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**HOATH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2016.**

Present: Councillors Sue Chapman (chair), Adele Wright, Jonathan Moore. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk and CCC), Alan Marsh (KCC) and 4 members of the public.

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1. **Apologies**

Cllr Williams had sent apologies.

1. **Declaration of members’ interests**

None.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting and any matters arising**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

1. **CCC and KCC reports**

Alan Marsh (KCC) distributed details of a KCC bus route review (the Hoath service is not affected.) He asked about the finger post. Cllr Chapman said it was now with her and would be erected very soon.

For CCC, Mr Foster announced he had decided to step down as member for Reculver ward. There would be a by-election on May 5th, the same day as the police commissioner election.

1. **To consider a report from the footpath warden**

Cllr Chapman read from a report which had been written following a meeting between the footpath warden and the KCC public rights of way officer. The following points were made:

* The stile opposite the church was in the wrong place. The cost of moving it or replacing it with a kissing gate was likely to prove prohibitive.
* Path at True Grip site: this was still problematic and the KCC public rights of way officer will be following this up. Likewise the path from Old Tree to Maypole.
* It was noted that horses were using footpaths which is illegal. The clerk is to follow this up with local liveries.
* The electric fence near the Church Road/Hoath Road junction is illegal. The footpath warden is to contact the property owner.

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At this point the meeting was adjourned to allow comments from members of the public. The following matters were raised:

* The position of posts on the verge of Maypole Lane was queried. As far as the PC was aware, the land was owned by the adjacent property and there was therefore nothing wrong with the posts.
* The use by SERCO lorries of the Ford Hill/Maypole Road/Hoath Road route was queried. The clerk said he had raised this issue with the appropriate authorities and hoped the message would get through. Similarly, he had raised the issue of potentially dangerous kerbs and manhole covers at Ford Hill with Alan Marsh but would remind him about this matter.
* Village Green/housing proposal: Cllr Chapman confirmed there was no further news and that it was a matter for the landowner as to whether he proceeded.

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1. **Planning**

Application CA//16/00559/FUL (Cherub Cottage): there were no objections.

The clerk reported that he had registered the PC’s objections to the Richborough Connection proposals and was now registered as an “interested party” which meant he would have the chance to make further representations as the process progressed.

1. **Report of the clerk/RFO**

The clerk reported that the end-March cashbook and bank balance was £13,628.30.

The following were approved for payment:

1. Clerk: February £361.36 (salary £315.19, expenses £46.17)
2. KALC subscription: £212.69 (incl. VAT)

Correspondence:

There was no significant correspondence not already dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

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1. **Councillors’ reports**

Cllr Chapman reminded the meeting of the dinner to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday to be held on June 11th. Tickets were available from Arthur Campbell-Walter.

1. **Date of next meeting.**

This was confirmed as Monday May 9th and would follow the annual parish meeting which would start at 8 p.m. and the annual parish council meeting.

**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Hoath Parish Council*

April 8th 2016.

Signed as a true record \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_