

KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk's Office, St. Edith Hall
Kemsing, Sevenoaks
KENT, TN15 6NA
Tel & Fax: 01732 762 841
E-Mail: kemsingpc@tiscali.co.uk

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Small Hall, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing, on Wednesday 19th October 2005 at 8.00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs. Y Tredoux (Clerk)
Mr. N Chard (County Councillor)
6 Members of the Public
The Rev. N. Ashworth (arrived 9:00 p.m.)

APOLOGIES: Mr. A Andrews
Ms. L Stack (District Councillor)

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

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st September 2005, Reference KPC/09/05, having been previously circulated, were approved.

CARRIED unanimously

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) Affordable Housing (See Minute 2(a) KPC/09/05)

The Council was asked to appoint Councillors who wished to attend a meeting with the representative from The Rural Housing Trust, as proposed in their letter dated 30th September 2005.

The following Councillors agreed to attend the meeting:

*Mr. B Buttifant, Mr. P Burfield, Mr. G Croughton, Mr. I Rumgay, Mr. A Waters
(The Chairman nominated Mr. A Andrews, who was absent from the meeting, to be included in the above list).*

The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with The Rural Housing Trust.

(b) PCSO – Police Community Support Officer (See Minute 2(b) KPC/09/05)
A response was awaited from the Police Authority.

(c) Village Facilities (See Minute 2(c) KPC/09/05)

Mr. Dawes reported that meetings had been held with various village organisations, and that further meetings would be held with the Scouts, Tennis Club, and the Primary School before Christmas. He hoped to be in a position to deliver a report by February 2006, in time for the Annual General Meeting in March 2006.

(d) Recycling Facilities (See Minute 2(d) KPC/09/05)

The Sevenoaks District Council Recycling Co-coordinator informed the Clerk that the Parish Council would have to approve the siting of the banks, and arrange and pay for the construction of a suitable base. This would be contingent upon SDC's written agreement that they would have to provide the banks and service them.

The Clerk was in the process of obtaining a quotation for the concrete base.

(e) Public Houses (See Minute 2(e) KPC/09/05)

The Clerk wrote to the SDC Licensing Officer, seeking advice regarding the car park at The Bell Public House where tables and benches had been placed to provide an outdoor drinking area, which had resulted in increased street parking and problems with obstruction in the High Street. A reply was awaited.

The Chairman read an email dated 30th September 2005, received from District Councillor Ms. Stack. Ms Stack advised that she would ask Kent Highways to consider imposing restrictions for parking.

Mr. Dawes felt that double yellow lines would solve the problem. Mrs. Cole said that customers of the Public Houses were using the St. Edith Hall Car Park, which resulted in Hall users not being able to use the St. Edith Hall Car Park. Mrs. Cole would ask The St. Edith Hall Management Committee to consider ways in which to restrict parking in the St. Edith Hall Car Park, ensuring that the parking was made available for Hall users only.

3. COMMITTEE & OFFICER REPORTS

(a) Planning Committee

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th September 2005, Reference P/13/2005."

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Dawes proposed and Mr. Croughton seconded:

"That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd October 2005, Reference P/14/2005."

CARRIED unanimously

(b) Downland Management Committee

Mr. Bennett proposed and Mr. Buttifant seconded:

“That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th October 2005, Reference DM/05/05, and that the Council approves the co-option of Mr. John Smith as a Member of the Downland Management Committee.”

Mr. Burfield drew attention to Item 3 (b) and advised that the water level in the well was very low.

CARRIED unanimously

Mr. Bennett advised that papers had been received from BTCV (formerly British Trust for Conservation Volunteers), informing the Council of the Tree Warden Scheme. The Council was asked to consider whether to publicise the opportunity for anyone to apply to BTCV for training as a Tree Warden, and if so, whether the Council should make any contribution to the cost of this scheme.

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Bennett seconded:

“That the Council advertises the Tree Warden Scheme, and if someone was interested in this Scheme, the Council would consider making a donation.”

CARRIED unanimously

(c) Finance Committee

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Williams seconded:

“That the Council approves the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th October 2005, Reference F/103/05, subject to the following amendment:”

Page 3, Item 9:

Mr. Croughton proposed and Mr. Burfield seconded, that the first sentence should read:

“The Committee considered requests for grants and it was agreed that the following requests would be recommended to the Council for further consideration:”

CARRIED unanimously

(d) Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) – Air Quality Action Plan

The Chairman read a response received from SDC:

“Whilst there were residents close to the motorway, none actually lived in the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and only parts of two gardens were in and three gardens just contact the AQMA, therefore, most residents in the area were not sent individual consultations as they were not directly affected themselves.”

The comments of Kemsing Parish Council would be passed to the Portfolio Holder Councillor Loney.

The Chairman advised that a full report was available at the Library.

(e) Land to the North of the road – Common Field

The Chairman reported that a reply had been received from the owners of Wybournes, declining the Parish Council's offer to purchase the land to the North of the Heaverham Road, adjoining the Parish Council's Land.

The Finance Officer reminded the Parish Council of Standing Order 29:

“Any motion which, if carried, would in the opinion of the Chairman substantially increase the expenditure upon any service which is under the management of or reduces the revenue at the disposal of any Committee, or which would involve capital expenditure shall, when proposed and seconded, stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council, UNLESS

(a) it is a recommendation by the Finance Officer, or

(b) a recommendation of the relevant Committee, after approval by the Finance Officer.”

