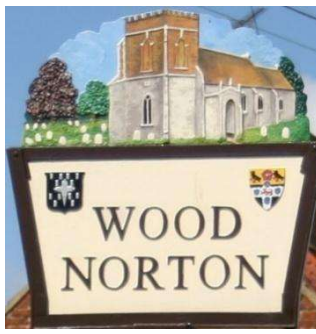




Wood Norton Parish Council

Chair: Marcus Crowe Parish Clerk: Joanne Madders clerkwoodnortonpc@gmail.com

Minutes of Wood Norton Parish Council Ordinary Parish Meeting held in the village hall at 7.30 pm, Wednesday 26th November 2025

Present: Cllr Marcus Crowe (Chair), Cllr John Jennings, Cllr Tim Lidstone-Scott, Cllr Tess Morley, Cllr Lorraine O'Keefe and Cllr Daniel Coe.

Clerk: Joanne Madders

Members of the public: 0

2025/58 To consider accepting apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Jean Johnson (away from parish), District Cllr Mike Hankins and County Cllr Steffan Aquarone.

2025/59 To record Declarations of Interest from members on any item to be discussed.

Cllr Crowe and Cllr Lidstone-Scott each declared a pecuniary interest in item 7 (2025/64).

All Councillors were reminded to complete and sign their Declaration of Interest on the NNDC website.

2025/60 Minutes:

a. To discuss any matters from the minutes not listed on the agenda. (For information only).

i) Clerk has contacted NNDC to confirm councillor details up to date.

ii) Clerk has communicated the grant towards churchyard maintenance to churchyard representative

b. To approve and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th September 2025.

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. The Chair signed the minutes.

2025/61 To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillor.

Cllr Steffan Aquarone was not in attendance but emailed his report. See Appendix 1.

Cllr Mike Hankins was not in attendance but emailed the following:

Local Government Reorganisation.

You will have received an update from the planning team at NNDC on the submission by the consortium by NNDC for the 3 Unitary Authority proposed for Norfolk, a reminder of the opportunity to learn more about the proposal and ask questions of officers at a briefing to be held in Blakeney on Thursday 13th November.

NNDC Local Plan.

Details of the revised plan have been circulated to your pc ; full details can be viewed on the district council website.

Mobile Connectivity.

District council to carry out a scoping exercise in preparation for meetings with the various providers to learn of their plans to provide a service to eliminate not spots.

Updated: BT, EE and a representative from other providers have agreed to meet with members from NNDC to present their plans to improve connectivity moving forward.

I think this is a welcome first step , you will recall I have been campaigning on your behalf to get some visibility on their plans to improve connectivity.

Affordable Holmes.

Anna Clark has circulated the latest report on the housing situation in North Norfolk , I would like to draw to your attention how parish councils can assist with this important issue.

2025/62 Parishioner open forum

Not required as no public were present.

2025/63 The Chair/Clerk to provide an update on any information, actions or correspondence since the last meeting.

i. NNDC Affordable Housing

Cllr Morley is overseeing this and awaiting further information.

ii. Churchyard work

Noted.

iii. NNDC local plan

Noted.

iv. Norfolk ALC Newsletter

Noted.

v. NCC Have your say

Noted.

vi. Norfolk Police OP Radium

Cllr Crowe will take the lead on this and make contact with the police to receive trigger alerts. Councillors agreed to discuss at the next meeting how and when to best provide information and alerts to residents. Clerk to include on next agenda. **ACTION: Clerk**

vii. Norfolk ALC Assertion 10 compliance

The Clerk advised that the council must have a gov.uk email address, or an email on a council owned domain, to confirm compliance with the new Assertion 10 regulations, and also be registered with the Information Commissioners Office. A discussion was had and councillors decided to continue to use Gmail for email and not to register with the ICO at present.

2025/64 Finance.

a) To receive the current financial position.

The Chair/RFO advised the following:

Community A/C £2,977.63. 7 transactions noted since the last meeting.

Community (Defib) A/C £963.60. No transactions since the last meeting.

Business Premium (Village sign) £1,406.37. No transactions since the last meeting.

Business Premium (Investment) £4,712.97. No transactions since the last meeting.

b) To ratify Payments

c) To approve payments to be made:

i) Clerk's home working allowance, £66 Resolved and Approved

ii) Cllr Lidstone-Scott expenses for printing flyers, £54.90 (from Defib a/c) Resolved and Approved

iii) Cllr Crowe expenses for new key for noticeboard, £10 Resolved and Approved

iv) Invoices from the churchyard totalling £80 although only £20 remains in their grant fund. £20 was resolved and approved. Cllr Crowe to communicate this to churchyard representative.

