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KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27th MARCH 1980 AT 7.30pm IN KEMNAY SCHOOL

ATTENDING

Mrs Milton, Mrs Forbes, Mr Stubbs, Mr Bailey, Mr Hughes, Mr Cobb, Mr Dow,
Mr Williams, Mr Cumming, Mr Robertson,

Councillor McLean, Councillor Reid.

Apologies, Mr Mrs Wainman, Mrs Innes, Mr McKay, Dr Hern.

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 28th February were accepted, no dissent proposed by Mr Bailey, seconded by Mr Hughes.

Matters arising

- a. Information centre, deferred till next meeting
- b. Notice Board Mr Robertson is getting another tender. Resolved to ask other groups in the village if they would like to share the board & a portion of the cost.
- c. McCombie Crescent path to Paradise & Aquithie Roads Due to response this suggestion has been dropped.
- d. Bridge over railway, Reply from Mr Robertson, convenor of roads committee was noted
- e. Car Park Councillor McLean said that there were no problems with the load bearing strength of the surface but it would be necessary to wait to see what problem might occur through use by lorries.
- f. Village Meeting Mrs Milton reported on the outcome of the second village meeting
- g. Alehousewells Swings Councillor McLean is investigating the possible resiting onto the area owned by the Region Education Dept onto a tarmac surface.
- h. Eventide Home/ Sheltered Housing The letter from the Social Work Dept was noted. Also the copy of the letter from G.D. to the Housing Association. Kemnay Community Council was concerned that they said the information was not available, frankly did not believe that as the district survey reports etc showed that they have the information, and resolved that we request it again specifically.
- i. Plan of Alehousewells Estate Deferred meantime
- j. Junction High Street/ Victoria Terrace Councillor McLean said that there was no question of buying property or a major operation at this junction.
- k. Lorry parking in residential areas Councillor McLean explained the law relating to this (obstruction & lighting) and said it was up to residents to complain to the police in specific instances.
- l. Aquithie Road land Councillor McLean is investigating the possibility of a site meeting with the Region. Councillor Reid unwilling to comment.
- m. The letter objecting to the Collie application was read out for general interest.

Annual Report

Mrs Milton gave the Annual report., which was accepted, proposed by Mr Bailey, seconded by Mr Dow, that a copy be attached to the minutes.

A.O.C.B.

Mr Bailey raised the matter of the Kemnay School being used again for voting Agreed that although it was probably too late to write and draw attention to the availability of the Public Hall.

Accounts

The Annual accounts were accepted, proposed by Mr Williams, and seconded by

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 1980 by CHAIRMAN, Mrs Susan Milton

In my report for business carried out by this Council during the past twelve months, let me first mention what we have achieved.

Following the appearance of notices warning about impending yellow lines and parking restrictions, the Community Council urged the Roads Department not to enforce these until alternative off- street parking had been made available. The site opposite the Police Station had long been earmarked for a car park , and as you have all seen, no doubt, it is completed and in use. At the same time we requested that Public Toilets should be built at the car park, but this could not be entertained at this particular time because of financial reasons. We shall continue to advocate the eventual building of toilets on this site.

The work carried out last year after repeated complaints about the draining along Victoria Terrace, has resulted in an improvement there this winter. The resurfacing carried out in the High Street now appears to have been spoilt by further diggings and upheavals at present in progress.

After a succession of reports and complaints about speeding along Bogbeth Road pressure was applied on our behalf by our Regional Councillor to have a 30 m.p.h. restriction sign erected, this will be near the Works shed. It has also been agreed by the Roads Dept. to make Fraser Place a one way street from Wood Gardens. We had repeatedly brought to their attention the fact that it was a very dangerous corner for emerging traffic. Also , I am glad to see the arrow-head dangerous corner markings on the bridge over the disused railway line at Glenhead.

There has been progress over the Pavilion in the Pleasure Park, and excavations for the foundations are going on at present. Only one or two of our comments on the design have been taken into account in the final plans unfortunately. The siting of the pavilion will necessitate the resiting of the childrens play area, and we sincerely hope that this will be the ideal opportunity to alter the slide which has always been considered far too high and dangerous for younger children. Mr Reid will, no doubt, be on the watch for us here. The all weather surface on one tennis court was completed last year.

The policy committee, which was formed last year as an indirect result of the first village meeting, undertook a survey for appropriate Industrial sites in the village. It has since been put into suspension and small groups formed to cover items as they arose. One of these groups went into lengthy consultation to discuss and draw up standing orders for this Council. These have been agreed and adopted.

The old Station House has been demolished and the corner tidied a little, but any progress on the bridge and improvement to a dangerous junction I'm afraid must be listed under Disappointments:

Although the bridge itself is the property of Gordon District Council, the actual road surface belongs to Grampian Region, so instead of banging our heads against a stone wall, this time it is a steel bridge.

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The dangerous corner at the Knowe, where traffic emerging from the Horner Road is completely blind to vehicles coming from the right, and traffic coming from Aberdeen direction is completely blind to Horner road cars, is another piece of uncompleted business very much regretted. The only progress is that the Region have consented to resiting the road sign so giving motorists approaching from the Aberdeen side more warning of a hidden entrance.

The satisfaction over the installation of play equipment at Alehousewells last year has rather backfired owing to the muddy state of the ground under the swings. First complaints resulted in rather nasty stone chips being laid which hurt if you fell off, now they have mostly worn away and we are back to mud again. Parents continue to complain.

