

OLD HURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council
held in The Church of St. Peter on Tuesday 19th July 2017.

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

Also present: Mrs. D. Benham (Clerk) & 1 parishioner.

Public participation: Mrs. Bull praised the new verge cutting arrangements and councillors were very pleased to hear that she was looking into starting up production of the Old Hurst Diary again. Councillors agreed that the Clerk should write a letter of thanks to Mr. Prior for tidying up the area around the The Grove Business Park.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. S. Criswell (personal) and Cllr. M. Fox (personal).
2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr. Sawyer declared a Disposable Pecuniary Interest in item 6c. as a close relative of the person quoting for provision of a bus shelter.
3. **Minutes of the previous meetings held on 16th May 2017:** Unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Renewal of Public Lighting Maintenance Agreement:** The Clerk had circulated the renewal quote from K & M Lighting Services. Cllr. Mackenzie proposed that Old Hurst Parish Council accept a three year undertaking at £227.89 plus VAT. Seconded by Cllr. Taylor and unanimously agreed.
5. **Huntingdonshire Draft Local Plan to 2036:** The draft Local Plan is out for public consultation until 25th August. Cllr. Sawyer, Cllr. Bussetil and the Clerk will attend the HDC seminar for Town and Parish Councils on 2nd August and will report back any concerns via email, so that a Parish Council response to the consultation can be made before the next meeting takes place.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes:**
 - a) Roads and footpaths – The overhanging tree opposite the phone box has been cut back and the missing cat's eyes on the bend by the Stag & Hounds have been replaced. The Clerk has emailed Luminus regarding the muddy footway outside the house next to the Village Hall site and the car that is frequently parked on the grass verge. Clerk to contact Highways regarding weed growth on the footways, and to ask Mr. Abbs whether he carries out this type of work. Councillors agreed that inconsiderate and dangerous parking continued to be an issue in Church Street, with some visitors to Johnson's Farm Shop parking along the sharp bend instead of using the car park. Clerk to check the traffic flow proposals on the planning permissions for the Tea Shop and Function Barn.
 - b) Speedwatch – No report available. Councillors requested that the Clerk contact the police to ask for speed checks in the village.

c) **Bus shelter:**

Result of the consultation with neighbouring property owners – The Clerk sent consultation letters to neighbouring properties on 12th June asking for feedback by 12th July and confirmed that no responses had been received.

Quotation for supply and installation of a bus shelter – A revised quotation of £1499 plus VAT had been received from E. G. Baxter & Son. Cllr. Bussetil proposed that Old Hurst Parish Council accept the quotation from E. G. Baxter & Son. Seconded by Cllr. Pearce and unanimously agreed. Councillors agreed that the shelter should be powder-coated in dark green and Cllr. Sawyer agreed to oversee the installation.

d) **Phone box:**

Alterations to shelving – Councillors would like to thank Mr. Hayward for providing new shelves and for raising the existing lower shelf. Thanks also to Cllr. Bussetil and Cllr. Mackenzie for cleaning the inside of the telephone box and updating the stock of books and DVDs available for residents to borrow.

7. Finance.

a) Payment of outstanding debts - Cllr. Mackenzie proposed retrospective approval of payment of items (1) to (8). Seconded by Cllr. Taylor and unanimously agreed.

(1) Cq. No. 000513 - £97.30, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for May.

(2) Cq. No. 000514 - £23.60, HMRC, PAYE/NI for May.

(3) Cq. No. 000515 - £300.00, A. Abbs, verge cutting 1st & 2nd instalments.

(4) Cq. No. 000516 - £94.10, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses for June.

(5) Cq. No. 000517 - £23.60, HMRC, PAYE/NI for June.

(6) Cq. No. 000518 – £43.20, askiT Services Ltd., annual website maintenance.

(7) Cq. No. 000519 - £72.00, askiT Services Ltd., annual webhosting and domain name reg.

(8) Cq. No. 000520 – A. Abbs, verge cutting 3rd instalment.

b) Current position - A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation was handed to each councillor.

8. Police matters: Crime reports for Old Hurst were not available due to problems accessing the Police website.

9. Correspondence.

Circulated to councillors:

a) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough CCG Newsletter.

b) Huntingdonshire Draft Local Plan to 2036 consultation.

c) HDC Local Plan Seminars 2nd & 8th August.

d) Fire Governance consultation.

e) HDC consultation on Dog Control PSPO.

f) Fire Authority response to the Police & Crime Commissioner's case for including Fire Governance in his remit.

g) Local Highways Improvement Scheme – carried forward to the next meeting.

h) HDC parking survey – poster handed to Cllr. Sawyer for the noticeboard.

i) Somersham Parish Council have grant funding from the Innovation Fund and will be running a 12 week block of activities through Changing Lives, for people who have neurological problems such as Parkinson's Disease and Dementia. Activities will be varied and may include chair based exercise, outdoor art, singing, printing etc. These activities are available to all parishes in the Ward, including Old Hurst and there may be subsidised transport available. There is a taster event

on 2nd September – posters handed to Cllr. Sawyer for the noticeboard and for distribution to organisations within the village.

10. Reports from Councillors.

Councillors agreed that since the Parish Council had taken over the verge cutting within the village and increased the number of cuts to six per season, the village looked much tidier and a number of positive comments had been received from parishioners. However, it had highlighted that verges outside the village boundary have become quite overgrown as they are only cut twice a year by Highways. Clerk to contact Highways regarding the overgrown verge from the village entrance to the junction with Woodhurst Road.

Cllr. Bull advised that a van had caught fire outside Oaktrees Care Home, causing damage to two trees with preservation orders. The trees had been inspected by Tamsin Miles (HDC Tree Officer) and she had advised that the fire damage may cause early leaf drop and possible problems with new growth next year. Cllr. Bull to confirm the ownership of the two trees to Ms. Miles, who will review their condition next spring. Cllr. Bussetil advised that Highways would be repairing the fire damaged road surface.

11. Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 20th September 2017 starting at 7.30pm in St. Peter’s Church.

Signed.....

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