

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's Office, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 6NA

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**Minutes of a Meeting held in the Main Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,
on Wednesday, 10 March 2010 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)
Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. P. Burfield, Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. G. Croughton,
Mr. R. Dawes [arrived 8.20 p.m.], Mr. P. Eaton, Mr. A. Waters,
Mrs. R. Wedderburn

IN ATTENDANCE: 5 Members of the Public
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr. I. Rungay, Dr. P. Walker

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

1. **MINUTES**

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 February 2010, Reference KPC/02/10, previously circulated, be approved."

CARRIED unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Archive Store KHC (Minute 2(a) KPC/02/10)

Messrs Buttifant and Waters declared personal interests as being Members of the Kemsing Heritage Centre Association (KHCA).

Councillors were presented with a payment schedule prepared by Mr. Burfield (Finance Committee Chairman) and the Clerk, detailing payments already made by KPC and KHCA in respect of the construction of the archive store. Mr. Burfield briefly summarised the current financial situation and reminded Councillors of the Council's decision in November 2008 to match 50% of the construction costs up to £30,000. To date, the KHCA had paid £24,100, and the Council was asked to fund the remainder of the construction costs by matching KHCA's payments up to £30,000.

The Contractor's payment policy is 7 days and as a result, some payments are likely to be required between Council Meetings. The Council is asked to authorise such payments to be made, provided that Mrs. Cole, Mr. Burfield and the Clerk are satisfied that the work had been completed.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

- *"That the Council approves the first payment of £6,587*
- *That the Council approves further payments for construction costs by matching the figure already paid by the KHCA up to £30,000.*
- *That Mrs. Cole, Mr. Burfield and the Clerk be authorised to pay invoices between Meetings, provided the work had been completed. "*

CARRIED 7 in favour (2 abstentions – Mr. Buttifant and Mr. Waters)

- (b) Proposed closure of public conveniences in Kemsing car park (Minute 2(b) KPC/02/10)
Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) confirmed that they had accepted the Parish Council's offer of £4,000 per annum for the next three years towards the costs of maintenance and upkeep to keep the public conveniences open. This arrangement would commence 1 April 2010.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That SDC be asked to invoice the Parish Council in quarterly instalments."

CARRIED unanimously

- (c) Request from PACT meeting to install speed indicator devices - safer roads (Minute 2(c) KPC/02/10)
Reply from KHS was awaited.

- (d) Parish Council land to the rear of 33,35,37,39 Park Lane (Minute 2(d) KPC/02/10)
Members noted a letter dated 16 February 2010 received from Mr. Willmore, who had accepted the licence to use the land at the rear of 39 Park Lane.

Mr. Willmore intended to accept the Parish Council's invitation to act as Warden on behalf of the Council, but before signing the agreement, Mr. Willmore asked the Council to consider obtaining specialist advice from Kent Wildlife Trust, to assess how the area could be improved for the benefit of wildlife. He had made preliminary enquiries to Kent Wildlife Trust and understood that a survey of this sort would cost around £120 and indicated that he would pay for this.

Members felt that such a written report would be valuable to the Council since the land had been re-designated as a wildlife reserve and Mr. Burfield proposed, seconded by Mrs. Cole: *"That the Council fund the survey costs by Kent Wildlife Trust for this area."*
CARRIED unanimously

- (e) BT's proposal for the Council's adoption of red telephone kiosk (Minute 2(e) KPC/02/10)
The contract for the adoption had been received, however it was unclear whether, after five years, the electricity would be disconnected by EDF. The Clerk wrote to EDF on 3 March and a reply had not yet been received.

It was agreed that the contract would not be signed until these issues were resolved.

- (f) Gritting of roads (Minute 2(g) KPC/02/10)
Mr. Buttifant's draft list of proposed roads and correspondence dated 2 March 2010 from District Councillor, Mrs. E. Moore, were noted. Although it is KCC's responsibility to grit roads and pavements, SDC would consider doing adhoc gritting as requested by KCC when weather conditions warrant assistance.

Councillors considered the draft list and there was some uncertainty as to which roads were gritted by KCC, however the list was updated and *it was agreed to press forward with the advisory suggestions to KCC.*

Due to the confidential nature of the next business to be transacted, the Public, Press and the Clerk were excluded from the Meeting.

- (g) Staff Review (Minute 6 KPC/02/10)
The staff review was conducted on 2 February 2010 and a confidential report is appended to the Minutes.

The Public, Press and the Clerk were invited to return to the Meeting.

3. COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS

(a) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Buttifant seconded:

"To accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on 24 February 2010, Reference DM/01/10."

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Bennett drew attention to Item 3(b) and gave details of two quotes that had been received.

Mr. Croughton proposed and Mr. Burfield seconded:

"To accept Down to Earth's quotation of £480 to reduce the height and trim all sides of the hedge."

CARRIED 8 in favour, 1 abstention (Mr. Dawes)

Mr. Bennett said that the work would be carried out in August.

A request from Search Dogs Kent to use the Kemsing Downs Nature Reserve as a training ground was granted.

(b) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Waters seconded:

"To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 March 2010, Reference P/03/2010."

CARRIED unanimously

(c) Report from Chairman

Land for sale at Childsbridge Lane (KPC/02/10 Item 3(a) – Mrs. Cole reported that the land had been bought by residents. Mr. Burfield was thanked for attending the Auction on behalf of the Parish Council.

Speed checks : Speed checks were held in February at Noahs' Ark and Childsbridge Lane. More checks were planned in the next few weeks.

Dog fouling : The SDC Dog Warden advised that a number of complaints of dog fouling had been received, in particular at School Alley. SDC planned to visit Kemsing to maintain a high visibility in the areas concerned to monitor the situation.

Protect Kent : Councillors were invited to attend the Energy Conference in Dover.

(d) Reports from Councillors

No reports were received.

4. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & PRESS

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

5. DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

(a) Action with Communities in Rural Kent

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"To subscribe to Membership for Action with Communities of Rural Kent at an annual cost of £35."

CARRIED 8 in favour, 1 abstention (Mr. Bennett)

(b) CiLK - Request for donation

The request for financial support was declined.

(c) The Well Magazine – Donation for quarterly reports

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"To make a financial contribution of £250 to St. Mary's Church for the Parish Council's quarterly reports in The Well Magazine."

CARRIED unanimously

6. **APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE - KEMSING NEWSAGENTS**

An application for a premises licence by Kemsing Newsagents to supply alcohol from Monday to Sunday, between 9.00 a.m. and 9.30 p.m. (Hours premises are open to the public are : 6.00 a.m. to 9.30 p.m. Monday to Sunday), was considered.

Five letters of objection from residents were presented to Councillors at the Meeting.

Mrs. Cole proposed that the following representation be sent:

"The Parish Council objects to the proposed hours for the sale of alcohol from Monday to Sunday, between 9.00 a.m. and 9.30 p.m. which is not consistent with the adjacent premises selling alcohol. The Parish Council is of the opinion that the licence to sell alcohol should terminate at 7.30 p.m, and not 9.30 p.m. as the premises are in a residential area with flats above where additional evening traffic and late night visitors would increase public nuisance. The proposed licence would create more traffic movement and noise."
CARRIED unanimously

7. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

8. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"To approve the payment list (Vouchers 283-295, 297-305), and to note the receipt list (Vouchers 282 & 296)."
CARRIED unanimously

9. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The Information Report was noted.

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

The missing arms to the wooden fingerposts at the junction of West End & Childsbridge Lane and the junction of Pilgrims Way and Childsbridge Lane had been replaced recently.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

14 April 2010.

The Meeting closed at 9.18 p.m.