

OLD HURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council
held in The Church of St. Peter on Wednesday 20th January 2016.

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

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

Public participation: No issues were raised.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. G. Godby (personal) & County Cllr. S. Criswell.

2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr. Pearce and Cllr. Fox declared an interest in item 5, both being residents of Wellington Close.

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th November 2015:** Unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

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

a) Repairs to roads and footpaths – Cllr. Fox advised that repairs had been carried out to the road from Woodhurst to the crossroads.

Local Highways Improvement Scheme 2016/17 – The Clerk and Cllr. Bull attended the Local Highways Improvement Scheme panel on 13th January to give a presentation in support of the Parish Council's bid for funding to provide traffic calming on The Lane. Bids will now be scored on their potential improvements to road safety.

Clerk to chase Royal Mail regarding the refurbishment of the post box. Clerk to report street light on Church Street not working and light above telephone box, on all the time.

b) Speedwatch – No sessions have been carried out since the last meeting but they will resume once the weather and light improves.

c) Vandalism to street light at Wellington Close – As agreed at the last meeting, a letter was delivered to all households in the vicinity, explaining what had happened, the potential implications for the precept and asking for witnesses to come forward.

5. **Wellington Close parking.**

A number of residents had complained to the police regarding the caravan, cars and trailer that have been variously parked for several months outside the Village Hall. County Cllr. Criswell has also reported the matter to the police as the caravan obstructs the footway. Cllr. Sawyer agreed to attend a meeting being held on 28th January, at which representatives of Highways, Luminus and the Police will attempt to resolve the situation. Councillor Sawyer agreed to raise the issue of the lack of sufficient parking in Wellington Close with Luminus and Highways, at the same meeting.

6. **Finance.**

a) Payment of outstanding debts.

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

(1) Cq. No. 000452 - £111.43, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for November.

- (2) Cq. No. 000453 - £23.00, HMRC, PAYE/NI for November.
 - (3) Cq. No. 000454 - £490.31, CCC Local Highways Improvement Scheme, Parish Council contribution (traffic island).
 - (4) Cq. No. 000455 - £92.44, Mrs. D. Benham, wages for December.
 - (5) Cq. No. 000456 - £23.00, HMRC, PAYE/NI for December.
 - (6) Cq. No. 000457 - £50.00, St. Peters Church, donation for use for Parish Council meetings.
- b) Current position - A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation was handed to each councillor.

7. **Police matters:** Crimes in Old Hurst shown on the police website: October – Anti-social behaviour, Wellington Close. November – Shoplifting, Church Street & Anti-social behaviour, The Granary.

8. **Correspondence.**

- a) E-mail from the Office of the Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner asking if Old Hurst is particularly vulnerable to rural crime. Clerk to respond. Further information on Countryside Watch can be found at <http://cambscountrysidewatch.co.uk>
- b) Police & Crime Commissioner’s Connect Newsletter – forwarded to councillors.
- c) Planning training presentation - forwarded to all councillors.
- d) CAPALC ballot for Buckingham Palace Garden Party tickets – Councillors agreed to nominate Cllr. Sawyer. Cllr. Bull to write the proposal and forward to the Clerk.
- e) CCC consultation on proposed changes to section 11 : Support planning of its Care Act Policy Framework - Forwarded to councillors. Consultation ends 14/2/16 and can be viewed at http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/site/custom_scripts/cons_details.aspx?ref=443
- f) UK Power Networks Priority Services Register – provides the elderly, residents dependant on medical equipment or who have a disability or young children, with extra support during a power cut. Email PSR@ukpowernetworks.co.uk or call 0800 1699970.
- g) Clean for the Queen, March 4th – 6th - A campaign launched by Country Life magazine in partnership with Keep Britain Tidy, to rally volunteers to clean up their local areas.

9. **Reports from councillors.**

Cllr. Sawyer and Cllr. Pearce had attended the planning training session for Parish Councillors at HDC on 30th November. Both agreed that the delivery of the training had been very poor. Cllr. Sawyer had attended the Local Joint Forum on 11th February and felt that this was a useful forum for smaller parishes. Localism was an important discussion point and they wished to promote a scheme called Community Navigators. A Community Navigator would be able to assist residents in finding the help they need, especially in view of forthcoming cuts in services provided by CCC. Cllr. Bull advised that consideration was being given to extending the date for precept requests, so that Parish Councils had time to take into consideration CCC’s budget cuts before setting their own budgets and precepts.

10. **Date of the next meeting:** Wednesday 16th March 2016, starting at 7.30pm in the Church of St. Peter, Old Hurst.

Signed.....

Date.....