

Minutes of the Meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council
held at St. Peter's Church, Old Hurst, on Wednesday 26th January 2022.

Councillors present: Mrs. C. Bussetil, Mr. S. Charman, Mrs. J. Mackenzie, Mr. I. Martin (Chairman), Mrs. E. Taylor & Mr. A. Torrance.

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

Public participation: The parishioner present raised questions regarding the Flood Investigation Report published by Cambridgeshire County Council.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. G. Bull (attending another meeting), District Cllr. M. Haines (attending another meeting) & County Cllr. S. Criswell (attending another meeting).

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

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 24th November 2021 and 20th December 2021:** Approval of both sets of minutes proposed by Cllr. Bussetil, seconded by Cllr. Mackenzie and unanimously agreed.

4. **Parish Council website upgrade:** The Clerk had forwarded a quote from askiT Services for work to upgrade the Parish Council website so that it is WCAG2.1AA accessibility compliant. Cllr. Taylor proposed that the quote of £300 including VAT be accepted. Seconded by Cllr. Bussetil. 5 votes in favour, 1 against. The Clerk will contact askiT Services to arrange for the work to be done. Cllr. Charman agreed to test the website for compliance, once the work had been completed.

5. **Update on grass verge cutting:** Since the last meeting, Mr. Abbs had informed the Clerk that he no longer wished to carry out the grass cutting in Old Hurst. The Clerk had sent requests to five grounds maintenance companies and will present quotes received at the next meeting.

6. **Queen's Platinum Jubilee:** The Parish Council discussed whether it would be possible to arrange an event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Cllr. Bussetil advised that road closure requests had been refused in 2012 but an event was held in a marquee at the village hall. Unfortunately, the village hall has since been demolished and the site is now too dangerous to hold an event there. Cllr. Taylor advised that the PCC will be discussing potential celebrations and that there may be an opportunity to join forces. Cllr. Charman advised that there is funding available for events, with details on NALC's website. Cllr. Taylor to report back after she attends the PCC meeting.

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

a) Roads and footpaths –

County Cllr. Criswell has spoken to the Highways Supervisor regarding the outstanding work to repaint the double yellow lines on Church Street and this has now been added to the works list for the next financial year. The Clerk has also reported missing white lining at the junction of Church Street with Warboys Road, on the bend by The Stag & Hounds, and at the junction of St. Ives Road and Woodhurst Road. These areas will all be redone at the same time as the double yellow lines on Church Street. The Clerk had asked County Cllr. Criswell to follow up resurfacing work to the footway from The Grove to Church Street, promised by the previous Highways Supervisor, and is awaiting a response. A large pothole on The Lane has been filled and another at the junction of Warboys Road and Church Street has been reported.

The Clerk advised that she had submitted an application to the Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2022/3, asking for £13,500 towards a new stretch of footway to join up the two existing footways on The Lane, near to the village hall site. The Parish Council's contribution if successful, would be £1500. In the meantime, the Clerk had applied to Red Tile Wind Farm Trust for a grant of £5000 towards the project and District Cllr. Haines had advised that the application had been successful. This will enable the Clerk to lessen the amount needed from CCC to £8,500 which should help in the bid process.

b) Speedwatch – Cllr. Martin advised that Speedwatch sessions would resume after the clocks go forward in March.

c) Flooding – The Clerk had forwarded a copy of the Flood Investigation Report published by CCC to all councillors. The report can be found at:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/flood-risk-management/flooding-and-flood-investigations>

Councillors agreed that the report should be put on the Parish Council website, a hard copy placed in the church, and details of where the report could be found, put in the newsletter and on the Parish Council noticeboard. The Clerk had received and circulated to councillors, an update from Kathryn Reading (Senior Flood Risk Officer at CCC). Ms. Reading continues to follow up the few remaining maintenance issues with the riparian owners of ditches in the St. Ives Road/Lancaster Close area. The Clerk has written to Ms Reading asking for her opinion on the merits of Old Hurst forming a Flood Group and writing a Flood Plan.

d) Parish Council newsletter – Cllr. Torrance had circulated a third draft of the newsletter. Cllr. Torrance will add information about the flood report and then send to all councillors for final approval. The Clerk will then arrange for printing and contact Mrs Bull for assistance with delivery to every household in Old Hurst.

8. **Finance.**

a) Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. Charman proposed approval of payments (1) to (5) and approval of payments (6) to (7).

Seconded by Cllr. Mackenzie and unanimously agreed.

(1) Cq. No. 000731 - £162.02, E-ON, electricity for Parish Council owned street lights.

(2) Cq. No. 000732 - £88.20, askiT Services Ltd., councillor email addresses.

(3) Cq. No. 000733 - £193.55, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses of Parish Clerk for December.

(4) Cq. No. 000734 - £1.00, HMRC, PAYE for December.

(5) Cq. No. 000735 - £14.79, Mrs. V. Edwards, reimbursement for plants for village flower troughs.

(6) Cq. No. 000736 - £197.35, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses of Parish Clerk for January.

(7) Cq. No. 000737- £0.80, HMRC, PAYE for January.

b) Current position.

A copy of the receipts and payments, bank reconciliation and bank statement had been sent to all councillors on 24th January 2022.

9. **Correspondence.**

Forwarded to councillors:

a) Making Connections: Have your say on greener travel in greater Cambridge.

b) Have your say on our budget and new way of working – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority.

c) Concessionary Passes Renewal Poster – to the noticeboard.

d) Combined Authority Update Issue 8.

e) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Against Scams Partnership updates.

f) Christmas Holiday Schemes for Children – to the noticeboard.

- g) Highways Events Diary.
- h) IHMC Incident reports.
- i) Household Support Fund information.
- j) Local Council Conference.
- k) Government Plan B – what this means for councils.
- l) Celebrating Her Majesty the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee.
- m) Cambridgeshire Matters.
- n) Flood-mobile event in Godmanchester on 29th January 2022.
- o) Old Hurst Flood Investigation Report.
- p) Think Communities Newsletter.
- q) Cambridge Children’s Hospital Newsletter.
- r) Fit Note update.
- s) Localised Flood Advice.
- t) Road Victims Trust Annual Report.
- u) Proposed increase to the policing part of the Council Tax – opportunity to give views via a survey online.
- v) Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation.
- w) NALC Chief Executive Bulletin.
- x) OFCOM Review of Postal Regulations.
- y) NALC National Networks.

10. Reports from councillors.

Cllr. Mackenzie and Cllr. Bussetil both tendered their resignation as Parish Councillors the Chairman thanked them both for their contribution to the Parish Council.

11. Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 16th March 2022 starting at 7pm in St. Peter’s Church.

Signed.....

Date.....