Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th August 2022 in the Schoolroom of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.50pm

*(The meeting followed a presentation regarding the Cranford Energy Park by consultants and landowner who advised that the future development around the wind and solar farm would be high energy use companies. Councillors raised several questions and expressed concerns regarding the size of the buildings and the increased traffic on the A510 passing General’ s Corner)*

1. **Present:**
   1. Councillors: Mr I Vaughan (vice-chair), Mr G Banham, Mr N Chapman, Mrs A Fothergill, Mrs C Hughes, Mrs J Hathaway, Mr M Hurst, Mrs S O’Donnell, Mr D Sharples Mr C Swiecicki, and Mr M Vaughan
   2. NNC Cllr D Maxwell, Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
2. **Apologies for absence:**
   1. Mr P J Bird.
3. **Minutes of Previous meeting:**
   1. The minutes of the July Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were agreed as a true record by those present. It was resolved that they be signed by the Chairman.
4. **Comments from Electors:**
   1. No Electors present.
5. **Comments from Cllr D Maxwell NNC**
   1. Councillor Maxwell reported that Taxi charges are to be harmonised across the district.
   2. Garden waste charges are to be agreed in September.
   3. It was understood the overgrown hedge in Church Green was being dealt with by Highways and the Conservation team.
   4. The Councillor drew attention to a new vehicular access which had been created in Rectory Lane, without planning permission. She had referred the matter to Planning Enforcement
   5. Cllr Maxwell advised that planning officer Mr D Wishart who was handling the Travellers site was due to leave in September.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
   1. **Upgrading Street Lamps.**  This upgrade would commence during the last week of August.
   2. **Trees at Top of Church Green.** Councillors who had viewed the site all concurred that the trees were planted a significant distance from the boundary wall and posed no danger to the resident’s property. Clerk to advise.
   3. **Trees on Verges.** NNC had advised that trees on verges must be at least three metres from road side and two meters from neighbouring boundaries. The Mill Road verge was therefore of insufficient width to accommodate trees. A response from the sports club was still awaited.
   4. **Facebook Presence.** A Facebook page was currently being created and would be in use prior to the next meeting.
7. **Planning Matters:**
   1. **Planning Decisions:**
      1. **Land SW Manor Farm, Addington Road.** Erection of replacement stables NE/22/00736/FUL **Approved.**
      2. **76 High Street.** Replacement of concrete tiles with slate NE/22/00731/FUL. **Approved**
   2. **New Planning Application(s):**
      1. None.
   3. **Other Planning Matters:**
      1. None
8. **New Correspondence / Clerk’s announcements:**
   1. External Audit Appointment. The national contract was about to be re-awarded, but any council could opt out and appoint their own auditor in accordance with the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015. Resolved to stay in the national scheme.
   2. Wedding parking. A request to use Church Green for wedding parking on 3rd September was authorised with the normal provisions.
9. **Accounts For Payment:**

Current Account £26,207.61

Interest Account £6.05

**Total £26,213.66**

Less

DD80 Opus Energy (Lighting Power) £265.25

2451 Mr P Bird – Clerk (19hrs 45mins) £400.00

2452 R&G Landscape Maintenance of verges £426.00

2453 Help for Heroes £70.00

2454 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picker (8 hours) £74.80

£1,236.05

**£24,977.61**

Resolved that the above payments be noted and authorised.

1. **Other Finance matters** 
   1. None
2. **Police / Joint Action Group report**
   1. No matters to report.
3. **Playing Field Representative.** 
   1. Cllr Maxwell advised she would forward the application forms for Empowerment Fund donation. Mr Chapman to advise the quantity of paint required and colours.
4. **To co-opt new Parish Councillor**
   1. One expression of interest received, however Councillors agreed to defer a decision due to time constraints for this meeting
5. **To consider alterations to Parking restrictions – village wide**
   1. Agreed to suggest lengthening of double yellow lines on Mill Road junction to improve safety. Mr Chapman suggested lengthening lines at entrance to Highfield to improve standard of parking. Resolved that both locations be recommended to Highways for consideration
6. **To consider new energy contract for street lighting**
   1. The Clerk advised he had been unsuccessful in obtaining new quotations, with suppliers either failing to answer the enquiry or responding that the Council remains with the current supplier
7. **Other Business for future meetings**
   1. Mrs Hughes mentioned that a drone had been overflying domestic properties. Clerk to include article in Saints Alive re legal use of drones.
   2. Several shrubs were overhanging walls in High Street and Pound Lane. Clerk to include in Saints Alive.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Signed Date