

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 17th February 2009 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, Mr J Hawes, Mrs E Reid, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan and Mr D Woods.
- In attendance:** PCSO G Cross, Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mr S Clifton, Mr P Colson, Mr N Holben, Cllr A Langley (NCC)
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the January Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were proposed by Mr Hawes, seconded by Mr Vaughan, 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: PCSO Cross drew attention to a further nine reported crimes during the month of January, including two burglaries.
 - 3: The PCSO commented that evidence to hand generally led back to the same area of the village. Councillors asked the Clerk to write to Spire homes to ask how properties were allocated and why persons in Woodford did not feature in the lettings of these properties.
 - 4: The PCSO was hoping to hold a series of surgeries in the school.
 - 5: **Mill Road Traffic.** Mr Bosworth had contacted the Council regarding the speed at which vehicles travel along Mill Road within the 30mph limit. PCSO Cross said he would arrange to attend with a speed gun and would also request a remote monitoring system to be installed for a period of time to measure the speed of every vehicle which travels along the road. Clerk to respond to Mr Bosworth
- Comments from Electors:**
- 6: No members of the electorate were present.
- Cllr Langley's Comments:**
- 7: Cllr Langley had provided a written report regarding the (lack of) gritting on the County's roads. Apparently up to the middle of February gritting lorries had been out on the County's roads on seventy five days and there was still approximately five weeks of the winter season to go. Over recent years these lorries had been used on average forty times per season. During the previous ten days (to the PC meeting) gritting had only taken place on priority routes due to the national shortage of salt. The Council had been advised by the Government's Regional Office that if they deviated from these routes it could be deemed that the Council had a surplus of grit which would result in future grit allocations being allocated to Councils who were on the point of running out. The County Council were themselves running low, but allocation of grit deliveries was presently being controlled by Cobra – the Government Emergency Planning Team.
- Cllr Hughes Comments:**
- 8: Cllr Hughes was not present
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 9: **Tree / Fenced off area Rose Terrace.** The Clerk showed a plan of land showing the parcel of land in Rose Terrace which had been transferred from East Northants to Spire Homes. The area excluded a strip of land along the south side of Rose Terrace from Whittlesey Terrace to Rose Paddock of approximately the width of a road (measured from the building line), which was northern boundary of the line of a track in this vicinity prior to the construction of the Shrubberies. The Clerk said it appeared all avenues of

enquiry relating to the ownership of the land had now been exhausted and that no further action could be taken unless further evidence came to light.

- 10: **Relocation of HGV signs** (Old A604 junction with Alledge Turn) The County Council had written confirming that the signs would be updated to the latest standards and would be repositioned so that they would be clearly visible but at the same time not obstruct vision when leaving the junction.
- 11: **Footpath Restoration.** The Rights of Way Officer had confirmed that footpaths should have been rolled or flattened with a tractor tyre and had spoken to the landowner.
- 12: **Blocked Ditch / Culvert.** The Clerk reported that the ditch which overflows between the A14 bridge and the old A604 junction had been referred to Street Doctor, who would investigate. (The water flowing from the ditch onto the road had caused a sheet of ice from the junction to the ford bridge.)
- 13: **Bridleway – The Warren.** The Clerks email to the NCC Right of Way team regarding the state of the bridleway through the shrubbery and also the line of footpaths in the warren field was read out. Mr Hawes suggested that the bridleway should be routed through the shrubbery along the headland and then back down to the river (former green lane route). Clerk to arrange a meeting.
- 14: **Footpath improvements in “The Shrubby”.** The Clerk had written to Drayton Estate regarding the improvement of the bridleway through the Shrubby. A reply was awaited.
- 15: **Multi Use Games Area.** By the closing date for comments on this retrospective application, only one response had been received by East Northants Council which had been from Sport England who objected to the loss of playing field. The Clerk had written to ENC rebuffing all the objections raised by Sport England. *(The Clerk expresses thanks to Mr Woods for his assistance with compiling this response)*

Planning Issues:

- 16: Planning Committee Comments
 - a) **New Hairdressers – Sunnyside** EN/08/01914/FUL. Revised plans confirming that no vehicular access would be constructed had been considered. **No Objection**, in fact the clarification was welcomed. Mr Vaughan had suggested that this would imply everyone would have to walk rather than use cars. Other members mentioned that Sunnyside could be used for vehicles, additionally there would be no more visitors that to the present shop
- 17: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
 - a) No decisions had been made by East Northants Council
- 18: New Planning Applications
 - a) **Buildings at Jenny Wren Boatyard WillyWatt Mill.** 09/00044/FUL The existing plans propose a small part of the building to be 2 storey. This new application extends amount of the property which is to be 2 storey. **No Objection**
 - b) **11 Church St – New Dwelling** 08/02290/REM Plans detail the location and style of the proposed house at the junction of Club Lane / Church Street. **No Objection**
 - c) **Playing Field Highfield** Retrospective application for Multi Use Games Area 08/01524/FUL **No comments**
- 19: Other Planning Matters
 - a) The Clerk had been asked to clarify comments previously submitted regarding the upgrading of buildings at **Grange Farm**. The Clerk had responded that there was no objection to the upgrade of the buildings but some form of traffic calming – to the authority’s specification- should be incorporated into the approach road from the A14 which for much of its

length is also a public footpath.

- New Correspondence:**
- 20: **Mrs B Ding East Northants Council.** Mrs Ding had written to all Parish Councils informing that she would be returning from her position as Monitoring Officer and Executive Director in May this year. The Chairman asked that the Clerk respond wishing Mrs Ding happy retirement and also to thank her for the assistance she has offered over the past years.
- 21: **Summer Verge Maintenance.** The Clerk had signed and returned the contract for the summer verge maintenance, this having been agreed at the December meeting when the Council withdrew once again from the County Council's basic verge maintenance scheme.
- 22: **BTCV.** The BTCV had written offering their services of practical conservation work at a cost of £250 per day.
- 23: **Grit Bins.** The Clerk had been approached by a resident in West Street for a grit bin to be located in the Highfield area of Woodford, the junction of West Street and Highfield being very dangerous during the recent icy weather. Mr Sharples suggested that a further bin was located in Newtown, this area receiving little direct sun to assist with the melting of the recent snow.
- 24: The Chairman asked that the following items of correspondence be circulated:
- Highways Agency Newsletter
 - Standards Board Report
 - Details of International Women's Day at the Pemberton Centre.

Finance:	Balance brought forward	£2,005.42
	plus	
	VAT Refund	8553.21
	Less	10558.63
	⁵³³ Mr P T Bird – Clerk Salary	230.00
	⁵³⁴ Mrs D Bosworth (Litterpicking)	79.52
		309.52
	Balance Carried forward	10249.11

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

- Any other Business:**
- 26: **Street Lamp (Mill Road)** Mr Holben (through Mr M Vaughan) had suggested that a new street lamp should be incorporated into Mill Road between the one outside number 2a and number 32. This was a long stretch of road without lighting. Clerk to enquire through monthly news article whether any other lamps were required, in order that prices could be obtained.
- 27: **Plantation Bridge.** Mr Hawes reported that the bridge at Plantation had been vandalised by a person using a saw. He was also aware that a group of youth frequently ride motorcycles around the field between the Shrubbery and the brook.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed

Dated