

**Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr N Chapman, Mr P Colson, Mrs S Cooke, Mr M Hurst, Mrs W Iversen, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan, Mrs D Winn and Mr D Woods.

**In attendance:** Mr P T Bird (Clerk)

**Apologies for absence:** Mr M Hackney, Cllr D Hughes (ENC), Cllr A Langley (NCC), Police  
**Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the December Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were agreed as a true record by those present subject to minor amendments. It was unanimously agreed that the Chairman sign them as such.

**Youth Forum Update:** 1: Mr M Vaughan reported he had met with the funding officer at ENC and was presently seeking funding for the Working Mens Club, Playing Fields Association and also the Youth Forum.

**Police Report:** 2: A Police Officer was not present, but the Clerk reported there had been reported incidents during November: one burglary (other), one act of criminal damage, two violent offences. This brought the total to 63 during the previous twelve months and 40 since 1 April.

**Comments from Electors:** 3: No members of the electorate were present.

**Cllr Langley's Comments:** 4: Cllr Langley was not present.

**Cllr Hughes Comments:** 5: Cllr Hughes was not present.

**Matters arising from the minutes:** 6: **Land at The Paddocks.** The Chairman reported that since the last meeting, he and the vice chair had signed the transfer deed pertaining to the open land in The Paddocks. The Clerk reported that he understood the transaction would be completed shortly.

7: **Footpath PE20 (Ivy Cottage).** The Clerk had written to the occupier advising that the Council had no objection to the minor re-routing of this footpath.

8: **Verge Cutting.** The Clerk reported that the agreement to carry out our own verge cutting (2012) had been returned to NCC with the invoice for the grant towards this year's cuts (2011).

9: **Infrastructure requirement / Localism Act Briefing.** The Clerk advised he had attended the briefing provided by East Northants Council. The briefing covered the Community Infrastructure Levy and Neighbourhood Plans. The former would in certain circumstances replace the S106 agreements, would be payable by all developers at the commencement of a development to ENC who would be responsible for devolving funding determined by local needs. (The Parish Plan scheme is due to be re-launched by East Northants Council in the New Year. NB to qualify for CIL funding a plan may well need to be in place but this would not necessarily need to be produced by the Council / or community in isolation but by the District Council).

Neighbourhood Plans could be introduced by Town / Parish Councils to complement or replace District Level Plans (e.g. Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan). A neighbourhood plan could permit additional development / expansion but not less than the District negotiated plan. Significant responsibility would be linked to the plan which would need to be formulated to

comply with National Planning Laws, and would be formed following public consultation, examination and a local referendum allowing parishioners to vote whether the Neighbourhood Plan should be adopted. As a result it was anticipated the Neighbourhood plans would be more applicable to Town Councils as opposed to Parish Councils.

**Planning Issues:**

- 10: Plans commented upon since last meeting  
 a) No planning matters had been received since the last meeting.
- 11: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions  
 a) **28 Thrapston Road.** Extension to existing buildings to house stone cutting saw for the manufacture of stone kitchen worktops. EN/10/01049/FUL. **Permitted**  
 b) **30 Church Street.** Extension to bungalow and construction of workshop to rear. EN/11/01161/FUL **Permitted**  
 c) **Water Tower Addington Road.** Addition of one microwave dish EN/11/01329/FUL **Permitted**  
 d) **16 Whittlesea Terrace.** Demolition of garage and erection of a three bedroom dwelling EN/11/01050/FUL **Permitted.** Conditions included the requirement that off road parking must be provided and retained.
- 12: New Planning Applications  
 a) No new applications had been received
- 13: Other Planning Matters  
 a) There were no other matters to discuss

**New Correspondence:**

- 14: **Countryside Gardens.** Countryside Gardens had written expressing an interest to be included in any quotation requests for ground work. Clerk to hold on file.
- 15: **Tandem Rally August 2012.** The Clerk had received a letter via the Police regarding a national tandem rally which this year would be held in Kettering 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> August 2012. One idea being investigated by the organisers is for a route to pass through Woodford (Mill Road, High Street, Club Lane, Church Street, Church Green, and Addington Road) and include a timed hill climb up Church Green. The Police had no objection and following discussion Councillors raised no objections either. Clerk to respond informing that there was no objection but advise that Club Lane should be used with care as it is the most used "Lane" and it might be best to avoid a Thursday as the refuse wagon could cause some disruption to the event.
- 16: The Chairman asked that the following items of correspondence be circulated:  
 a) NCalc Newsletter  
 b) Clerks and Councils Direct  
 c) Localism Bill - Introduction

