

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28 FEBRUARY 2008 AT 7.30 PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Bill Blackwood, Margaret Christie, David Evans, Annie Ferries, Pat Findlater, Neil Johnson, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley, Jim Piggins, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri.

1. Apologies: Susan Milton, Paul Smart, Alex Thomas, PC Alex Allan.
2. Welcome: Chris Hunneyball welcomed those present.
3. Police Matters: A report on vandalism in Kemnay was tabled. The report revealed that there had been 43 instances of vandalism during 2007, and 58 instances of youth annoyance, youth disorder and underage drinking. Of the crimes of vandalism, 15 were detected and 19 under-16-year-olds were found responsible. Aquithie Road, Heron Way, Paradise Road and the Skatepark were the locations most often targeted.
4. The Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2007 was proposed by Eric Pashley, seconded by Annie Ferries and unanimously approved.

5. Question Time: There were no members of the public present.
6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:
 - a) Details of the planning gain were being finalised but would be released shortly.
 - b) The induction training had been most successful.
 - c) No progress appeared to have been made on the matter of the goal posts. The council had begun to erect them on the east side of the path leading straight up to Paradise Road, but had been persuaded to cease operations on the basis that the goalpost would have been very close to greenhouses and windows. A reply is awaited from Aberdeenshire Council about their position on the matter.
 - d) The application for the Aberdeenshire Design Awards 2008 had been completed and submitted along with photographs of the Place of Origin. Receipt of the application had been acknowledged.
 - e) Stagecoach have been reminded that school buses should not use the High Street – if any are observed doing so, the time at which the infringement occurred and the registration numbers of the offending vehicles should be noted, and Aberdeenshire Council informed.

7. Aberdeenshire News:

Some trees on the Green and in Kembhill Park have been deemed unsafe and have been replaced. A capacity study is being undertaken for Inch, and there is general concern about the lack of infrastructure for the large number of new houses throughout the Garioch, and indeed Kintore Community Council has asked for its concerns to be raised at the Garioch Area Forum. A working party has been set up to consider the possibility of building council houses.

8. Planning Matters and Applications: Neither the new practice area at the Golf Course nor the various applications for extensions caused concern. It was noted that Stewart Milne had now taken over about half of the Bogbeth Road development from Barratts. Neil Johnston raised concerns that owners of new houses

might immediately apply for planning permission to extend them, but it was considered that any such extensions would be dealt with as they arose.

9. Community Planning: A briefing note of the meeting of Aberdeenshire Community Planning Executive was considered.

10. Christmas Lights Sub-Committee: It was believed that the Council might be willing to match funds which had already been raised and it was agreed that the sub-committee should pursue this.

11. Report from Safety Group representative: The Safety group had agreed to contribute towards a Street Sports Event in Kemnay and Blackburn in March. It was noted that carbon monoxide detectors were getting more publicity, and it was agreed to consider the risk of CO poisoning to elderly people and to investigate costs. The Annual Seminar was to take place on 12 April 2008 in Kemnay Church Centre. Alex Salmond had been suggested as guest speaker.

12. Report from Community Learning and Development Representative: The number of evening classes has reduced, perhaps because there is no longer a development worker. Trampolining and Gymnastic classes no longer come under the aegis of Community Development. There is to be an upholstery training day on 15 March 2008. The crèches at Alehousewells and Kintore are losing money. A dishwasher is to be installed in the Youth Café, which will then be able to serve lunches. There is a proposal for a revised mini-bus test, with a longer training and a more complex test, but consultation on such a test has been delayed.

13. New Business: Residents in Milton Meadows are concerned that an old wooden structure underneath the Don Bridge may trap branches being swept down the river, and thus exacerbate flooding. Cllr Al-Kowarri was to establish if the Council would remove the wooden structure.

14. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

15. Correspondence:

a) A letter had been received from the RAF offering a talk on the necessity for low-flying exercises. It was not thought this was relevant to Kemnay.

b) A letter had been received from the Council about consultation on Post Office Closures. It was agreed that these were unlikely to affect Kemnay, but that the Community Council should be aware of what was being considered.

c) An invitation to enter the Scottish Calor Village of the Year competition had been received. Entrants were asked to consider the attractiveness of their village in terms of People, Environment, Business and Communication. It was considered that Kemnay Academy might be willing to have pupils enter the competition. Neil Johnston was to make enquiries. It was also considered that photographers in the village might wish to enter the Rural Gateway competition, and it was agreed that the details of this should be passed on to the newsletter.

16. AOCB:

a) The matter of the superabundance of street furniture at the entrance to Grove Road was raised, as was the matter of the Kembhill Park sign which had been badly damaged. It was agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council on both matters.

b) The matter of bad visibility at the junction of the Craigearn Road with the B993 was raised. It was agreed that this should be brought to the attention of Aberdeenshire Council.

c) It was agreed to apply for a grant to provide a handrail by the steps at Boat Croft.

d) It was agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council, bringing to their attention the poor condition of the pavement across the Don Bridge, and requesting an extension of the paved surface to the entrance to Fetternear estate.

17. Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 27 March 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.