

2026



WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL WAR MEMORIAL RISK ASSESSMENT



3 Longden Close

Haynes

Bedfordshire

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Version History

Version	Reviewed at	Approved at
Version 1.00	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 11 th October 2017	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 11 th October 2017
Version 1.00	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 10 th October 2018	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 10 th October 2018
Version 1.00	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 13 th March 2019	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 13 th March 2019
Version 1.00	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 8 th September 2021	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 8 th September 2021
Version 1.00	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 12 th October 2022	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 12 th October 2022
Version 1.00	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 12 th June 2024	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 12 th June 2024
Version 1.00	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 13 th May 2026	Full Council Meeting of Wootton Parish Council on 13 th May 2026

To be reviewed annually.

Assessed Risk: War Memorial		Assessed by: Cllr Jeff Noakes	Date: 2nd May 2026
SEVERITY OF HARM →	NEGLIGIBLE Superficial injuries, minor cuts, and bruises	MODERATE Minor fractures or ill health leading to minor disability	SEVERE Multiple injuries, major fractures, fatalities
LIKELIHOOD OF HARM ↓			
IMPROBABLE	SLIGHT	TOLERABLE	MODERATE
POSSIBLE	TOLERABLE	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL
FREQUENT	MODERATE	SUBSTANTIAL	INTOLERABLE

Nature of Hazard?	Who might be harmed and how?	Actions already in place,	Further actions required to manage this risk?	Action to be taken by whom?	Further actions by when?	Date completed
Injury resulting from impact with Memorial or Base	General public – accident risk of slipping on the surrounding surface	Periodic visual checks of the area around Memorial	Nominate person to make visual checks	Cllr Noakes	As any issue may arise	Ongoing
Injury resulting from impact with Memorial or Base	General public – accident risk of tripping on the surrounding chain	Periodic visual checks of the area around Memorial	Nominate person to make visual checks	Cllr Noakes	As any issue may arise	Ongoing

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Injury resulting from impact due to memorial falling over due to failure or cracking of stone	General public – accident risk due to damage or wear & tear of Memorial	Periodic visual checks of the Memorial	Nominate person to make visual checks	Cllr Noakes	As any issue may arise	Ongoing

This assessment made on 8th March 2019 by Cllr J Noakes

The Wootton War Memorial is situated at the junction of Church Road, Church Row and Jenkyn Road. The Memorial is showing signs of deterioration in that a crack across the base and three steps have developed on the SOUTH side. The crack shows again on the base of the NORTH side, although it is not visible on the steps of the NORTH side.

I have taken a measurement of the crack at the extreme edge of the base on the SOUTH side, which is also the widest part of the crack. The width of the crack is 1.5 centimetres. This crack has not become wider since I examined the memorial on 18th September 2018. However, the crack on the NORTH side has become wider from being little more than a hair line crack to one that is now also 1.5 centimetres wide. In addition, the plaque bearing names of the fallen on the NORTH side of the memorial, (names commencing T Folkes) appears to be coming away from the memorial itself. Although the plaque feels secure it is evident there has been some movement. I recommend that the plaque be examined by a monumental mason to ensure its security, and although the memorial does not appear to be in any danger of falling I would recommend the monumental mason also inspects the remainder of the memorial to ensure it does not pose a threat to public safety.

This assessment made on 31st August 2021 by Cllr J Noakes

I have inspected the War Memorial today (Tuesday 31st August 2021) and make the following observations:

1. The cracks in the base to which I have referred in previous reports have been filled in with cement, making any comparison with previous measurements impossible. However, I did observe that the cement used to fill the cracks has not of itself moved away from the edges of the crack, nor has it fallen into the crack which would tend to indicate there has been little movement, or increase in the size of the cracks.
2. I have checked the Memorial for plumb with a spirit level and find that on all four sides there is little movement from being absolutely upright.

I am of the opinion that little has changed since I last inspected the Memorial on 8th March 2019. I believe it is still necessary for the base of the Memorial to be repaired. I do not believe it is a threat to public safety at this time.

(It should be noted the Clerk is currently sourcing a new contractor to undertake all necessary remedial works).

This update made on 7th September 2021 by Sue Edgar Playford

Brown & Ralph Ltd (Building Restoration and Stonemasonry) met with the clerk and Cllrs Noakes, Quirk and Wheeler on 7th September 2021 and the following text was received from Andy on the same day:

"...to confirm we feel the memorial generally is in good order, with no risk of collapse".

This update made on 26th January 2022 by Sue Edgar Playford

Brown & Ralph Ltd (Building Restoration and Stonemasonry) have now carried out remedial repairs (repointing) and cleaning works to the War Memorial.

This update made on 29th August 2022 by Cllr J Noakes

On Monday 29th August 2022 I checked the Wootton War Memorial in accordance with the Risk Assessment.

This is the first time I have checked the memorial since remedial works and cleaning have been undertaken.

I found the memorial to be in good condition. There are a few superficial cracks in the concrete base, but these cracks in no way threaten the safety of the memorial and in any event are too narrow to be able to point with cement.

This update made on 2nd May 2024 by Cllr J Noakes

Examined the War Memorial this afternoon. There are some minor cracks in the base, but nothing I wouldn't expect. The memorial looks very sound and in good condition. It is not a threat to public safety. I recommend a repeat examination in one year.

This update made on 2nd May 2026 by Cllr J Noakes

War memorial examined at 9.15am on Saturday 2nd May 2026. Although there are a few minor cracks in the base these do not affect the overall structure. It appears to me the whole structure is sound and not a threat to health or safety.