

# **KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **MINUTE OF THE MEETING HELD ON Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2005 AT 7.30PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT** – Alan Davies (Chair), Billy Ridler, Jim Piggins, Mavis Wainman, Pat Findlater, Susan Milton, Sheila Taylor, Roger Durham, David Evans, Janet Newberry.

**ATTENDING** – Neil Johnson, Alan Lyon.

### **1 Introduction**

Alan Davies (Vice Chair) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

### **2 Apologies**

Chris Hunneyball, Hazel Al-Kowarri, Bill Blackwood, Cllr Saluja and Cllr Leitch tendered their apologies.

### **3. Police Matters**

There being no representative from Grampian Police, this item was carried over to the next meeting.

### **4. Minute of Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2005**

Adoption Proposed – Mavis Wainman    Seconded – Sheila Taylor

### **5. Question Time**

Mr Lyon raised the ongoing issue of the skatepark in Bogbeth Park. Including:

- A large quantity of spoil which had been left in a field near Leschangie and not covered over.
- The soakaway had still not been constructed and he had heard from Ian Fowell (Garioch Area Manager) that Aberdeenshire Council was intending to take over construction of this.
- He had contacted the Office of the Charity Regulator and that they (the regulator) had asked for accounts to be lodged with them within 21 days.
- He was concerned about an invoice submitted to Aberdeenshire Council for £22,000 3 months after the project appeared to have been completed.
- That the area around Kemnay House woods was being used as part litter bin, part public toilet and this were posing a health and safety issue.

Alan Davies sympathized with Mr Lyon and recognized that he was genuinely concerned about how the skate park project had affected them. He pointed out that there was very little the Community Council could do to help him – although he suggested that Mr Lyon should come to the next meeting at which Mr Fowell would be present and to raise matters with him.

Mr Davies showed Mr Lyon that accounts had now been received by the Community Council for the skatepark project, and he asked members of the council to look at them for the next meeting.

Janet Newberry asked Mr Lyon to forward copies of all the paperwork he had in relation to the matter to Aberdeenshire Council.

## **6. Matters arising from Minute**

- a. Roads - Mavis Wainman raised the issue of the new roundabout at the Dunecht/Kintore crossroads. The exit road when travelling towards Kemnay has been built at far too tight an angle for large vehicles and they had clearly been forced to cut across the verge a number of times already. Jim Piggins asked whether there was any plan to the sudden proliferation of roundabouts. David Evans explained that many of these issues had been raised by the Community Council over the course of a number of consultations and their concerns had been ignored. Roger Dunham agreed that there were several problems in the area and pointed out that there had been two accidents in the last two weeks at the Kintoe/A96 roundabout. ACTION: NJ to write to Aberdeenshire Council.

Mavis Wainman expresses her approval at the improvement to the gritting and ploughing this winter. Sheila Taylor agreed, although the village had been very slippery that Monday with several accidents.

- b. Village Green – trees have now been planted alongside the village green. Species to be determined once they are in leaf.
- c. Christmas Lights – Hazel has investigated this matter, and TRAK are willing to apply for Lottery funding for lights in the village. NJ reported that Chris Hunneyball has spoken to Aberdeenshire Council and that although money may be available for the fixings, all other aspects of provision must be arranged by the village.
- d. Green Belt Company – carried forwards
- e. Scottish Co-Operative Group Committee – carried forwards
- f. Safety Group Representative - Pat agreed to continue to present the main points from the Safety Group meeting in the absence of a representative from KCC.

Mavis Wainman asked that the Bus Forum meeting be included. NJ had included this as an additional item (e) under correspondence.

Jim Piggins asked that the swimming pool group be added

**7. Aberdeenshire News** - There being no representative from Aberdeenshire Council, this item was carried over to the next meeting.

**8. Planning Applications** - 2 applications were discussed. A request to build in the rear garden of a property on Kendal Park caused some debate relating to both access, via a small lane at the back, and the desirability of squeezing houses into very small plots. Mavis Wainman reiterated her general opposition to the sub-division of gardens within the village. David

Evans reported that the development was in line with Council policy and that we did not have grounds to appeal on the basis of access.

The request for permission to build on land adjacent to Bogbeth Road has been appealed by the developer, and although the Community Council had been an objector, they had not received notice of this appeal. Both Mr Lyon and Dr Piggins stated that they had received such notice. ACTION - Neil Johnson will write to the Scottish Executive requesting clarification.

## **9. Unfinished Business**

- a. Pavilion Toilet Access – the desirability of toilets in Bogbeth Park was raised again by Sheila Taylor, who expressed surprise that Aberdeenshire Council had funds to support the sports centre at RGU's Garthdee campus but could not provide these basic amenities. NJ referred the council to correspondence from Isobel Kendrick which stated that the Skatepark group were also lobbying to improve provision here. Alan Lyon said that Kemnay House woods were being used as an unofficial public toilet which had obvious health issues. This item would be raised with Iain Fowell at a subsequent meeting.

## **10. New Business – carried forward**

**11. Report from Safety Group Representative** - In the absence of a representative, Pat Findlater reported on the Garioch and North Marr Safety Group Meeting. Of particular interest was a scheme called Pass Plus to improve the skills of drivers who had recently passed their driving test. This scheme was currently being pursued by 2 pupils at the Academy.

## **12. Correspondence**

- a. Marches in Scotland – Neil Johnson offered the full 400 page results of the recent public consultation for anyone who was interested.
- b. Budget Briefing papers – Jim Piggins raised the lower level of external funding for Aberdeenshire Council in relation to comparable local authorities in other areas. He explained that the consultation under way consisted of 43 questions with a very short deadline for responses. He hoped that members would put in personal responses as there was insufficient time for a KCC response.
- c. Garioch Area Committee – Alan Davies raised the contradiction of Aberdeenshire Council's refusal to allow Lawrence of Kemnay to place a sign adjacent to the A96 with their stated policy of promoting local business. The council had cited the problem of distracting drivers although there are numerous signs scattered alongside the A96 and even on the roundabouts.
- d. Postwatch Scotland Update – tabled for information.
- e. Bus Forum meeting – Mavis raised the lack of warning about the next bus forum meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, the notice

arriving after the last newsletter with the meeting taking place before the next issue was published. Transport had been arranged and the information would be posted on the village notice boards. Roger Dunham raised the desirability of a service that would skirt the NW boundaries of the city through Dyce towards Bridge of Don.

- f. Closure of Kemnay/Monymusk Road – NJ tabled the notice that this road would be closed for 2 weeks adjacent to the old rail bridge for repairs. ACTION NJ to write to Aberdeenshire Council about their policy on road closures for repairs.

**13 AOCB**

- a. Susan Milton raised the issue of rubbish accumulating on the Kemnay to Inverurie road
- b. Jim Piggins raised the lack of attendance (inquorate) at the swimming group meeting which suggests a lack of support. The reconvened meeting is on 24<sup>th</sup> March. He expressed dismay that Malcolm Bruce is supporting a move to build a 50m pool in Inverurie when there is no pool of any sort at Kemnay. He suggested that KCC should write to Mr Bruce with this point of view. The funding of local pools was discussed, Sheila Taylor pointing out that all local pools were a considerable burden of the local authorities finances.

**14. Date of Next Meeting - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2005**