

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of a Meeting held in the Main Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,
on Wednesday, 12th March 2008 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M. Cole (in the Chair)
Mr. D. Bennett, Mr. P. Burfield, Mr. B. Buttifant, Mr. G. Croughton,
Mr. R. Dawes, Mrs. K. Kelly, Mr. I Rungay, Mr. S. Smith,
Dr. P. Walker, Mr. A. Waters

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. R. Banister (PCC Secretary) [For Item 6]
Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Ms. K. Hawker, Mrs. W. Ross

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

1. **MINUTES**

Mrs. Cole proposed:

*"That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th February 2008, Reference **KPC/02/08**, previously circulated, be approved."*

CARRIED unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) PCSO – Police Community Support Officer (See Minute 2 (a) KPC/02/08)

Members noted an email dated 3rd March 2008 from Neighbourhood Inspector Payne stating that no guarantee could be given that either the post for a PCSO or funding would be available in future, however, assurance was given that should it be necessary to move the current PCSO from Kemsing based on operational need in the future, the decision would not be taken lightly.

(b) Long term storage of village archives (See Minute 2 (c) KPC/02/08)

Mr. Burfield reported that a further meeting had been arranged with the Architect on 19th March 2008. Mr. Croughton said that consideration should be given to use the building of the present public toilets, if it becomes available.

(c) Land in West End (opposite the Library) (See Minute 2 (d) KPC/02/08)

Ongoing.

(d) Amendments to Standing Orders (See Minute 2(f) KPC/02/08)

The final amendments to the "Draft February 2008" document had been noted.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Bennett seconded:

"That the Parish Council adopt the revised Standing Orders."

CARRIED unanimously

The Clerk would circulate the new Standing Orders to all Members.

- (e) Bus service from Kemsing (See Minute 2 (h) KPC/02/08)
Mr. Croughton reported that Kent County Council had considered quotations obtained from likely operators to provide a similar service to the old timetable between Kemsing and Otford.

Based on the low use of this particular service in the past and other factors, Kent County Council regretted to advise that they could not endorse or commit to an already overcommitted supported service budget, even on a trial basis. It was very disappointing to accept that, after every possible avenue had been taken to reinstate the service, it had failed.

- (f) Barnfield Crescent – Retained Housing Estate Land (See Minute 2 (i) KPC/02/08)
Mrs. Cole confirmed that the Report on Title currently under consideration, had been received from Sevenoaks District Council. The Finance Chairman, Mr. Burfield, would review the relevant documents.
- (g) Alder Tree - The Well Area (See Minute 2 (j) KPC/02/08)
A response was still awaited from the Planning Officer and it was agreed this should be followed up early next week.
- (h) Petition - Junction Childsbridge Lane, Dynes Road & West End (See Minute 2 (k) KPC/02/08)
Members noted that an outline scheme prepared by Kent Highway Services had been presented to the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board Committee for consideration on Tuesday, 11th March 2008. The decision of the Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board Committee was awaited.
- (i) Play Place - Youth Club (See Minute 2(m) KPC/02/08)
20 Young people attended on Monday, 25th February 2008 and the Parish Council received positive feedback from participants. Mr. Hennis had completed applications for funding to West Kent Extra Community Chest Grant and Sport Relief.
- (j) Leisure plots 184 & 185 (See Minute 2(n) KPC/02/08)
The Clerk had contacted Mr. Thompson at Knocker & Foskett who would process this when all documentation was available.
- (k) Car park lights (See Minute 2(o) KPC/02/08)
The Contractor had indicated that the work would commence within the next 2 weeks.

3. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

- (a) Planning Committee
Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Waters seconded:
“That the Parish Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25th February 2008, Reference No. P/3/2008, previously circulated.”
CARRIED unanimously
- (b) Downland Management Committee
Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Buttifant seconded:
“That the Parish Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th February 2008, Reference No. DM/01/08, previously circulated.”
CARRIED unanimously
Mr. Bennett & Mr. Burfield drew attention to Item 13 (top of page 3) which related to the Joint Management Committee budget and Rangers’ salaries.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would seek the support from the District Councillors in an attempt to resolve this issue.

