

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of a meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,
on Wednesday, 17 October 2012 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)
Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. G. Croughton, Mr. R. Dawes,
Mrs. S. Dickinson, Mr. P. Eaton, J. Jermain, R.Lang, Mrs. W. Ross,
Dr. P. Walker, Mrs. R. Wedderburn

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 Members of the Public
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: District Councillor Miss L. Stack

1. **MINUTES**

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2012, Ref KPC/10/12, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Standing Orders Review (Minute 2(b) KPC/10/12)

Copies of the updated Standing Orders were circulated at the meeting.

(b) Request to install CCTV cameras in Kemsing (Minute 2(c) KPC/10/12)

A report prepared by Mrs. Dickinson was noted. The report concluded that although it is a very real cause for concern, the amount of vandalism in the village does not warrant the considerable capital and annual expenditure required to put any type of surveillance in place. However, this will continue to be reviewed on a biennial basis at the October meetings of the Parish Council. Residents would be invited via The Well magazine to submit views in advance of the next review in 2013.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the report be adopted by the Parish Council."

CARRIED unanimously

- *RESOLVED: That a summary of the report be included in a forthcoming edition of The Well magazine and on the Parish Council's website.*

Mrs. Dickinson was thanked for her contribution.

(c) Speeding along Childsbridge Lane (Minute 2(a) KPC/10/12) and (Minute 6 KPC/08/12)

Councillors were asked to consider comments from a resident who is lobbying Kent Police, Kent Highway Services, Seal Parish Council and MP Mr. Michael Fallon to install a speed camera and a reduction in speed on this stretch of road. An update prepared by the Clerk and tabled at the meeting was also noted.

8.05 p.m. The meeting was adjourned to allow for public participation.

A resident informed the Parish Council that Seal Parish Council is looking into a Speed Watch Scheme and urged Kemsing Parish Councillors to be part of the discussions.

8.09 p.m. The meeting was re-convened.

The Clerk's report indicated that Seal Parish Council is in discussion with Kent County Council Highways and Transportation on a proposal to modify the road at the railway bridge to create a crossing for pedestrians. A 'one way system' is proposed which would provide priority to motorists travelling from Seal to Kemsing. It is understood that County Councillor N. Chard is supporting the proposal and he will attend the next Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board meeting on 12th December 2012. Kent County Council Highways and Transportation recently informed Kemsing Parish Council that the proposal also includes a recommendation to reduce the maximum speed limit to 40 mph on the whole stretch of road between Kemsing and Seal. District Councillor Miss Lorraine Stack has indicated her support for a speed reduction.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That Kemsing Parish Council writes to the Chairman of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board Committee with the following comments:-

- *Kemsing Parish Council is concerned about the proposed 'one way' system which would create problems with congestion, particularly at peak times and would recommend that the current 30 mph speed limit be extended beyond the Childsbridge Farm development as an alternative to the 'one way' system*
- *Kemsing Parish Council does not support a proposal for a 40 mph speed limit on the whole stretch of Childsbridge Lane between Kemsing and Seal*
- *Kemsing Parish Council supports the proposal for the possibility to install a speed camera*
- *Kemsing Parish Council would recommend the erection of a separate footbridge parallel with Childsbridge Lane in the interest of providing a safe footway for pedestrians to cross the railway."*

CARRIED unanimously

- *RESOLVED: Mr. Buttifant and Mrs. Wedderburn offered to represent the above views should any meetings be arranged.*

- (d) Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) post in Kemsing (Minute 11(g) KPC/10/12)
Councillors were delighted to learn that PCSO Sue Harwood will be returning to Kemsing, Seal and the Weald, following a review of the PCSO distribution in the Sevenoaks District.

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

8.32 p.m. The meeting was adjourned to allow for public participation.

A resident asked if the Parish Council has received any further details in relation to the two fires in Kemsing. The Chairman reported that no further information had been received.

8.34 p.m. The meeting was re-convened.

4. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17 September 2012, Ref No. P/14/2012, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 1 October 2012, Ref No. P/15/2012, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 12 September 2012, Ref. No DM/03/12, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

(c) Recreation Grounds Committee

Mrs. Ross proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

"That the Parish Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2012, Ref. No RG/06/2012, previously circulated."

CARRIED unanimously

(d) Report from Clerk

A written report prepared by the Clerk regarding the recent Kent Highway Seminar, Society of Local Council Clerks meeting, Kent Association of Local Councils' Localism Conference and meeting with Kent County Council Libraries and Archives, was noted. Attention was drawn to the following:-

It is understood that the Community Right to Bid has been approved by the Secretary of State and came into force on 21st September 2012. The Parish Council wrote to MP Mr. M. Fallon in April 2012 asking if he could urge Sevenoaks District Council to include the village car park in the Register of Asses of Community Value, but Sevenoaks District Council had rejected the request as this part of the Localism Act had not been approved yet and no regulations had been published at the time.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council asks Sevenoaks District Council to include the village car park in Kemsing on the Community Asset Register."

CARRIED unanimously

Mrs. Cole and the Clerk attended a meeting with two representatives from Kent County Libraries and Archives Division on Wednesday, 10th October. County Councillor Mr. N. Chard was also present. Kent County Council is currently considering their approach to delivering sustainable library services for the future and is establishing a new approach to delivering the services. It was agreed that representatives from village organisations be invited to a meeting with Kent County Council to discuss library services further with a view that the information is taken back to the various organisations to obtain local residents' views on the existing services. Local people would be invited to give their views and ideas and comment on the developing plans for their local library services at a later stage.

