



WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL



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Minutes of the **Roads and Pavements Safety Steering Group** meeting held on
Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 8.55pm at Wootton Community Centre, Harris Way, Wootton, MK43 9FZ.

Agenda no	Agenda item title	Resolution	Action	Power
Open Forum	There were no members of the public or press present and so the meeting continued without adjournment.			Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1(1).
Present	Cllrs Lloyd (in the chair), Bygraves, Lincoln, Noakes and O'Dell and non-councillor member Clive Baker (CB). In attendance: Sue Edgar Playford (Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer).			
Absent (no apologies received)	Non-councillor member Tony Ireland (TI).			
Agenda no	Agenda item title	Resolution	Action	Power
RP26/001	Apologies for absence. Cllr Randell.	Noted for the minutes.	Clerk to keep on file.	Local Government Act 1972, s85 (1+2) & Sch 12, Part VI, p40.
RP26/002	Disclosure of local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests. None.	N/A.	N/A.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 7, s31.
RP26/003	To consider any dispensation requests received by the Clerk in relation to local and/or disclosable pecuniary interests, not previously recorded. No requests received.	N/A.	N/A.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 7, s33.
RP26/004	Report from outside organisations – for information only. None.	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.
RP26/005	List of correspondence received (copies of correspondence can be requested from the clerk) – for information only.	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.

	None.			
RP26/006	Minutes of the previous meeting. <i>Minutes are published on the Wootton Parish Council website:</i> https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/minutes/ . Members of the Roads and Pavements Safety Steering Group are asked to receive and adopt the minutes of Roads and Pavements Safety Steering Group meeting held on 12 th November 2025.	Resolved to receive and adopt. Proposed: Cllr Lincoln. Seconded: Cllr Noakes. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to keep on file.	Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, Part VI, p41 (1).
RP26/007	Matters arising from the minutes – for information only. Please refer to the Project Action Plan for fuller information.	N/A.	N/A.	N/A.
RP26/008	To review, amend and approve the Roads and Pavements Safety Steering Group Project Action Plan and to take the same to Full Council for formal approval. Appendix One.	Resolved to review, amend and approve the Project Action Plan and take the same to Full Council for formal approval. Proposed: Cllr Lincoln. Seconded: Cllr Noakes. Resolved by all present.	Clerk to take forward.	Localism Act 2011, Ch 1, s1-8.

Meeting closed 9.15pm.

ROADS AND PAVEMENTS SAFETY STEERING GROUP PAP¹ 2025-26

WPC² publishes a BAP³ annually in May, drawn from the budget which is formally set in January, and which includes project expenditure for the upcoming year. The R&PSSG⁴ committee will produce its own PAP, to be reviewed and amended as necessary at each committee meeting, after which it will be formally reviewed and approved by Full Council, alongside the BAP.

Please refer to earlier published minutes of this Steering Group for PAP information relating to 2025 and/or earlier. These are available to view either via the Clerk to the Council or at: <https://wootton-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/committees/roads-pavements/>

The Roads & Pavements Safety Steering Group committee's projects for 2025-26 are:

At the start of discussions in relation to this Project Action Plan, it was agreed the Clerk would table all issues under the remit of BBCllr Gribble (Portfolio Holder for Environment) and send them to her for comment/action. BBCllr Gribble would be asked to attend the next meeting of this safety steering group.

Issue	How identified?	Timescale	Budget	Action/Update	Project Manager
Berry Wood Car Park – Cranfield Road – exit.	Cllr Noakes.	2025.	BBC ⁵ .	<u>2025 SUMMARY</u> It was impossible to clearly see oncoming vehicles travelling away from Wootton, due to overgrowth and poorly placed signage. <u>11th February 2026</u> BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler continued to chase for remedial works. Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble.	Cllr Noakes.
Burgoyne Avenue speed measures.	Residents.	2024.	BBC.	<u>2025 SUMMARY</u>	BBC.

¹ Project Action Plan.

² Wootton Parish Council.

³ Business Action Plan.

⁴ Roads & Pavements Safety Steering Group.

⁵ Bedford Borough Council.

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				Concerns had been raised that existing speed cushions did not restrict vehicles to 20MPH – speeding remained an issue. Members resolved this item should remain on the project action plan until the adoption process was complete – at which time this safety steering group would again lobby for additional speed measures and request the presence of Wootton’s Speed Watch group.	
Fields Road pavement pinch point and request for an additional pedestrian crossing.	BBC.	Ongoing.	BBC.	<u>PINCH POINT</u> <u>2025 SUMMARY</u> Talks had resurfaced again in relation to the one area along Fields Road pavement (north) which was not piped or infilled during works to widen the pavement between Bedford Road and the Berryfields roundabout. Those works were to provide a three metre (or such width as could be achieved within the highway) footway/cycleway as detailed within a Planning Obligation by Deed of Agreement (s106 Agreement) dated 16th May 2018, between BBC and Goodman Logistics Bedford (GP) LLP (Acting as General Partner of Goodman Logistics Bedford (UK) LP), Goodman Logistics Bedford Nominee (UK) Ltd and Goodman Real Estate (UK) Ltd. Members were asked to support a proposal this area now be piped and infilled (costings to be borne by BBC) noting that: • The pavement was a designated safe route to school. • The pavement was detailed within the s106 agreement referenced above as a shared footway/cycleway. Removing the pinch point would provide safer access for all.	BBC.

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				The adjacent bus stop was used by a significant number of bus users following changes to the bus route and removing the pinch point would provide a bigger and safer area for waiting. Members resolved to support the proposal, make the same recommendation to Full Council and inform BBC of the same. Any works by Bedford Borough Council to remedy the pinch point and install a further pedestrian crossing are unlikely to take place before summer 2026. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble.	
Pavement/all parking issues – including white and yellow lining – village wide.	Residents.	Ongoing.	Not yet identified.	<u>2025 SUMMARY</u> <u>VEHICULAR USE OF MANOR ROADS PAVEMENT – ACCESSING ONTO BEDFORD ROAD</u> BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler confirmed bpha had spoken to a client who agreed to stop using this non-vehicular access point in future. Members agreed to keep this issue open to ensure the same. <u>11th February 2026</u> <u>PAVEMENT PARKING</u> Central government published its response to an earlier consultation on pavement parking on 8th January 2026. Central government intends to enable local transport authorities/highest tier of local government (in this instance, Bedford Borough Council) to enforce against unnecessary obstruction of pavements. Delivering a permanent devolved solution will require primary legislation and regulatory framework, which requires further investigation. Key aspects include:	Cllr O'Dell.

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				- Bedford Borough Council will gain authority to fine motorists who block footways, using civil enforcement officers who can maintain local discretion and flexibility. - Those powers should take effect later in 2026. Fuller details can be seen here. <u>NO PARKING ON VERGES SIGNAGE – FIELDS ROAD PAVEMENT AND POTENTIALLY OTHER AREAS 2025 SUMMARY</u> The Clerk informed BBC that additional signage between Bedford Road and the care home on Fields Road should be considered and all signage should be double-sided, to be clearer. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble.	
Pavements and Roads – all resurfacing/remedial works.	Resident.	Ongoing.	BBC.	<u>PAVEMENTS</u> <u>11th February 2026</u> Refer to Appendix Two. <u>ROADS</u> <u>11th February 2026</u> Refer to Appendix Two.	BBC.
Sanders Way – dropped kerbs (to include additional areas also along Lorraine Road). War Memorial – further request for a dropped kerb.	Request from resident.	Ongoing.	BBC.	<u>2025 SUMMARY</u> The Clerk and BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler continued to chase in relation to outstanding tactile paving in areas along Lorraine Road. <u>11th February 2026</u> BBCllr/Cllr Wheeler continued to chase for outstanding tactile paving works along Lorraine Road.	BBC.

