

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30TH JANUARY 1986 IN KEMNAY ACADEMY

Present: Mr Bailey, Mrs Shrago, Mr Cumming, Mr Pashley, Mr Wainman, Mr Evans, Mr Stephen, Mr Murray

Apologies: Mrs Milton

Attending: Cllr McLean, Cllr Wainman, Mr J Duffus and Mr G Downie (members of the public), Mrs Cobb (Press)

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone and thanked the members of the public for attending. He told the meeting that he had hoped that more members of the public would have attended in view of the additional item at the end of the Agenda.

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read. There was one amendment:- in 12(c) on the last page, amendment to read:- "Mr Murray asked when the next Budget comes into being that consideration should be given to this suggestion. The item will be put on the Agenda for the February meeting". Proposed adoption: D Evans, Seconded: A Murray.

3. Regional News. This was taken out of order at the request of Councillor McLean. The salt and sand for Parkhill has been dealt with between the Roads and Water Services Departments.

The flooding problem in Victoria Terrace had been brought to the attention of both the Roads and Water Services Committees and this will first of all have a minimum remedy, the section of the old pipe at the bottom of Parkhill will be opened up, hopefully before the end of March. At the same time plans will be prepared for an application for a Flood Prevention Scheme which is quite a major project as this has to go to the Scottish Office. Mr Murray asked whether there was likely to be any charge on the adjacent land-owners when there would be no benefit to them. Councillor McLean said that contributions will be invited and it will be up to the people concerned if they wish to contribute. Mr Downie felt that Mr Stephen and himself had suffered from the flooding for a long period of time, and should be compensated rather than asked to contribute. The Chairman expressed his thanks to Councillor McLean for all his help in setting wheels in motion for the Flood Prevention Order. The Chairman asked Mr Downie and Mr Stephen to let the Community Council know if things improve.

Councillor McLean then mentioned the Safety Meeting at Kemnay Primary School on the 27th January and said that the traffic in High Street is being looked at.

The question of Parking in High Street (additional item on the Agenda) was then discussed. A copy of a letter from the Divisional Roads Surveyor was read out. The Chairman said he had spoken to the traders and the general feeling was that if double yellow lines were put down the south side of the High Street they will be ignored just as the ones outside the butchers shop are. Councillor McLean said he had spoken to Mr Mitchell and what he had been told did not tally with the letter. Mr Wainman felt it was useless making further restrictions if they could not be enforced. The bus was felt to be a problem because when it is parked the road is impassable to other traffic.

The feeling was that the proper place for a bus stance should be on the corner of Bremner Way and Aquithie Road. The Chairman had seen the High Street blocked for ten minutes in the late afternoon. Councillor McLean suggested that perhaps a one-way approach to the village from the Grove Road end might help to alleviate the problem. Mr Cumming agreed with Mr Wainman and said it was astounding to see vehicles parked every which way in the mornings, on the yellow lines and on the pavements. Surely someone should come along occasionally to enforce the restrictions, but no-one ever does. Mr Murray said that even if the yellow lines were enforced the Disabled would still be able to park outside the Surgery and when the bus came it would still cause an obstruction. The Chairman said that Dr Todd had told him he would not mind parking restrictions outside the Surgery. It was felt that a good solution might be to make High Street one-way from the Grove Road end and that the bus should come in through High Street and out through Station Road. Opinion to be canvassed in High Street to see what they feel - questionnaire to be prepared for the Newsletter by Mr Wainman and Mr Pashley. The new bus stop to be as near as possible to High Street, possibly just beyond Clydesdale Bank in Station Road.

Councillor McLean said he wanted to know what valid objections there were to the scheme. Mr Murray suggested we write to Mr Mitchell and say we are not in favour of the double yellow lines for various reasons and we will be submitting proposals in due course. Secondly in the Newsletter make a statement that no response to the Questionnaire will be taken as agreement. Proposed: A Murray, Seconded: F W Wainman, no dissent.

