

MINUTES OF MEETING
Thursday, 30th May 2019 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall

Present: Bill Blackwood(Chair); Gaenor Berkin(Vice Chair); Fran Patrick(Secretary); Margaret Basley; Sue Wainman;

Attending: 1 member of the public; Alison Cumming, Area Committee Officer, Aberdeenshire Council; Cllr Leslie; Cllr Smith

Apologies: John Whittall; Claire Stewart; Marie Glendinning; David Carlin

- 1 **WELCOME & APOLOGIES** - The Chair welcomed those attending, and apologies were given as above.
- 2 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST/AUDIO RECORDINGS** - There were no declarations of interest/audio recordings.
- 3 **MINUTES OF MEETING 25th April 2019** - Minutes of Meeting as previously circulated were proposed as accurate. Alison Cumming was able to clarify Item 8d) - Aberdeenshire Council is in charge of the Community Council election process. The Area Officer sets the times of nominations and elections by calculating back from the date of a CC's AGM. If there are vacancies, as per a CC's constitution, then an election will be held. However, a CC can still co-opt members at any time.
Minutes proposed by M Basley and seconded by S Wainman.
- 4 **POLICE MATTERS** – No representative present, but a report had previously been circulated, which noted an increase of antisocial behaviour in and around the skate park, caused by cars being driven dangerously and noise levels late at night. The police are working with Aberdeenshire Council to try and resolve the issue with the cars.
Inspector Bruce would appreciate feedback on the parking situation, as the police have been active in moving people on whenever they are in Kemnay. Better photos of the previous incident of inconsiderate parking have been sent to PC Smith, but the problem is ongoing. No reply has as yet been received from Aberdeenshire Council about the suggestion to raise the kerb to discourage on-pavement parking. It was agreed that KCC could conduct a campaign on this issue via the Newsletter and various village Facebook pages. **(Action:** F Patrick to write an article for the Newsletter and ask C Stewart to post an item on KCC Facebook page; S Wainman to post item on other relevant village Facebook pages.)
Speeding on Bremner Way was also raised. The appeal for traffic calming measures is potentially contentious as they bring issues with noise. Situation to be monitored.
- 5 **KEMNAY ACADEMY PUPIL REPORT** – No representative present, but an update had been received from M Glendinning: the Academy is continuing to work with neighbours and local businesses re expectations of pupil behaviour; Sustainability Week has been held when pupils looked at the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child and Global Sustainability Goals and S1 were involved in the John Muir award, with a display of activities being shown at the Bennachie Visitor Centre during June/July; the change of timetable takes place next week, when seniors return; there is to be a Pupil Conference on the 24th June at the Loaves and Fishes; the Achievement Ceremony is on the 19th and 20th June; there will hopefully be a new rep for KCC by the next meeting in June.
- 6 **GUEST SPEAKERS** – Apologies were received from Gavin Penman from Aberdeenshire Council who was to give an update on AC's actions to prevent a repeat of the flood damage caused a few years ago. He has offered to send a written update or to attend a later meeting. **(Action:** F Patrick to contact him about this.)
- 7 **KEMNAY RESILIENCE** – No representative present from the two Kemnay groups as neither had any additional information to share at this time. A sizeable pool of water has developed in front of the AC container based at Birley Bush which contains sandbags, etc in the event of a flooding emergency. **(Action:** F Patrick to contact Brian Strachan at the Roads Department to inform him of this and perhaps ask for some of the excess grit from the recent road resurfacing to be used to fill in the puddle.)
- 8 **OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK** – Concern expressed about the location of the new zip-wire. No consultation was carried out or explanation given before the position of the zip-wire was changed and it is now much nearer the houses which overlook the field. The zip-wire is well used and although it is good to see children out playing in the fresh air, it is causing some of the householders real anxiety due to loss of privacy, the increase in noise levels and the increase in litter (there are no bins around this play area). And, unfortunately, some of the children have been quite abusive when tackled about this.

The Aberdeenshire Councillors for the ward had also not been consulted about the upgrade to the play park, although the state of disrepair of the existing zip-wire had been raised at an Area meeting and councillors were told it would be look at. The position of the previous zip-wire had also been deemed to be too steep and therefore dangerous. Cllr Smith has also received complaints about the litter and Kemnay Academy is also aware of issues and taking steps to try to deal with the situation. Any abusive behaviour from pupils should be reported to the school.

There has been a lot of discussion on Facebook and Twitter about the zip-wire and the issue of litter.

The lack of consultation and communication from Aberdeenshire Council has caused real aggravation and concern amongst some residents. AC Councillors present are to take up the issues surrounding the new zip-wire with the relevant officer at AC. **(Action:** Cllr Smith & Cllr Leslie to discuss with officers at Aberdeenshire Council.)

