

**Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st July 2015 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr N Chapman, Mrs A Fothergill, Mr M Hackney, Mrs J Hathaway, Mr M Hurst, Mr J Mead, Mrs S Robinson, Mr J Sharples, Mr D Stevens, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan.

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Hathaway and Mrs Fothergill to their first meeting.

**In attendance:** Insp. J Mead, Mr P T Bird (Clerk)

**Apologies for absence:** Mr B Mearns, Cllr D Hughes (ENC) and Cllr S Hughes (NCC)

**Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the June 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: Inspector Julie Mead spoke to Councillors of the current challenges facing the Police Force at the present time and the number of initiatives being employed to mitigate these circumstances. She explained that whilst front line officer numbers were being maintained, back room staff were seeing cuts and as a result some of these roles were now being overseen by volunteers. Only through a partnership approach between the Police and the public would there be improvements to the service provided. Voluntary roles included working behind the scenes (admin), Special Constables and Parish Constables. Other initiatives introduced, included cross border policing which involved closer working with neighbouring forces, and impressive results were being seen in the north of the County. Dog walkers, and especially horse riders were also being invited in the more rural areas of the community to act as the eyes and ears of the police and once they had "signed up" were given mini video cameras, which could be worn to gather evidence, of dangerous driving, illegal use of right of ways, fly-tipping etc. This scheme had proved immensely popular in the Oundle area with well over 100 volunteers signing up for a variety of roles.
- 2: Mr M Vaughan reported on the recent JAG meeting, and that priorities for Woodford would remain as motorcyclists and shed break-ins. Shed alarms were still available and a number of tool marking schemes were also taking place around the district.
- 3: Reported crime in June comprised one burglary of an outbuilding, four acts of criminal damage and two violent offences. (Total since April – 13, last year (same period) -10)

**Comments from Electors:** 4: No members of the electorate were present.

**Cllr D Hughes Comments:** 5: Cllr Hughes was not present

**Cllr S Hughes Comments:** 6: Cllr Hughes was not present

**Matters arising from the minutes:** 7: **Speed Indicator Device.** The Clerk reported on results from the SID located in Mill Rd monitoring traffic entering the village between 1 and 13 July. The highest speed recorded was 67mph, 85<sup>th</sup> percentile 37mph, average speed 31mph. Over the recording period of 13 days there had been between 7,865 vehicle movements. A full more detailed record is on the council website.

8: **War Memorial.** Underwood and Weston had written advising that the cleaning would now take place in late August / early September.

9: **Parish Enhancement Gang.** The Parish Enhancement gang would be carrying out work in Woodford towards the end of July, date to be confirmed.

10: **Village Sign.** The Village Sign had been unveiled at the Fete earlier in the

month.

- 11: **Islip Furnace site.** The Clerk was asked to arrange a follow-up visit to the site.

**Planning Issues:**

- 12: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions  
 a) **Land adjacent to 3A DeCapel Close (Club Lane)** variation to conditions (location of building) 15/00988/VAR Permitted.
- 13: New Planning Applications  
 a) **Islip Furnace Site** Landscaping. Details of Landscaping were to hand comprising various mixes of planting. **No Comments.**  
 b) **8 Church Street.** Replacement summerhouse rear garden adjacent to St Mary's church boundary. 15/01151/FUL **No Objection.**
- 14: Other Planning Matters  
 a) **Prince of Wales.** The Clerk informed the meeting he had forwarded concerns to ENC re the clearance work taking place within the building. ENC had investigated and were satisfied with the explanations provided.  
 b) **Bakers Lane.** Mr Stevens advised that the Bakers Lane boundary wall adjacent to Club Lane development had fallen in to Bakers lane. The clerk reminded councillors that rebuilding the wall was included in the original application and the matter should be referred to the enforcement officer.

**New Correspondence:**

- 15: **Mobile Library Service.** A revision of the service had taken place and would result in no change to the service to Woodford. As a result the library would visit Rose Terrace and Mill Road between 12 noon and 1.00pm on second Wednesday of each month.

