MINUTES OF THE WOODHALL SPA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7.00PM AT THE COUNCIL OFFICE.

In Attendance Chair Roger Etches, Keith Scarborough, Ian Hunt, Mark Cooke, Angela Raven, Linda Wood-Mitchell and Patricia Bradwell

Remote participation- None

Also present:
Karen Handley, Parish Clerk
LCC Cllr Natalie Oliver
ELDC Craig Leyland
ELDC Tom Kemp

Public Forum
Two parishioners attended. A representative from Woodhall Spa in Bloom thanked the Parish Council for their support over the past year. She explained that WSIB were working hard to transform the village and residents' comments had been very supportive. Bulb planting had started and the intention is to involve the local schools and make it a village event. In support of the grant application a break down was given of the costs and intentions of WSIB over the next year.

FC/1/09/26 Comments from the Chair
The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. He explained that the Council needed two more signatories for payment authorisation. Cllr Hunt and Cllr Wood-Mitchell volunteered.

FC/2/09/26 Apologies for absence with reason given
Apologies received and accepted from Cllr M Williams, Cllr C Watts, Cllr A Reynolds, Cllr R Williams and Cllr D Charles.

FC/3/09/26 To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensation
Cllr Raven declared an interest in agenda item 9a and Cllr Hunt in agenda item 9b. No requests had been made for a dispensation.

FC/4/09/26 Notes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 18th August 2026 to be approved as the minutes
It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously **resolved** to accept the notes as the minutes. These were duly signed by the Chair.

FC/05/09/26 To receive a report from Lincolnshire County Council & East Lindsey District Council
LCC Cllr Oliver passed on the comments she had sent to Highways asking for clarification on certain issues. She was pleased to report that the 'no waiting' restrictions on Witham Road had been shortened. Grants had been given to Woodhall Cricket Club to complete the purchase of the mower part and WSIB had applied for a grant from her Councillor fund as well. The Lloyds Tour of Britain

Cycling event had been a great success and had had a beneficial economic impact on the economy of the area.

ELDC Cllr Leyland reported that Local Government Reform had been delayed due to legal challenges.
As far as ELDC are concerned it is business as usual and there will be elections next May 2027.
ELDC were very pleased with the success of the Tour of Britain event-the Chair thanked ELDC for all the hard work which went in to making the event a success.
Cllr Leyland announced that the Grant Fund had gone live.
He also informed the Council that the Planning System was changing due to the new NPPF guidelines, and more powers would be delegated to planning officers.

FC/06/09/26 To receive a report from Cllr Williams as parish council representative on the Heritage Committee.
No report received.

FC/07/09/26 To approve automated, retrospective, and future payments to be made

a) It was proposed, seconded, and **resolved** to approve the payments listed below.

Person/Company to be paid	**Invoice No.**	**Details**	**Amount £**
Woodhall Spa Cricket Club	2627/115	Community Grant Award	£1500
PKF Littlejohn LLP	2627/116	External Invoice	£504.00
Glasdon	2627/117	Litter bin	£199.53
Wave	2627/118	Royal Square water	£0.90
Welton Garden Services	2627/119	Kirkby Lane Cemetery/Closed Cemetery	£1020.00
J Ward/T Gibbons	2627/120	Royal Square Maintenance Contract	£1060.00
Pink Marigold Cleaners	2627/121	Office cleaners	£150.00
Viking	2627/122	Office Stationery supplies	£235.64
YU Energy	2627/123	Royal Square lighting	£37.89
YU Energy	2627/124	Office Electricity	£46.60
TalkTalk	2627/125	Office phone and broadband	£45.53
The Boston Bulb Company	2627/126	Bulbs for Royal Square	£505.73
S Long Gardening Services	2627/127	Maintenance Contract	£610.00
Greenbarnes Ltd	2627/128	Self-healing Pinboard (Community noticeboard)	£507.72
K Handley/HMRC/LCC Pension	2627/129	Staff Costs	£1751.83
EDF	2627/130	Office Gas	£14.18
Payroo Star	2627/131	Payroll	£6.00
Tony Gibbons	2627/132	Village maintenance/Cemetery/Office	£368.00
Wave	2627/133	Royal Square Water	£0.90
British Gas	2627/134	ATM Electricity	£32.26
Bells Outlet	2627/135	Plants for Royal Square	£130.00
Mrs Grafton	2627/136	Refund of EROB	£275.00
Business Waste	2627/137	Office waste/Fuel surcharge	£14.29

b) **To note the bank reconciliation**
Co-op current account of £98,303.96 as of 27/08/2026 was noted.

Co-op 35 day account of £15,420.70 as of 27/08/2026 was noted.
Co-op 95 day account of £38,704.63 as of 27/08/2026 was noted.

FC/08/09/26 To note the conclusion of the audit and External Auditors comments

Notices had been placed on the website and on the Parish Council noticeboard informing parishioners of their rights to view the accounts.
The External Auditor had no comments to make on the accounts.

