

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NORTH WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

THURSDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2025 - held at 7.00pm in the VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs Marshall-Grint (Chair), Blood, Border, Harper, Blackmore, Edwards, Quick, Lamb, Scott, Hemeter. Parish Clerk Rachel Curtis
Five members of the public

1. To accept any apologies

Bor Cllr Richard Coates, Bor Cllr Paul Bland gave their apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest of Items within this agenda - None

3. To agree the Minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 2nd October 2025

These minutes were agreed and signed by Cllr Blood.

4. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes –

- Clerk to follow up Go To Town re bus drivers speeds through the village.
- Clerk to follow up with Westcotec re the light fittings and if they can be programmed to switch off potentially after midnight to reduce the hours of illumination as a cost saving measure.

5. Law and Order –to hear any issues and updates from the PCSO & Police Liaison

Cllr Hemeter reported that the last priority setting meeting on 20th October, she was the only one in attendance.

6. Open Forum

6a) Linnymead Planning Application - Several residents voiced concerns over the planning application 25/01495/F – Change of use of domestic garden building to Pilates Studio with sale of refreshments (Class E) at Linnymead, Manor Road. Matters noted were:

- Overall a misrepresentation facilities on offer for hire as advertised on social media compared with those set out in the application
- Concern that vehicle movements may exceed those stated on the application resulting in the need for parking on the village green area outside the property
- Noise disturbance resulting from hours of operation
- Cllr Ring noted he has called the application in to be determined at the December planning committee. He suggested that residents pooled their concerns to be represented by one representative at the committee.

6b) HGV Traffic - Several residents voiced concerns again following on from the last meeting regarding the heavy haulage vehicles travelling along Manor Road onto Station Road and the marsh farmland. Specific matters raised are as follows:

- 44 tonne articulated lorries are causing damage to Manor Road and speculation that this is the cause of Anglian Water needing to frequently repair the sewer pipe under Manor Road. A resident has had raw sewage in his garden resulting from a sewer pipe failure, it is unclear as to whether it is linked to the Manor Road work.
- Disappointment that a weight limit being placed on the road looks unlikely to be supported by NCC Highways.

- Query that the 'keep left' sign on the Church wall at the top of Manor Road is illegal.

7. Correspondence

7a) Cllr Hemeter suggested that the last post could be played on a mobile phone at Sundays remembrance service at the war memorial.

7b) Further correspondence from a resident who suggested the bus shelter at the Alban Road stop supporting the proposal further.

7c) Correspondence from a resident to Cllr Blackmore stating that the farm machinery creates a road hazard on Nursery Lane.

7d) Correspondence from a nearby neighbour of Linnymead setting out their concerns for the proposed business as detailed in open forum.

8. Clerk to give an update on work undertaken to seek an alternative haulage route away from Manor Rd

The Clerk gave a summary of investigations undertaken with regard to the above. Positive responses have been received from the land agent representing the largest farming entity; therefore dialogue is now open for discussion.

Borough, County Councillors and the local MP have been made aware.

At this time the PC is exploring suggestions of an alternative route.

Cllr Blackmore questioned if it has been proven that the HGV's are creating the damage to the roads, sewer and residents houses. It was suggested that engaging a surveyor to look at the road would give proof of the condition and potential damage.

ACTION: Clerk to look in to this.

9. Clerk to report on measures needed for compliance with Assertion 10

Assertion 10 is new legislation for digital and data compliance. To comply Parish Councils must have a generic email account hosted on an authority owned server, councillors require council owned email addresses. The website needs to meet key requirements including publication of data protection and FOI documents and an IT policy. Compliance of this new legislation will be via external audit next year.

ACTION: Councillors agreed to proceed with the changes through NALC (who already host the PC website). They are offering a service of updates to ensure compliance and creation of email accounts. Clerk to proceed.

10. a) Finance – to agree the payment list presented at the meeting

The payments listed were agreed.

