

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of a meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,
on Wednesday, 15th October 2014 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)
Mr. A. Andrews, Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. G. Croughton, Mr. R. Dawes,
Mrs. S. Dickinson, Mr. R. Lang, Mrs. M. Roberts, Dr. P Walker

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

APOLOGIES: Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. P. Eaton & Mrs. R. Wedderburn

1. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC & PRESS

There were no questions from the public.

2. MINUTES

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2014, Ref KPC/10/2014, be approved, subject to the following amendments :-

Page 1, Item 2, line 9 : delete 'amended proposal was not carried' and replace with 'amendment was ruled out of order'

Page 1, Item 2, line 10 : delete 'CARRIED unanimously'

Page 2, Item 5, 3rd paragraph, last line : delete 'unanimously' and replace with '10 in favour, 1 abstention (Mr. Bennett)'

Page 2, Item 6, 1st paragraph : insert 'Play' before 'Place'

Page 3, Item 8(b), 5th line : delete 'unanimously' and replace with '10 in favour, 1 abstention (Mr. Bennett)'

Page 4, Item 9, 2nd line : replace '125' with '135'.

CARRIED unanimously

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a) Saturday bus service for Kemsing (Minute 3(a) KPC/10/2014)

The report of the Bus Working Group meeting held on Wednesday, 1st October 2014 was noted.

Mr. Croughton proposed and Mrs. Roberts seconded:

"That the Parish Council makes available £1,375 to continue the Saturday bus service from 5th January 2015 to 31st March 2015, and to make provision up to a maximum of £4,125 in the budget for the period from 1st April 2015 to 31st December 2015 in order to continue the Saturday bus service until the end of 2015;

That the Parish Council endeavours to persuade Sevenoaks Town Council and Seal Parish Council to make a significant contribution which will reduce Kemsing Parish Council's contribution."

Members of the Working Group had logged numbers of bus users during their journeys which were carried out on several, but not all of the Saturday afternoon services. This information was matched with data provided by the operator. Some Councillors were surprised by the number of users which were attracted by the service. The survey results revealed that many residents from Seal and Sevenoaks, in particular the Greatness Estate, were benefitting from the service.

A debate took place during which a number of matters were raised; funding being the main concern. Seal Parish Council had contributed £350 towards the trial period; however, Seal Parish Council clearly stated that this gesture did not in any way commit them to provide further support for the continuation of the service beyond the trial period. The majority of Councillors were disappointed by the lack of substantial financial support from both Seal Parish Council and Sevenoaks Town Council, particularly as residents from these areas were using this service.

An observation was made that a smaller size vehicle could be more suitable. Mr. Croughton said that the smaller vehicle was not popular with the users, and the operator had indicated that it would be uneconomical to run an additional vehicle as the existing vehicle was utilised within the permitted driver hours, which reduced the running cost of the service.

The service is subject to a two month's deregistration notice period which meant that the Parish Council had to confirm by 31st October 2014 whether or not it wished to continue with the service beyond 5th January 2015. Councillors were dissatisfied by the lack of advertising despite the Parish Council's attempts to involve the Sevenoaks Chronicle.

It was agreed to focus more intensely on the advertising efforts.

Mr. Bennett proposed an amendment to the proposal, seconded by Mr. Andrews:

"To remove the following sentence:

'and to make provision up to a maximum of £4,125 in the budget for the period from 1st April 2015 to 31st December 2015 in order to continue the Saturday bus service until the end of 2015'

and replace it with

'extension of the service for the next financial year starting 1st April 2015 to be reviewed at the January 2015 Parish Council meeting'.

The amendment was CARRIED 8 in favour, 1 against

The amendment resulted in the following motion put forward to the Council:

"That the Parish Council makes available £1,375 to continue the Saturday bus service from 5th January 2015 to 31st March 2015, extension of the service for the next financial year starting 1st April 2015 to be reviewed at the January Parish Council meeting;

That the Parish Council endeavours to persuade Sevenoaks Town Council and Seal Parish Council to make a significant contribution which would reduce Kemsing Parish Council's contribution."

CARRIED unanimously

The Press and Public were excluded for the duration of the next item, due to the confidential nature of the business transacted.

