

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 7.30 PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Bill Blackwood, Margaret Christie, David Evans, Annie Ferries, Neil Johnson, Susan Milton, Jim Piggins, Paul Smart, Alex Thomas, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: Ann McArthur, Ronnie McArthur, George Paterson.

1 Apologies: Hazel Al-Kowarri, Allison Grant, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley.

2 Welcome: Chris Hunneyball welcomed those present, and announced the resignation of Ian Wakely, who is moving from Kemnay.

3 Police Matters: There was no member of the Police Force present, and no report.

4 The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 31 May was proposed by Annie Ferries, seconded by Paul Smart and unanimously approved.

5 Question Time: The matter of representation at Planning meetings was raised by George Paterson. The Chairman indicated that the rules had been changed so that Community Councils could be represented at such meetings. There was some disquiet expressed that there had been no intimation that the rules had been changed, and that the change had been discovered almost by accident.

6 Matters arising from the Minutes:

a. Litter: New litter bins had been installed in the village, at the corner of Bremner Way and Aquithie Road and along the river path by the bench. Mavis Wainman pointed out that the bins in Kemnay were emptied but not cleaned, and that one at least had become somewhat malodorous. It was agreed to write to the Council on the matter.

b. Goal Posts: There had been no response from the Council about the installation of the Goal Posts offered by the Police. They were to be contacted again.

7 Aberdeenshire News: Hazel Al-Kowarri had drawn attention to graffiti at the Skatepark, but had said that she would deal with the matter at Council level.

8 Planning Applications:

a. Aquithie Road appeal by Barratts (Lawrence's old site): The appeal had lasted 2½ days. The chairman proposed and Margaret Christie seconded a vote of thanks to David Evans for all the work he had done on the Community Council's submission. David Evans and the Chairman, who had attended the enquiry on behalf of the Community Council, gave an account of the proceedings.

b. Kirkstyle: There had been an application to build 54 houses where 20 houses had been approved. It was pointed out that the sewage treatment works had capacity for only eighty units. A letter of objection had been written.

c. New Applications: There appeared to be nothing contentious – all the applications were alterations and extensions to existing property.

9 Community Planning: A briefing note of the meeting of Aberdeenshire Community Planning Executive was tabled. The Chairman indicated that more information was required from the community on, for example, transport problems, access difficulties, youth development and so on. Neil Johnson stated that

every Community School in Aberdeenshire was to have an ICT analyst and technician. He suggested that the school website, or an extension of it to embrace the community website, might enable people to give feedback on relevant matters.

10 Garioch Area Community Council Forum: A report on the most recent meeting was tabled. Delegates were sought for the ASCC meeting in Aberdeen in October. There had been a call for the involvement of youth in Community Councils and local issues, but the point was made that it was difficult to involve young people if all their requests were turned down, as had happened in Kemnay. Jim Piggins mentioned that following his visit to the Youth Café, 6 young people had participated in an Ocean Youth Trust voyage.

11 Youth Café Sub-Committee: Charitable status had now been granted for this. It was agreed that this was no longer a sub-committee of the Community Council, but a committee in its own right, and it would therefore cease to feature on the agenda of the Community Council.

12 Christmas Lights Sub-Committee: Kellas have given a donation of £50 towards the lights. Storage is available in a hut beside the Masonic Lodge. With the resignation of Ian Wakely, who had been the chairman, and the lack of active members, new members were sought for the sub-committee. Susan Milton agreed to be a member, and it was hoped that other members could be recruited from those not present at the current meeting.

13 Report from Safety Group representative: There was no report, but a new Safety Group representative was sought. There were no volunteers.

14 Report from Community Learning and Development Representative: The meeting on 2 July had agreed that the increase in fees was inevitable but attendance at Community Learning classes is to be monitored following the increase. The adult education co-ordinator is not to be replaced, but a programme is in place for the current session. Tutors are unhappy that their pay is to be cut, but as the cut has been deferred for two years, they are continuing to work at the moment.

15 New Business:

a. Bus Forum: A report on the most recent meeting was tabled. There was a number of complaints about the lack of replies to letters of complaint to Stagecoach. Mavis Wainman pointed out that school buses were still using the High Street, despite promises that they would not. The Chairman agreed to investigate. Neil Johnson stated that Police and Health and Safety officers had been inspecting school buses at Kemnay and Stonehaven.

b. Plants for Community Projects: Mavis Wainman had agreed to deal with the Council's offer of plants for community projects, which had been received during the summer.

c. Community Council Boundaries: Following the creation of new ward boundaries, Community Councils were asked to state whether their boundaries should be changed to reflect the new boundaries. It was agreed to request that the boundaries remain unchanged.

d. Induction Session: It was agreed that this was unnecessary.

e. ASCC AGM: This was to take place in Holyrood on 3 November. No-one volunteered to attend.

16 Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business,

17 Correspondence: Various publications had been received from Aberdeenshire Council. A letter had been received from Oran regarding operations at their Kintore facility where meat and bone meal will be stored from 1 October. It will subsequently be used as fuel in the plant which will open in 2009. A letter had been received regarding the insurance cover available for Community Councils.

18. AOCB:

a. Conservation Area: There was a suggestion that this should be extended to include both sides of Kendal Road. Questions were asked about Clinkstone Cottage at Parkhill which is currently unoccupied.

b. Notice Board: The Community Notice Board at the Post Office had been vandalised, but would be repaired. Its upkeep is the responsibility of the Community Council.

c. Paradise Road: Speed restriction notices were to be installed only on the one-way section. It was agreed to write asking for the restrictions to be extended to the whole of Paradise Road.

d. Flood risk: Neil Johnston asked if it was possible to get someone from Aberdeenshire Council to speak to the Community Council about modelling of the Don for flooding.

e. River verge: This had recently been savagely “tidied up” removing wildlife habitats. It was agreed to write to the Council asking why this had been done.

f. Trees: Some of the trees in the Bremner Way/Kembhill Park area are very close to houses. It was agreed to write to the Council to enquire about their policy about the proximity of trees to houses.

g. Birley Bush: There was comment about the activities at Birley Bush involving noisy machinery. Enquiries were to be made of the council as to what was happening.

19 Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 25th October 2007 at 7.30 pm.