

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of an Extra-ordinary Parish Council meeting held in St. Mary's Church Hall, Kemsing, on Wednesday, 11 January 2012 at 8.00 p.m.

- PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)
Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. G. Croughton, Mr. R. Dawes, Mrs. S. Dickinson,
Mr. P. Eaton, Mr. R. Lang, Mrs. W. Ross, Mrs. M. Robarts, Dr. P. Walker
- IN ATTENDANCE: District Councillor Mr. M. Butler
Approximately 60 Residents
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)
- APOLOGIES: Councillors Mr. J. Jermain & Mrs. R. Wedderburn
District Councillor Miss L. Stack
Revd. J. Oakley

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

1. **KEMSING VILLAGE CAR PARK**

The Chairman, Mrs. Cole, welcomed everybody to the meeting.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman explained that residents are invited to address comments and questions to the Parish Council until 8.30 p.m. when the meeting would be adjourned and closed for the public and press, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Mrs. Cole read a written statement from District Councillor Miss Stack.

During the public session, a number of comments and questions from residents were received:-

- There is fear that the village will become 'grid-locked' as a result of vehicles being left on the road if there are no car park facilities.
- Could a resident 'drive' the purchase of the car park by setting up a scheme in the village by means of a 'shared scheme' with interested individuals?
- Could the village secure the car park through a Community Bid?
- Details of the repayment period for a loan by the Parish Council were asked.
- When the District Council first leased the car park land was there a contingency plan put in place in the event that the lease could not be renewed?
- Surely the Parish Council can purchase the car park as it had put money into various schemes in the last couple of years.
- Has the Parish Council considered introducing charges for using the car park?
- Can a car park be created on the Common Field?
- What would happen to the Primary School if the car park is lost?
- Does the loss of an amenity carry any weight when a planning application to develop the site is being considered by the local planning authority?
- Can the basic criteria for developing land within a Conservation Area be defined?
- Suggest that the Parish Council negotiate with the vendors to purchase the car park.
- There is a strong community spirit in Kemsing. Can every household be asked to contribute financially so that the car park can be purchased by the village?

A resident expressed his appreciation to the Parish Councillors for listening to the electorate and for taking up this matter on behalf of Kemsing residents.

8.40 p.m. [The meeting was adjourned for the public and press].

Following a very comprehensive discussion, a number of resolutions were made.

In view of the very confidential nature of this item, the details of the discussion are contained in a confidential paper, which will be appended to the Minutes.

Summary of the resolutions made:-

- (a) That the Parish Council makes an offer, subject to contract, for the purchase the car park site only, exercising its principal power under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, ss 57-60.
- (b) That the Parish Council obtains 2 valuations to ascertain the value of the land, as per advice received from Kent Association of Local Councils.
- (c) That the Parish Council instructs the Clerk to start the procedure of applying for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board.
- (d) That the Parish Council agrees to increase the precept requirement for the financial year 2012/13 to service a loan in connection with the possible purchase of the car park.

The meeting was closed at 9.30 p.m.