**206**

**HOATH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2014.**

Present: Councillors John Williams (chair), Sue Chapman, Jonathan Moore, Adele Wright. Guy Foster (clerk). In attendance: Alan Marsh (KCC), Georgina Glover (CCC) and 12 members of the public.

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1. **Apologies**

Cllr Keyes had been delayed at work.

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**

For CCC Mrs Glover said she had little to report. She was pleased that the Woodview planning application had been turned down.

For KCC, Alan Marsh reported:

* KCC Highways had cleared some 1,500 trees from roads following the recent storms.
* More money had been made available for pot hole repairs and he urged residents to report them.
* Allotments: the resident who lives adjacent to the site had complained to Mr Marsh about drainage problems and the costs involved in rectifying them. Mr Marsh passed the details to the clerk who said he had had no direct contact on this subject which would be considered by the PC in due course.
* KCC was planning to reduce members’ grant funds by half in 2014/15 which would inevitably restrict Mt Marsh’s ability to assist with local projects.

Cllr Williams highlighted the problem of emergency vehicles speeding along Hoath Rd/Maypole Rd and asked if the “SLOW” sign painted on the road could be reinstated. Mr Marsh asked the clerk to write to him formally and he would see what could be done.

**207**

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

* Buses: one parishioner had heard various rumours relating to the No. 7 bus route. Cllr Chapman reported that the PC had met with Stagecoach recently and had proposed a change to the route which would go a long way to solving the long-running problems associated with parking at the Prince of Wales. A response from Stagecoach was awaited. Following further discussion, Mrs Glover undertook to see if a traffic warden could visit the area on occasion.
* Allotments: a member of the Allotments Association spoke about the drainage problems referred to by Mr Marsh. The clerk expressed surprise that something which had apparently been a problem for so long had only now been reported and reiterated that the PC would consider the matter in due course.

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1. **Planning**

It was noted that applications CA//13/02155/OUT (land adjacent to Woodview) and CA//13/01267/FUL (Sandybank Farm) had been refused by CCC.

Applications CA//13/02320/FUL (White Horse Cottage), CA//13/02197/FUL and CA//13/02198/LB (both Ford Manor Farm Oast) were considered and there were no objections.

1. **To review the matter of parking in Maypole Lane and related bus routing.**

It was noted that a meeting had taken place on 7th January between PC members and Stagecoach at which the PC had tabled a proposed bus route amendment. A formal response from Stagecoach had yet to be received.

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

The clerk reported that the end-December cashbook and bank balance was £12,132.76.

Further to discussion at the previous meeting, the clerk reported that from his notes it did appear that the PC had decided to add an extra half hour a week to the clerk’s paid hours but that this had not been implemented. Accordingly, it was resolved that the clerk’s paid hours should be 6.5 per week with effect from 1st April 2013 and that the clerk’s pay should be adjusted in line with this.

**208**

The following was approved for payment:

1. Clerk: December £536.11 (December salary £284.67, expenses £37.93, back-dated adjustment £213.51).

Correspondence

Cllr Williams reported that he had spoken in person to the resident who had emailed the PC on a number of topics.

Cllr Williams had accepted the invitation to the Lord Lieutenant’s civic service.

Prompted by a letter from RoSPA, Cllr Moore undertook to carry out weekly inspections of the play area.

CCC had confirmed CFF for 2014/15 at £1,757.02 (some 85% of the amount requested). This will be further reduced by a claw back of the 2012/13 underspend of £988.65.

1. **Councillors’ reports**

Cllr Wright reported that she had attended to the overgrown hedge on her land in School Lane.

Cllr Williams noted that the web-site was rather out of date. The clerk undertook to have a look and communicate with the person responsible for updating it.

1. **Date of next meeting.**

This was confirmed as Monday February 10th at 8 p.m.

**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Hoath Parish Council*

January 15th 2014.

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