

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th January 2009 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

- Present:** Mr I Vaughan (Chair), Miss L Blanchard, Mr P Colson, Mrs M Colson, Mr J Hawes, Mr N Holben, Mrs E Reid, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, and Mr D Woods.
- In attendance:** Cllr D Hughes (ENC), Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mr P Bird, Mrs S Hayman, Mrs E Reid, Mr M Vaughan, Cllr A Langley.
- 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 textual amendments. It was unanimously agreed that the Chairman sign them as such.
- Youth Forum Update:** 1: Mr M Vaughan was not present.
- Police Report:** 2: A Police Officer was not present. The Clerk reported that during December, three burglaries, one act of criminal damage, one theft and two cases of violence were reported increasing the overall total of reported crime for the current financial year to seventy.
- 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 informed the meeting that East Northants Council would be increasing the Council Tax by 3.9%. The council acknowledged that with a looming recession council services would be put under increased pressure. Low interest rates were also reducing the return on invested funds.
6: Funds were available for many different schemes and applicants should approach Mrs S Davies for further information.
7: The ENC Youth Council also has the power to contribute funds to youth activities.
- Matters arising from the minutes:** 8: **Multi Use Games Area.** The Clerk confirmed the retrospective application for planning permission had now been submitted.
- Planning Issues:** 9: Planning Committee Comments
a) The Planning Committee had not commented on any plans since the last meeting.
- 10: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
a) **1 Rectory Lane.** New Dwelling EN/08/02111/FUL **Refused.** Property not in keeping with the surroundings and insufficient parking with poor access.
b) **Glebe Lodge, 8A Church Street.** Subdivision of dwelling EN/08/01794/FUL **Permitted.**
c) **2 Thrapston Road.** Single Storey extension to bungalow. EN/08/01801/FUL **Permitted.** Permission did not extend to increasing fence height on south side of property
- 11: New Planning Applications
a) **Conversion of Dairy Building Grange Farm** EN/08/02094. **No objection** to the conversion of the building , but councillors suggested some form of traffic calming be introduced along the approach road which is also a public footpath

12: Other Planning Matters

- a) Planning Appeal – 3A DeCapel Close. The Clerk’s response to the appeal panel was read out.
- b) East Northants Council had written requesting the Councils views on the settlement boundaries contained within the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan. Councillors agreed that the boundaries detailed within the plan should be reaffirmed.

- New Correspondence:**
- 13: **Northants County Council Budget.** Details of the budget consultation were to hand.
 - 14: **Phil Hope MP Surgery Dates.** A list of Phil Hope’s surgery dates had been received.
 - 15: **CPRE Stop the Drop.** CPRE are to hold a co-ordinated litter pick from 20th March to 29 March. Councillors decided the council would not participate as village litter picker is employed.
 - 16: **Visit of the Fair.** Mr Bugg had written requesting that the fair be allowed to visit from Sunday 5th July to Monday 13th July. It was noted that this was a week early and could have ramifications for the Church Fete, however, Back Green could be used. Clerk to confirm with Mr Bugg and inform the PCC that if the Flower Festival was timed for 11th July the green would not be available.
Note the day after the meeting Mr Bugg revised his dates to one week later i.e. arrive 12th July and stay until 20th July.
 - 17: The Chairman asked that the following items of correspondence be circulated:
 - a) Details of ENC Chairman’s Race night
 - b) NCC Mineral Extraction Plan
 - c) ENC Minutes

Finance:

Balance brought forward		£1,856.17
Plus		
Woodford WMC Peppercorn Rent	£1.00	
NCC Reimbursement for verge cutting	£475.08	£476.08
Less		£2,332.15
531 Mrs D Bosworth (Litter picking)	£96.83	
532 Mr P T Bird Clerk	£230.00	£326.83
Balance Carried forward		£2,005.42
Account Balances		
Current Account		£1,969.51
High Interest Account		£35.91
Total		£2,005.42

- 18: Mrs Colson proposed, Ms Blanchard seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.
- 19: The clerk reported that following his previous email to E.on re un detailed bills for unmetered electricity he had followed it up with a letter, but had not yet received a reply.
- 20: The Clerk reported he had chased the VAT refund and payment was anticipated within seven days.

Rights of Way Issues:

- 21: Mr Hawes drew attention to the poor surface of some footpaths and bridleways around Woodford and asked whether funding to improve them could be investigate – Clerk to follow up. Mr Hawes offered to provide a list of the worst affected areas.

Any other Business:

- 22: **Playing Fields.** Mr Colson said that the playing fields were still not being

maintained on a regular basis by a regular grounds man and asked what the position would be if the field continued to be un-maintained. Clerk to review lease.

- 23: **Car Parking outside the White Horse.** Over the previous month the area outside the White Horse (on Whittlesey Terrace) had been used for storing goods again preventing vehicles from parking in the area. To be monitored and White Horse to be contacted to ensure they are aware that the piece of ground is classed as highway.
- 24: **Footpath from double bend.** Mr Colson mentioned an un-restored footpath from the double bend (new parish boundary with Great Addington) Clerk to follow up. This also applies to the footpath from the railway line to the Willywatt mill.
- 25: **Barriers on Back Green** British Gas had left barriers on the green following the completion of work in Rectory Lane. Clerk to follow up

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

Signed

Dated