**WOOLLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD 12th JUNE 2025**

**Present:** Councillors M Willis, C Robson, I White, P Dyke, A Jones

**In attendance:** District Councillor Sam Harvey and one member of the public.

**19/25 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor E Rowbotham and District Councillors A Nicholl & J Bryan

**20/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON AGENDA**

There were no declarations of interest. ***Resolved*** that a general dispensation be granted to all Councillors to enable them to discuss any objections to planning applications

**21/25 TO RECEIVE SUCH ITEMS THAT THE CHAIR MAY WISH TO LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

None

**22/25 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 8th MAY 2025**

***Resolved*** that the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 8th May 2025 be accepted as a correct record.

**23/25 TO REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING NOT ON THE AGENDA FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

None

**24/25 TO AGREE THAT MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE MEETING FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEM 18**

***Resolved*** that members of the press and public be asked to leave the meeting following agenda item 13

**25/25 TO RECEIVE THE POLICE REPORT**

Cllr A Jones spoke to the written police report. Of note was the fact that drivers were still driving the wrong way on the one-way system. The car meet was again discussed and Cllr Jones is to raise this with the Police in the hope of stopping it happening again. A farmer’s field had been damaged by people on quad bikes. Police to be asked to try and patrol later at night.

**26/25 TO UPDATE ON GROUNDS MAINTENANCE WORKS**

**Hedge work at Woolley Recreation ground –** Cllr White reported that the hedge had been repaired although it seemed people had been trying to push a way through the hedge to gain access to the recreation ground instead of using the gate. Some hedge plants may need replacing due to this. The hanging baskets and planters had been installed and were looking very well.

**27/25 TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL MATTERS (only the items in bold on the agenda needed to be dealt with as the others had been dealt with at the May meeting)**

1. **Approval of Payment of accounts**

Police Safe Scheme **–** no invoice yet received although the Clerk had chased this up and learnt that they were delayed with issuing them. Payments were authorised to

Clerk Salary £311.80

Internal Auditor £180.00

HMRC £230.40

Bank Balance £81,366.28 prior to above payments

**ii) To Agree Annual Governance Statement 2024/25**

***Resolved*** that the Annual Governance Statememnt was agreed by all members to be signed by the Chairperson and Clerk

iii**)** To agree Statement of Assets

The statement of Assets had been reviewed and agreed at the May meeting.

**iv) 2024/25 Receipts and Payments Balance Sheet**

***Resolved*** that the receipts and payments balance sheet is accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson

**v) To Agree Statement of Accounts**

***Resolved*** that the statement of accounts was agreed by all members to be signed by the Chairperson (already signed by the Clerk)

**vi)** Appointment of Trustees to Woolley Village Hall

Dealt with at the May meeting.

**vii)** To Review Standing Orders

Dealt with at the May meeting.

**viii)** To Review Financial Regulations

Dealt with at the May meeting.

**ix)** To Review Code of Conduct

Dealt with at the May meeting.

**x)** To review GDPR policies

Dealt with at the May meeting.

**xi)** To review Risk Assessment

Dealt with at the May meeting.

**28/25 TO RECEIVE THE INTERAL AUDITOR’S REPORT**

The report from the internal auditor, M Neill was presented to the meeting. Mr Neill had made all necessary checks, confirmed that everything was in order and that he had signed the AGAR form

**29/25 TO RECEIVE ITEMS OF CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Insurance documentation received.
2. Hanging Basket licence received from WMDC
3. Email from parishioner regarding removal of comments on WMDC planning portal
4. Email from parishioner objecting to the temporary bar which had taken place at an event on Woolley Grange
5. Email regarding grass cutting where a mower had apparently severed a phone cable at the bottom of a telegraph pole leading to connections being lost by a number of properties. Clerk checked with the contractors who agreed they had cut the grass but were not aware of damaging a cable and asserting that if they had done so then the cable could not have been buried deep enough or been in a conduit It was therefore BT’s responsibility.

**30/25 TO DISCUSS PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1. Following discussion it was resolved to write to the Planning Chief Officer expressing the Council’s dismay at the decision to remove comments on planning applications. This was felt to be a reduction in transparency.
2. Unfortunately, the Sitlington solar farm application had been granted on appeal by the Planning Inspector

**31/25 TO DISCUSS PARISH MATTERS INCLUDING DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Cllr Harvey updated the Council on items of interest:- the solar farm application; re-designation of green belt land to grey belt; car theft in rural areas; her open letter to the Leader of the Council in relation to the removal of planning objections/comments which she felt would lead to more work for planning officers rather than less as information would have to be sent out to those who asked rather than people just being able to look at the portal. Cllr Harvey had met with the Council Leader who had apparently said she was not aware of the changes..

**Woolley Grange** –.Nothing to report.

**Haigh –** Nothing further to report.

**Woolley Village and Village Hall –** A coffee morning was to be held on 28th June and Woolley Feast was being reinstated and would be held on 6th September.

**Woolley Hall –** No update received.

**Neighbourhood Plan** – Changes to grants had been announced by DEFRA. This may make it more problematic to obtain Consultants assistance in preparing the plan. However, it was agreed to go ahead with the survey to establish the depth of support or otherwise.

**32/25 TO AGREE DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be held on **10th July 2025** in the Village Hall, The Green, Woolley at 7pm.

**IN PRIVATE**

No items

**Signed………………………… Dated……………………………….**

**Chair**

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**WOOLLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**NOTES OF PUBLIC SESSION HELD 12th JUNE 2025**

District Councillor Sam Harvey and one member of the public in attendance.

A resident reported that upwards of 200 cars had been speeding through the village at 10.20pm on a Sunday night and up Haigh Lane. It was some sort of car meet and they came off the M1 and did a circuit round the one-way system.

Cllr Jones would raise this with the Police.

Signed………………………………….

Dated … ……………………………….