

Minutes of the meeting of the Kesgrave Town Council held on Monday 12th July 2010 at 7.15pm in the Council Chamber.

Present: Mr K Beecroft (Chairman) Mr G Lynch

Mr A Comber	Mr P Miller
Mrs S Coupe	Mr P Mills
Mrs S Evans	Mr C Pryke
Mrs N Goodchild	Mrs E Smith
Mr R Haskell	Mr R Walkling

In attendance: Mrs V R Read (Clerk to the Town Council)

Mrs J Francis (Deputy Clerk to the Town Council)

Mrs L Bennett (Administrative Assistant to the Town Council)

Mr S Hudson (County Councillor)

Mr M Grimwood (District Councillor)

Mrs P Brown (Local History Recorder)

7 Members of the public

1. Apologies

Mrs J Klaschka	– illness
Mrs S Ogden, (Vice Ch & District Cllr)	– family commitments
Rev R Spittle	– illness
Mrs D McCallum (District Cllr)	– family commitments
Mrs M Neale (District Cllor)	– family commitments

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Beecroft declared a prejudicial interest in item 13, Retrospective Debate on Alternatives to Kesgrave News being a Committee member of the magazine, and left the room while the matter was under consideration.

Mr Beecroft declared a personal interest in item 7.a., payment to Cedarwood School, being a school Governor remained in the meeting and took part in consideration and discussion of the matter.

Mr Comber declared a prejudicial interest in item 13, Retrospective Debate on Alternatives to Kesgrave News being Chairman of the Magazine Committee, and left the room while the matter was under consideration.

Mr Comber declared a personal interest in item 9a.i, Rupert Fison Centre, new lighting for the square, being a Director of The Rupert Fison Square Consortium, remained in the meeting and took part in consideration and discussion of the matter.

Mrs Evans declared a prejudicial interest in item 8.a.iii, C10/1540, being a distant neighbour,

however there being no discussion on the matter she remained in the meeting.

Mr Miller declared a personal interest in item 7.a. payment to Cedarwood School, being a mid day supervising assistant, remained in the meeting and took part in consideration and discussion of the matter.

3. Minutes of the last regular meeting held on 14th June 2010

The minutes of the last meeting having been issued were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

a. Late items for information None.

5. Report from Chairman and Vice Chairman

The Chairman reported he had attended the Scout AGM on the 26th June and the Armed Forces Memorial Service the same day. He had also attended a private viewing of the Kesgrave High School art exhibition.

Council agreed a letter of thanks be sent to Kesgrave High School for the opportunity afforded to the public of viewing the pupils' art at the several locations in the Town including the Council Office.

The Vice Chairman being absent there was nothing to report.

An adjournment was declared:

– to receive reports from the County and District Councillors and Local History Recorder

Mr Hudson, County Councillor, reported on:

- attending the recent art exhibition held by pupils at Kesgrave High School;
- his attendance at a presentation by the SCC Financial Director when Members had been informed of the huge financial deficit facing the Council and of a revised budget to reduce expenditure by 25% being necessary in the coming year;

Members raised concerns regarding future space allocation at Primary Schools in the area. Mr Hudson assured members that although this area was not directly in his remit, he would raise and support the issues with the appropriate department.

Mr Grimwood

- as District Councillor, stated SCDC are being urged to make savings and will hope to do so

by more combining of resources with Waveney;

– as Help Centre Joint Organiser, thanked Council for providing information regarding a grant availability. He had applied and received £400.

Mrs Brown, LHR, circulated newspaper cuttings.

– to allow members of the public to speak

Mr Copping of The Lloyds, thanked Council for placing draft minutes on the website but stated they were hard to locate as he could find no direct link to them. It was explained a direct link from the home page does exist, and Mr Copping will look again.

Mr Copping, stated his disappointment in the Council minutes which he did not consider gave enough detail of what had been said at the previous meeting. He raised again the NALGA opinion that Town and Parish Councils have a duty to provide allotments and suggested the Council should relocate to the MSG Pavilion and provide allotments where the football pitches are. It was explained this is not as simple as it may seem. The MSG fields are Public Open Space and should remain available for all, not just KALGA members; the pavilion being located outside the physical limits would be unlikely to be granted “change of use”, would require extensive alteration to become an office and was not in a suitable location to be readily accessed by residents. He also asked again about a SPOC and was informed the Clerk should be the point of contact.

Mr Newport, of Stephen Road, asked how many teams use the fields and what they are charged. He was informed there are 4 clubs, which comprise of 4 senior teams who pay £37 per game, and 3 younger teams which pay £32 per month. It is believed these fees are in line with that charged by the Community Centre.

Mrs Bradbrook asked for confirmation of the number of application forms the Council held. 79 forms are held and there is no time limit or requirement to renew.

The following item was brought forward.

11. Kesgrave Allotment Association

The Clerk reminded Members to consider if an interest needed to be declared in this item.

