

# OLD HURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council  
held in Warboys Parish Centre on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

**Councillors present:** Mr. G. Bull, Mr. M. Fox, Mrs. G. Godby, Mrs. J. Mackenzie, Mrs. J. Pearce & Mrs. L. Sawyer (Chairman).

**Also present:** County Cllr. S. Criswell, Mrs. D. Benham (Clerk) and 3 parishioners.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. E. Taylor (personal).

2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr. Bull declared an interest in planning application 1402140FUL, being a neighbour of the site.

3. **Public participation:** Mrs. Edwards advised that Speedwatch would recommence sessions in the late afternoon once the light improved. In the meantime, they will be carrying out some sessions earlier in the day. Mrs. Edwards thanked the Parish Council for providing the spring bulbs which were planted in the verges and reported that some were already starting to sprout.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014:** Unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

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

a) Repairs to roads and footpaths – The Clerk advised that Highways had written to who they thought was the owner of the car that has been regularly parked on the grass verge on The Lane but a reply had been received stating that she was not the owner. However, the vehicle is no longer being parked on the verge and is now parked on the footpath outside the Village Hall.

Highways Improvement Scheme 2014 (traffic island at the junction of The Lane and St. Ives Road) – Highways have placed an order with their contractor to install the traffic island. The Parish Council's contribution will be £405.11.

Highways Improvement Scheme 2015 (traffic calming at the junction of The Lane and Church Street) – The bids had been scored and Old Hurst's finished one place outside of those that will receive funding. It is therefore first reserve and may receive funding should any of the approved schemes not be implemented.

b) Time banking – Awaiting an update from Warboys Parish Council.

c) Speedwatch – Report received during public participation.

d) St. Ives Area Road Safety Committee – Cllr. Fox to attend the next meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March.

6. **Damage to street lights on Church Street:**

The Clerk reported that two Parish Council owned street lights were removed from two electricity poles in Church Street by Amey, working on behalf of UK Power Networks, during work to replace the poles. Both lights were broken in the process. Amey claim that the brackets were broken and the lights "fell apart". The Clerk will discuss what has happened with UK Power Networks and contact the Parish Council's insurers to see if a claim can be made.

## **7. Planning:**

### **a) New application.**

1402140FUL – Erection of garage/store building. Homefield, Marsh Farm, St. Ives Road, Old Hurst. Cllr. Pearce proposed that Old Hurst Parish Council should recommend approval. Seconded by Cllr. Fox and unanimously agreed. Cllr. Bull took no part in the vote having declared an interest.

### **b) Update on plans for RAF Wyton.**

Cllr. Bull and Cllr. Sawyer had attended a briefing session about the potential development of Wyton airfield earlier today. Cllr. Bull advised that the Defence Infrastructure Organisation had selected Crest Nicholson to bring forward the redevelopment of the site, which will consist of 600 MOD homes and 4000 private homes. They are planning a “garden village” with a food shop, 4 other retail units, leisure and community centre, pub, library, 2 primary schools and 1 secondary school. There will be 5000 temporary jobs during the construction phase and 2500 permanent jobs created. There are no plans to open the old Ramsey Road, apart from providing a Guided Bus service through it. Cllr. Sawyer advised that the first primary school will be built early on and will replace the existing Wyton primary school. Wyton on the Hill would be joined with the new development. Cllr. Bull advised that the District Council’s Local Plan requires 22,000 new homes and 5 years worth of building land to be available. Assuming the Local Plan goes ahead, Wyton airfield would play a key role.

### **d) Local Plan to 2036.**

The consultation will run from 23<sup>rd</sup> January to 20<sup>th</sup> March. The Parish Council’s response will be agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March. Cllr. Sawyer, Cllr. Bull and the Clerk will attend seminars being held at HDC.

The Clerk advised that Houghton & Wyton Parish Council had organised a meeting of representatives from surrounding parishes, which was held on 15<sup>th</sup> January. Unfortunately, they omitted to invite Old Hurst Parish Council. The group plan to make a joint response to the Local Plan consultation. The Clerk will circulate the minutes of the meeting for information.

## **8. Finance.**

### **a) Increase in pay scales for local government employees.**

Following the recent agreement on local government employee pay, the Clerk’s hourly pay rate increased from £11.29 to £11.544 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015. The agreement included a one-off payment of £6 in December’s pay. Cllr. Sawyer had written to SR Howell & Co. (payroll provider) to advise them of the new rate.

### **b) Payment of outstanding debts.**

Cllr. Godby proposed retrospective approval of payment of items (1) to (4) and approval of payment of items (5) to (9). Seconded by Cllr. Fox and unanimously agreed.

(1) Cq. No. 000408 - £100.43, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for November.

(2) Cq. No. 000409 – £22.60, HMRC, PAYE/NI November.

(3) Cq. No. 000410 - £95.10, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for December.

(4) Cq. No. 000411 - £23.80, HMRC, PAYE/NI for December.

(5) Cq. No. 000412 - £105.00, Farcet Parish Council, councillor training course.

(6) Cq. No. 000413 - £97.50, Old Hurst Village Hall, room hire for meetings 16/5/13 to 17/9/14.

(7) Cq. No. 000414 - £22.00, Warboys Parish Council, room hire for meeting 21/1/15.

(8) Cq. No. 000415 - £97.64, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for January.

(9) Cq. No. 000416 - £23.00, HMRC, PAYE/NI January.

### **c) Current position.**

A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation was handed to each councillor.

d) Councillor training for Cllr. Mackenzie.

Cllr. Sawyer proposed approval of the action taken by the Clerk in booking councillor training for Cllr. Mackenzie at Hemingford Abbots Village Hall at a cost of £105. Seconded by Cllr. Pearce and unanimously agreed.

9. **Police matters:** Crimes in Old Hurst shown on the police website: October – 5, November – 3

10. **Correspondence.**

- a) Street naming and property numbering – Conversion of agricultural buildings at Top Farm. Three dwellings to be known as Ridge Cottage, Top Farm Barn and Furrow Cottage.
- b) Email from HDC regarding completion of DPI form for Cllr. Mackenzie.

11. **Reports from councillors.**

County Cllr. Criswell confirmed that Old Hurst’s Local Highways Improvement Scheme bid was first reserve on the list for funding. County Cllr. Criswell advised that Speedwatch needed to get communities back on board following recent changes to the management structure.

Cllr. Sawyer had attending the Local Joint Committee for rural parishes held on 24<sup>th</sup> November. Topics covered included the Electoral Review of CCC, the future of local government, policing and highways. Julie Slater from HDC had advised that there would be more planning enforcement in future. The meetings are to be held quarterly and all councillors are eligible to attend. Cllr. Sawyer will circulate the date of the next meeting in due course.

Cllr. Godby advised that the Village Hall committee had been unable to obtain building insurance cover at present although further enquiries were being made. The committee had sought advice from the Charity Commission and a further committee meeting to discuss the way forward was planned.

12. **Date of the next meeting:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 – date and venue to be confirmed.

Signed.....

Date.....