

OLD HURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council
held in Old Hurst Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd July 2014.

Councillors present: Mr. G. Bull, Mr. M. Fox, Mrs. J. Pearce, Mrs. L. Sawyer (Chairman) & Mrs. E. Taylor.

Also present: County Cllr. S. Criswell, Mrs. D. Benham (Clerk) and 6 parishioners.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None received.

2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr. Sawyer and Cllr. Taylor both declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in planning application 1400839FUL, both being close neighbours of the application site.

3. **Public participation:** Parishioners present raised concerns regarding the speed of the traffic and lack of weight restriction on The Lane. County Cllr. Criswell gave advice on weight restriction issues.

4. **Councillor vacancy:** The Chairman confirmed that Cllr. Jones had tendered his resignation on 30th June 2014 and wished to record the Parish Council's thanks for his contribution over the last two years. A "Notice of vacancy" had been placed on the notice board on 1st July and the Clerk had been advised that as there had been no request for an election, the Parish Council could proceed to co-opt to fill the vacancy. New notices for the notice board were handed to the Chairman.

5. **Minutes of the previous meetings held on 21st May and 18th June 2014:** Unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**

a) Highways Improvement Scheme 2013 (path & ramp) – The Clerk was still waiting to hear from Barry Finnemore regarding the state of the vehicle access over the footpath associated with the Luminus property adjacent to the village hall. This had now been escalated within Luminus and a call back was expected in the next 48 hours. The Clerk will also raise the issue of cars being parked on the grass verge and on the new ramp.

Highways Improvement Scheme 2014 (traffic island at the junction of The Lane and St. Ives Road) – Drawings of the proposed traffic island, (estimated cost £4500) were available to view. Cllr. Fox proposed that the Parish Council approve the drawing. Seconded by Cllr. Sawyer and unanimously agreed. The plan will now be submitted to the safety audit team for comment. Clerk to reply to Michael Anker (Highways engineer).

b) Repairs to roads and footpaths – the damage to the footpath on Ramsey Road between Church Street and The Grove, by the gateway to field has been reported twice, together with another area between the gate and The Grove. The Clerk will continue to chase these repairs. Deterioration of the Church Street road sign had been reported to HDC.

c) Winter gritting routes – The Clerk had heard nothing further regarding the request to have Church Street added to the winter gritting routes and councillors agreed that this item should be revisited once the review of secondary gritting routes had taken place.

d) Time banking – County Cllr. Criswell advised that Pidley had joined the Somersham scheme and this meant that the co-ordinator was currently fully occupied. Warboys Parish Council were considering starting a scheme and councillors agreed that the Clerk should register Old Hurst's interest and ask to be kept informed of progress.

e) Speedwatch – The Chairman invited Val Edwards from Speedwatch to address the Council. Mrs Edwards advised that sessions continued on a regular basis at varying times of the day. An average of 20 -24 speeders were logged during each session, and the police had been asked to deal with a repeat offender. Mrs. Edwards advised that the permanent Speedwatch sign at the Pidley end of the village had been repeatedly turned round and asked those present to report back should they witness the culprit. Although this would not prevent sessions going ahead, it does require a volunteer to reposition the sign before a session can start. Speedwatch now has 4 volunteers from Old Hurst but would like more people to volunteer so that more sessions could be carried out. The Chairman wished to record a vote of thank to Val Edwards and the other volunteers for all their hard work.

7. Highways Improvement Scheme 2015.

Cllr. Bull proposed that the Clerk should prepare a bid for funding to install physical features to slow traffic down in The Lane in the vicinity of the Church Street junction. Seconded by Cllr. Taylor and unanimously agreed. Councillors agreed to fund a minimum of 10% of the scheme costs from Parish Council funds.

8. Planning.

Cllrs. Sawyer and Taylor left the meeting having declared an interest in the following application.

a) New applications:

1400839FUL – Extension to dwelling. The Old Stables, Porch Farm Barns, Warboys Road, Old Hurst, PE28 3AA. Cllr. Bull proposed that Old Hurst Parish Council recommend approval. Seconded by Cllr. Fox. Cllr. Pearce abstained from the vote. The Parish Council's response will therefore recommend approval.

