

HOATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st December 2022

Present: Councillors Imogen Morizet (Chair), Sandy Sinclair, John Millward and Tina Keeble. In attendance: Caroline Read (Clerk & RFO), and 16 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr’s Adele Wright and Rachel Carnac (CCC) both sent apologies.

2. Declaration of members’ interests

None.

3. Minutes of the last meeting and any matters arising

The minutes of the November 2022 meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman, matters arising included:

- Discussion on proposals for the Village Green to be added to January 2023 agenda with a view to forming a sub-committee to explore the needs of the Village as part of launching the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Lorry Watch has been requested, to be run by two residents who await engagement from KCC Highways.

The meeting was adjourned for 15 minutes to hear public comments. The following matters were raised:

- The Defibrillator attached to the Village Hall is approximately 10 years old and currently unserviceable. Cllr Marsh (KCC) handed the Trustee of the Village Hall present (Mrs Chapman) the funds to cover repairs. It was noted that although the Defibrillator’s location is at the Village Hall, its postcode location is that of a neighbouring private residence. It was agreed this requires correcting at pace to the post code of the Village Hall to ensure the Defibrillator is immediately correctly located in an emergency. Given the age of the current machine and technological advances, the Parish Council will explore replacement costings. The Clerk to report back at next meeting.
- Residents were pleased to see an active social media presence, especially on Facebook which has become a good source of local and relevant information for Hoath. The Clerk welcomed the positive feedback and assured all that work was also continuing on updating and revitalising the Parish Website to ensure it becomes an accurate source of local information.
- A resident enquired if the Thanet Community Bus Service was up and running. KCC Cllr Marsh advised that it was and continues to be a valuable asset to the village. Residents needing more information on this service are invited to contact the clerk.

4. To receive reports from representatives of KCC and CCC.

KCC Cllr Alan Marsh advised residents that throughout Kent, South East water had incurred major problems with water supply because of the extreme cold weather. The advice is during the cold weather to run all taps at home for a few minutes each evening, to assist in the prevention of frozen pipes.

Cllr Marsh also highlighted to residents of the shortfall in KCC Funding, as an example the costs of Special Needs education has risen significantly in the past years, this alone up by some 40%.

He advised that KCC were anticipating a large budget increase to cover all the increasing costs across the County.

Cllr Marsh advised the Council that despite increasing costs he still had access to a small amount of funding for Parish's that had ongoing projects. The Clerk is to engage with Cllr Marsh to discuss options.

Cllr Marsh stated that he was able to supply over 40 panto tickets for residents, there had been a good take up from Hoath residents too, especially as a free return bus service was available. The Parish Council thanked him for this gift and looked forward to seeing him there.

Cllr Marsh and in her absence, Cllr Carnac, were thanked for all their efforts in providing extra assistance to Hoath residents during the current cost of living crisis, including not only the Mother Goose Panto tickets (Sarah Thorne Theatre, Broadstairs) and Aldi Vouchers from the Lord Mayor's office, but also personal financial donations, all of which were gratefully received.

5. Planning:

New Applications, received after published agenda:

- CA/22/02593 – Pear Tree Cottage, Maypole Road (Application for Listed Building Consent for external and internal alterations including installation of wood stove together with increased height of chimney). Heritage Statement is available on Planning Portal. Expiry Date: 20 Jan 23. Determination deadline: 6 Feb 23
- CA/22/002642- Barn Lodge, Church Road (Single-storey rear extension). Expiry Date: 3 Feb 23. Determination Deadline: 13 Feb 23.

Applications Decided by CCC:

- CA/22/01911 – Old Tree View (Erection of Hay Barn) (HPC note property is in a Conservation Area) - GRANTED
- CA/22/01659 - Oak Lodge (Single storey side extensions and single storey side link extension together with erection of tree house) (HPC Objection submitted) GRANTED at Planning Committee

6. Report of the clerk/RFO

At end-Oct the Cash Book and bank balance is £27,266.25. This includes the precept and CFG for 2022/23.

The following payments were unanimously approved:

1. Clerks Salary & Expenses (1 to 31 Dec 22)	£477.25
2. HMRC	£285.00
3. SLCC Membership	£120.00
4. Mrs M Hawkes (Newsletter and Xmas Costs)	£123.49
5. Mr K Scroggins (Xmas Costs)	£18.36
6. Cllr A Wright (Xmas Costs)	£596.81
7. SLCC ILCA to CILCA Training Costs for Clerk	£144.00
8. Cllr I Morizet (Xmas Costs)	£44.10
9. Cllr I Morizet (KALC Precept Training and Advanced Planning Course)	£76.80
10. Chair attendance at KALC Introduction to Planning for Local Councils	£60.00

Monies received in December:

1. Allotment rent	£200.00
2. Donation	£20.00

The Precept was considered by the Parish Council. It was proposed by Cllr Morizet and seconded by Cllr Sinclair to increase the precept to £9,000.00 in accordance with Canterbury City Council guidance. The Clerk is to inform CCC no later than 31 December 2022.

Correspondence noted:

- The Prince of Wales Public House hosted another successful Community Café on Tuesday 20th December 2022. The next event to be discussed with residents at the January Parish Meeting.
- The Clerk attend a free online seminar to greater understand Cyber security for Local Councils. The Clerk is currently exploring additional methods to ensure the security of the laptop and protecting the information held within it. Further updates to follow.
- The Clerk attended a free online seminar to learn more about the Local Council Award Scheme, with a view to understanding how to celebrate our successes and how HPC can work to provide a mechanism for continuous improvement and development in the community.
- The Clerk had requested information from Kent Police on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. It is evident from the tired signage around the village that Hoath once had an active scheme in place. Clerk to report back once engagement regarding training and resources is established.

7. Councillors' reports

Cllr Morizet reminded residents that the Draft 2045 Local Plan is available to view online and that the closing date to comment was 5pm on 16th January 2023. Residents were

encouraged to comment negatively, positively or contribute ideas to any areas within the plan. The Chair again highlighted the Church Farm Proposal (R27) and urged all residents to comment and share thoughts on this development and the wider Local Plan that could have an impact on our surrounding area. The Chair also requested that residents copy their comments to the Clerk.

Cllr Morizet spoke about the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan and was delighted that residents had come forward to form a steering group.

- Cllr Morizet asked residents to volunteer to be part of the Village Green Development Committee. The intention is for discussion to begin in the first half of the New Year to ascertain what the community wants for their Village Green long term. Options to explore could include adult fitness equipment and/or a Children's play area, collaboration with the primary school to develop wildflower areas, potential for setting aside an area for wildlife to complement the Marley Fields development biodiversity area, add benches and a viewing point for users as well as litter bins.

Cllr Morizet spoke about Hoath Parish Council's commitment to good governance and that it was important that the Council meets the standards set by the sector. To help achieve this she proposed that the Clerk continue her training to achieve CILCA. Seconded by Cllr Sinclair.

8. Date of the next meeting

It was agreed that this will be at 5.30 pm on Monday 9th January 2023.

Caroline Read
Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Hoath Parish Council
clerk@hoath.org

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____
(Chair)