

Those present:

Cllr Hawes (Chair)
Cllr. Goldie
Cllr Rogers
Andrew Eastham – Non-voting member
Michelle Curtis (Parish Clerk/RFO)

The Chair advised that Adam Ferneyhough had resigned from the Parish Council and was no longer a Woodup Pool Committee member. There is now a vacancy on the Committee.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Ferneyhough.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Goldie declared a personal interest as follows:

- Owner of Tollesbury Marina

Andrew Eastham declared a personal interest as follows:

- Membership of Tollesbury Sailing Club
- Mr Eastham works for Fellowship Afloat Charitable Trust (FACT) and is a director for Tollesbury Saltings.

3. Public Forum

The Clerk advised that there were no requests from residents to address the Committee.

4. Minutes

Resolved: The minutes of the Woodup Pool Committee Meeting held on 19th June 2024 be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Goldie, seconded by Cllr Rogers and unanimously agreed by those who attended.

The Chair signed the Minutes.

5. Review of the Season

With the exception of the weed issue in May, it was a successful season at Woodup Pool.

The weed clearance working party held in May was a success, with a majority of the weed being removed. FACT has monitored the weed during the empty/fill process, and there has been very little regrowth. Some weed is still in the far corner, near the Marine Office. A further working party to clear some weed will likely be needed before the start of the 2025 season; this will be agreed upon at the pre-season meeting in the new year.

Litter continues to be an issue at the pool. Visitors tend to leave rubbish beside the bin, which the contractor will not take. The Clerk had put signs on the bins advising visitors not to leave rubbish next to them. The green wheelie bin was delivered at

the beginning of July and, depending on the weather, may be needed a little earlier next year.

Some swimmers have been very helpful and often help with litter clearance at the pool.

The Clerk advised that the wheelie bin had excess weight on some occasions, which incurred additional charges.

There were no significant issues with the toilets, except access, which had been an issue on one occasion. Agenda item 8 will discuss a possible solution to the toilets.

Action: Clerk to forward a Google Earth map when making the toilet booking for 2025, confirming the access to the pool.

6. End of Season Maintenance and Closure

The Committee agreed to try closing the pool longer out of season to address the weed issue.

The winter shutdown will be as follows:

- Monday 18th November 2024 – empty the pool and close the sluice
- Tuesday 17th December 2024 – open the sluice and fill the pool for the Christmas swim
- Thursday 2nd January 2025 – empty the pool and close the sluice until mid-February (date to be confirmed)

7. Finances/Earmarked Reserves

The Committee reviewed the Finances and Earmarked Reserves (Appendix A).

8. Toilets

The Committee discussed the proposed toilet project and reviewed the quotations.

The Chair advised that initially, it was agreed to apply to the Essex County Council Community Initiatives Funds for half towards the costs of the exploratory works. The Clerk had spoken with the Essex Association of Local Councils about the project, and they had advised that it would be better to apply for the more significant project, supply and connection of toilets, rather than the exploratory works.

Quotations were received as follows:

Drain Survey

Roes Environmental – verbal quotation - £250 + VAT for the first hour and then £150 + VAT per hour

Ashwaste - £399 + VAT

Ocker Engineering Ltd - £743.85 + VAT

Access to the drains

Gamart Engineering had been sent a specification and would shortly be sending a quotation.

Councillors felt that although Roes Environmental and Ashwaste were cheaper, Ocker Engineering Ltd was the preferred supplier as they were familiar with the area, understood the requirements of the Environment Agency and had previously

worked with Gamart Engineering on the installation of the sluice gate at Woodup Pool in 2021.

Action: To propose to the Full Council to accept the quotation from Ocker Engineering Ltd for the drain survey. This work could be paid for with the funds from the Woodup Pool Event (current balance £758) held in the Woodup Pool Earmarked Reserves.

Some funds were available in the 2024/25 Woodup Pool maintenance budget that could be used for the drain access works.

Due to the work involved and the funds required, the permanent toilets will unlikely be in place next season.

9. Precept 2025/26

The Committee considered the funds required for the general running of Woodup Pool in the next financial year. The proposed budget will be submitted to the Finance Committee for consideration when setting the precept.

Earmarked funds (£1000 Risk Assessment - £2000 towards sluice gate maintenance)	£3000
Contract (Grass cutting)	£270
General Maintenance (sluice gate/general maintenance)	£1500
Toilets (includes additional toilet cleaning and toilet during the school holidays)	£1800
Water Testing	£400
Litter (green wheelie bin)	£500
Community Protection Officers (additional patrols during the school holidays)	£480

*No provision has been made for a potential toilet project until the exploratory works have been completed

10. Other Matters

It was raised that some overgrown brambles were on the seawall near the pool.

Action: Clerk to report to the Environment Agency, responsible for cutting them back.

11. Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on:
Monday 24th February 2025 – 7pm - Pavilion

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.15pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....

**Woodup Pool Finances
As At 2nd October 2024**

	Expenditure to Date	2024/25 Budget	Balance	
Contract	£135	£270	£135	Currently £22.50 per month
Gen Maintenance	£341	£1,500	£1,159	£400 depth guage sleeves and £160 annual sluice gate maintenance
Litter Collection	£425	£500	£75	
CET	£0	£440	£440	Invoice due October
Toilets	£1,151	£2,250	£1,099	A final invoice is due 1 week plus collection approx £80. In 2024 a credit of £240 was received, this related to 2023
Water Testing	£0	£400	£400	Invoice due October
TOTAL	£2,052	£5,360	£3,308	
Earmarked Funds				
W/Pool	£7,015			
TOTAL	£7,015			
Less Committed Expenditure:				
Audit Assessment 2026	-£1,000			
Sluice gate maintenance	-£2,000			
Weed control maintenance	-£1,000			
Audit Assessment 2024	-£1,000			
New Signage	-£282			Funds taken from Woodup Pool Event Funds
Woodup Pool Event Funds	-£758			Remaining balance
TOTAL	£975			