

**KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk's Office, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN15 6NA

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**Minutes of a Meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing,  
on Wednesday, 16th August 2006 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mrs. M Cole (in the Chair)  
Mr. A Andrews, Mr. D Bennett, Mr. P Burfield, Mr. B Buttifant,  
Mr. G Croughton, Mr. P Kendall, Mr. I Rumgay, Mr. A Waters

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

APOLOGIES: Mr. R Dawes, Mr. M Williams

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

1. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2006, Reference **KPC/07/06**, having been previously circulated, was approved.

*CARRIED* unanimously

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) PCSO – Police Community Support Officer (See Minute 2 (a) KPC/07/06)

Further information was awaited from Kent Police's Legal Department on the amendments to the Service Agreement.

(b) Recycling Facilities (See Minute 2 (b) KPC/07/06)

Confirmation was awaited from Mr. Saunders to attend a site meeting with the Recycling Co-ordinator from SDC. Mrs. Cole would arrange for third quote to be obtained from another company.

(c) Christmas Lights (See Minute 2 (c) KPC/07/06)

Councillors noted the Memorandum dated 4<sup>th</sup> August, prepared by Mrs. Cole and circulated to Councillors prior to the Meeting.

*[8.05 p.m. – Mr. Rumgay arrived at the Meeting]*

Mrs. Cole referred to the quote obtained from EDF Energy to provide electricity for the Christmas lights in The Well. Before any work can be carried out the Council must provide a secure kiosk and other work specified by EDF Energy, prior to the mains connection. The project was considered to be a capital project, which would include the removal of the Grey Alder tree, installation of the electricity supply with provision for 4/5 socket outlets. The project would not be completed in time for the festive season this year. A detailed plan would have to be prepared before the project could be progressed. The task was delegated to a working group, comprising Mr. Andrews, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Burfield and Mr. Rumgay, who would organise a meeting and prepare a draft plan, to be presented to Council at it's next Meeting.

Mr. Andrews proposed and Mr. Bennett seconded:

“That the electrical cable with the lights be removed from the existing Grey Alder tree.”

Residents would be informed in writing of the removal of the tree, welcoming any comments they might have. A quote would be obtained for the removal of the electrical cable, currently installed in the tree.

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Kendall seconded:

*“That the tree be removed some time between now and next spring, perhaps next November at the earliest, and to authorise expenditure of not more than £1,000, to be paid from the general contingencies fund.”*

*CARRIED* unanimously

(d) Village Logo (See Minute 2 (d) KPC/07/06)

The Clerk attempted to contact Ms. Evans, but no response was received. Mrs. Cole would visit Ms. Evans to enquire the progress on this matter.

(e) Village Sign (See Minute 6 KPC/07/06)

The Council received the report, prepared by the members of the Village Sign Working Party.

Relocating the sign from its current position to the favoured location (the cobbled area by the horse trough), was considered by some Councillors to pose a serious distraction to motorists at this very dangerous junction and concern was expressed that pedestrians could also be vulnerable if information boards were included. The existing position of the sign was deemed to be satisfactory, particularly for pedestrians. Some Councillors felt that there was no need for a new sign, as the existing sign could be restored, however, it could benefit from slight repositioning.

The oak post was suffering from decay at its base, but, it was not under any immediate threat to be replaced. It was the working group’s intention to obtain the views of Parishioners, if the Council was in agreement. The Council approved the Report and a suggestion was made to place an advertisement in the Well Magazine, to welcome comments from Parishioners.

(f) Graffiti (See Minute 6 KPC/07/06)

Sevenoaks District Council had been asked on 8<sup>th</sup> August to remove the graffiti on the play equipment on the Nightingale Road Recreation Ground and the Common Field Recreation Ground, as well as all the bus shelters in the village.

(g) WI Seat (See Minute 10 (g) KPC/07/06)

Photographs of the newly refurbished seat were shown around the table, and the Council was asked to consider the most suitable location for this 7 foot long heavy seat. The Churchyard had been identified as the most suitable site. The Clerk was asked to write to the PCC to seek its view, however, the seat would remain the property of the Parish Council.

The restoration cost (excluding installation), was £479.58. The Clerk would include the seat in the Parish Council’s Insurance.

(h) 31-41 Park Lane (Kentmere Homes) (See Minute 10 (h) KPC/06/06)

Councillors were asked to comment on a letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2006, received from Kentmere Homes, previously circulated to Councillors.

Mr. Andrews proposed and Mrs. Cole seconded:  
*"That the Council acknowledges receipt of the letter, but that no further comments would be made at this stage."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

3. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Andrews proposed and Mr. Water seconded:  
*"That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006, Reference P/10/2006."*

*CARRIED* unanimously

(b) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Buttifant seconded:  
*That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2006, Reference DM/04/06, subject to the following amendments:*

Page 1 - Item 1, second last paragraph:

**"horse ride should read horse riding"**

Page 2 – Item 4 (b), third line:

**plant should read planting**

Page 3 - Item 8 (b), first line should read:

*"Mr. Buttifant was approached by organisers of the Oaks and Acorns Christmas Dinner Club,"*

Page 3 – Item 8 (b), second last line should read:

*"This allowance was being made available only for local charitable activities, organised within, and for the benefit of, Kemsing Parish."*

Page 3 - Item 9, last line should be marked as item (b).

