

Minutes of the Meeting of Old Hurst Parish Council
held at St. Peter's Church, Old Hurst, on Wednesday 15th September 2021.

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

Also present: District Cllr. M. Haines, Mrs. D. Benham (Parish Clerk) & 3 parishioners.

Public participation: The parishioners present wished to voice their concerns regarding the Envar Composting Ltd. planning application. The Chairman advised that an update on the application would be given under "Reports from councillors".

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. G. Bull (personal), Cllr. S. Charman (personal) & County Cllr. S. Criswell (attending another meeting).
2. **To receive declarations of interest:** Cllr. Bussetil declared an interest in payment number 6(10), as this was reimbursement for materials needed to refurbish a bench.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st July 2021:** Approval of the minutes proposed by Cllr. Bussetil, seconded by Cllr. Mackenzie and unanimously agreed.

4. **Parish Council website:** At the last meeting, Cllr. Torrance and Cllr. Charman agreed to look into producing a Parish Council newsletter. Cllr. Torrance advised that no progress had been made with this yet.

Cllr. Torrance had exchanged a number of emails with the Clerk regarding the Parish Council website since the last meeting. Cllr. Torrance felt that the website was looking outdated and wished to propose some changes. Clerk to discuss this further with Cllr. Torrance and the current website provider.

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

a) Roads and footpaths –

The Clerk will email the Highways Supervisor once again, to remind him that he had agreed to arrange for the double yellow lines on Church Street to be repainted before summer. If there is still no response, the Clerk will ask County Cllr. Criswell for assistance. The Clerk had not received a response from HDC to her request for a litter bin to be placed at the entrance to the stopped-up road. This will be chased and if no response, passed to District Cllr. Bull for assistance. Highways have agreed that the faded white lining at the A141 junction with Woodhurst Road will be repainted. Highways had advised that the footway from The Grove to Church Street would be resurfaced – Clerk to chase. The Clerk is awaiting a response from HDC regarding a request for some wildflower planting in the verge at the junction of The Lane and St. Ives Road.

b) Speedwatch – Cllr. Martin advised that Speedwatch had carried out 4 sessions since the last meeting. Results show that 4-5% of vehicles were speeding on The Lane. The highest speed recorded was 46 mph recorded by a vehicle travelling towards Pidley.

c) Flooding – The Clerk had contacted Kathryn Reading, Senior Flood Risk Officer, for an update on 13th September. Ms. Reading continues to engage with residents in Lancaster Close and with the adjacent landowner, regarding the reinstatement of the ditch running across the back of Lancaster Close. She has also advised four residents of their riparian ownership responsibilities for the ditch at the front of Lancaster Close. Ms. Reading advised that whilst some clearance has been carried out by the residents, this is not sufficient, and she has arranged for two quotations for clearing the ditch, to be given to the residents for information, in order to try to move this forward.

It would seem that Lancaster Close residents are not affected by the missing/obstructed ditch, but it may have an effect on properties in Blenheim Close. Ms. Reading is also in communication with Mr. Johnson, regarding a weir/dam on land near to The Grove.

Cllr. Charman had forwarded minutes of a meeting about flooding held by Broughton Parish Council and had raised the issue of Old Hurst forming a flood action group. The Clerk advised that Broughton was on the route of Bury Brook, whereas Old Hurst's problems appeared to be mainly due to blocked ditches in private ownership. Councillors agreed to wait for Kathryn Reading's report on Old Hurst before discussing whether to form a flood action group.

6. Finance.

a) Payment of outstanding debts.

Cllr. Taylor proposed retrospective approval of payments (1) to (8) and approval of payments (9 & 10). Seconded by Cllr. Martin and unanimously agreed.

(1) Cq. No. 000707 - £197.35, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses of Parish Clerk for July.

(2) Cq. No. 000708 - £0.80, HMRC, PAYE for July.

(3) Cq. No. 000709 - £135.00, askiT Services Ltd., Parish Council laptop upgrade.

(4) Cq. No. 000710 - £150.00, Mr. A. Abbs, grass verge cut.

(5) Cq. No. 000711 - £27.54, K & M Lighting Services Ltd., Street lighting maintenance.

(6) Cq. No. 000712 - £190.15, Mrs. D. Benham, wages & expenses of Parish Clerk for August.

(7) Cq. No. 000713 - £0.80, HMRC, PAYE for August.

(8) Cq. No. 000714 - £150.00, Mr. A. Abbs, grass verge cut.

(9) Cq. No. 000715 - £191.92, Business Services at CAS Ltd., Parish Council insurance renewal.

(10) Cq. No. 000716 - £139.20, Mrs. C. Bussetil, reimbursement for purchase of wood for refurbishment of bench.

b) Current position.

A copy of the receipts and payments and bank reconciliation had been sent to all councillors on 13th September 2021.

7. **Planning** – Update on previous applications.

20/01318/TREE – Fell two elm trees, land near junction between The Lane and St. Ives Road.

In progress.

8. Correspondence.

Forwarded to councillors:

a) HDC Gambling Act – Statement of Principles consultation.

b) Concessionary Passes renewal poster.

c) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan

d) Highways Events Diary.

e) Update on Envar Planning Application.

f) IHMC Incident reports for July and August 2021.

g) NALC Event on Rural Housing.

h) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Against Scams Partnership updates.

i) Citizen Advice Rural Cambridgeshire updated website announcement.

j) Combined Authority update, issue 5.

k) Introduction to the Cambridgeshire Rural Affordable Housing Partnership.

9. Reports from councillors.

District Cllr. Haines advised that the Envar planning application had received more than 900 objections. Objections were in the main regarding potential health implications from emissions, which was echoed by a parishioner present at the meeting.

District Cllr. Haines advised that the scheme would involve the processing of low-grade medical waste. Envar say that there would be three extra lorries visiting the site per day and that the incinerator will produce hydrogen to be used to fuel the lorries. The plant would employ 9 people and would give off 50% less smell than the current usage.

County Cllr. Criswell had sent a report via email advising that the coalition administration at CCC was taking a while to get organised. The Wheatsheaf Crossroads scheme has been revisited but the agreed solution of a light controlled junction will still go ahead, albeit delayed. Regarding planning application reference CCC/21/088 FUL by Envar Composting Ltd., at St. Ives Road, Somersham. The application includes the construction of a dry anaerobic digestion facility and a healthcare waste energy recovery facility. County Cllr. Criswell advised that Envar have failed to engage in any form of public relations and that he has committed to supporting the objections made by hundreds of the parishioners that he represents.

10. **Date of the next meeting:** To be advised.

Signed.....

Date.....