

KESGRAVE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (A Meeting for the Residents of Kesgrave)
Minutes of the Kesgrave Annual Town Meeting held on
16th April 2018 at 7.15pm in Millennium Jubilee Hall, Kesgrave

Councillors:

K Archer (*From Minute Numbered 5*)
A Athwall
N Beecroft-Smith (*Chairman*)
R Bridgeman
A Comber
D Fairbrother
S Fairbrother
G Hamilton (*Apologies*)
S Lawson
G Lynch
C Marsh
P Mills
R Patten (*Vice Chairman*) (*Apologies*)
R Spittle (*Up to Minute Numbered 5*)
L Ventriglia

In Attendance:

Mrs S Clements (Town Clerk)

Mr R Baird – Chairman of KWMCC
Ms S Hall (Public Transport Liaison Representative)
Mrs M Lusher – Manager of Kesgrave Library
Town, District and County Councillor S Lawson
Town and District Councillor G Lynch
Mr J Ogden – Chairman of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group/Sub-Committee
District Councillor D McCallum
District Councillor S Mower
Mr C Rayworth – Chairman of SPARK
PCSO M Sarbutts
Approximately 20 Members of the Public

Tea, coffee and biscuits were served before and after the Meeting by the Town Clerk.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

The Chairman of Kesgrave Town Council – Councillor Beecroft-Smith welcomed everybody to the Kesgrave Annual Town Meeting. He informed attendees of the Fire Evacuation procedures and emergency exits and advised attendees that this Meeting is for the Town, Local Residents and Organisations and is an opportunity for local Groups to submit Reports (both verbal and written), on their respective activity within the last year. Councillor Beecroft-Smith also advised that he would endeavour to answer any questions raised, but that if an immediate answer is not available, then he would arrange for the Town Council Office to deal with the matter as soon as practicable following this Meeting. (Full Report available upon request).

The Council received apologies for absence from Town Councillors Hamilton and Patten. An apology for absence was also received from County Councillor Whiting. In addition, apologies were received from Mrs J Francis (Kesgrave Conservation Group), Mr M Rayment (Public Footpath Representative) and Ms S West (Patient Participation Group - PPG).

2. Minutes of the last Kesgrave Annual Town Meeting held on the 3rd April 2017.

These Minutes were received, considered and agreed, following the vote. (A Copy of the Minutes are in the Minute Book).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- Matters Arising Minute Number 9 – Resolutions – The Meeting noted that following on from last year's Annual Town Meeting that the Appeal regarding the proposal for 300 dwellings off of Bell Lane, Kesgrave and the associated highway alterations and changes is to go through a re-determined process. The Planning Inspectorate has advised that the process for this Appeal, (unless the appellant - Persimmon Homes Ltd, seeks to argue for this to be re-determined through written representations), is likely to be via a new Public Inquiry in late spring/early summer 2018. This provides an opportunity for previous representations to be reaffirmed – specifically in relation to updated information, material changes in circumstances and issues upon which the appeal was quashed. The LPA has confirmed that it is currently appraising what information it needs to compile and how it will formally present these details at the new Public Inquiry. (The re-determination process is as a result of some legal errors in law directly from the Secretary of State's Office).
- Matters Arising Minute Number 10 – Discussion and Open Forum – The Town Clerk reported that following on from last year's Annual Town Meeting that contact has been made with all HGV/LGV Training companies who use the Penzance Road route and the concerns of local residents were communicated. The Town Clerk has also been in contact with the Government's Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) to ask for it to reconsider using Penzance Road as an official test route. The said Government Office confirmed that this is not possible, as other roads and routes are not suitable for vehicles over 7.5 Tonnes. There are 13 routes in Ipswich, with two of these being in Kesgrave. The roads used are limited to Main Road/A1214, Bell Lane, Penzance Road and Beech Road.

It should be noted that the Town Clerk contacted three HGV/LGV testing companies. These were Essex Driver, Felixstowe Goldstar and Hamilton's. They all advised that they were only able to use the routes as instructed to them by national government. An email from the relevant national government department to the Town Council confirms this.

- With regard to Other Matters Raised, the Town Clerk advised an article was published within the Town Council's normal press releases asking the public for feedback with regard to the location of its notice boards, the Council's public seats and benches have been cleaned and the Town Council has liaised with the Town's PCSO and Suffolk Constabulary with regard to the speeding vehicles. Articles have also been issued in local publications asking local residents to cut back their private overgrown hedges and greenery, in particular if vehicular or pedestrian visibility splays are being blocked as a result.

4. Chairman's Update

Councillor Beecroft-Smith reiterated that it has been a busy, but exciting and inspirational year again at the Town Council and in Kesgrave.

Councillor Beecroft-Smith thanked Councillors' and community stakeholders in advance for their respective continued pro-active assistance with organising and proceeding with these future worthwhile projects and events for local people. (Full Report available upon request).

A Minute's silence was held in honour and as a poignant tribute to the late Mr Tony Buckingham, Community Engineer from Suffolk County Council.

5. Report of the Accounts of the Town Council

The Chairman of the Town Council's Finance and Governance Committee – Town Councillor D Fairbrother presented the Kesgrave Budget Summary and Financial Information, including income and expenditure for 2017/18 and anticipated for 2018/19, including the Precept and Council Tax Base and the equivalent of a Band D Council Tax Figure. He responded to queries. Councillor D Fairbrother thanked Mrs D Jimpson for her diligence and hard work in preparation of the Budget papers. (Full Report available upon request).

