

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27TH MARCH 1986 AT KEMNAY ACADEMY

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

Apologies: Mrs Milton, Cllr McLean (Mr Stubbs?)

Attending: Cllr Wainman, Mrs Cobb (Press), Mrs T Brown, Mr J Duffus, Mrs S Hodnett (members of the public)

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Proposed adoption:- Mr Wainman, Seconded: Mr Evans. No dissent.
3. Matters arising:-

(a) Possible Bulb-Planting. The meeting was told that the balance to date was £176.71. A discussion then took place on whether or not bulbs should be purchased and planted on the approaches to the Village in time for next Spring. Cllr Wainman said there was the possibility of the District Council putting money into this scheme and that they were presently considering ideas for 1986-87. There was general agreement bulb-planting would be a good idea. Mr Wainman to find out about buying in bulk. The Community Council to consider ways of getting the bulbs planted and discussion can take place at the next meeting. AGENDA ITEM next meeting.

(b) Marking Kit decision. Mr Wainman had spoken to the BMX Club and their members were not interested in using the Kit.

(c) Possible environmental improvements. The land at the corner of Bremner Way/Aquithie Road was mentioned. It was decided to write to Gordon District Council saying that under their own criteria against which potential environmental improvement schemes were assessed in 1984/85 numbers (ii) (iii) and (vi) and possibly (iv), we would like to see an improvement in the state of the site as it is an eye-sore.

4. Unfinished Business. Mention was made of the Riverside Walk by Mr Cumming. Mrs Shrago told the meeting that on walking down by the river at the end of the previous week, she had noticed that the Riverside Walk had been marked out and work had started on it.

Mr Cumming apologised to Mrs Wainman in regard to his mistake about the bus-stop, which he had mistakenly believed was outside Sim's shop. Mrs Wainman accepted the apology.

ADCB  
Mr Pashley asked if perhaps the War Memorial and Water Carrier Statue could be moved to the Bremner Way/Aquithie Road site. He asked if perhaps the owner of the land would donate it to the Community for say 25 years. He felt that as it was a difficult site to build on because of its marshy nature it might lend itself to being planted as a garden with seats etc round the memorial and statue. Councillor Wainman said there was a reluctance on the part of the District Council to have their property on someone else's land. Mr Stephen felt there might be trouble with some of the older members of the Village if it was moved. It was felt the owner of the land would not be agreeable to donating the land. It was decided to put something about this on our page in the Newsletter and ask for comments to be sent to the Secretary. Mr Pashley to draft the format for the Newsletter.

Mr Murray asked Mr Duffus (as a Coach Driver) whether Kendal Road was too steep for buses in either direction. Mr Duffus said it was.

5. Correspondence received. The Chairman read a letter from Dr Young re the new Littlewood Court and the introduction of a luncheon club in one of the lounges. The Chairman felt it was a very fair thing to ask and that we should follow that line. Some discussion took place. Cllr Wainman said it would be difficult to run it as an experiment from an administration point of view. Mr Wainman moved that we write in support of the Doctor's letter. Mr Cumming seconded. No dissent. Letter to be written saying the Community Council supports the suggestion of the Doctors of the Kemnay Practice that the proposed Luncheon Club should have access to the use of the public rooms at Littlewood Court. Mr Murray felt that whatever happened this should have the eventual approval of the future residents of Littlewood Court.

Mrs Shrago read a letter from the Head Postmaster, Aberdeen about the postal delays. A piece to be put in the Newsletter asking people who have problems to send us the covers back as requested by the Postmaster.

It was decided to enter the Scotland in Bloom competition again this year. Mrs Wainman to be the contact.

Mr Cumming said that Mr J Main of 12 Aquithie Lane would be replacing Mr Cooper as the representative of the Kemnay Senior Citizens on the Medical Liaison Committee.

6. The Chairman's Annual Report was read and approved. A copy is attached to the back of these Minutes. Proposed adoption: Mrs Shrago, Seconded: Mr D Evans.

