

**Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th March 2016 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 D Sharples, Mr D Stevens, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan.
- In attendance:** Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mr J Mead, Mr B Mearns, Mrs S Robinson, Police, Cllr D Hughes (ENC) and Cllr S Hughes (NCC)
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the February 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: **Crime.** A crime report had not been received for the Parish this month, (only the ward).
  - 2: **Community Safety Equipment.** The Police had asked the Parish Council to consider a donation towards the cost of funding Crime Prevention/Community Safety equipment which is given to crime victims. Any equipment purchased with the Council donation would be endorsed as such. After discussion Mr I Vaughan proposed, Mr M Vaughan seconded and all present agreed a donation of £30.00 be made.
  - 3: **JAG meeting.** Mr M Vaughan reported on the recent JAG meeting. Councillors requested that speeding remain a priority for the local team.
  - 4: **Chalk marks.** Recent reports that chalked marks (to assist burglaries) had been prevalent in Raunds and some had been noticed in Highfield. Clerk to make residents aware through Saints Alive.
  - 5: **Speed Identification Device.** The SID had now been relocated to the village green. Speed data revealed traffic speeds were about 5mph lower than the other routes into the village and were consistent with the data collected in summer 2014.
- Comments from Electors:**
- 6: No members of the electorate were present.
- Cllr D Hughes Comments:**
- 7: Cllr Hughes was not present
- Cllr S Hughes Comments:**
- 8: Cllr Hughes was not present
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 9: **Motocross Events.** The Clerk had received details of the motocross events occurring this year and these would be publicised. The four dates may be subject to change depending on weather. The dates are 3 April, 1 May, 29 May and 16 October.
  - 10: **Boat at Woodford Lock.** This had been referred to the Environment Agency, but a response had yet to be received.
  - 11: **Lamp Constable Walk.** The grant application had been submitted to Cllr Hughes for approval / countersigning and an order would be placed as soon as funding was confirmed.
  - 12: **Litterpick.** The litterpick on 9<sup>th</sup> April had been registered with "Clean for the Queen". A free hot drink had been offered by Pickwick Tea Rooms.
  - 13: **Defibrillator.** Training information on how to use the equipment and also CPR had been received; however the safe and defibrillator were still awaited.
- Planning Issues:**
- 14: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
    - a) **Pump House** Addington Road 16/00094/LDE. The property was now considered to be occupied legally. (No previous notice of this application had been received).
  - 15: New Planning Applications
    - a) None to hand although public notices had been published. Clerk to email details once received.

16: Other Planning Matters

a) None

**New  
Correspondence:**

17: **Starlings in Mill Road.** The Clerk advised that he had received a telephone call from a resident in Paddock Rd complaining about the murmuration of starlings in the adjacent field. Research had revealed that the birds were protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1982 consequently there was little a Parish Council or even a District Council could do. The Clerk had forwarded the research information to the resident. It was anticipated that the birds would leave in March.

18: **Parking in Mill Road.** Mr Bosworth had written requesting the Council consider the state of the verge and parking issues in Mill Road opposite the terraced properties. Councillors agreed that there was little the Parish Council could do so the Clerk was asked to refer to the County Highways team.

**Finance:****Account balances brought forward**

Current Account	£1,390.11
Interest Account	£6.03
	<b>£1,396.14</b>

**Plus**

Interest	£1.22
VAT refund April to December 2015	£3,334.90
WMC Peppercorn Rent (3 years)	£3.00

	<b>£4,735.26</b>
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**Less**

1018 Mr P Bird Clerk Salary	£295.00	
1019 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picking	£85.80	
1020 Woodford Baptist Church (Room Hire)	£72.00	
1021 Mr D Cullum hire of mower	£430.00	
1022 Mr P Bird Clerk's expenses	£88.72	
1023 Post Office (HMRC)	£60.00	
1024 Northants Police Community Safety	£30.00	
DD5 Opus Energy (Feb Invoice)	£299.03	£1,360.55

<b>Balance Carried forward</b>		<b>£3,374.71</b>
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19: Mr Chapman proposed, Mr Sharples seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

20: **Pension Scheme.** The Workplace Pension Scheme being introduced nationally would not have any immediate effect on Council employees due to the low number of hours worked. The next stage of the formal process would be to write to all employees on or after 1<sup>st</sup> July.

21: **Living Wage.** Compliance to the Living Wage scheme being introduced nationally from April would result in the hourly rate of the litter picker being increased by £0.50 per hour. Other employees were not affected as the hourly rate exceeded the living wage. Resolved that a wage increase of fifty pence per hour be approved for the litter picker.

**Highways  
Representative  
Report:**

22: **Addington Road.** The village gateway in Addington Road had been installed.

23: **Highfield Verges.** Mrs Barnwell had viewed the verges in Highfield, but it was unlikely that parking bays could be installed, due to the width of land available, and ownership issues. Heavily eroded verges should be referred to street doctor who may be able to rebuild the verges.

24: **30mph zone.** The state of 30mph signs had been identified as needing repair/ replacement – especially in Mill Road.

25: **Give Way signs Daventry Close.** This matter was being reviewed by the County Highways team

**Access to Greenway  
update:**

26: Mr Stevens had met with the Definitive Map Officer who had confirmed that the footpath PE24 would need to be officially diverted. The legal costs would be in the region of £5,000.

- Review Effectiveness of Audit Procedures and receive details of Risk Assessment:**
- 27: A review of the effectiveness of audit procedures took place and it was agreed that no updates were required.
- 28: The Clerk talked through the Risk Assessment and it was noted the only item requiring attention was the gate between the MUGA and the children's playground.
- Any other Business:**
- 29: **Hedge at Fairy Hill.** Mrs Fothergill reported she had been asked to raise the issue of a hedge at the property known as Fairy Hill which was encroaching onto the road in Church Green. Clerk to investigate and write a letter as appropriate.
- 30: **Woodford Feast, Thrapston Town Band.** Thrapston Band had included Woodford in their schedule for the year. Clerk to speak to Dukes Arms re playing there again.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed

Dated