



**Meeting Note  
KPFPG Committee Meeting  
14/12/16**

**Present**

Ken Ledingham (Chairman)  
Jim Buchan (Secretary)  
John MacNicol (Treasurer)  
Jude Galas  
Helen Chalmers  
Alastair Gill  
Paul Hendy  
Irene Ferguson

**Apologies**

Steve McGill  
Tama Forgie-Watt

**1. Apologies and Welcome**

Ken offered apologies for Steve McGill – Wednesdays do not work for him. It was suggested that we alternate between a Wednesday and a Thursday for our meetings. This was agreed. Alastair said he might have a problem attending on a Thursday but to go ahead anyway.

**Action** – Jim agreed to issue a new meeting schedule.

**2. Minute of meeting 26/10/16- approval and circulation**

This was previously circulated to committee members – the current version was approved for circulation to KPFPG members.

**3. Minute from previous meeting**

Edits were discussed in relation to the need for a flood study for a temporary bund and also about insurance cover.

**4. Matters arising – from October meeting**

a) Temporary flood protection at KP - discussion took place about the meeting on 23/11/16 with Council and Scottish Water representatives. This was thought to have been a very useful meeting from which a number of actions would follow as detailed in the minute of the meeting.

b) Newsletter to residents-Ken reported that this had been circulated to members of KPFPG and residents. Some negative feedback had been received but it was agreed not to respond to the e-mail and letter which had been copied to all KP residents as they did not offer any constructive suggestions for the way forward.

c) Scottish Flood Forum Survey- update, John

John reported this survey is not complete as yet and there was nothing further to report at this time.

d) SEPA, MSP and Scottish Water- update on contact with Alexander Burnett, MSP and Roseanna Cunningham, Scottish Minister- Ken and Paul

Ken reported on an email from Grace O'Keeffe (secretary to the MSP) which indicated that parliamentary managers are not prepared to consider a change to the legislation as in their view the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) act is not deficient. At present a review of PVAs can only be carried out every 6 years. There was discussion about this issue and those present agreed that we need to pursue this issue further. Paul Hendy stated that he has a meeting planned with Rosanna Cunningham, the Cabinet Secretary with responsibility in this matter and that he will raise the issue with her. Paul will report back on this topic in due course. Paul will also confirm if there are any other MSPs or MPs that we can approach about the matter. Alistair drew attention to the fact that the existing legislation seemed to provide for MSPs to alter the frequency of PVA reviews. Ken asked him if he would be willing to draft a letter to the MSP to make an argument for bringing a review of PVAs forward. Ken mentioned that if this was successful it would gain KP earlier status as a PVA. This might not result in any new work being done immediately by the Council unless they review their current plan of work. Jim stated that if this helps get the Council to revise its current plans this might result in the earlier construction of a permanent bund .

There was also discussion about peoples experiences in renewing insurance cover for properties which have been flooded. Paul stated that people must ensure that Flood RE is being applied to their individual case and to 'phone the insurance company to get this applied if there is a problem.

Ken indicated that he thought we should write again to our MSP about SW's responsibility to protect housing in KP from the effect of flood waters coming through their plant. At the meeting with SW it was clear that the officials present did not accept that SW are responsible for preventing flood damage to KP houses as it was the river that flooded not the fault of the SW infrastructure. It was agreed that Ken would write again to the MSP as he had indicated that SEPA had told him that SW had some responsibility in this matter at a meeting he had held with the CEO of SEPA.

**Action:** Paul Hendy to find out if Stuart Donaldson has any locus on Scottish flooding matters.

**Action:** Alistair Gill to draft an email to Alexander Burnett to propose bringing forward a review of PVAs and particularly to get Kembhill Park's status upgraded to a PVA.

