

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 21st September 2005 at 8.00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Councillor M Cole (in the Chair)
Councillors A Andrews, D Bennett, G Croughton, R Dawes, P Kendall,
A Waters

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Y Tredoux (Clerk)
Mr I Rumgay
Two Members of the Public

APOLOGIES: Councillors P Burfield, B Buttifant, W Ross, and M Williams

There were no changes recorded in the Declarations of Interest in the Register.

The Chairman welcomed all present.

A ballot was held for the co-option of Mr Ian Rumgay as a Parish Councillor. The votes were counted, and it was a unanimous decision that Mr Rumgay be invited to join the other Councillors at the table, where after Mr Rumgay signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

1. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th August 2005, reference **KPC/08/05**, having been previously circulated, was approved subject to the following amendments:

Page 1: *Mr M Williams* was present at the meeting.

Page 2: Item 2 (i) Heading: "*opening*" should be replaced with "*staffing*"

CARRIED 6 in favour, 2 abstentions

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Affordable Housing (See Minute 2(a) KPC/08/05)

A letter dated 06th September had been sent to The Rural Housing Trust requesting a site meeting to discuss the progress of the proposed site at Nightingale Road.

(b) PCSO - Police Community Support Officer (See Minute 2(b) KPC/08/05)

The Chairman and the Clerk attended a Meeting with Trevor Pankhurst (Project Manager, Partnership and Crime Reduction), Ellen Shaw (Partnership Co-ordinator) and Councillors of Seal Parish Council, on Thursday, 18th August 2005 at the Seal Pavilion. Various issues on the Partnership Agreement were discussed and Mr Pankhurst would be looking into the

Agreement to see if any changes could be made. (A copy of the notes had been circulated to all Councillors.)

Councillors agreed that no further decisions would be made until a response had been received from the Kent Police Authority.

The Clerk contacted Kent County Council to obtain more information regarding the Community Warden Scheme. Kent County Council responded that the proposed target of recruiting 100 Wardens was reached and they were no longer recruiting Wardens at this stage. However, the situation might change in the future.

(c) Village Facilities (See Minute 2(c) KPC/08/05)

Mr Dawes reported that a meeting had taken place, with Mr Tony Andrews representing the Recreation Grounds Committee, and that the next meeting was scheduled with the Church and the St. Edith Club.

(d) Recycling Facilities (See Minute 2 (e) KPC/08/05)

The Chairman and the Clerk had attended a site visit with Mr. Charles Nouhan (Recycling Co-ordinator at Sevenoaks District Council) on 25th August 2005. The current recycling units were discussed and Mr. Nouhan said that he would arrange for the units to be repositioned, in order to make it easier for people to reach. The hedge behind the recycling units needed trimming and Mr. Nouhan would try to arrange for the trimmings.

After visiting the "proposed" site at the top of the "old" Childsbridge Lane, Mr. Nouhan said that in his opinion, that particular site was not suitable for recycling. The main problem was that there was not sufficient space for the large vehicles and lorries to turn and the site was too isolated. He preferred the units to be more within reasonable distance of dwellings, due to recent raids of vandalism on neighbouring recycling sites.

The Nightingale Recreation Grounds had been identified as a more suitable site. Mr. Nouhan proposed to place the units on the existing concrete base, which would need to be levelled, or on the nearby footpath. This site was in visible distance of dwellings, which made it more favourable than the original proposed site. Mr. Nouhan said that the units could be placed on this site for a trial period to measure the usability of the units there.

The Council was asked to consider the proposed installing of recycling units on the site at Nightingale Recreation Grounds.

The Council agreed that the Clerk would make a further investigation into any cost involved to the Council, should this be done, and thereafter the matter would be considered further.

(e) Public Houses (See Minute 2 (f) KPC/08/05)

The Licensing Hearing for The Wheatsheaf Public House was held on 22nd August 2005 at SDC, which Mrs Cole attended with Ms Lorraine Stack and Mrs Joyce Course.

Hours premises are open to the public:

Monday - Saturday 10:00 until 00:00

Sunday 12:00 until 00:00

(Seasonal variations and non-standard timings New Years Day 10:00 until 00:00, on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday on Bank Holiday Weekends, Christmas Eve and Boxing Day 10:00 until 00:00).

More details could be obtained from the Clerk.

