was elected as Chair.

Vice Chair – Cllr Blood, proposed by Cllr Border, seconded by Cllr Scott. There being no other nominations, Councillor Blood was elected as vice-chair.

Responsible Finance Officer – Cllr Scott, proposed by Cllr Border, seconded by Cllr Harper. There being no other nominations, Cllr Scott was elected as Responsible Finance Officer.

Vice Responsible Finance Officer – Cllr Border, proposed by Cllr Blackmore, seconded by Cllr Scott. There being no other nominations, Cllr Border was elected as Vice Responsible Finance Officer.

Village Hall Representatives – Cllr Border, Cllr Marshall-Grint, Cllr Harper, Cllr Lamb and Cllr Blackmore, proposed by Cllr Hemeter and seconded by Cllr Quick. There being no other nominations, Cllrs Border, Marshall-Grint, Harper, Lamb and Blackmore were elected Village Hall Representatives.

Planning Committee – Cllr Blood, Cllr Quick, Cllr Edwards and Cllr Lamb proposed by Cllr Border, seconded by Cllr Harper. There being no other nominations, Cllrs Blood, Quick, Edwards and Lamb were elected as the Planning Committee.

Wootton Park Representatives – Cllr Border (Chair of WPA), Cllr Marshall-Grint and Cllr Quick. Proposed by Cllr Hemeter, seconded by Cllr Edwards. There being no other nominations, Cllr Border, Cllr Quick and Cllr Marshall-Grint were elected as Wootton Park Representatives.

Armed Forces Representative – Cllr Jim Blood. proposed by Cllr Border and seconded by Cllr Harper. There being no other nominations Cllr Blood was elected Armed Forces Representative.

Police Liaison Representative – Cllr Hemeter, proposed by Cllr Harper and seconded by Cllr Border. There being no other nominations Cllr Hemeter was elected as Police Liaison Representative.

SAM 2 Sign operator and Village Representative – Cllr Blood, proposed by Cllr Hemeter and seconded by Cllr Thomas. There being no other nominations Cllr Blood was elected. Cllr Blood suggested a second person to manage the SAM 2 sign movements and record the data in his absence would be helpful. Cllr Harper was proposed by Cllr Blood and seconded by Cllr Thomas and there being no other nominations Cllr Harper was elected.

2. To Adopt the General Power of Competence - Cllrs unanimously agreed to adopt this document.

3. Apologies – Cllr Lamb – holiday. Cllr Quick – holiday. Borough Cllrs Ring, Bland and Coates were attending a meeting at the Borough Council.

4. Declarations of Interest - None

5. **To agree the Minutes of last meeting held on Thursday 2nd April and EGM held on Thursday 16th April** - It was unanimously agreed that the minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on Thursday 2nd and 16th April 2026 be accepted.
6. **Matters Arising**
 - Following the recent visit on 30th April by AWA to carry out inspection works at Manor Road, ACTION: Clerk will chase for an update.
 - The Clerk read out correspondence from Cruso & Wilkin, which confirmed open dialogue with the Parish and re-iterated the line of communication with the Church to inform them of events happening where lorries could avoid the area for a time. It was suggested that that manager of Eaubrink farms could be invited to a PC meeting. ACTION: Cllr Blackmore to follow up.
7. **Law and Order**

There have been reports of a motor adapted bike being ridden in the Wootton Park area. Cllr Hemeter attended the last SNAP meeting which focussed on issues with parking outside North Wootton Academy and speeding issues. The main message from the meeting to encourage communities to set up their own speedwatch groups. It was noted that the PC has made efforts to do this for several years, but unfortunately without success in terms of volunteers coming forward. The next meeting is 14th July, venue to be confirmed.
8. **Open Forum** There were no matters raised
9. **Correspondence**

Correspondence 1 – Resident raising points as a follow up from the last meeting regarding complaints they had about the use of Wootton Park by the football club. It was agreed that this correspondence should be discussed at the WPA meeting on 21st May.

Correspondence 2 – A resident included NWPC in an email to SWPC, Highways and several other agencies to express concern over a road crossing on the cycle path on Nursery Lane, S Wootton.

10. Finance

Balance Brough Forward	25,145.34
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Less: Payments

Peter Bournier - Inv 258	1,100.00
BCKLWN - Planning V Hall	154.50
Information Commissioners Office Fee	47.00
April Bank Service Charge	4.25
BCKLWN - Dog Bin Emptying	1,913.18
BCKLWN - W Park Rent	20.00
K & M Lighting Lantern replacement	276.00
Nurture - April 26	753.19
Total Energies - March 26	1,887.60
R Curtis Salary and Expenses-May 26	615.95
R Curtis Tax and Emp NI	165.33
P Witt - Village Bins	75.98
	7,012.98

Add: Income

Precept	32,500.00	
CIL Payment	1,000.00	
V Hall Invoice Landles	450.00	
Interest	2.27	
	33,952.27	
		52,084.63
<u>Made up as follows</u>		
Lloyds Treasurers Account	52,084.63	
		52,084.63

11. Highways

- Cllr Hemeter has reported the Give Way sign being in need of repair on Gatehouse Lane.

12. Wootton Park

- The Football club have signed their agreement and with new members on their committee all are happy to work with the PC.
- The presentation weekend will take place 16/17 May and a litter pick will take place at the end of the event.
- There has been no progress on the installation of the telemast.
- A new bench will be installed on the South Wootton strip, this has been funded by the 200 Club. Picnic on the Park will take place 6th June.
- Nolan Mills is looking for volunteers to help with South Wootton in Bloom.

13. Streetlighting

Resident of 1 Tyndale has asked the PC's permission to move a streetlight outside his property as it is restricting access to his driveway. The PC is happy for the resident to move the light at his cost. Clerk to advise that Highways should be contacted to request a dropped kerb and the PC's lighting contractor regarding the move. Clerk to make initial enquiries and then pass to resident.

14. Planning

Applications considered

26/00521/F – Single storey side extension and new porch – 5 Gregory Close PE30 3SY

After reviewing the plans submitted for the re-consultation, Councillors agreed to leave their comment as agreed at the EGM on 16th April.

26/00730/F – Single storey side and rear extension – 20 Hayfields Road PE30 3RT

No objection to this application.

To note application - 26/00703/F – Erection of storage shed at Village Hall, 46 Priory Lane PE30 3PT – this application was submitted by the PC on behalf of the village hall and therefore no comment was given.

15. Village Hall

The planning application for the shed has been submitted. The village markets continue to be successful and the finances are sound. Work has begun to cut the conifers at the back and alongside the Hall.

16. The Village

April 2026 SAM data - Junction of All Saints Drive & Nursery Lane

Volume - Daily 1,377 - Peak 17:00-18:00

Speed (mph) - 85th 32.2 - Average 27.1 - Top 70 at 03:20 on 11 April

- Cllr Border had visited the resident of Pinfold, who is developing their property, works to the outside include clearing out old vegetation from the front of the boundary wall and taking down a section of the wall down to the right of the drive. They would like to open up the driveway to make it easier and safer to exit onto Ling Common Road which would mean encroaching onto the triangle of grass at the front of their property. ACTION: Clerk to investigate to see who owns this land, if it is village green or Borough Council.

17. Open Forum – nothing raised by the public

Cllr Blackmore thanked Cllr Marshall-Grint for the his years of work as Chair of the Parish Council.

18. To confirm any items for the future agenda - none

The meeting finished at 7.55pm

..... Chairman

Date 4th June 2026