

Minutes of Woodborough Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday, 7 April 2026 at 6.45pm
in the Village Hall, Lingwood Lane, Woodborough, Nottingham

PRESENT: Cllr Liz Anderson (Chair), Cllr Phil Hallam, Cllr Amanda Mellor, Cllr Richard Pannell, Cllr Linda Taylor, Cllr Colin Starke, Cllr Charles Wardle and Cllr Richard Whincup.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Helen Greensmith (GBC, part), Cllr Jody Stoll (NCC, part), four Woodborough residents, new owner of Woodborough shop/Post Office, and Sara O'Connor (Clerk).

2026/80 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Julian Brown and Cllr Andrew Gough.

2026/81 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No additional interests declared.

2026/82 OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The meeting was suspended between 6.50 and 7.00 to allow members of the public to speak. Four residents outlined their concerns regarding the speed at which traffic travelled through Woodborough village, as well as an increase in the number of heavy goods vehicles, and asked the Council to consider supporting a reduced speed limit of 20 mph. It was agreed agenda item 10 (Traffic Management Issues) should be brought forward as it related to the issues raised.

The new owner of the village shop outlined the services he intended to provide and proposed opening times which he was happy to review depending on demand. The Chair and other Cllrs welcomed him to the village and confirmed the shop and Post Office reopening would be a beneficial asset to the village.

2026/83 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The Chair invited comments from Cllrs regarding traffic within Woodborough.

Cllr Stoll acknowledged the concerns raised by residents and confirmed he would be happy to raise traffic management issues at a full NCC Council meeting if there was sufficient support from Woodborough residents. Cllr Stoll advised residents' support should be evidenced via a petition and the Parish Council's views would be helpful.

It was suggested that to mitigate the sudden reduction in speed limit from 60 mph to 30 mph, 'count down' strips (as implemented in the Vale of Belvoir) might be effective and improved road markings would help.

Councillors agreed the sudden speed reduction was problematic and highlighted several recent incidents. A speed survey undertaken in 2010 led to installation of current road signage and it was reasonable to request a further survey was undertaken. Also, the number of electric cars had substantially increased, which were generally 20-30% heavier than petrol/diesel cars, thus creating a greater force in the event of an impact.

Councillors highlighted a regular increase in traffic volume / speeding around 9.00 pm but they were not convinced a blanket 20 mph limit was necessary. Councillors also noted it was difficult to change the behaviour of some drivers and all agreed that parked cars appeared to calm traffic as it forced drivers to slow down and give way to oncoming vehicles

A previous survey evidenced that very few people exceeded 30 mph, but poor road surfaces could make it seem as though vehicles were being driven faster than they actually were.

The Vice-Chair asked Cllr Stoll whether NCC had considered this issue in a joined-up approach across neighbouring villages. Cllr Stoll explained that evidence was required before NCC would agree to implement further speed restrictions or other measures.

The Chair explained there was a limited amount of funding available per village, and she was aware many residents opposed speed bumps. However, a petition provided an opportunity to seek residents' current views, and suggested the primary school and parents might wish to be involved. The petition could be highlighted on the Woodborough Community website. Cllr Stoll advised all petition signatories must be adults and their address must be provided. A resident confirmed he would arrange for a petition to be set up.

2026/84 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2026 were approved.

2026/85 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising not on the agenda.

2026/86 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair provided the following updates:

New Church Wardens were being appointed. The Chair had developed a programme of works for the churchyard which had been shared with the current Church Warden, and would be discussed at the next Council meeting. The Clerk was asked to check how often headstones must be inspected.

The new Parish Clerk would work part-time hours mainly on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and check emails on Mondays and Fridays for urgent issues.

2026/87 DISTRICT REPORT

Cllr Greensmith advised she had arranged to meet the Planning Officer to discuss the Local Development Plan consultation. An update would be provided to the Parish Council in due course. Cllr Greensmith had a 'community pot' of funding to allocate, although there was a 'de minimis' level of grants that could be awarded. GBC's Annual Council meeting would be held 20 May 2026.

2026/88 COUNTY REPORT

Cllr Stoll confirmed he had a 'community pot' of £3,000 to spend on small worthwhile causes such as 'Woodborough in Bloom' and would contact them in this regard. Parts of Lowdham Lane had been resurfaced and the area near the by-pass had been marked-up. Bank Hill, Foxwood Lane and Main Street were being prioritised. It was anticipated works would be completed during Quarter 1 or 2.

Cllr Mellor asked Cllr Stoll to check which authority had responsibility to repair the layby at the base of Bank Hill which he agreed to raise with Via.