Cllrs. Sawyer and Taylor re-joined the meeting.

1400961FUL – Change of use to car sales. Unit 6, Grove Business Centre, The Grove, Old Hurst, PE28 3AA. Cllr. Sawyer proposed that Old Hurst Parish Council recommend refusal. Seconded by Cllr. Pearce and unanimously agreed. Reasons given to include: Business is not compatible with being so near to the residential area of The Grove. Insufficient parking once the yard contains cars for sale. Concerns regarding noise and disturbance, especially potential noise from the workshop.

b) Update on applications previously discussed:

1400509FUL – Erection of a function barn following demolition of existing agricultural storage barn, Church Farm, Church Street, Old Hurst. The Clerk and Cllr. Bull gave an update on the additional information provided by the agent and available to view on HDC's planning portal. Should the application need to be determined by the Development Management Panel, Cllr. Taylor or Cllr. Fox will attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

c) Report on the RAF Wyton workshop held on 1st July – The Chairman advised that 4500 homes were planned for the site with a small area of employment land. Access to the site will be via 2/3 entrance/exit points on to the A141 with pedestrian/bus access only through to Wyton on the Hill. The development will require a master plan consultation as with Alconbury Weald. The Clerk has asked for copies of the information slides shown during the workshop and will forward these to councillors for information once received.

9. **Finance.**

a) Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. Pearce proposed retrospective approval of payment of items (1) to (4) and approval of payment of items (5) to (8). Seconded by Cllr. Taylor and unanimously agreed.

(1) Cq. No. 000388 - £93.50, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses of Parish Clerk for May.

(2) Cq. No. 000389 - £22.60, HMRC, PAYE/NI

(3) Cq. No. 000390 - £98.26, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for June.

(4) Cq. No. 000391 - £22.60, HMRC, PAYE/NI.

(5) Cq. No. 000392 – £6.25, Alconbury Parish Council, share of Clerk’s training day cost.

(6) Cq. No. 000393 - £248.40, CCC, installation of 3 Speedwatch signs.

(7) Cq. No. 000394 - £98.70, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for July.

(8) Cq. No. 000395 - £22.60, HMRC, PAYE/NI

b) Current position.

A copy of the receipts and payments was handed to each councillor. A copy will be attached to the minutes.

c) Request for a donation from E.A.C.H.

Councillors agreed that no donation should be made.

10. **Police matters:** Crimes in Old Hurst shown on the police website: April – 1, May – 1.

11. **Correspondence.**

a) Advance warning of an invitation to attend the induction service of the new Rector, Susan Simpson, on 10th September at 7.30pm at St. John the Baptist Church in Somersham. Cllr. Taylor to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

b) Letters from 2 residents regarding traffic issues – Clerk to respond.

c) Consultation on Transport Strategy in Cambridgeshire – sent to councillors on 4/6/14

d) Cambridgeshire Statement of Community Involvement was adopted on 25/3/14

e) Consultation on Wind Energy Development in Huntingdonshire 2014 SPD runs from 4/7/14 to 5/9/14

f) Huntingdonshire Communities First workshop on 24th July – Cllr. Bull to attend.

g) Electoral Review of Cambridgeshire County Council- consultation later this year.

h) Invitation to join the second working group for the Cambridgeshire Future Transport project area H on Tuesday 16th September 6.30pm – 8.30pm Ramsey Community Centre – Cllr. Bull to attend.

12. **Reports from councillors.**

County Cllr. Criswell advised that Balfour Beatty will be sending a plan of the proposed street lighting upgrade for comment. This will mainly effect the Lancaster Close residents as all other street lighting in Old Hurst is owned by the Parish Council. The Clerk will advise councillors once the proposed plan is received.

13. **Date of the next meetings:** Wednesday 17th September and Wednesday 19th November 2014.

Signed.....

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