

HOATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2021.

Present: Councillors Imogen Morizet (chair), John Millward, Adele Wright, Sandy Sinclair. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk), Rachel Carnac (CCC) and ten members of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr Keeble and Alan Marsh of KCC had sent apologies.

2. Declaration of members' interests

None.

3. Minutes of the last meeting and any matters arising

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

The meeting was adjourned to hear public comments. The following matters were raised:

- Roger Lithgow, the community warden, spoke about his role. Hoath is not officially part of his patch but he does keep an eye out for local issues. He actually works half the week in Maidstone.
- Traffic issues relating to the impending development at Hillborough: money has been earmarked for mitigation but it will be some time before this is available.
- There were concerns about the planning application for an air rifle range on land at Ford Hill. It was pointed out that if gas powered air rifles are used, they will need licences.
- CCC Enforcement has visited the site on Maypole Lane where hedgerows have been removed. We should think about applying for Tree Protection Orders for any trees or hedgerows which need to be preserved.
- There is an electric fence in Marley Lane which could be dangerous.

4. To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives.

For CCC, Rachel Carnac reported that she had spoken to a Rural Detached Youth Worker at KCC. His services may be of use in Hoath? She also said that she understood that Alan Marsh may have an allocation of trees next year so we should think about where they might best be used.

There was discussion on the subject of a Speedwatch campaign. Hoath PC does possess some equipment which should be helpful. More thought needs to be given to this but apparently help from local police is very useful and it could be that the community warden would be able to help.

5. Planning

Application CA/21/02869 (air rifle range and bund at Ford Hill). After discussion, it was unanimously resolved to object. Cllr Morizet to draft a form of words in due course.

6. To consider the consultation on the CCC Parish Charter

It was unanimously resolved to support the current draft and the clerk was asked to write confirming this support.

7. Report of the clerk/RFO

The following payments were unanimously approved:

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|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Clerk: November (net) | £366.61 |
| 2. KALC climate change conference | £48.00 |

At end-November, the cash book and bank balance was £27,817.72.

Donation to the parish magazine: after discussion, it was unanimously resolved to make a donation of £300 towards the printing costs. Accordingly a cheque in favour of the PCC of Holy Cross Hoath was drawn. Councillors agreed to further possible support after review of the magazine's finances later in the year.

Damaged bridge in Old Tree Road: the clerk reported he had been contacted by Chislet PC about this and had the phone number of the owner. He will ring this person to discuss.

8. Councillors' reports

Cllr Wright expressed thanks to the owners of Old Tree View for the Christmas tree erected on the traffic island in Old Tree Road (which Cllr Wright has decorated).

Cllr Millward expressed his willingness to help with the opposition to the rifle range proposal.

Cllr Morizet spoke of the Hoath Parish Charity which she was keen to support and raise local awareness.

9. Date of the next meeting

It was agreed that this will be Monday January 10th at 5.30 pm.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Hoath Parish Council

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____