

Woodton United Charities Annual Report 2025 -2026

Two of our long-standing trustees, Ian Butler (Chair) and Mike Beckett stepped down from the Charity and we would like to thank them both for their many years of service. We have welcomed new Trustees to the Charity.

Woodton United Charities has continued to offer support to the residents of Woodton over the past 12 months.

Grants/Initiatives: We have provided hardship grants to several local residents and we continue to give out the annual grants to people at Christmas. On receiving these funds last year, all the recipients were very grateful. We continue to look at claims and will be watching closely to see how the change in oil prices may affect people later this year as they face increases in the cost of living.

At the request of a resident to support the Year of Reading initiative, we are in the process of offering book tokens to Primary School children living in Woodton and we will be coordinating with Woodton Primary School to provide gifts to year 6 leavers.

Financials: Sale of Geldeston land is still ongoing with good progress being made to finalise the sale at present. We are reviewing our investment opportunities to allow us maximum returns from the monies invested. We have also modernised our banking system to allow electronic payments.

Communications: This year we have given the website a complete re-vamp which is currently going live with notification to residents via the Woodton Facebook page. The application form will now be interactive allowing requests to reach us quicker. But it will have a version to download if preferred. We are about to introduce new social media pages through Facebook and Instagram. We would be grateful if we could include a short piece in the Autumn issue of the PC newsletter and we would also welcome the link to the new website and social media pages from the Woodton Parish Council website.

WUC is also changing from a charity to a CIO, Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and this is being handled by Leathes Prior on our behalf. At the time of writing, this process is almost complete. Under the new rules of our constitution, we no longer need a trustee from the Parish Council, but we are pleased to continue working closely with Woodton Parish Council.

Andrew McCrostie
Chair