

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30TH MAY 1985 AT KEMNAY ACADEMY

Present: Mr Bailey, Mrs Shrago, Mr Pashley, Mr Murray, Mr Woods, Mr Cumming, Mr Evans, Dr Drey, Mr Stubbs, Mr Wainman, Mrs Smyth

Apologies: Mrs Milton, Mrs Patterson

Attending: Cllr McLean, Cllr Wainman, Mr D Shaw - Housing Development Manager, Scottish Gas, Dundee, Mr Kidd, Assistant Area General Manager, Scottish Gas, Aberdeen; Mrs Power - member of the public; Mrs Sill and Mrs Cobb - members of the Press.

1. The Chairman, Mr Bailey, welcomed everyone and read the apologies.

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read. The amendments were:- in 9(a) insertion of "dual-carriageway at" before Tyrebagger Hill.

In 11(e) Cllr McLean to be inserted instead of Cllr Wainman.

Adoption proposed by A Murray, seconded by H Cumming. No dissent.

3. Matters arising. It was agreed to take item (f) first and Mr Shaw and Mr Kidd from Scottish Gas were introduced to the meeting. Mr Shaw said that although it was recognised there were natural gas transmission lines fairly near to Kemnay, the nearest feeder main supply is at Kintore, 3 miles away. It would be very costly to tap off this supply, and uneconomic. Roads would have to be dug up, pipes laid, etc. Mr Stubbs asked why places such as Potterton had been connected to a gas supply. Mr Shaw said that he knew for a fact that Potterton does not have a mains gas supply. Potterton is much closer to a feeder main than Kemnay but even so there are no plans for a main gas supply. He continued by saying that the gas supply in Scotland only extends to 73% of the households. At present 1.1 million consumers are served. A very high proportion (40%) of putting in a gas supply is for reinstatement of the roads. Mr Shaw did not think that there would be enough revenue from Kemnay to write-off the cost of putting in a supply.

Dr Drey asked what period of time it would take to be cost-effective. Mr Shaw said he could not divulge the time. Dr Drey queried what was the more expensive - bringing the main into the village or digging up the road. Mr Shaw was not prepared to divulge this. When pressed he said it would cost in the region of £1/4 million, for 3 miles of feeder main. £450,000 for the whole thing. On the Gas Board's estimates only 65% of the community would use gas. Insufficient revenue even if all houses were connected to gas supply. Mr Shaw said that he could not extend much hope for any future gas supply. It is much cheaper to put in a gas supply to a new area rather than an established area. If the community were to be extended substantially in the future then perhaps the Gas Board would look again. If there were new houses the Board would look to put gas supply to them first.

Mr Murray queried whether it would be cheaper to break into the high-pressure mains about a mile from the village. Mr Shaw thought not and said that anyway the main was the property of British Gas and they would not be happy to allow this to be used. Mr Shaw said depending on the location and the density of the housing 1500 houses would be the figure that might be cost-effective. The Chairman thanked both Mr Kidd and Mr Shaw for coming to the Meeting and explaining the Gas Board's case. Mr Shaw had in fact travelled from Edinburgh to be at the meeting. The Secretary to write and thank him.

3(a) Land in Aquithie Road. Letter from Gordon District Council read by the Secretary. Mr Evans to research St Machar Developments.

3(b) Road into Kirkhill Estate from A96. Cllr McLean said that the road will not be closed off when the dual-carriageway is extended. There will be a gap in the central reservation. There is no intention at the moment of improving the standard of the road itself.

3(c) Paradise Green. Mr Pashley went to see Mr Bruce at Gordon House. It is 18 months since Grampian Region approached Gordon District to take it over. Mr Bruce asked why we wanted it taken over by Gordon at all. The Region carried out certain work prior to its being taken over. The land is not classified as leisure land. Mr Pashley and Mr Stubbs to look at the District Plan to see what the land is zoned for. AGENDA ITEM. Cllr Wainman to contact fellow councillors of District saying we feel that it is now time this matter was resolved. Secretary to write to Mr Kennedy in similar vein.

3(d) Littlewood Court. Cllr Wainman said this was built by Aberdeen County Council. Careful investigations were carried out as to the suitability of the site. Cllr Wainman to check and see if there was any insurance on the building, including subsidence insurance. Mr Wainman asked whether, when the new building was erected, that the Common Room be taken over by the District so that any old people could come in for a communal meal if they so desired. There was some discussion on this. Cllr Wainman had been urged by the Medical Liaison Committee to press for this when the building is rebuilt. There is a meals on wheels service in the village but this is provided by the school kitchens. In the holidays there is a problem of cooking the meals as this has to be done by individuals. Mr Pashley asked who would do the cooking in the communal room, who would clear up, who would pay, etc. There was some discussion on whether two rooms would be provided. The plans are being drawn up but have not yet been presented. Cllr Wainman to canvass the meals on wheels ladies. AGENDA ITEM. Letter to District asking when our planning representative may view the plans.

3(e) Paradise Road. Cllr McLean said this was proving a lengthy acquisition. However, the potholes had been filled in. Mrs Shrago thanked him for getting this done so promptly.

4. Correspondence received. Letter from Ellon Community Council re difficulty of viewing plans at Gordon District. It was felt that Kemnay Community Council does not have a problem in viewing the plans at Gordon House. Dr Drey felt it would be a good thing to have the plans at our meetings.

Mr. Wainman said that the plans submitted to the Council are the property of the applicant and you would therefore need the approval of the applicant to take the plans away. Cllr Wainman has been pressing for this. The Community Council could write to the developer and ask to see a copy of the plans. Secretary to write to Ellon, asking what their problem is in more detail and what specifically, do they suggest we should do.

5. Unfinished business. Mr Wainman proposed that we erect a seat outside the Post Office. Mr Cumming told the meeting that we do have some spare money. Mr Cumming to come up with a Budget for the next meeting so that we know what sums we are talking about. AGENDA ITEM.

6. New Business. Mr Pashley said that he had heard that people who are looking at the houses at Boat Croft are being told that they will have right of access right down to the river's edge. Nothing in writing. Cllr Wainman to speak to people at Gordon House.

7. District News. Allotments are now being worked.

8. Regional News. Letter has been sent to Mrs Milton by the Chief Executive of Grampian Region re convener's travelling by chauffeur-driven car. Cllr McLean read out this letter to the meeting explaining the position in this matter.

re Midmill Junction. Cllr McLean said that in a 3-year period to the end of March this year, a total of 10 accidents had been recorded. Five were slight. Four damage only. One pedestrian killed. Not all were specifically at this junction. Dr Drey said that he understood a horse had been killed at this junction. Cllr McLean confirmed this.

9. Planning Applications. Mr Evans said there were 10 applications in all but nothing of any great interest. There was a conversion of steadings at the Parkhill Lodge to make two billiard rooms plus flats above.

10. A.G.C.B. Dr Drey asked whether we were going to leave the matter of the Gas Supply or should we take it further. Cllr Wainman to ask the Council whether they would be prepared to change their housing to gas. Mr Stubbs to look into possible funding from say, the EEC etc.

11. There being no further business to discuss the meeting ended at 9.40 p.m. Next meeting - 26th September 1985.

Proposed:

Seconded:

Signed:

DAVID EVANS
OAKLANDS, PARKHILL
KEMNAY INVERURIE
ABERDEENSHIRE