**Action:** Ken to write again to Alexander Burnett, MSP.

**Action:** Any emails sent by committee members on behalf of KPFPG should be copied to Jim and Ken.

e) Amended constitution being sent to residents -update, Jim indicated that this has been dealt with.



f) Minutes of KPFGB inaugural meeting, 14/09/16- update, Jim

The draft has been circulated to all members – comments on the minute are welcome which should be approved at the next AGM or SGM.

g) KPFGB website, feedback from Paul on sources of funding- update, Jim, Paul

Paul to consider this further and come back as soon as he has information.

**Action:** Paul to investigate further and report back.

h) Charitable status for group –update, Jim

Jim explained that he had been in touch with OSCR who have referred him to Voluntary Action Aberdeenshire who can offer further advice. He has a meeting planned and will report back in due course. There was some discussion about using SCIO status as opposed to full charitable status. The former might involve a less complicated procedure to get approval as a charity.

**Action:** Jim to report back from his meeting with VAA in due course.

i) KPFGB bank account- update, John.

This is now set up and money for membership fees has been deposited. We also have a cheque for £65 from the Rotary Club – the balance from their donation after the pump had been purchased.

j) Membership fee collection and recruitment of members- allocation of KP residents for committee members to visit-all.

This is proceeding, John is issuing receipts as payments are being received. Jim confirmed that we have 44 members and 14 have paid so far. Some people have responded positively to invitations to join, others are less enthusiastic and some are definitely not interested. It was agreed that we should all continue to try to recruit new members.

Ken indicated that he had already produced a list of people who need paper communications as they do not have e-mail and proposed that other lists could be produced to cover other tasks which needed to be done. Jim said that there was likely to be confusion if there were too many lists being created. It was agreed that a list of those needing paper communications should be set up and maintained. Jim suggested that distribution of such material to these addresses could be done by one person.

**Action:** Jim to create list.

k) Mailchimp e-mail lists- update, Jim.

Jim reported that the Mail Chimp list has been divided into two – one for KPFGB members and the other for non-member residents.

l) Potential funds from Rotary Club, Garioch Partnerships etc –update, John, Ken.

The Rotary Club presentation of the Foul Water Pump took place before the meeting. Both the Press and Journal and Evening Express as well as the local Inverurie paper's photographer took numerous photos so it was hoped that there would be good coverage in the press.

John reported on the process of filling in a form to Garioch Partnerships which has been a difficult process due to the format of the form etc. It has now been submitted and we await a response.

m) Report from KCC meeting 24/11/16 and attendance at meeting on 26/11/17- Ken

Ken reported that he was asked to speak about flooding issues at the KCC meeting. Councillor Lonchay was not keen on the Watergate barrier because it involves deployment by residents. She would prefer to have a more permanent solution to the problem. It is hoped therefore that she will be able to promote a more permanent outcome in any discussions which take place at the Council on this issue.

n) Newspaper articles- update, Alastair

Ken said that he had received the PDF copies of press articles from Alastair and will to send these on to residents. Jim said he could send them to folk on the Mail Chimp lists.

o) Survey of property damage- update, Jim.

Jim said he was awaiting a text from Paul Hendy about this matter. Paul agreed to send this on to Jim.

**Action:** Paul to forward text to Jim

p) Port Elphinstone Bund- update, Jim.

Jim indicated that he has produced a short report with all the details of how this bund was reconstructed. He also commented that it is in the wrong place and should be on the other side of the playing fields nearer the houses to provide more of a flood plain. What has been constructed has a clay core and other enhancements over what was there originally to protect it from rabbit infestation.

Jim said he is also planning to meet with David Fyfe who is willing to share the contents of the FRA which was conducted as part of a planning application which he made some time ago. Jim will report back on his meeting in due course. John said that he thought he had a copy of the FRA report and would dig it out to send to committee members.

**Action:** Jim to have meeting with David Fyfe and report back to the group.

**Action;** John to circulate copy of FRA.



Jim also said that he knew a John Whittle who is a Charter Civil Engineer and that he has indicated that he is willing to offer advice to KPFGB. Frank Duguid (former MTM Construction) who lives at Davidson Park is also willing to meet our group and offer advice. It was agreed that such a meeting might be useful at some point in the future.

q) Miscellaneous- Response by Council to complaints about sand and gravel from blocked drain on path at number 31, cleaning of drains, cleaning of weeds and grass from kerb side gutters

Jim has written to Gavin Penman who has passed the matter to the roads department. Jim will continue to track this and update the group as necessary.

