

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 APRIL 2014

Present: Bill Blackwood (Acting Chairman), Margaret Basley, Margaret Christie, David Evans, John Hern, Douglas Laing, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley.

Attending: Cllr Allison Grant, Harry Jameson, three members of the public.

1. **Welcome:** The Acting Chairman welcomed those present.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Annie Ferries, Chris Hunneyball, Bob Ingram, Kate Rigby, Sheila Simpson, Cllr Patricia Oddie, Cllr Sheena Lonchay.
3. **Police Matters:** There was no police presence, but a report had been submitted. Nine crimes had been reported: five, which had been detected, were not relevant to the general community; three were vandalism – a fence at Kemnay Primary School, a fence at the quarry and a window at Kemnay Academy, all of which appeared to have been committed by school pupils; and one was an attempted break-in where an implement was used in an attempt to force a wooden door. Residents were reminded to lock all doors and outbuildings and lock away tools. Local officers continued to monitor and deal with young drivers in the village and would welcome details of any “repeat offenders” being brought to their attention by noting the number plate of the vehicles. Officers would also be working with Academy pupils to increase awareness of the role of the Police in the community. Concerns were raised by Community Councillors about vandalism at the Village Hall and at the telephone box in Kendal Road. Both incidents had been reported
4. **Harthills Biomass Fuel Forestry Operations – Harry Jameson:** Mr Jameson gave a presentation on the proposed biomass operation at Harthill Forest which will supply fuel to Stoneywood paper mill at Dyce. He explained the working of the biomass plant to be installed at Dyce which would produce steam and electricity for the paper mill and possibly heat for local businesses. He also detailed the forest operations which would be required at Harthill. Biomass fuel is low-grade timber, which would otherwise be exported, and brush which is left after trees have been felled. Woods must, by law, be sustainable, and trees are planted to replace those which have been felled. The use of biomass promotes a significant saving in carbon. Concerns were raised about the number of large lorries travelling to and from Harthill, and Mr Jameson gave responses to these.
5. **Opportunity for Members of the Public to speak:** One member of the public drew attention to the amount of litter dropped by schoolchildren at lunchtime on their way to and from the Academy; he showed photographs of the litter which he had picked up, and pointed out that the large amounts which he collected daily were generally dropped by schoolchildren, and suggested that the Community Council might be able to assist in his campaign to reduce the litter problem in Kemnay. It was agreed to put the matter on the agenda for the May meeting of the Community Council. A second member of the public voiced the problem of cars parking in the turning area at the end of his cul-de-sac; David Evans agreed to make a site visit and Cllr. Grant was to contact the appropriate department of Aberdeenshire Council.
6. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2014 was proposed by Janet Newberry, seconded by Doug Laing, and approved unanimously.
7. **Matters Arising from Minutes:**
 - a) **Mavis Wainman:** The stained glass panel had now been completed and was highly commended by members of the Community Council; Duncan Downie was thanked for framing it. It was agreed unanimously that £500 should be paid for the panel, and £11.99 for a gift for Mr Downie.
 - b) **Blind Car Park entrance in Bremner Way:** This matter was now closed.
8. **Planning Matters and Applications:**
 - a) **New Applications:** There were three new applications none of which was controversial.

b) Weekly Lists: Aberdeenshire Council had, without prior warning, altered the way in which weekly lists were accessed on its site, making the process more cumbersome. David Evans explained that he had contacted Aberdeenshire Council because there had apparently been no new planning applications for two weeks. The new system which had been explained to him had extremely poor “Search Options” and the “Help” document had no contact telephone numbers or email addresses. There was no explanation on the old search page and no redirection option to the new system. He had been advised that the new system would be faster because it ran through the Scottish Government portal although this advice did not seem to be borne out in practice. He had found the new system to be more useful once it had been mastered, and volunteered to post the weekly lists on the Kemnay website for the benefit of residents. It was suggested that they no longer be posted on the notice board, and that residents without computer access might visit the library for the information.

9. Reports:

a) GACCF: The June meeting would incorporate the AGM. Members were asked to consider names for a new chairman before the May meeting of Kemnay Community Council.

b) Press Report: From May 2014, an extra train service would run between Aberdeen and Inverurie between 4 and 5pm, and a new service would leave Inverurie for Aberdeen at 8.45 am. Four companies were to compete for a contract to bypass the Inveramsay Bridge; work was due to start by the end of 2014 and to be complete within the year. Kemnay was to have access to fibre optic broadband by autumn of 2014.

1. **Aberdeenshire News:** Aberdeenshire was to consider a strategy for providing sites for travelling people. One location had been suggested, but it had been agreed that an overall strategy should be in place before individual sites were selected.

1. Correspondence:

Circulated (with date)

- a) Queens Baton Relay Information Bulletin (1/4/2014)
- b) CVSA Newsletter March-April 2014 (1/4/2014)
- c) ACVO E-Bulletin – Friday 28th March 2014 (1/4/2014)
- d) Posters – various (2/4/2014)
- e) INNS Seminar (4/4/2014)
- f) B Division Divisional Commander’s Letter – Year 1 (4/4/14)
- g) Garioch Community Planning Update – April 2014 (4/4/14)
- h) The Great Social Enterprise Tour (8/4/14)
- i) Temporary Road Closure – U115c Dalmadilly Junction to B993 Junction Kemnay – 30 May 2014 (8/4/14)
- j) Patient Participation Virtual Network & NHS 24 Spring Newsletter (9/4/14)
- k) Health and Social Care Integration roadshows – dates, times and venues (9/4/14)
- l) Garioch Area Surface Dressing – Temporary Road Restrictions – 21 April 2014 (9/4/14)
- m) A Diverse and Inclusive Inverurie (11/4/14)
- n) Garioch Community Ward Forums – Spring 2014 (11/4/14)
- o) Forest Enterprise Scotland – Moray & Aberdeenshire Forest District – Forest District Strategic Plan – Community Partnership Consultation (17/4/14)

Uncirculated

- p) DTA Scotland – Exciting News
- q) Scottish Government – Streamlining Planning Assessments – Stakeholder Survey (Completed by David Evans)
- r) Advocacy North East Ltd – Training for Volunteers in Core Advocacy Skills
- s) Just Enterprise – FREE Pre-Start Leadership Workshop

2. **AOCB:** The fact that the “Welcome to Kemnay” stone required cleaning was raised. Cllr Grant agreed to make enquiries as to whether Aberdeenshire Council would do this.

3. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting would be held on 29 May 2014.