

Woodhurst Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th November 2013

Present

Cllr Alistair Marr – Chairman
Cllr Alvin Augstein
Cllr Andy Notman

Karen Holley, Natural Woodhurst
Amanda Augstein, Clerk

54 Apologies and reasons for absence – received from Cllr Neil Farbon, Cllr Terry Huggins, Cllr James Mayall, Cllr Simon West, CCllr Steve Criswell, CCllr Graham Bull

55 Declarations of Interest – none received

56 Public Forum – There were no members of the public present

57 Clerk's report – The Clerk reported that Q2, half-yearly accounts have been reconciled. There were no monies received from the Parish Path Partnership in the past 12 months and noted this has probably now ceased. It was decided this should be removed from the accounts.

58 Minutes – The minutes of the meeting held on the 11th September 2013 were read, approved and duly signed as a true record of the meeting.

59 Public Footpaths – Nothing to report

60 Countryside Watch – Nothing to report

61 Natural Woodhurst – Karen Holly presented a short report; Natural Woodhurst have replanted the Church Bungalows beds with poppies and bulbs for spring 2014. With current weather conditions they are unable to clear and plant during the winter months and have social activities planned for members during the next few weeks.

62 Highways – it was noted that the roads through Woodhurst have been swept during the past couple of weeks. But the faulty grate near to West End corner is still protruding and a further problem has arisen with the grate by Swan Weir. Contact Highways to advise and request repair/replacement. HGVs are continuing to use the village roads, despite the weight limit. If this continues, it was agreed the police should be contacted, as it is a highways offence. The tarmac in Church Passage still remains uneven making accessibility difficult. Follow-up the situation with CCllr Criswell regarding improvements for this. HDC were contacted regarding leaf clearing but this does not appear to have been implemented. Follow up as soon as possible.

63 Bus Shelter – The redecoration and poppy theme idea for the WWI centenary will be advertised in the village newsletter due to be sent out in the next few weeks. Mrs Pat Newell, who has cleaned the bus shelter for many years, has decided to retire. It was agreed a letter of thanks should be sent to her and the council would consider looking for someone to take over.

64 Codes of Conduct – The short training session, offered by HDC, was accepted by WPC, culminating in training on Tuesday 19th November at Woodhurst Village Hall. HDC requested we open the training to other interested parish councils, resulting in three other parishes also attending. Cllr Marr and the clerk will arrive 30-minutes prior to the meeting (6.30pm) to prepare the hall, make tea/coffee for attendees.

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65 Planning – Erection of open fronted barn, Fullards Farm 1301359FUL was passed at HDC prior to the Parish Council meeting, but all who had studied the plans were in favour

66 Correspondence:

- Clerks & Councils Direct
- The Clerk Magazine
- Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner – Neighbourhood Alert
- War Memorial Trust Leaflet
- Budget/Precept Form & Letter (see item 67 below)
- Parish Council Conference – Burgess Hall Tues 3rd December 1-3pm: Cllr Marr and the clerk agreed to attend
- Community Infrastructure Levy Letter and acceptance form: the information in this letter is slightly ambiguous and confusing. Before a decision is made to take responsibility for the CIL, request further information and clarify development procedures that will affect WPC. Contact CCllr Criswell in the first instance, and Claire Burton Implementation Team Leader to request deadline.

67 Finance

- **Cheque 100928:** Mrs P Newell **£60.00:**Annual bus shelter clean
- **Budget/Precept:** the annual Precept requirements letter and form have been received. The actual spend from 2013-14 and budget forecast for 2014-15 are comparable, and it was agreed to request the same precept as 2014 (£5000), proposed by Cllr Notman, seconded by Cllr Marr. The budget forecast will be updated for 2014-15.
- **Street Lights:** Cllr Augstein has studied the street-lights and maps in Woodhurst, and advised there are dark places in the village – West End and Swan Weir/South Street corner. If WPC agree to have new lights in the future, the cost is approximately £1800 per light, although this needs to be clarified and discussed further, with regards to costs affecting parishioners. Contact Balfour Beatty to request new quotation.

68 Items for next meeting on Tuesday January 14th at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15

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Signed by the Chairman