**Minutes of a Meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th August 2024 in the Schoolroom of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:**
   1. Councillors: Mr I Vaughan, (chair), Mr N Chapman, Mrs Fothergill, Mrs J Hathaway, Mrs Hughes Mr M Hurst, Mr D Sharples, Mr C Swiecicki and Mr M Vaughan.
   2. Cllr D Maxwell, Mr P T Bird (Clerk).
2. **Apologies for absence:**
   1. Mr Banham, Mrs Bryant, Mrs O’Donnell, Ms Southcombe
3. **Minutes of last Meeting:**
   1. The minutes of the July Parish Council Meeting having been circulated were agreed as a true record.
4. **Public Participation:**
   1. **Electors.** None
   2. **Police Comments.** The Police were not in attendance.
   3. **Councillor D Maxwell (NNC**) announced a Polling Station review held soon; NNC was concerned that the former HS2 funding earmarked for the Isham bypass would now be withdrawn, and NNC were encouraging pensioners on low income to claim pension credit in order to continue to receive the winter fuel allowance which was to be withdrawn.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
   1. **No Parking Signs.** The signs were due to be installed imminently.
   2. **Kettering Energy Park.** Ms Southcombe and Mr M Vaughan’s names had been forwarded to the steering group but no further emails had been received
   3. **Overgrown Leys field** was mentioned – Clerk confirmed he had contacted Drayton re cutting. This request also extended to Bridleways and Rights of Way
   4. **Timber for seat in playground.** This had been collected and delivered to Mr Chapman for applying wood treatment.
   5. **Blocked Gully Piles Fields SW end Church Street** – This issue was being dealt with by the NNC Right of Way Team.
   6. **Bus Service to Rushden Lakes**. No further update.
   7. **Trees on Church Green.** The Clerk had written to the householder advising permission to prune the trees had not been permitted.
   8. **Local Government Review.** NNC had advised there was sufficient interest in a local government review (Town and Parish Councils) and as such a review would commence in October 2024, being completed in summer 2025, taking effect from the 2029 elections.
   9. **Skips on Playing Field**. The Clerk was asked to reiterate the Council’s concerns over the safety of certain areas around the Playing Fields and if a response was not received then a representative should be invited to the September Council meeting.
6. **Planning Matters:**
   1. **Planning Decisions**:
      1. **None.**
   2. **New Planning Application(s):**
      1. **6 Addington Road** Construction of detached car port / open shed to rear of property. NE/24/00765/FUL **No Objection.**
      2. **4 The Moorings.** Installation of EV Charger to front of dwelling.NE/24/00752/FUL. **No Objection.**
      3. **1 Church Street.** Re-pollard Lime Tree to previous point. NE24/00745/TCA. **No Objection**
   3. **Other Planning Matters:**
      1. None.
7. **New Correspondence / Clerk’s announcements:**
   1. **Complaints re use of Village Greens.** At a recent Dog Show organised on the village green parking had become a serious issue across much of the village with complaints of obstructions being reported in High Street, Addington Road, Alledge Drive and Mill Road. Councillors concurred the event was much larger than anticipated (when compared to the event held in 2023). Agreed that a formal application process be introduced for use of the green for future events.
   2. **Request to use Church Green for overflow parking for “Woodfordstock”.** Debated at length and ultimately agreed to formally permit the use of the two main greens, but not Church Green. It was understood the playing fields were being used as temporary camping location so it was suggested this should also be a suitable site for overflow parking.
   3. **Fair Refuse.** NNC (following a complaint) had queried with the clerk the rubbish left by the fair. They advised that proof that it had been removed by a registered waste carrier or by the purchasing of their waste bags would be the only options as rubbish was classed as commercial waste. Clerk was not permitted to dispose of himself, failure to act could leave council open to a charge of fly tipping (Clerk pointed out the rubbish was on private land). Ultimately Council waste bags were purchased (below)
8. **Accounts For Payment:**

Balance end of June 2024 **£28,378.16**

**Less**

2587 Mr P Bird – Clerk (19 hours) £460.00

2588 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picking (11 hours) £114.64

2589 P J Brett Grounds Maintenance £190.00

2590 NNC Fair Rubbish Clearance £86.70

2591 R&G Verge maintenance £558.06

DD124 Yu Energy Lighting Power £46.22

DD125 Yu Energy Lighting Power £284.84

£1,740.46 **£26,643.83**It was resolved that these invoices and amounts be approved for payment.

1. **Local Area Partnership**
   1. Mrs Hathaway and Mr M Vaughan reported on the recent LAP meeting. Both felt the partnership had lost direction, with members of the public attending but very few representatives from the voluntary sector. NNC appeared to have tried to get the voluntary sector to drive the partnership but low attendance meant this was no longer the case. There appeared to be a considerable amount of money being allocated to LAP but with no joined up thinking, commitment from providers and a lack of directed wider public engagement little progress was being made towards the initial goal set at the inception, of reducing the health service provision inequality across the district.
2. **Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator**
   1. To progress this scheme a co-ordinator was required. Mr M Vaughan volunteered, and councillors agreed he should be appointed. Clerk to advise CSW team
3. **Discuss Parking in Rose Terrace**
   1. The number of vehicles parking in Rose Terrace and the lack of off-road parking was discussed. Agreed that clerk write to Longhurst Housing re providing more off road parking within the grounds of “The Shrubberies Complex”.
4. **Meet and Greet Proposal**
   1. Discussion deferred as Ms Southcombe was absent.
5. **Playing Field Report**
   1. Mr Chapman had nothing to report.
6. **Report from Joint Action Group**
   1. Mr M Vaughan had nothing to report with.
7. **Other Business for future meetings**
   1. Mr Hurst complained about the state of the pavements in the village.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm.

Signed Date