FC/09/09/26 To consider a community grant applications received from:

a) **Coningsby and Woodhall Walking Football Club**
   It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to award the requested amount of £599.
b) **Woodhall Spa in Bloom**
   It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to award the requested amount of £1000.

FC/10/09/26 To receive an update from the Royal Square Working group

The Clerk and Cllr Hunt met with Saul Farrell on Tuesday 8th September to discuss funding for Royal Square. The outcome of the meeting was overall positive with a clear understanding of how best to approach writing a grant application to maximise success. Match funding is a criteria of the grant application and it will be very competitive. Any planning considerations needs to be addressed before a bid is submitted.
Cllr Hunt explained that he had met with one company and he is awaiting a quote for the rebuilding of the walls in Royal Square. Another company has also been approached- awaiting response.

FC/11/09/26 To note the three initial expressions of interest for the Rally Field lease received and the criteria sent for Formal Expressions of Interest to be sent to the Council by 23rd September 2026

Three interested parties have submitted an initial expression of interest-Jubilee Park, The Cricket Club and the Croquet Club. All have received the criteria for the formal expression of interest. This will be an agenda item for the October Full Council meeting.

FC/12/09/26 To receive an update from the Clerk regarding agenda items from the last meeting;

a) Meeting with Highways requested- confirmed date of Wednesday 4th November 11.00 a.m.-13.00 p.m.
b) Invitation to CERT to address the Parish Council regarding Community Resilience Forum-as yet no response.
c) Update on Parade Marshall for Remembrance Parade- Cllr Etches confirmed we do have a Parade Marshall, and he will have a face-to-face meeting in October.
d) Update on Road Traffic management for Remembrance Parade- contact from SRP but no confirmation as yet that they will provide barriers etc for the event.

FC/13/09/26 To consider a request from parishioners for better signage for the Public Toilets and resolve action.
Cllr Cooke will feedback to the parishioner that the Council did not believe that there was a need for a sign but the Council will ask Highways at the November meeting whether it would be possible to have a vertical signpost.

FC/14/09/26 To review the information sent by Highways regarding the proposed no waiting at any time for Albany Road/Victoria Avenue and to consider response.
It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to support the proposed no waiting restrictions.
The Council will, however, push for Traffic Enforcement as unless action is taken against motorists breaking the restrictions it will not be an effective deterrent.

FC/15/09/26 To receive an update on potential Witham Road pedestrian crossing from Highways
Cllr Oliver had received a response which she shared with the Council**.** The site will be surveyed on the 17th and 25th September for approximately 40-45 minutes. They will be assessing the crossing point on Witham Road, just prior to King Edward Road and count the pupils who cross within 50 metres of the specific location. Previous surveys earlier in the year, showed that footfall did not meet the minimum requirement for a crossing to be established. In the survey, the number of children(primary and secondary) crossing whether they are with an adult or not are counted.

FC16/09/26 To review the sample Community Champion badges and resolve further action.
After reviewing the badges, the Council asked the Clerk to request a new sample badge which was 40mmx30mm, with a bigger border so that the font would be increased to enable the wording to be more visible.

FC17/09/26 To resolve to purchase new Defibrillator pads for the Defib at the Fire Station
The Clerk had been informed that the Defib pads expire 28/10/2026. Warranty 2 years and purchase price £68.00 excluding VAT. from Defib Warehouse. Cllr Cooke did inform the Council that LIVES were worth looking at as well.
It was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to purchase new pads.

FC18/09/26 To consider the information received from ELDC regarding funding opportunities
The Clerk has shared the information sent by ELDC regarding grant funding and asked for any projects the Council may wish to apply for funding for while the money is available. A suggestion was made to pursue a bus shelter on Broadway by the Inn. This has been rejected in the past by the owners of The Inn. It was agreed that the Clerk could approach the owners again.

FC19/09/2026 To receive an update from Woodhall Spa in Bloom
Cllr Hunt explained the fundraising activities undertaken, including a Car Boot sale, which raised £200 which has been used to fund prizes for the sunflower growing competition at St Andrew's. A big planting weekend has been arranged, for the

15th,16th and 17th November to plant bulbs in Royal Square. This will involve the Scouts and pupils from St Andrew's Academy and an army of volunteers. The Clothing Bank has been relocated in the car park behind Broadway shops so that it is now positioned near the glass recycling area.

FC20/09/26 To resolve to exclude the press and public for confidential business under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

a. To resolve that, in accordance with NALC guidance, the Clerk's salary be increased by 3.3% from April 2026.
This was proposed, seconded and **resolved** to award the 3.3% increase.

FC21/09/26 To confirm the date of the next Full Council meeting as Tuesday 20th October 2026 at 19.00 p.m.
This was confirmed by all Councillors.

Meeting closed 8.20p.m.

Signed_____ Date_____