

# Woodton Parish Council

## Autumn 2025 Newsletter



This has been the busiest six months ever for the Parish Council – read on to hear why!  
But first of all the **BAD NEWS**:-



**Fires in the Wood** – We are appalled to report two incidents of fires in the Forest School this summer. How anyone can even think of planning these especially after long periods of hot, dry weather, potentially causing serious damage and danger to others and destroying other people's voluntary work is beyond belief. In addition, the two cameras in the Wood have 'disappeared'. Where are they? The police are fully aware of the situation. **BUT** – thanks to a large number of willing volunteers the Forest School has been rebuilt, looks fabulous and the school children are enjoying all that is on offer there. A huge thank you to all the helpers who were involved.



**Speed Camera Theft & Vandalism** – The two speed cameras on Hempnall Road have been damaged by vandals and, in one case, the battery stolen. Again, the police are onto the case, but we are horrified and very worried that there are people out there actively scheming in this way when the equipment is there to help keep our community safe. Please would everyone keep their eyes open and report anything suspicious immediately to the police.



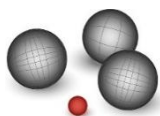
**Speeding & Traffic Incidents** – The police positioned their Black Box in Hempnall Road for two weeks in August. The data was interesting and revealing and we hope that the results will lead to more police presence in the village, especially at peak times. Traffic and potentially dangerous incidents on the B1332, in particular outside Woodton Primary School, have occurred and continue to worry us. We record and report all these to the police and highways but, despite our best efforts, nothing seems to move forward – but we will keep trying as safety has to be a top priority.



Now for **BETTER NEWS**:-



**Community Wood & Ravens Den** – The gates at the entrance to Raven's Den have been replaced, the refurbished shelter has been repainted and now sports a wonderful new raven sign on the gable end. The probationers have replaced much of the wooden edging on the paths and, as always, have tackled yet more bark spreading – an ongoing task!



**Boules Court** – A suggestion for the Raven's Den play area, but before pursuing the idea further, we would appreciate your thoughts and comments. Do you like the idea? Would you use it? So please get in touch.

**Garage/Yard Sale** – A new initiative but a very successful one with 30 households taking part. Refreshments were available raising £152.00 for the Village Hall funds. To be repeated? We think so, as it was a fun morning for everyone. So watch this space.



**School Fete** - More on this from the school, but what a fabulous event with over £2,300.00 raised on a sunny Saturday in September. Well done to everyone involved.

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### Halloween - Friday 31st December -

A fun event at dusk is being planned including a Pumpkin Trail, Treats, Dressing up, Games, Hot Dog Stand and much more. Keep your Spooky eyes open for more details!



**Christmas Carol Service** – a family service of Carols by Candlelight at All Saints Church, Woodton, is planned for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm. This special service has become increasingly popular over the last few years and a great way to kick start the Christmas celebrations. Please mark in your diaries!

**Christmas in the Wood** - Father Christmas will be making an appearance in the Wood

7/10 days before Christmas. Date to be confirmed so please keep an eye on the Community Page and Website for details. Would you believe it, but it's only a few weeks away so start thinking about writing your letters to Santa. These can be posted in the red postbox in the Wood or taken to the School during December. This is such a special occasion with presents for all and carols and, of course, EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



**S106 Funds** - This valuable fund needs explanation and is available for carefully costed projects to benefit the village. In the last six months alone we have relayed the Village Hall car park, replaced gates, refurbished the Forest School and replaced wooden edging in the Wood all through these funds. We have not used the fully budgeted precept (ie YOUR money) for any of this work, as we always strive to keep the precept as low as possible.



**East Pye Solar Project** - This controversial project continues to concern us all. We have objected strongly to every stage of the planning process and will keep you posted on any further news.



**Village Hall** – We hope you will have noticed that the car park has been refurbished. In addition the probationers have repainted the outside walls and thanks to the generosity of Gutter Force the gutters, fascia boards and drainpipes have been cleaned and repaired. All this has made such a difference and doesn't it look good?!



**Defibrillator** – There are a couple of British Heart Foundation links and U Tubes that we would encourage everyone to look at. They explain clearly what to do in the case of an emergency and how to use the defibrillator, which is situated in the porch at the Village Hall. The following links are on the PC website:-

1. Understanding defibrillators – what they are and how to use them
2. Defib Dani: Learn to use a defibrillator



Defibrillator

**King's Head Pub** – Don't forget the pub is open every day except Tuesdays, for lunch, drinks and, of course the ever popular Roti. You will always receive a warm welcome - so don't forget to pop in. The Sunday summer band sessions have again been a great success and well attended - so roll on next year.



**Harry Clarke's Legacy** – Many of you will remember Harry with fondness and, due to a legacy from his estate, the Parish Council have funds to spend. We want something to commemorate Harry's life and dedication to the village and would welcome any ideas you may have. Please get in touch with Jane Wickstead (07786 106789).

We welcome your comments and suggestions for the Newsletter. You can find our contact details on the Parish Council website <https://woodtonpc.wixsite.com/woodtonpc> together with meeting dates and much more.