6. Presentation from Suffolk Constabulary

In place of Sargent C Chaplin. PCSO Sarbutts gave a verbal presentation to local people about Policing in the Town. He responded to queries. (Full Report available upon request).

7. Presentation from SPARK (Sport and Recreation in Kesgrave) & 2nd Stop Charity Shop

Mr C Rayworth the Chairman of SPARK gave a presentation to local people about the valuable work of this Charity, including the 2nd Stop Charity Shop and how funds raised from this Charity can help local residents, clubs and voluntary organisations of the Town. (Full Reports available upon request).

8. Reports from Local People and Organisations

Written Reports were received from the Kesgrave War Memorial Community Centre (KWMCC), Sport and Recreation in Kesgrave (Spark), The 2nd Stop Charity Shop, Kesgrave Library, the Public Transport Liaison Officer, KALGA (Kesgrave Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association and PCSO Sarbutts. (Full Reports available upon request).

9. Shaping Kesgrave for the Future and Kesgrave Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group/Sub-Committee

Mr J Ogden the Chairman of the Kesgrave Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group/Sub-Committee provided a verbal update to local residents' regarding this emerging Plan. Local people noted that the questionnaires are currently been analysed by a commissioned consultant; these services have been paid for by a grant. More consultation will follow with focus on young people under aged 25 years. Some engagement work with young people via the High School is also proposed. (Full Report available upon request).

10. Community and Recreation Committee

Town Councillor A Comber, the Chairman of this Committee updated local residents about the success of the Millennium Jubilee Hall, including improvements to the access, the Town Council's Tuesday Evening Youth Club which is performing well following an independent audit and review, the new model Thursday Evening Youth Club (now under the management of Orwell), new play equipment at Oak Meadow via District Councillor Locality Budgets, the all-weather surface via SPARK funding, the renovated trim trail, low risk play equipment following professional risk assessment inspections, the Town Council offices assisting with the High School's Work Experience Programme, the arrangements for the WW1 Battle event and various community events as detailed in the Chairman of the Council's Report. Councillor Comber thanked the Town Council office' Staff' and Town Councillors for their assistance during the year. He also thanked District and County Councillors for assistance via their respective enabling community and locality budgets and also' SPARK for its funding assistance. (Full Report available upon request).

11. Play Area and Open Spaces Sub-Committee

Town Councillor Comber, the Chairman of this Sub-Committee updated local residents' regarding plans to adopt Holly Gardens and Dobbs Drift play areas from the District Council. (Full Report available upon request).

12. Traffic and Pedestrian Matters

County Councillor Lawson gave a brief verbal update and thanked various people for their assistance since his term of office. Mr J Lewis the Community Engineer who covers Kesgrave gave a full and detailed verbal update. Various discussions ensued with regard to pot holes in the Town. Mr Lewis responded to various questions and queries. Mr Lewis explained the Suffolk County

Council Highways restructure effective since September 2017 and he endeavoured to give some background information to the county wide approach, the difficult winter which has added to the issues with pot holes, twice as many reports of pot holes since last year, the fact that as a Community Engineer he is one of six Engineers for the whole of Suffolk; covering 180 parishes, where Mr Lewis covers 62 different wards. Mr Lewis explained the online reporting tool and the County's system for prioritising in line with safety and mitigation, the methods of repairing potholes, the economics, different approaches which the County are currently exploring, the fact that Highways England manage the A12 and A14 and highways of higher risk and where the speed limit is 70 miles per hour, various specific roads and junctions in the Town; including the junction at the Recycling Centre with regard to speed and safety, drainage and new soakaways in Bell Lane not being cleaned frequently enough to remove silt and leaves, the iron work on the road and its level at Bell Lane, white lines, budget issues and a request for a more precise structure plan. Mr Lewis and County Councillor Lawson agreed to investigate further some of the issues raised and report back to the Town Council in due course.

13. Resolutions

No Resolutions were received in writing and no verbal Resolutions were made at the Meeting.

14. Discussion and Open Forum

Members of the Public raised the following matters during the Meeting including; the Love Kesgrave Litter Picking event on Saturday, 28th April 2018 from 10am – 12 noon – meeting at the Town Council offices, a suggestion to invite a representative from the local Doctors Surgery to the next Meeting, planning and development queries, Ms J Cody (local resident) agreed to looking into setting up a Community Land Trust in order to purchase the two ransom trips of land near Tesco, Ferguson Way; Town Councillor A Athwall and Mr P Athwall agreed to join this Trust, Councillor McCallum asked for volunteers to help with the Kesgrave 5k Fun Run on Sunday 6th May during the morning to assist with registration and Town Councillor A Athwall and Mr P Athwall agreed to help and an update from District Councillor Mower was received about the Age UK "Big Chin Wag" event which is held on the third Friday of every month at the KWMCC (Kesgrave War Memorial Community Centre). Further details can be obtained from District Councillor Mower.

Date of the next Kesgrave Annual Town Meeting – in the Millennium Jubilee Hall at 7.15pm on Monday, 8th April 2019.

There being no other business, the Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

ChairmanDate.....

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