

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of a Meeting held in the Small Hall,
St. Edith Hall, Kemsing, on Wednesday, 18th June 2008 at 8.05 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, Mrs. W. Ross, Mr. S. Smith,
Dr. P. Walker, Mr. A. Waters

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Y. Tredoux (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Mr. I. Rumgay

Members viewed the proposed plans for the archive store prior to the Meeting.

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 Annual Meeting of the Council held on 21st May 2008, Reference KPC/05/08, be approved, subject to the following amendments:-"

Page 1 – Item 3 : (2nd Line) : Replace "*dispose*" with "*suspend*"; and add the following:-

- "That the position be reviewed at the end of the year."

CARRIED unanimously

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- (a) Land in West End (opposite the Library) (See Minute 9 (a) KPC/05/08)
Kent Highway Services had advised that the work could not be carried out unless the necessary road works orders had been obtained.
- (b) Barnfield Crescent – Retained Housing Estate Land (See Minute 2 (b) KPC/05/08)
This matter was still ongoing.
- (c) Petition - Junction Childsbridge Lane, Dynes Road & West End (See Minute 9 (d) KPC/05/08)
The Clerk had contacted Mr. Chard (County Councillor), who indicated that no progress had been made, however he was still hopeful that the funding issue could be resolved.
- (d) Leisure plots 184 & 185 (See Minute 9(f) KPC/05/08)
This matter was ongoing.
- (e) Review of the Kemsing Play Areas (See Minute 9(g) KPC/05/08)
The working group would meet on 25th June 2008 to discuss options available.
- (f) Archive Store KHC (See Minute 9(h) KPC/05/08)
Mr. Waters declared an interest.

The proposed plans were accepted, with only a few minor amendments suggested. Mr. Burfield explained that, to enable the Kemsing Heritage Centre Association to apply for external funding, the next step would be to apply for Planning permission.

The Parish Council generally supported the proposed plans, *and payment to obtain planning permission was approved.* The revised plans would be displayed in the Village Hall.

(g) Request for street lighting in Church Lane (See Minute 12 KPC/05/08)

The petition for street lighting in Church Lane was discussed.

There were two separate reasons why residents had asked for the installation of street lighting:

- i) Concern from elderly residents regarding the poor condition of the surfaces of both the footpath and highway in Church Lane; and
- ii) The seat in Church Lane which had been vandalised recently.

It was agreed that both these issues were the responsibility of the land owner (West Kent Housing) and the Clerk was asked to write to West Kent Housing with the concerns raised by residents, and also to put pressure on Kent Highway Services to repair the surfaces of road and footpath.

(h) Land owned by KPC alongside M26 motorway to the south of Fairfield Estate (See Minute 14 KPC/05/08)

Mrs. Cole had obtained two quotations for clearing the overgrown land. *The quotation of two days' work at £400(+VAT) per day, plus the cost of a skip to remove the debris, from MDH Contractors, was accepted.*

The rubbish which had been dumped at Fairfield Close, (and reported to Moat Housing Association on several occasions) had not been removed. *The Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Executive at Moat Housing Association in an effort to resolve this issue.*

3. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Waters proposed and Mr. Burfield seconded:

"That the Parish Council notes the Report of the Meeting held on 2nd June 2008, Reference No P/9/2008, previously circulated."

Mr. Croughton, who had represented the Parish Council at a recent site meeting at "The Bothy, St. Clere" on 4th June, drew attention to Item 6. Although Mr. Croughton was pleased with the result, he thought that the site meeting had been unnecessary. **CARRIED** unanimously

(b) Finance Committee

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th June 2008, Reference No F/111/08, were circulated at the Meeting, and *it was agreed that these Minutes be approved at the next Parish Council Meeting.*

Mr. Burfield drew attention to the following item:

Item 7- Request form the Parochial Church Council for a donation in respect of the Youth Worker:-

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Bennett seconded:

"That the Parish Council donate 20% of the base figure of £3,500 set aside in the budget in respect of "detached" youth work carried out since August 2007, i.e.£700 ."

