

**KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of a Meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,  
on Wednesday, 20 January 2010 at 8.15 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)  
Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. P. Burfield, Mr. G. Croughton, Mr. P. Eaton,  
Ms. K. Hawker, Mrs. W. Ross, Mr. I. Rumgay, Dr. P. Walker,  
Mr. A. Waters, Mrs. R. Wedderburn

IN ATTENDANCE: 4 Members of the Public, County Councillor Mr. N. Chard,  
Mr. D. Hutton (Kent Wildlife Trust)  
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. R. Dawes

7.45 p.m. *Before the Meeting commenced, Mr. Hutton gave a short presentation on the aims and funding issues of the proposed grazing project on Whiteleaf Down.*

8.05 p.m. *Mr. Hutton was thanked for his contribution and left the Meeting.*

8.07 p.m. *Mr. Chard briefly reported on how Kent County Council's Highway Department had exercised their responsibility in relation to clearing roads and gritting major routes during the recent severe weather. The gritting routes in the County would be subject to a review in June/July 2010. Mr. Chard is also looking at the possibility of salt to be provided to Parish Councils who will then have control over the distribution thereof as it was felt that local communities have a better understanding of the need where roads should be treated. This project would replace the roadside salt bins, which did not prove to be very effective. Mr. Chard asked the Council to consider this proposition and to put forward any suggestions the Council may have. The Council will also identify roads which it feels should be included in the gritting list and put these forward to Kent County Council for consideration. Councillors raised concerns about the insurance and responsibility for overseeing this procedure.*

8.15 p.m. *Mr. Chard thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak and left the Meeting.*

8.15 p.m. *The Meeting commenced.*

*Councillors were reminded to disclose personal and prejudicial interests on matters to be considered at this Meeting.*

1. **MINUTES**

Mrs. Cole proposed:

*"To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 November 2009, Reference KPC/11/09, previously circulated."*

**CARRIED** unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Pedestrian Crossing (Minute 2(a) KPC/11/09)

The safety audit report dated 22 September 2009 prepared by Kent Highway Services was noted.

(b) Archive Store KHC (Minute 2(b) KPC/11/09)

Building work had been delayed by the recent bad weather, but is now slowing progressing.

(c) Proposed closure of public conveniences in Kemsing car park (Minute 2(c) KPC/11/09)

Sevenoaks District Council's decision is awaited. Members noted the Sevenoaks District Council's Cabinet Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 November 2009 which confirmed that the Parish Council's offer was being considered.

(d) Request from PACT meeting to install speed indicator devices - safer roads (Minute 2(e) KPC/11/09)

Kent Highway Services indicated that the deadline for their investigation is 31 March 2010.

(e) Parish Council land to the rear of 33,35,37,39 Park Lane (Minute 2(f) KPC/11/09)

Draft copies of the revised licences, Nature Reserve Policy and Warden Agreement were considered. Mr. Croughton said that these adequately reflected the decision at the last Parish Council Meeting.

8.25 p.m. Mr. Willmore, who was invited to speak, said that he was pleased that the area had been designated as a Nature Reserve, but pointed out that he had discontinued having bonfires in this area as advised by Kent Wildlife Trust recently. Mr. Willmore had asked Mr. Brian Doe's advice on appropriate action to take to enhance the site for wildlife. Based on the advice from Kent Wildlife Trust, Mr. Willmore was not in agreement with this part of the licence and felt that bonfires should not be allowed. Mr. Willmore said that he had, over the past ... years, not only put in a substantial amount of time, effort and hard work, but also personal funds to enhance this area, whilst looking after the land on behalf of the Council. Mr. Burfield said that the Council had agreed previously to allow bonfires to be included in the licences and this was not negotiable.

8.30 p.m. *Mr. Willmore left the Meeting*

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

*"That the Parish Council approve the draft copies with the minor grammatical amendments as agreed, and submit the licences to Mr. Willmore and Mr. & Mrs. Hobson."*

*CARRIED 10 in favour, 1 abstention*

(f) Pharmacy application from Matrix Primary Healthcare Ltd. (Minute 2(g) KPC/11/09)

No appeals had been made against the decision to approve the application. *It was agreed to remove this from the Agenda.*

(g) BT's proposal for the Council's adoption of red telephone kiosk (Minute 2(h) KPC/11/09)

A reply from BT dated 18 January was noted.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

*"That the Parish Council proceed with the adoption of the red telephone kiosk, as notified in the correspondence dated 18 January from BT under Option 1."*

*CARRIED unanimously*

- (h) Kemsing 2011 Festival (Minute 2(k) KPC/10/09)  
Invitations had been sent to all Kemsing organisations, groups, societies and businesses to attend the Meeting on 3 February.
- (i) Castle Drive - Conditions of the road surface of the highway and footpath (Minute 3(c) KPC/10/09)  
Mr. Chard's response was noted. KHS indicated that the footway resurfacing could be included for 2010/2011.

### 3. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Waters proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

*"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 November 2009, Reference No P/13/2009, previously circulated, be approved."*

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Waters proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

*"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 November 2009, Reference No P/14/2009, previously circulated, be approved."*

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Waters proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

*"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 December 2009, Reference No P/15/2009, previously circulated, be approved."*

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Waters proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

*"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 January 2010, Reference No P/01/2010, previously circulated, be approved."*

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

*"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 November 2009, Reference No DM/04/09, previously circulated, be approved; and*

*That the Council approves only the following two of the three recommendations referred to in Minute 3:*

*That the section of the hedge between the War Memorial gates (near the Bell Public House), be reduced by 15 inches and that the section of the hedge by the wall in St. Edith Road be reduced by 6 inches tapering to the present height at the corner of the High Street."*

CARRIED unanimously

*Revised quotations would be obtained to reduce the height of the hedge.*

(c) Finance Committee

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Bennett seconded:

*"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 November 2009 F/110/07, previously circulated, be approved; and*

*That the Council approves the recommended precept of £75,000 for the year 2010/211 (reference Item 6)."*

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Burfield drew attention to Item 5 (last paragraph) and informed that the Council's application for the Play Builder Funding had been unsuccessful.