Mr Walkling had made investigations of Lacey Scott Knight (LSK) on the costs of land. He explained:

– agricultural land is rarely sold to anyone other than between farmers unless it is for development;

– land prices vary according to designation but any land with “Hope” value is valued as for building, currently £1m per hectare, a reduction from £3m before the financial crash;

– leasing of land for allotments had not been heard of before by LSK; they are aware of land being leased for equestrian use but infrastructure required for allotments makes this a far

less viable option.

Mr Beecroft listed the other costs involved in both setting up an allotment site and the ongoing costs; legal fees, infrastructure, security, administration, provision of water, etc.

After further discussion it was **agreed** the Clerk will write to the three landowners whose land abuts the built environment of Kesgrave asking if they have land to sell or lease for allotments.

Many members of the Public left.

6. Notices and Correspondence

a. Items for discussion

1.D There was no discussion regarding the Community Magazines.

Information had been received that Suffolk Police Authority and Suffolk County Council are working together to review their properties currently occupied in Ipswich town centre and the wider southern area of Suffolk. This is in line with the Single Public Sector
3.D Estate Agenda for Suffolk, which aims to create a future of shared buildings where staff from any public or partner organisation can work. This programme is expected to be completed by mid 2013.

A copy of the lists of Notices and Correspondence, including those for information only were issued to each Councillor and are attached at **Annex 1** to the permanent copy of these minutes.

b. Councillor Representative Reports None.

c. Police Reports Members had been issued with two reports which are held on file:

- 1 A crime report for Kesgrave from Pc Kay Hammond
- 2 The 12PT monthly report

The quarterly report submitted by PCSO Glynn Bown, was highlighted to Council and is held on file.

7. Financial Matters

a. Receipts and Payments Copies of the statements of Receipts and Payments were issued to each Councillor and are attached at **Annex 2** to the permanent copy of these minutes. Council **agreed** the Receipts and Payments be accepted with no further discussion and settlement of the accounts was approved.

b. Transfer between accounts Council **agreed** a transfer of £10,200 be made from the Tracker Account to the Ordinary Account.

c. Transfer of Reserve Funds Council **agreed** that funds be transferred as detailed.

Product/service	Amount	Reserve fund
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Information Boards	1,565.43	From Locality Budget 08/09
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Locality Budget	295.00	To Locality Budget 09/10
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d. Request from Kesgrave Music Festival for a grant A request had been received from Mrs [McCallum](#), on behalf of the Music Festival Committee, requesting financial assistance to cover the cost of bins to recycle glass and cans. Last year this service had been given free of charge but unfortunately this year the contractor is charging £360 which is an additional unforeseen cost. It was suggested Council may wish to donate £600 to cover the bins on the understanding the rest goes to the beneficiary charity EACH. Council discussed the situation at length and agreed to cover the cost of all the bins, recycling and refuse, at a ceiling cost of £600 and to request the invoice be sent to KTC in order VAT can be reclaimed. In addition a further request be made asking for recognition for the KTC contribution. **Later:** Mr Walkling offered to seek an alternative contractor and successfully secured a contract for the entire requirement at £380.

Council agreed F&R should consider budgeting for financial support in future years for Community Events.

f. Late items for information None.

8. Planning and Development Matters

a. Planning applications received since 11th June 2010 The list of planning applications where comment was required, those which were not contentious and the decisions received, had been issued to each Councillor and is attached at **Annex 3** to the permanent copy of these minutes. The P&D Committee then approved this list and the comments en bloc.

c. Street naming None.

d. Late items for information It was explained the application for a shed at 271 Main Road would appear on the list next month. A robust letter has been sent to SCDC regarding this application which has been ongoing since January.

9. Recreation and Amenities Matters

a. Draft Minutes of the last Committee meeting held on 28th June 2010 were issued to Councillors and are attached at **Annex 4** to the permanent copy of these minutes.

i. Rupert Fison Centre, New Lighting for the Square (R&A item 10.a.) Mr Comber, Chairman of the Committee, reported some further information had been received regarding the supplier of the lamp columns. It had been hoped Full Council would confirm the decision taken at the R&A meeting however the supplier has changed the cost of the columns and while this is still within budget this approach could not be accepted. The work will be

postponed while alternative suppliers are sought.

b. Roads, footways and footpaths It was agreed a letter should be sent to Suffolk County Council highlighting the poor surface treatment which has recently been applied to many Kesgrave roads. With little preparation to the road before the surface was applied, potholes and other irregularities are clearly visible.

c. Late items for information None.

10. Grange Lane Weekly reports continue to be received on the work at Grange Lane which is now reaching its conclusion.

11. Kesgrave Allotment Association

This item had been taken immediately after the adjournment and is minuted there.

12. Quality Status

a. Training Needs – SALC courses Members were reminded that after the holiday period it is hoped to arrange further SALC bespoke training in conjunction with the two neighbouring parishes.

b. Retrospective Analysis Mr Beecroft reminded Members dates had been offered at the June meeting for a reconvened Retrospective Analysis meeting but only one Councillor had responded. Members were again informed of the dates and many were able to advise immediately of their availability. The Clerk will liaise with Mrs Evans and a meeting will be called on the most popular night. **Later:** the meeting will be held on 23rd August.

