

KESGRAVE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Minutes of the Kesgrave Annual Town Meeting held on Monday 20 May 2019 at 7.15pm
In the Millennium Jubilee Hall

In Attendance:

N Beecroft-Smith (Town Council Chairman)
D Fairbrother
A Comber
S Ventriglia
P Carr
J Ogden
A Athwall
D McCallum
G Lynch
K Archer
R Gibson
J Abbott (Town Clerk)
A Dougall (Responsible Financial Officer)
J Catling-Green (Service Development Co-ordinator)
P Mills (SPARK)
E Ditton (Kesgrave Library)
J Francis (Kesgrave Conservation Group)
S Hall (Public Transport Liaison Officer)

Members of the public present: 9

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman of Kesgrave Town Council – Councillor Beecroft-Smith welcomed everyone to the Kesgrave Annual Town Meeting. He informed the attendees of the fire evacuation procedure and emergency exits. Councillor Beecroft-Smith advised that the Annual Town Meeting is for the residents and organisations within the town and is also an opportunity for local groups to submit reports, both verbal and written. The Council received apologies from East Suffolk and County Councillor S Lawson, Town Councillor G Ward and PCSO Gemma Read.

2. Minutes of the last Kesgrave Annual Town Meeting held on 16 April 2018

Councillor A Comber queried the minutes, requesting that the following amendments be made;

- Item 2. These minutes were considered and agreed, following the vote. (A copy of the minutes are in the minute book). No copies of the minutes were available at the meeting but were available on the website and provided to Councillors prior to the meeting.
- Item 5. The Chairman of the Town Council's Finance and Governance Committee – Town Councillor D Fairbrother took questions on the accounts. However, no copies of the accounts were available at the meeting but were available on the website and provided to Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillor D Fairbrother thanked Mrs D Jimpson for her diligence and hard work in preparation of the Budget papers. (Full report available upon request).
- Item 14. Ms J Cody (local resident) agreed to looking into setting up a Community Land Trust in order to purchase the two parcels of land near Tesco, Ferguson Way.

These changes were agreed following a vote. An amendment to these minutes will be made and signed by the Town Council Chairman N Beecroft-Smith.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

None.

4. Chairman's Comments

The Chairman's full report is attached to these minutes.

5. Report of the Accounts of the Town Council

A Dougall presented the Kesgrave Financial Information. A member of public raised a query regarding the increase of £8.5k under 'General Administration'. This increase is to cover Election Expenses and is set by East Suffolk Council. Town and East Suffolk Councillor G Lynch explained that this amount is calculated by cost per person x population of an area. (A copy of the report is attached to these minutes).

6. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan, Councillor Rod Gibson gave a verbal report on the current position of the Draft Kesgrave Neighbourhood Plan and answered questions from the floor. (A copy of the report is attached to these minutes).

7. General Discussion

- East Suffolk Councillor D McCallum spoke about the role of an East Suffolk Councillor and stressed that they are always contactable and if they cannot help directly, they will signpost people to the appropriate places. A lot of their work is spent on confidential issues for residents, which they cannot disclose. She stated that the 3 East Suffolk Councillors for Kesgrave work well together and will soon be having a surgery at the Town Council Office every 2 weeks, where one of them will be available to come and speak to.
- A resident requested that some bushes along Century Drive were cut back as they are covering the pathways. Councillor McCallum stated that within Kesgrave there are various landowners who have varying responsibilities for items of land etc. If the resident could provide an exact location it will be investigated to find out whose area of responsibility the path belongs to.
- Liz Ditton from Kesgrave Library Community Group (on behalf of the Library Manager, Maggie Lusher) provided some additional information, which hadn't been included in the written report already provided. The library is now open for extra hours and they have received extra funding this year to enable them to address loneliness, isolation and wellbeing. The baby sessions have attracted over 40 parent's/carers and they now offer free tea and coffee after the sessions. On a Monday there is now a session for carers for people with cancer. Over 1500 children have taken part in the summer activities and Kesgrave Library have the highest take up of children in the reading challenge. Liz thanked the continuing support of SPARK.

- Pat Mills, Secretary of SPARK reported that the 2nd Stop Shop had recently been refitted and that they have negotiated the lease of the shop with Tesco for the next 10 years.
- A resident raised a question on the KWMCC report regarding KWMCC becoming 'incorporated' and what this meant. Councillor G Lynch, who is also a Trustee of KWMCC explained the process of becoming an incorporated body.

Written reports, which were requested and received from Kesgrave Organisations are attached to these minutes.

- Kesgrave Library
- Kesgrave Community Centre (KWMCC)
- Public Transport Liaison Officer (PTLO)
- Kesgrave Conservation Group (KCG)

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.05pm

Town Council Chairman.....Date.....