7. The Financial Statement was read and the meeting told that the Accounts had been audited by Mr Low at the Bank. The Statement is as follows:-

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 1985

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS
BALANCE 1984 - 85	£ 140.12	OUTLAY £ 260.02
TOTAL INCOME	296.61	EXPENSES ETC 176.71
	£ 436.73	£ 436.73

*BAL. C/FWD.*

*176.71*

Mr Wainman said that the expenditure on paper had increased in the past few years. The Chairman asked Mr and Mrs Wainman to work out an estimate of the expenditure over the next year and report back to the next meeting. This will be included in our Budget. AGENDA ITEM next meeting.

8. New Business. None.

9. District News. Cllr Wainman told the Meeting the toilets should be opened very shortly. Some mention was made of the lack of wall at the rear of the toilets. The Library will be opened shortly and members of the Community Council will be invited.

10. Regional News. As Councillor McLean was not present this will be deferred to the next meeting. High Street Questionnaire to be AGENDA ITEM for next meeting.

11. Planning Applications. Mr Evans told the meeting there were 7 applications in all, a high percentage of which were extensions. There were 5 extensions, one garage and one new house at Leschangie farm. The Chairman asked about the position of the unfinished houses at Boat Croft and after a discussion it seemed as if these were now being completed.

12. A.G.C.B.

(1) Mr Evans mentioned he had attended a recent meeting of the Gordon Crime Prevention Panel. A number of crimes had been reported in the Village. Currently in Gordon District as a whole 20 car thefts had occurred between December and March and in every instance the key had been left in the ignition. Two of these thefts had occurred in Kemnay. It was decided to make mention in the Newsletter of the inadvisability of leaving keys in the ignition of cars. Mr Evans also mentioned the problem of "cowboy workmen" who took money for jobs and did not do the jobs. Mr Evans to draft a warning about this in the Newsletter. Mr Evans also mentioned that the Crime Prevention Officer is prepared to go to Community Council meetings to talk on Crime Prevention. It was agreed to invite him to come to the May meeting. This will give time to let people in the village know about it and give them the opportunity of coming to the meeting themselves. D Evans proposed, seconded A Murray.

(2) It was decided that if Mr Stubbs (who had not attended a meeting since October 1985) did not attend the April meeting he would be sent a letter informing him that his non-attendance would be an Agenda item as per the Constitution.

(3) Dates of forthcoming meetings. Discussion ensued as to whether the last Thursday of the month as still acceptable to everyone. A change of venue was also discussed but it was decided to continue at the Academy and to hold the meetings, as in previous years, on the last Thursday of the month. Mrs Hodnett made the suggestion that it would be a good idea for a notice to be left in the Hall downstairs informing people where the meeting was being held. The Chairman to draft a Notice to this effect for the next meeting.

(4) The Secretary gave her apologies for being unable to attend the April meeting and asked for someone to take the Minutes and deliver them to her for her to type and circulate them. Mr Murray agreed to take the Minutes if he was not working (he was due to be on Night Duty that night). If Mr Murray is working Mr Evans would take the Minutes. Whoever takes the Minutes to be paid the £4 standard charge for so doing.

(5) Mr Wainman as Secretary of the Public Hall Committee, asked whether it had been decided how many hours would be needed for possible Polling on the 1st May, Bye-Election. It was decided that if after the 21st April closing date, it appears a Bye-Election will take place, the Office Bearers would meet to decide tactics for such Bye-Election.

13. There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9 p.m. The next meeting will take place on Thursday 24th April 1986.

Proposed:

Seconded:

Signed:

## KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL - CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The fourth Kemnay Community Council started its first year with a team of 14, and has completed the year with numbers reduced to 10. Looking back over previous Community Council members, the attrition rate seems to be the highest that we have experienced in a first year. A combination of pressure of work and members moving away from the district seem to be the most common reasons for members departing. Our thanks go to them for the contribution that they made to our meetings, with, I feel, special mention due to the efforts of Dr Tim Drey for his particular contributions of professional knowledge and community concern regarding the proposed Industrial Mud-Burning plant that the last Kemnay Community Council had to deal with. Without his help, I am sure that the outcome of that exercise might well have been most unsatisfactory from the Community viewpoint.

The issues that have been discussed range from old chestnuts such as Paradise Green, still to be taken over by the District from the Region, through common items to all previous Kemnay Community Councils, such as roads and flooding, as well as minor law and order matters, to the new pastures of the Aberdeen Structure plan (or perhaps *deja vue*). The Kemnay Community Council has pressed the District hard for the adoption of Paradise Green from the Region, and we seem to be no further towards a solution than at the 1985 A.G.M. This matter will continue, doubtless, to defy a commonsense agreement for another year.

