Minutes of Worton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th September 2026 in Worton Village Hall at 7:00pm.

Present: Cllr Malcolm Powell (MP), Cllr Chris Collins (CC), Brian Badge (BB), Cllr Nick Stokes (NS)

Also present: Jules Slack, Richard Slack

190/26/27	**To receive apologies for absence** Cllr Richard Slack, Jules Slack (clerk)
191/26/27	**Declaration of Members Interests** NA
192/26/27	**Minutes of meeting held on Monday 6th July 2026** Proposed by DJ. Seconded by EM. Agreed.
193/26/27	**Open session on the matters set out below**
194/26/27	Wiltshire Councillor's Report 1. Wiltshire Council Local Plan consultation commences on 21 September 2026, from 6.00 pm to 8.00 pm. at Trowbridge Town Hall 2. Parish Emergency Assistance Plan, including sandbags: due in March 2027. 3. Worton Parish Council to budget for replacement salt and sandbag supplies. 4. Government salt bins are discretionary; Worton Parish Council would need to fund their own. 5. Melksham and Devizes recycling facilities to be by online booking system. 6. Increase in Wiltshire Council parking charges noted.
195/26/27	**Transport and Road Safety** 1. Dropped curb: no update. 2. Marston resident complaint received concerning traffic calming on the High Street causing undue slowness/delays. MP to draft a reply. 3. Obtain an update regarding MetroCam.
196/26/27	**Leisure Facilities, Appearance and Environment** 1. Worton Parish Council to pay for a new battery [on backorder] for defibrillator gifted to village hall. 2. St John Ambulance training in the use of the defibrillator. C.C. to arrange. 3. Best Kept Village – NS received positive feedback from the judges who awarded WPC a total score of 91% making the village 2nd in the region. Need to agree on future approach and whether there is enough village resident buy-in to justify the effort of our future entry/participation.

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4. Sandleaze play park works to be finished in the next week.
    a. Final snagging to be checked by Worton Parish Council for handover.
5. Purchase two new benches: one outside the park and one inside the park, with a memorial plaque in remembrance of David
6. Purchase a new litter bin and dog waste bin. Indicative costs noted:
    a. benches and engraving, £1,200;
    b. litter bin, £200;
    c. dog waste bin, £190.
7. Repairs to cradle swing seat and chains. Estimated cost: £350
8. Climbing frame: new marine ply required. Costs TBA but expected to be below £300.
9. Items 5,6,7,8 – Proposed by MP and C.C. seconded. Decision recorded as unanimous.
10. QE plaque: Patricia Goodenough has offered her support. The location for the new plaque is to be agreed.

197/26/27 **Planning**

1. Mill Stream/Norney House: no objection. Walnut tree reduction of 30% and reshaping.
2. Two applications were agreed and approved following alteration to the design; the other application was to remain as agreed.
3. Manor Farm: timber roof approved.
4. Tree Preservation Order: concern regarding Cuckold's Green. Identify trees and call for a site meeting (as was done for Primrose View).
5. A Tree Preservation Order application has been submitted for a tree at least 100 years old on land owned by Home Farm/Goss.

App number	Address	Description
PL/2027/	Cuckolds Green	Request for Tree Preservation Order

198/26/27 **Communications**

A resident from an adjoining village wrote to highlight the slow moving of traffic through the High St following the construction of the build outs. MP to respond stating that by and large the traffic speed is much improved (slowed) which was the intent.

Administration

CC gave update on website making the point that relatively low traffic to website should be a consideration for future changes / additions. Website should largely be a sign-post for the village for items that are not subject to regular change.

All councillors should only be using their .gov.uk email addresses. Any issues with access, refer to CC.

CC to check that attachments on Parish website are PDF and open in a separate browser window.

Vacancies

Agreed that we have two vacancies for new councillors. Prospective councillors are to be invited to attend the October meeting.

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201/26/27 **Finance**

a) Review of Clerk payslips identified a discrepancy in pay amount arising from tax error following pay increase. To be corrected in subsequent pay remittances.
b) Funding request from Village Hall Trustees for £6,200 for repairs to the flat roof of the village hall. Agreed that WPC would contribute £4,222 being £2,222 from solar fund and £2,000 from CIL payments. The balance being funded by Marston PC. NS proposed and seconded by MP.
c) Payments proposed by MP and seconded by BB.

Review the Clerk's payslips. Charlton Baker to set up payslips with the increase.
Village Hall funding request: £4,422 for flat roof repairs; £6,400 in total.
Proposed allocation recorded as Marston, £2,000; Worton Parish Council, £4,200; balance from the Community Fund [figures and wording to confirm].
Additional funding figures noted: £2,222 Solar Fund and £2,000 CIL [context to confirm].

Payable to	**Description**	**Amount**	Budget Category
J Slack	Salary	£416.91	Salary
J Slack	Admin Allowance	£26	Admin
HMRC	PAYE Tax	£104.22	Salary
J Slack	Salary back pay	£318.56	
Charlton Baker	Preparation of payroll annual fee. Paid monthly via DD	£24	Admin
Scribe Accounts	Accounting program	£30	Admin
Conservation Contractors		£1,642.60	
Conservation Contractors		£8213.00	
T&S Lux Electrical	Fitting of defib	£132.50 + £26.50 Total: £159.00	
Village Hall	Hire Charge	£80	Admin
TOTAL		**£11,014.29**	

202/26/27 **Items to be considered for the agenda for the next meeting and questions to the Council:**

- New councillors
- Sandleaze park update and new path
- Future planning for Whatley's improvements
- CIL money expenditure
- Update finances to match against expenses
- Tree Preservation Order update.

Date of next meeting: Monday 5th October 2026, 7:00pm Worton Village Hall.

Key Messages:

Signed: ……..… Date: ……..

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