

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT

Month/Year: December 2024

Parish: Hoath

Community Warden: Roger Lithgow. Mobile 07183 713083 Email:
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This is my final Parish Council Report as your KCC Community Warden.

During November 2024 I have undertaken Visible Presence in and around the village. No issues or concerns were raised in this month.

Where possible I have spoken to Hoath residents to advise that from January 2025 all Community Wardens have been reallocated new areas to work under the restructure of the KCC Community Warden Service. I will stop working in Herne Bay and Hoath and will start working in: Sturry Ward and Nailbourne Ward. I asked to keep Hoath as one of my areas, but I was unsuccessful.

It is with a heavy heart that I will no longer be your KCC Community Warden. I have loved working here and helping you. The community of Hoath are a lovely group of people and will always hold a special place in my heart. There's been moments of happiness chatting and laughing when speaking to residents in the street and on home visits. There have also been moments of recent sadness with the passing of loved ones in the village. Knowing them and watching residents grieving was hard, but I supported where I could, even if it was only the listening and contributing to the sharing of memories.

During my time as your Community Warden in Hoath. I have helped Holy Cross Church with several concerns raised, either by dealing with the matters or signposting to get the appropriate support. I have assisted elderly and vulnerable members of the community who needed my help with: residents' computer problems, scams, housing issues involving ASB and liaising with CCC for rehousing, flytipping reports, and liaised with KCC Highways regarding pavement and pothole issues. I arranged for Kent Police to undertake Speedwatch on Maypole Road and Church Street. Eight vehicles were caught speeding on Maypole Rd by Kent Police, and a couple of registered keepers were subsequently issued Section 59 Warnings. I have deescalated and resolved community disputes and raised safeguarding issues involving police. Two years ago, I arranged for Rural Kent to come along once a month in the summer for three months, to bring their Coffee Project Van to the community of Hoath. Rural Kent set up their tables and chairs in the village hall car park where residents were offered free drinks and cake, it was an opportunity to build community resilience and make friends, to discuss community issues with myself and the local PSCO. Residents were encouraged and inspired to set up their own version of the Coffee Project, which resulted in the Drop In Café in the Prince of Wales pub every third Tuesday of the month, and a further village hall coffee morning every other Saturday. Wednesday afternoon group also started up in the village hall, which is well attended, and all these events are still running. Holy Cross Church still

continues with it's coffee morning every other Saturday morning. I am extremely proud of Hoath residents in what they have achieved together, and I hope you will continue with your community spirit.

Finally, I wish you all the best for the future, and every happiness in this festive period and a very Happy New Year!