

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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Kemsing

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the Small Hall, St Edith Hall, Kemsing
on Wednesday 14th April 2004 at 8.00 pm

PRESENT: Mr A C Andrews (in the Chair)
D V Bennett, P R Burfield B D Buttifant,
G R Croughton, Mrs M Cole, A M Davies, R J Dawes,
P M H Kendall, A V Waters, M Williams

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr V Pearson, Clerk to the Council

APOLOGIES: Councillors P Miles & W Ross

Chairman's Announcements:

The Chairman informed members of the death of Mr David Porter, Chairman of Seal Parish Council. The funeral will take place on Tuesday, 27th April at 11.00 at Seal

Declarations of Interest in the Register

No new declarations were made.

D. Bennett questioned the need of having this item appearing on every Council agenda. The Chairman explained that, although there was no statutory requirement for it to be placed on the agenda, it was there as a reminder to members who themselves had requested it.

At this point the Chairman welcomed two members of the public to the meeting and asked if they had any questions to ask of the Council. He said that, if so, he was willing that any questions could be dealt with before the remainder of the agenda.

1. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr Christopher Morris asked if the Council had any plans for the old snooker room. The Chairman stated that he was sure that there were many options for its use but went on to explain that the question should properly be put to the Hall Management Committee (HMC) which had responsibility for the management of the Hall. The Parish Council, he explained, was the Trustee for the Hall complex although some Parish Council members served on the HMC. After some brief discussion the two electors appeared satisfied with the Chairman's explanation and, at this point, left the meeting.

2. **MINUTES**
The minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2004, Ref KPC/03/04, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.
3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**
 - (a) **St Edith's Road/West End**
The poor quality of the resurfacing work and the fact that the road was now being talked about as being in a dangerous condition and was a cause for concern was remarked upon. An early 'sweeping' of the loose chippings was to be requested. The Chairman of the Highways Committee stated that this and several other matters affecting highways and footpaths in the Parish was to be taken up with Sevenoaks District Council when he met their representative, Mr Tony Ham. An early meeting with Mr Ham was being sought.
 - (b) **Burial Law in the 21st Century**
The response to the Consultation Paper will be available for discussion at the next Council Meeting
 - (c) **Lower Haffenden Hedging Works**
It was noted that the first phase of the works has been completed and that the next phase would commence later in the year.
4. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**
There was no Business Required by Statute to consider
5. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**
 - (a) **Planning Committee**
The council approved the minutes of the meetings held on 1st March 2004 (Ref P/4/2004), 15th March (reference P/5/2004) and 29th March 2004 (reference P/6/2004)
 - (b) **Downland Management Committee**
The Council approved the report of the Downland Management Committee of 3rd March 2004
6. **POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS**
As no provision had been made to cover that proportion of the expenditure which falls to the parish Council to fund, it was decided not to proceed with an application at this time
7. **DEPLOYMENT OF RURAL COMMUNITY WARDENS**
After discussion it was decided not to proceed with an application to employ a Community Warden.
8. **PARISH MAGAZINE - THE WELL**
Members considered the paper prepared by Peter Kendall and agreed to make a contribution of £200 for the financial year 2004/2005 on the understanding that one page in each edition will be available for contributions from the Parish Council.
9. **POLICE WATCH**

The Chairman of the Highways Committee reported that his Committee at its meeting on 7th April 2004 had recommended to the Council the adoption of the Kent Police Community Speed Watch Scheme at a cost of an estimated £350. He explained how the scheme would operate and after some discussion it was decided to purchase the necessary equipment and implement the scheme with all members present voting in favour but with two abstentions

10. **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

The letter dated 1st April received from County Councillor Ronnie Norman and offering up to £3,000 to help sports organisations within the Parish and circulated to members with the agenda was discussed. Mr Roy Willmore, Chairman of the Kemsing Sports Association who had joined the meeting and was aware of the contents of the letter, asked the Council to consider allocating any funding received towards the upgrading of the swimming pool at Kemsing Primary School to enable it to be used not only by the children of the school but by all children and all members of the public. Mr Willmore promised that his Association would match any funding so received on a £1 for £1 basis to enable the project to proceed.

The proposal was put to members and was agreed without dissent. The Clerk was instructed to contact Mr Norman regarding the proposal and to write to the school with copies of all relevant correspondence.

11. **REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS**

A request for financial support from the Council had been received from Sevenoaks & District Volunteer Bureau. Members considered the request but, as the budget has already been set for this financial year, decline to make a donation. The Bureau are to be informed that, if any future request is made, it should be submitted to the Council by October in order to be considered for inclusion in the budget for the ensuing financial year.

12. **VILLAGE FUNFAIR**

The Chairman informed the meeting of a request to hold a funfair in the Parish and of his decision to inform the applicant that there were no areas of suitable land owned by the Council to hold such an event
Members endorsed the Chairman's action

13. **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Members considered the following matters raised by electors at the Parish Meeting held on 17th March 2004:

(a) **CCTV Cameras**

An approach is to be made to Sevenoaks District Council to ascertain if the CCTV equipment soon to become redundant could be utilised in the village car park.

(b) **Bus Fares**

The very high level of bus fares, especially between Kemsing and Sevenoaks, was a matter of widespread concern amongst parishioners and Councillor Godfrey Croughton and the Clerk are now authorised to write to the bus company with regard to this matter

(c) **Education in the Village**

On 29th March the Chairman with the assistance of A M Davies wrote to Kent County Council expressing grave concern over the secondary school allocation process on behalf of the children of Kemsing. He now read from a letter received in response from the Assistant Director of Education (Operations). After more discussion on the subject of the allocation process operated by the County Council it was decided to pass copies of this correspondence to the Headmistress of Kemsing Primary School.

14 **INFORMATION REPORT**

The council received the information reports

15. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The Council approved the following schedules of accounts:

Voucher Nos 330 - 348

Voucher Nos 349 - 354

Voucher Nos. 355 - 356

Vouchers Nos 1 -4

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

Alan Waters reported that Kemsing had received a favourable write-up in the Kent County magazine.

17 **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

26th April Planning Committee

28th April Emergency Services Committee

10th May Planning Committee

19th May Parish Council

The Meeting closed at 21.53Hrs

Vincent Pearson
Clerk to the Council