Mr Pashley said that a lot of car transporters and gravel lorries have been coming down the High Street. The meeting was told that some years ago the Community Council had asked for a weight-limit to be imposed on traffic using the High Street. Mr Wainman said that if the kerbstones were made a reasonable height it would deter people from parking on the pavement.

Mrs Shrager asked Councillor McLean how well the money allocated for snow clearance in the region was lasting. The meeting was told that £3.1 million was allocated for snow clearance, and so far about £1 million had been spent. There is no fear that if the money is exhausted the work will stop. In the future the Region will be budgeting for a higher figure for winter maintenance to make sure that the Budget will not be exhausted. Mr Murray asked whether it was true that salt was being omitted in future and that roads were just going to be ploughed and gritted. Councillor McLean said that to the best of his knowledge this was not so.

Mrs Shrager asked about the progress of the pavement in Paradise Road. Councillor McLean to check into this for the next meeting. Mr Murray asked about the Midmill deceleration lane. The meeting was told that this is a traffic road scheme and is paid for by the S.P.D. the scheme has been prepared and it is in the list of schemes costing under £100,000 which is programmed for when money is available. Mr Murray told Councillor McLean that there was another accident at this junction on the 15th December involving two cars, to which the Police were called. Councillor McLean to investigate. Councillor McLean left the meeting early in the hope that the roads back to Alford would not be too icy!

3.(a) Bye-Election for the members of the Council. Mrs Shrager read out Mrs Patterson's letter tendering her resignation due to family commitments. The Chairman felt that the Community Council should be

as potent and forceful as possible. He felt it did not do the Council any good to be down to small numbers and also that many of us were incomers to Scotland. He would rather like to see an election for the vacant seats and a programme of encouragement to get people to stand for these seats. A Bye-Election was proposed by F W Wainman, Seconded: A Murray. Carried unanimously. The Chairman suggested a date be selected after the A.G.M., probably the second or third week in April. The Secretary to approach Mr Whitely to be Returning Officer. Friendship House to be booked in case there needs to be an election.

3(b) Mr Evans reported on the Small Bore Rifle Club visit. The Planning Permission had in fact been granted. Mr Evans had been quite reassured about the safety aspect of the Range. Both sides of the Range will be walled and there will be a 4' bund round it. The Permission will be for one year and if there are any problems it will be reviewed after this period.

3(c) Proposals for the next Budget - Daffodil Bulb Planting. Deferred to the next Meeting.

3(d) Discussion on building sites outside the present planning boundary. Matters were discussed at some length and it was decided to write to the District Planning Office and explain that the position of the Kemnay Community Council was one of total opposition to the proposals.

4. Unfinished Business. None.

5. Correspondence Received. Letter from Mrs Milton thanking Community Council for bouquet of flowers was read to the meeting. Letter from Gordon District Council Planning Department re Berrydale, High Street was read out.

6. New Business - none.

7. District News. Councillor Wainman told the meeting that the Library and the Toilet are well on the way to being completed. It is anticipated that February/March will be the opening date for both.

9. Planning Applications. Mr Evans reported seven in all. One of interest was Messrs Pearce who had applied for outline permission for a one and a half storey house at Rosehall, Aquithie Road.

Mr Wainman mentioned the fact that Mr Lawrence and Mr Bain had between them bought the last industrial site in the village. Perhaps we should try and designate a site within the village boundary to be used as an industrial site in the future. Mr Wainman mentioned that Mr McDonald of Rim Fabrications had an application in for an industrial site up Leschangie Way. This was to rebuild the house and also build workshops for his business. Mr Wainman said we had run out of industrial sites in Kemnay. The Chairman mentioned the ~~Kemnay~~ Quarry site which was zoned for industrial use. This was felt to be a good idea for a future industrial site. *NOT ZONED*

10. A.G.C.R. Mr Evans mentioned that Mrs Shrago had asked him to enquire about the special ultra-violet pen and punch-die kit that could be used to mark bicycles and other property. Mrs Shrago had thought that the Inverurie Police had such a kit but in fact it would seem that Kintore Community Council had purchased one and offered to loan it out to other communities. He had been trying to get in touch with Kintore Community Council's Mrs Chrystall, but had been unsuccessful so far. If we do borrow this kit we will then have to decide how to use it.