There is, however, a definite sign of progress with the almost annual flooding of Victoria Terrace. Recleaning the drains has been done, and a Flood Prevention application is beginning its long course down the burns of Scottish Office administration. Perhaps next year's A.G.M. will be able to report success.

A good positive sign that we as a Community Council do get a response from our constituents is the slow but noticeable trend to a small public attendance at our meetings. The fact that we pride ourselves on our 'open forum' with the active participation of members of the public has not gone completely unnoticed, thank goodness! The recent survey on the proposals for the High Street produced a mildly gratifying response through the Newsletter Questionnaire. This is being followed up by Kemnay Community Council, and I hope to be able to report on a satisfactory conclusion to this, together with the bus stance issue at next year's A.G.M.

With investigation and action on the points raised by Mr McNaughton, I think that another popular item, the village polling station, may be resolved within the next two years with the co-operation of the Village Hall Committee. We shall just have to wait and see.

This year has seen the Library built on the site of the temporary library, and the Public toilet arrive, but from the Kemnay Community Council point of view, both on the wrong sites. The concept of Bert Sutherland to have the library, bus stance and public toilet all together on the corner of Aquithie Road and Bremner Way would have been a far better use of available space, and would have solved the still-outstanding bus stance problem. Unfortunately, the ground was "unsuitable" on that site. I suppose that the Littlewood Court fiasco injected a degree of extra worry into the situation for the District Council. Thankfully the new Littlewood Court will, if

plans are anything to go by, be a far more flexible facility than its predecessor, and we all look forward to having those of our Senior Citizens back in the village who were obliged to be re-accommodated elsewhere.

There is a promise of road improvements to the Midmill Junction with the A96, and the continuation of the dualling of the A96 from Marshall Trailers into Bucksburn should be well under way by the end of 1986, promising a decent roundabout for Dyce Drive (Airport Road) traffic joining or leaving the A96. This is an item which Kemnay Community Council has pushed for 3 successive councils, and is now looking good for a satisfactory conclusion.

The possibility of a Natural Gas supply to the village was investigated, but very little hope can be held out for this service to come here, due to the cost of putting in the main over 3 miles. The expected utilisation in the community would not, we are told, provide enough revenue to pay for the installation of the main, especially regarding roadworks needed. Steve Stubbs is following this up with an investigation of possible EEC funding. Watch this space. By far the most important issue is the new Aberdeen Structure Plan, which basically proposes Kemnay as a community earmarked for an expansion by 500 houses by 2001 AD. After a good deal of debate, the majority view arrived at was that we as a community have suffered a high expansion 1975-1984, and have not had community facilities commensurate with the increased population. Grave reservations are entertained about lack of primary school accommodation for the increased population proposed, and it was decided to oppose the plan totally. It would be difficult to find space for more than 100 houses on fill-in sites within the existing planning boundary, so presumably the New Aberdeen Structure Plan would mean moving outwards the planning perimeter of Kemnay. This would be opposed by Kemnay Community Council, and doubtless will be the windmill for Kemnay Community Council to practise on for next year.

It seems that year after year Kemnay Community Council deals with a host of minor issues some of them recurring time after time. However I feel it is most important to look at the overall picture. Some of the matters which the first Kemnay Community Councils brought up are now coming to a conclusion within the term of this Council. Doubtless some of the matters which we are addressing will be sorted out one way or another within the term of another Kemnay Community Council. It is important to keep this long-term success rate in mind and not be discouraged unduly by the time taken for some issues to be resolved. There is a very fine dividing line between being flexible and being disorganised. I like to feel that whilst we are flexible for most of the time we are seldom as a Community Council disorganised.

I should like to thank all the Office Bearers for their support, particularly Mrs Sandy Shrago for her extremely professional minute-taking and general secretarial work; Hugh Cumming for acting as Honorary Treasurer and David Evans for his work in chasing up all the planning applications. Lastly I should particularly like to thank Mrs Susan Milton for her support as Vice Chairperson and standing in for me when I have been unable to attend.

DAVID BAILEY