

OLD HURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council
held in The Church of St. Peter on Wednesday 15th July 2015.

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

Also present: Mrs. D. Benham (Clerk) and 2 parishioners.

Public participation: Mrs. Edwards advised that one Speedwatch session had been carried out with 16 speeders noted in one hour. The police had advised that due to the increasing number of Speedwatch teams, the kit currently held by the Old Hurst team, would have to be shared with other villages going forward. A request for more volunteers will be put in the Old Hurst Diary. A parishioner raised concerns regarding the increase in traffic coming through the village. This was thought to be due to road works at the Wheatsheaf crossing and on Fenton Road and resurfacing work in Somersham. Drivers seem to be redirected through the village by their Sat Navs. Clerk to contact Highways to see when the roadworks are likely to be finished and to copy in County Cllr. Criswell. Clerk to contact Highways regarding “Lakeside Lodge” signs which have been attached to Highways’ diversion signs and weight limit signs.

1. **Apologies for absence:** County Cllr. S. Criswell (personal), Cllr. E. Taylor (personal) and Cllr. G. Godby.

2. **Declarations of interest:** None declared.

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th May 2015:** Unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

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

a) Repairs to roads and footpaths –

The weight limit sign at the junction of Church Street and The Lane has been repaired. The Lane and St. Ives Road have been resurfaced.

b) Speedwatch – report given during Public Participation.

c) Repairs to street lights – The loss adjuster has recovered the cost of replacing the two street lights on Church Street, which were damaged by Amey. The Parish Council will therefore receive a cheque to cover the excess amount of £100 which was deducted from the insurance claim.

The vandalised street light outside 11 Wellington Close has been replaced following an insurance claim. The Parish Council will incur an excess charge of £100.

d) Refurbishment of village benches – Three quotes were received – Day Today Maintenance £540, Mr. G. Chillingworth £350 and Mr. J. Jeakins £300. Cllr. Fox proposed approval of the action taken by the Clerk in accepting the quote from Mr. Jeakins. Seconded by Cllr. Pearce and unanimously agreed.

e) Website – The Parish Council website has been available since 5th June and can be found at www.oldhurstparishcouncil.co.uk It contains contact details, agendas, minutes, accounts and photos of the village and village events. Councillors agreed that the Old Hurst Diary should be loaded on to the site if possible.

f) Electricity charges – The Clerk is investigating alternatives.

5. **Finance.**

a) Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. Mackenzie proposed retrospective approval of payment of items (1) to (5) and approval of payment of item (6). Seconded by Cllr. Fox and unanimously agreed.

(1) Cq. No. 000431 - £120.15, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for May.

(2) Cq. No. 000432 - £23.00, HMRC, PAYE/NI May.

(3) Cq. No. 000433 - £163.20, AskIT Services, new website and annual maintenance charge.

(4) Cq. No. 000434 - £92.24, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for June.

(5) Cq. No. 000435 - £23.20, HMRC, PAYE/NI June

(6) Cq. No. 000436 - £402.60, K & M Lighting Services, repair to street light on Wellington Close.

b) Current position.

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

c) Automatic enrolment for workplace pensions.

Old Hurst Parish Council's staging date is 1st October 2016. Cllr. Sawyer will contact SR Howells to discuss action required.

6. **Police matters:** Crimes in Old Hurst shown on the police website: April – 1, May - 2. Cllr. Bull advised that there had been a break-in at The Grove Business Park about two weeks ago.

7. **Correspondence.**

a) Letter from CCC regarding street lighting – forwarded to councillors on 14/7

b) Changes to local bus services – forwarded to councillors on 8/7

c) Draft statement of Licensing Policy – forwarded to councillors on 2/7

d) Houghton & Wyton Neighbourhood Plan – forwarded to councillors on 19/6

e) Consultation on the Revision of Cambridgeshire's Strategy for Flood Risk Management – forwarded to councillors on 4/6

f) Understanding Luminus : The Essential Councillor's Guide – Opportunity to attend a seminar – circulated on 2/6 but nobody available to attend.

g) Invitation to attend Wyton Airfield Stakeholders Steering Group meeting on 24th July – Cllr. Sawyer to attend.

h) Local Highways Improvement Scheme 2016/17 – Councillors agreed that the Clerk should repeat the application made last year, for traffic calming near to the junction of The Lane and Church Street.

8. **Reports from councillors.**

Cllr. Sawyer agreed to speak to the owner of an overgrown hedge on St. Ives Road.

Clerk to report a pothole outside 2 Wellington Close. Clerk to contact the Post Office to ask for the post box to be refurbished. District Cllr. Bull advised that he had been asked to support a request by the St. Ives and District Area Road Safety Committee for a roundabout at the Wheatsheaf crossing.

Cllr. Bull advised that at the last Pidley Parish Council meeting, it had been suggested that villages could group together to employ a handyman.

Clerk to ask Highways to inspect the road leading to The Grove Business Park. Following a break-in, Cllr. Bull had received a request from one of the business owners for street lighting to be installed. Councillors agreed that this would be too costly for the Parish Council to undertake and suggest that he contact Cambridgeshire Highways or install some security lighting.

9. **Parish Clerk's appraisal.**

A copy of the Clerk's appraisal, prepared by Cllr. Sawyer, was handed to all councillors. All agreed that it was a true record and it was duly signed by the Clerk and the Chairman.

10. **Date of the next meeting:** Wednesday 16th September 2015, starting at 7.30pm in the Church of St. Peter, Old Hurst.

Signed.....

Date.....