**Minutes of a Meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th March 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 D Sharples, Ms S Southcombe Mr C Swiecicki, Mr I Vaughan and Mr M Vaughan.
	2. One member of public, Mr P T Bird (Clerk).
2. **Apologies for absence:**
	1. Mrs Fothergill, Mrs S O’Donnell, Cllr D Maxwell.
3. **Minutes of last Meeting:**
	1. The minutes of the February 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: NNC budget in the black but recent withdrawal of central government funding had resulted in some cuts; a number of incidents of fly tipping had been reported; Corby was likely to receive a new Police station, concern no presence in centre of Kettering which has a higher crime rate. Understood the planning application for Woodwell had been refused.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
	1. **Electronic Speed Signs / Grant application.** The grant form had recently been completed but the fund was now closed until April 2025
	2. **Kettering Energy Park.** The applicants advised an Outline Planning Application had been lodged with NNC. No formal notice had been received from NNC to advise the application had been validated and was subject to consultation.
	3. **Tree in memory of Queen Elizabeth II / Platinum Jubilee.** Plaque prices started at £25 and councillors agreed that so long as tree was documented in council minute then this would suffice.
	4. **S136 Agreement to cut verges.** Kier had advised that the previously quoted fee for verge cutting was incorrect and the amount due to the council would remain unchanged this year
6. **Planning Matters:**
	1. **Planning Decisions**:
		1. None
	2. **New Planning Application(s):**
		1. **12 Mill Road** Installation of dropped kerb. **NE/24/01216/FUL**, **Permitted.**
	3. **Other Planning Matters:**
		1. **Land adjacent to 1 The Moorings**. A letter of apology had been received. There was no change to the consultation process
7. **New Correspondence / Clerk’s announcements:**
	1. **Litter Picker Resignation.** Mrs Debbie Bosworth had resigned with effect of 31 March. Agreed to invite Mrs Bosworth to the next PC meeting to offer appreciation of 20 years’ service. Clerk to advertise vacancy with view to filling at next meeting.
	2. **Parish Council Elections.** Clerk offered to take any nomination forms to NNC on 24 March as they required hand delivery, although if any subsequent errors were identified these would need to be addressed by the nominee.
	3. **Complaint re gas gun bird scarer.** A complaint regarding the use of gas gun bird scarers near Alledge Drive had been answered by the Clerk and Chair outlining the need for their use suggesting the matter be raised either with the farmer if known or Environmental Protection at NNC. (Subsequently the clerk wrote to Drayton advising of the complaint and a response that the matter was in hand had been received)
	4. **Highways site near A510 junction.** This cleared site was now occupied with caravans and plant equipment. Concerns had been raised with NNC who had advised it was being used as a contractor’s depot for the short term.
	5. **Use of Green for Church Fete.** Request from the church to use the village green for a fete on 12th July. Approved
	6. **Use of Green by Ian Taylor Family Fair.** A request to use the green for a fair between 29 June and 6th July was received and agreed. Fair to open Thursday 3rd – Saturday 5th July.

1. **Accounts For Payment:**

 Balance end of February 2025 **£17,161.20**

 **Plus** NNC reimbursement towards cost of verge cutting£442.65

 Donation towards Defibrillator costs £140.00

 £17,743.85

 **Less**

 2620 Mr P Bird – Clerk (hours) £460.00

 2621 Mr P Bird – incidental expenses (blue book) £313.86

 2622 Woodford Baptist Church (Meeting Room) £72.00

 2623 Mr D Bosworth (8 hours) £87.12

 2624 HMRC Income Tax £17.60

 DD140 Yu Energy £45.30

 DD141 Yu Energy £373.83

 DD142 Information Commissioner (DP Registration) £47.00

 £1,416.71 **£16,327.14**

1. **Playing Field Report**
	1. Mr Chapman had nothing to report.
2. **Consider Risk Assessment Report re council’s assets (verbal)**
	1. Deferred to next meeting at Clerk’s request.
3. **Report re Local Area Partnership and Rural Wellbeing Survey**
	1. Mrs Hathaway drew attention to this online survey. Clerk to publicise via web and circulate details to councillors.
4. **Police Liaison Representative**
	1. Mr M Vaughan had no matters to report.
5. **Other Business for future meetings**
	1. None.

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

Signed Date