

## KEMSING PARISH COUNCIL

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### DOWNLAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**Notice of a meeting to be held in the Committee Room, St. Edith Hall, Kemsing on**

**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30 pm**

#### A G E N D A

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MINUTES**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Reference no DM/04/2019.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

(a) Tree survey for Kemsing Downs Nature Reserve (Minute 4(a) DM/04/2019)

Mr. Bennett and the Clerk are in the process of preparing a document detailing the survey requirements, including a map highlighting the footpaths on the Reserve in order to obtain quotations for a survey.

(b) Old Chalk New Downs Project (Minute 4(b) DM/04/2019)

Site meeting took place to identify the areas but the Project Manager's map provided to Kemsing Parish Council of their understanding of the areas was incorrect. The Parish Council's Woodland Consultant is currently preparing a revised map.

Subsequently, the Project Manager advised the Clerk that they would only fund the capital outlay of the project but no further maintenance work thereafter. To consider.

(c) Contractors' public liability insurance (Minute 4(c) DM/04/2019)

Confirmation of increased public liability insurance has been received from some contractors but one is still awaited. The Clerk has reminded the contractor.

(d) Chalky Way – access gate to Reservoir track (Minute 13(a) DM/04/2019)

A response from South East Water is awaited regards the 'no parking' sign.

Mr. Froud and a South East Water Representative have repositioned the chain and fitted two new padlocks.

4. **THE WELL AREA**

(a) Horse trough wall (Minute 5(c) DM/04/2019)

Mr. Buttifant to report.

(b) Missing tile on wall adjacent to red telephone kiosk (Minute 5(c) DM/04/2019)

Mr. Buttifant to report.

(c) Kemsing Gardeners' Society

Arrangements for the yearly grant are being made.

(d) Request for memorial bench in memory of the late Mr. L. Green

The family has requested a seat to be installed inside The Well area. To consider.

5. **JUBILEE GREEN**

(a) Parked van (Minute 6 DM/04/2019)

The letter was not placed on the parked van as it has come to light that the Jubilee Green area is in fact owned by Sevenoaks District Council. *To consider attached note (for Councillors only).*

6. **GREEN HILL**

(a) Topograph (Minute 5(d) DM/04/2019)

Mr. Buttifant to report.

(b) Mowing

Mr. Froud to report on when main field is likely to be cut.

(c) Ferretting (Minute 7 DM/04/2019)

Arrangements have not been made as the field has not been mowed yet.

7. **HAFFENDEN FIELD**

(a) Mowing (Minute 8 DM/04/2019)

This has now been done.

8. **LOWER HAFFENDEN**

9. **KEMSING DOWN NATURE RESERVE ADVISORY GROUP (KDNRAG)**

It is hoped that a report of the grant situation and report of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 will be circulated before this meeting, otherwise a verbal report will be given.

10. **DARENTH VALLEY LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME**

A further meeting with the Project Manager has been scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

11. **ASH DIE BACK ACTION PLAN**

The Clerk and Mr. Bennett had reviewed the Forestry Commission (FC) guidance notes on ash die back and the Clerk had subsequently produced a draft tree inspection report (as per the FC's pro forma) which could be used to record inspections and recommended work. Work on producing an Ash Die Back Management Action Plan is being progressed; the first step is for the Parish Council's Woodland Consultant to provide a quotation for producing a map showing location of vulnerable ash trees. This would be the basis for the application for a felling licence.

12. **ASH TREES ALREADY IDENTIFIED WITH ASH DIE BACK**

A quotation for coppicing the identified ash trees has been obtained and accepted by the Parish Council. The Parish Council agreed that the KDNRAG should reconsider in the light of a verbal suggestion from an Arboricultural Consultant that the tree at the foot of the steps, although showing some signs of ash die back, does not require work at this time. The Group will also consider whether it is permissible to leave the felled logs and stacked or chipped branches on site. A verbal report on these matters will be given at the meeting.

13. **INFORMATION REPORT**

14. **REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS /CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

15. **APPOINTMENTS**

There is still a Parish Councillor vacancy on the Kemsing Downs Nature Reserve Advisory Group.

16. **BUDGET**

A draft budget for the remainder of 2019/20 and estimate budget for 2020/21 is attached for consideration.

17. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Signed : Y. Tredoux

Position : Parish Clerk

Date : 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019