

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st May 2013 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Mr P Bird (chair), Mr C Burt, Mr R Briggs, Mr N Chapman, Mr M Hackney, Mr M Hurst, Mr J Mead, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan.

In attendance: Mr P T Bird (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Mrs S Cooke, Mrs D Winn, Cllr D Hughes, Police.

The Chairman read out a letter of resignation from Mrs Winn. Councillors expressed regret. The Clerk advised that he would formally advertise the vacancy and inform East Northants Council. Following to discussion, Mr M Vaughan proposed and Mr I Vaughan seconded, and all agreed that if an election was not called by the appropriate date, then in order to complete the recruitment process of a new councillor promptly, the unsuccessful candidate from the last co-option carried out just two months previously, would be formally co-opted at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Minutes of last meeting: The minutes of the April Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were agreed as a true record by those present. It was unanimously agreed that the Chairman sign them as such.

Police Report: 1: A Police Officer was not present. The Clerk reported that there had been two violent offences reported during April. Councillors asked the Clerk to write to the Police asking for occasional attendance at the meetings especially as no one had attended since last April (2012)

Comments from Electors: 2: No members of the electorate were present.

Cllr Hughes Comments: 3: Cllr Hughes was not present

Matters arising from the minutes: 4: **Community Radio.** The Clerk reported that he had investigated the potential for Community Radio. The application was complex and it was evident that the application would need to be made by the group running the Radio. There was also some doubt as to whether even if these obstacles could be overcome that such an enterprise could be legally funded by a Parish Council

5: **Drowning Woodford Lock.** The Clerk's letter to the MP Andrew Sawford was read out.

6: **Street Lighting.** The Clerk had received a letter from the MPO as predicted by Mr Hackney at the last meeting. The Clerk had responded informing that the Council was the owner of the street lamps in Woodford.

7: **Painting Bus Shelter and Telephone Box.** The Clerk had so far received one quotation for this work (four others had declined). Mr Chapman suggested another painter who might be able to assist with an estimate.

8: **Bus Shelter.** The Chairman thanked the Clerk for arranging to have the bus shelter reglazed and for Mr Sharples in assisting with the task.

9: **Trees in the High Street.** The Clerk reported that whilst Drayton were in agreement for the work to be carried out on the trees they did not approve the Councils chosen contractor who was not insured to their specification. The Clerk suggested that the only way this could be overcome would be to register the contractor as an employee of the council with the HMRC and he would be then covered by the Council's Insurance. Councillors said this would not be

appropriate. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain a quotation from “Wilby Tree Services” to carry out the work.

Election of Chair: 10: The Chairman thanked Councillors for their support and co-operation over the passed year and vacated the Chair. The Vice Chairman called for nominations for the position of Chair. Mr Peter Bird was nominated by Mr Vaughan, seconded by Mr Hackney. No other nominations were forthcoming and with all in agreement and Mr Bird being willing he took the chair.

Election of Vice Chair: 11: The Chairman called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Mr Ivor Vaughan was nominated by Hurst, seconded by Mr Hackney. No other nominations were forthcoming and with all in agreement and Mr Vaughan being willing he was duly elected as Vice Chairman.

Planning Issues: 12: Plans commented upon since last meeting
 a) No planning matters had been received since the last meeting.
 13: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
 a) **Riverview House, Addington Road** renewal of permission to convert outbuildings. 13/00335/RWL. **Permitted**
 b) **13 Club Lane.** Erection of detached store / playroom 13/00334/RWL **Permitted.**
 14: New Planning Applications
 a) **Manor Farm, Addington Road, Construction of Coffee Shop** and Retrospective positioning of Butchers shop 13/00582/FUL. **No objection** but the Clerk was asked to include comment that the development is outside of the village development zone.
 b) **Manor Farm, Addington Rd.** Construction of ménage adjacent to existing stables. 13/00404/FUL. **No Objection.**
 c) **Islip Furnace Site.** Ground-works and construction of platform for Warehouse 13/00761/OUT. Councillors objected on the grounds that the height of the platform took no account of the potential height of any construction, there was insufficient means of dealing with rainwater from the 1million square foot site within the boundaries and excess water could damage the A14, it was essential that heavy goods traffic leaving or enter could only do so from the A6116 direction.

New Correspondence: 15: **Parish Review.** East Northants Council had written informing that there was a review of electoral arrangements taking place within the district. This could include parish and ward boundaries, numbers of councillors etc. The Parish Council was invited to make a submission before the end of June. Agenda Item June.

Finance:	Account balances brought forward	£3,436.84
	Plus	
	Precept	£6,950.00
	Total	£10,386.84
	Less	
	805 Mr P Bird Clerk	£208.00
	806 Mrs Bosworth Litterpicking 19 hours	£94.01
	807 E.on Lighting Power	£217.58
	808 ENC Verge cutting (March)	£229.09
	809 Mr D Cullum Grass cutting 17 hours	£95.20
	810 Mr D Cullum Fuel	£31.66
		£875.54
	Balance Carried forward	£9,511.30

- 16: Mr Sharples proposed, Mr Meads seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.
- 17: The Clerk advised that the accounts were presently being prepared for audit.

**Appointment of
Woodford General
Charity Trustees:**

- 18: The Chairman informed Councillors that there were two trustee vacancies on the Woodford General Charity following the expiration of terms of office for Messrs Railton and Gill. Both had expressed an interest in being re-nominated. The chairman explained that the Parish Council had the nomination rights to these positions, but the positions did not need to be occupied by Parish Councillors. He sought nominations for the two vacancies which were for four year term. Mr M Vaughan proposed that both be re-appointed. This was seconded by Mr Hackney and unanimously agreed. The Clerk was asked to write to both persons concerned.

Salary Reviews

- 19: **Groundsman.** Mr Sharples proposed and Mr M Vaughan seconded, and all agreed that the Groundsman's hourly rate be increased to £7.20 from June 2013. Agreed by all
- 20: **Litter Picker.** Mr Sharples proposed and Mr Vaughan seconded that the Litter Pickers wage be increased in line with the National Minimum Wage in October 2013. Agreed by all
- 21: **Clerk.** The Clerk withdrew from the meeting. Mr I Vaughan proposed a £10 per month increase, seconded by Mr Burt and unanimously agreed by those present.

Parish Meeting

- 22: There were no matters arising from the Parish Meeting.

Any other Business:

- 23: **Seat – Rose Terrace.** Mr Burt asked whether this seat could be raised to provide a better sitting height for the elderly. The Clerk was asked to arrange.
- 24: **Bridleway – Eady's Row.** Mr Chapman asked about the status of Eady's Row. The Clerk said he believed it was a footpath only but would check the definitive map.
- 25: **Thrapston Town Band.** There was still some doubt that the Woodford Sport and Community Complex would be open on 7 July for the Thrapston Town Band visit. The Clerk informed the meeting that he had tried to contact various members of the committee without success. If a positive response was received it was agreed that the band would be informed.
The Fair had now confirmed that they would be on the village green from 7th – 14th July.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed

Dated