

Minutes of a meeting of Woodford Parish Council held on Tuesday 15th June 2009 in the vestry of the Baptist Church, Rose Terrace, commencing at 7.30pm

- Present:** Mr P Bird (chair), Miss L Blanchard, Mr P Colson, Mr J Hawes, Mrs E Reid, Mr D Sharples and Mr I Vaughan.
- In attendance:** Cllr A Langley (NCC), Mr P T Bird (Clerk)
- Apologies for absence received before the meeting:** Mr S Clifton, Mrs M Colson, Mrs S Hayman, Mr M Vaughan, Mr D Woods. Cllr D Hughes.
The Clerk reported that Mr Clifton had now missed six consecutive meetings which officially precluded him from being a Parish Councillor. Councillors asked that the Clerk investigate whether special conditions applied when the absence was caused through illness.
- Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting:** The minutes of the annual Parish Meeting held in May having been circulated were taken as read and proposed by Mr Hawes as a true record of the meeting. Seconded by Mr Sharples and unanimously agreed by those present.
- Minutes of last meeting:** The minutes of the 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 was not present
- Police Report:** 2: A Police Officer was not present
- Comments from Electors:** 3: No members of the electorate were present.
- Cllr Langley's Comments:** 4: Cllr Langley expressed his thanks to the electorate on his re-election to the County Council and informed the meeting that he had now been given cabinet position with responsibilities for Commercial Management. He also informed the meeting that Cllr Hughes had been elected as County Councillor for Raunds. Highways / Transportation were no longer the responsibility of Cllr Seery, having been passed on to Cllr Heather Smith.
- Traffic Flow / Parking Issues:** 5: Councillors agreed to bring this agenda item forward in order to discuss whilst Cllr Langley was present.
6: A meeting had been arranged for 25th June with members of MGWSP, County Highways and Police regarding the state of road markings, the positioning of double yellow lines and traffic flow in Woodford. Parish Councillors suggested that areas for additional lines would be the Church Green / Addington Road junction, Newtown / High Street junction, Mill Road / High Street junction, Highfield / Mill Road junction and The Paddocks / Mill Road junction. The need for double yellow lines in much of Club Lane was also to be questioned. Additionally it was agreed that Councillors would press for the remarking of existing lines. Mr Sharples, Mr Bird, Mr Hawes, Mrs Reid and the Clerk agreed to attend the meeting.
- Cllr Hughes Comments:** 7: Cllr Hughes was not present
- Matters arising from the minutes:** 8: **Good Friday Bus Service.** The Clerk's letter regarding the lack of a bus service on Good Friday was read out. No reply
9: **Residential Land Availability.** The Clerks letter to the North Northants Joint Planning Unit regarding residential land availability in Woodford was read

- out. No reply.
- 10: **Kerb Damage. Highfield / West Street.** The clerk's letter to ENC regarding damage to verges and kerbs was read out. No reply
 - 11: **Crime in Woodford 2008/09.** The Clerk's letter to Inspector Lyall was read out. No reply
 - 12: **Vehicle hard standing 21 High Street.** The Clerk's letter to the occupiers of 21 High Street regarding a dropped kerb was read out. No reply.
 - 13: **Newtown Allotments / Shrubbery.** The Clerk's letter to Mrs Bamford regarding dog mess and illegal use of motorcycles in the shrubbery, explaining the actions being taken were read out.
 - 14: **Permissive Path Woodford Grange Farm.** The Clerk's acknowledgement letter to Mr and Mrs Chalker regarding the permissive footpath at Grange Farm was read out.
 - 15: **Agricultural Store Thrapston Road.** The Clerk's letter to ENC regarding the planning application recently awarded was read out. NB official notification of the approval of this development (EN/08/01232/FUL) has not been received; however, is available on the ENC web site. No reply.
 - 16: **Woodford Village Sign.** The response to Wilson Design regarding the request for the proposed relocation of the village sign in Thrapston Road (as a result of para 15) was read out.
 - 17: **Signs at Mill Road Thrapston Road Junction.** The Clerk had referred the poor location of the finger post and also the no waiting signs (facing opposite directions) to Street Doctor – email read out
 - 18: **Trees in High Street.** The Clerk had written to Drayton Estate regarding the trees in the high Street informing the estate that the Council would not be pruning them was read out.

