

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th February 2014 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr R Briggs, Mr C Burt, Mr N Chapman, Mr M Hackney, Mr M Hurst, Mr J Mead, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr Vaughan.
- In attendance:** Cllr D Hughes (ENC), Mr P T Bird (Clerk), Mr M Cardy, Mrs S Denny.
- Apologies for absence:** Mrs S Cooke, Mr B Mearns, PC M Tomlinson, PCSO G Cross, Cllr S Hughes (NCC),
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the January Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were proposed by Mr Briggs, seconded by Mr Burt, and 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 however the Clerk reported that there had been two reported incidents of crime in Woodford during January.
 - 2: The clerk also drew attention to a poster he had received regarding a telephone scam and personal bank cards.
- Comments from Electors:**
- 3: Mr Cardy and Mrs Denny - members of the Jubilee Committee discussed the proposed location for the Village Sign, either on the main village green or small green, either side of the main road through the village. The Clerk advised that NCC had affirmed the need for a licence to install the sign and that enquiries would need to be made of the various utility services which the Clerk was undertaking to confirm the whereabouts of any underground services. Further information would also be needed but, the Clerk had yet to receive the definitive list. It was agreed that Councillors meet with the Jubilee Committee on the Village Green on 1 March to discuss the location, with a view to finalising the decision at the next PC meeting.
- Cllr S Hughes' (NCC) Comments:**
- 4: Cllr S Hughes was not present.
- Cllr D Hughes' (ENC) Comments:**
- 5: Cllr D Hughes reported that the Lyveden Wind Farm Appeal had been rejected. He also confirmed that contrary to rumours, when the recycling centre at Rushden re-opened there would be no charge. NCC had put the draft budget out to consultation, but had only received eight responses from the whole of the county.
 - 6: The Department of Environment was still considering the Rushden Lakes Appeal.
- Village Plan Group:**
- 7: Mr Mead drew attention to the progress being made by the Village Plan group with five sub-groups; Rights of Way, Highways, Environment, Communications, Facilities groups. Surveys had taken place around the village to confirm comments made by householders, and conclusions drawn. The aim was to compile a draft plan by the end of March.
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 8: **Prince of Wales.** East Northants Council had agreed the Council's nomination of the Prince of Wales as a Community Asset. The listing was still presently open to appeal by the owner, however, if no appeal was received then the listing would remain for five years.
 - 9: **Rushden Lakes.** ENC had written advising that the DCLG had delayed the decision on Rushden Lakes. No details of the revised timescale were included.

- 10: **Hedge – Mill Road.** The Chief Executive had responded with regard to the Council's complaint about the removed hedge and advised that whilst some action had been taken the matter had not been followed up. The matter would now be dealt with by the Planning Enforcement Team.
- 11: **War Memorial.** Further meetings had taken place with regard to the renovation of the War Memorial but written quotations were still awaited.

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) No decisions had been made since the last meeting.
- 14: New Planning Applications
a) There were no new planning applications.

New Correspondence:

- 15: **Police Joint Action Group.** Following the reformation of the JAG nomination had been requested Parish Council representative to attend the next JAG group which sets the local Policing priorities each quarter. The next meeting was timed for 11 am on 25 April. In the absence of nomination the Clerk reminded councillors that he had attended the meeting when the group last existed and volunteered to attend the meeting on behalf of the Council, if this was permitted. Clerk to report back to next meeting, and include as an agenda item at the April meeting for information to be forwarded to the JAG.
- 16: **Verge Cutting Contract.** The Clerk reminded Councillors that they had already informed NCC that the Parish Council would take responsibility for the verges within the 30mph zone, but it was necessary to affirm to ENC that the Council wished to continue using their contractor – P A Turney – to carry out the work. Mr Mead proposed and Mrs Robinson seconded that the contract be continued. All in favour.
- 17: **Nene Valley News.** A new commercial version of the Nene Valley News would be published each fortnight when the Council's newspaper closed down. The contact was nenevalleynews@gmail.com or 272299.
- 18: **Village Sign – Time Capsule.** The Jubilee Committee were inviting member of the village who wished to include an item in the time capsule to attend a meeting. An ensuing discussion did not agree what the Council should submit Clerk to include on next agenda.
- 19: **Service 16 Bus Service.** Complaints had been received that the revised time table did not include Woodford as a timed stop. The Clerk had received confirmation that there was no intention to drop Woodford from the service and the legal requirement for timed stops was that there was one at least every twenty minutes along the route. The Clerk was asked to complain to the Bus Company and request the reinstatement of a timed stop at one of the Woodford stops. The County Council had issued a timetable with approximate times for arrival at Woodford and this had been posted on the Parish Council noticeboard.

Finance:

Account balances brought forward	
Current Account	£3,278.03
High Interest Account	£3,302.35
Total	£6,580.38
Plus	
Peppercorn Rent WMC	£1.00
	£6,581.38
Less	

864	Mr P Bird – Clerk Salary	£216.00	
865	Mrs D Bosworth – Litter Picking	£70.54	
866	Eon Lighting Power	£224.83	
867	Mr J Mead – reimbursement VP group WSCC	£10.00	
868	Woodford Scouts hire of accommodation	£18.00	£539.37
Balance Carried forward			£6,041.01

20: Mr Chapman proposed, Mrs Robinson seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

**Groundsman-
Machine Hire Rate**

21: The Clerk advised Councillors that the amount of reimbursement to the groundsman for the use of his machine for grass-cutting was usually agreed at this meeting. Mr M Vaughan proposed and Mrs Robinson seconded that the amount should remain unchanged at £5.00 per hour and future reviews should take place along with salary reviews in May.

**Dog Bin – Church
Green**

22: Discussion took place with regard to the siting of a dog bin at the top of the Church Green. Mr Chapman proposed, Mr M Vaughan seconded and those present agreed that the bin be sited at the top of the green adjacent to the wall at the top. The Clerk was asked to place the order and also chase the previous order placed for the bin in Thrapston Road.

Any other Business:

- 23: Mr Sharples reported that he had been advised that shooting had been taking place in the Shrubbery on a recent Sunday afternoon. Clerk to advise Police.
- 24: Mr Chapman asked whether there were any restriction on parking on verges and who was responsible for the reinstatement. Clerk to follow up with NCC.
- 25: Mr Hurst asked whether the Council should do anything to commemorate the First World War in addition to the cleaning of the memorial. The general consensus was that the end of the conflict rather than the beginning would be a more appropriate time to do so.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed

P J Bird

Dated 18 March 2014