

**Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014  
in the schoolroom of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm**

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr R Briggs, Mr N Chapman, Mrs S Cooke, 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).  
VP Group Representatives:- Mr D Stevens, Mr R Goodband, Mrs A Fothergill, Rev R Bond, Mrs J Hathaway.
- Apologies for absence:** Mr C Burt, Mr J Mead, Cllr S Hughes, Police
- Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting:** The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting having been circulated, were proposed by Mr I Vaughan, seconded by Mr Sharples and agreed by all as a true record.
- Minutes of Annual Parish Council meeting:** The minutes of the May Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were proposed by Mr Vaughan, seconded by Mrs Robinson, 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. The Clerk reported that there had been one act of criminal damage – involving the gate onto the MUGA It was agreed that the Clerk contract the contractor who carried out previous gate repairs to remedy the situation. There had also been one violent offence and one act of theft.
- Comments from Electors:**
- 2: No members of the electorate were present.
- Cllr S Hughes' (NCC) Comments:**
- 3: Cllr S Hughes was not present.
- Cllr D Hughes' (ENC) Comments:**
- 4: Cllr D Hughes reported that the Rushden Lakes development had been given the go ahead by the Secretary of State.
  - 5: Children's Services and safeguarding at NCC was still a major issue but progress was being made.
- Village Plan Group:**
- 6: A discussion took place about the circulated Village Plan. Councillors agreed that the plan could be made public subject to some typographical errors within the contents. Furthermore councillors agreed to the production of some larger print documents for public perusal, and a number of fliers summarising the main findings of the plan. It was agreed that the Village Plan group would prioritise the recommendations based upon level of support demonstrated in the original questionnaire and present two or three to the Council on a monthly basis.
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 7: **War Memorial.** The Clerk reported that the grant application was nearing completion, further evidence was required to support the claim which would be obtained from the Northampton Record Office, and the application would be submitted as soon as possible and in any event before the deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> June.
  - 8: **Thrapston Town Band – Feast.** The Sports and Social Club had declined to open for the event. Councillors suggested that the Duke's Arms be approached, and if this was not successful then the event should be

cancelled.

- 9: **Playground.** The Clerk informed that spraying of the playground had been carried out by an authorised contractor.
- 10: **Jubilee Sign.** The Clerk reported that NCC now required the contractor erecting the sign to be accredited by NCC, and he had informed the Jubilee Committee. The Clerk had also queried the exactly what parts of the green were classed as highway, and whether this coincided with the area for which the Council received reimbursement for cutting.
- 11: **Qualification Course – Clerk.** The Clerk reported that the County scheme would total approximately £750, (Training course £550 and assessment £200) He advised that he would pursue other alternatives and report at a future meeting.
- 12: **Annual Accounts.** The accounts had been audited and featured on the agenda later.
- 13: **Seat – Church Green.** The Clerk’s letter to Mr Brown requesting the reinstatement of the seat was read out. (Not yet carried out).

#### Planning Issues:

- 14: Plans commented upon since last meeting  
a) No planning matters had been received since the last meeting.
- 15: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions  
a) None
- 16: New Planning Applications  
a) **Land Rear of Carriage House Club Lane.** Erection of two dwellings **14/00883/FUL.** This resubmission comprised two slightly smaller dwellings on the site. Councillors suggested that the same objections as lodged on the original application should once again be voiced. The access and egress to site in forward direction, roofline be kept as low as possible, retention of as many trees as possible.

#### New Correspondence:

- 17: **Dukes Arms – Sunday Afternoon Music.** A copy of a generally circulated letter from the Dukes Arms had been anonymously lodged with the Clerk. Councillors noted the contents. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the Entertainment Licence and noise restrictions agreed by ENC covered events held inside the premises only. There appeared to be no conditions covering outside events. Given that no formal comments had been received by the Council Councillors agreed no further action at the present time.
- 18: **Cranford Energy Park.** An email was to hand from (Woodford Lodge) regarding the energy park currently under construction at Cranford. The clerk affirmed that consultation by Kettering Borough Council for the recent construction of nine turbines (much larger than the original installation) had not been forthcoming. It was understood that future plans involve a solar farm, biomass unit and anaerobic digester. Depending upon the exact location within the site there could be increased heavy traffic at “General’s Corner”, and odours across Woodford depending upon the wind direction. Agreed that Clerk should write to Kettering Borough Council expressing concerns.

#### Finance:

##### Account balances brought forward

Current Account		£4,403.55
High Interest Account		£3,303.17
<b>Total</b>		<b>£7,706.72</b>
<b>Less</b>		
893 Mr P Bird Clerk	£230.10	
894 Mrs D Bosworth 14hrs Litter Picking	£70.54	

895	Mr D Cullum – 15hrs Grass cutting	£90.10
896	E.on Energy – Months Lighting Power	£225.26
897	Mr A Cullum – Spraying Playground	£35.00
898	The Post Office - HMRC	£297.60
		£948.60
	<b>Balance Carried forward</b>	<b>£6,758.12</b>

19: Mr Hackney proposed, Mr Sharples seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

**Accounts 2013 / 2014**

- 20: The Annual Return, copies of which had been circulated, had been audited and no comments had been forwarded by the internal auditor. It was unanimously agreed that part one be approved.
- 21: The Chairman read out the statements concerning finance governance within part two and these were unanimously agreed by those present. The chairman signed both parts of the Return.

**Any other Business:**

- 22: Mrs Cooke informed the meeting that a neighbour had complained that she had cleared some of the weeds from the footpath between High Street and Alledge Drive, as the land was owned by the Council. The chairman commended Mrs Cooke for improving the local environment adjacent to her home. It was suggested if all residents tidied weeds etc in front of their homes, Woodford would be a much tidier place. The Clerk said he believed the footpath in question was now under the ownership of Spire Homes.

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

Signed

Dated