

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 APRIL 2010

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Margaret Christie, David Evans, Annie Ferries, John Hern, Bob Ingram, Ian Murray, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley, Jim Piggins, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri, PC Stephen Beattie, Alison Cumming

Apologies: Bill Blackwood, Cllr Allison Grant.

1. Welcome: The Chairman welcomed those present, particularly Alison Cumming from Aberdeenshire Council.
2. Police matters: There had been three cases of vandalism, one of which remained unsolved. Police had also been called to a fight. There was to be “street rugby” in various towns and villages throughout May, June and July. Kemnay was to be visited on 29 May. £1000 had been donated from police funds to assist with Youth Cafe staff costs over the summer holidays. A particularly flagrant example of obstructive parking in the High Street was highlighted.
3. Opportunity for Members of the public to speak: There were no members of the public present.
4. Minute of Previous Meeting: Claire Martin had complained by e-mail that the minutes of 25 March 2010 did not accurately reflect her words. The relevant section of item 6 was amended to read: “Claire Martin asked how Aberdeenshire Council and KCC communicate with the public regarding play equipment requirement”; and the relevant section of item 7a) was amended to read “Claire Martin raised the matter of Fetternear and produced a Traffic Assessment document from the refused planning application which estimated additional vehicle movement if the development had gone ahead”. With these amendments adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 25 March 2010 was proposed by Mavis Wainman, seconded by David Evans and unanimously accepted.
5. Matters Arising from Minutes:
 - a) Beechhill: A site visit had been arranged for Thursday 13 May at 9.30am, with participants meeting at the corner on Bogbeth Road.
 - b) Tree clearing in Leslie Place: This had been requested by the tenants’ association and Aberdeenshire Council had carried out the work.
6. Planning matters and applications: There was nothing controversial. Graeme Sutherland had informed the Community Council that he had started using the Aquithie Road site as he thought the empty site might be attractive to travelling people. A planning seminar was to be held at Crichtiebank Business Centre in Port Elphinstone on 5 May.
7. Reports:
 - a) Safety Group Representative: The Community Council was informed that additional funds had been made available for pass plus.
 - b) Community Learning and Development Representative: There had been no meeting, but the Community Council was informed that there had been a steady stream of people at the Community Learning drop-in on 23 April.
 - c) Community Planning: Following a lukewarm reception of the draft Community Council scheme, Aberdeenshire Council was to circulate a model CC scheme based on an update of the current scheme.

There had been some exploration of the possibilities of a Google group to improve the exchange of information across Community Councils. It had been agreed that Viewpoint should continue to be circulated as hard copy rather than purely on the website. Attention was drawn to the Aberdeenshire Community Planning website – www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk. Tony Miller's term of office as the CP Board representative would end in November and as he did not currently intend to stand for re-election, a new representative would probably be needed.

8. Local Development Plan: Following the publication of the Minutes of the Garioch Area Committee, whose decisions ran contrary to the recommendations made by KCC following extensive consultation, some members of the Community Council had met with the Policy Team Leader to discuss their concerns about the allocation of housing to Kemnay. The point that the Community Council was a statutory consultee and consequently its comments should have been included in the planning report was accepted. In other respects the meeting had been illuminating, but not entirely satisfactory. Cllr Al-Kowarri explained that the proposed Fetternear development had been granted only partial planning permission which was itself dependent on a viable business plan, because the development was on a greenfield site. Other developments were adjacent to the village boundary. Some concern was expressed that Councillors had so willingly acquiesced to the proposals put before the Area Committee by the planners.

9. ASCC Membership: There had been a long discussion about the ASCC at the Aberdeenshire Community Council Communication Forum meeting. No one had had any recent contact, apart from a flyer regarding insurance which was irrelevant to Aberdeenshire. It did not appear that the area had a representative on the Executive. The Forum secretary was to make enquiries. The Aberdeenshire poll of Community Councils to establish whether block membership should continue was inconclusive with most of the small number responding opting to continue, but more out of apathy than conviction.

10. Aberdeenshire news: Council officials had visited the Burnett Arms and Bennachie Lodge to discuss the possibilities of their making toilets available to the public. The repainting of the traffic markings was to be undertaken the following week. New markings were still going through the consultative process. The sign stating that there were toilets available in the centre of the village was to be removed. Aberdeenshire Council had started to sweep up grit on roads, but pavements had yet to be dealt with. The school bendy buses have proved entirely satisfactory on narrow winding roads.

11. Correspondence:

- a) Licence Application: The licence application for the Burnett Arms showed a slight increase in hours. It was agreed not to challenge this.
- b) Connect: This was passed to a member of the Community Council.
- c) SEPA View: This was passed to a member of the Community Council.

12. AOCB: The secretary pointed out that the report appearing in the Newsletter was a summary of the minutes, and that the minutes themselves were longer and more detailed.

13. Date of Next Meeting: 27 May 2010.