The Licensing Hearing for The Bell Public House was held on 8th September 2005, and the Council awaited confirmation of the conditions of the licence.

Mr Andrews noted that The Bell Public House had placed benches in their car park, which resulted in vehicles being parked on the street, thus obstructing the normal flow of traffic through the High Street. Mrs Cole reported that this issue had been raised at the hearing for The Bell Public House at Sevenoaks District Council, but that it had not been taken up.

The Council agreed that the Clerk should write to Mr. A Garnett (Licensing Officer at Sevenoaks District Council), for advice.

(f) Sevenoaks District Council CCTV system (See Minute 2 (h) KPC/08/05)

A letter dated 10th August 2005 was sent to Sevenoaks District Council to enquire whether Kemsing could be included in their system, and a response dated 12th September 2005 had been received from the CCTV Manager at Sevenoaks District Council, thanking Kemsing Parish Council for showing an interest in having Sevenoaks CCTV Control Room monitor Kemsing. She explained that unfortunately they were at maximum capacity as far as cameras were concerned and could not take anyone onboard for the moment. In future, they would be looking at going digital, which would allow them to expand. They would keep Kemsing Parish Council informed of any developments.

(g) Otford Railway Station: Proposed reduction in ticket office hours (See Minute 2 (i) KPC/08/05)

The Council received a letter dated 7th September 2005 from the Rail Passengers Council, in response to the Council's recent objection to proposals to cut ticket office hours. The Rail Passengers Council received in excess of 3100 objections during the consultation period. They worked closely with the London Transport Users Committee and produced a response and this was sent to the Department of Transport on 10th August 2005. The submission received favourable media coverage, which could be found on the following website: www.railpassengers.org.uk/site/News/RPCPressReleases/2005_100805_01. The Department for Transport was now assessing the submissions and a response was expected in the near future.

Mr Bennett noted that the previous ticket vending machine had not been replaced at Otford Railway Station since it had been vandalised a few years ago. Mr Croughton noted that there was only a machine for purchasing a permit to travel.

3. COMMITTEE & OFFICER REPORTS

(a) Planning Committee

Mr Dawes proposed and Mr Andrews seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes (already circulated) of the Meeting held on 11th July 2005, Reference P/10/2005."

CARRIED 7 in favour, 1 abstaining

Mr Dawes proposed and Mr Andrews seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes (already circulated) of the Meeting held on 22nd August 2005, Reference P/11/2005."

CARRIED 7 in favour, 1 abstaining

Mr Dawes proposed and Mr Andrews seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes (already circulated) of the Meeting held on 5th September 2005, Reference P/12/005."

CARRIED 7 in favour, 1 abstaining

(b) Downland Management Committee

Mr Bennett proposed and Mrs Cole seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes (already circulated) of the Meeting held on 10th August 2005, Reference DM/04/05."

CARRIED 7 in favour, 1 abstaining

(c) Highways Committee

Mr Bennett proposed and Mr Croughton seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes (already circulated) of the Meeting held on 31st August 2005, Reference H/04/05, subject to the following amendments:

*Page 2: Item 2 (l) County **Lenghtsmen** should read **Lengthsmen***

*Page 4: Item 3 (g) **Mr Croughton** should be replaced with **Mr Bennett.**"*

CARRIED 7 in favour, 1 abstaining

Mr Bennett said that Mr Buttifant had been contacted by the Clerk to Otford Parish Council, who informed him that a public hearing would be held soon, when the Otford Level Crossing would be discussed. She would keep Kemsing Parish Council informed of any developments.

(d) Emergency Services Committee

Mrs Cole proposed from the Chair:

"That the Council approves the Report (already circulated) of the Meeting held on 7th September 2005, Reference ES/20/05."

CARRIED by 7 in favour, 1 abstaining

(e) Reports from Officers

(i) Mrs Cole read a letter dated 25th August 2005, which had been received from the Youth Hostel Association, in response to the Clerk's letter regarding the closure of the Youth Hostel in Kemsing. Kemsing Parish Council's comments would be passed to their Chief Executive.

(ii) Mr Bennett informed the Council of the closing down of the "Dynes Drapers" shop in the Dynes Parade, and Mr Bennett proposed and Mr Waters seconded:

"That the Clerk write to Mrs Kozlowski to record the Council's thanks to her and to wish her well for the future."

