2026

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

INVESTMENTS POLICY

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Version History

Version	Reviewed at	Approved at
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 9th May 2018	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 9th May 2018
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 15th May 2019	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 15th May 2019
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 5th May 2021	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 5th May 2021
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 11th May 2022	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 11th May 2022
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 17th May 2023	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 17th May 2023
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 8th May 2024	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 8th May 2024
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 14th May 2025	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 14th May 2025
Version 1.00	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 13th May 2026	Annual Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 13th May 2026
Version 2.00	Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 29th July 2026	Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 29th July 2026
Version 2.00	Full Council meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 12th August 2026	Full Council meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 12th August 2026

To be reviewed at each Annual Council Meeting.

1. Introduction

1.1. This policy is created under guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government under section 15(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 2003.

1.2. Wootton Parish Council acknowledges its responsibility to the community and the importance in prudently investing any reserves held by the council.

2. Objectives

2.1. This policy has two underlying objectives:

- Security – protecting the capital sum invested from loss.
- Liquidity – ensuring the funds invested are available for expenditure when needed.

2.2. Yield is removed from the two objectives above however, it is reasonable to consider what yield may be achieved, subject to determining proper levels of security and liquidity.

3. Investment Policy

3.1. Wootton Parish Council shall diversify its reserves between multiple relatively highly rated UK banks and building societies and will only use specified investments as defined by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. An investment is a specified investment if all the following apply:

- The investment is denominated in sterling and payments/repayments relating to the investment are in sterling.
- The investment is repaid within 12 months (either through expiry or a non-conditional option).
- The investment is not defined as capital expenditure.
- The investment is made with one of the following:
  - The United Kingdom Government.
  - A local authority in England or Wales (as defined in The Local Government Act 2003, section 23) or a similar body in Scotland or Northern Ireland.
  - A parish or community council.

3.2. A significant percentage of reserves shall be placed on interest bearing term/notice deposits.

3.3. No one investment shall be for a period of longer than 12 months.

3.4. Wootton Parish Council shall invest with banks/building societies with a credit rating deemed acceptable by the Clerk to the Council and Members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, as determined by any of the following three credit rating agencies:

- Fitch Ratings Ltd.
- Moody's Investors Service Ltd.
- Standard and Poor's.

3.5. Investments shall be recommended by the Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer having used due diligence including as a minimum, recommendations from other Town/Parish Councils and ratings agencies. All potential investments shall be taken to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for scrutiny before recommendation is made to Full Council for formal approval. The actual movement of all monies shall be via the usual authorised signatories.

3.6. The Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer shall review the credit ratings of all organisations in which Wootton Parish Council holds investments, on a quarterly basis. Should any rating be considered a risk, the Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer shall report the same to the Finance and General Purposes Committee and offer/seek appropriate action.