

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th May 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 J Mead, Mr B Mearns, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr D Stevens, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan.
- In attendance:** Cllr D Hughes, Cllr S Hughes, Mr A Catherall, Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mr D Stevens, Police
- 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: **Crime.** The Police had sent crime details for the past twelve months. The Clerk advised the meeting that the report (certainly for the 11 months prior to April) bore no resemblance to previously reported crime so questioned the figures for April, agreed not to minute details.
 - 2: **Police Speed monitoring.** PCSO Arthur had carried out speed monitoring in Thrapston Road.
 - 3: **Speed Identification Device.** Technical Issues now resolved.
 - 4: **Joint Action Group. (JAG)** Mr M Vaughan reported that the new Police Commissioner would be invited to a future meeting and each representative on the group should have at least one question from their respective Council. To discuss at June Meeting. The conference call had been made from Thrapston Town Council Offices and Mr Vaughan requested that the Council thank them for their help with this matter.
- Comments from Electors:**
- 5: **Proposed small batch brewery.** Mr A Catherall spoke in support of his licensing application for a "nano" brewery in the garage of 4 Thrapston Road. The business would supply only the retail or internet trade with up to 6,000 bottles per month and would not serve members of the public under normal circumstances. Mr Catherall withdrew from the meeting.
- Cllr D Hughes (ENC) Comments:**
- 6: Cllr Hughes was thanked for his donation for the new lamp in Newtown St. He confirmed that he still had a small amount of funding for village groups, especially if they featured young people, and asked for this to be advertised locally.
- Cllr S Hughes (NCC) Comments:**
- 7: A discussion took place re the overgrown verge in Thrapston Road. Kier had offered to trim the hedge but at the Parish Council's expense. Councillors were of the opinion that as the undergrowth/shrubs were not the hedge but shoots coming up from the ground (suckering) then had the verge been cut properly previously, the growth would not have occurred. Cllr Hughes said she would view the site again on her way home.
 - 8: Cllr S Hughes also advised that the new vice chair of the County Council would be Cllr Dudley Hughes.
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 9: **Pickwick Tearoom.** A letter of thanks to the tea rooms for their kindness on the day of the litter pick was read out.
 - 10: **Cricket Club.** The Clerk's letter to the Cricket club in support of their funding application was read out.
 - 11: **Wedding Parking.** The Clerk's email to re wedding parking was read out. Mr Dallimore had opted for parking on Church Green and would ensure the area was marshalled.
 - 12: **Doctors Surgery.** The Clerk's letter requesting details of the new appointment system was read out. No response from Spinneybrook.
 - 13: **Fallen Tree Bakers Lane.** The Clerks letter to Mr Brett re the fallen tree in Baker's lane at Easter was read out.
 - 14: **Lamp in Newtown.** This had been installed and was due for connection

on 25 May. The Clerk had contacted E.on to request the lamp head be turned so it was over Constable Walk.

15: **Telephone Kiosk.** Mr Chapman advised that he had freed the door cleared broken glass and would replace the broken pane shortly.

Election of Chairman:

16: Mr Bird thanked Councillors for their support over the past twelve months and stood down from the position of chair. Nominations for the position of Chair were sought and Mr Bird was proposed by Mr Hackney, seconded by Mr Sharples and with all Councillors present being in favour, and Mr Bird being willing, was duly elected as chairman for the forthcoming year.

Election of Vice Chairman:

17: Nominations for the position of vice chairman were sought and Mr Hurst proposed Mr Ivor Vaughan be elected as Vice Chair. This was seconded by Mrs Robinson and all were in agreement. Mr Vaughan being willing was duly elected as Vice Chairman.

Appointment of a representative to the Woodford General Charity:

18: Following the resignation of Mr W Gill as a Nominative Trustee, the Parish Council was required to appoint a new trustee; Mr Hackney expressed an interest and was duly proposed by Mrs Robinson, seconded by Mr Hurst and agreed by all.

