

HOAR CROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd December 2024
at The Deer Park, Maker Lane, Hoar Cross

Present: Cllrs Mrs Smith, Mrs Baxter, Mrs Prince, Mrs Patterson, Cllr Marsden
Borough Cllrs George and Gould, Miss E Goodwin (Parish Clerk)

Cllr Mrs Smith welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

1 Public Participation

Nothing to report.

2 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Jones.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23rd September 2024

The Minutes were agreed as a true representation of the Meeting, and were signed by
Cllr Mrs Smith.

5 Matters arising not covered on the Agenda

Cllr Baxter is now administrator of the website; she would like to make it more friendly and
manageable in the future.

6 Planning – Cllr Mrs Baxter

Planning Number	Date	Premises	Planning requested	Council Actions	Decision
Applications Received					
Applications Approved					
P/2024/01142	05/11/2024	Hoar Cross Hall, Maker Lane	Reduce by up to three metres a group of Hawthorn trees, remove one Ash tree		Approved
P/2024/01149	05/11/2024	Hoar Cross Hall, Maker Lane	Remove three Sycamore trees and one Elm tree		Approved
Other Planning Matters					
P/2023/00416	21/08/2023	Abbots Bromley School for Girls	Partial demolition of the former Abbots Bromley School Buildings, conversion and extension of the remaining school buildings to form 60 dwellings, erection of 58 dwellings and a detached Community Store	For information	
P/2023/00417	21/08/2023	Abbots Bromley School for Girls	Listed Building Consent for the partial demolition of the former Abbots Bromley School Buildings, internal and external	For information	

			alterations to facilitate the conversion and extension of the remaining buildings to form 60 dwellings		
P/2023/00749	21/08/2023	Abbots Bromley School for Girls	Partial demolition of St Mary's teaching block, sports hall and swimming pool	For information	
P/2024/00939	23/09/2024	Blacksmiths Cottage, Newborough Road	Conversion and alterations to existing garage to form annexe, including replacement of garage door with casement window, new window on west elevation and four roof lights	Cllr Mrs Baxter reported comments are open until 9 th December	

There was a discussion regarding an annexe in the garden at Blacksmiths Cottage; Cllr Mrs Baxter will contact ESBC re planning/retrospective planning. Cllr Gould asked to be copied in on any planning issues.

7 Parish Councillors Reports

- Highways – Cllr Mrs Patterson reported that a number of potholes have been filled in, but that they soon reappear. Maker Lane was closed for five days as the potholes were filled and the water drained away, but the drains are still blocked; the splashed water from the potholes outside the Church is washing the mortar in the wall away. A builder has met Phil Murphy (manager of Hoar Cross Hall) and he has emailed County Cllr Jessell. The blocked drain on School Hill has been reported, and the dangerous tree has been removed. Cllr Mrs Smith will contact Cllr Jessell regarding a new 'Maker Lane' sign outside the Hall.
- Environment – Cllr Mrs Prince had nothing to report.
- Footpaths – Cllr Mrs Smith asked everyone to look out for any problems.

8 County Councillor Jessel's Report

No report received.

9 Borough Councillors Report

Cllr George had attended the Business Network Meeting, and she has arranged to meet Canon Paul.

10 PCSO Edwards/PCSO Siwek's Report

Auto reply from PCSO Edwards that he was on a rest day or annual leave on receipt of the email with the Agenda.

With regard to the County Proactive and Rural Team, Cllr Gould suggested contacting Cllr Jessell for the contact information; the Clerk will follow this up.

11 Parish Clerk's Report

The dates of the Meetings for 2025 have been confirmed with The Deer Park.

Cllr Mrs Baxter and the Clerk had met Kim Squires: Kim was happy with the website; the working from home allowance is £6.00 a week; Kim felt that notices about the Annual Parish Meeting on the website, Facebook and the notice board should be enough to let people know about the Meeting; she suggested the Chairman be given a copy of the Clerk's contract, and this was done; It is being recommended that Cllrs have '.gov.uk' email addresses, and Cllr Mrs Baxter is attending a Zoom meeting on 3rd December; Kim is working on a template to replace the cash book. The Clerk and Cllr Mrs Baxter are meeting Kim in April 2025.

12 Finances

It was resolved to make the following payments:

Date	Cheque	Payee	Detail	Amount
2 nd December 2024	955	Deer Park Dairy	Hire of Meeting	£28.57+£1.43VAT

		Limited	Room	
2 nd December 2024	956	Miss E Goodwin	Salary Expenses	£187.20 £50.95
2 nd December 2024	957	HMRC	PAYE	£158.60
2 nd December 2024	954	Mrs H Sherwood	Plants	£88.97+£14.59VAT
30 th December 2024	Standing Order	Miss E Goodwin	Salary	£447.85

Cllr Smith is waiting for the card reader.

The Clerk was asked to ask Lynne Bott for a breakdown of her recent invoices.

13 Precept 2025-2026

Cllr Mrs Smith and the Clerk had met to discuss the Budget; the amounts were further discussed, and it was agreed to increase the Precept to £6850.

14 Ratification of Policies

It was agreed to ratify the Standing Orders, Publication Scheme, Media Policy, Risk Assessment and Data Protection Policy. Cllr Marsden agreed to look at the New Financial Regulations, and these will be further discussed at the Meeting in March 2025.

15 Best Kept Village update – Cllr Mrs Smith

Cllr Mrs Smith had attended the Presentation Evening where Hoar Cross had received a 'Commended' award. Hoar Cross is now included in a group with a number of larger villages; after a discussion, it was decided not to enter the Competition in 2025, but to continue to have a working party to keep the village tidy and to have a 'thank you supper' afterwards.

The Clerk was asked to contact Phil Murphy at the Hall to ask if he would like the opportunity to put a planter on the triangle opposite the Hall, and to maintain it.

16 Defibrillator

Cllr Mrs Prince pointed out that there is not a defibrillator in Hoar Cross; Lesley is happy to have a defibrillator at The Deer Park and the Princes are happy to put money towards the cost. Cllr Gould suggested contacting the British Heart Foundation. Cllr Marsden pointed out that we would need to know what the cost of the electricity would be to run the defibrillator. The Clerk will make some enquiries regarding a defibrillator.

17 VE Day Celebrations – Thursday 8th May 2025

It was decided that the Parish Council would not organise an event; Cllr Mrs Prince reported that there will not be an event at The Deer Park.

18 Land opposite The Meynell

Cllr Mrs Smith commented that the land is looking good, and not many people are parking there; it was agreed to place a tree trunk bench across the opening.

19 HS2 Update

The Clerk forwards any updates she receives.

20 Correspondence

NatWest bank are reducing the interest rate; the Clerk will contact the SPCA to reserve a cherry tree for planting in the Autumn of 2026.

21 Members Points of Information

Cllr Mrs Smith asked the County Cllrs about road signs regarding speeding traffic, and was advised there would need to be a traffic survey, knowledge of black spots and multiple casualties. Newborough PC have recently raised funds for a Speed Indicator Device (SID), which was done through Highways. Cllr Mrs Smith thanked the Cllrs for the information and for attending the Meeting.

22 Dates of the next Meetings

Monday 17th March 2025, Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting Monday 19th May,

Monday 16th June, Monday 15th September and Monday 8th December at The Deer Park, Maker Lane.

Signed by Chairperson

Name: Cllr Mrs Smith

Signature:

Date: