

Kesgrave Town Council

Recreation and Amenities Committee

Minutes of the meeting of the Recreation and Amenities Committee held on Monday 30th September 2013 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber.

Present: Mr A Comber (Chairman) Mr J Ogden
Mrs S Fairbrother Mrs J Smith
Mr G Lynch

Appointed representatives: Miss S Hall (Project Officer & PTLO)
Mr M Rayment (P3)

In attendance: Mrs J Francis (Deputy Clerk to the Town Council)
Mrs J Abbott (Administrative Assistant to the Town Council)

1. Apologies

None.

2. Declaration of interests

Mr Comber declared a Local Non-Pecuniary interest in item 9.a. Rupert Fison Centre, Christmas Lights Switch On and Children's Evening, being a Director of Rupert Fison Centre and Kesgrave Scout Group leader, and remained in the meeting during consideration and discussion of the matters.

Mr Ogden declared a Local Non-Pecuniary interest in item 9.a. Rupert Fison Centre, Christmas Lights Switch On and Children's Evening, being a Kesgrave Scout Group leader, and remained in the meeting during consideration and discussion of the matters.

Mr Lynch declared a Local Non-Pecuniary interest in item 13.a. Play Equipment Grant, being a Member of Suffolk Coastal District Council who would be considering a grant application from KTC, and remained in the meeting during consideration and discussion of the matters.

3. Minutes of the last meeting held 24th June 2013

The minutes of the meeting held 24th June 2013, having been circulated were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

a. Late items for information None.

No adjournment was declared as no member of the Public was present.

5. Burials

a. Late items for information None.

6. Litter

a. Late items for information Members were informed that the Council Litter Picker, Mr Hardwick had given his notice and would be retiring at the end of the year. Mr Comber requested a letter of appreciation be sent thanking him for the work he has carried out on behalf of the Town Council and to wish him well for the future.

7. Public Open Space Reports

a. Cedarwood Green and Cedarwood Walk

i. Maintenance Report Members were informed that hedge and tree maintenance had been carried out at Cedarwood Green and Cedarwood Walk. The clearance at the northern end of Cedarwood Green had been extensive but will now allow for better growth in the future. Unfortunately a great deal of rubbish had been unearthed during this work which was subsequently cleared by the Deputy and Assistant Clerk. In response to a plea for assistance from Councillors, Mr Comber had attended and was thanked for his help at such short notice.

b. Legion Green Nothing to report.

c. Long Strops Pond Nothing to report.

d. Late items for information None.

8. Roads, footways and footpaths

a. Pilboroughs Walk In response to a request from the Committee an article had appeared in the August issue of Kesgrave News on the use of Pilboroughs Walk by cyclists and pedestrians. In conjunction with this article, and at the request of KTC, Suffolk County Council had reinstated the white lines and cycle markings on this cycle/footway.

b. Late items for information The Deputy Clerk raised the following issues:-

1. A request had been received from a member of the First Responders team asking for KTC to consider erecting name signs for Public Open Spaces, off Pilboroughs Walk. This followed an incident on Pergola Piece POS, when a caller had difficulty in explaining their location. The Deputy Clerk explained there are five POSs off Pilboroughs Walk and only two, Grange Meadow and Oak Meadow POS, are signed because of the presence of play equipment. She suggested and the Committee agreed further investigations will be made and the results and a recommendation will be brought back to the Committee at their next meeting.

2. Members were informed investigations are being made into the provision of a permanent external nameplate sign for the Town Council Office to include the wording for 'no unauthorised parking'.

9. Rupert Fison Centre

a. Christmas Lights Switch On and Children's Evening The Chairman explained he has unfortunately been unable to progress any investigations regarding the canopy. It was therefore agreed the Children's Evening entertainment will be postponed for a second year. The Christmas Lights Switch On ceremony will go ahead at 6.00pm on 29th November 2013 and this will coincide with the Scout Craft Fair. Mr Ogden also stated he was willing to be Father Christmas again at this event and this was readily accepted.

The Deputy Clerk informed the Committee she had been approached by Mr Mills, as Chairman of Spark, He has stated his Committee would be pleased to consider an application for a permanent canopy at Rupert Fison Centre. The Committee agreed in the light of this information they would re-visit their previous investigations regarding a permanent fixture and discuss the way forward at their next meeting.

10. Kesgrave Conservation Group Report

Nothing to report.

11. PTLO Report

Miss Hall, as PTLO reported:

- she was still waiting for a response from First Buses regarding Route 66 and the use of the guided bus way;
- on the re-introduction of buses in established Kesgrave and the continued request for a service to Glanville Place and Ipswich Hospital;
- on the Endeavour Card for youngsters which now includes services by First Eastern Counties;
- on the proposed re-opening dates for the Cattle Market and Tower Ramparts in Ipswich;
- on Real Time Information boards.

12. P3 report

Mr Rayment explained he had organised a walk on Sunday and had been disappointed with the turn out which was boosted by some members of Kesgrave Scout Group. It was discussed at length how public attendance could be increased but not to the extent where an event would be oversubscribed with walkers. It was suggested, in addition to the walk being advertised in Kesgrave News, a poster could be designed, placed in the Rupert Fison noticeboard and erected at the starting point two weeks before the event, which may encourage attendance.

13. Play Equipment Improvements and Provision

a. Additional Play Equipment Miss Hall, as Project Officer, explained KTC had been awarded the full grant applied for from Viridor. In the meantime the chosen contractor had offered KTC a considerable discount on the current order on the condition a letter of intent was received by the end of September and an order placed in October. As this offer reduced the shortfall of funding to approximately £7,000 it was an opportunity for KTC to seriously consider. Therefore because of the time restraints the Chairman of Full Council, F&R and R&A were informed of the situation and agreed to accept the proposal made by the contractor. The shortfall of funds will be covered from Reserve Funds with every effort to reduce it further by additional funding requests which are being submitted. The Committee agreed the project had been postponed many times and were glad to see it coming to fruition at last.

14. Senior Citizens Outing The Committee were informed the Senior Citizens Outing had again been well attended, with 89 participants. The Town Council had received several thank you letters and verbal comments of appreciation of the day. In view of its popularity with residents the Committee agreed this event would continue in 2014.

15. Town Trail Proposal A resident had approached KTC with the suggestion of producing a self-guided Town Trail with directions connecting points of interest in Kesgrave i.e. the computer memorial, statues and information boards. The Committee agreed to the resident's request that they receive a presentation on her proposal in the New Year.

16. Items to be published in Kesgrave News

- Job Application for Kesgrave Litter Picker;
- Oak Meadow New Play Equipment – for the December Issue;
- Kesgrave Market and the opportunity to advertise Local and Charitable organisations;

17. To receive such other communications or matters of sufficient urgency and importance that the Chairman will allow for discussion. None.

Date of Next Meetings:

Full Council – Monday 14th October 2013 at 7.15pm

Recreation and Amenities – Monday 27th January 2014 at 7.30pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Chairman