

WOODCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting Wednesday 16th November at 7.30pm.

PC MEMBERS

Chairman	Mr. R. Peirce
Vice Chair	Mr. K. Davies
	Miss H. Booker
	Miss A. Mack
	Mrs. L. Bilbe
Parish Clerk	Ms J. Welham

1. To receive apologies for absence.
Mr. R. Fletcher. Mr. C. Downes

2. To receive Declarations of Interest.
None.

3. Public Forum: Opportunity for members of the public to address the Council, the public may also speak about specific items of business as they arise, with the permission of the Chairman.
2 MOP present for agenda item 6.

4. To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 2nd November and 9th November 2022.
Minutes 2nd November, Item 5 correction, add Reading Rd to list for a SID. Item 10 correction add 2nd Path on village Green. Subject to these corrections Approved as a True Record.
Minutes 9th November, Approved as a True Record.

5. Matters arising from those Minutes not on the agenda elsewhere.
Vice Chairman raised the matter that Project Cool had not been included on the Agenda, he was of the view that certain items should be ongoing on every agenda such as Project Consultation and the Village Hall Refurbishment.
The Clerk advised that agenda items are matters that the PC need to discuss, make a decision, and take action on. Updates for ongoing matters can be handled by email unless there is a new decision or funds need to be appropriated.

Project Cool is up and running, Vice Chair is liaising with Langtree, Chair of VGC and Conservation group,
Some planting will be going ahead in the next few weeks with students from Langtree helping. Vice Chair to update on email unless major new decisions required.

The Chairman advised that OCC highways had been in contact with the Clerk re siting of the poles for SID devices. He had advised the Clerk to go ahead and the visit was Monday 14th November. The location on Oxford Rd was on the verge just before Tidmore Lane junction, on the Goring Road coming onto the village on the verge past the white gates. Long Toll past the 30mph signs and then on the verge past these signs but before the junction into the housing on the right.

These 3 locations were agreed by the Council. The last location was Greenmore and the recommendation was a pole on both sides of Greenmore so the SID sign could be placed on either side of the road at intervals. Cllr. Booker stated that Reading Rd should be included. Clerk explained that until the 30mph signs are moved closer to the A4074 junction which is a requirement in the 278 agreement for the new Chiltern Rise Development this was not viewed re positioning of a pole.

OCC Officer had stated the positioning could not be determined until the 30mph had been moved. This will be looked at once there is movement on the signs. Overall the Greenmore location was not supported.

The Clerk advised that due to budget the OCC Officer advised the poles are not likely to be placed until the new financial year starting April 1st 2023. Due to this timing the Clerk asked members if they should ask OCC to begin the traffic speed survey for the 2nd Zebra Crossing, on Goring Rd. Members agreed that this should now be requested. Clerk to action.

6. Woodcote Correspondent – review options to support.

The Chairman and the Production Manager of Woodcote Correspondent Committee gave a presentation of the financial position and the limit of their reserves. Since the Covid Lockdowns regular and occasional advertising business has declined which is the main source of income, costs have increased and to maintain revenue would mean a loss of 3-4 pages, and printing fewer copies would only achieve a small saving.

The monthly magazine is very well received by Woodcote residents with 90% reading it, WPC are aware of the support from residents to keep the magazine running. The PC support keeping the magazine running. The Chairman advised that the PC had allowed for funds during their Budget for next FY, however the caveat is that the PC would not expect to pay for their pages and if they need the front cover for necessary parish business to inform residents as and when, the PC takes preference. The Chairman of WCC agreed to this.

Resolved WPC to allocate a Grant to Woodcote Correspondent. This financial year allocate £750 for Jan, Feb, Mar 2023. Next financial year FY2023/24 £3000.00 for the year.

District Councillor Jo Robb joined the meeting.

Her monthly report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

She reported that there is an increase in rough sleeping due to homeless people. She asked us to advise people to report a rough sleeper if they see any as there is a Community Hub who will come out and help the person.

SODC have been successful in checking on business rates with collection £2.6 million extra funds from business not paying, or under paying.

The new bin collection schedule seems to be causing some delays and bins not being emptied. Advise residents how to report this and by no later than the next day, Clerk has already updated WPC facebook page and shared to Wonderful Woodcote.

The new housing strategy is working on affordability and looking at more social housing.

Wallingford Beach by the Thames has applied for bathing status, should know next month if successful, this will offer an amenity for the public.