(b) Village car park (Minute 3(b) KPC/10/2014)

The report of the confidential discussion is contained in a separate confidential document.

Members noted correspondence dated 19th September 2014 from a resident concerning the proposed purchase of the car park and the Clerk's response to the resident. Members thanked the Clerk for the comprehensive reply.

The meeting was reconvened and opened to the Public and Press.

(c) Village Gateway – Childsbridge Lane (Minute 5 KPC/10/2014)

The matter was ongoing.

4. **WARDEN FOR NATURE RESERVE AT PARK LANE**

Mrs. Willmore offered to take over as Warden for the time being following the sad death of Mr. Willmore.

RESOLVED : It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should prepare the licence and the terms and conditions for the Warden to be transferred to Mrs. Willmore.

5. **ANNUAL EXTERNAL AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2014**

The Auditor confirmed that the information in the annual return was in accordance with proper practices and no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

The conclusion notice of the audit and the right to inspect the annual return would be displayed on the Parish Council's notice boards.

6. **PUBLICATION SCHEME**

The Publication Scheme was reviewed and agreed with one minor amendment.

7. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Parish Council notes the minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2014, Ref No P/18/2014 and the minutes of the meeting held on 29th September 2014, Ref No P/19/2014."

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mrs. Dickinson seconded:

"That the Parish Council notes the minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2014, Reference No DM/03/2014."

CARRIED unanimously

(c) Report from Chairman

Problems had been experienced recently with the Parish Council's current internet provider and the Chairman asked the Council's authorisation for the Clerk and Chairman to investigate and switch to another provider.

This was AGREED unanimously

(d) Reports from Councillors

Mr. Dawes referred to Item 4 of the Recreation Grounds Committee meeting minutes Reference RG/03/2014. The Recreation Grounds Committee had considered a request from Mr. Roy Willmore's family for the installation of a seat in his memory, to which the Committee had no objection, providing that the new seat replaced an existing seat, that the removal and disposal of the old seat, plus the installation of the new seat, would be carried out with no cost to the Parish Council and that the contractor should provide the Parish Council with the relevant public liability insurance documents prior to the work being carried out.

Mr. Dawes reminded Councillors of Mr. Willmore's involvement with the Parish Council over the years and the valuable contribution he had made to the village. With this in mind, Mr. Dawes asked the Recreation Grounds Committee to reconsider the request for the memorial seat and suggested that the Parish Council funded the installation of the seat, including the maintenance and insurance thereof.

Mrs. Dickinson said if it was the wish of the full Parish Council to fund the installation of the seat as a goodwill gesture, then this would be reconsidered by the Recreation Grounds Committee.

RESOLVED: To refer this request back to the Recreation Grounds Committee for consideration.

- (e) Report from District Councillors
There was no report from the District Councillors.

8. DONATIONS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) Remembrance Day
The Council was asked to consider a donation towards the wreath for this year's Remembrance Day ceremony, which would take place on Sunday, 9th November 2014 between 10.30 and 11.30 a.m.
Mrs. Cole proposed:
"That the Parish Council makes a financial contribution of £60 towards the wreath."
CARRIED unanimously

- (b) Kemsing Open Door
Mr. Croughton declared a personal interest as his spouse is the Treasurer of the Kemsing Open Door Committee.
Mrs. Cole proposed:
"That the Parish Council donates £200 to the Kemsing Open Door for this financial year."
CARRIED 8 in favour, 1 abstention (Mr. Croughton)

9. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Dr. Walker proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:
"That the Parish Council approves the list of payments (Vouchers 136 – 159), including a cheque of £10,000 for Kemsing Primary School as donation towards the school swimming project. (This expenditure was approved at the Parish Council meeting in July 2014), and to note the list of receipts (Vouchers 11-15)."

CARRIED unanimously

10. INFORMATION REPORT – The following information was noted:

- (a) Community Speed Watch in Kent – Newsletter Autumn/Winter 2014 (previously circulated)
(b) Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership – Newsletter September 2014 (previously circulated)
(c) Action with Communities in Rural Kent – Oast to Oast magazine
(d) Sevenoaks District Council – Inshape magazine

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

There were no matters raised.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 19th November 2014.

The meeting closed at 8.33 p.m.

Signed : Chairman

Date :