

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, 20 October 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, Mr. A. Waters, Mrs. R. Wedderburn

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr. B. Buttifant

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

Mr. Rungay declared a personal interest in Item 2 (f) as being the Chairman of the Scouts.
Mr. Waters declared a personal interest in Item 5 (c) as being a Member of the Open Door Committee.

Mr. Croughton declared a personal interest in Item 5 (c) by virtue of having a family member as the Treasurer of the Open Door Committee.

1. **MINUTES**

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 September 2010, Reference KPC/09/10."

CARRIED 6 in favour, 3 abstentions

It was agreed that Item 6 be discussed under 'Matters arising'.

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Request from PACT meeting to install speed indicator devices - safer roads (Minute 2(a) KPC/09/10)

It was noted that the post for the interactive speed sign had been installed on the grass verge at the junction with Castle Drive and Childsbridge Lane. The sign had not yet been attached. The Clerk pointed out that Kent Highway Services had confirmed that they would consult the Parish Council on the exact location before the sign was erected. The post was erected without any consultation to the Parish Council and the Clerk is seeking an explanation from the Senior Transportation Engineer at Kent Highway Services.

Details relating to the specific type of interactive sign was also not known at this stage and the Clerk would ask for these details to be supplied to the Parish Council.

(b) The Council's adoption of red telephone kiosk (Minute 2(b) KPC/09/10)

NARA had not yet progressed the agreement for it to take responsibility for the upkeep of the kiosk.

(c) Capital projects (Minute 2(d) KPC/09/10)

St. Edith Hall – The Council noted a letter from St. Edith Hall Management Committee (SEHMC) dated 12 October 2010. Mr. Burfield (Chairman of SEHMC) said that the Committee Members were delighted to be offered funding from the Parish Council to refurbish the hall kitchen. The Committee Members were not qualified to produce designs and costings and the Committee was not in a financial position to obtain expert advice.

Should the Parish Council wish to progress this, the Committee ask the Parish Council to consider making funding available in order for the SEHMC to seek professional advice.

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Eaton seconded:

"That the Council makes available £1,000 (to be paid from the Capital budget) to the SEHMC to enable them to make arrangements to conduct a feasibility study for the refurbishment of the hall kitchen, to be presented to the Parish Council for consideration."

CARRIED 7 in favour, 2 abstentions (Mr. Burfield & Mrs. Cole)

Play Areas - Proposals would be explored at the next Recreation Grounds Committee Meeting.

Public car park - Sevenoaks District Council advised that they wrote to the Estate Manager to ascertain whether the company had considered selling the car park.

(d) West End – safety issues on footpath (Minute 2(e) KPC/09/10)

Following the site meeting KHS advised that they would produce a scheme of proposals to resolve the traffic problems. The Clerk's report of the site meeting held on 5 October 2010 was noted. Members were pleased that Kent Highway Services were exploring constructive ideas to solve the problems.

(e) Joint Kemsing Downs Nature Reserve Management Committee - termination of Agreement (Minute 3(c))

Sevenoaks District Council's (SDC) response dated 11 October 2010 was noted. The Deputy Chief Executive & Director of Community and Planning Services advised that SDC was facing serious budget pressures and as a result, the decision was made to terminate the agreement. Comments in the letter stated that the agreement had expired on 3rd December 2009, which was correct, however, the letter did not state that the agreement had actually been extended until 3 December 2013. The Parish Council held a document, signed by SDC, to this effect.

The Clerk was asked to point out this factual error to the Deputy Chief Executive and to enclose a copy of the addendum which extended the agreement.

Mr. Bennett said that alternative options to maintain the Reserve would be explored at the next Downland Management Committee Meeting.

(f) Proposed Scout Hut (Minute 3 (b) KPC/06/10)

Members noted an extraction from previous Minutes relating to the scout hut. Mr. Rumgay asked the Parish Council to formally endorse the original positioning of the proposed scout hut near the tennis courts. The Scouts would like to progress to the next stage, which is to obtain planning permission for the hut and their application would be strengthened if they included a letter of consent from the Parish Council with their application. Mrs. Cole raised the question of consultation with the Charity Commission.

Mr. Rumgay proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:-

"That the Scouts be notified that the Parish Council approves the erection of the hut providing it is located at the site originally suggested which is near the tennis courts, on the Common Field."

Mr. Burfield proposed to include the following addendum and Mr. Croughton accepted:

"That subject to Planning approval, the Council should commence drafting a land lease to be negotiated with the Scouts."

CARRIED 8 in favour, 1 abstention

Mr. Bennett asked that a copy of the original scout hut location be appended to the Minutes.

(g) Request for possible installation of a roundabout at the junction with Dynes Road and Knavewood Road (Minute 6 KPC/09/10)

Dynes Road is a 'No Through road' at the western end of the road. This creates problems for motorists visiting the shops as they have to find a place to turn around and this usually occurs at the junction with Knavewood Road, which is a private road. There had been numerous 'near misses' and Mr. Rungay had received requests from residents asking the Parish Council's support to improve the safety at this junction.

Mr. Rungay thought it would be advantageous to have a system in place where right of way is clear for motorists and suggested that a mini-roundabout might solve the problem.

