

MINUTES OF EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING HELD
ON Wednesday 4th June 2014

Present Present Cllr Alistair Marr – Chairman
Cllr Terry Huggins
Cllr Neil Farbon
Cllr James Mayall
Cllr Andy Notman
Cllr Simon West
Cllr Alvin Augstein

4 members of the public were present, two of which made comments pertaining to item **III** on the agenda, Church View planning application.

- I. Apologies and reasons for absence** - CCllr Graham Bull, CCllr Steve Criswell
- II. Declarations of Interest** - none received
- III. Planning Application 1400328FUL Church View, Church St, Woodhurst** – the application was discussed amongst councillors and a refusal recommendation (proposed by Cllr Marr, seconded by Cllr West) was made with the following reasons to be sent to HDC Planning Department:
 - Clause 4.16 of the Woodhurst Conservation Area Character Statement states 'Development in depth should be resisted'.
 - Overdevelopment of site (this would be the highest density in the village to date)
 - Adverse effect on the setting of a listed building (Church & Harradine House)
 - Threatens 4 significant and mature trees on boundary of Harradine House
 - Unsustainable – no shop, school, post office
 - Demolition of existing house would alter Conservation Area street scene
- IV. Handy Person Questionnaire** – The document sent by email with web links and an electronic attachment, is a 12-sheet comprehensive article which would be logistically challenging to circulate to relevant parishioners in Woodhurst (no public centres for residents to collect the document and too time consuming/costly for the council to print and deliver). After discussion it was decided that an established Timebanking scheme could be more appropriate and to contact the sender/department to advise the difficulties for small communities when receiving similar documents in future, and ask for advice in overcoming this. Clerk to action.
- V. Finance** – Cheques all approved and to be raised for:
 - 100940 £60.00 Woodhurst Village Hall April-June Hire
 - 100941 £269.30 Street Lighting Energy & Maintenance April-September 2013
- VI. Street Light Update** – Columns that are owned and maintained by the Parish Council are not changed by the County Council unless by special request. Woodhurst owns and maintains 15, the County Council 6. Since all but one of the owned streetlights are on BT poles, it was suggested that new light-fittings could be attached, reducing the cost of replacement (which is in the region of £2000 per light & lamp post). It was agreed that the recent quotation of £552.09 from Balfour Beatty to survey existing lights is extortionate, taking into account they already manage the maintenance. The clerk will research alternative contractors for comparable quotes and contact Balfour Beatty to request their justification for the high cost. Councillors established that the village could lose 5-6 street-lights, due to the high cost of replacement.

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This will be investigated further when replacement/removal costs have been sourced. Cllr West will explore individual light fitting prices and potential charges to dismantle existing lights.

- VII. LHI** – Cllr Marr suggested that WPC submit an application in to Cambridgeshire County Council Local Projects initiative to request funding for updating/replacing the village streetlights. Completed application forms should be returned by 12 September. This should be investigated further and discussed at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday July 8th**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.50

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Signed by the Chairman