**Action:** Jim to follow up and report back.

#### **4. Follow up to meeting with SW and Aberdeenshire council**

It was agreed that we need to have formal update on work that the Council and Scottish Water agreed to take forward at this meeting.

**Action:** Jim to follow up and report back.

Discussion took place about putting forward proposals for work on path reconstruction and/or adding an artistic feature which might improve flood resilience and not require planning permission.

Paul Hendy confirmed that if planning application is required for work which has an environmental impact that SEPA are likely to have a view and a say in whether it can be passed by the Council planning department.

Ken mentioned that he had received an email from Dianne Burgess thanking KPFGB for inviting SW to the meeting which she thought had been helpful and indicating that a Ruaridh MacGregor has taken over her role until a permanent replacement has been appointed. His email address is [ruaridh.macgregor@scottishwater.com](mailto:ruaridh.macgregor@scottishwater.com).

#### **5. Email from A K and paper from GM, previously circulated to KP residents**

It was not thought necessary to respond to these items as they did not contain any useful information or suggestions for constructive dialogue with the statutory bodies involved in flood prevention planning.

#### **6. Production of Emergency Plan and Recruitment of Flood Wardens- allocation of tasks (Ken)**

Ken has produced a list of tasks which he thought need to be completed as part of our emergency planning. He circulated a paper version of the e-mail which he had already sent to committee members. Ken proposed that we need a subgroup to work on this as it is difficult for the whole committee to carry out such work. Alistair offered to draft an initial plan for consideration by the committee as this is what he does in his day job. His offer was warmly accepted by the committee.

Jim commented that any plan for Kembhill Park should be part of a Kemnay wide plan. It was agreed that this should be the approach taken.

Irene will share copies of the KCC plans which have been drafted to date. She suggested that Kembhill Park should be treated as a zone in the Kemnay Plan. The village hall and church centre were proposed as respite centres.

**Action:** Alistair agreed to start work on the plan for Kembhill Park and to share drafts as they become available; progress to be reviewed at the KPFGB January meeting.

#### **7. Feedback from KCC- Irene. Response from Council to request for Kemnay Flood Risk Assessment, Insurance, SFF training etc.**

Irene reported that KCC has decided not to commission a flood risk assessment at this time. She also said Gavin Penman had indicated that he is willing to have a meeting with all interested parties including KCC, KPFGB and Milton Meadows Flood Group about this issue.

Regarding insurance she said that there is no change and no update on this as yet. Irene will confirm developments in this regard in due course.

The flood resilience training delivered by Paul Hendy was considered to be very successful.

#### **8. AOCB**

Ken has a supply of Scottish Flood Forum leaflets about personal flood planning which can be put through residents' letter boxes. It was thought useful if a KPFGB compliment slip could be produced which had contact information on it to include with the leaflet.

Jim asked what people thought about the KPFGB logo which he has produced as a draft. People said they were very pleased with Jim's design and were keen to use it with all KPFGB correspondence.

**Action:** Jim to produce a compliments slip and circulate to committee members.



Jim also mentioned that the domain **kpfpg.org.uk** is available and that we can obtain it if we wish to do so. After discussion it was agreed that this domain should be obtained for the groups use and Jim agreed to get this set up.

**Action:** Jim to take this forward.

Jim has obtained documents from the Scottish Land Registry to clarify ownership of the land around the river bank. Jim suggested that he approach Michael Christie and Douglas Bain who both have a legal background to get their advice about interpreting the land ownership information supplied by the Scottish Land Registry.

**Action:** Jim to take this forward.

Paul left the meeting at this point to travel home. Ken wished him the compliments of the season.

Helen agreed to find out what can be done by way of resilience works without any need for planning permission.

**Action:** Helen to take this forward and report back.