9 MATTERS ARISING

a) Council Scheme of Establishment Light touch Review – the only issue raised was that of the election process. **(Action:** F Patrick to collate comments and send to Alison Cumming by end of June.)

b) Community Empowerment Event – this was considered to be a useful event, especially the workshop on how to engage effectively with local MSPs. Alison Cumming added that it was important that rural community councils get involved with these events, as the central belt CC network does tend to have a louder voice.

c) 75th Anniversary of VE Day Celebrations, 8th May 2020 – An early notification has been received re these nationwide celebrations. KCC to find out if other groups within the community are planning to take part. **(Action:** F Patrick to contact M Glendinning at Kemnay Academy.)

d) List of other groups in Kemnay KCC could link with – The list is in the process of being drawn up, but a request that the names of any groups which may have been missed should be passed on to F Patrick. **(Action:** F Patrick to continue collating list with help of M Basley.)

10 **TREASURER REPORT & DONATIONS RECEIVED** – KCC's accounts are being checked (due to unforeseen circumstances, a new examiner has to be found) and will be sent to Alison Cumming at AC; still awaiting info re renewal of insurance policy; notification has been received of the annual grant to KCC from Aberdeenshire Council (£970.63 + £40 to register as a data controller), which will be released once KCC's accounts have been independently examined and accepted at the AGM. **(Action:** John Whittall to arrange for the accounts to be examined, then send on to the Area Office of Aberdeenshire Council.)

11 PLANNING MATTERS AND APPLICATIONS –

a) Current planning applications: APP/2019/0225 – Approval to alteration of toilet block. It was noted that another planning application will be required for change of use of these two units.

12 REPORTS –

a) Defibrillators (PADs) - Information received from Karen Stewart re the cost of purchasing another unit and also equipment update requirements; advice also received from G Berkin on this **(Action:** F Patrick to pass on information to K Stewart.)

b) Safety Group - Minutes previously circulated .

c) Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF) - No report, meeting next week.

d) Community Planning – Last meeting was held in Newmachar.

e) Greener Kemnay – GK has spent money on hardcore, which was subsidised a little by Bredons, so accessible paths are being made and hope to be finished by 15th June. On 8th June, 10am-2pm, there will be a Mosaic Workshop, a free event (one of several free outdoor craft events planned) funded by a generous monthly payroll giving donation. The Open Day is on the 14th September and there will be another nature themed village trail, this year the theme is 'Bee Bumble'. Lots of groups are looking to use the community garden and a hut is about to be set up for the use of the CLD-led youth group. The paths maps are not complete yet, but the Dalmadilly sign has been located and will be erected with volunteer help.

The Kemnay Public Art brief is now on the Creative Scotland website and on <http://www.kemnay.info/kpap/>

f) Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP) - No meeting.

g) KAPC/KPPC/APPC – *Kemnay Academy* now have a Modern Languages teacher; still a few issues with accommodation, which has led to misleading rumours about the status of the Music Dept; ongoing discussions of the consequences of the increasing roll, in particular on accommodation and on bus and pedestrian traffic; the issues of bullying and litter have also

been discussed. *Kemnay Primary* – the Headteacher, Mrs Gregor, is retiring at the end of term; the P7 leavers' ceremony is to be held on 25th June. G Berkin is to continue as KCC representative on KPPC and will attend this event on KCC's behalf.

h) Press Reports – An article on the development of the toilet block and the concerns raised by KCC about possible pressure on parking.

12 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS - Cllr Smith – She has received complaints about the storage containers at Alehousewells School, which are being used by contractors doing upgrade work on council houses. It seems the work in Kemnay has been completed, but the containers are apparently remaining in situ until work at other sites has also been completed. Cllr Smith has discussed the issue with the Area Manager and has raised the fact that there are health and safety concerns with the containers.

14 CORRESPONDENCE

a) Correspondence from the Council - was circulated prior to the meeting.

-Local Governance Review newsletter

-Health & Social Care Consultation reminder

-75th Anniversary Celebration of VE Day, 2020

-Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action statement

-A96 Dualling information (Several Community Councillors attended these information events and distributed leaflets and feed-back forms. It was felt that any reply should mention the need for separate cycle/walkways.)

-Changes to Aberdeenshire kerbside collections

-Community Councils Empowerment Event

-Community Council Grants

-Launch of the Investing in Communities Fund

b) General Correspondence Received - was circulated prior to the meeting. A request for forms to be completed for the hire of KVH for future Community Council meetings. (**Action:** F Patrick to complete forms and return to J Newberry.)

Bill Blackwood has agreed to be the KCC representative on the KVH committee.

15 OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK - the potholes on St Brydes Road have been reported to AC Roads Dept; KCC Secretary will not be able to attend next month's AGM and council meeting; the deadline for articles to the Newsletter is now the 12th of the month.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 27th June 2019, 7.30 pm, The Friendship Room, Kemnay Village Hall. This will be the AGM, followed by general meeting. All members of the public welcome. – Agenda will be available on the KCC website <http://www.kemnay.info/>