

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th April 2011 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr J Hawes, Mrs S Hayman, Mr M Hackney, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan, and Mr D Woods.
- In attendance:** Cllr D Hughes (ENC), PS Rae, PC Tomlinson, Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mr M Hurst, Cllr Langley
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were proposed and agreed as a true record by those present. It was unanimously agreed that the Chairman sign them as such.
- Youth Forum Update:** 1: Mr Vaughan had no comments to make.
- Police Report:** 2: Sergeant Rae and PC Tomlinson were in attendance. PC Tomlinson was now responsible for Woodford. Incidents at the Children's Playground were discussed and the Police suggested that the street lamp might be disconnected for a period of time to deter youths congregating in that location. Clerk to investigate.
3: Crime figures for March were 3 Criminal Damage (17 in year) and 1 Theft from a motor vehicle (3 in year). Additionally throughout the year there had been 5 burglary, 17 burglary (other) 1 Drug Offence, 7 Theft Handling, 3 Theft of Motor Vehicles and 9 violent offences – total of 62 incidents during the year.
- Comments from Electors:** 4: No members of the electorate were present.
- Cllr Langley's Comments:** 5: Cllr Langley was not present
- Cllr Hughes Comments:** 6: Cllr Hughes informed the meeting that ENC had frozen the Council Tax this year and was seeking to save money through a variety of methods but maintain the current level of services. Positions becoming vacant were not being filled immediately, if at all. Some of the Council's charges were however being increased. The new waste contract was anticipated to save the Council a considerable sum, as the number of collection vehicles was being reduced. It was also understood that Charity Funding and grants were being reduced
- Matters arising from the minutes:** 7: **Tree adjacent to Daventry Close.** ENC had replied to the Council's concerns regarding the stump left following the removal of the Maple Tree in Pound Lane. ENC said there was no recourse through the planning system and suggested that the issue be taken up with the Applicant and copy the correspondence to Drayton Estate.
8: **1 The Moorings Appeal.** The Clerk's letter to the Planning Inspector was read out and noted.
9: **Transfer of Land – The Paddocks.** The Clerk's letter requesting Vincent Sykes to act for Council regarding the transfer of land was read out and noted.
10: **Wall at Prince of Wales.** The Clerk had written to ENC enforcement officer regarding the recently constructed wall between the Prince of Wales and the Chip Shop. A reminder had also been sent, but a response not received.
11: **Telephone Kiosk.** BT had written confirming that the Council was now the owner of the Kiosk. The telephone equipment would be removed shortly. A Manual regarding the maintenance of the Kiosk was to be put on file

- 12: **HMRC.** Revenue and Customs had informed the Council that all employees needed to be taxed at source and the Council was required to implement a PAYE system. The Clerk registered the Council as an employee with HMRC.
- 13: **Thrapston Rd 30mph zone.** NCC had considered the Council's request to extend the 30mph zone beyond the corner in Thrapston Rd but had decided that a limit just beyond the farm would suffice. The Parish Council's request to implement a 40mph from the 30mph zone to the A14 bridge was also discounted as a 40mph zone should normally be developed on both sides of the road, or there is a significant level of pedestrian usage. The Clerk was asked to respond stating the road was well used in the summer especially children in the summer visiting the ford. The Clerk was also asked to mention that the route had been once considered by the NCC for a cycle/footpath.
- 14: **Community Safety Grant.** The £1000 grant had now been received, and the playground painting had been carried out by Playground Supplies..

Planning Issues:

- 15: Planning Committee Comments
- a) There had been no planning responses since the last meeting
- 16: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
- a) **Land South of Moorings.** Pollarding of Willow Tree – **Permitted**
- 17: New Planning Applications
- a) **1 The Moorings** Removal of two fruit trees **EN/11/00567/TCA.** Councillors discussed the removal of the two trees. The apple tree closest to the house bore small fruit, but was sound. The plum tree close to the proposed building plot bore no fruit but the tree was sound. Mr Hawes suggested the Plum tree was not self fertile hence the lack of fruit and the apple tree just needed pruning. Councillors agreed to **object** on aforementioned grounds.
- b) **Installation of 5MW solar park Lowick.** Further information was now to hand regarding the screening of the site from the road. Councillors had no objection to the development stating it was preferable to a wind farm as it was less visible and the ground could still be used for grazing.
- c) **28 Thrapston Road** Construction of manufacturing workshop **EN/10/1049/FUL.** Councillors expressed concern at the amount of the site that would be turned over to “warehouse style buildings citing that there were alternative sites for such buildings. Noise from the manufacturing process / stone cutting was also a concern and also the size and weight of vehicles attending the site. No routing of vehicles was mentioned. No mention was made within the plans how the present equipment located within the site would be accommodated. Clerk requested to **object** on the above grounds.
- d) **32B High Street** Conversion of outbuildings **EN/11/00574/FUL.** Outbuildings to be renovated and converted to form accommodation. **No Objection.**
- e) **Orchard House Church Green Woodford.** Removal of Maple Tree **EN/11/00484/TCA.** Tree in question was causing wall to become unstable. Tree was not prominent from the road due to the height of the wall. **No Objection.**
- 18: Other Planning Matters
- a) **Cranford Wind Turbine.** Correspondence had been received from Twywell Parish Council detailing objections to a proposed wind turbine between Cranford and Twywell. Fliers had also been circulated to properties in Mill Road and Thrapston Road (publisher unknown). Two objections (copies) had also been received from Woodford residents. Councillors agreed to object to Kettering Borough Council regarding the proposal based upon the large number of turbines / proposed turbines in

the district; additionally express concern that despite the close proximity of the site to the Parish the council was not formally consulted.

- New Correspondence:**
- 19: **Parish Polls.** ENC had written with an information document concerning the legality of Parish Polls.
 - 20: **ENC Waste Service.** The new waste service from 1 August would be operated by Kier Services. Routes inaccessible to the waste vehicles had been identified and included all of the "private" roads in Woodford. Individual properties which were not capable of using the new "Wheelie bins" will receive a letter from ENC advising them of alternative options by the middle of May. A letter from a Sunnyside resident was presented by Mrs Robinson expressing concerns over the scheme. These were not concerns the Parish Council could answer and needed to be addressed by the District Council.
 - 21: **Bus Service 16.** A new bus service had been introduced from 28 March which provided an hourly service.
 - 22: **Proposed changes to bus subsidies and Public Transport.** NCC was holding a consultation exercise until the end of May regarding public transport within the County. The proposal for Woodford would see a continuation of the service 16.
 - 23: **Footpath NW playing fields.** Mrs French of West Street had written complaining about the public footpath between the Playing Fields and Water Tower. Clerk was asked to report the matter to the Right of Way team.
 - 24: **Natural England.** Natural England had now designated the gravel pits between Titchmarsh and Northampton as a Special Protection Area, due to the rare species living in these habitats.
 - 25: **Parish Council Election.** Only eight valid nominations were lodged with East Northants Council at the close of the nomination period. The Clerk informed the meeting that Councillors would need to decide how they wished to proceed with the co-option process at the May Parish Council Meeting.
 - 26: **Audit.** The Audit documents had been received from BDO for completion by the end of June.

Finance:

Account balances brought forward		£4,762.67
<i>Less chq 658 understated in minutes (Feb 2011)</i>		<i>6.00</i>
Balance brought forward		£4,756.67
Plus		
ENC Community Safety Grant	£1,000.00	
NCC Verges cutting reimbursement	£491.83	
Woodford WMC (Peppercorn rent)	£1.00	
Interest (August 10, March 11)	£1.26	£1,494.09
Balance as at 31 March 2011		£6,250.76
Less		
664 Mrs D Bosworth 19 hrs litter picking + exp	£116.57	
665 ENC Verge Cutting (March)	£210.58	
666 Eon Lighting Maintenance (1/4 to end March)	£306.49	
667 Eon Lighting Power (Month)	£242.20	
668 Playground Supplies (Playground Painting)	£1,878.00	
669 P Bird Clerk	£250.00	
670 Mr D Cullum 12 hrs Grass Cutting + fuel	£104.59	
671 Mr D Cullum Hire of Lawn Mower (see below)	£265.00	£3,373.43
Balance Carried forward		£2877.33

- 27: Mr Hawes proposed, Mrs Hayman seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

-
- Agree Hire fee for Lawn Mower:** 28: Mr D Cullum had used his own machine to cut the greens during the last season and Councillors agreed unanimously that the sum of £5 per hour be paid for the hire of the machine – 53 hours.
- Appoint Signatories for land transfer at The Paddocks** 29: Vincent Sykes had written asking the Council to nominate two Councillors to sign any documents relevant to the transfer of the open land at The Paddocks. Councillors agreed unanimously that Mr P Bird and Mr I Vaughan should sign on behalf of the Council
- Any other Business:** 30: The overgrown footpath between Rose Terrace and the High Street was raised. Clerk to investigate.

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

Signed

Dated