11. The next meeting will be on Thursday 27th February 1986 at 7.30 p.m.

12. There being no further business to discuss the meeting ended at 9.25 p.m. and the Chairman again thanked the members of the public for attending.

Proposed:

Seconded:

Signed:

Collation of High Street Traffic Questionnaires

20. No other Yes Street No

Q1 Double 44 15

Total Returned: 61

Q2 51 8

Q3 45 10

Q4 28 28

Q5 50 5

25. Unloading bay outside McColls

Further Suggestions:

26. No parking of private

1. No commercial vehicles in car park 0800-1800

2. Improve junction Station Rd/Grove Road

3. Restrict Parking on Station Road

4. Signposts for car park

5. No parking in High Street for any vehicles

6. Bus stance on Aquithie Road should be recessed to improve traffic flow

7. Bus route via Grove Road, Station Road, Aquithie Road, Bremner Way and return same way

8. One way Station Road/Victoria Terrace with parking on N side only

9. No Waiting St Brydes Rd/Station Rd

10. Widen road from Post Office to McColls to allow parking that side

11. Move shops and Surgery to widen entire road

12. Lorries allowed in car park 1800-0900

13. Separate lorry park

14. Bus from Alford to avoid High St (any parcel drops in that direction?)

15. No entry to High St at all except for access (Buses, Goods vehicles delivering and residents Goods vehicles to observe one way to Victoria Terrace

16. With High St one way, parking on one side only over entire length

17. Buses to leave village via Aquithie Road, Quarry, The Horner

18. High St one way only between Collies and the Bank

19. No commercial vehicles in High St
20. No buses in High Street
21. Double Yellow lines from stop sign past Chemist
22. Is car park strong enough for heavy lorries, if not, what is weight restriction?
23. Bus stop to be relocated from High Street to Aquithie Road by the car park
24. Enforce no parking on pavements
25. Unloading bay outside McCollis
26. No parking of private cars during shop hours
27. Prohibit parking on Station Road (to allow free movement of traffic)
28. Rewiden Kendal Road for use as village exit route.
29. With High St one way, widen pavement on South side.
30. Parking allowed on south side of High Street from Collies to the bank

Generally, the comments reflect concern at the increase in traffic that may be generated at other parts of the village specifically, Station Road, Kendal Road and Paradise Road (from centre to Kendal Road). The nub of the problem is that with a one way system, will there still be traffic congestion caused by vehicles, particularly commercial vehicles and buses, stopping in unauthorised areas. Is it reasonable to consider excluding buses from the High Street altogether? The only apparent restriction to this is the commercial delivery of newspapers and packages. Perhaps a small lockup could be placed at the car park (keys with bus driver, Mace, Newsagents).

The survey clearly shows that there is strong support for proposals 2 and 5 and support for proposal 3 though not necessarily as it stands. Some concern was expressed over the village exit route for buses through Station Road. Perhaps via the quarry and the Horner might be a better exit route at least for Aberdeen and Inverurie bound buses.

There is also concern that excluding traffic altogether from the High Street would adversely affect the traders and the atmosphere of the village. There are also less mobile patients to consider.

It seems there is room for a reeducation of thinking in the village to encourage parking in the car park for the able-bodied. Signposts and perhaps a pedestrian crossing at the car park may encourage its use.

Insofar as there is no service road for the traders vehicles, there is no alternative but to continue to allow commercial vehicles in the High Street but even with a one way system parking must be in a manner that will not affect traffic flow.

A wider pavement on the south side of High St to provide a safer access for the school children could have a beneficial effect on traffic flow but in the meantime, perhaps the children could be encouraged to use the north side pavement.