BALANCE b/fwd. 29,287.07

Less: Payments

Chq No:

Online	P Witt - Bin Emptying Sept	111.99
Online	P Witt - Bin Emptying Oct	70.00
Online	SWPC - Recharge	532.19
Online	Veolia - Oct	197.38
Online	Total Gas and Power - Sept	1,513.18
Online	R Curtis - Salary Nov 25	678.60
Online	R Curtis - Expenses	56.27
Online	HMRC Employers NI	64.69

Online	HMRC DD Payment	133.34	
Online	Lloyds Service Charge	4.25	
Online	R Angell - Defib supplies	29.94	
			3,391.83
Add:	Income		
02/10/2025	NCC - Flood Alleviation Work	7,800.00	
20/10/2025	BCKLWN Precept	6,591.92	
			14,391.92
	<u>Made up as follows</u>		
	Lloyds Gold Deposit A/C (Easy Saver)	234.98	
	Lloyds Current A/C	68.57	
	Lloyds Treasurers Account	39,983.61	
			40,287.16

The Clerk will submit a half yearly VAT return.

11. Highways - Nothing to report.

12. Wootton Park Association

- There has been positive feedback for the newly refurbished pavilion and an evening to formally open the building was held on 27th October.
- Preparations for the installation of the telecom mast are progressing with access arrangements being finalised.

13. Street Lighting –

Cllr Quick reported a lamp has been hit on Nursery Lane, the post is still in tact but the light is now facing the wrong way. He will report the location to the Clerk.

14. Planning

25/01615/F|VARIATION OF CONDITION 1 AND 10 OF PLANNING APPLICATION 25/00257/F - Variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission 24/00496/F: Conversion of nursery and flat to dwelling, and construction of 3no. dwellings with garages

This application relates to the positioning of Air Source Heat Pumps and documents on the planning portal appear to show the matter is now resolved. No comment

The Parish Council discussed the Linnymead application taking on board points raised via correspondence and open forum and also through its own review of the planning application. The PC unanimously agreed to object to the application stating that although the PC encourages enterprise within the village this application should be met with caution and there is evidence that advertised business operations differ from those on the planning application with a misrepresentation of size and scale. If the application is approved at the planning committee the PC requests that a condition is added that approval is given on a temporary basis for 6-12 months to ensure the applicant adheres to business operations as per the application and no further activities are run from the property.

Post meeting Clerks Note: Upon advice from NALC the objection to the Linnymead application was later withdrawn due to an administration error in presenting the item for discussion.

15. Village Hall

- Cllr Harper reported that the finances are in good order and the farmers market is increasing in size as it attracts more stall holders.
- Preparations for the Xmas Fair are going well, Cllr Lamb has obtained the road closure notice for outside the Hall.

16. The Village

SAM 2 Report

SAM update for October 2025

The signage was on All Saints Drive, capturing vehicles as they travelled from Manor Road, along All Saints Drive toward Nursery Lane. Likely due to the Manor Road closure there was approx 12% reduction in traffic volume.

Volume: Daily 15,970 across active days, 614 daily. Peak 08:00-09:00

Speed: 85th 29.3mph. Average 25.2mph

Max speed 50mph, one evening at 23:25hrs

To further consider the proposal for a bus shelter at the Alban Road stop

Councillors reviewed the information presented by the Clerk and agreed there is a need for a shelter in this position and support was received through positive responses to the consultation carried out in the summer, with only one objection. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the application for the bus shelter, through Parish Partnership funding for 50% and the PC contribution met by CIL monies.

17. Open Forum

- A resident raised the issue of parking outside North Wootton Academy. Cllr Marshall-Grint said this is an issue which has been looked at by the PC many times. The previous project involved discussion with the school to use some of their land as a car park/dropping off point. Although this was met favourably by the headteacher, through consultation with staff and other stakeholders at the school it was felt that this facility would not be used to its full advantage. The PC felt that this conversation could be picked up again.
- Resident's voiced concern again regarding the HGV's. Without the support of a weight restriction, speeds should be looked at and investigation as to how the damage is being created on Manor Road. Residents assumed taxpayers were picking up the bill for the work done to repair the sewer pipe at Manor Road, it was confirmed that any work being done is at the cost of Anglian Water. Overall residents feel that the situation is getting worse and worse.

18. To confirm Items for Future Agenda

- First look at the precept calculations
- Choose a vice chair

The meeting finished at 8.40pm

Signed Date: 4th December 2025