

Minutes of the Meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council
held in The Church of St. Peter on Wednesday 20th November 2019.

Councillors present: Mrs. C. Bussetil, Mr. D. Mallard, Mr. I. Martin & Mrs. L. Sawyer.

Also present: District Cllr. J. Taverner, Mrs. D. Benham (Parish Clerk) and 2 parishioners.

Public participation: There were no issues raised.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. G. Bull (personal), Cllr. J. Mackenzie (personal), Cllr. E. Taylor (personal) & County Cllr. Criswell (personal).

2. **Co-option to fill councillor vacancy:** Following the resignation of Cllr. Daryl Brown, the Clerk had advised HDC of the vacancy and a notice had been displayed on the noticeboard. HDC had advised that the Parish Council could now fill the vacancy by co-option. Cllr. Sawyer proposed that Mr. David Mallard be co-opted on to the Parish Council. Seconded by Cllr. Bussetil and unanimously agreed. Cllr. Mallard signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk and was handed a Register of Interests form to complete and send to the Monitoring Officer at HDC. Clerk to arrange for Cllr. Mallard to attend the CAPALC councillor training course.

3. **To receive declarations of interest:** None declared.

4. **Minutes of the previous meetings held on 18th September 2019 and 29th October 2019:**
Approval of the minutes of 18th September 2019 and 29th October 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Sawyer, seconded by Cllr. Bussetil and unanimously agreed.

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

a) Roads and footpaths –

The Clerk has emailed the Highways Officer in charge of the scheme to install double yellow lines on Church Street to ask for an update on repairs and has been advised that this has still not been resolved with the lining contractor. The Clerk will continue to chase this.

Vegetation is still obscuring the directional signage at the junction of Woodhurst Road and St. Ives Road and the Clerk has reported this again to Highways.

The footpath outside 1-3 Lancaster Close has had some patching done following cable work and the Highways Supervisor has applied for funding from the capital footpath scheme for further repairs.

The Clerk has contacted UK Power Networks regarding trees that have started to grow through the overhead power cables opposite The Stag & Hounds and has received confirmation that they will be inspected soon.

Councillors noted that there had been a fatal accident at the Wheatsheaf crossroads last week and a further accident since. Cllr. Taverner agreed to look into what was being done to make the junction safer. The Clerk will also raise this with County Cllr. Criswell.

b) Speedwatch – The Clerk handed copies of the latest figures to all councillors and the Speedwatch co-ordinator gave a short report. Councillors wished to record their thanks to the Speedwatch team.

5. **Finance.**

a) Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. Bussetil proposed retrospective approval of payments (1) to (6) and approval of payments (7) and (8). Seconded by Cllr. Sawyer and unanimously agreed.

- (1) Cq. No. 000626 - £289.45, Mrs. D. Benham, wages and expenses of Parish Clerk for September.
 - (2) Cq. No. 000627 - £150.00, Mr. A. Abbs, grass verge cut.
 - (3) Cq. No. 000628 - £20.95, askiT Services Ltd, anti-virus renewal for laptop.
 - (4) Cq. No. 000629 – £60.00, SR Howell & Co., payroll provider charge 1/4/19 to 30/9/19.
 - (5) Cq. No. 000630 - £40.00, Information Commissioner, Data Controller registration fee.
 - (6) Cq. No. 000631 - £189.45, Mrs. D. Benham, wages and expenses of Parish Clerk for October.
 - (7) Cq. No. 000632 - £25.64, K & M Lighting Services, quarterly street lighting maintenance change.
 - (8) Cq. No. 000633 - £196.65, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses of Parish Clerk for November.
- b) Current position.

A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation was passed to all councillors. Cllr. Sawyer checked the bank statement against the reconciliation.

c) To agree the budget and precept for 2020/21.

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had provided councillors with details of the remaining expected expenditure for the current financial year and a draft budget for consideration at the meeting. Cllr. Sawyer proposed that Old Hurst Parish Council adopt the budget as detailed by the Clerk and set a Precept of £5350 for the financial year 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021. Seconded by Cllr. Bussetil and unanimously agreed.

7. Planning – update on previous applications.

19/01215/HHFUL Single storey side and rear extensions, new porch to front elevation. 1 Wellington Close, Old Hurst, PE28 3AE. Pending decision.

19/01539/S73 Minor variations to 18/01661/FUL, land north of Mulfield House. Pending decision. Following a complaint from a parishioner regarding water running down The Lane, following heavy rainfall, three councillors and the Clerk met with the owner of the new building site. This is a longstanding occurrence and there has been a period of very wet weather. The owner has installed a drain underneath the new site entrance and assured councillors that no extra water could therefore be leaving the site. The owner has unblocked the culvert belonging to CCC at the front right-hand side of the site and reinstated the grip, to help water find its way off the road and into the culvert. The ditch at the front of the site will be dug out when new mature hedging is planted. The owner is keen that residents call him if they have any concerns during the build and a contact number is available from the Clerk.

19/01836/FUL RAF Wyton Airfield. In progress.

8. Police matters.

The police website shows 1 reported crime in Old Hurst for August and no reported crimes in September.

9. Correspondence.

Forwarded to councillors:

- a) Weekly Rural Bulletins.
- b) Bury submission Neighbourhood Plan.
- c) IHMC incident reports.
- d) Rural Funding Digest.
- e) Roadworks and Events Diary.
- f) Highways Events Diary.
- g) Cambridgeshire Highways Open Days.
- h) Police and Crime Commissioners Parish Council Briefing – cancelled.
- i) Operation London Bridge – planning for the death of the sovereign.

- j) Information on houses in multiple occupancy.
- k) The Big Conversation – shaping the NHS.
- l) CAPALC AGM 4th December.
- m) Local Plan workshops – Cllrs. Bussetil, Mackenzie, Sawyer and the Clerk to attend.
- n) Request for a donation from Citizens Advice Rural Cambridgeshire – Councillors agreed that as there is no provision for donations in the budget, this request must be refused.

10. Reports from councillors.

District Cllr. Tavener advised that HDC was launching 5 initiatives to tackle litter. Cllr. Sawyer requested that District Cllr. Tavener look into the problem of litter from the fast food outlets at Tower Fields, being scattered in the village from passing cars. The first section, Ellington to Swavesey, of the A14 upgrade will open in December 2019, a year earlier than expected. Issues surrounding the planning application for a Biomass plant near Warboys are ongoing.

Cllr. Martin advised that the Police and Crime Commissioner’s meeting had been cancelled at short notice. Cllr. Martin gave information on the Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM) aimed at tackling mental health issues including loneliness. One suggestion is to have a “Chat bench” where anyone who wants to talk can sit and passers-by will then be aware and can choose to engage with the person. Councillors agreed that this could be implemented when the benches are refurbished next year.

11. Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 15th January 2020 starting at 7.30pm in St. Peters Church.

Signed.....

Date.....