Minutes of the Woodford-cum-Membris Parish Council Meeting Held on
Tuesday 12 January 2016 in the Memorial Hall Woodford Halse
Starting at 19.00 hrs.

C01/16 Present
Mr. Darren Bennetts, Mr. Howard Burdett, Mrs. Kay Coles [Chairman], Mr. Gary Denby,
Mr. Robin Gilling, Mr. Patrick Knight, Mr. George Osborne, Mr. Robert Snedker, Mrs. Julie Turner
& Mrs. Christina Williams.
Two members of the public including Mrs. Elizabeth Griffin [District Councillor].
G. P. Smith [Parish Clerk]

C02/16 Apologies
Apologies were received and accepted from: Mrs. Robyn Davison & Mr. David Hawes.
Council also received apologies from Mr. Robin Brown [County Councillor],
PCSO Carl Barton [Daventry Safer Communities Team] & Mrs. Jo Gilford [District Councillor].

C03/16 Members’ Declarations of Disclosable Interest
Council received none.

C04/16 Minutes of the Last Meeting
Council approved the minutes of its meeting of 08 December 2015.

C05/16 Matters Arising
C237/15 Other Business. Mr. Snedker refreshed members’ attention to this year’s national “Clean for the
Queen” campaign and also the pavements throughout the village that are spoiled by weeds, mud & the
remains of fallen leaves. The Chairman advised that Council’s handyman would be clearing the pavements
between in Byfield Road between the accesses to the Cinderpath & Kitchen Lane. She thanked Mr. Knight
for tidying Kitchen Lane itself. He will also contact Daventry District Council about further street cleaning.

C06/16 Public Session
No matters were raised.

C07/16 Gorse Road, 19
Council supported, subject to compliance with the “right to light” regulations, Planning Application
DA/2015/1186: conservatory to r/o dwelling.

C08/16 Woodford Halse Village Signpost - January 2015 to December 2015
Council received the following Fifth Website Update from Mr. John Williams, website editor:

The Woodford Halse Village Signpost web site has now been running for just over two and a half years. This
report updates the details from my report last December with information from January to December 2015.

Summary
• there were over 18,000 website visits in 2015 viewing over 48,000 pages, an average of almost 50 visits every day.
• the number of visits was up by 13% and the number of page views up by 5% compared with 2014.
• the Signpost website is still ranked #2 (after our Wikipedia entry) on searches for "Woodford Halse" on Google.
  Google search is still how most people find us.
• we have 305 Facebook "Likes" (up from 208 last year) - these people get all our updates on their
Facebook feed automatically. We also continue to post selected items to the separate, independently run Woodford Halse Community Facebook page with its 1,700 members. After Google, Facebook is the most common route into our site.

- the three most popular pages were Parish Council (772 views), Events (716) & WOW (688).
- 273 news items were put on the site in 2015. An added news items is the main reason why someone comes to look at the site.
- the most popular news items were the Police Warning (1,619 views), details of the Byfield Road Closure (442 views), pictures of Woodford and the Railway (435), the School Parking Appeal (405) and the Stories of Our Streets (401). Posts typically get between 50 and 150 readings, depending on topic.

Council was very grateful to Mr. Williams for his invaluable work and expertise in editing this website, a key facility in what is a diverse and developing parish.

C09/16 Budget & Precept for the Year Ending 31 March 2017
Resolved: Precept set for £128,500.00 based on budgeted income & expenditure - see Annexes “A” & “B” hereto.
Mr. Burdett voted against the motion.

C10/16 External Audit - Commencing Year 01 April 2017 - 31 March 2018
Resolved: Council to have its External Auditor appointed by the recently created Smaller Authorities’ Audit Appointments Ltd, following the closure of the Audit Commission on 31 March 2015.

C11/16 Charwelton - Draft Neighbourhood Plan - Consultation
Council noted the document.

C12/16 Highway Warden - Vehicles - Slade Lays, Eydon Road
Mr. Knight reported on a meeting between himself and Mr. C. Taylor covering the passage of heavy vehicles through local roads. Mr. Taylor had said he is keen to work with the Parish Council & the local community in resolving all the issues relating to vehicles associated with his business.
Resolved: Council currently to leave these matters to the Local Planning Authority.

C13/16 Receipts & Payments
Council noted receipts and authorized payments:

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<th>Receipts</th>
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<th>Payments</th>
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<td>900.00</td>
<td>J W Haulage gravel VC</td>
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<td>Burial fees</td>
<td>310.00</td>
<td>Eon s/lighting maintenance ¼</td>
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<td>WoW advertising</td>
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<td>Allotment rent</td>
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<td>Coleman`s Stationer</td>
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<td>Eon Dryden Hall gas</td>
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<td>Rymans Stationer [booking clerk]</td>
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<td>Unit Clean MC &amp; VC</td>
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<td>Wickey Gmbh play equipment</td>
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**C14/16 Other Business**

- Land at Pool Farm. Council was pleased to hear that the landowner had cleared ditches facilitating flow into the larger watercourses and reducing the flood risk in the area. The clerk will thank the landowner.
- Grants Hill residential development. Mr. Osborne was concerned at the risk of unauthorized entry to the drainage pond within the site. Members were of the opinion that site security currently appeared adequate.
- Highway repairs. Mrs. Williams was not content with the standard of recent road surfacing in Byfield Road and Manor Road. Mr. Knight will report to County Highways.
- Neighbourhood Plan. Mr. Snedker reported that a draft Neighbourhood Plan should be available by the end of this month after which wider consultations can commence.

**C15/16** There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.25 hrs.