Planning Issues:

- 19: Planning Committee Comments
 - a) The Planning Committee had not commented on any plans since the last meeting.
- 20: East Northamptonshire Council Decisions
 - a) No decisions had been made by East Northants Council
- 21: New Planning Applications
 - a) **Land adj 10 Long Row** New dwelling **EN/09/00770REM.** Councillors discussed the plans noting that outline permission had already been granted. The height of the proposed property would be in keeping with the street scene and off road parking would be provided. **No objection.**

New Correspondence:

- 22: **Playground Inspection.** Wicksteed Leisure had written offering to carry out the playground inspection. Councillors agreed that the Clerk request Wicksteed to carry out an unaccompanied inspection of the playground MUGA at a cost of £45.
- 23: **Bus service to Northampton.** Mr Hawes mentioned that the bus service to Northampton did still run however, it was not mentioned on any of the timetables at the bus stops in the village. Clerk to follow up.
- 24: **Pavements in Highfield.** Mr Lewis had emailed the Clerk complaining of the state of the pavements in Highfield. Clerk to inspect and refer to Street Doctor.
- 25: There was no correspondence for circulation.

Finance:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Balance brought forward | | £10,851.76 |
| Less | | |
| 553 Mr P Bird Clerk (salary) | | £240.00 |
| 554 Mr P Bird (ex-gratia payment) | | £230.00 |
| 555 Mrs D Bosworth (13 hours) | | £78.53 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|------------------|
| 556 | E.on ¼ maintenance | £292.74 | |
| 557 | E.on Light power | £229.23 | |
| 558 | Zurich Municipal | £631.92 | |
| 559 | Mr D Cullum | £65.30 | £1767.72 |
| Balance Carried forward | | | £9,084.04 |
| | | | |
| Account Balances | | | |
| | Current Account | | £9,041.77 |
| | High Interest Account | | £42.27 |
| Total | | | £9,084.04 |

26: Mr Colson proposed, Mr I Vaughan seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the above accounts be settled.

**Ratification of
Accounts 2008-09:**

27: The Accounts having been circulated were elaborated upon by the Clerk. The accounts had been signed off by the internal auditor and no errors found. Mr Hawes proposed, Mr Colson seconded and it was unanimously agreed that the accounts be adopted and be signed by the chairman. Furthermore, Councillors answered all statements of assurance in the affirmative and unanimously agreed that the chairman sign the statement.

Any other Business:

- 28: **Village Gateways.** Mrs Reid suggested the Council look into village gateways as a way of reducing the speed of traffic entering the village. Clerk to investigate.
- 29: **Cigarette Butts outside Prince of Wales.** The number of cigarette butts on the pavement outside of the Prince of Wales was raised. It was suggested that such a large number should not necessarily be considered as litter for the village litter picker to dispose of as it was obvious where they were coming from and a suitable receptacle should be provided. Clerk to enquire of ENC of possible remedies.
- 30: **Drain in Newtown.** Mr Sharples mentioned a drain in Newtown near the old factory in need of digging out. The drain cleansing vehicle had recently visited the area but despite being requested to clear the drain, did not. Clerk to refer to Street Doctor.
- 31: **Cars parked on Village Green.** Mr Sharples reminded the meeting that a replacement sign had been authorised but not yet installed reminding drivers not to park on the village green. Clerk to follow up urgently.
- 32: **Laburnum Cottage.** Mr Bird had been informed by Mr Cullum that the residents of Laburnum Cottage had planted conifer trees outside of their wall on Drayton land. Clerk to write to occupiers and request their removal.

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed

Dated