

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of a meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing, on Wednesday, 16th September 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)
Mr. A. Andrews, Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. P. Burfield, Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. G. Croughton,
Mr. R. Dawes, Mr. P. Eaton, Mrs. M. Roberts, Dr. P. Walker, Mr. R. Lang,
Mrs. R. Wedderburn-Day [arrived 7.32 p.m.]

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 Member of the Public
District Councillor Mr. S. Reay
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Councillors had been reminded to declare interests in accordance with the Parish Council's Code of Conduct. There were no declarations received.

7.32 p.m. {Mrs. Weddeburn arrived at the meeting}

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

There were no questions received from the public or press.

{Councillor Mr. Reay asked permission to provide his report as his attendance at another meeting was required} – This was AGREED and the Council RESOLVED to close the meeting to allow for public participation. - Please refer to Item 12 (d) – District Councillors' report.

7.41 p.m. *The meeting was reconvened and Councillor Reay was thanked for his report and he left the meeting.*

4. **MINUTES**

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council approves the minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2015, Ref KPC/07/2015, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

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

7.43 p.m. Under the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the Parish Council RESOLVED that the public and representatives of the press would be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

(a) Saturday bus service for Kemsing (Minute 2 (a) KPC/07/2015)

The details of the discussion are contained in a separate confidential document. The Parish Council reaffirmed its previous decision to fully finance the service until 31st December 2015 (as previously agreed).

(b) Village car park (Minute 2 (b) KPC/07/2015)

The details of the discussion are contained in a separate confidential document. Negotiations to purchase the car park were still being pursued by the Parish Council.

- (c) Old Childsbridge Lane Woodland (Minute 15 KPC/05/2015)
The details of the discussion are contained in a separate confidential document.

8.08 p.m. *The meeting was reconvened and opened to the Public and Press.*

- (c) Village Gateway – Childsbridge Lane (Minute 3 (c) KPC/07/2015)
A reply was still awaited from Mr. Chard. (A reminder email was sent to Mr. Chard on 10th August 2015).
- (d) Request to install convex mirrors at the junctions with Beechy Lees Road/Pilgrims Way and Park Hill Road/Pilgrims Way (Minute 8 (b) KPC/06/2015)
Kent County Council had advised that convex mirrors were installed only in exceptional cases when all the other options to improve visibility had been explored, and if there was a crash history. It was noted that the Parish Council would have to progress this further, i.e. obtaining relevant crash data, etc. Members were not aware of any crashes reported at this location. The request was discussed in detail and resulted in the identification of a number of other sites where convex mirrors might be useful, but not necessarily be appropriate.
- *RESOLVED: That Kemsing Parish Council does not progress this further. The Clerk to inform the resident accordingly.*
- (e) Parish Councillor vacancy (Minute 5 KPC/07/2015)
Sevenoaks District Council advised on 14th August 2015 that there had been no requests to fill the casual vacancy by election. The Parish Council was now able to co-opt a person. Notices would be displayed on the Parish Council's notice boards inviting interested persons to apply by Friday, 30th October 2015.
- *RESOLVED: Notices to be displayed on the Parish Council's notice boards.*

6. **HIGHWAY ISSUES (SPEEDING IN THE LANDWAY AND PILGRIMS WAY)**

- (a) The Landway, Kemsing – request to improve road signage
A local resident concerned about speeding in the Landway, asked the Parish Council (correspondence dated 31st August 2015) to support a request to improve the existing 30 mph speed limit indicator signs. The request also include a suggestion to install two additional signs at each end of the road with the wording "SLOW - CONCEALED DRIVEWAYS IN CONSTANT USE". The Parish Council had previously addressed speeding issues in The Landway in 2005 and the Clerk had provided the resident with the background. Members noted the resident's subsequent comments (dated 10th September 2015) in response to the Clerk's reply.

Many speed limit indicator signs on the local roads were obstructed by overgrown vegetation and The Landway was no exception. Landowners where these road signs are situated should be encouraged to trim overgrown vegetation regularly to ensure that the signs are visible at all times.

- *RESOLVED: Mr. Buttifant and the Clerk to visit the site to consider whether the 30 mph speed limit indicators required replacement, and if so, to make the necessary representation to Kent County Council Highways and Transportation for consideration. The Parish Council was not in favour of installing the suggested additional signs.*
- (b) Pilgrims Way, Kemsing – request to put in place measures to reduce speeding
Comments dated 20th August 2015 from a local resident expressing concern regarding speeding in Pilgrims Way, including issues with heavy goods vehicles, was noted. This issue had previously been referred raised at the Annual Parish Meeting held in March 2015 when Police Community Support Officer Harwood was asked if regular speed checks could be conducted in Pilgrims Way.

Pilgrims Way would probably not meet the specific criteria set for speed checks, but PCSO Harwood had undertaken to investigate this further.

- *RESOLVED: The Clerk to ask PCSO Harwood whether speed checks could be held at this location.*

7. FOOTPATH BETWEEN THE MEMORIAL GARDEN AND THE GREEN AREA

The surface is starting to break up and quotations were being obtained for the repairs.

8. DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

(a) Kemsing Amateur Boxing Club

The Club thanked the Parish Council for the financial contribution.

9. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Mr. Eaton proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

“That the Parish Council approves the list of payments (Vouchers 89 to 145) and to note the list of receipts (Vouchers 8 to 11).”

CARRIED unanimously

10. CONSULTATIONS

There were no consultations to be considered.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed, seconded by Mrs. Cole:

“That the Parish Council receives the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2015, Reference P/11/2015.”

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Dawes proposed, seconded by Mrs. Cole:

“That the Parish Council receives the minutes of the meeting held on 20th July 2015, Reference P/12/2015.”

- * Attention was drawn to Item 8(a) – Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Members were invited to put forward any potential infrastructure projects for inclusion in the Sevenoaks District Council’s Infrastructure Plan. Mr. Dawes briefly summarised the CIL and confirmed that the Planning Committee had already submitted one infrastructure project as request which was for possible expansion of the Otford Medical Practice at the existing surgery in Kemsing.

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

“That the Parish Council receives the minutes of the meeting held on 1st September 2015, Reference P/13/2015.”

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Recreation Grounds Committee

Mrs. Cole proposed from the Chair:

“That the Parish Council receives the minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2015, Reference RG/04/2015.”

- * *Particular attention was drawn to Item 7 – Appointment of Officers, which was AGREED.*

CARRIED unanimously

It was noted that the cable way was still awaiting repairs.

- (c) Downland Management Committee (reference KPC/07/2015 Minute 4 (c))
With reference to the minutes of the meeting held on held on 24th June 2015, Reference DM/02/2015:-
It was noted that Mrs. Wedderburn was not present at this meeting.

12. **INFORMATION REPORTS**

- (a) Correspondence received – *The following information was noted:-*
- * Clerks & Councils Direct - July 2015 issue
 - * Campaign to Protect Rural England – Countryside Voice magazine
 - * Campaign to Protect Rural England – Field Work magazine
 - * Play Place Youth Club – report of meeting held on 13th July 2015
 - * Kent Wildlife Trust advised that the Meadows and Wood, Noah's Ark, has been designated as a Local Wildlife Site.
 - * Society of Local Council Clerks – The Clerk's magazine – July 2015 issue
 - * Code of Conduct Training – The Clerk attended a training session at Sevenoaks District Council on Tuesday, 8th September 2015. This was a refresher session on declaration of interests.
- (b) Chairman's Report
- * *Public conveniences* – Since the demise of the Church Hall, visitors to St. Mary's Church had used the public conveniences during day-time Church services but these services were not available after 4 p.m. which created problems during the evening Church Services. A Church Warden asked the Parish Council if it was possible to delay the closing time until 6.30 p.m.
- The public conveniences closes at 4 p.m. as a result of historic vandalism incidents, however the Parish Councillors felt that they could accommodate the request by extending the summer time opening hours until 7 p.m. Unfortunately the same could not be applied during the winter.
- *RESOLVED: The public conveniences to close at 4 p.m. during the winter but opening hours to be extended to 7 p.m. in the summer. The changes to take effect at the time when the clocks are adjusted in March and October. The Clerk to arrange for a sign to be fitted to the outside of the building displaying the opening and closing times.*
- * *Bus shelter at Noah's Ark* – The Noah's Ark Residents' Association had treated the shelter with wood preservative as per the agreement.
- (c) Reports from Councillors
- * *Speed Checks results in the District* – Mr. Buttifant reported the results of two separate speed watch sessions in July and August held in the Childsbridge Lane area.
 - * *Road Closure Order* – Mr. Buttifant reported that Pilgrims Way would be closed for through traffic between Cotmans Ash Lane and Pilgrims Way on 17th September 2014, for up to 4 days.
 - * *Cycling event in the car park* – A cycling event took place in the village car park on the morning of 16th September 2015. The numbers of cyclists caused pandemonium during the morning school drop off period when cyclists congregated in the car park whilst checking in. There were two gazebos erected in the car park where the registration process was being carried out. The Clerk had approached the event organisers who confirmed that they had asked permission to use the car park, however, the Clerk established that no such approval had been given by either the Parish Council or the Sevenoaks District Council. The Clerk stressed the importance of obtaining prior approval for any future events and an apology was made by the organisers.

(d) Reports from District Councillors

Mr. Reay had been involved in various anti-social behaviour issues in the village with District Councillor Miss L. Stack. Sevenoaks District Council had investigated reports of alleged "illegal sleepers" at the Tamarind Indian Take Away shop but investigations revealed no matters for concern.

Mr. Reay attended 5A Noah's Ark which was subject to an enforcement notice. The resident had co-operated fully with the District Council's requests to clear rubbish from the site.

Mr. Reay was asked to investigate the land at 5 St. Edith Road (The Old Chapel site), which had become very overgrown and unsightly.

Mr. Reay was asked if he could provide an update on the enforcement actions carried out at 23 Dynes Road. Mr. Reay had confirmed that the Sevenoaks District Council's Enforcement Team was dealing with the matter.

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

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 21st October 2015

The meeting closed at 9.01 p.m.

Signed by Chairman : Date: