

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 16th December 2008 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Miss L Blanchard, , Mrs M Colson, Mrs S Hayman, Mrs E Reid, Mr D Sharples, Mr M Vaughan and Mr D Woods.
- In attendance:** Cllr A Langley (NCC), Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mr S Clifton, Mr P Colson, Mr J Hawes, Mr N Holben, Mr I Vaughan. Cllr D Hughes (ENC)
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were proposed by Mr M Vaughan, seconded by Mr Sharples, 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 M Vaughan had no comments.
- Police Report:** 2: Sgt Cowley was in attendance and outlined some of the recent crimes that had taken place within the village, included one case of aggravated vehicle theft, one domestic incident, two non dwelling burglaries, one motorcycle theft, two thefts from vehicles, one historical case of actual bodily harm, and theft from an insecure home.
3: Further proactive action was also being taken with regard to problems emanating from “The Paddocks”.
4: Councillors made mention of the dangers of vehicles queuing to gain access to the former “Eurofleet” site. Clerk to contact Sergeant Rae at Thrapston.
- Comments from Electors:** 5: No members of the electorate were present.
- Cllr Langley’s Comments:** 6: Cllr Langley outlined the results of the village walk, but was still awaiting responses from the various departments within NCC.
7: It was anticipated the NCC budget would be increasing by 3.9% and there would be an extra £250,000 for youth services, £500,000 for foster care and an additional £900,000 for residential care. The budget was presently subject to consultation.
8: Cllr Langley confirmed that all funds allocated to him under the “Empowering Councillors Scheme” had been spent.
- Cllr Hughes Comments:** 9: Cllr Hughes was not present
- Matters arising from the minutes:** 10: **The Paddocks Lighting.** The Clerk informed the meeting that the lighting within the Paddocks had been installed as per the agreed plan and was in working order, however, one of the original lamps now no longer worked in Mill Road possibly as a result of the new lamp installations. Consequently he had informed the County Council who would be issuing a maintenance certificate for the new lamps.
11: **Electricity Bills.** The Clerk reported that he had contacted Eon about the “mystery” electricity bill but had yet to receive response. A further bill had been received.
12: **St Mary’s Church.** The Clerk’s letter to St Mary’s church detailing the donation towards the upkeep of the Churchyard in 2007 was read out
13: **Thrapston Road.** Acknowledgement of the Clerk’s letter concerning dropped kerbs in Thrapston Road had been received with the promise of a full response by 8th December. This was not as yet to hand. Clerk to follow up
- Planning Issues:** 14: Planning Committee Comments
a) The Planning Committee had not commented on any plans since the last

meeting.

15: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions

- a) No decisions had been made by East Northants Council

16: New Planning Applications

- a) **1 Rectory Lane** Proposal for Residential Dwelling fronting Addington Road **EN/08/02111/FUL. Objection** on the grounds of Insufficient Parking / turning area for three properties, close proximity to listed buildings, overdevelopment of site.
- b) **Corner Club Lane / Church Street. EN/08/02039/REM.** Details of access and boundary matters. **No Objection.**

17: **Other Planning Matters.**

- a) An appeal had been submitted with regard to the site between DeCapel Close and Club Lane. Clerk was asked to reaffirm the councils concerns over the application on the grounds that the site overlooked listed buildings, included provision for a footpath which did not reach the top of Club Lane, probably the most dangerous part of the road. The property would also overlook properties in DeCapel Close. Clerk to respond to planning inspectorate.

- New Correspondence:** 18: **Victim Support.** An appeal for funds was to hand. Councillors requested that this be deferred until March 2009.
- 19: **Concessionary Travel.** East Northants Council would be visiting the Shrubberies on 9th February to issue tokens and Bus Passes.
- 20: **Active Ageing Roadshow.** An Active Ageing Roadshow – free to all over 50years of age was to be held at the Nene Centre in Thrapston on 10th February – poster to be displayed.

Finance:

Balance brought forward	£1,456.06
Plus NCC Grant (missed from Nov Minutes)	£1,000.00
	£2,456.06

Less

528 E.on Lighting Maintenance	£292.74	
529 P T Bird Clerk (Salary)	£230.00	
530 Mrs D Bosworth 12 ¾ hrs litter picking + exp	£77.15	£599.89

Balance Carried forward		£1,856.17
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Account Balances

Current Account	£1820.26
High Interest Account	£35.91

Total	£1,856.17
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- 21: Mrs Colson proposed, Mr Woods seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

- 22: The Clerk informed the meeting that a VAT claim for £8204 had been submitted to HM Customs and Excise. However, he would be following up the claim as it was now over a month since it was submitted.

Budget and Precept 2009-2010:

- 23: The Clerk provided draft budget figures for the forthcoming financial years together with estimates of the funds available at the end of the recent financial year. Discussion followed and figures amended the budget to £14,500. It was proposed by Mr Woods and seconded by Mr Sharples and unanimously agreed by those present that the budget of £14,500 be approved and as a result a precept of £12,500 be requested from East Northants Council. The budget is contained within this minute book at page 64a.

- Adoption of the model** 24: The Model Publication Scheme document as repaired by the Information

**Publication Scheme.
Freedom of
Information Act:**

Commissioners Office having been previously circulated was discussed. Mr M Vaughan proposed, Mrs Colson seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the document be adopted. Clerk to place copy on the Noticeboard and website. The Clerk was now required to produce a "Guide to Information" which would detail where and how the information would be made available.

Any other Business:

- 25: **Tree in "The Leys"**. Mr Sharples reported that the tree previously reported as dangerous had now been felled.
- 26: **Drain in Highfield**. Mr M Vaughan reported that a drain on the lower side of the "Ring" was blocked.
- 27: **Lights in High Street**. A number of street lamps in the High Street were reported as faulty. Clerk to confirm and refer to E.on for repair.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed

Dated