Joint South and Vale Local Plan, there is not much movement on this currently. The Chairman asked for information so WPC can be involved with planning applications at pre planning in particular for major developments, to ensure the WNHP 2 is taken into account. Jo said she will put WPC in touch with the right team.

Also the SODC Local plan had no specific policies to treat villages in the AONB, all villages were treated the same, whether in or completely surrounded by AONB. WPC would like to ensure the South and Vale joint Local Plan has specific policies for AONB as per the National Planning Policy, and the District needs to state why any development in the AONB is made very clear from the outset. *Cllr. Rob then left the meeting*

7. Planning Applications to consider all applications received from SODC and any other applications submitted and published by SODC between the circulation of this agenda and the meeting.

P22/S3858/S73 Removal of condition 8 (Parking & Manoeuvring Areas Retained) on application P21/S5281/RM (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale of new dwelling following outline permission P21/S0489/O).14A Bridle Path Woodcote.

Resolved – no objections subject to Condition 8 remaining, but the removal of the requirement for a permeable surface remains and compliance to all other health and safety conditions.

P22/S3885/O Outline application seeking approval for access, landscaping and layout for the erection of a new dwelling and detached garage with new access. Dean Wood House South Stoke Road Woodcote.

Resolved – Object to this application Policy E4 of Woodcote Neighbourhood Plan it is outside of the settlement boundary.

7.1 Applications Granted by SODC

P22/S2666/FUL The application for James Farm was granted, but was too late to include on the agenda. The Officer has put conditions stating hours of opening for storage area and days of the week.

7.2 Applications Refused by SODC

None.

7.3 Other Planning Matters

Reservoir site has been populated again by contractors for Hazell and Jefferies, caravans on site, more than last time. Clerk already advised Enforcement Officer at SODC.

8. Finance 7/11 to 28/11/22

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail
04/11/2022	CCLA Deposit acct	TRANSFER	£47,933.00	Transfer to Deposit Acct not a payment
07/11/2022	HMRC	SO	£592.06	Monthl contributions
16/11/2022	Woodcote Community Centre	BACS	£25.00	Hire for Npag Celebration
16/11/2022	Helen Booker	BACS	£50.00	Consultation expenses
17/11/2022	M & C Landscapes	BACS	£1,643.15	October Grass cutting
17/11/2022	Woodcote Youth CLub	BACS	£2,625.00	Annual grant
17/11/2022	J Roxborough Seervices	BACS	£330.00	Instal 3rd Picnic tbl + deck
28/11/2022	Trevor Smallbone	BACS	£35.00	War Mem Garden Nov.
28/11/2022	L. Crockett	SO	£224.22	Litter picking Nov.
28/11/2022	J. Welham	SO	£1,494.41	Nov Salary
			£7,018.84	

Approved

Payment to Youth Club agreed but need to see the YC latest accounts before payment transfer is made.

To Note No receipts.

8.1 Quotations & Grants

None

9. Capital Budget – review prior to budget meeting.

Vice Chairman presented WPC Capital budget spreadsheets and had updated some to be clearer on projected income and what is allocated to various projects. The reserves were discussed, some of the ear marked reserve had been changed.

Resolved – To accept the Capital Budget as a framework.

10. Village Hall Refurbishment Update & further actions.

It is clear from the consultation results and costs that the refurbishment route is going ahead. Vice Chairman and Cllr. Downes had met and they need to gather searches/surveys for the drainage and soil waste, water supply, gas and electricity, including the wiring.

Vice Chairman requested some funds to cover survey costs in the region of £500.00, he will advise if survey costs exceed this.

Resolved – allocate £500 of funds from VH maintenance budget.

11. Investment Strategy Agree & adopt. Due to time deferred to the next meeting.

12. Matters for Next Agenda/s Opportunity for Members to raise matters which require attention & discussion for future agendas.

Civility & Respect Pledge for Local Councils & Investment Strategy

Reforming of the Traffic Group

Woodcote Conservation Group water testing of Greenmore Pond.

Project Consultation.

13. Correspondence – to consider & review any received.

None.

Confidential Session Members agreed to go into Confidential Session.

14. Clerk Salary 2022 new cost of living pay scales review.

NALC had circulated the pay scale cost of living increases for FY 2022/23, these have been delayed as Unions initially did not accept the increase.

The Clerk is on SCP27 the cost of living increase was signed off.

15. To note date of the next PC meeting: Wednesday 7th December 2022

Meeting closed at 21.55

Signed.....Date.....