

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30 JANUARY 2014

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Margaret Basley, Bill Blackwood, David Evans, Annie Ferries, John Hern, Bob Ingram, Douglas Laing, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley, Kate Rigby, Sheila Simpson.

Attending: Cllr Allison Grant, Cllr Sheena Lonchay, Cllr Patricia Oddie, PC Mark Grey and one member of the public – Vaila Spencer.

1. Welcome: The Chairman welcomed those present.

2. Apologies for Absence: Margaret Christie, Mrs Gregor (Kemnay Primary).

3. Police Matters: There had been four vandalised windows, which seem to be unconnected, and a number of small fires lit in the village centre with the possible culprit having been reported. Several garages were broken into and vehicles stolen; one male has been reported. There have been further thefts from insecure property and members of the public were urged to keep houses locked and keys out of sight. A firework or similar was set off in a rubbish bin at Bogbeth Park. A particularly noisy motor bike was passing through the village at around 6.15 am daily and the Police agreed to look into this to establish whether or not there was any mechanical fault with the bike which might cause it to be noisier than is acceptable. Chris also advised that the notice board by the Post Office has been vandalised again recently. Annie Ferries reported that the recycling bin at Bogbeth Park which is there to collect cans has not been emptied for some time because it is full with lots of things other than cans. Cllr Grant agreed to take this forward with the Waste Service but suggested that an article be placed in the village newsletter regarding the necessity of using the correct recycling bins for the relevant pieces of waste. It was also suggested that the Police non emergency number of 101 be highlighted so that it could be used in instances of reporting suspicious behaviour.

4. Opportunity for Members of the Public to Speak

Vaila Spencer raised the issue of flooding at the Kirkstyle entrance to the village and the apparent need for the drains to be attended to. Cllr Grant agreed to bring this to the attention of the Roads Service. Vaila also reported concern around speeding past the golf course. Cllr Grant advised that monitoring of speeds had recently taken place at this point and that the signs highlighting speeding had been installed as a result. It was agreed that the Community Council would highlight the concerns and request that further monitoring be carried out.

Vaila also highlighted concerns around dog waste in various areas of Kemnay including the Place of Origin, Milton View, Riverside Road and Grove Road and suggested that further bins were required. Chris Hunneyball agreed to put a request to the Council regarding this.

5. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 November 2013: Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2013 was proposed Sheila Simpson, seconded by Eric Pashley and approved unanimously.

6. Matters Arising from Minutes:

a) Mavis Wainman Memorial: Work on the stained glass window was progressing.

b) Kemnay Website: David Evans has been absolutely brilliant, and has produced a most informative and up to date website at www.kemnay.info. It seemed as though Google was now beginning to recognise it. Chris Hunneyball undertook to write to ask if the old website could be removed as this is where Google sent searchers.

c) Bird Hides and Doggie Bins: The key to the hides could now be drawn from Mill Farm Studio. There was a problem with dog mess on the paths but Aberdeenshire Council would be unlikely to help with bins on site as the area is privately owned. However they have been asked if a bin could be provided on the roadside by the entrance.

d) Aberdeenshire Design Awards. After consultation with Breedon Aggregates the Mill Farm application has been submitted.

e) Visit to Quarry and/or Block Works: It was agreed to wait until the days were longer and weather better before requesting these visits.

f) Craig Grant Donation: Janet Newberry agreed to contact Greener Kemnay, and to write an article for the newsletter canvassing for ideas.

- g) White Lines in Village:** Cllr Lonchay would pursue the reason for the lack of these following road resurfacing, but it was pointed out that white line painting in midwinter was not really sensible.
- h) Boat Croft Steps:** At least one step on one side of the steps had collapsed completely, and it appeared that no one had ownership of them. The Council maintained that they were unadopted, and the builder, who would then theoretically be responsible, was now no longer in business. This was an impossible long term situation, and Cllr Lonchay said she would try and get a definitive answer to the problem.
- i) Chairman:** Chris Hunneyball said that his house was now on the market, and although he had no idea when he would have to move it was unlikely to be before the AGM. Bill Blackwood advised that he had been in contact with members of the Community Council asking that consideration be given in advance as to who might be prepared to stand for the position of Chairperson. Bill Blackwood also indicated his appreciation of the good job Chris had made over the years and this was agreed.
- It was proposed by Annie Ferries that Sheila Simpson consider taking up the position of Chairperson at the AGM and this was seconded by David Evans. Sheila agreed that she would be happy to consider this and this is likely to be formalised at the AGM.

7. Planning Matters and Applications: No controversial Applications had been submitted, although David pointed out that it was more difficult to assess some applications now that our geographic area had been extended..

The MIR Report submission, the content of which had been agreed at the last meeting, had been forwarded by David Evans.

8. Reports:

- a) Christmas Lights:** Thanks were expressed to Eric Pashley for organising the lights, and to Gavin Adam for cutting and erecting the trees. It is intended to replace some of the tree lights this year, and also obtain some more lamp post illuminations. Eric reported that there was currently around £2,500 in the Christmas Lights fund and another £2,000 expected from the Newsletter. It is the intention to buy 4 or 5 new lights which will cost around £2,000, and £500 on adapting five more lamp standards. The balance is being held in reserve to pay for the electrician for the last 2 years' work.
- b) Safety Group:** There had not been a meeting recently, so no report was given.
- c) Community Learning and Development:** There had not been a meeting recently, so no report was given.
- d) Community Planning:** There had not been a meeting recently, so no report was given.
- e) Press Report:** The Kennergise team from Kemnay Academy won the prize for innovation at the 2013 STEM in the Pipeline final event, and Councillors have agreed to allow 30 minute parking free of charge in pay and display areas of Inverurie (Inverurie Advertiser).
- f) A96 Secondary School Assessment Meeting:** Seven options had been given at the meeting. It did seem as though Kemnay Academy's future was secure, but the roll could be anywhere between 640 and 1050, with a figure of 840 looking likely.

9. Scottish Rural Parliament: It was not clear how this would function, or what its role would be. No one volunteered to get involved. Chris Hunneyball said he would see if he could find out more about it.

10. What are the Passenger Transport Priorities for Your Area? A questionnaire was completed. It was agreed that the main bus priorities should be the Aberdeen, Inverurie, Kintore and Alford services, in that order. Attention was drawn to the gaps in the timetables which discouraged bus use.

11. Data Protection Act: Kemnay Community Council was now registered as a data controller.

12. Aberdeenshire News: Cllr Lonchay said that a 15 second film extolling the virtues of the North East was being shown in Frankfurt with positive results.

It has been agreed that each Aberdeenshire area will set its own car parking policy; in the case of Inverurie this will mean 30 minute free parking, but after that drivers will have to pay for two hours. This policy will result in a drop in income.

A consultation on play parks is being held.

A list of events for the Homecoming is now on the Council website.

The Council budget for next year is unchanged, but thereafter there were going to be problems balancing the budget.

A contact for the Council dog waste expert was provided.

13. Correspondence: 26 items had been received, most having been circulated to members of the Community Council. Details had been posted on the website (www.kemnay.info).

14. AOCB: Bob Ingram said that he thought that the Leschangie woods had been withdrawn from sale.

Chris Hunneyball agreed to contact the Forestry Commission to verify the current status.

A request was made that new information or amendments to existing entries for the next Yellow Book be forwarded to the Newsletter Office as soon as possible

15. Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 27th February 2014.