

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30th NOVEMBER 2000

7.30 PM IN THE WAINMAN ROOM KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

1. Present:-

Mr A. Al-Kowarri, Mr D. Caney, Mr D. Evans, Mr C. Hunneyball, Mrs S. Milton, Dr J. Piggins, Mr A. Thomson, Mrs M. Wainman.

Attending:-

Mr A. Campbell, Mr N. Davidson, Mr C. Fremantle, Councillor A. Leitch, Mr J. Pollard.

Apologies:-

Mr A. Davies, Mr P. Findlater, Ms L. Gibb, Mrs M. Michie, Mrs J. Newberry, Councillor G. Saluja.

2. Alehousewells School Presentation

Pupils from Primary 7, Alehousewells School, introduced by their teacher, Mrs Shortland, gave a presentation on their findings following a survey of conservation and pollution matters in Kemnay. They said that their overriding impression was one of litter and vandalism. There was a lot of graffiti, dog mess and rubbish of all kinds around the village. The parks, where children play, were particularly badly affected, there was a lack of equipment and what there was, was unsafe for children to use. The public toilets were vandalised and covered in graffiti. Even the new family centre had suffered. They suggested that neighbourhood watch should be extended to cover public areas, that more waste and dog soil bins should be installed, and better lighting be provided. A village orderly would help, and police should be asked to respond promptly to reports of vandalism. If the village could be tidied up people would be less inclined to make a mess. There was also a lot of builder's mess on the new housing estate. Councillor Leitch said that he had heard this presentation already, and a petition containing 200 signatures had been handed in. The graffiti and toilets were being dealt with, and he asked that locations for doggie bins be suggested. He would try to have the village orderly put on the agenda again. However, these proposals needed money, and he also felt that if lighting were improved some people might complain about light pollution. Mr Pollard indicated that some money might be available for a clean-up if the council would provide a skip, and it was organised by the village. The Council felt that, although boredom amongst teenagers might be a contributory factor, most did not then go out and cause damage. Priority should be given to catching

offenders. Another initiative was to take part in the Keep Scotland Beautiful competition, which required ongoing photographic evidence of work being done in the village, and the local Council should arrange for the Park Committee to meet with a view to repairing the pavilion. All agreed that Kemnay suffered from a serious problem. In the meantime the builders who had left such a mess would be asked to clear it up.

3. **Forestry Commission Woodlands in the Kemnay Area**

Mr Davidson and Mr Campbell, of the Forestry Commission, gave an interesting presentation about woodlands in the local area, of which there were about eight to ten.

They explained the rationale behind the felling and replanting programme, and indicated current plans for the next 30 years. They stressed their commitment to conservation, and said significant areas would be harvested gradually, allowing for a more natural appearance in the woods.

4. **Minute of Meeting held on 26th October 2000**

The Minute of the meeting held on Thursday 26th October 2000 was approved.

Proposed: Mrs S. Milton Seconded: Mr D. Evans

5. **Matters Arising from Minute**

a. **Community Councils' Draft Constitution**

Dr Piggins said that this topic had been discussed at the Garioch Community Councils' Forum. The views had generally been in accord with those expressed by Kemnay, and Mr Fowell had acknowledged that the constitution should not be too rigid. The Review of Community Councils will be discussed at the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting on 11th January 2001.

6. **Unfinished Business**

a. **Late Night Bus from Aberdeen**

Stagecoach had replied and had said that the service had been withdrawn because it was not economic. They had suggested that the Council write to the Public Transport Unit at Woodhill House about the matter. It was agreed that this would be done, suggesting that the last bus to Inverurie returned to Aberdeen via Kemnay, at least on Friday and Saturday nights. If they would support it, Stagecoach would be offered a free advertisement in the newsletter.

b. **One2One Communications Mast**

Dr Piggins said that, at the last meeting, the Council had agreed to the proposal that the mast at the quarry should be erected, disguised as a Cypress tree. Since then he had learned that there could have been two other sites, but in the event neither was acceptable to One2One. Mr Fremantle said that he had talked to Mr Bremner, of Aggregate Industries, who now indicated that One2 One may accept a telegraph pole

type mast. This, Mr Fremantle thought, would be more acceptable to the artists. It was agreed to support this revised proposal, and James Barr and Aggregate Industries would be so informed. Mr Pollard asked if One2One would contribute anything to the village, and Mr Fremantle undertook to give details of the appropriate person to contact.

c. Traffic Calming in Bremner Way.