CARRIED unanimously

(c) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett drew attention to Items 4, 6(a), 6(e) & 10:

Item 4 - Paragliding from Green Hill

Various concerns were discussed and *it was agreed that the Parish Council would obtain the view of the landowner before further consideration to the request could be given. Dr. Walker offered to approach the land owner and would report back to the Parish Council.*

Item 6(a) – Italian Alder Tree

The Council considered the Committee's recommendation to plant a Sorbus "Autumn Spire" as a replacement for the Italian Alder tree. This specimen produced berries in October/November, and some Members were concern that these might be poisonous. The Clerk would find out whether the berries were poisonous and *it was agreed that should these berries be poisonous, it would be replaced with a tree in the same price range, suitable to be planted in a public place.*

Item 6(e) – Replacement of War Memorial gates

The Clerk hoped to produce estimates for consideration at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Item 10 – Appointment of Officers

The Council was asked to consider the proposal to appoint Mr. Bennett as Downland Management Officer.

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Buttifant seconded:

"That the Parish Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th June 2008, Reference No DM/02/08, previously circulated, including the proposals of Items 4, 6(a), 6(e) & 10."

CARRIED unanimously

(d) Report from Chairman

The Chairman had received the Deputy Clerk's resignation in writing, indicating that her last working day would be on 1st July. The Parish Council was very sorry to be informed of this. It was agreed that the Panel of Councillors who had conducted the staff appraisals, meet with the Clerk to discuss the situation.

A letter of appreciation was received from the Open Door Committee, thanking the Parish Council for the recent donation of £250.

An invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Sevenoaks Citizen Advice Bureau had been received. Members would contact the Clerk for more information.

Councillor Information Days had been arranged by Kent Association of Local Councils. Members would contact the Clerk for more information.

(e) Reports from Councillors

No reports from Councillors were received.

4. **PROPOSED ADVENTURE PLAY AREA - NIGHTINGALE ROAD RECREATION GROUND**

Members noted a suggestion by PCSO Harwood to create a small adventure park/family area, just beyond the boundary of the Nightingale Road Recreation Ground, on the woodland owned by Sevenoaks District Council. Sevenoaks District Council, in principle, supported the idea of such a project.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

“That this request be referred to the Play Area Working Group, to be considered as part of the reviewing process of the play area facilities.”

CARRIED 9 in favour, 2 abstentions

Mrs. Kelly offered to join the Working Group.

5. **ST. EDITH CLUB LEASE**

Mr. Burfield referred to the previously agreed Lease with the St. Edith Club, which expires in 2017. The Land Registry pointed out that the St. Edith Club had only one Trustee, and that a variation to the Lease was required so that there would not be any personal liability beyond the extent of the Trust assets.

The Parish Council was asked to approve the Deed of Variation to the Lease signed in April to permit the registration with the Land Registry.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Waters seconded:

“That the Parish Council gives permission for Mrs. Cole, Mr. Burfield and the Clerk to sign the variation of the Deed to the St. Edith Club Lease.”

CARRIED unanimously

6. **PLAY PLACE**

Members noted correspondence from Mr. Hennis requesting a donation for the Youth Club.

Mrs. Cole proposed:

“That Mr. Hennis be asked to produce a breakdown of costing for the next 12 months for running the Youth Club, to enable the Parish Council to consider the request.”

CARRIED unanimously

Members were pleased with the service delivered by Mr. Hennis and his team.

7. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

There was nothing to report.

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

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

9. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

“That the Parish Council approves the payment list (Vouchers 56-70, 73-82 & 83) and to note the receipt list (Vouchers 51-55, 71 & 72), and acceptance of Voucher 33 in respect of the electricity supply for the Tennis Court car park.”

CARRIED unanimously

10. **INFORMATION REPORT**

There was nothing to report.

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

Mr. Croughton pointed out that some Planning Meeting dates were incorrect. The Clerk would update the Calendar of Meetings, and circulate the amended list.

The Finance Committee Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th June 2008 would be recommended for approval.

The Recreation Ground Committee Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th May 2008 would be recommended for approval.

12. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
16th July 2008