

**KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of a meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,  
on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)  
Mr. A. Andrews, Mr. G. Croughton, Mr. R. Dawes, Mr. P. Eaton, Mr. R. Lang,  
Mrs. M. Robarts, Dr. P. Walker, Mrs. R. Wedderburn

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. B. Buttifant & Mrs. S. Dickinson

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

There were no questions from the public or press.

**2. MINUTES**

Mrs. Cole proposed:

*"That the Parish Council approves the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015,  
Ref KPC/01/2015."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES**

(a) Saturday bus service for Kemsing (Minute 3(a) KPC/01/2015)

The matter was still ongoing and there was no further news to report.

(b) Village Gateway – Childsbridge Lane (Minute 3(b)KPC/01/2015)

Mr. Chard's reply was awaited.

7.32 p.m.

*The Council RESOLVED to exclude the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business transacted.*

(c) Village car park (Minute 3(c) KPC/01/2015)

The discussion is recorded in a confidential paper.

7.35 p.m.

*The Council RESOLVED to re-open the meeting to the public and press.*

(d) Kemsing Pavilion Trust – Request to create additional footpath from the tennis court car park to the Sir Mark collet Pavilion (Minute 5 KPC/01/2015)

The Trustees had confirmed that they had not consulted the Kemsing Lawn Tennis Club. Their next meeting was not until May 2015.

**4. COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

*"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015, Ref No P/02/2015."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

*“That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015, Ref No P/03/2015.”*

*CARRIED* unanimously

(b) Recreation Grounds Committee

Mrs. Wedderburn proposed and Mr. Lang seconded:

*“That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015, Ref RG/01/2015.”*

*CARRIED* unanimously

(c) Report from Chairman

- (i) *Proposed solar farm on land East of Kemsing Station* – Mrs. Cole had been advised that this application had been withdrawn.
- (ii) *PSCO changes in the Sevenoaks District* – The Sevenoaks District Commander was currently reviewing placements of PCSO's. At the moment there was no specific information available as to how this process would affect Kemsing.
- (iii) *Parish Council notice board policy* – Mrs. Cole reported that a business operating from Otford had asked the Parish Council's permission to place commercial advertisements on the Parish Council's notice boards. Mrs. Cole rejected the request as she understood it was the Parish Council's view that the village notice boards were only available to advertise "Kemsing village affairs" and was not to be used for any commercial purposes. Members acknowledged that it is challenging to enforce this policy since the notice boards are not locked and open for anybody to put notices up. Nevertheless, it was agreed that this matter should be discussed properly so that an appropriate policy could be adopted.
- *This matter was deferred to the next meeting for the Parish Council to adopt an appropriate policy.*
- (iv) *Post-Office closures* – During a recent visit to the Parish Council Office, a resident had asked the Chairman and the Clerk to urge the Parish Council to prevent the proposed closures of both Post Offices in the village. Mrs. Cole had contacted ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural Kent) for advice. The Kent Rural Retail Advisor responded that it was not the intention of Post Office Limited to close the Post Office and that it was the Post Master who had elected to leave the network. The Government had changed the way Post Masters were paid and it was understood that in order to modernise the network, Post Masters had been given various options to consider alternative contracts. The only way that the Post-Office would be retained was if someone in the vicinity had expressed an interest to take over the contract.
- Members were very disappointed by the way in which Post Office Limited was dealing with these matters, however, it was the Parish Council's view that the contracts were private matters between Post Masters, Post Office Limited and proposed new Post Masters and therefore, the Parish Council could not intervene.
- (d) Reports from Councillors
- (i) *Bouquets of flowers on Green Hill* – Mrs. Wedderburn had noticed flowers pinned on a fence on Green Hill. It was thought that the flowers were left as a commemorative gesture.
- *It was agreed to remove the flowers when they have perished.*
- (ii) *Solar Farm* – Mr. Andrews and Mr. Dawes had noticed an extensive solar farm development in the Sandwich Bay area.

- (iii) *Childsbridge Lane footway repairs* – Mr. Andrews asked if the Parish Council had any input into Kent County Council's highway fund allocations, in particular footway repairs. In Mr. Andrews' view, Kent County Council was not only repairing the footway, but it was replacing the whole section of the footpath which he deemed unnecessary, particularly as footpaths in other areas of the village, for example St. Edith Road and Park Lane, were left in extremely poor conditions.

The Clerk confirmed that the worsening condition of the St. Edith Road and Park Lane footpaths had been reported to Kent County Council in October last year. It was understood that these footpaths were currently on a waiting list for repairs to be carried out. Unfortunately there was no timescale available.

- *It was suggested that this question be raised with Mr. Chard at the Annual Parish Meeting.*

- (e) Report from District Councillors  
There were no reports received.

**5. DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- (a) Sevenoaks Volunteer Transport Group

Members considered the Group's request for financial assistance.

- *RESOLVED: The Parish Council required further information and asked for the number of Kemsing residents who had made use of this service for the past 12 months.*

- (b) Society of Local Council Clerks

Mr. Eaton proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

*"That the Parish Council renews the annual subscription of £167-00."*

**CARRIED** unanimously

**6. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Eaton proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

*"That the Parish Council approves the list of payments (Vouchers 237-265) and to note the list of receipts."*

**CARRIED** unanimously

**7. CONSULTATIONS**

- (a) Kent County Council Library Consultation

The Parish Council noted consultation.

**8. INFORMATION REPORT – The following information was noted:**

- (a) Girlguiding (Rainbow, Brownie and Guides) in Kemsing

Councillors were invited to attend the flag dedication service to be held at St. Mary's Church on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

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

- (a) Parish Council's policy for notice boards in the village.

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015

The meeting closed at 8.33 p.m.

Signed : Chairman .....

Date : .....