ACTION: Cllr Crowe

d) To ratify the proposed budget

2026/27 budget resolved and approved.

e) To ratify the proposed precept

Councillors are requesting a 5% increase bringing the 2026-2027 precept request up to £3,514.56. The Clerk will respond to NNDC precept request email.

ACTION: Clerk

2025/65 To review recent planning applications:

LA/25/1997 - Wood Norton - Wood Norton Hall, Hall Lane, Wood Norton (Now approved)
Noted.

2025/66 To receive an update on VETS (including defib access and mobile network coverage).

Cllr Lidstone-Scott advised that 4 volunteers wished to be removed from the VETS list, the Community Heartbeat Trust have been notified but have yet to confirm they have removed the names and numbers. The leaflets have been distributed. More volunteers with land line telephones are needed. Cllr Lidstone-Scott will advertise this in the parish magazine, Facebook and Nextdoor. He has also registered the AED with the British Heart Foundation website, The Circuit. The annual report has been submitted. There may be a fault with the pads which needs looking into. The code could be written on the phonebox roof to be accessible. Cllr Hankins provided an update on mobile coverage – see 2025/61.

ACTION: Cllr Lidstone-Scott

2025/67 To receive an update on drainage issues.

a) Foulsham Road

The Chair and District Councillor have both been in touch with highways but no response received. The County Councillor could be asked to intervene.

2025/68 To receive an update on highways issues

No known issues. Potholes have been marked up but not yet repaired.

2025/69 To receive an update on plans for the family bug day.

The Hawk and Owl trust are not available to attend so this will now be managed internally and take place on Saturday 21st February 9.30am to 12.30pm. This will be called Family Bird Box Day.

2025/70 To receive an update on the replacement of the village seat sign.

Cllr Lidstone-Scott to report at next meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Lidstone-Scott

2025/71 To discuss social housing and infrastructure.

See 2025/63.

2025/72 To review the Action Plan and Risk Assessment.

Cllr O'Keefe reviewed the action plan and current points were discussed. The Clerk needs to review the Standing Orders.

ACTION: Clerk

2025/73 To discuss village litter pick

This will take place on Saturday 14th March at 10am. Cake donations will be required.

2025/74 To discuss any other urgent Items.

The Chair received an email from RWE to advise that large loads will be travelling on local roads from 8th December.

The Rectory Road sign is lent up against the wall and needs resetting. Clerk to report to NNDC.

ACTION: Clerk

2025/75 To receive any items for inclusion on the next Agenda

Norfolk Police OP Radium, VETS, Highways, Drainage, Seat on village sign, Family Bird Box day, Housing and Infrastructure, Litter pick.

2025/ 76 To agree suggested 2026 meeting date at the village hall at 7:30pm:

Wednesday 21st January 2026

Wednesday 18th March 2026

Wednesday 20th May 2026 (including Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm)

Wednesday 8th July 2026

Wednesday 16th September 2026

Wednesday 18th November 2026

Resolved and approved.

Meeting closed 8.20pm

Signed as a true record of the meeting of Wood Norton Parish Council held on 26th November 2025

Signed by the Chair.....

Appendix 1

Report from County Councillor, Cllr Steffan Aquarone

November 2025

Banking hubs

I have long campaigned for banking hubs for our towns and villages and I was pleased to open North Norfolk's first permanent bank hub last week. The hub will give the people of Melton Constable division access to banking services near where they live and work, with more banking hubs planned for North Walsham and for Cromer in the very near future. Essential services like these are crucial to the success of our independent businesses and I'll keep campaigning for them to keep our local economy growing.

Digital ID

Many people from my county council division have written to me about their concerns around digital ID and I will keep making their voices heard. I have made it clear to the government that many of them are anxious about being forced to use digital ID and that making it mandatory will cause exclusion in our rural communities. While there are some benefits to digital ID, the choice to use it – or not – should always be ours.

Low-flying military aircraft

For the past eight years I have received concerns from residents in Melton Constable division about the noise that is being created by RAF and American fighter jets performing manoeuvres over populated residential areas.

Having raised the issue with the Ministry of Defence previously, I have again made contact to remind them that there is no reason why some of the most disruptive training maneuvers cannot take place off shore over the North Sea where it will have less of an impact on our communities. This is an accommodation that has been made from time to time, but often the issue returns after a few months. The MoD has promised to look at the possibility of revising training schedules to minimise disruption and I look forward to updating you on the progress of these changes.

Hope and progress!

I want to remind you how powerful it is when we work together to solve the issues that impact us the most. Whether that's funding improvements to road safety or public transport infrastructure, or tackling service providers to deliver faster, more reliable broadband so that our residents and small businesses can thrive – every voice matters. As always, if there's anything I can support you with, please get in touch.

I welcome your thoughts on these matters. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me in my ongoing capacity as your County Councillor.