(f) Going wild in the Garden Ceremony at Sevenoaks Community Centre

The Chairman and the Clerk attended an awards ceremony on 29th September 2005, where Town & Parish Council Special Prizes were presented. Parishes included Shoreham, Kemsing & Hartley. Mrs. Cole presented the K.P.C prize to Mrs. Caroline Copleston. A note was received from Mrs. Copleston, thanking the Parish Council for the prize, with an invitation to view her wild garden.

(g) Community Grant Scheme – 2006/07

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from SDC. This scheme would be open to applications from voluntary organisations that provide help and services for the residents of the District, as well as groups working with local young people and play schemes. The Closing date for applications is 18th November 2005.

Mrs. Cole suggested that the Open Door and the Evergreens could be eligible for funding under this scheme, and the Clerk was awaiting more details from SDC regarding the scheme, and if appropriate, would refer to the Organisation.

(h) Remembrance Day Parade – Sunday, 13th November 2005

The Chairman reminded Councillors that the service at the War Memorial would commence at 9h45. All Councillors were invited to attend.

(i) Request for Donation – Open Door Committee

A request for a donation was received from the Open Door Committee and it was agreed that the request would be referred to the Finance Committee.

4. **SENIOR CITIZEN - CHRISTMAS DINNER 2005 at KEMSING PRIMARY SCHOOL**

A letter dated 22nd September 2005 was received, requesting the Council for financial support towards the Senior Christmas Dinner due to be held on Saturday, 3rd December 2005, at Kemsing Primary School. Parish Councillors were invited to tea in the afternoon from 3 p.m.

Mr. Williams proposed and Mr. Kendall seconded:
“That the Council increases the contribution to £300-00.”

CARRIED by 10 in favour

5. **BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE**

There was no other business to report required by statute.

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

- (a) Mr. Bob Banister asked the Council whether the Council would discuss the incident that took place on Saturday, 15th October 2005, at The Bell Public House.

The Chairman read a statement from the Licensee of the Wheatsheaf Public House, which had been delivered to nearby residents, presenting their comments on the incident and a letter received from West Kent Police, informing the Council that they had received an anonymous complaint under the Licensing Act 2003 – Noise and Disturbance, (presumably a nearby resident) who was complaining of fighting outside the premises by patrons of either the Bell or Wheatsheaf Public Houses. Unfortunately the Police were unable to explain to the complainant what action he or she should take over any future complications as no contact name, address or telephone number was given. The Council was asked to inform residents that it is essential to include their contact details, in order for the complaint to be followed up.

Mrs. Cole said that she would attempt to make an appointment with PC Wilkinson to discuss the actual police report on the incident.

The Chairman invited The Reverend Nigel Ashworth to report on the incident. Mr. Ashworth attended a Barn Dance in the Village Hall, and was in the process of clearing up when he heard the disturbance outside, where he found a man injured, with two serious head wounds, who refused all medical help. Eventually Mr. Ashworth and Mrs. Libretto, Caretaker of the St. Edith Hall, assisted the man into the Hall and applied first aid. The man said that he had been attacked by three men who had hit him with sticks.

The Police were called out and visited the scene twice.

The Licensee from the Wheatsheaf was invited to comment on the incident. She said that upon hearing the noise outside, and seeing that the trouble had spilled into their car park, she immediately locked her doors and kept her customers in and called the Police.

- (b) Mrs. Cole informed the Council of a Licensing Seminar to take place on 10th November 2005 and the Council nominated Mr. Bob Banister to represent the Parish Council.
- (c) County Councillor Mr. Nick Chard, reminded Councillors that funding was available to him to support Parish Council Schemes.

7. **INFORMATION REPORT**

The Council received the information report, and papers referred to, were laid on the table.

8. **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Burfield proposed and Mr. Williams seconded:

“That the Council approves Payment Vouchers 171,172 and 176 to 201 and to note Receipt Vouchers 173 & 174.”

CARRIED unanimously

9h18

The Chairman proposed the exclusion of the Public and the Press from the meeting for discussion of the next item.

AGREED: Unanimously

- 9. A letter dated 15th October 2005 from Mr. Nigel Fox Bassett, Chairman of the Kemsing Pavilion Trust was copied and passed to members.

The Council agreed that the Clerk would reply to Mr. Fox Bassett, to thank him for his letter and to advise that his comments were noted, and that the Council was pleased to note Mrs. Jenny Donegan’s appointment as a Trustee of the Kemsing Pavilion Trust.

9h27

The Meeting was re-opened for the Public and Press.

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

Mr. Dawes advised the Council that Ms. Sue Evans said that she was hoping to present some examples to the Council early next year for the Village “logo”.

Mr. Rungay advised that he looked at the website and forwarded his recommendations to the Clerk.

Mr. Dawes advised the Council that the Beacon would be held on 21st October 2005 at 8:30 p.m.

11. **DATES OF MEETINGS:**

26th October 2005: Highways
31st October 2005: Planning
2nd November 2005: Emergency Services
9th November 2005: Recreation Grounds
14th November 2005: Planning
16th November 2005: PARISH COUNCIL
28th November 2005: Planning

7th December 2005: Finance
12th December 2005: Planning
14th December 2005: Finance

The Meeting closed at 9:35 p.m.

*Yolanda Tredoux
Clerk to the Council*