

**Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm**

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr G Banham, Mr N Chapman, Mr M Hackney, Mr M Hurst, Mr J Mead, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr D Stevens, Mr I Vaughan.
- In attendance:** Mr P T Bird (Clerk), Cllr Mrs S Hughes (NCC), Cllr D Hughes (ENC).
- Apologies for absence:** Mrs A Fothergill, Mrs J Hathaway, Mr M Vaughan, Police.
- Mr Banham was welcomed to his first meeting, and he duly signed his Declaration of Office. He confirmed he would lodge his Register of Interest form direct with the Monitoring Officer.
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the August Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were agreed as a true record by those present subject to paragraph 24 being amended to reflect the fact that Mr I Vaughan, being a member of the Thrapston Town Band, had taken no part in the discussion or decision making. It was unanimously agreed that the Chairman sign them as such.
- Police Report:**
- 1: The Police were not in attendance. Mr M Vaughan had sent a report of the recent JAG meeting attended by the PCC. Rumours that the EN area was not to be redefined for policing and JAG purposes were refuted by the local sergeant.
  - 2: Confirmation was received that the charges of 15p for the 151 number were purely operating costs.
  - 3: The Clerk had written to Great Addington advising that the Special Constable Scheme had apparently been put on hold until next April.
- Comments from Electors:**
- Cllr D Hughes ENC Comments:**
- 4: No members of the electorate were present.
  - 5: **Duke Arms.** Councillors learned that there was a dispute between ENC and the Dukes Arms regarding new windows installed against their advice and without permission. An amicable solution was being sought which was likely to result in a retrospective planning application made.
  - 6: ENC were renegotiating the Leisure Contracts for the Nene and Pemberton Centres and also the Splash Pool. It was anticipated that the funds this would release would be used to improve leisure activities across the area.
- Cllr S Hughes NCC Comments:**
- 7: Cllr Hughes asked whether the verge in Thrapston Road had been addressed yet.
  - 8: A discussion took place surrounding the Council's complaint to the Cabinet member for Highways regarding the many outstanding issues the Council had. The Councillor's response was to hand and was read out and whilst he agreed that a school sign would be installed along with the white lines between Woodford and Great Addington but the Councillor advised there was no record of requests for white lining within the village and more specifically no record of the many requests for lining at Daventry Close. The Clerk was asked to respond with evidence of the requests.
  - 9: Cllr Hughes drew attention to a progress report issued by the County Council by email. The Clerk advised that this had been circulated.
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 10: **Tree Planting – Old Kettering Road / Mill Road.** Written agreement from the farmer of the neighbouring land had now been received and the evidence portfolio had been submitted to NCC in order that a licence may be produced, for the tree planting and the seat.  
The Woodland Trust had approved the Council's application for trees which would be delivered sometime during November.
  - 11: **Greenway Access Funding.** The Clerk had completed the application and following discussion with Mr Stevens submitted the application to East Northants Council. ENC had responded that the Council would hear the result of the application by the end of October.

- 12: **Defibrillator.** Little Addington Parish Council could not recommend an electrical engineer. The Clerk was seeking alternative quotations.
- 13: The Clerk had included an article regarding defibrillator training and CPR but there had been no responses. The Clerk was asked to include a further article in the next Saints Alive.
- 14: **Speed Indicator Device.** The Clerk had spoken to Mr Barber (NCC) about the battery problems who advised he may be able to supply replacements.

**Planning Issues:**

- 15: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
- a) **4 Thrapston Road** Change of Use of garage for nano brewery **16/01417/FUL** Permitted.
- b) **6 Rectory Lane** Rear Balcony Extension **16/01310/FUL** Permitted.
- c) **Manor House Farm** Conversion of former out buildings to residential dwelling **16/01518/FUL** Permitted.
- 16: New Planning Applications
- a) **7 The Moorings.** To fell five Leylandii and one oak. 16/01767/TCA **No Objection.**
- b) **1 The Moorings.** To fell three trees. 16/01769/TCA. **No Objection.**
- c) **St Mary's Churchyard.** To fell two trees. 16/01770/TCA. **No Objection.**
- d) **75 High Street.** To prune two willow trees in rear garden. 16/01376/TCA. **No Objection.**
- e) **Church Green.** Remove lower branches from Beech Tree (adj to Rectory Lane) 16/01463/TCA **No Comment.**
- 17: Other Planning Matters
- a) None

**New Correspondence:**

- 18: **Route to Greenway.** Mr Lewin had written expressing concern that the route chosen for potential funding could be a "white elephant" if completed. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Lewin explaining the full series of issues governing the decision.
- 19: **Sign for Church.** The PCC had requested a new "tourism" style sign be placed at the top of Church Green to replace the one removed some years ago. Clerk to investigate.
- 20: **Dog droppings.** Mr Goodband had written mentioning that Braunston PC highlighted do faeces on pavements with yellow spray paint. The Clerk was asked to find out whether the scheme was a success, the approximate cost, and how long the paint remained on the pavements.
- 21: **Sports and Community Complex.** A letter and photos outlining plans for alterations and improvements to the premises were discussed. This included the removal of an old shed, alterations to the bar, a new entrance to the Community part of the premises, improved car parking and seating area. The Parish Council had no objections to the improvements and the Clerk was asked to advise the new secretary, of the Council's views.

**Finance:**

<b>Account balances brought forward</b>		
Current Account		£5,807.15
Interest Account		6.05
		<b>£5,813.20</b>
<b>Less</b>		
2051	Mr P Bird - Clerk	£320.00
2052	Mrs D Bosworth - Litter Picker	£180.00
2053	Mr D Cullum – Groundsman	£70.40
2054	The Post Office Ltd (HMRC)	£80.00
2055	Cancelled	
2056	Drayton Estate – re Village Green	£150.00
2057	Thrapston Town Band	£120.00
2058	E.on Quarter Lighting Maintenance	£306.49
DD10	Opus Energy Month Lighting Power	£237.55

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 £1,464.44
**Balance Carried forward**


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**£4,348.76**

22: Mr I Vaughan proposed, Mr Chapman seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

23: The Clerk advised that Opus Energy had not sent details of contract renewal and that the present contract expired imminently. Councillors authorised the Clerk to negotiate a revised contract subject to a modest price increase. The Clerk advised that any delay beyond the end of the contract could result in the Council being charged at a "daily rate" which would fluctuate depending upon the national electricity demands of that day and could be significantly higher than the amount presently paid.

**Playground repairs:** 24: A lengthy debate took place regarding the playground report. Councillors concluded that the rocking horse had the highest priority repairs and as these could be met within the budget set for playground repairs the clerk was asked to place the order for the work to be completed.

25: The Chairman advised that he would make repairs to the gate if the Council would meet the cost of the materials required. This was unanimously agreed.

**Report from****Highways Warden:**

26: Mr Stevens had no comments.

**Any other Business:**

27: The Clerk reported he understood that Mr E Wildman, of West Street, a former Parish Councillor would reach his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday later in the month. Councillors requested Mr Wildman be sent the Council's best wishes on attaining this milestone.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed

Dated