*The Clerk was asked to report on Item 4 (b): -*

Mr. Ronnie Norman contacted the Clerk. He had been in discussion with Mr. Hugh Johnson's brother. Mr. Norman would arrange further discussions to plant a commemorative tree on his land. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a letter of thanks to Mr. Norman for considering the Council's request to allow a tree to be planted on his land and also a letter to Mr. Johnson, advising that Mr. Norman would be in communication with him.

*CARRIED* unanimously

(c) Reports from Officers

- (i) Mrs. Cole referred to a letter received from the St. Edith Hall Management Committee, thanking the Parish Council for the decision to increase the annual grant for heating and insurance and structural grant aid.
- (ii) PC Wilkinson reported that two residents visited the Mobile Police Station, on 29<sup>th</sup> July at the Dynes Parade.
- (iii) A letter was received from Sevenoaks District Council, explaining the results of the Parish/Town Council Satisfaction Questionnaire Results 2005.

- (iv) A letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> July was received from Sevenoaks District Council. It included a briefing note on Government guidance that relates to the local: vision – the future of local government debate and related localism issues. Councillors were invited to contact the Clerk, if they were interested.
- (v) The Council was asked to comment on the Sevenoaks Playhouse Consultation and questionnaire. It was unanimously agreed that a letter would be sent to Sevenoaks District Council, supporting the continuing of arts provision in Sevenoaks. Notices to invite residents to comment, would be displayed on the Parish Council notice boards.
- (vi) A guide - Local Environmental quality guide was available in the Clerk's Office. The guide provides up to date information on laws relating to litter, dog fouling, waste, fly tipping, nuisance and abandoned vehicles, fly posting, graffiti and other relevant anti-social behaviour legislation.
- (vii) Mr. Andrews informed Councillors that residents expressed their concern about the recent clearing on the land opposite the Library. As a result of the clearance, parts of the existing fencing had been removed. Councillors felt that this land, without proper fencing, would be vulnerable. The Clerk was asked to write to the landowner, expressing the Council's concern and asking whether the Council could be advised on their plans and timescale of re-instating the fence.
- (viii) Mr. Buttifant reported that the footpath at the bottom of Dynes Road, leading to the Recreation Ground, behind the Dynes Old People's Home, was in very bad condition. The surface was in need of urgent repairs. The Clerk was asked to contact Kent County Council to enquire whether resurfacing would be considered. Mr. Farrow would be asked to cut back the vegetation to clear the footpath.
- (ix) Mr. Waters referred to a public notice placed in the "Kent on Sunday" dated 6<sup>th</sup> August 2006. SDC will vary the Kemsing Conservation Area by including woodland and mature trees north of Wybournes, St. Edith's Farm Cottage and the field behind, Ivy Farm House and the adjacent older cottages in West End, all of the south side of West End up to number 53, but excluding the garage and shops. SDC will also vary the Heaverham Conservation by including the garages beyond New Cottages, the whole residential plot at Nearly Corner, West Lodge, Broughton and woodland east of Ivy Cottage, the field and treed ponds south of Manor House, Crowdleham and associated buildings including a lodge, Oast house and farm buildings.

#### 4. **LONG TERM STORAGE OF VILLAGE ARCHIVES**

*Mr. Buttifant and Mr. Waters declared prejudicial interests as Trustees of the Kemsing Heritage Centre Association, and left the room.*

The Chairman advised Mr. Waters that in these circumstances, his proposal would have to be withdrawn. The Council considered the letter received on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006 from the Kemsing Heritage Centre, wherein the Council was asked to address the issue of finding a suitable location for long-term storage for historical Village records.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Kendall seconded:

*"That the Parish Council arranges a meeting with representatives from the Heritage Centre Association and various other Asset owning Village Organisation to formulate ideas and produce a report, with a view to find the best suitable solution."*

CARRIED 5 in favour, 2 abstentions

Mr. Rumgay hoped that the Parish Council would make every endeavour to resolve this matter. *[Mr. Buttifant and Mr. Waters returned to the meeting.]*

5. **PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

This discussion was deferred until after the Emergency Services Committee had its next meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September, to allow co-opted members time to consider the previously circulated report.

6. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

There was no business to report other than that already on the Agenda.

7. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

“That the Council approves the payment list (vouchers 105, 107 - 114, 120 - 132) and note the receipt list (vouchers 104,106,115 - 119) as per attached list.”

*CARRIED* unanimously

8. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The Council received the Information Report, and all the papers referred to, were laid on the table.

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

Mr. Croughton reported an increase in the number of passengers using the bus service since the free travel passes had been introduced.

10. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

**23<sup>rd</sup> August 2006: Highways (Please note change of date)**

29<sup>th</sup> August 2006: Planning (Tuesday)

6<sup>th</sup> September 2006: Emergency Services

11<sup>th</sup> September 2006: Planning

20<sup>th</sup> September 2006: Parish Council

25<sup>th</sup> September 2006: Planning

27<sup>th</sup> September 2006: Recreation Grounds

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50 p.m.

*Yolanda Tredoux, Clerk to the Council*  
20.08.2006