(c) Report from Chairman

An email received from a resident in Norman Close expressed concern that some householders were putting out their refuse bags overnight at a kerbside area for collection. The bags were sometimes opened by foxes, and the contents scattered around and on the resident's driveway. The response to his conversations with Sevenoaks District Council and West Kent Housing had not been helpful. It was agreed that the Parish Council would pass this matter on to Sevenoaks District Council to resolve.

The Sevenoaks Carbon Group and Friends of the Earth invited Members to attend a seminar regarding climate change on 25th March 2008. Members were asked to contact the Clerk for more information.

Sevenoaks District Council invited Members to attend a "Go Wild" free Wildlife Workshop and Wildlife Walks. Members were asked to contact the Clerk for more information.

Mrs. Cole reported that the St. Edith Hall Management Committee had reached agreement on the terms of a Lease with St. Edith Club for the original clubroom until March 2017 (*co-terminus with existing Land lease*) between the Parish Council as Custodian Trustee and the Club. The Committee sought the Parish Council's approval for the Clerk to send a letter to the Parish Council's solicitor authorising Councillors M. Cole and P. Burfield and the Clerk, to sign the lease.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

"That the Parish Council instructs the Clerk to write to the solicitor provided that confirmation was received from the St. Edith Hall Management Committee that the relevant legal advice had been sought."

CARRIED unanimously

(d) Reports from Councillors

No reports from Members were received.

4. **PUBLIC PRESENTATION ON EMERGENCY ISSUES BY KENT SEARCH AND RESCUE (KSAR) TEAM** (Ref Emergency Minutes ES/29/07 - Minute 5)

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Parish Council consider funding up to £50 for a presentation by the KSAR Team."

CARRIED unanimously

5. **REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS**

(a) Dr. Walker proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Parish Council make a donation of £100 to the Sevenoaks Citizens Advice Bureau."

CARRIED by 10 in favour, 1 abstention

(b) Mr. Croughton disclosed a prejudicial interest in this item.

Mr. Rumgay proposed and Dr. Walker seconded:

"That the Parish Council make a donation of £250 to the Kemsing Open Door Committee."

CARRIED 9 in favour, 2 abstentions

6. **PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE & CHURCH PARISH OFFICE ACCOMMODATION**
Mr. Waters disclosed a personal interest as being a Church Warden.

The Parish Council noted a letter and report dated 15th February 2008 from Mrs. Banister, Parochial Church Council (PCC) Secretary, sent to Councillors asking the Parish Council and the St. Edith Hall Trustees to consider moving the Parish Council Office into the old Billiard Room and leasing the present Parish Council Office to the PCC.

Mrs. Cole read a statement from the St. Edith Hall Management Committee and a written response would be sent to the PCC. The Committee was surprised to be informed in this way that the Parish Council had serious issues with the space provided to it by the Management Committee.
The Clerk would reply to the PCC that the Parish Council was not considering relocating the Parish Office.

Due to the confidential nature of the next item of business, Mrs. Cole proposed the exclusion of the Public, Press & the Clerk. This was agreed.

7. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

Staff Salaries

The Finance Committee Chairman provided the Parish Council with an update and it was agreed that a working group comprising of Mrs. Cole, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Burfield and Mr. Croughton be appointed to continue with reviewing staff salaries.

The Chairman re-opened the Meeting to the Public, Press & the Clerk.

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

There were no questions from Members of the Public.

9. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Parish Council approves the payment list (Vouchers 368-378)."

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:

"That the Staff Salaries and National Insurance up to 16th March 2008 are paid on 19th March 2008."

CARRIED unanimously

10. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The information report was noted.

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

12. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

19 March : Annual Parish Meeting
25 March : Planning (Tuesday)
7th April : Planning
16th April : Parish Council
21st April : Planning

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.15 p.m.