

## Minutes of the meeting of Hoath Parish Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 6pm in Hoath Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Imogen Morizet (Chair), Karen Johncock, William Hawkins, Sandy Sinclair and Caroline Read (Parish Clerk), plus KCC Cllr Alan Marsh, CCC Cllr Rachel Carnac and Community Warden Roger Lithgow. 14 Members of Public present (MoP).

1. **Apologies.** Apologies were received and ACCEPTED from Councillor Adele Wright (Ill Health).
2. **Declarations of Interest & Dispensation requests.** Cllr Hawkins declared that his spouse is a Cllr at Chislet Parish Council. He also declared an OSI (Other Significant Interest) relating to the Planning Application CA/21/02265 below, whereby his property is on the curtilage. Cllr Hawkins requested it be noted that this declaration does not affect him supporting HPCs comments which relate to the traffic, pollution and odours relating to this application and the subsequent appeal process. There were no other declarations of interest.
3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting.** RESOLVED to agree that the minutes on the meetings held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023, were a true record and they were signed by Cllr Morizet (Chair).

Cllrs asked that the following outstanding actions be minuted:

- a. Despite several requests from the Clerk, the Allotment Trustees are yet to forward a copy of their Allotment Register, latest risk assessment and provide a key for the allotments gate. **Action:** Clerk was instructed to request documents again.
- b. Despite several requests from the Clerk, the Chislet and Hoath Playgroup Manager had yet to forward a copy of the risk assessment for the play area, plus written assurances that the Playgroup had adequate insurance in place for the use of the Play Area/triangle. **Action:** Clerk to request documentation again.
- c. The Clerk reported that she had engaged with three website design firms. It was RESOLVED unanimously to replace the current website provider at the natural end of the current contract in January 2024. **Action:** Clerk to commence engagement with preferred contractor.

#### 4. Representations from the public included:

A MoP raised his concerns relating to the speed of traffic on Maypole Road. Two members of the public have volunteered to take part in a new Speed Watch campaign. **Action:** Clerk to contact PC Hoffmeister.

A MoP appealed to KCC and CCC Councillors for a final contribution towards the initial setting up of the Wednesday Club that recommences in January 2024. CCC Cllr advised that she might be able to assist, the MoP was advised to email her directly.

5. **CCC Report:** Cllr Carnac reported that the current financial crisis continues to affect the operating areas of CCC. Current consultations announced include a review of parking charges in Canterbury, Herne Bay Reculver and Whitstable.

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The consultation for the Canterbury city market and market trader fees is also live, as are two further consultations: Housing Revenue Account budget consultation 2024/25 and the General Fund budget consultation 2024/25, all of which the public are invited and urged to comment on. Cllr Carnac also advised that her Opportunities Fund had been removed, but she is hoping that this, or a similar fund can be reinstated to enable her to continue her work of supporting small community projects within her Ward. **Action:** Clerk to promote CCC consultations on social media.

Cllr Carnac also advised that The Local Government Boundary Commission is asking for MoPs views on their electoral review of Canterbury. It has already been agreed that the number of CCC Cllrs will remain at 39. This review will agree new Ward boundaries across the Council, whilst also achieving electoral equality. It will not affect the current Parish Council boundaries.

Cllr Carnac advised that a new recycling leaflet will soon be distributed to all households providing more detailed information on what can and can't be recycled, this is to encourage intelligent recycling and avoid contaminated recycling waste. Residents were advised that if they persistently put out contaminated recycling waste for collection, CCC would place small hangers on handles of these bins, advising residents why the waste was not collected.

6. **KCC Report:** Cllr Marsh reported his concerns of the financial shortfall at KCC and the impact this will have on communities across the county. He also encouraged MoP to complete the CCC Consultations in order to have your say. Cllr Marsh was pleased to advise that the free Pantomime Tickets for the residents of Hoath. **Action:** Clerk to promote Panto on social media and parish magazine.
7. **Community Warden Report:** Roger Lithgow talked about the work he had been doing in recent weeks. He confirmed that since the recent Community Warden consultation the number of wardens had reduced in the area, but he is continuing to support the community of Hoath where he can.
8. **Planning.** Members considered the following new planning applications:

- None received.

**Members were advised of the following Decided Applications:**

- CA/23/01540 - Pear Tree Cottage, Maypole Road - Erection of two single-storey garages. **CCC Decision: GRANTED**
- CA/23/01735 - EIA screening opinion request in relation to an Integrated Constructed Wetland. Land Southwest of Hoath. **CCC Decision: NO OBJECTION**

**Update on Undecided Applications:**

- CA/21/02265 - Land south of Marley Lane, Hoath - Installation of digestate storage Eco bag with construction of bund. **Update:** HPC confirmed that they had submitted final comments prior to the deadline of 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023.

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## 9. Report of the Clerk and RFO:

RESOLVED to note current cashbook/bank balance: £27,629.46

RESOLVED to agree the following payments:

- November 2023 Salary and expenses for the Clerk. Members unanimously RESOLVED to award the NALC advised pay rise, backdated to 1 April 2023.
- Village Hall Hire (Sep 22 to Aug 23) £262.62
- Cllr Morizet (Finance for Cllrs Course) £36.00
- Christmas Tree Purchase £65.00

The Clerk advised that the defibrillator had been purchased and the cabinet is with the Prince of Wales Pub awaiting installation. On completion, the defibrillator will be registered with 'The Circuit' to allow use in an emergency. The remaining funds raised to be held in Reserves to support ongoing running costs.

Correspondence, to note and review:

- a) The litter bin is yet to be purchased; HPC is waiting for Canenco to confirm they are able to install the style of bin proposed.
- b) The felling of the Sycamore Tree outside of The Gate Inn has been reported to CCC, HPC await a response.
- c) KCC are seeking to change its Heritage Conservation Strategy to permit the sale/disposal of all 8 mills it owns in Kent. Clerk advised she would publish the Consultation once it goes live for the public to make comment.
- d) The Local Government Boundary Review Consultation as raised by Cllr Carnac is live.
- e) The Sea Link Project Consultation is also live.

## 10. Councillors' reports:

- Cllr Johncock advised that dates were still being identified for the next Joint Parish Group which is due to take place in Spring 2024.
- Cllr Johncock advised that she is due to meet with KCC Highways to start discussions regarding a review of the Hoath HIP. **Action:** Clerk to request HIP dates from KCC
- Cllr Hawkins advised that due to continuing rising costs, it is highly likely the precept would need to reflect this. It was highlighted to the members that the forthcoming precept is to be submitted to CCC by 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023. **Action:** Clerk to present revised budget at the next meeting.
- Cllr Sinclair proposed the purchase of a Christmas Tree for the Village Hall, it was unanimously agreed to spend £65 and reuse the lights and decorations from the previous year.
- Cllr Morizet highlighted that the Hoath Meadow Group which had recently formed would be undertaking further tree and hedge planting and that it was encouraging to see so many MoP wanting to be part of the development of the Village Green and Paddock. The next Neighbourhood Planning Meeting would take place at 7pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 in the Village Hall. All residents are welcome to attend.
- Cllr Morizet proposed that Cllr Sinclair would be Hoath Parish Councils Representative Member for the Hoath Village Hall committee. This was unanimously agreed.

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**11. Proposed date of the next meeting:** The next Parish Council meeting is 5.45pm on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023, (Parish Councillors will be available to the public from 5.15pm).

Caroline Read  
Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer  
Hoath Parish Council  
[clerk@hoath.org](mailto:clerk@hoath.org)

Signed as a true record \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chair)

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