

**Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2020 in the schoolroom of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm**

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr G Banham, Mr N Chapman, Mrs A Fothergill, Mrs R Hancock, Mrs J Hathaway, Mr M Hurst, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan.
- In attendance:** Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mr M Hackney, Mr D Stevens, Cllr D Hughes (ENC) and Cllr S Hughes (NCC)
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the July 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: No Police were present.
  - 2: Mr M Vaughan advised the present policing priorities were Anti-Social Behaviour in Parks and open Spaces
- Comments from Electors:**
- 3: No members of the electorate were present.
- Cllr D Hughes Comments:**
- 4: Cllr Hughes was not present
- Cllr S Hughes Comments:**
- 5: Cllr Hughes was not present
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 6: **Salaries – Clerk and Groundsman.** Further to previous discussion the Clerk provided calculations showing the effect of a 3% increase for the Clerk and Groundsman. Mrs Hathaway proposed and Mrs Fothergill seconded that the Groundsman’s wage be increased to £9.00 per hour. Mrs Hancock proposed and Mrs Hathaway seconded that the Clerk’s wage be increased to £370 per month. The Clerk queried the generous increase, and that the amount could be excessive, but councillors advised they were satisfied this was not the case.
  - 7: **Yarnbombing.** Mrs Sortwell had written advising that the yarnbombing originally scheduled for July would now take place over August Bank Holiday weekend.
  - 8: **Container and Secure Area– Sports Club.** Mr Chapman advised that the Club were seeking to create a secure area for machinery and equipment storage which was used on the fields. Councillors had no objections but advised that the Club approach ENC Planning Dept to ensure compliance with Planning Laws. Clerk requested to write to Mr Chapman.
  - 9: **Telephone Box Refurbishment.** The Clerk advised that the suggested carpenter had not responded to his queries. A new door could be obtained from a company in Newark for £256, and the correct paint could also be supplied. Mr Chapman proposed and Mr Banham seconded that an order be placed. The Clerk was also asked to investigate the cost of a glass defibrillator sign to be installed instead of the “Telephone” panes of glass.
  - 10: **Dog Bin - Church Street.** The Clerk had written to residents but had not received a response to date. ENC had confirmed the cost as £125. Installation £90 and a £56 annual emptying charge.
  - 11: **Letter to Medical Centre.** The Clerk had written to the Medical Centre thanking them for the service they had provided over the past six months. A verbal thanks had been received.
  - 12: **Letter to Post Office Manager.** A letter to Mr Suman thanking him for the services provided to the village was read out. Mr Banham advised that the letter had been gratefully received.
  - 13: **Flooding in Mill Road.** Mr Eyles had written giving an update on the work carried out to alleviate some of the flooding issues in Mill Road. It was evident that due to staff changes at NCC the matter had ground to a halt.
  - 14: **Highfield Tree.** NCC (Highways) had now confirmed they are responsible for all of the trees in Highfield and West Street, although could not at the

time of writing confirm that the tree near Orchard Court had been felled by them. Update to follow.

**Planning Issues:**

15: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions  
a) **4 Church Street 20/00657/FUL** Single Storey Link Extension. **Permitted.**

16: New Planning Applications

a) **3a DeCapel Close (Club Lane) 20/00626/FUL Dwelling**  
Resubmission of 17/00984/FUL. A resubmission. It was agreed that the same response be given as previously and draw attention to other properties now constructed in the area, additionally draw attention to the considerable number of applications that have taken place for the site and whether the inability to develop the site since the first application in approximately 2005 should question the viability of the location. \*\*\* Mrs Hathaway declared an interest (living adjacent to site) and took no part in the discussion. \*\*\*

**\*\*\* Declaration of Interest \*\*\***

17: Other Planning Matters

a) None

**New Correspondence:**

18: **Fencing Community Area – Paddock Road.** A letter was to hand from a resident drawing attention to the state of some of the fence posts. Previous Risk Assessments had identified the matter and quotes had previously been obtained. The Clerk advised he had requested these quotes be updated. Councillors suggested rather than timber posts, alternatives should be investigated. Clerk to advise resident.

19: **Auto Jumble** – An “auto-jumble” or a machinery car boot sale would take place on 19<sup>th</sup> September at the sportsfield.

20: **Request to use Village Green.** Due to the Dukes Arms “Woodfordstock” being cancelled this year, a resident had submitted a request to erect a marquee on the village green for a music performance on Bank Holiday Saturday. The request was subsequently withdrawn.

21: **Kier WSP (Highways).** Staff had now been taken back “in house” and were directly employed by the County Council.

22: **Graffiti / Paint damage to playground.** The clerk had received two reports of a paint being “daubed” on the playground equipment allegedly by a village teenager. On seeing the evidence and after email consultation with councillors, the incident and details of witnesses was passed to the police who were investigating further. No further details had been received at the date of the meeting.

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

Current Account	£11,073.69
Interest Account	£6.05
	<b>£11,079.74</b>

**Less**

2310 Mr P Bird - Clerk	£360.00
2311 Cancelled	
2312 E.on New LED lamps Church St / High St	£3,120.00
2313 Mr D Cullum	£56.00
2314 R&G Landscapes	£315.87
2315 Mrs D Bosworth - Litter Picker	£87.20
DD57 Opus Energy Lighting	£342.29
	<b>£4,281.36</b>

**Balance Carried forward**

**£6,798.38**

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

**Refurbishment, or replacement of information cairn on village green**

24: Mr Stevens had emailed the Clerk suggesting a replacement information board be installed on the green. Following discussion councillors agreed the present cairn was more in keeping with the location rather than a free-standing noticeboard. The clerk was asked to investigate the cost of

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replacing the information board on the cairn with a view to seeking a grant from Councillor Hughes' Empowerment Fund.

- Consider next batch of lamps for upgrade to LED:** 25: The Clerk advised that with the exception of the fairly new lamps in the Paddock Rd and Windmill Close there were no further groups of steel columned lamps in the village to be replaced. Councillors agreed that the Clerk obtain quotation for replacement lamps of the remaining lamps in Highfield and lamps in Mill Road either side of the Highfield junction.
- Report from Highways Rep:** 26: Mr Stevens was not present.
- Comment from Playing Field Rep:** 27: Mr Chapman had nothing further to add.
- Any other Business:** 28: Mention was made of a group of three traveller's caravans on the verges at General's Corner. The Clerk understood that the situation was being monitored by the County Traveller Unit and also the Police, however, the imminent "Horse fair" at Wollaston and various groups already in the county in preparation for that event were taking a higher priority.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed

Dated