Mr. Rungay proposed and Mr. Waters seconded:

"That the Council contact KHS to ask the practicability of installing a mini-roundabout to improve safety at this junction."

CARRIED 7 in favour, 1 abstention, 1 against [Mr. Burfield]

3. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Waters seconded:

"That the Council accepts the Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 October 2010 Reference P/15/2010."

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Finance Committee

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded that:

"The Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 October 2010, Reference F/119/10."

"The Finance Committee recommend to full Council to transfer the balance of £326-50 to the Downland Management Committee's budget (code 103) to be used for maintenance of The Well area, in particular the wall at the War Memorial and the wall adjacent to The Bell Public House. [Item 4]"

"The Finance Committee recommend to full Council to invest £75,000 with the Council's existing 7 day notice account with Scottish Widows, which currently pays 1.75% interest." [Item 8]"

CARRIED unanimously

(c) Report from Chairman

Public conveniences – SDC advised that these had been vandalised. A work order for repairs had been made.

Request from Bumble Bees Nursery – Permission requested for the Kent County Council's Discovery Bus to park in the car park adjacent to the tennis courts on 15 December between 10 am and 12 noon was granted.

Licensing Policy Consultation – SDC confirmed that the Parish Council's comments had been noted and put forward in the final draft for consideration.

(d) Reports from Councillors

Concessionary bus fares for elderly people – Mr. Croughton (Public Transport Officer), reported that the concessionary rates would not be affected, following the Chancellors speech today.

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

There were no questions from Members of the Public and Press.

5. **DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

(a) Remembrance Day Parade

The Remembrance Day Ceremony will take place on Sunday, 14 November 2010, commencing at 10.55 a.m. at the War Memorial, following Church Service at 9.45 a.m. Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Council donates £60 towards the wreath."

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Play Place - youth club

Members noted a letter from Mr. Hennis from Play Place, asking the Parish Council to consider the following:-

- To support Play Place in their lottery fund application
- To approach County Councillor Mr. Chard to consider committing some funds from his Member Community Grant towards Play Place
- To consider including financial support for Play Place in the Council's 2011/12 budget.

The Council agreed to (i) support lottery fund application, (ii) approach County Councillor Mr. Chard to consider financial support for Play Place through the Members Community Grant, and (iii) submit a request to the Parish Council's Finance Committee for financial support to Play Place for consideration at the next Finance Committee Meeting when the provisional budget for 2011/12 would be prepared, to be approved at the January Parish Council Meeting.

(c) Open Door

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Eaton seconded:

"That the Council makes a financial donation of £200 to the Open Door Committee."

CARRIED 7 in favour, 2 abstentions [Mr. Croughton & Mr. Waters]

(d) Victim Support

A request to provide financial support was declined.

6. **NOAH'S ARK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (NARA) - CHRISTMAS TREE EVENT**

NARA informed the Council that their annual Christmas tree event would take place on 11 December 2010 and asked the Parish Council to include the event in the Parish Council's Public Liability Insurance.

NARA also asked the Parish Council to explore possibilities for an annual agreement whereby the Parish Council included NARA's Christmas tree event automatically without receiving annual ad hoc requests. This would mean that it would be the Parish Council's responsibility to contact NARA for the details and dates of their event.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Council includes this year's Christmas tree event in its Public Liability Insurance.

That the Council rejects the request for an annual agreement and that annual ad hoc requests should continue."

CARRIED unanimously

7. **KEMSING FESTIVAL 2011 - REQUEST FROM ST. MARY'S CHURCH**

The PCC's request for permission to erect a marquee on the Nightingale Road Recreation Ground to facilitate a Church Service on the final Sunday of the Festival fortnight was discussed. The Council assumed that this service formed part of the Festival activities and should be referred to the Festival Committee to be included in their Public Liability Insurance.

Mr. Rumgay said that the Festival Committee should be asked to provide a full list of activities planned to be held on Parish Council owned land, for consideration by the Recreation Grounds Committee.

RESOLVED:

- *The Clerk to refer the PCC's request to the Festival Committee.*
- *The Festival Committee to provide a list of proposed activities (for consideration by the Recreation Grounds Committee) planned on Parish Council owned land in order for the Parish Council to obtain the necessary Public Liability Insurance to cover these events.*
- *The Parish Council to obtain a copy of the Festival Committee's Public Liability Insurance.*

8. POLICE REFORM - SURVEY

The executive summary and main submission of the Police's response to the Government's 'Police Reform' proposals for replacing the Police Authorities with a directly elected Police and Crime Commissioner was received. The Council was invited to comment on a survey prepared by the Police Authority.

Mr. Waters proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Council declines the invitation to comment on the survey."

CARRIED 8 in favour, 1 abstention [Mr. Rumgay]

9. NEW WATER MAIN FROM KEMSING WATER TREATMENT WORKS TO OAK BANK RESERVOIR

South East Water advised that a small section of main pipe laying work would take place at the junction with Watery Lane and Broadoak Lane.

10. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Council approves the payment list (Vouchers 171 to 196, and £73 for Postage) and notes the receipt list (Vouchers 177, 181, 182)."

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, 17 November 2010.

The Meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.