

# WOODHURST PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
held on Monday the 20<sup>TH</sup> April 2009 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Present Cllr John Nicoll Chairman  
Cllr Terry Huggins Vice Chairman  
Cllr Alistair Marr  
Cllr Bob Newell  
Cllr Andy Notman  
Cllr Peter Collins  
Cllr Simon West

D.Cllr Mike Newman

Mrs Alison Brace – Clerk

Also present - 7 members of the Public

**Item 1** **Welcome** - The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Item 2** **Apologies for Absence** – CC Cllr Steve Criswell

**Item 3** **To Sign Minutes of the Meeting** - on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Cllr John Nicoll proposed and Cllr Peter Collins second that the minutes be signed as a true record all agreed.

**Item 4** **Matters Arising** – Apologies from Cllr John Nicoll that thanks were not conveyed sooner too Mrs Shirley Firth for her long and valued service to the Parish as Clerk.

**Item 5** **Chairmans Report** – Cllr John Nicoll summarised the year as follows:-

- The problem of speeding traffic through the Village still continues. There is a Scheme called “Speed Watch” that consists of volunteers checking the speed of vehicles through villages. It is backed by the Police who train the volunteers to use the hand held machine and take numbers, and advise the drivers.
- The Joint Funded Minor Improvement Scheme for traffic calming is still to be completed, District Councillor advised that the Highways are waiting for a new delivery of the red paint used, and then all the villages will be finished together.
- Footpaths are all in good order.
- Dog fouling still a major problem in the village and surrounding area.
- The proposed lighting in Church Lane (Path) is proving very expensive, the Parish Council are looking into alternative power.
- There is an increase of flying over the village against a Gentlemen’s agreement of co-operation lodged in the past with Wyton Airfield Sqad Leader
- The Grass Track Racing weekend went very well without any problems. The Parish Council is quite happy to agree to next year if the organizers wish.
- ENVA meeting was informed of complaints about smells. The company want to install another 3 tunnels (totalling 7) with apparatus to expel clean air. The

site will produce 7,000 units of methane gas per day for power. Lorry movements up to 20 a day.

**Finance -** The Parish Council started the year 2008/09 with a balance of - £5153.22

Receipts for the year were - £4472.67

Balance includes Precept of	-	£4000.00
VAT re-claim	-	£133.70
Bank interest	-	£13.97
Parish Path Partnership (P3)		£325.00

Payments for the year were - £3935.03

Balance includes administration costs	-	£1516.14
Parish Maintenance		£1467.40
Parish Path Partnership (P3)		£325.00
Subscriptions	-	£324.58
Insurance	-	£301.91

Leaving a balance to carry forward of - £5690.86

**Item 7 Planning** – There were no plans for discussion.

**Item 8 Community Police Report** – There were no police representatives, but it was reported that the local crime was down from the previous year.

**Item 9 Town Lands Charity** – There were 23 recipients of the - Town Land Trust - Monies this year 2008 – 2009

**Item 10 Village Organisations** -

a – Village Hall Management – see attached sheet

b – PCC Church report - see attached sheet.

c – Woodhurst in Bloom – see attached sheet

d – Parish Plan - see attached sheet

e – Countryside Watch – There has been 14 incidents reported within a 10 mile radius of Woodhurst, including a £10,000 theft at Sutton Gault, £3,000 worth of red diesel, gates have been stolen from farms and also gates from Butt Lane. The figures all come through Countryside Watch and Cllr Bob Newell suggested he put a notice board outside his house so all the information can be displayed.

f – Young People of the Village – no youngsters attended

**Item 11 Parish Publications** – The Web site had 9,000 hits and 47 members on message boards including some overseas. The Manager is looking for Photo's to post onto the Web site. The advert for Amazon on the site if you purchase goods 5% will go to the Church.

The monthly Newsletter is a 1 page print with notices and articles and delivered round the village. Cllr Andy Notman said that funding was needed for the newsletter but, which can't be found yet.

**Item 12 Open Forum –**

- Problems with parking at no. 3 Bungalow, 2 cars being parked down beside Church so blocking lay by, will contact Luminus. Another problem is at the T junction of St John's where there is off road parking but on the grass.
- Hawthorn bush round the corner of West End & South Street needs cutting to increase visibility to avoid an accident. Will contact Highways for action.
- The Bus service has once again changed, the service from Woodhurst to Huntingdon was a through route, and it now stops at St Ives and only 2 a day. To get to Huntingdon the service runs from St Ives only. The School Bus comes into Woodhurst but the other services from Ramsey, Piddley, etc go past on the A141. The general feeling that there was a missed chance to link the small villages to the Guided Bus to Cambridge.
- Butt Lane progress, materials have been received to continue with the gaiting of the lane.
- Aircraft noise from Wyton airport is still troubling the village, petitions, letters, phone calls, meetings and even a letter to Whitehall have not eased the situation. A gentlemen's agreement in 2003 with Sqd Leader Daley, which stated that they would not fly directly over the properties in Woodhurst, has now well and truly been broken. After he left new agreements have not been achieved as yet with the new personal. The Parish Chairman Cllr Alistair will try again to make contact and try to resurrect the old agreement.
- The Parish Council was asked about the village Pond being full of weed but the pond belongs to Swan Weir. The meeting was told that it had been cleared of weeds and tidied up last year.
- Again the problem of speeding was mentioned because the residents want the police to do more to enforce the speed limit through the village.

The Chairman closed the Parish meeting and thanked everybody for attending.

**Item 13 Parish Council Finance Payments –**

<u>Mrs AS Brace</u>	Clerks wages	£200.00
<u>Cambs County Council</u>	Contribution to 07/08 road safety scheme	£249.00

Cllr Terry Huggins proposed and Cllr Alistair Marr second that the Clerks cheque is paid but the Cambs CC cheque not to be paid.

**Item 14 Items for next meeting – Bus Service  
Phone Box  
Street Lighting**

**Item 15 Date of next meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009**

The Chairman closed the Parish Council meeting

These minutes are un-adopted  
Retired CLERK Mrs Alison Brace

date - 6<sup>th</sup> April 2010