**Minutes of a Meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th February 2025 in the Schoolroom of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:**
	1. Councillors: Mr G Banham (chair), Mrs S Bryant, Mr N Chapman, Mrs J Hathaway, Mrs C Hughes, Mr M Hurst, Mr Sharples, Mrs Fothergill, Ms S Southcombe Mr C Swiecicki, Mrs S O’Donnell, Mr I Vaughan and Mr M Vaughan.
	2. One member of public, Mr P T Bird (Clerk).
2. **Apologies for absence:**
	1. Cllr D Maxwell.
3. **Minutes of last Meeting:**
	1. The minutes of the January Parish Council Meeting were approved and duly signed by the chairman.
4. **Public Participation:**
	1. **Electors.** None
	2. **Police Comments.** The Police were not in attendance.
	3. **Councillor D Maxwell (NNC**). A written report from the Councillor was read out comprising: agreement to provide a reference for Speed Device grant application; had met with residents of Woodwell re planning application for three properties (January 2025 minutes para 6.2.1); understood a new policing hub was to be centred at Thrapston; would be seeking selection to stand in the Thrapston Ward at the forthcoming unitary election.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
	1. **Electronic Speed Signs.** Clerk drew attention to various models and that grants from the Crime Commissioner of up to £5000 were available. The application form for the grant had been completed but a letter / form of support was awaited from Cllr Maxwell.
	**Resolved** that application be made as soon as document was received, and if successful then two devices be purchased from ElanCity at £2,500 each.
	2. **Planning Workshop.** Mrs Bryant and Mrs Hughes reported on the recent workshop held at Thrapston which had covered a whole range of planning issues. Slides from presentation were now available, Clerk to circulate.
	3. **Kettering Energy Park.** No further development.
	4. **Parking Restrictions in Mill Road Highfield.** The Council’s request for parking restrictions made about 18 months ago, resulted in restrictions being extended on the High Street Mill Road junction (outbound) only. NNC had confirmed whilst there had been objections public safety overruled. The requests for extension on the opposite side of Mill Road, and the entrance to Highfield were rejected following public consultation.
	5. **Community Speedwatch.** Mr M Vaughan advised there were ten volunteers who had agreed to participate and he confirmed the equipment would be in Woodford 3rd -31st May.
	6. **Tree in memory of Queen Elizabeth II / Platinum Jubilee.** The tree had now been planted and the clerk was asked to source a “plaque” for locating near the tree. Also, a plaque for the tree planted for the Diamond Jubilee tree and the village sign
	7. **Woodford Sports and Social Complex re maintenance. A l**etter had been sent to WSSC re roof works advising the Council had no objection and also included details of other funding resources.
	8. **A14 Closures.** A14 daytime emergency works had resulted in long eastbound tailbacks with vehicles seeking alternative routes through Woodford at approximately 800 vehicles per hour. Representations to be made to NNC Highways and also through the Transport Plan consultation.
	9. **S136 Agreement to cut verges.** Agreed that the council would take on this work. Noted the grant available was to increase to £652.65.
	10. **Greens Maintenance.** Mr Brett was willing to continue cutting greens, but for the increased price of £114. Accepted unanimously
	11. **Verge Maintenance.** R&G had agreed to continue with verges maintenance and play area in Paddocks subject to a 4% price increase. Accepted unanimously.
6. **Planning Matters:**
	1. **Planning Decisions**:
		1. None
	2. **New Planning Application(s):**
		1. **76 High Street**. Rear extension and woodstore construction. **NE/25/00064/FUL**, **No Objection.**
	3. **Other Planning Matters:**
		1. **Land adjacent to 1 The Moorings**. A letter had been sent to NNC regarding the lack of information regarding the appeal at this address - no response to date.
7. **New Correspondence / Clerk’s announcements:**

**Parish Council Elections.** Formal notification that Parish Council elections would take place on 1 May 2025 had been received. Nomination forms would be available from 8 March, to be delivered to the Returning Officer at Kettering by 4pm on 2 April.

1. **Accounts For Payment:**

 Balance end of January 2025 **£18,197.36**

 **Less**

 2616 Mr P Bird – Clerk (hours) £460.00

 2617 Mr D Bosworth (11 hours) £78.08

 DD134 Yu Energy £51.53

 DD135 Yu Energy £446.55

 £1,036.16 **£17,161.20**

1. **Playing Field Report**
	1. Mr Chapman had nothing to report.
2. **Police Liaison Representative**
	1. Mr M Vaughan had completed the registration form for this role
3. **Other Business for future meetings**
	1. None

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Signed Date