Minutes of a Meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th December 2022 in the Schoolroom of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

1. **Present:**
   1. Councillors: Mr G Banham, (Chair) Mr I Vaughan, Mr N Chapman, Mrs A Fothergill, Mrs J Hathaway, Mrs S O’Donnell, Mr D Sharples, Mr C Swiecicki.
   2. Mr P T Bird (Clerk), Cllr D Maxwell (NNC)
2. **Apologies for absence:**
   1. Mrs C Hughes, Mr M Hurst, Mr M Vaughan.
3. **Minutes of Previous meeting:**
   1. The minutes of the November Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were agreed as a true record (except for adding Mr M Vaughan to those in attendance) 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. Cllr Maxwell advised NNC had employed a barrister to represent the council at the forthcoming planning appeal (see para 7.3).
   2. The councillor drew attention to a child falling in the children’s playground and damaging their teeth. Clerk advised that no reports had been received by the council.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
   1. **Vacancy - Mr P J Bird.** An election had not been called and the council was free to co-opt. Agreed advertisement be included in the Saints Alive for January 2023.
   2. **Street Lighting costs.** The new contract was now operational with YU Energy and first invoice should be received towards end of December.
   3. **Streetlamp Replacement**. The remainder of the order placed earlier in the year had now been fulfilled.
   4. **Dog Bin Signs in Church St.** Temporary signs had yet to be installed.
7. **Planning Matters:**
   1. **Planning Decisions:**
      1. **1 The Green –** works to Bay tree.NE/22/01190/TCA **Permitted.**
      2. **6 Addington Road** – new garage rear of property NE/22/01184/FUL. **Refused.**
   2. **New Planning Application(s):**
      1. **2 Pleasant Row** minor revisions to existing application. NE/22/01075/FUL **No Objection** to revisions**.**
      2. **57 High Street Resubmission –** change of use for shop. The plans now featured internal access from the house to the shop. NE/22/01378/FUL. **No Objection** provided former shop premises remains part of, or ancillary to 57 High Street and is not treated as a separate dwelling.
      3. **8 Church Street.** Provision of electrical charging point on barn for electric vehicle. NE/22/01534/LBC **No Objection.**
   3. **Other Planning Matters:**
      1. **Travellers Site, Thrapston Road. NE/21/00960/FUL / APP/M2840/W/22/3307410** Details of the appeal were to hand. Councillors agreed that the Clerk write to the Inspector drawing attention to various items in the appellants statement which could have already been introduced if there was in intention to comply with the submitted application. Draft response to be circulated to councillors and submitted on 21st December. The appeal would be held on 2nd February 2023
8. **New Correspondence / Clerk’s announcements:**
   1. **EV Charging Points.** NNC had advised of the locations of further public charging points. All were urban locations. The clerk advised that at a recent briefing several parish councils had queried why these trial locations were always in towns where public charging points at carparks / supermarkets etc were already in place, as opposed to rural areas where few, if any existed.
   2. **Playground Inspection.** Agreed this annual inspection be ordered through Wicksteed.
   3. **Local Government Boundary Review.** The number of North Northants Councillors was to be reduced by 8 to 70 from the 2025 elections. Consultation was now underway until the end of January 2023.
   4. **Parking Rose Terrace.** Complaints had been received regarding the number of trailers and motor vehicles that were now parked in the turning circle near 27 Rose Terrace. This was exacerbated by the shipping container on the premises car park forcing more vehicles on to the road. Cllr Maxwell advised she would take matter up with NNC Planning and Highways to see if any infringements were taking place.
9. **Accounts For Payment:**

Current Account £15,554.83

Interest Account £6.05

**Total £15,560.88**

Less

2472 Mr P Bird – Clerk (25 hrs 30mins) £400.00

2473 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picker (14 hrs) £120.40

2474 R&G £378.00

2475 cancelled

2476 cancelled

2477 E.on Lighting (LED installations) £6,216.00

2478 HMRC £36.80

£7,151.20

**£8,409.68**

Resolved that the above payments be noted and authorised.

1. **Budget 2023/24 and Precept**
   1. A draft budget had been circulated which included minor amendments to expenditure except for street lighting which was significantly increased to cater for increased energy supplies. This would involve an increase in precept from £22,500 to £27,000. After some debate given that the council had used the majority of reserves this year to meet energy costs it was unanimously agreed that the budget be approved. This would permit sufficient funds to also be available for upgrading the remaining lamps although this would be carried out later in the financial year enabling this sum to be held as a contingency for the greater part of the year. Resolved to accept draft budget and levy a precept for £27,000.
2. **Nomination of Trustee to Woodford General Charity**
   1. Mr Ivor Vaughan volunteered and there being no other nominations it was resolved that Mr Vaughan be nominated as a Trustee to the Charity (four years)
3. **JAG Report**
   1. Mr M Vaughan was not in attendance.
4. **Playing Field Representative.** 
   1. None.
5. **Other Business for future meetings**
   1. Mr Sharples asked whether the “Think Before You Park” scheme could be restarted. Clerk to enquire of local Police sergeant.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm.

Signed Date