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**HOATH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2016.**

Present: Councillors Sue Chapman (chair), Adele Wright, Jonathan Moore. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk and CCC), Alan Marsh (KCC) and 6 members of the public.

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1. **Apologies**

Cllr Williams had sent apologies as had PCSO Cannadine.

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**

Guy Foster (CCC) said that nothing of significance to Hoath had happened at CCC since the last meeting.

Alan Marsh (KCC) reported that KCC council tax was likely to increase by some 4%, including the allowed 2% for social care costs. KCC’s budget was facing very significant challenges. Referring to the proposals set out in the public meeting before the PC meeting, Mr Marsh said he was strongly in favour of them.

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

* Some ditches have been cleared but more need doing, notably the one on Maypole Road north of the Old Police House.
* Cllr Chapman reported that erection of the new finger post had been further delayed and asked for volunteers.
* It was reported that there were going to be some changes to the number 7 bus route. The PC had heard nothing of this and would look into it.

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1. **Planning**

There were no matters to be considered.

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

The clerk reported that the end-January cashbook balance was £14,587.14. The bank balance was higher by £54.00 due to one unpresented cheque.

The following was approved for payment:

1. Clerk: January £341.42 (salary £315.19, expenses £26.23)

**New PCSO:** the clerk reported that two new PCSOs had been appointed to the “Marshside” area and it had been decided that PCSO Elaine Cannadine would look after Hoath. Unfortunately she had been unable to attend the meeting but would come to a future meeting as soon as her shifts allowed. She can be contacted at elaine.cannadine@kent.pnn.police.uk

Correspondence:

* Notification received and forwarded to members of a new edition of the Good Councillors Guide.
* Details received about new external audit arrangements. There seems no point in opting out of these and in a year or two we won’t need to have an external audit anyway.
* KCC ward boundaries review. This is now finished and there will be no change for Hoath.
1. **Councillors’ reports**

There were no further comments at this juncture.

1. **Date of next meeting.**

This was confirmed as Monday March 7th at 8 p.m. It should be noted that this is a change from the originally scheduled date.

**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Hoath Parish Council*

February 13th 2016.

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