**Finance:**

|   |           |                   |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>Account balances brought forward</b>           |           |                   |
| Current Account                                   |           | £6,829.59         |
| High Interest Account                             |           | £5,045.14         |
| <b>Total</b>                                      |           | <b>£11,874.73</b> |
| <b>Plus interest (June / September £0.63 x 2)</b> |           | <b>£1.26</b>      |
|   |           | <b>£11,875.99</b> |
| <b>Less</b>                                       |           |                   |
| 708 ENC re Verge Cutting                          | £1,582.52 |                   |
| 709 E.on Lighting Maintenance                     | £306.49   |                   |
| 710 Mrs D Bosworth Litter Picking (17.5 hrs)      | £85.20    |                   |
| 711 Mr P Bird (Clerk)                             | £200.00   |                   |
| 712 Woodford Youth Forum                          | *         |                   |
| 713 Post Office Ltd (HMRC – ¼ Income Tax)         | £232.40   | £2,406.61         |

**Balance Carried forward****£9,469.38**

17: Mr Colson proposed, Mr M Vaughan seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled, \* with the exception of cheque 712 which would be authorised once a bank account has been opened.

**Budget and Precept 2012-2013:**

18: The Clerk produced a draft budget for the forthcoming year based upon expected levels of expenditure for the current financial year, appropriately adjusted for potential changes in expenditure for the forthcoming financial year. After discussion it was proposed by Mrs Cooke and seconded Mrs Winn by that the budget be adopted this was agreed by all present. This resulted in the precept for the year remaining unchanged at £13,900.

19: The Clerk drew attention to the forecasted year end balance and councillors agreed that in order to reduce the sum a further quota of street lamps be upgraded, Councillors requested that the Clerk obtain quotations for replacement lamps in Addington Road, High Street and Thrapston Road. (N.B. It was noted that a temporary reduction in precept for one year may result in the inability to raise sufficient precept in 2013-14 when increases in the precept of Parish Councils may be capped, hence better to spend reserves on designated future projects now)

**Use of Telephone Kiosk:**

20: A letter had been received from Mr Bosworth who suggested the kiosk might be used to house a defibrillator for village use. A Charity is presently installing such equipment in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire for local residents to use in the event emergency services are delayed. Security measures are applied to the scheme and installation. Councillors agreed this to be a worthwhile cause and requested the Clerk follow up the scheme.

**Rough Ground to west of High Street:**

21: Correspondence from Drayton Estate and Mrs Hancock regarding the parking of commercial vehicles on this land was discussed. Drayton Estate proposed a notice be affixed to the vehicles advising that as it was classified as private land the vehicles could be clamped. Councillors were uneasy with this suggestion as laws relating to the clamping of vehicles had recently been tightened, additionally as the area was open land it may require a byelaw to introduce such a scheme. The Clerk advised the meeting that he had been made aware that the land in question was actually highway, and had been designated as such since the 1920's. If this was the case then it would not be permissible to clamp any vehicle. It would also mean that the upkeep of the land could fall in some part to the County Council. The Clerk was asked to investigate this as a matter of urgency.

**Any other Business:**

22: **Playground Fence.** Mr Chapman raised the issue of the playground fence and the fact that it was in desperate need of repair. He also suggested that rather than a gated entrance it would be more appropriate to have a barrier which allowed wheelchairs / prams etc access but not cycles / motor cycles. Clerk to investigate whether such an entrance would be appropriate instead of a gate (to keep dogs out).

23: **Additional Public Lamp near school.** Mr Hurst Said the area outside the school was dark and would benefit from an additional lamp. Councillors agreed to note the request but felt money would initially be better allocated to upgrading existing lamps which was a necessity in the short term, and in doing so may also address the problem due to increased light levels of the new lamps.

24: **Peterborough Bus Service.** Mr Hurst said that he understood that the use of the senior citizens bus pass on the weekly Peterborough Bus Service was to be

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abolished and that it would be a cash only service. Clerk was asked to investigate.

There being no other business the Chairman wished those present a Happy Christmas and declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed

Dated