2026/89 VACANCY FOLLOWING RESIGNATION OF CLLR NEWSOME

The Chair confirmed no one had come forward to request an election. The Clerk was asked to clarify the minimum number of Cllrs required before any further action was taken.

2026/90 WEBSITE

The new website was live and it was agreed policies would be added in due course. Cllr Pannell suggested a QR code should be made available in public places to take people directly to the website. The Clerk agreed to check if this was possible and would also review the website to ensure that amendments requested had been made.

2026/91 VILLAGE HALL SAFETY

Cllr Starke summarised the options and cost for replacement shutters for the two serving hatches. It was agreed that a final quote for manual shutters, with handles both sides, would be sought.

The Clerk was asked to check when the last valuation of the village hall for insurance purposes was undertaken and whether the fire alarm servicing included testing of the sensors, not just the circuitry, and how often this was undertaken.

2026/92 VILLAGE HALL

The Chair advised that Cllr Taylor would chair the Village Hall Working Party.

Cllr Taylor advised that quotes would be sought for a replacement village hall kitchen and suggested quotes for both domestic and commercial kitchens were sought. Chair storage issues would be taken forward by the village hall caretaker.

Cllr Starke had already been in touch with one supplier. Cllr Taylor requested Cllr Starke to ask the supplier to also quote for cabinets in the Pavilion. Other members of the VH working party may also be involved.

It was agreed that Cllr Starke would source and purchase a larger replacement induction hob at a cost of circa £1,000, and that the handwashing basin in the bar area could be removed to facilitate installation of the new dishwasher.

Those present agreed that the internal walls of the hall should be redecorated in a neutral colour ('Nutmeg'). Quotes to be sought by Cllr Wardle.

Cllr Starke advised that a quote had been received to control the pump via the boilers, but he was concerned this had not been recommended at the time of other works. Consequently, he would contact the supplier to query this and seek a second opinion if necessary.

Cllr Wardle advised that a quote had been received to move the yard gate and install a new post. Cllrs agreed that the cost could not be justified and the work would not proceed. The Vice-Chair agreed to inform the pre-school of this decision.

The Clerk was asked to check the cost of installation of the two lights on the stage as further lighting to the rear of the stage had been requested by users. To be discussed at the next meeting.

2026/93 FLOODING MATTERS UPDATE

Cllr Mellor advised that she currently had no new information, although she was aware various actions were being progressed.

2026/94 VILLAGE HOUSEKEEPING

Cllr Mellor requested ideas for village housekeeping. The Chair agreed to share the village housekeeping list with Cllr Mellor.

Cllr Starke was thanked for recently painting gates on Governors Field.

2026/95 SAM MIDDUP FIELD

The Chair shared some plans for the Sam Middup Field which she would discuss at the working party meeting the following Tuesday. It was noted that requests from residents included an orchard and benches.

2026/96 PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Taylor had spoken with representatives from the Football Club, who confirmed they had received some funding and a ride-on mower had been purchased. It was agreed that although the existing contractor would continue to upkeep the pitches, the club could use their own mower should additional pitch maintenance be required.

The Clerk reported on latest correspondence from the Cricket Club. It was agreed the Clerk would draft a Licence for future use by the Cricket Club and share with the Chair and Cllr Taylor prior to submitting to the club for consideration.

2026/97 PLAYING FIELD

The zip wire had been tested and a broken seesaw handle had been repaired.

2026/98 ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

It was agreed the Clerk would share last year's Annual Report with Cllrs for them to update relevant sections by the end of April, and would also confirm the number of planning applications to Cllr Pannell.

2026/99 PLANNING

There was no objection to 2026/0166TPO, for the crown reduction to silver birch at 10 Pinfold Close.

2026/100 FINANCE

The Clerk presented the financial statements to 31 March and the beginning of April 2026. 15 payments on the April statement, totalling £11,578.32 net, were noted/approved for payment.

Gross payments over £500: £8,072.38 (Fire Door Specialists), £663.74 (Ulyett Landscapes Ltd); £541.26 LGPS (staff pensions); £800 Prudential (AVCs), £624.40 (Tax refund);

A further 4 payments were made by direct debit totalling £1,123.31 net, including one gross direct debit payment over £500: EDF £619.67 (Gas).

An application form to open a Unity Trust notice account was signed by authorised signatories for the Clerk to submit to the bank.

It was agreed that the Clerk would share invoices for payment with Cllr Mellor on a monthly basis to enable cross-checking against meeting financial statements to provide an additional financial control.

2026/101 CORRESPONDENCE AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

The following items were noted: notification of increase in rate from Overbrook; notification of trade waste prices for 2026/27; GBC, various agendas and press releases.

2026/102 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 5th May at 6.45pm (Annual Parish Council Meeting). The meeting finished at 9.40 pm.