(d) Report from Chairman

- A request from Mrs. J. Course to include a note relating to funding campaign for Hospice in the Parish Council's newsletter was considered. The Council felt that the Well magazine would be a more suitable place for advertising this fundraising campaign.
- Kemsing Primary School thanked the Council for supporting their science project. The school won the Judges' Trophy award for their project presentation at a competition held at the Canterbury University.
- Mrs. G. Broome thanked the Parish Council for its efforts to provide a play area for the young people in Park Lane.
- An invitation to the Sevenoaks District's Housing Forum on 10 February was noted.
- An invitation to the Lord Lieutenant of Kent's Annual Civic Service on 22 April was noted.

(e) Reports from Councillors

Mr. Waters made the following reports:-

- Mr. Waters and Mrs. Cole had attended the Parish Forum held at Sevenoaks District Council Offices on 26 November 2009. The main items discussed were the new Local Development Framework and the new rules for non-speaking at site meetings regarding planning applications.
- Mr. Buttifant was very concerned about the condition of the ancient milestone in Pilgrims Way (at the top of Childsbridge Lane), which was removed and re-positioned by Contractors two years ago during road works. The iron protective casing around the stone was removed and Mr. Buttifant felt that this should be replaced. All previous endeavours to ask permission from English Heritage to replace the iron casing proved unsuccessful. Mr. Waters proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded: *"That the Council authorises Mr. Buttifant to arrange for the replacement of the protective iron casing. An expenditure of up to £200 is authorised to carry out this work."* CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Buttifant's report on his annual parish walk held in December will be received at the next Meeting.

Mr. Croughton made the following reports:

- The amendments to the train timetables had not had a significant effect on local journeys, however, Mr. Croughton was extremely disappointed with National Rail's inability to provide an adequate public transport service during the recent spate of winter weather.
- The local bus company should be commended for their efforts in providing public transport from Kemsing to Sevenoaks. A letter of thanks will be sent to the Superintendent at Sevenoaks station.

4. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & PRESS**

Questions from Members of the Public and Press were taken elsewhere during the Meeting.

5. **DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

(a) Oaks Christmas Dinner 2009

A refund of £75 was received from the Oaks Steering Group.

(b) Sevenoaks & Swanley Citizens Advice Bureau

A letter thanking the Parish Council for the recent grant was noted.

(c) Byways & Bridleways Trust

The annual subscription of £35 was approved.

- (d) Citizens Rights for Older People (CROP)  
A request for a financial contribution was declined.
- (e) Kent Air Ambulance  
Mr. Rungay proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:  
*"That the Council approves a contribution of £100."*  
CARRIED 10 in favour, 1 abstention
- (f) Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)  
*Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Cole declared personal interests.*  
Dr. Walker proposed and Mr. Burfield seconded:  
*"That the Council approves the annual subscription of £29."*  
CARRIED unanimously
6. **SEVENOAKS DISTRICT SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2010 - 2013**  
The Parish Council noted the invitation to comment on the action plan.
7. **HOUSING STRATEGY 2010 CONSULTATION**  
The Council noted an invitation to comment on the consultation which runs until 8 February 2010. Mr. Waters and the Clerk were authorised to complete the consultation documents on behalf of the Parish Council.
8. **KENT ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS - LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT SURVEY**  
Councillors noted the questionnaire and the Chairman and the Clerk was authorised to complete the forms on behalf of the Parish Council.
9. **J5SLIPS.ORG**  
The Council noted an invitation to attend the next Meeting of the J5Slips.Org Committee, an organisation aiming to promote and lobby for the build of the east facing slips on to the M26 at Junction 5 of the M25. Mr. Bennett would consider representing the Parish Council.
10. **SDC - YOUNG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2010**  
Young people aged 14 to 18 living in the Sevenoaks District can be nominated for the above award - closing date Friday, 26 February 2010. The award aims to celebrate young people's volunteering achievements. A copy of the invitation would be forwarded to the Scouts, Guides and Play Place.
11. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**  
(a) Annual Parish Meeting  
The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday, **17 March 2010**.  
The statutory notices will be advertised in the local paper, notice boards and Parish Council's website. A newsletter containing the formal agenda would be prepared by the Clerk and circulated to Councillors for their comments prior to the next Parish Council Meeting.
12. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**  
Mr. Burfield proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:  
*"That the Council approves the list of payments and to note the list of receipts (Vouchers 204 – 262) (previously circulated)."*  
CARRIED unanimously
13. **INFORMATION REPORT**  
The Information Report was noted.

14. **MATTERS TO BE RAISED AT THE NEXT MEETING & GOOD NEWS**

- (a) Mr. Buttifant to report on his annual parish walk.
- (b) To consider proposal from Mr. Chard regarding salt stock and gritting of roads.
- (c) Mr. Waters said that Kemsing Primary School achieved fourth place of all the Primary Schools in the District in the league table.

15. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

17 February 2010.

The Meeting closed at 9.55 p.m.