The litter in the Pleasure Park is one of our longest standing headaches. The wire rubbish bins are completely ineffectual. Last year Kemnay Community Association offered to buy a solid type bin and donate it to the Park, hoping to set a good example. The offer was turned down as Gordon District said they were going to put two Guppy bins to replace the wire mesh types and it was not necessary for the K.C.A. to give one. Perhaps those bins may be put in before the summer.

Our major disappointment is probably over the new academy, the delays, the change of plans, added to the cost and lack of consultation, what has really been tantamount to the gagging of the community association by the Education Dept. We are fortunate that one of our community councillors is on the Schools council and a member of the working party, set up under the chairmanship of Mrs Ramsay, for Kemnay Academy.

The second Village meeting held in Kemnay Public Hall on Sunday, 2nd March met with a very disappointing turn out, but we were most grateful to those who did take the trouble to come and these included our District Councillor Mr Reid. There was also a sizeable group from the Public Hall committee, which in itself was most gratifying. An account of the village meeting was published in the last Newsletter, Edition 23. Consultations and on-going business . . .

The Director of Planning, Mrs Geraldine Scott and Mr Tinlin visited us in August last year and a sizeable number of members of the public attended the meeting and heard what Mrs Scott's draft plan held for the future expansion of the village. The question of the land between Aquithie road and Paradise road has been the cause of a lot of worry as there is such strong feeling in the village that it should remain a green spot, we were in opposition to Grampian Regions application to erect 10 houses on it, this application has been turned down but they can re-apply for a lesser number of houses. Our request for a site meeting has also been turned down, it was not supported by our District councillor. We shall continue with our efforts in this business. The general wish for an eventide home and sheltered housing is still very much in our minds for Kemnay.

The Environmental Health Dept have been contacted over the dust complaint at Whitestones quarry. The Industrial Pollution Inspectorate assure us that pressure will be maintained by them until there is improvement.

We are following up complaints about difficulties regarding dental care in the village.

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We have had consultations with the Chief Executives, Mr McNaughton & Mr Kennedy, over the use of Kemnay School for local elections. One can clearly see the reason for complaints from the Headmaster. with the number of elections held last year. We have suggested that the Public Hall be used instead. We are assured that the matter is under consideration by the local authorities, but the process is slow and the District Council elections on May 1st will again be held in Kemnay School

Certain residents had made request for an information centre in the village and Mr Robertson and his assistant Mr Valentine, from the Social Work Dept addressed the January meeting. He told us that a social worker was in Kemnay for some time each day. It wasn't for him to say whether accomodation should be made available for such a purpose, but he would give his help and encouragement if residents felt there was a definite need for such a centre.

The notice board has been discussed repeatedly and planning permission to have one fixed to the Post Office wall has been granted. The cost of having one made seems to be excessive and Mr Robertson is still exploring possibilities.

We have submitted to the Stoddart committee of Inquiry into Local Government relevant evidence of the unsatisfactory aspects since re-organisation.

Planning reports are heard at most monthly meetings and my thanks to Dr Hern for his valuable work in this direction. I would also like to thank those residents who have brought plans and particulars of their planning applications to the community council meetings . We certainly appreciate their courtesy.

In conclusion I would like to thank the secretary, Mrs Wainman, for her untiring efforts with community council business. Mr McKay for his work as Treasurer Mr Bailey for his assistance as Vice Chairman, Mr Stubbs for the many times he has helped as minutes secretary and today as secretary, and to all the rest of the councillors for the help they have given me and the work they have done during the past year on behalf of the residents of Kemnay and district.

SECOND VILLAGE MEETING

This meeting, in Kemnay Public Hall on Sunday 2nd March was organised by the Community Council to discuss the facilities of the village in relation to the needs of the populace for social and recreational activities, and to identify shortfalls and suggests means of meeting them.

The reason for choosing a Sunday afternoon in the Hall was that all our premises are fully occupied each weekday evening. The disappointment of the organisers at the poor turn out was tempered by the interest shown by many long established residents who obviously held the interests of both the old and new parts of the village very close to their hearts.

Mrs. Milton opened the meeting and explained the Community Council's function to ascertain and express the views of the residents. Provided with a list of the groups in village, and a timetable of all the activities in the various buildings, the company split into three groups to discuss the provisions for each age range. From the group discussion the following points emerged.

1. Need for more police supervision. Four resident 'Specials' rarely used in village.
2. Need for toilets in centre of village, possibly near car park.
3. Need for committee to co-ordinate use of premises, right size of group in the right size room at the right time.
4. Need for premises for youth club and adults to supervise. Teenagers want discos.
5. Need for place for families to play sports and games at weekends indoors - Badminton etc.
6. Suggested luncheon club for senior citizens - need premises.
7. Several groups overcrowded would like more sessions - no premises available.
8. Several new groups would like to start but no premises available at appropriate times.
9. Need for facilities to enable children to compete for Duke of Edinburgh awards.
10. Living by a river it is desirable that all children should be good swimmers. Inverurie pool fully used - need for pool in Kemnay.
11. Although information was issued and displayed by newsletter, posters etc. it did not always get to the people who wanted or needed it. Need for community centre for sociability, recreation and exchange of information.
12. Suggestion that there be a money-making effort for improving the Hall which is a very valuable asset in the centre of the village.
13. Need for more outdoor sports facilities such as football pitches - 7 teams in village now.
14. Desirability for riverside walk to be created. This is in draft plan.

Mrs. Milton thanked everybody for attending and gave assurance that the Community Council would be considering all the points raised.