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**HOATH PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2016.**

Present: Councillors Sue Chapman (chair), Carol Foster, John Williams, Jill Baker. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk) and 5 members of the public.

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1. **Apologies**

Cllr Wright had sent apologies. Ann Taylor of CCC and Alan Marsh of KCC 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**

No CCC or KCC members were 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:

* Various overgrown hedges were reported. The PC agreed to investigate although previous inspections had not revealed anything too bad. It was agreed to put something in the parish magazine reminding home owners of their obligations to prune hedgerows, etc.
* The bus timetable on the notice board is out of date. Clerk to try and print and display the current one.
* There is an oil drum by the school which needs removing.
* Dog mess has appeared in some gardens. Residents are trying to identify the miscreant creature.
* There is a bad pot-hole on Ford Hill. Residents are urged to report such things themselves using the Kent Highways web-site or sites such as fixmystreet.

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1. **Planning**

There were no objections to Applications CA//16/02384/FUL or CA//16/02444/FUL. The clerk noted that CCC were going to stop sending out

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hard copies of planning applications. Members will need to review these on-line or at the CCC offices.

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

The clerk reported that the end-October cashbook balance was £18,032.12. This had been reconciled to the bank balance of £18,128.41.

The following payments were approved:

1. Clerk: September (net) £331.72
2. Grassmow Services £240.00
3. Holy Cross PCC £250.00

**Precept for 2017/18**

The clerk had tabled some figures. These indicated that an adequate surplus should be realised in the current year and the clerk recommended that the total funding requirement (“TFR”) be kept unchanged for 2017/18. The clerk reminded the meeting that the TFR now included a separate element for council tax support grant and he had yet to be advised by CCC of this amount for 2017/18 however he felt it would be reduced. In these circumstances, maintaining a constant TFR would imply an increased precept.

After discussion it was resolved to maintain the TFR for 2017/18 at the current level of £6,500 but to review this at the December meeting, by which time the level of council tax support grant would be known.

**PCSO**

Our new PCSO is Nathan Mullins. The clerk has made contact with him and it is to be hoped that he will be able to attend at least some PC meetings.

**Correspondence**

The clerk drew the meeting’s attention to the following items:

1. Update on the Richborough Connection process
2. Consultation on the KCCC budget
3. Consultation on the CCC parish charter

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1. **Councillors’ reports**

Cllr Chapman, Cllr Foster and the clerk had undertaken a footpath inspection and they were all easily walkable. This would be reviewed in the spring.

Cllr Williams reported heavy lorry traffic on Hoath Rd at night. It was believed that this was mainly due to the movement of grain by farmers.

It was noted that there have been a number of local burglaries recently and residents should be on their guard.

1. **Date of next meeting.**

This was confirmed as Monday December 12th at 8 p.m.

**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Hoath Parish Council*

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