

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, 15 September 2010 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mr. P. Burfield (in the Chair)
Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. G. Croughton, Mr. R. Dawes, Mr. P. Eaton,
Ms. K. Hawker [arrived 9.10 p.m.], Mrs. W. Ross, Mrs. R. Wedderburn

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr. D. Bennett, Mrs. M. Cole, Mr. I. Rungay, Dr. P. Walker, Mr. A. Waters
District Councillor Miss L. Stack

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

1. **MINUTES**

Mr. Burfield proposed from the Chair:

"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 August 2010, Reference KPC/08/10, previously circulated, be approved subject to the following amendments:

Page 2, Item 2(e), Number 4, 1st Line should – replace "were being" with "might be"

Page 5, Item 5(a), Replace "Mr. Waters" with "Mr. Rungay"

Page 5, Item 5, Heading - "Subscriptions" should read "Subscriptions"

CARRIED unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Request from PACT meeting to install speed indicator devices - safer roads (Minute 2(a) KPC/08/10)

The Clerk had contacted Kent Highway Services (KHS) who advised on 8 September that approval had been given for the installation of an inter-active speed sign in Childsbridge Lane. This is part of a scheme of fourteen speed signs to be funded and installed in 2010-11 by KHS from the Kent Local Transport Plan bid process and it was hoped that the work would commence in October 2010.

(b) BT's proposal for the Council's adoption of red telephone kiosk (Minute 2(b) KPC/08/10)

The Noah's Ark Residents' Association advised that the terms of reference were being drafted.

(c) Refurbishment of notice board in West End (Minute 2(c) KPC/08/2010)

Councillors commented favourably on the refurbish work which had been completed.

(d) Capital projects (Minute 2(e) KPC/08/10)

St. Edith Hall : Mr. Burfield reported that this item would be discussed at the next St. Edith Hall Management Committee Meeting.

Play areas : There were no proposals from the Recreation Grounds Committee at this stage.

Public car park : Members noted response dated 6 September confirming that Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) would not be in a position to acquire the land. However, SDC offered to approach the landowner on behalf of the Parish Council. Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded: *"That the Parish Council accepts SDC's offer to ask the landowner if they would consider selling the land."*
CARRIED unanimously

(e) West End – safety issues on footpath (Minute 2(f) KPC/08/10)

A site meeting would take place on Friday, 17 September between 8.15 a.m. and 9.15 a.m. Mr. Burfield, Mr. Buttifant, Mr. Croughton and the Clerk would attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Members noted an email from a resident who had been struck on his hand by a passing vehicle (which mounted the footway to avoid contact with an oncoming vehicle), whilst walking with his dogs on the footway. Fortunately the injury was not serious. This information was passed to KHS.

(f) Footway in front of No's 38 - 52 Castle Drive (Minute 6 KPC/08/10)

SDC's response to the Parish Council's enquiry advised that, following their examination of old records, no information relating to Castle Drive footway could be found. SDC suggested that KCC should follow this up through their highways definition team to investigate the reason why the footway had not been included in the road adoption process (which usually includes the associated footways).

Mr. Burfield referred to a copy of a reply from Kent Highway Services to the residents, stating that the original Land Transfer plan clearly did not include the footway when the majority of the road was transferred to KCC ownership. Subsequent investigations confirmed that the land is still registered in the name of the original developer (Hawker Smith Ltd). The company has since been dissolved.

Members discussed various options in which the residents could be assisted, including the possibility to persuade KHS to adopt the land, which was deemed would not be successful.

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mrs. Wedderburn seconded:

"That the Council writes to the residents suggesting ways of how they can progress the matter."

CARRIED unanimously

(g) West End Convenience Store - Premises Licence Application (Minute 7 KPC/08/10)

Sevenoaks District Council Licensing Team had advised that the applicant had confirmed that he agreed with the Parish Council's suggested trading hours relating to normal business activities and selling of alcohol. As a result of this agreement from the applicant, Sevenoaks District Council asked the Parish Council to withdraw its representation as it would then not be necessary to refer the application to the Licensing Committee.

RESOLVED - The Parish Council withdraws its original objection provided that the new submission quotes: " Supply of alcohol from 8.00 am to 9.15 pm Monday to Saturday and from 9.00 am to 9.15 pm on Sundays and Bank Holidays" and "Opening hours are between 7.00 am and 9.15 pm every day of the week, including Sundays and Bank Holidays".

3. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 September 2010, Reference P/14/2010, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Recreation Grounds Committee

Mrs. Wedderburn proposed and Mr. Burfield seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 August 2010, Reference RG/03/2010, previously circulated."

Mrs. Wedderburn drew attention to Item 2(g) and said that she would meet a Contractor who had been asked to provide a quotation for the proposed path from the gate to the play area, connecting with the existing hard standing path at the Common Field Recreation Ground.

Referring to Item 7(b), the Chairman said that Mr. Rungay had asked Councillors' view on the removal of the rear panel of the youth shelter at the Common Field Recreation Ground in view of complaints from residents that the youth shelter had been used as a goal by the young people. Advice from Monster Play (supplier) had indicated that they had no objection to the removal of the rear panel.

RESOLVED: The Council authorises the Recreation Grounds Committee to remove and store the rear panel for a trial period.
CARRIED unanimously

Mrs. Ross noted that the plastic bin had been removed from the play area at the Common Field Recreation Ground. *The Clerk would arrange for a replacement.*

(c) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Buttifant proposed and Mrs. Wedderburn seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 September 2010, Reference DM/03/10, previously circulated."

It was with regret that Mr. Buttifant, referring to Item 5, informed Members that SDC had given notice by letter dated 31 August to withdraw from the Joint Management Committee Agreement (which existed since 1991), as from 1 April 2011, due to resource issues. This included withdrawing funding for services provided by the Sevenoaks Countryside Ranger. Members noted Mr. Bennett's memorandum dated 8 September requesting the Parish Council's permission to ask SDC to reverse this decision.

RESOLVED: Mr. Bennett's letter was endorsed.

Mr. Burfield expressed concern about the future of the Reserve's management arrangements and suggested that the Downland Management Committee meet as soon as possible to discuss alternative options. Other reserves in the Sevenoaks District might also be affected and Mr. Burfield further suggested that the Parish Council approach these Parish Councils to find out how their parishes had been affected.

Mr. Burfield proposed from the Chair:

"That the Downland Management Committee Members meet to consider alternative options on plans to manage the land and report back to the full Council."

CARRIED unanimously

(d) Report from Chairman

Protect Kent (Campaign to Protect Rural England) – An invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting at the Otford Village Hall on Wednesday, 6 October 2010 was noted.

Youth Zone play days – SDC advised that the play day in Kemsing on 11 August had been very well attended. The project had been a great success with some 2,450 children attending the play days from all over the District.

(e) Reports from Councillors

Mr. Buttifant reported that he had received a complaint from a resident who had been inundated with delivery drivers asking for directions to the some of the new properties. It would seem that the site lacked clear directions or signage to indicate where the properties were located.

RESOLVED: The Council to ask the landowner to clarify where the relevant properties are.

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

There were no questions from the Public or Press.

5. **DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

(a) Sevenoaks & Swanley Citizens Advice Bureau

Members noted a request for financial assistance. The last donation of £500 was made in December 2009.

RESOLVED: That this request be considered at the November Parish Council Meeting.

6. **ROUNDBOUT AT JUNCTION WITH DYNES ROAD AND KNAVEWOOD ROAD**

Members considered a suggestion by Mr. Rungay to investigate the feasibility of a roundabout at this junction. The general view was that this suggestion was not practicable given that both Knavewood Road and the part of Dynes Road to the west of the junction are un-adopted roads.

The Chairman proposed:

"That the Council does not progress with this suggestion in view of the unfeasibility of the proposal."

CARRIED unanimously

7. **DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY - CONSULTATION**

The Parish Council was invited to comment on the draft policy.

RESOLVED: On Section 1.33 'Advice and guidance', the pre-application discussion consultees include the District Council, Kent Police, and Kent Fire and Rescue Services. Kemsing Parish Council proposes an amendment to include Parish and Town Councils whose local knowledge may be valuable at the pre-application stage.

8. **ANNUAL EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT**

The annual audit had been completed and the Notices of Conclusion of the Audit would be displayed on the Parish Council's notice boards.

9. **HOUSE OF COMMONS EARLY DAY MOTION 557**

The Council did not support this motion which calls for an inquiry into whether or not new nuclear power stations are needed.

10. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Burfield proposed:

"That the Council approves the payment list (Vouchers 139-141, 143-162, 165-170) and note the receipt list (Vouchers 138, 142, 163, 164)."

CARRIED unanimously

11. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The Information Report was noted.

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

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 20 October 2010.

The Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.