

**KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Small Hall,  
St. Edith Hall, Kemsing, on Wednesday, 16 June 2010 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)  
Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. P. Burfield, Mr. G. Croughton,  
Mr. R. Dawes, Mr. P. Eaton, Mr. I. Rungay, Dr. P. Walker,  
Mr. A. Waters, Mrs. R. Wedderburn

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

APOLOGIES: Mr. B. Buttifant & Ms. K. Hawker

*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 19 May 2010, Reference KPC/05/10, previously circulated, be approved."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Request from PACT meeting to install speed indicator devices - safer roads (Minute 2(b) KPC/05/10)

There was no further progress reported.

(b) Parish Council land to the rear of 33,35,37,39 Park Lane (Minute 2(c) KPC/05/10)

Letter dated 19 May 2010 from Mr. Willmore circulated at the last Meeting was considered. Members respected Mr. Willmore's decision that he could no longer take on the responsibility of Warden for the Nature Reserve in view of the fact that bonfires are allowed on the Reserve. Mr. Willmore wished to exercise his rights under the personal licence, affecting only the strip of land at the rear of Mr. Willmore's garden.

In response to the Parish Council's fly-tipping report on the Reserve, Moat Housing suggested that the Parish Council places a notice on the fence to inform residents that this area had been designated as a Nature Reserve, which they felt would have a greater impact than a letter from Moat Housing to their tenants. This suggestion was discarded.

Mr. Croughton proposed and Mr. Waters seconded:

*"That the Parish Council writes to residents in Fairfield Close, explaining that this area had been designated as a Nature Reserve and that fly-tipping could have a detrimental effect on the wildlife population."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

(c) BT's proposal for the Council's adoption of red telephone kiosk (Minute 2(f) KPC/05/10)

The kiosk had been successfully adopted. BT had signed and returned the contract and would make arrangements to remove the payphone equipment.

3. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Waters seconded:

*“That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 May 2010, Reference P/07/2010, previously circulated, be approved.”*

**CARRIED** unanimously

Mrs. Cole noted that the Sevenoaks District Council Local Development Framework Core Strategy had been submitted to the Secretary of State.

(b) Recreation Ground Committee

Mr. Rungay drew attention to the following items with regard to the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 May 2010:-

- Item 3 (c) : 6<sup>th</sup> Sevenoaks Scout Hut at Common Field

The report of the consultation meeting was noted. No strong objections to the proposal in principle was received at the consultation meeting, however, some concern were raised about the encroachment of the proposed building on the third football pitch, which resulted in the Scouts proposing to re-locate the building further south and the amended plan was noted. After consideration Members agreed that the proposed re-located position was not desirable as it presented problems with access for emergency vehicles and the gang mower.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Dawes seconded:

*“That the Parish Council rejects the new proposed position.”*

**CARRIED** 8 in favour, 2 abstentions

- Item Upgrading of the play areas

The Council considered the Recreation Ground Committee’s recommendation to replace the AB Climbing frame with a new roundabout costing approximately £5,000. (Photographs of the preferred style of equipment were circulated at the Meeting).

Mrs. Cole expressed concern about the proposed style of equipment and thought that a similar model to the one at Nightingale Road Recreation Ground would be more suitable. The proposed model has inherent dangers because of the combined provision for standing and seating.

Mrs. Cole also questioned whether there was a speed restriction device installed on this model.

**RESOLVED:** *That this proposal be referred back to the Recreation Grounds Committee for further investigations as to the suitability of the product.*

Mr. Rungay proposed and Mr. Burfield seconded:

*“That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 May 2010, Reference RG/02/10, previously circulated.”*

**CARRIED** unanimously

(c) Report from Chairman

Safer Kent Awards

This award only applies to Police Officials such as Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers and Special Constables. Mr. Croughton said that PCSO Sue Hardwood should be nominated for the award to acknowledge the tremendously good service she provides in Kemsing and for her contribution to generally improving the relationships between the age groups within the village.

Mr. Croughton proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

*"That the Parish Council nominates PCSO Sue Harwood for the Safer Kent Award."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

*Sustainable Communities Act proposals*

The Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill was passed into law just before the general election was called. The proposals to reverse community decline and protect thriving communities under the Act's first round last year are now before the new government. The Parish Council is asked to support the Early Day Motion 178 which urges the government to agree the proposals in the Act.

*RESOLVED: The Clerk to write to Mr. Michael Fallon MP, asking him to sign the Early Day Motion 178.*

*Resurfacing of car park at tennis courts*

This work will take place towards the end of August 2010.

*M26 resurfacing*

Mr. Michael Fallon MP advised that he had been pressing the Highway Agency who confirmed that plans are in place to proceed with one lane of each carriageway resurfacing, using low noise material. Work is planned between junctions 1 and 2a (800m of lane 1 surfacing on the eastbound carriageway from 200m past Childsbridge Lane to Noah's Ark bridge and 590m of lane 1 surfacing on the westbound carriageway from 200m past the Cockney's Wood footbridge to Noah's Ark bridge).

