

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 NOVEMBER 2011

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Gavin Adam, Bill Blackwood, Margaret Christie, David Evans, Annie Ferries, John Hern, Bob Ingram, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley, Jim Piggins, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri, PC David Calvert, PC Jim Lawson, Alistair Thomson.

Apologies: There were no apologies.

- 1. Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed those present, particularly the members of the police force and Alistair Thomson.
- 2. Police matters:** Seven crimes had been reported in Kemnay, and a number of traffic offences. At the end of the fireworks display in the village, a lit firework had been thrown into the roadway close to a number of pedestrians. Three out of the four persons responsible had been identified. Officers had given attention to Bogbeth Park on Sundays but no offences had been detected. A newsletter had been distributed to Kemnay Primary School parents advising them about parking on High Street. PC Duncan was to arrange a meeting with a representative of the Roads Department, Aberdeenshire Council, to discuss preventative measures. Operation San Pablo was currently targeting scrap thefts and acquisitive crimes in the area. Diageo is funding a campaign focusing on raising awareness about the dangers involved in winter driving and drink driving, and advising motorists of their priority vehicle-checklist at this time of year. The high profile radio campaign is being backed by Grampian Police, Northern Constabulary, Moray Firth Radio, Northsound, Tesco and the Automobile Association. Speeds had been monitored on the Golf course exit from Kemnay, but had been found not to be excessive. The police are obliged to wear high visibility jackets and be easily seen when doing speed checks. Police were aware of the concerns about young people's behaviour in Kemnay Primary School grounds, but had been unable to apprehend those responsible.
- 3. Opportunity for Members of the public to speak:** Alistair Thomson raised a concern that the ponds on the Cairn View estate were draining into the Victoria Terrace drainage system, which had difficulty coping with existing surface water. Assurances were given that the ponds were in fact designed to retain water and release it slowly into the surrounding area. Mr Thomson also expressed concern about the unofficial lay-by at the corner of Fyfe Park and Victoria Terrace. Cllr Al-Kowarri said that it had been re-seeded with grass on several occasions, but its continued use as a parking area meant that the work was in vain. She expressed the hope that when the entrance to the industrial estate was created, it would be impossible for people to park there.
- 4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2011 was proposed by Bob Ingram, seconded by Janet Newberry, and unanimously approved.
- 5. Matters Arising from Minutes:**
 - a) Community Engagement event:** Bob Ingram reported that, while the presentations had been interesting, this event had had been generally disappointing, with few Community Councillors attending, and little input from the floor.
 - b) Remembrance Sunday:** There had been a good turnout both of Community Councillors and of the public.
 - c) Planning Gain and the Village Hall:** Cllr Al-Kowarri and Aberdeenshire Council were thanked for the award of up to £5,000 towards the cost of refurbishing the village hall coffee bar.
- 6. Planning matters and applications:** There was nothing controversial.
- 7. Reports:**
 - a) Christmas Lights:** Members of the CC agreed to meet on 26 November to erect the Christmas trees. The street lights were in place, and would be switched on on 3 December.
 - b) Safety Group:** The group had been shown a DVD, aimed at schoolchildren, on action to be undertaken when arriving at an accident. The DVD was accompanied by notes for teachers. Kemnay Academy was participating in a police initiative on driving. £80 was currently being offered to drivers taking the Pass Plus course, and there were currently discussions under way which aimed to increase this to £100. Stickers had been supplied to attach to bins to deter opportunistic thieves.
 - c) Community Learning and Development:** There had been discussion about the capacity of Kintore primary school, and about the provision of further secondary school places.

d) GACCF: There had been a good attendance and three excellent presentations. Following questions from the floor, information was to be distributed about the extent to which powers are delegated to planning officers.

e) Community Planning: The Garioch Local Community Planning Group Meeting had been held in Westhill. It started off with presentations by Westhill CC and the Ashvale Hall committee. Westhill Community Council was clearly a very effective and enthusiastic CC, which looked positively for initiatives such as regular litter picks, planning days, and hanging baskets. They had also worked on producing a logo, indeed several logos, to cover their various activities. Ashvale Hall would appear to have similar problems to Kemnay's, although Kemnay seemed to be doing better, in that Ashvale was very short of volunteers to help run the hall. They had become a SCIOS, one of the few so far. £5,000 was provisionally earmarked for the Westhill Men's Shed, and £1,000 towards the on-going costs of the Kintore Bothy project. The coming winter was expected to be bad for flu, and everyone was advised to get a jab even if it meant paying. A measles/mumps problem was also expected to reach the UK fairly soon. This could have serious consequences as the children most likely to be infected were the ones who had not had the MMR jab when there were fears about its safety. Parents were being recommended to have their children inoculated if that had not already been done.

8. Kemnay Community Council Elections: It was agreed that elections would require to be held on 15 March 2012. This meant that information about the election would have to appear in the January edition of the newsletter, the nomination forms in the February edition and the candidates' statements in the March edition. Nomination forms would also be available in outlets in the village, and notices would be placed on the notice boards.

9. Aberdeenshire Design Awards: It was agreed to nominate Mill Farm phase 1 in the Rural Landscape Development category, and the "Welcome to Kemnay" stone in the Public Art Category.

10. Cashback Underspend: This information had been passed to Community Education.

11. Litter In Kemnay: An e-mail had been received from a member of the public, and a letter from Dennis Robertson, our local MSP, both complaining about litter in Kemnay. Cllr Al-Kowarri assured the meeting that the Academy was taking this problem seriously, with prefects attempting to educate younger children.

12. Aberdeenshire news: The area around the skate-park had been turfed and tidied.

13. AOCB:

a) It was agreed to purchase a Saltire Society plaque for the Place of Origin.

b) Concern was expressed about the condition of the lane between St Bryde's Road and Station Road. The Chairman volunteered to remove the litter; little, however, could be done about cars parked in the lane.

c) There was concern about subsidence near the Shakkin' Bridge and the state of the road leading to it.

14. Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting would be held on 26 January 2012.