Minutes of a Meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st November 2023 in the Schoolroom of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

1. **Present:**
   1. Councillors: Mr I Vaughan (chair), Mrs S Bryant, Mr N Chapman, Mrs A Fothergill, Mrs J Hathaway, Mr M Hurst, Mrs C Hughes, Mrs S O’Donnell, Ms S Southcombe, Mr C Swiecicki, Mr M Vaughan.
   2. Cllr Maxwell, Mr P T Bird (Clerk).
   3. Mrs Sally Bryant, on signing her Declaration of Office was welcomed to her first meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence:**
   1. Mr G Banham, Mr D Sharples.
3. **Minutes of last Parish Council Meeting:**
   1. The minutes of the October Parish Council Meeting having been circulated were agreed as a true record.
4. **Public Participation:**
   1. **Police Comments.** Not present
   2. **Cllr D Maxwell NNC.** Cllr Maxwell drew attention to the large increase in children requiring assistance from Children’s Services and the corresponding increase in cost. The Councillor also drew attention to the suspension of the current Chief Constable.
   3. **Electors.** None
5. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
   1. **Kettering Energy Park.** The Clerk together with approximately thirty others had attended an advisory committee meeting to hear the latest discussions regarding the energy park. It was evident that NNC Planning Officers had a very different agenda to the Councillors on the committee. The proposers of the project were asked to address a number of outstanding issues raised in the previous and current versions of their masterplan and carry out improved consultation.
   2. **Dog Bin Newtown.** NNC advised access for emptying a bin in the proposed location would be difficult and as no reported incidents of dog fouling had been received for this location a bin would not be installed.
   3. **No Parking Signs – Village Green.** The Clerk still awaited the “Empowerment Fund Application” from Cllr Maxwell.
   4. **Village Green Maintenance.** Two initial expressions of interest had been received but no firm applications. Agreed that the Clerk would provide a specification to local contractors to gauge interest.
   5. **Damaged Swing.** The defective part had now been replaced.
6. **Planning Matters:**
   1. **Planning Decisions**:
      1. **Manor Farm Addington Road.** Installation of leaded windows – NE/23/00935/LBC. **Refused.**
      2. **5 Rectory Lane** Treeworks NE/23/00795/TCA. **Permitted.**
      3. **13 Church Street.** Demolition and reconstruction of single-storey extension. NE/23/00900/FUL. **Permitted.**
      4. **Old Station House Twywell.** First Floor Extension over porch. NE/23/00873/FUL. **Permitted.**
   2. **New Planning Application(s):**
      1. **8 Church Street –**NE/23/01115/FUL **Erection of Greenhouse.** After a lengthy discussion there was **No Objection** to the position of the greenhouse, but it was felt that a higher boundary wall to screen the roof ridge from the road, or a lowering of the ground level would be beneficial.
   3. **Other Planning Matters:**
      1. **13 Church Street** Demolition of existing garage and reconstruction **NE/23/00901/FUL. Withdrawn**
      2. Comment was made with regard to the continued desecration of the former wooded site in Thrapston Road. The Clerk was asked to write to the Enforcement Team requesting an update of how the site was being monitored.
7. **New Correspondence / Clerk’s announcements:**
   1. **Local Government Boundary Commission Review.** The proposed boundary changes for the Local Government Elections 2025 included a reduction of NNC Councillors from 78 to 68 and new ward boundaries relocated Woodford into the Thrapston Ward (three councillors). Denford and Ringstead would move from Irthlingborough to Raunds War and Great and Little Addington would remain in Irthlingborough Ward with two Councillors. NNC would now conduct a review of Parish Boundaries and number of local councillors.
   2. **Precept**. This would need to be submitted in early January requiring budget to be set at December meeting.
   3. **Additional Street Lamp High Street**. Ms Southcombe drew attention to the “dark spot2 in the High Street. A Sunnyside resident had also requested a new street lamp in the location. Agreed that the Clerk obtain a quotation for future consideration.
8. **Accounts For Payment:**

Balance end of October 2023 **£25,817.06**

**Less**

2538 Mr P Bird Clerk (22 ¾ hrs) £425.00

2539 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picker (8 hrs) £80.56

2540 R&G Landscapes £727.80

2541 E.on Lighting Improvements £5,376.00

2542 Wicksteed Leisure £36.30

2543 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £100.00

DD107 Yu Energy £45.49

DD108 Yu Energy £422.78

£7,213.93 **£18,603.13**

* 1. It was resolved that these invoices be approved for payment

1. **JAG Report**
   1. No Comments.
2. **Playing Field Report**
   1. No comments
3. **Other Business for future meetings**
   1. None

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

Signed Date