*St. Edith Road Resurfacing*

This work will be carried out on 24 and 25 June 2010.

*St. Edith Club*

The Chairman presented the Council with a letter from Mr. Bob Banister raising concern about the presence of a patio heater and a large umbrella at the rear of the new archive store. The heater in its current position was deemed to be a fire hazard and the KHCA asked if this could be moved away from the building.

*RESOLVED: That the St. Edith Hall Management Committee (St. Edith H.M.C.) should resolve this issue, taking into account Councillors' views. The Chairman and the Secretary of the St. Edith H.M.C. to write to the St. Edith Club requesting the removal of the items.*

(d) Reports from Councillors

Mr. Waters had attended a meeting of the Greatness Landfill site on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. It was anticipated that the work would be completed within the next year or so.

Mr. Croughton reported that, sadly, the bus service to Gatwick Airport had been withdrawn due to low usage.

Mr. Rungay said that the builders currently working on the development of the old Youth Hostel had dumped rubble on the Parish Council's land in the copse adjacent to the Common Field.

*RESOLVED: That the builders be asked to remove the rubble.*

Mr. Rungay pointed out that one of the planning conditions for the Cleves development was that the whole of Church Lane would be re-surfaced, but he had noticed that the only part to be resurfaced was the stretch from the Youth Hostel building to the new gate (which was not mentioned in the original plans).

Mrs. Cole noted that lorries carrying and extracting building materials to and from the old Youth Hostel development site had transferred mud and soil on to Church Lane.

*RESOLVED: To bring this to the attention of West Kent Housing so that they can take appropriate action in contacting the developer so that the debris from the road can be cleared.*

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

Mr. Roy Willmore urged the Council to ask County Councillor Mr. Chard whether any of the funds which had been lost to the Icelandic Banks, could be recovered. Mr. Willmore was advised that Mr. Chard had explained this at the Annual Parish Meeting and that the probability of getting a large percentage of retrieving these funds, was high.

Mr. Willmore asked if a plan of the proposed M26 resurfacing could be obtained from the Highways Agency and placed on the Parish Council notice boards.

*RESOLVED: To find out from the Highways Agency if a plan is available.*

Mr. Willmore asked if boundary posts could be installed to mark the individual boundaries of the areas covered by the personal licenses on the land at the rear of 33 to 39 Park Lane.

*RESOLVED: Mr. Burfield to identify where the posts should be placed.*

5. **DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

(a) OAKS Christmas Dinner 2010

*Mr. Waters declared having a personal interest.*

The Steering Group asked the Parish Council's financial support for this event.

Dr. Walker proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:-

*"That a donation of £400 is made to Kemsing Primary School to support the Oaks Christmas Dinner 2010."*

*CARRIED 9 in favour, 1 abstention {Mr. Waters}*

(b) DIAL North West Kent

A request for financial support was declined.

6. **WIKIPEDIA ENTRY - KEMSING**

The Sevenoaks Chronicle alerted the Parish Council to a report relating to crime in Kemsing which appeared on Wikipedia. This was reported to the Police and was subsequently removed. The Parish Council was surprised by Sevenoaks Chronicle's decision to deem it necessary to include the article in the newspaper although claims made in the report were clearly unsubstantiated. The report, and a few others, had subsequently been removed. Councillors agreed that the Council should defend the village's reputation against unsubstantiated reports.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Dawes seconded:

*"That the Parish Council formally authorises Mr. Rumgay to monitor and act on behalf of the Parish Council to maintain clarity on internet sites where unconfirmed reports of Kemsing are found."*

*CARRIED 9 in favour, 1 abstention*

7. **SPEED WATCH**

At the last PACT Meeting, the Community Safety Co-ordinator advised that the District Community Safety Partnership had funded a community speeding board that volunteers can use to monitor speeding in villages. The Noah's Ark Residents' Association's (NARA) representative expressed an interest and said that NARA would be interested to arrange a speed watch exercise in Noah's Ark, due to the problem with speeding. Volunteers would be trained by the Police and Kent Highway Services would carry out a risk assessment of the proposed areas first.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

*"That the Parish Council supports the PACT Meeting's request in order for the Police and Kent Highway Services to carry out a risk assessment first. Upon receipt of findings of the risk assessment, the Parish Council would consider to further support the initiative."*

*4 in favour, 5 against, 1 abstention*

*THE PROPOSAL FELL*

8. **NOTICE BOARD IN WEST END**

The Parish Council received a request to consider refurbishing this notice board in light of the recent building works, which are considered to have improved the appearance of the area. Although not in a state of disrepair, Members agreed that the notice board could benefit from some minor refurbishment work.

*RESOLVED: To refurbish the notice board.*

9. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

*"That the Council approves the payment list (Vouchers 53 to 77)."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

10. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The Information Report was noted.

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

Review of Standing Orders.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 21 July 2010.

The Meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.