

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's Office, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 6NA, Tel & Fax: 01732 762841
E-mail: kemsingpc@tiscali.co.uk

**Minutes of a meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,
on Wednesday, 15 January 2014 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)
Mr. T. Andrews, Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. R. Dawes, Mrs. S. Dickinson,
Mr. P. Eaton, Mr. R. Lang, Mrs. M. Robarts, Dr. P. Walker, Mrs. R. Wedderburn

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 Member of the Public
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr. G. Croughton

1. **MINUTES**

Mrs Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council approves the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November, Ref KPC/12/2013, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Bus shelter at Greenlands Road (Minute 2(a) KPC/12/2013)

The Parish Council had been successful in securing a grant for £418-71. The funds were expected in February 2014.

(b) Sevenoaks District Seniors Action Forum – Public Access Defibrillator (Minute 2(c) KPC/12/2013)

The St. Edith Hall Management Committee had no objection to the installation of the defibrillator on the external wall next to the west fire exit of the St. Edith Hall.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to order the defibrillator.

(c) Dog fouling on the Common Field Recreation Ground (Minute 2(d) KPC/12/2013)

Mrs. Wedderburn reported that the group had arranged a number of sessions between October and December when leaflets and dog fouling bags had been handed out to dog walkers on both the Common Field Recreation Ground and Lower Haffenden Field. It was felt that this action had reduced the number of dog fouling incidents which confirmed that the Group had been successful in accomplishing their goal, however, Mrs. Wedderburn was of the opinion that the situation should be monitored and suggested that the sessions should be carried out on a regular basis when the wet weather conditions improved. The posters also needed to be replaced with more weather resistant ones.

Mr. Bennett reported that the Sevenoaks District Council Ranger had provided the Parish Council with signs which should be more suitable during wet weather conditions than ordinary laminated notices.

Mrs. Cole, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Mr. Andrews, Mr. Banister, Mrs. Dickinson and Mrs. Wedderburn for their efforts in promoting the dog fouling campaign.

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

There were no questions from the public and press.

4. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Andrews seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2013, Ref No P/16/2013."

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mrs. Wedderburn seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2013, Ref No DM/05/2013."

CARRIED unanimously

Mrs. Cole asked if it would be possible to provide Kent Wildlife Trust at Tyland Barn with a few copies of the Parish Council's booklet :*"Kemsing Downs Nature Reserve"*. *This was agreed.*

(c) Recreation Grounds Committee

Mrs. Dickinson proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2013, Ref No RG/06/2013."

CARRIED unanimously

(d) Finance Committee

Members noted comments dated 20th December 2013 and 15th January 2014 received from Kent Association of Local Councils regarding the Department for Communities and Local Government's Finance Statement, which confirmed that Sevenoaks District Council had resolved not to pass on any Local Council Tax Support grants to Parish and Town Councils in the district.

Mr. Eaton proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2013, Ref No F/130/13."

CARRIED unanimously

7.50 p.m. The Council resolved that the public and press will be excluded from the meeting for the duration of the next item due to its confidential nature.

The Chairman reported on a recommendation from the Staffing Committee which was discussed and is set out in a confidential report.

7.55 p.m. The Council resolved to re-open the meeting to the public and press.

Parish Precept – "The Finance Committee recommended that the Council approves a precept of £90,000 for the financial year 2014/15."

Mr. Eaton proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Parish Council approves a precept requirement of £90,000 for the 2014/15 financial year."

CARRIED unanimously

(e) Report from Chairman

Sewer at School Alley : The Parish Council received a copy of a letter written by a local resident to Thames Water, complaining about the sewer outside the school gate on the Public Right of Way which had been overflowing at least three times since December 2013.