CARRIED unanimously

(iii) Mrs Cole reported that a letter had been received from Shoreham Parish Council to enquire whether Kemsing Parish Council would consider in "sharing" a Speed Indication Device, and Members agreed that this item would be discussed at the next Highways Committee Meeting.

- (iv) Mrs Cole read a letter received from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers dated 22nd August 2005. The Council was asked to consider making a donation for the Kent Pond Warden Scheme, and Councillors agreed that the matter be referred to the Downland Management Committee.
- (v) Mrs Cole read a letter received for the Queens Award for Voluntary Service and asked for any nominations. There were no nominations.

4. **KEMSING WEBSITE**

Councillors had been asked to discuss information, which could be included on the website, and it was agreed that no personal details, such as telephone numbers and addresses of Councillors would be displayed on the Website.

5. **LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION**

The Parish Council was invited to comment and put forward any suggestions by no later than Friday, 30th September 2005 on Sevenoaks District Council's draft action plan. This was a statutorily required plan of measures to improve air quality in our five Air Quality Management Areas (along the M20, M25, and M26, A20 (T) Swanley bypass and at the junction of the A25 and A224 at Riverhead.

The draft plan was also considered by the Environmental Select Committee at SDC, held on the 1st September 2005.

All Parish and Town Councils were invited to comment whether or not directly affected by one of the Air Quality Management Areas. All identified properties on the database at SDC would be receiving a letter advising them about the consultation.

Following any changes to the plan arising as a result of the consultation, a finalised plan would be considered for adoption by Cabinet in October. The plan was available on SDC's Website in the Environment - Pollution - Air Quality - Air Quality Consultations and Reports section. A hard copy (consisting of 43 pages) is also available in the Clerk's office.

Mr Dawes proposed and Mr Croughton seconded:

"That the Parish Council write to Sevenoaks District Council, informing them of the Council's concern about effect of the M26 on the air quality in the village, and particularly in Park Lane."

CARRIED unanimously

6. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

There was no business required by Statute to report.

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

Mrs D Farrow asked the Council whether the dates of forthcoming Police Surgeries by PC Wilkinson could be published in The Well magazine.

The Council agreed that the Clerk would contact PC Wilkinson and advise Mrs Farrow of the dates for the forthcoming Police Surgeries.

Mrs Farrow reported that only one or two residents attended the previous police surgeries, held by PC Wilkinson at the Library, and asked whether the forthcoming police surgeries could be discussed with PC Wilkinson. Mrs Farrow asked whether PC Wilkinson could visit different locations within the Village on the Police Surgery day, and perhaps hold shorter meetings at these different locations, for example, the Dynes Parade Shops and perhaps the Post Office at the St. Edith Well.

The Council agreed to instruct the Clerk to contact PC Wilkinson to discuss the matter.

8. **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

9h07

The Chairman proposed the exclusion of the Public and Press.

Common Field

Mr Waters proposed and Mr Croughton seconded:

"That the Council instructs the Clerk to write to the owners of Wybournes and offer to buy the land belonging to them to the north of the road to Heverham."

CARRIED 6 in favour, 1 abstention (Mrs Cole), 1 against (Mr Bennett)

Staff Training

Mrs Cole reported that the Deputy Clerk had shown an interest in completing the course "Working with your Council", and the Clerk (who had started with the Course previously) was asked to inform Councillors of the course material. After a briefing from the Clerk, Mr Croughton proposed and Mr Andrews seconded:

"That the Council approves payment for the course to be completed by the Deputy Clerk".

CARRIED unanimously

9h25 the press and public were re-admitted.

9. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The Council received the information report, which had been previously circulated, and all papers referred to, were laid on the table.

10. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mrs Cole proposed and Mr Croughton seconded:

"That the Council approves the list of payments vouchers 148 to 170."

CARRIED unanimously

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

Mr Dawes reported that the Trafalgar celebrations would be held on Green Hill on 21st October 2005, and that he will present the Council with more details at the next Council meeting.

12. **DATES OF MEETINGS**

28th September 2005: Recreation Grounds
3rd October 2005: Planning
5th October 2005: Finance
12th October 2005: Downland Management
17th October 2005: Planning
19th October 2005: Parish Council
26th October 2005: Highways
31st October 2005: Planning

The meeting closed at 9h32.

*Yolanda Tredoux
Clerk to the Council*