**Finance:**

**Account balances brought forward**

Current Account		£3,281.81
Interest Account		£3,304.81
		<b>£6,586.62</b>

**Plus**

Western Power Wayleave	£22.26	
VAT Refund	£1,128.48	£1,150.74

**Less**

974 Mr P Bird (Clerk)	£295.00	
975 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picking	£88.30	
976 Mr D Cullum Grass-cutting	£61.60	
977 Mr D Cullum Fuel	£29.25	
978 NCC Speed Indicator Device	£840.00	
979 E.on Lighting Power	£321.61	
980 Wicksteed Playground Inspection	£54.00	£1,689.76
		<b>£6,047.60</b>

**Balance Carried forward**

- 16: Mrs Robinson proposed, Mr I Vaughan seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.
- 17: The Clerk reported that the cheapest electricity supply previously discussed was based upon payment by direct debit, which was against the Council's Standing Orders. Following discussion Mr Stevens proposed and Mrs Robinson seconded and it was agreed that the option be followed up and the standing orders changed to reflect this.
- 18: The Clerk drew attention to a circulated report detailing expenditure to date and projected expenditure for the remainder of the year. Expenditure was very much in line with budget, and any small overspends could be met from reserves carried forward from previous years.

**Report from Highways Rep**

- 19: **Village Gateway.** Mr Stevens reported that this was now on the "installation list", but no time scale was available
- 20: Discussion also took place with regard to the recent accident in Addington Rd. This occurred on the bend between the 30mph zone and the "dip" in the road. It was understood that one party was hospitalised, and that the

other party had taken responsibility. It was agreed that Mr Stevens request white lines on this road between Great Addington and Woodford.

- High Street Road Sign:** 21: The street sign had been removed due to the close proximity to the new village sign. Councillors did not agree on a revised location and the Chairman asked councillors to view the potential locations along the side of the green.
- Consider ramifications of lamp replacement in Constable Walk:** 22: The Clerk reminded councillors that the lamp at the end of Newtown Street and Constable Walk was not working due to damage to a wooden post. The overhead cables to the lamp had been removed and if the lamp was to be replaced it would need to be on a steel column. Owing to difficulties establishing ownership of the unadopted Newtown Street, the energy companies would not dig a trench to bury a cable. This meant a connection to the relevant network would need to be carried out in the High Street, but would require the excavation of Constable Walk. A quotation had been requested but not yet received.
- Donation in lieu of audit fees:** 23: The chairman reminded councillors that a donation was usually made to a charity in recognition of the work carried out by the internal auditor. It was resolved to send £50 to "Help for Heroes".
- Donation to Thrapston Town Band:** 24: It was proposed by Mr Mead and seconded by Mrs Robinson that a donation of £100 be made to the band for playing at Woodford Feast. All in Agreement.  
\*\*\* Mr I Vaughan (band member) declared a non pecuniary interest \*\*\*
- Provision of litter bin on grass area off Paddock Road;** 25: A request was to hand for a litter bin to be provided in the grass area off Paddock Road. Clerk requested to follow up cost with ENC and order if no cost involved.
- Playground Safety report:** 26: The Wicksteed safety report for the children's playground was reviewed and after discussion councillors unanimously agreed that the order be placed with Wicksteed to carry out.
- Adult Exercise Equipment at Park** 27: Deferred to next meeting due to time, although Clerk was asked to clarify whether Planning Permission would be required.
- Any other Business:** 28: **Cairn on village green.** Mr Stevens asked whether this could be renovated. The Clerk was asked to find out who owned it, as it was not a Council asset.
- 29: **Greenway.** Mr Stevens raised the easy access which cars and motorbikes had to the greenway from the Grange Farm road and thereby access to other bridleways around the area. The Clerk was asked to enquire of ENC as to whether it was possible to introduce measures to restrict access to motor vehicles.
- 30: **Blocked drain gullies.** Two blocked gullies were mentioned in Rose Terrace and Addington Road. Clerk to refer to Parish Enhancement Gang or Street Doctor.
- 31: **Fly-tipping Church Street.** Hedging had been cut back in Church Street – south west end and dumped on the side of the road. The Clerk was asked to report as fly-tipping to Street Doctor.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed

Dated