An email from another resident was also noted confirming that Thames Water had been called out to clear the blockages when raw sewerage seeped down this footpath, and also into the garden of and adjoining property.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council arranges a site meeting with Thames Water, Sevenoaks District Council Environmental Department, Kent County Council Public Rights of Way and Kemsing Primary School with a view to starting a concerted campaign to address the problem. Copies of all correspondence to be forwarded to District Councillors and County Councillor.

Play Place : A copy letter from St. Mary's Parochial Church Council confirming that the Church Hall would be available for the youth club from January until April, was noted.

- (f) Reports from Councillors
Claimed Restricted Byway from Pilgrims Way at Kemsing to Tinkerpot Lane and St. Clere Hill at West Kingsdown (SD283 & SD284):
Mr. Buttifant reported that the application to modify the legal record of Public Rights of Way to record as a restricted Byway, had been rejected by Kent County Council.

- (g) Reports from District Councillors
There were no reports received.

5. **DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- (a) London Green Belt Council
Mrs. Cole proposed:
"That the Parish Council renews the annual subscription of £10."
CARRIED unanimously

- (b) Sevenoaks & Swanley Citizens Advice Bureau
Dr. Walker proposed and Mr. Dawes seconded:
"That the Parish Council makes a donation of £600 to the Bureau at the beginning of the next financial year 2014/15."
CARRIED 10 in favour, 1 against (Mr. Bennett)

The Finance Committee was asked to review its policy on donations.

- (c) Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)
Mrs. Cole and Mr. Bennett declared having non-pecuniary interests as being members of CPRE.

Mr. Andrews proposed and Mr. Eaton seconded:
"That the Parish Council renews the annual subscription of £29."
CARRIED unanimously

6. **ANNUAL CIVIC SERVICE AT CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL**

The Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Viscount De L'Isle MBE would be holding the service on Tuesday, 11th March 2014.

7. **KEMSING PAVILION TRUST**

Members noted a letter dated 1 December 2013 received from the Clerk to the Trustees advising that the Trust had, at a recent meeting concluded that the Pavilion Management Committee (PMC) was not functioning as originally anticipated. The Sport Clubs were not attending the meetings and the management of the Pavilion had been left to the Hon. Treasurer of the (PMC), Mr. Copleston and the Pavilion Manager, Mrs. Vicky Bishop. The Trustees decided to make Mr. Alan Copleston a Trustee and the Trust would now also set the annual fees. The Charity Commission had been informed accordingly.

8. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Wednesday, 26 March 2014 and the statutory notice would be advertised, as usual, in the local paper, notice boards and Parish Council's website.

9. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Eaton proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

“That the Parish Council approves the list of payments (Vouchers 203-251) and notes the list of receipts (Vouchers 22-25).”

CARRIED unanimously

10. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The following was noted:

- Filming Council Meetings – Amendments by the Government through the Local Audit and Accountability Bill.
- Campaign to Protect Rural Kent – AGM to be held on 21st June 2014 at the St. Edith Hall.
- Kent Wildlife Trust – Winter 2013/14 magazine.
- Noah’s Ark Residents’ Association – A letter of appreciation for the Parish Council’s donation towards the Christmas event was received.
- National Association of Local Councils – Direct Information Service – Issue no 822, 823, 824 and Council Tax Benefit Support Grant briefing dated 21st November 2013.
- Department for Communities and Local Government – Neighbourhood planning notes.
- Sevenoaks District Council Community Safety Partnership – Community Safety Newsletter.
- Oaks Christmas Dinner Steering Group – Thank you letter for the Parish Council’s donation.
The Clerk to send a thank you letter to Otford Medical Practice for providing the car parking facilities.
- Kent Association of Local Councils – Parish Newsletter.
- Action with Communities Rural Kent – Annual Summary & Oast to Oast newsletter.

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

(a) Use of land owned by the Parish Council

Mr. Andrews would like the Parish Council to consider utilising land in its ownership to raise income for the village and would produce a written paper on his ideas to be circulated for consideration at the next meeting.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

19 February 2014

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.

Signed by Chairman : Date: