

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th September 2020 in the school room of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

Seating was spaced at 2 metres and masks/ shields worn by all in attendance in accordance with national guidelines providing exemption for councils from the maximum meeting group of six persons

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr G Banham, Mr N Chapman, Mrs R Hancock, Mr M Hurst, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan.
- In attendance:** Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mrs Fothergill, Mr Hackney, Mrs Hathaway, Mrs Robinson, Mr Stevens, Police, Cllr D Hughes (ENC) and Cllr S Hughes (NCC)
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the August 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: The Police were not present.
 - 2: Mr Vaughan reported that a Joint Action Group telephone meeting would be held on 25th September. Meetings had been scheduled until April when they would cease until after the elections.
- 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: **Fencing – Paddock Road Play Area.** The clerk reported that he had sought updated quotes for this work from the cheapest supplier (when previously reviewed) but had yet to receive a response using a more resilient material than timber. Mr Sharples was not in favour of recycled plastic posts. After discussion as to whether the fence was required and what residents' views might be, it was agreed the Clerk should include the subject in Saints Alive. Mr Chapman said the fence around the children's playground was still in excellent condition. The Clerk was asked to find out the cost of steel bow topped fencing, and investigate funding sources.
 - 7: **Replacement street lamps.** Despite requesting a quote for these lamps, a price still had not been received. Councillors agreed that lamps could be ordered by the Clerk spending up to the budgeted sum for the year, replacing lamps in the "Ring" in Highfield working out towards Mill Road.
 - 8: **Flooding Mill Road / Paddocks.** The Clerk understood Mr Eyles had cleared ditches on neighbouring farm land and voluntarily surveyed and cleared the ditches he was able to access around the Paddocks site. It was understood that the County Council would be jetting the main drain along Mill Road. Mr Hurst advised that the drain crossing the field north of Mill Road now appeared to have been repaired.
 - 9: **Bakers Lane Sign.** Mr M Vaughan advised this sign had not yet been painted. Clerk to follow up.
 - 10: **Telephone Box Refurbishment.** The Clerk reported that the door had been ordered and would be delivered very shortly with the specified paint. He would deliver to Mr Chapman once received.
 - 11: **Information Cairn on village green.** The Clerk reported that replacement boards varied greatly in price from £200 upwards. There would also be installation costs etc. Cllr Hughes had written advising he could donate up to £500 for the Telephone Box refurb. The Clerk said he had advised Cllr Hughes that the cost of that project was covered, but the Council might welcome a donation towards the upgrading of the Information board. Agreed that the Clerk apply to Cllr Hughes for maximum funding possible.

- Planning Issues:**
- 12: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
a) None
- 13: New Planning Applications
a) **4 Church Street.** Various Tree works. **No Objection.**
- 14: Other Planning Matters
a) There were rumours an appeal had been lodged in respect of the kennels in Addington Road. The Clerk advised that no official notification had been received.

New items and Correspondence:

- 15: **Dog Bin Church Street.** A complaint stating that another bin in the village was not required and that an existing bin should be moved was read out. The letter went on to complain about dog fouling at the east end of Church Street and other village locations. The Clerk was asked to respond advising that the new bin would be in Church St to try to remedy the problem in that very location. Additional signage would also be requested from ENC re dog fouling penalties.
- 16: **Dog Fouling.** A letter complaining about dog fouling in a lane off Newtown Street was read out. Clerk to respond that land was private but a sign would be put nearby advising of dog fouling penalties.
- 17: **Tree Removal Highfield.** NCC had confirmed that this had been removed by their contractor due to structural damage being caused.
- 18: **Mill Road Village Gateway.** NCC advised they had insufficient funds for further gateways at the present time. The cost would be in the region of £2,100, but NCC would design and cost it if required. The Clerk advised that it would be unlikely that grant funding would be available from the external bodies as there was usually a clause which prevented Parish Councils applying for funding for projects which statutorily fell to other organisations
- 19: **Speed Identification Device.** The Clerk advised that one of the two batteries in the Speed Identification Device had failed and the remaining battery now lasted only 4 – 5 days instead of the 7 -8 days when new. Councillors agreed that new batteries be obtained.

Finance:

Account balances brought forward

Current Account	£6,792.33
Interest Account	£6.05
	<u>£6,798.38</u>

Plus

Wayleave

£23.38

Less

£6,821.76

2316	Mr P Bird Clerk	£370.00
2317	Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picking	£69.76
2318	Mr D Cullum Green cutting	£86.40
2319	R&G – Verge cutting	315.87
2320	HMRC _ PAYE	£49.60
2321	Mr D Cullum – Fuel Reimbursement	£27.04
DD58	Opus Energy Street Lighting	£348.28

£1,266.95

Balance Carried forward

£5,554.81

- 20: Mr I Vaughan proposed, Mr M Vaughan seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

Agree Donation to RBL Poppy Appeal:

- 21: Mr I Vaughan proposed, seconded by Mr Sharples that the council donates £100 to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. All in agreement.

Report from Highways Rep:

- 22: Mr Stevens was not present but had asked (via the Clerk) that the Council consider writing to NCC regarding the poor state of road markings and the lengthening of the bus stop in the High Street to prevent cars parking thereby permitting buses to turn at the north end of the green. Councillors asked that the road markings be reported by street doctor and to raise the issue of the bus stop with the Highways Engineer although it

was acknowledged that there was a shortage of parking spaces in the area and additional restrictions would only move the problem elsewhere.

- Any other Business:**
- 23: **Fly Tipping.** Fly tipping near the ford and a damaged sign in that vicinity had been reported to the relevant authorities.
 - 24: **Travellers.** Travellers Caravans had now moved on. Clerk had reported bags of rubbish left on the site to ENC.
 - 25: **Hedges Overgrown.** Mr I Vaughan mentioned three hedges in Church St and Church Green, and a wall in Rectory Lane which appeared to be in a dangerous state. The Clerk was asked to write to the residents concerned.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed

Dated