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**HOATH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2020.**

Present: Councillors Sue Chapman (chair), John Williams, Adele Wright, Jilly Baxter, Carol Foster. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk), Alan Marsh (KCC), Rachel Carnac (CCC) and three members of the public.

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**This meeting was held on-line using Zoom.**

1. **Apologies**

Rachel Carnac of CCC had sent apologies for late arrival.

1. **Declaration of members’ interests**

None.

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

The minutes of the September meeting were agreed as tabled as a true record.

1. **CCC and KCC reports**

Alan Marsh (KCC) reported that KCC’s budget for 2021/22 was under extreme pressure. One consequence of this will be that new speed limits in the parish will have to be funded by the Hillborough development.

There was discussion about the enormous amount of dumping being carried out in Hollow Street, Chislet and the problems caused by the lorries doing the dumping. Mr Marsh said that the KCC environment officer was aware of this.

Rachel Carnac (CCC) spoke of the ground works being undertaken at Heart in Hand. There was no further news of significance here. She also referred to the issue of water quality at the Stodmarsh Nature Reserve which was holding up building works over a wide area.

1. **To consider the future of the play area**

Given the current state of the play area and the imminent opening of the new village green, the play area is surplus to requirements. Cllr Chapman had been approached by Hoath Play Group who had expressed an interest in renting or buying the play area. After discussion, it was unanimously resolved to pursue the idea of renting the play area to the play group, subject to agreeing acceptable terms. The clerk will draft an agreement.

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1. **Planning**

There were no planning matters to report.

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

The following payment was unanimously approved:

1. Clerk: October (net) £347.04

The cash book balance at the end of October was £22,499.28. The bank statement had yet to be received but it was expected to include a grant of £2,765.73 under the Community Infrastructure Levy scheme, relating to the new houses, etc., being built behind the village hall.

**Precept for 2021/22**

The clerk had circulated some figures. After discussion it was unanimously resolved to keep the precept for next year unchanged at £7,400.

**Correspondence, etc**

This had been covered under other agenda items.

1. **Councillors’ reports**

Cllr Williams noted the worsening traffic speed situation in Hoath Road. Cllr Foster wondered if traffic was being increased by the number of delivery vans as a result of an increase in people buying on-line.

Cllr Wright said she would be planting some winter pansies in the road island by her house. She also noted that at least one Hoath resident has been tested positive for covid 19.

1. **Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting date was confirmed as **Monday 14th December** at 5.30 p.m. It seems likely that once again this will be via Zoom.

**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Hoath Parish Council*

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