

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's Office, St. Edith Hall

Kemsing

SEVENOAKS

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council
held in the Small Hall, St Edith Hall, Kemsing
on Wednesday 15 September 2004 at 8.00 p.m.

- PRESENT: Councillors A C Andrews (in the Chair)
P R Burfield, B D Buttifant, G R Croughton,
R J Dawes, P M H Kendall, W Ross, A V Waters
- IN ATTENDANCE: Mr K Wilson
Mrs S Palmer, Acting Parish Clerk
- APOLOGIES: Councillors D Bennett, M Cole, A M Davies,
M J Williams

Declarations of Interest in the Register

No new Declarations were made.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 August 2004, reference KPC/08/04, previously circulated, were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting with the following amendment:

Item 3(b) Planning Committee Minutes ref P/13/2004, item 9(e) should state that Mr Croughton left the room for the duration of the discussion.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- (a) St Edith's Road/West End etc (Minute 2(a))
Mr Buttifant reported that at the site meeting held earlier in the year the impression was clearly given that the road would be completely re-done. The repairs have now been carried out and the road has only been patched. The junction of West End and Childsbridge Lane is still badly pitted, as is the High Street. DC Mrs Course has been informed of the Council's dissatisfaction with this work. The Clerk will write to SDC (Mr M Linfield) and pass on the opinion of the Council.
- (b) St Edith Hall (Minute 2(b))
Mr Kendall reported that the St Edith Club had requested an extension and the Court date had been deferred to 25 October 2004.
- Mrs Cole and Mr Burfield have prepared a paper on how much money the Parish Council has paid for the upkeep of the hall since 1996 for reference, if required.
- (c) Affordable Housing/The Rural Housing Trust (Minute 2(c))
Mr Andrews read a letter received from The Rural Housing Trust stating that progress was being made and that they would contact the Council again in a few weeks.
- (d) Resignation Of The Clerk To The Council (Minute 11)

Every Councillor received a letter from the Clerk written on his last day of employment expressing his pleasure in having worked for the Council, albeit for a short time.

Mr Kendall had presented Mr Pearson with a card and a book on behalf of the Council.

3. **TO CONSIDER THE LETTER RECEIVED FROM THE VICAR, NIGEL ASHWORTH**

Mr Croughton declared an interest and left the room.

Mr Waters declared an interest.

Mr Andrews read the letter received from the Vicar. It was AGREED that this item would be placed on the Agenda for the October Parish Council Meeting and that the Vicar would be invited to attend to discuss the plans more fully. Copies of the letter would be distributed to Councillors with the Agenda.

The Hall Management Committee will discuss it at their September meeting and report back to the Parish Council at the October meeting.

Mr Croughton returned to the Council Meeting Room.

4. **COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS**

(a) Downlands Management Committee

The Council approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 August 2004 (ref. DM/19/04) with the following amendments:

Item 9 (iv) should read Haffenden Field.

Item 8 (ii) should read P Kendall.

Members noted the recommendation contained in Item 8 (ii) Appointment of Officers.

(b) Emergency Services Committee

The Council approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 September 2004 (ref ES/14/04).

(c) Planning Committee

The Council approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 31 August 2004 (ref P/13/2004).

The Council approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 September 2004 (ref. P/14/2004) with the following amendments:

Item 5, line 1 should read 'Mr Croughton declared an interest, left the room, and took no part in the following discussion'.

Item 9(a), line 2, add 'of Kent Police' at the end of the paragraph.

(d) Highways Committee

The Council approved the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 September 2004 (ref. H/19/04) with the following amendments:

Item 4 (d) should read Oxenhill Shaw.

Item 5 should read 27 October 2004.

Mr Buttifant wished Members to note that a joint letter has been sent between KPC and Otford Parish Council requesting a permissive footpath is created at Oxenhill Shaw.

(e) Officer Report on Licensing presented by Mr R Dawes

A reply has been received in response to a letter sent by the Parish Council to the Licensing Officer of Kent Police. This was read out by Mr Dawes.

Mr Dawes also reported on a Licensing Forum that he attended on behalf of the Council on 9 September at the Sevenoaks District Council Office. This forum discussed the key points of the Licensing Act 2003 which will come into effect in 2005 at which time the District Council will be fully responsible for all licensing arrangements. This Act will have minimal impact on the Parish Council except in regard to Planning issues for Change of Use. Implications may be present regarding St Edith Hall and St Edith Club. Mr Anthony Garnett is the Licensing Manager and can be contacted for advice at Sevenoaks District Council.

- (f) Mr Andrews has been invited to attend an Open Day at Spring House Family Support Centre in the grounds of Sevenoaks Hospital.

Mr Alan Waters has also been invited and it was AGREED that Mr Waters would attend on behalf of Kemsing Parish Council.

5. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

No questions were raised.

6. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The Council received the Information Report.

7. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

There was no Business required by Statute to consider.

8. **RESPONSE TO THE FOLLOWING TWO CONSULTATION PAPERS RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER**

- (a) Draft Code of Conduct for Local Government Employees

The Council noted this consultation paper. No response will be issued.

- (b) A Review of Restrictions on the Political Activities of Local Authority Employees and Pay of Political Assistants.

The Council noted this consultation paper. No response will be issued.

9. **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON DRAFT STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY – SEVENOAKS DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The response from Kemsing Parish Council to SDC is that the Draft Statement is informative and well presented.

10. **FUNDING FOR THE CHURCH YOUTH WORKER 2004-2005**

Mr Croughton declared an interest and left the room.

Mr Waters explained the role of the Youth Worker to Members and outlined how the work was funded between four sources. He briefly explained the work that was being done in Kemsing.

Members agreed that as it had been a year since the Youth Worker had started in the village, a brief update would be welcomed and she would be asked to come to a Parish Meeting before the end of the year and report.

Members AGREED to fund a further year at a cost of £2,100.

Vote: 6 in favour. Mr Waters did not vote. Mr Croughton did not vote.

Mr Croughton returned to the meeting room.

11. **CAPITAL AND RESERVE FUNDS**

The Council agreed that there was nothing further to be added to the list at this time.

12. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

The Council approved:

- (a) Accounts for payment, voucher nos. 127 to 136
(b) Noted receipts, voucher nos. 122-126

13. **APPOINTMENT OF A NEW CLERK TO THE COUNCIL**

Following various advertisements within village publications, a number of people interested in this position have contacted the Clerk's Office for further information. The closing date for applications is 27 September 2004 and it is anticipated that any interviews will be held in early October.

In the interim it was AGREED that:

Mrs Palmer would take on the role of Acting Clerk and Responsible Officer.

Mr Burfield will take on the role of Responsible Financial Officer

Mrs Banister has agreed to assist Mrs Palmer as required.

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

- (a) Mr Dawes has received a letter from Sir Bruno Peak, the Coordinator of the Trafalgar Celebrations, thanking the Parish Council for its co-operation and informing us that the beacon which will be lit to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Nelson's victory at the Battle of Trafalgar, has been registered.
- (b) Mr Bennet has requested in writing that the Council consider the title of this item as the news that the Butchers shop will be closing and Mr & Mrs Hudson leaving the Post Office at Dynes Road could not be described as 'Good'.

15. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

20 October 2004.

The Meeting Closed at 9.43 pm

Sharon Palmer
Acting Parish Clerk