13. Retrospective Debate

Mr Beecroft and Mr Comber having declared prejudicial interests in this item, Mr Mills took the Chair

Mr Beecroft and Mr Comber sat away from the Council table.

Mr Haskell asked if a declaration should be made by the Clerk, and Members were reminded Staff are not bound by the Code of Conduct as they have no vote on decisions.

An additional adjournment was declared:

For the benefit of the residents present Mr Haskell gave a summary of his written report and questions were raised and answered on various aspects of the paper.

Mr Haskell was asked if the questions posed to Kesgrave News were the same as those posed to the Kesgrave and Rushmere Community News and although he was unable to supply a list of the questions asked Mr Haskell confirmed they were not. Kesgrave News had been asked

about discounts and other issues and had declined to meet with Mr Haskell and Mrs Ogden as the organisation considered it was inappropriate to do so.

Some Councillors considered the same questions should have been posed to both organisations.

Mr Beecroft, photographer to Kesgrave News, and Mr Comber, Chairman of the Kesgrave News Committee, between them gave the following comments:

- Kesgrave and Rushmere Magazine is not being delivered to all of Kesgrave;
- the Town Council should surely to support financially a community magazine which is non profit making and run by volunteers;
- being non profit making K/News can ask less from advertisers, therefore helping local businesses;

Mr Beecroft added:

- it would seem strange to residents if KTC ceased using K/News, a magazine specifically for Kesgrave, and went to a publication delivered also to another parish;
- he believed the Commercial Magazine would not be able to print all the copy sent from KTC as their space is limited and governed by the ratio of income from adverts to costs and space;
- Rushmere residents and P.C. may wish to match KTC submissions with their own copy, putting pressure on the editor as to what should be left out;
- putting the finances into perspective the residents contribution amounts to £1 per household per year or about 8p per month;
- the Town Plan has identified the Town Council need to communicate more with the residents.

In addition Mr Comber, referred to the Commercial magazine as only having 16 pages with by his calculation only 5.75 pages available for articles. Assuming KTC supplied 1.5 pages per month on average this equates to 25% of the magazine, with more in election years. He also confirmed the Kesgrave News advertising rates had been increased by a greater percentage than that charged to the Council this year.

Mr Beecroft and Mr Comber left the room and the meeting was reconvened.

a. Alternatives to Kesgrave News

Mr Haskell's report had been issued to Members and is attached at **Annex 5** to the permanent copy of these minutes.

Mr Mills reminded Members they have a duty to ensure good value for money for the

residents and asked for comments.

Mrs Evans stated she believed it was good to have the opportunity to consider alternatives but recognising that some Members are connected to the magazine asked if there were any issues other than value for money Members considered needed to be aired. No-one offered any comment. Mrs Evans then stated Council support both the Library and the PCSO with greater sums of money than that paid to Kesgrave News and she considered it very good value for money.

Members commented further on the coverage received with Kesgrave News and whether the same would be possible with the commercial magazine and were advised on average over the last 12 months Kesgrave News had printed 1,173 words each month which would equate to over 2 pages of copy in the alternative magazine. The Clerk had also ascertained Rushmere St Andrew PC are considering using the commercial magazine. With regard to election years if both Council submit candidate profiles for their 15 seats this alone would far exceed the current article content of the magazine.

Mr Lynch suggested further enquiries should be made of both magazines to clarify if all the Council copy would be possible in the Commercial magazine and if a discount would be available from Kesgrave News, but this suggestion was not supported.

Council then **agreed** by a majority vote that Kesgrave News does provide good value for money.

Mr Beecroft and Mr Comber were invited to again join the meeting and were appraised of the result of the debate.

Mr Beecroft resumed the Chair.

14. Town Plan 2009

Members were reminded of the statement within the Town Plan under the section “Making it Happen” where the Town Council “needs to keep us informed of services and facilities”. It was noted at the June meeting the statistics presented within the Town Plan do not support this requirement as 56% of respondents believe this is already achieved and only 18% considered they don't. A correction has subsequently been placed on the home page of the Town Plan Website.

It was also noted the meeting to distribute copies of the plans to District and County Councillors is not to take place; copies are being distributed by hand. This had become necessary because of Mrs Klaschka's illness and the Chairman's house move. The Chairman, David Walker, has now resigned and David Belton is to be a temporary Chairman but the Group believe their work is now done.

Mrs Klaschka had asked for a copy of the Town Council article submitted for August Kesgrave News in order for it to be placed on the Town Plan website. Council thought this an excellent suggestion and the Clerk will forward this after publication.

15. Report from Clerk and Press Officer

Articles for inclusion in August Kesgrave News have been submitted on:–

Page 3 Town Plan and the Town Councils achievements in this regard

Others Interpretation boards

Bins and boxes (fido and litter bin and postbox locations)

16. To receive such other communication or matters of sufficient urgency and importance that the Chairman will allow for discussion

None.

17. Date of next meeting – Monday 9th August 2010 in the Council Chamber

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm.

Chairman