WOODNEWTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 2nd November 2026, 8pm, Village Hall
(DRAFT) MINUTES

Present: Cllr Blackmore (Chairman) Cllr Neville, Cllr Phythian, Cllr Guttridge, Cllr Brookes, Cllr Swallow and Amy Miller (Clerk and RFO)

1. **Declarations of Interests from Councillors**
   None
2. **Apologies for absence**
   Cllr Kisiel
3. **Public Time**
   None
4. **Minutes of Meeting held on 5th October 2026.**
   Having been previously circulated, were **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
5. **Matters arising from Previous Minutes (not covered elsewhere on Agenda)**
   None.
6. **Church Yard and Cemetery (Cllr Phythian)**
   The church yard has received its final cut of the season. The PC have been happy with the new contractor.
   It was **RESOLVED** cemetery fees would increase by 3.5% (ONS Sep 12 month CPI rate) as agreed and recorded in the minutes of the November 2020 meeting and as per the cemetery rules 7.3. Clerk to calculate and post.
7. **Vehicle Activated Speed Signs (Cllr Kisiel)**
   All vehicle activated signs are working well.
8. **Playing Fields/Playground**
   (a) There was no playground check report, but several jobs had been carried out on the clean-up day including raking up and sweeping. Sealant had also been applied between the matting tiles around the slide. The loose bracket on the near side goal post and a wobbly stepping post on the adventure trail still require fixing.
   (b) Update as above.
9. **CAN (Climate and Nature Champion)**
   No update. Cllr Phythian to attend an annual CAN meeting later this month.
10. **Planning**
    The below planning applications were discussed:
    (a) 26/02939/LBC – 46 Main Street - Replacement front and back doors on a like for like basis – Agreed
11. **Accounts**
    As at 31/10/2026 the bank balance stood at £28,125.00
    The following payments were **AGREED** and signed off

Clerk Salary (Oct)	£587.20
SSE DD (October usage)	£89.11
HMRC NI	£76.59
Robinsons Gardening (1557)	£235.00

Cllr Swallow (Cemetery bulbs)	£160.56
Adam Brookes coppicing	£50.00
NALC Course	£42.00
Village Magazine	£60.00

To **Note** the following remittances:

Allotment rents	£220.00
Highways Grant	£782.70
Crowson's	£59.00

12. Quarterly Financial Review

Having been previously circulated and signed off by Cllr Guttridge the quarterly reconciliation and budget to actual update for the second quarter July-Sep 2026 was **REVIEWED** and **APPROVED**.

13. 2027/2028 Precept

Councillors were asked to consider any projects for the following year prior to budget to the setting of the next precept.

14. Safeguarding Policy

The new safeguarding policy was reviewed and adopted. This was **AGREED** by all with Cllr Guttridge being the safeguarding contact.

15. WhatsApp Group

The policy was reviewed and some changes noted to ensure it is an admin posting policy only. The new policy was **AGREED** in principle subject to these changes and would be ratified at the next meeting.

16. Allotments (Cllr Brookes)

It was agreed the dead hedge was a positive and ecofriendly use of the clean-up day garden waste.

A resident had raised an issue regarding a tree on non-PC and highways land – Cllr Brookes to refer them to Spire Homes.

17. Village Maintenance (Cllr Swallow)

The bonfire site has now been cleared and raked; it will be left to naturally rewild. Thanks are extended to all who have helped clear up this space.

A number of bulbs have also been planted around the church yard in the village on this occasion.

Cllr Blackmore provided an update on the grant application submitted to the Community Funding Grant Scheme, seeking financial assistance towards weatherproofing and deer-proofing the Coronation Fruit Orchard. It is hoped that confirmation of the application outcome will be available by the next meeting.

18. Ongoing

A rolling agenda item to **CONSIDER** which topics should be included on future agendas, discussed when relevant. This will be titled "rolling agenda items" to ensure items are remembered, although they may not be addressed at every meeting.

(a) Village Information Boards
(b) Children's tree planting scheme
(c) Neighbourhood Plan\consultation on local plan consultation from Feb 2026
(d) Newsletter articles
(e) LEVI – any updates

19. Correspondence

(a) PSCO contact changes - clerk to follow up and request update to the hub.
(b) Consultation and Engagement Strategy – Town and Parish Survey – clerk responded.
(c) The Giant Tree Circle plant or nominate a tree – clerk to recommend the Orchard

20. Councillors' Opportunity to Update Colleagues

Cllr Blackmore reported attending an online training course aimed at encouraging younger residents to become more involved with local Town and Parish Councils. It was

noted that the course had limited immediate relevance to Woodnewton, given the village's young demographic and limited number of residents in their late teens and early twenties.

21. Woodnewton Newsletter

It was agreed the next Newsletter feature will wish all residents seasonal greetings.

22. Date of next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Monday 7th December 2026.

23. Close of Meeting

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.52

Chairman's Signature…… Date 7th December 2026

Prepared by Amy Miller Clerk and RFO
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4th November 2026