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**HOATH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2015.**

Present: Councillors Sue Chapman (chair), Jonathan Moore (chair for item 1), Adele Wright; Guy Foster (clerk). In attendance: Alan Marsh (KCC) and 10 members of the public.

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1. **To elect a chairman**

Cllr Moore took the chair initially. He reminded the meeting that Cllr Williams had expressed a wish to step down as chairman. It was therefore necessary to elect a new chairman and Cllr Moore proposed Cllr Chapman. This was seconded by Cllr Wright and Cllr Chapman was therefore duly elected as chairman. Given the absence of Cllr Williams, the election of a deputy was held over.

1. **Apologies**

Cllr Williams was in London on a personal matter. PCSO Jo White had also 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 of KCC commented on the final Concurrent Function Grant settlement. He noted that CCC would be reverting to a committee system of governance following the May election. Mr Marsh said the development plans in Hersden were now slightly uncertain following Hillreed’s takeover by Persimmon. Finally, Mr Marsh reported that he had been able to access some grant funding for the village hall.

No CCC representative was present.

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

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* It was noted that the “school run” bus was often not big enough. The clerk noted this was reported, and communicated to Stagecoach, last month. There were various other criticisms made of the bus service.
* On behalf of the village hall committee, Mr Marsh was thanked for the grant money; it would most likely be spent on external redecoration.

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1. **Planning**

It was noted that application CA//14/02157/FUL (Longshot, Maypole Lane) had been approved by CCC.

1. **To consider the purchase of a defibrillator**

Having agreed to this in principle, it was clear that more research was needed before a firm proposal could be considered.

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

The clerk reported that the end-December cashbook balance was £12,847.97. The bank balance was higher by £110.00.

The following was approved for payment:

1. Clerk: December £345.32 (salary £315.19, expenses £30.13.)

**Correspondence:**

* Road salt: contrary to CCC’s indications, a new bag had appeared in front of the village hall. Residents were urged to help themselves. It was not known if the salt bins had been topped up.
* Letter from the Boundary Commission announcing a boundary review of KCC and inviting public views.
* Invitation to the Lord Lieutenant’s annual service, in Rochester Cathedral.
1. **Councillors’ reports**

Cllr Chapman noted a lot of illness around and urged people to look after themselves and each other.

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1. **To consider co-option of a new member**

Mr Tim Baker of Marley Lane, Hoath had indicated his willingness to become a member of the PC. Accordingly, he was proposed by Cllr Chapman, seconded by Cllr Wright and unanimously co-opted as a member of Hoath Parish Council.

Mr Baker, being present, was introduced to the meeting and welcomed to the PC by the chairman.

1. **Date of next meeting.**

This was confirmed as Monday February 9th at **8.00 pm**.

Having reviewed the matter since the last meeting, it was agreed that until further notice, meetings would be on the second Monday of the month at 8 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Hoath Parish Council*

January 15th 2015.

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