Planning Issues:

19: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions

a) **Jenny Wren Boat Yard** 16/00311/FUL **Application withdrawn.**

b) **84 High Street** Internal / External alterations **16/00390/LBC. Approved.**

20: New Planning Applications

a) Licensing Application – **4 Thrapston Road** – 16/01104/LAP – Conversion of garage to a Nano Brewery. **No Objection.**

21: Other Planning Matters

a) None

New Correspondence:

22: **Centenary Fields.** The scheme to permanently designate an area of open land as a permanent memorial to World War 1 casualties was read out, and the contents noted.

23: **Rural Wellbeing Service.** This service had been visiting the village monthly but publicity materials had not been received. The service offered was to point residents in the community to various services which may be able to help them with difficulties they might be experiencing. The next visit would be 9th June.

24: **Grass in High street.** A complaint had been received from a Mr Bester regarding the rough grass growing on the west side of the High Street adjacent to the footpath and around the trees. The Clerk had already spoken to the council's groundsman.

25: **Daffodil remains.** The Jubilee Group had advised that the daffodil remains would be cut and cleared on 5th June.

26: **Motorbikes – Woodford House.** A letter had been received regarding a motorcycle event in the woods at Woodford House. The wooded area on the road link between Woodford and the A510 in that area had been used as a "pit area". The Clerk was asked to find out if the police were aware and also try to find out how frequent these events would be in future.

27: **ENC Greenway Development Plan.** The Greenway Plan was being re-evaluated by East Northants Council, with a view to extending the "backbone" of the route and the linking to other villages. A letter was to hand from ENC requesting the Council's views on a link to the Greenway. The Clerk was asked to reiterate the Council's original support (September 2013) and respond that three routes from Woodford to the Greenway were presently being evaluated at the Parish Council's request by a Parish Councillor and some members of the original Village Plan Right of Way group. Additionally, Councillors had some concern regarding the financing of the third party 11% "release fees" often required to fund the administration etc to release the full grant to the applicant. There was also the cash flow issue of the VAT and as a result such a project may be

better funded by an organisation with greater financial resilience. A further response would be provided once a final report was received from Mr Stevens' team.

Finance:**Account balances brought forward**

Current Account	£2,076.82
Interest Account	£6.05
	<u>£2,082.87</u>

CORRECTION

<i>Year-end balance overstated (in April minutes) by £1.22 (Actual Balance £3,403.51)</i>	-£1.22
	<u>£2,081.65</u>

Plus

Precept	£7,800.00
Fair Rental 2012-16 (5 years)	£300.00

Less

2032 Mr P Bird Clerk	£295.00	
2033 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picking	£93.60	
2034 Mr D Cullum	£73.80	
2035 St Mary's Church	£500.00	
2036 Mr D Cullum, Fuel	£27.27	
Nb no Opus energy invoice		<u>£989.67</u>

Balance Carried forward**£9,191.81**

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

**To Review Pay of
Litter Picker,
Groundsman and
Clerk:**

29: **Groundsman.** Following discussion Mr Sharples proposed, Mr I Vaughan seconded and all but one in agreement that the grounds-man's wage should increase to £8.00 per hour

30: **Litter Picker.** It was noted that the Litter Pickers wage had recently increased (April 2016) to £7.20 per hour following the introduction of the new National Living Wage.

31: **Clerk.** (The Clerk withdrew from the meeting.) Mrs Robinson proposed that the Clerk's wage should increase to £320. This was seconded by Mr J Mead and unanimously agreed by those present.

**Highways
Representative
Report:
Items from Parish
Meeting:**

32: Mr Stevens was not in attendance.

33: The Council agreed to review the Parish Meeting Agenda and possible extension to the number of reports given, at the January 2017 Parish Council meeting.

Any other Business:

34: Mr Hurst mentioned the poor white lines throughout the village. Clerk reminded Councillors that Mr Stevens had previously reported these were scheduled to be repainted.

35: The overgrown verge at the top of the eastbound exit slip-road at the A14 Cranford junction impeded vision on the roundabout. Clerk to report via Street Doctor.

36: Mrs Robinson raised the number of potholes between Cranford junction and Cranford village. Clerk to report to Street Doctor.

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

Signed

Dated