

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL - REPORT OF THE MEETING ON 25th June 2015 AT 7.30 PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Sheila Simpson (Chair), Bill Blackwood (Vice -Chair), David Evans, Douglas Laing, Vaila Spencer, Margaret Basley, Bob Ingram, Gaenor Berkin, Rob Mackay, Hazel Smith, Gavin Adam, Janet Newberry

Attending: Dr O. Menshykov, P. Reynolds, A. Laing, D. Herd, J. Hern, S. Wainman

1. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed those present.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Kate Rigby, Graeme Wood, Cllr. Oddie, Cllr. Lonchay
3. **Community Talk** Anne Simpson talked about the work of the **Garioch Partnership**. This was established in 2012 and works with 28 settlements in the Garioch. Their aim is to bring out the best in communities and provide information and advice on funding for projects, community action planning, business plans etc. Anne suggested Kemnay might be interested in participating in community action planning. She explained that this would involve a range of groups and organisations coming together to look at potential projects in the community and how these might be best achieved. The Council agreed this would be a good time to start such an initiative and pledged its support. Anne suggested a start could be made in the autumn and this was agreed.
4. **Kemnay Academy pupil report** – there was no pupil report.
5. **Police Matters:** There was no Police report for June or Police presence at the meeting. The Council had been notified that a new Police Sergeant had been appointed with responsibility for the Kemnay area – it was agreed the Secy. would e-mail the Police Sergeant to make contact and suggest a meeting.
6. **Members of the Public:** i) Two members of the public commented on long-standing anti-social behaviours associated with the use of Shannoch Path and suggested a gate at either end of path as a solution. It was stated that the path does belong to Aberdeenshire Council and there are no plans to sell it. Agreed that the Chair will approach Kemnay Academy about the problem of litter. ii) Members of the public highlighted significant problems with Barratt Housing's plans to develop the Bogbeth site. These included traffic problems on a narrow road and safety issues. There were also adverse comments about difficulties experienced in trying to record objections on the Aberdeenshire Council's website.
7. **Bogbeth Road Housing Application** – The Chair read a reply from Aberdeenshire Council in response to the letter the Community Council had submitted in order to raise concerns about the way the Barratts Housing application had been dealt with. The members were still left with significant concerns and agreed in principle we should write to the Local Authority Ombudsman at an appropriate time. In relation to the application, the Council agreed to lodge an objection based on concerns about lack of public consultation, no footpath, no road widening and that if the application is approved there will be significant implications for road safety and local services such as primary education and primary health care. Agreed that David would circulate his draft letter and that members would need to comment on this draft by 28th June, after which the final version would be submitted.
8. **Approval of Minutes** of 28th May – Approved Bob Ingram Seconded Hazel Smith
9. **Matters arising from Minutes:**
 - a) We had no presence at the Village Hall on Friday 19th June and the next session we need to be at is Friday 18th September. Bob has managed to obtain a copy of the template of the flyer about the Community Council and it was agreed he and Rob would update the details and order 1,000 copies. These are to be placed in the Library and the Village Hall.
 - b) The issue of a lack of a public toilet in Kemnay was highlighted, whilst acknowledging the availability of toilets in the Bennachie Lodge. Discussions are to take place with the Chair of the Pavilion Cttee. to look at potential developments when they meet again after August. It was confirmed that the skateboard park has been taken over by the Council. Cllr. Oddie had contacted officials re better signage and had suggested that the old toilets on Aquithie Road be considered for community transfer.
 - c) There had been no further meetings concerning factoring arrangements.
 - d) Craig Grant fund – the family have asked for the money to be returned so that they might make the decision about how it might be spent.. The Chair has written to offer our apologies and to explain our difficulties in using the monies. We are awaiting to hear from the family how they would like the money to be refunded.

- e) Mavis Wainman Fund – confirmed that John Maine has been notified and arrangements for the invoicing of the two benches are proceeding with the co-operation of Greener Kemnay.
- f) Road traffic issues were discussed and the Chair is going to try to convince Police Scotland to locate the speed monitoring device in the Grove Road vicinity. The lack of central road markings on Grove Road and Victoria Terrace was noted.
- g) The Community Council had invited a representative from Alehousewells PTA to appoint a representative to the council and is awaiting a response. A point was made about how the Community Council approaches consultation with residents and it was suggested this could be part of the community action planning initiative with the Garioch Partnership/
- h) The Projects sub-group reported on ongoing efforts to find funding sources for a community defibrillator and upgrades to two paths within the village.
- i) Road traffic issues – the lack of road markings was noted in several locations; Boat Croft, Grove Road, Victoria Terrace.

10. Planning Matters:

PP/2015/1709 Renewal of Existing Planning Permission APP/2012/2057 (Conversion of Steading to form Dwelling house and Garage and Erection of Agricultural Building) - Lower Glenhead Farm Kemnay - Neutral.

APP/2015/1842 Erection of General Purpose Agricultural Shed. - Burnside Of Braco Farmhouse Chapel Of Garioch Inverurie – Neutral.

11. Reports:

- a) Christmas lights – storage for the lights has been provided by the Bennachie Lodge at no charge.
- b) Safety group – no report.
- c) GACF – Sheila Simpson was reappointed as Chair. The last meeting heard a presentation about Community Planning.
- d) Press report about activities within Kemnay.

13. Aberdeenshire News – No reports and no councillor presence.

12. Correspondence – the Community Council have received invitations to respond to consultations regarding the proposed Wind farm at Kintore, the Special Landscape Areas and the proposed tree felling at Gallowhill Woods.

13. AOCB – Chair’s Report, Dr Simpson had been present at the official opening to the Kemnay Academy extension, and she had been featured in the Press & Journal article about the proposed Bogbeth housing development. She congratulated David Evans on his “Service to the Community Award. “ Ken Manson had confirmed to her there would be a continuation of the Post Office service although there might be changes to the counter service.

She highlighted that occasionally the Community Council receives letters raising various concerns that are not signed and commented on how difficult it is to progress those concerns.

Community Councillors: David had presented a cup to S7 pupils at Kemnay Primary; Margaret highlighted the forthcoming closure of Aquithie Road and asked about the future of the Birley Bush depot; Vaila asked question about the timing of the Community Council minutes appearing in the Newsletter and Margaret explained reason for present system; Gavin commented on the Aberdeenshire Council website that provides information on road closures. No other comments.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 24th September 2015