- *RESOLVED: That the Clerk arranges a meeting with Kent County Council and invite representatives from the Parish Council, Kemsing Heritage Centre, Womens' Institute, Kemsing Open Door and Kemsing Primary School.*

(e) Report from Chairman

Bus shelter at Greenlands Road : The Noah's Ark Residents' Association (NARA) had informed the Parish Council that the bus shelter at Greenlands Road is in a bad state of repair. Both Mrs. Cole and the Clerk had inspected the shelter and although some attention is needed to improve the appearance, for example painting the shelter, the structure appeared to be stable. The Clerk had written to NARA to suggest a site visit to discuss the issue further. Mr. Croughton offered to attend the site meeting.

Car park lights at the tennis courts, Heaverham Road : The Clerk is investigating the possibility to re-instate the car park lights following the recent fire damage to the Kemsing Lawn Tennis Club Pavilion, where the operating system for the car park lights was based. It was suggested that a site meeting be arranged with an electrician, a representative from the Kemsing Lawn Tennis Club and the Parish Council to discuss the options available.

- *RESOLVED: The Clerk to report back at the next meeting.*

9.15 p.m. Mr. Lang left the meeting.

(f) Reports from Councillors

Road Closure Order – Pilgrims Way, Kemsing : The road between The Landway and Childsbridge Lane will be closed for one day on 23rd November 2012 to allow work to replace a telegraph pole. (Mr. Buttifant)

Footpath SR95 – A stile is in a poor condition and Mr. Buttifant had reported it to Kent County Council's Public Right of Way.

Footpath SR87 – Mr. Buttifant reported issues with a new stile which had been erected to Kent County Council.

Fly-tipping – Mr. Buttifant reported a discarded mattress in Honey Pot Lane to Kent County Council.

CCTV – Mrs. Ross had prepared a summary report for The Well magazine based on the information provided by Mrs. Dickinson (reference minute 2(b)).

5. **DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS**

(a) Play Place

Members considered a request dated 23rd September 2012 from Play Place for financial assistance to continue provision of the Youth Club on Monday evenings in 2013.

- *RESOLVED: To invite Mr. C. Hennis from Play Place to the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the request.*

(b) Kemsing Royal British Legion (KRBL) & Remembrance Day Road Closure Signage

Mrs. Cole drew attention to Minute 5(a) of KPC/10/12 and reminded Councillors that the Parish Council agreed to purchase two 'Road Closed' signs. Before the order was placed, KRBL was advised by the Police that, in addition to the two 'Road Closed' signs they also now required at least three 'Advance Warning' signs, which should be placed at least seven days in advance of the road closure. The Police have agreed that three signs would be sufficient and should be placed at the junctions with (a) St. Edith Road/West End, (b) High Street/Cotmans Ash Lane and (c) High Street/Church Lane. If the signs as instructed by the Police are not placed, the Remembrance Day Parade could not continue. Two quotations were obtained and considered.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council accepts the quotation for five signs (two 'Road Closed' signs and three 'Advance Warning' signs) from AA signs at a cost of £265 (excluding VAT)."

CARRIED unanimously

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council makes a donation of £40 to the KRBL for the Parish Council's wreath."

CARRIED unanimously

(c) Kemsing Open Door

Mr. Croughton declared having a personal interest as his spouse is the Treasurer of the Kemsing Open Door.

Mr. Buttifant declared having a personal interest as being a member of the Kemsing Open Door.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council makes a donation of £200 to the Kemsing Open Door for the financial year 2013/14."

CARRIED 10 in favour, 2 abstentions

(d) Noah's Ark Residents' Association (NARA)

Mrs. Dickinson declared having a personal interest as being a member of NARA.

NARA is planning to hold their annual Christmas event this year and asked the Parish Council to consider providing a financial contribution towards their public liability insurance costs.

Dr. Walker proposed and Mr. Eaton seconded:

"That the Parish Council donates £75 to NARA towards their Christmas event."

CARRIED 12 in favour, 1 abstention

6. **CAR PARK AT DOCTOR'S SURGERY, KEMSING**

The Council was asked to consider asking the Otford Medical Practice if their car park could be made available for residents attending the Oaks Christmas Dinner on 24th November 2012.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council submit a request to the Otford Medical Practice to make available their car park for the use of the Oaks Christmas Dinner event to take place on 24th November 2012."

CARRIED unanimously

7. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Eaton proposed and Mrs. Wedderburn seconded:

"That the Parish Council approves the list of payments (Vouchers 126-152) and notes the list of receipts (Vouchers 14-18.)"

CARRIED unanimously

8. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The following information was noted:-

- (a) National Association of Local Councils – Direct Information Service – Issues 792,793 & 794.
- (b) Kent County Council – Changes to the KCC Household Waste Recycling Centres. More information is available online at : www.kent.gov.uk/hwrc
- (c) Society of Local Council Clerks – The Clerk magazine (September 2012).
- (d) Clerks and Councils Direct magazine (September 2012).
- (e) Campaign to Protect Rural England – Fieldwork magazine (Autumn 2012).
- (f) Play Place – Report on Sevenoaks Area Summer Fun Days delivered this year.
- (g) Localising Support for Council Tax – Sevenoaks District Council advised that Parish and Town Councils are unlikely to be affected by the impact of the change in the reduction of Government's Council Tax Support.
- (h) Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership – Newsletter (October 2012).
- (i) Action with Communities in Rural Kent – Oast to Oast magazine (Autumn 2012).

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

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

21 November 2012

The meeting closed at 9.27 p.m.