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				The Clerk received a request to add a dropped kerb at the War Memorial, Church Road – to enable access to the memorial. BBC had confirmed it would consider the feasibility of this request in the 2026/27 financial year.	
Speed Indicator Device (SID) on Bedford Road (in the vicinity of the Memorial Hall) and Cranfield Road	Cllr O'Dell.	Ongoing.	BBC.	<u>2025 SUMMARY</u> Cllr O'Dell requested BBC be asked if the Bedford Road device could be re-positioned and upgraded to provide the same level of information provided by the device along Ridge Road. Cllr O'Dell further requested BBC be asked if the Cranfield Road device (now switched off) could be re-purposed within the village. Answers (and costings) would determine whether this safety steering group could lobby for these changes/amendments. Bedford Borough Council confirmed it was seeking quotes for the electrical supplies to be disconnected (all signs were fed from the mains). Those quotations would then be shared with the Parish Council, for its consideration. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble – to include confirmation on whether WPC can download information from both units, itself.	Cllr O'Dell.

Pavements – requested by WPC for programming by BBC	
Area	Comments
Bedford Road: • Cause End Road to Elmsdale Road – both sides. • Cock Inn PH to the Post Office – both sides and including the trip hazard at 16-18 Bedford Road. • Keeley Farm Court to the village boundary with Kempston Rural.	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> • Cock Inn PH to Post Office. The Clerk was awaiting confirmation from Bedford Borough Council regarding scoring/potential remedial works. <u>11th February 2026</u> • Cock Inn PH to Post Office. Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble
Church Road – outside 3 – surface is broken and there is a large hole outside the entrance gate. Outside 38 – surface is broken.	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Bedford Borough Council confirmed this area was aesthetically poor, but structurally sound. It stated – outside 38, a works order had been raised for minor patching. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble.
Jenkyn Road – outside 21 – tree roots have come through the surface and outside 11 – tree roots have also come through the surface.	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Bedford Borough Council confirmed this area was aesthetically poor, but structurally sound save for outside 19/21. An order to remedy root heave had been raised. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble in relation to proposed root heave works.
Lorraine Road.	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Bedford Borough Council confirmed this area was aesthetically poor, but structurally sound save for outside 41/43. An order to remedy defects had been raised. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble in relation to proposed minor patching works outside 41/43.
Manor Road – entire length, both sides.	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Bedford Borough Council confirmed this area was aesthetically poor, but structurally sound save for outside 19. An order to remedy defects had been raised. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCllr Gribble in relation to proposed minor patching works.
St. Mary's Road – entire length, both sides.	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Bedford Borough Council confirmed this area had been provisionally booked in for resurfacing works in its 2026/27 financial year.
Studley Road – outside 5 and 7 – surface has broken.	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Bedford Borough Council confirmed this area was aesthetically poor, but structurally sound save for

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	outside 5/7. An order for patching was pending, and it would look to add this to its capital request list for future resurfacing due to undulated areas. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCLlr Gribble in relation to proposed minor patching works outside 5/7 and whether resurfacing works to remedy undulated areas would be considered and when.
Roads – requested by WPC for programming by BBC	
Area	Comments
Fields Road (several areas).	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Cllr Lloyd noted several areas along Fields Road that appeared to be ‘dipping’ and crumbling away underneath. The Clerk requested members send photographic evidence before a report was made to Bedford Borough Council. BBCLlr/Cllr Wheeler stated areas had been patched, however BBC investigations were still ongoing as to why the surface was crumbling. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCLlr Gribble in relation to why the road surface was crumbling and whether additional patching works (or more intensive works) were required.
Hall End Road (adjacent to the upper school).	<u>SUMMARY 2025</u> Temporary repairs had been made in this area. The Clerk was awaiting further confirmation from Bedford Borough Council regarding scoring/potential additional remedial works. <u>11th February 2026</u> Clerk to table for BBCLlr Gribble in relation to proposed scoring/additional remedial works.

To be reviewed at each Roads & Pavements Safety Steering Group meeting.