

Woodhurst Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th July 2013

Present

Cllr Terry Huggins
Cllr Simon West
Cllr Neil Farbon
Cllr Andy Notman
Cllr James Mayall

Jill Tiernan, PCSO
Karen Holley, Natural Woodhurst
Amanda Augstein, Clerk

20. Apologies and reasons for absence – received from CCllr Alistair Marr, Cllr Alvin Augstein

21. Declarations of Interest – none received

22. Public Forum – Cllr Notman contacted Ramsey Police regarding the recent crime-rate in the village. The visiting PCSO advised she has been in contact with the CPO who is encouraging all parishioners to be vigilant during the summer months (when out in garden etc) to shut all windows. The main area of priority is neighbourhood policing, and to secure all items of value, making it harder for thieves. Dave Griffin (CPO) would be willing to come and talk to parishioners. Cllr Notman will contact to organise visit and added there are links from Woodhurst website to policing websites; Cambridgeshire Bobby Scheme and Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

Cllr Farbon updated the Parish Council re the recent Feast Week village activities: over £1000 was raised from the Cream Teas and other events.

23. Clerk's report – The Clerk advised she had completed the two-day Clerks Intensive Training course at the end of May. The 2012-13 Annual Report has been completed and is ready for printing/delivery to parishioners.

24. Minutes – The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 8th May 2013 were read, approved and duly signed as a true record of the meeting.

- The minutes of the EOM held on 4th June were read, approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

25. Public Footpaths – Cllr Farbon reported visible signs of dog dirt on verges around village. Cllr Notman agreed to put in the next newsletter. Cllr Farbon also reported that the Council offer free maintenance in the form of Community Pay-Back, which could be used at Church Passage. He will look into this further.

26. Countryside Watch – Cllr Huggins reported that it remains important to be vigilant as there seems to be quite a lot of anti-social activity in surrounding villages. There have been several thefts of fuel in the area and a Diahatsu four-trak was stolen from March. He offered to record number-plates of suspicious vehicles entering the village and report as necessary.

27. Village Plan – Cllr Notman advised that, although HACT had been due to attend and talk at the meeting, they cancelled due to other commitments. A response letter from Anglian Water has been received, regarding the odours coming from the South Street Pumping Station. Anglian Water advised they would look at the possibility of installing chemical dosing to help reduce odour emissions.

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- 28. Natural Woodhurst** – see report attached.
- 29. Quality Council** – Cllr Notman reported no further progress; this item can be removed from the agenda until further notice
- 30. Highways** – Re Wheatsheaf Cross-roads, Cllr Huggins was concerned that the ADAS lorries at the recycling plant continually loop around the main B1040 road during the day. He advised this needs to be cut drastically, and HDC Planning or Highways department should be contacted to reinforce which way lorries enter to cut traffic, as this affects the cross-roads. Cllr Huggins also reported a smashed cast iron grate that is protruding into the main road just opposite the West End turn. This needs to be reported to HDC Highways department ASAP. Clerk to action.
- 31. Visit from HACT** – see agenda item 27
- 32. Code of Conduct** – Cllr Notman reported no further progress; this item can be removed from the agenda until further notice
- 33. Dumping in Butt Lane** – Cllr Huggins reported seeing parishioner at Moat Cottage emptying grass cuttings from mower bag onto nettles (on verge) at the entrance to Butt Lane. Cllr Notman advised he had discussed this with Cllr Marr and it was agreed that Cllr Marr would have a quiet word with the resident in the first instance. If the dumping continues, a letter will be sent referring to the incident.
- 34. Bus Shelter Clean/decoration** – Mrs Newell cleans the shelter 6-times yearly and is paid £60. It was decided to continue with this arrangement. Regarding a new decoration – councillors agreed a new theme for the forthcoming First World War Centenary in 2014 would be appropriate. Cllr Notman suggested liaising with Natural Woodhurst re a children’s art competition potentially using a poppy theme. Woodhurst has 2 resident artists – these could also be approached. The present decoration was organised and supervised by Julie Brook and it was agreed she should be approached initially before embarking on a new design. Cllr Farbon to co-ordinate.
- 35. Planning – Local Draft Plan to 2036** – Cllr Farbon has attended some consultation sessions regarding the Draft Local Plan and the 3,500+ housing development at Wyton-on-the-Hill. Old Ramsey Road may be re-opened for a cycle/bus route and green area. Councillors raised their concerns about potential traffic issues for the A141 and surrounding area. Cllr Notman advised a decision/comments cannot be made without written evidence/paperwork. Cllr Farbon to update with future progression.
- 36. Correspondence:**
- Clerks & Councils Direct
 - The Clerk Magazine
 - Rural Cambs CAB letter – file; village too small to fund these services
- 37. Finance**
- No cheques
 - Streetlights – due to Cllr Marr & Cllr Augstein’s absence, it was agreed to postpone the streetlight report until the next meeting
 - Q1 – awaiting bank statement for reconciliation
- 38. Items for next meeting on September 11th 2013 at 7.30pm –**
- Street light repairs – steering group report

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

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Natural Woodhurst Report for Parish Council Wednesday 10.7.13

Since last PC meeting

Waiting to plant up village signs; late delivery of plants due to weather, still growing so not completed yet. Re the conservation area, it was decided it would be managed for wildlife only as work too prohibitive for public visits, and site has not been visited by any parishioners since work started. Phil Holley is putting a management plan together to present to the PC at a future meeting. The newly renovated village sign now has a flowerbed with a sustainable planting scheme. Because poppies have emerged to the right of this, it was suggested that these be planted in both round beds for the WWI centenary. The Moot Way tree seat is to be replanted with sedums as the summer bulbs did not grow, and to improve the soil for the future to hopefully encourage other plant growth. Swan Weir Pond is responding well to frequent weeding and the addition of water mint has naturalized well. Watercress has been added to the water to help reduce the blanket weed.

Diary

Thursday 11th July – Swan Weir Pond Revetments: weeding from 6.30pm

Friday 12th July – Social Night: The Crown, Broughton from 8pm

Saturday 27th July – Annual Pondamonium: Swan Weir from 10am

These minutes are unadopted by the Council