

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 20th July 2010 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Mr P Colson, Mr M Hackney, Mr M Hurst, Mrs S Robinson, Mr D Sharples, Mr I Vaughan, Mr M Vaughan, Mr N Walbridge and Mr D Woods.
- In attendance:** Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence:** Mrs M Colson, Mr J Hawes, Mrs S Hayman, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Langley, PCSO Cross.
- Signing of Declaration of Office:** Mr Malcolm Hackney signed his Declaration of Office. The Chairman welcomed him to his first meeting.
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the June Parish Council meeting having been circulated, were proposed by Mr Sharples, seconded by Mr I 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 M Vaughan said he had made contact with a number of youths (nine) with a view to reforming the Youth Forum in order. Mr Hurst queried the value of the forum. Mr Vaughan responded that the forum was a voice for the youth who believed that the authorities “did not listen”, although he had sought to correct them on these issues. It was believed that the majority of youth favoured an area to ride cycles, mini motorbikes off road in a motocross environment. Resolved that the Clerk try to find out whether any land might be available for such an activity.
 - 2: Mr Vaughan also queried the sum of money held by the Parish Council (believed to be £200) on behalf of the former Youth Forum when it folded.
- Police Report:**
- 3: A Police Officer was not present, however the Clerk reported that two acts of criminal damage had occurred in June, and one drug offence, one violent offence and one act of theft / handling. Police attendance in the village had increased since the last meeting.
- 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 was not present
- Matters arising from the minutes:**
- 7: **Working Men’s Club – Crime.** It was understood the Police had met with the club and that an “exclusion area” had been and that crime in the area had reduced. Councillors were disappointed that the meeting had not involved the Parish Council’s representative on the Playing Field Committee.
 - 8: **Conservation area.** The proposed conservation area had now been approved by East Northants Council.
 - 9: **Church Green Seat.** Since the last meeting the seat had been removed once again for a short period of time by a local resident, due to the large number of youths congregating in the area, damaging trees and leaving litter. The seat had however now been returned once again to its rightful location. It was understood the Police were visiting the area more frequently.
- Planning Issues:**
- 10: Circulated Planning Applications
 - a) **Islip Furnace Site Demolition of existing buildings and outline**

permission for construction of Warehousing. EN/10/01025/OUT. **Objection.** Councillors affirmed comments sent to the Clerk, agreeing that there should be an improved access to the site in order to avoid vehicles accessing the site queuing on the road; improved screening on the south side to reduce the visibility of any major construction from Woodford; concern was also expressed that contrary to the submitted transport plan, there would be a significant increase in traffic through Woodford, heading towards / from Kettering as a result the entrance to the site should be designed in such a way to divert traffic towards the A6116 / A14.

11: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions

- a) **13 Club Lane** – Detached Playroom EN/10/01005/FUL. **Permitted.**

12: New Planning Applications

- a) **Riverview House, Church Green** – extension to outbuildings to form sunroom / studio EN/10/001125/FUL. **No Objection.**
- b) **Land Rear Walnut Tree Close.** Construction of Ménage EN/10/00945/FUL. **No Objection.**
- c) **Woodford Mill Ringstead.** Creation of Tea Room. EN/10/00122/FUL. **No objection.**

13: Other Planning Matters

- a) **William Davis site.** The Council's letter to the Planning Inspectorate had arrived a day late and consequently would not be accepted. It may be possible however, to submit the letter directly to the Inspector at the hearing in early September (EN/09/01980/OUT).

New Correspondence:

- 14: **New Lighting.** Correspondence from E.on indicated that the old mercury lamps now had a limited life and that the Council should consider replacing them long term with new style LED lamps. In order to mitigate costs the Council could look to long term leasing of the new lamps. Clerk to follow up with E.on Representative.
- 15: **Wicksteed Playground Inspection.** A reminder had been received from Wicksteed Leisure that the annual playground inspection was now due. It was agreed that the MUGA should also be inspected (which would constitute a separate inspection fee)
- 16: **Bakers Lane Road Closure Order.** An order to close Bakers Lane for water main work on 15th September had been received and was noted.
- 17: **Residential Land Availability.** ENC had written detailing the number of planning permissions in Woodford which had yet to be carried out as at 31 March 2010. There were presently nine permissions outstanding in Woodford, with 285 in the rural area of East Northants and 1298 in the whole district.
- 18: The Chairman asked that the following items of correspondence be circulated:
- a) Highways Newsletter
- b) Clerk and Councils Direct Magazine
- c) Various ENC Reports / Minutes

Finance:

Account balances brought forward

Current Account		£5,700.75	
High Interest Account		£,4543.85	
Total			£10,244.60
Less			
622 E.on Lighting Power (month)	£234.21		
623 Mrs D Bosworth (14 ½ hrs + expenses)	£85.90		
624 Mr P Bird Clerk's Fee	£250.00	£570.11	
Balance Carried forward			£9,674.49

- 19: Mr Woods proposed, Mr I Vaughan seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.
- Approval of Accounts Year Ending 31 March 2010:**
- 20: **Accounts Year ending March 2010.** The Clerk presented the accounts for the previous year, duly audited by the Internal Auditor, Mrs S Davies. No Comments had been made, and it was agreed unanimously that the Chairman sign the Return as a true representation of the Councils accounts.
- 21: **Statement of Governance.** The Chairman read out each of the statements which were answered in the affirmative unanimously and the Chairman signed the statement.
- Donation to Thrapston Town Band:**
- ***Declaration of Interest*****
- 22: Councillors discussed the value of a donation. Mr Hurst proposed and Mr Sharples seconded that the amount be £70.00. All in agreement.
- Mr I Vaughan being a member of the Band declared a non prejudicial interest and took no part in the discussion or decision making process of this item.*
- Road Priority Ringstead Mill:**
- 23: Mr I Vaughan suggested the priority direction at Ringstead Mill should be reversed. Vehicles travelling towards Ringstead are now obscured by recent building work and it was felt that if the priority direction was reversed this danger would be removed. Clerk was asked to write to NCC suggesting that the matter be investigated.
- Any other Business:**
- 24: **Church Fete.** A question was raised regarding the use of the village green by the Church for the annual fete. The Clerk responded that a request had not been received. Clerk was asked to write to the Church to remind them of the normal protocol.
- 25: **Footpaths.** Clerk reported he had contacted Drayton regarding the removal of a hedge near the former Sewage Works in between the “Warren field” and the river. Drayton had responded that a culvert had been installed and an access made to the low lying land towards the river, south of the footpath.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed

Dated