Aberdeenshire Council have replied to the Community Council letter, and have said that speed humps were not appropriate in Bremner Way as it was a main distributor road and a bus route.

Mrs Wainman said that a tree had been knocked down in Bremner Way, and asked that it be replaced. Mr Al-Kowarri said that another had been destroyed outside his house some time ago, but all that had happened was that the Council had levelled the ground. It was agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council.

It was also stated that the original plans had shown traffic calming measures in the new extension to Fyffe Park. These had not been implemented. It was agreed to write to the roads department about this.

d. Economic Development Presentation

Mr Hutchison had now been contacted, and had said he had left a message to be forwarded to say that he would be unable to attend. He had now agreed to give his presentation at the January meeting.

e. Bus Shelters

Aberdeenshire Council had proposed to erect bus shelters in the High Street, and outside Alehousewells School. Stops would also be positioned near Milton Meadows and Kirkstyle. These suggestions had been agreed.

f. Kinnellar School

It was reported that pupils from Kinnellar School would not be coming to Kemnay Academy, as had been earlier suggested. The arrangement with Aberdeen Council will, however, be kept under review.

7. New Business

a. Inspection of Kemnay Primary School

Kemnay Primary School had been inspected recently, and had done very well. The school was to be congratulated on the result.

b. Garioch Area Community Forum

The Forum had met that week. It had been reported that £2,300 was available for grants to communities, although with only that sum available individual grants were unlikely to exceed a few hundred pounds. It was proposed that a grant should be

requested to repair or replace the village notice board, and Mr Pollard undertook to approach Kemnay Academy to see if they could help. He would be able to provide a receipted invoice for the materials.

c. Aberdeenshire Council Budget

Aberdeenshire Council was seeking to involve communities with the budget making process. Dr Piggins and Mrs Milton agreed to attend the Central Area Meeting to be held the following week.

d. Flooding in the Pleasure Park

It was stated that the flooding in the Pleasure Park was the worst it had ever been. Mrs Milton said that this had only become a serious problem after the Council had filled in the ditch which ran alongside the park. Councillor Leitch said that the matter was under investigation, initially without doing any digging, and he would take up the matter of the filled-in ditch.

e. Truck Parking

Mr Thomson reported that an articulated truck was parking in the new car park by the Scottish Sculpture Workshops site over weekends. This car park was intended for visitors, and it was agreed the owners should be contacted and asked to cease this practice.

8. Safety Group Report

a. Skateboard Rink in Inverurie

Difficulty was being experienced in finding a suitable site.

b. Scottish Ambulance Service Control Centres

A submission opposing the reduction of ambulance control centres had been submitted to Susan Deacon, the Health Minister, and a response was awaited.

c. Garioch Safety Group - Draft Action Plan

No action on the draft action plan had yet been taken by the Steering Group. It was requested that a further topic- "Measures to reduce vandalism and annoyance in Kemnay Village" be added to it.

d. Scottish Accident Prevention Council

Councillor Leitch said that Kemnay Academy were in the finals of the annual public speaking competition, and would be competing against Fraserburgh.

9. Report from Press Scrutiniser

In the absence of the Press scrutiniser, Dr Piggins noted that the One2One mast saga had been extensively reported.

10. Aberdeenshire Council News

Councillor Leitch gave his report. He had had an interesting visit to a recycling plant which, among other things, provide shredded cardboard and paper for horses allergic to hay. He had also attended a Criminal Justice Seminar, and one on the role of Scottish Homes. The Budget Steering Group had also met, and he had been impressed by planned developments. He reported that, as a result of the recent Scottish Executive decision, his term of office had been extended by a year. There had been a Network Group Meeting, where damage to the Community Lounge in Kemnay Academy, which had been used by unsupervised 6th Year pupils, had been discussed.

11. Planning Applications

The application for the new access for Bogfur Gardens had been approved. There was now only one application pending, for an extension to the Primary School.

12. Correspondence Received.

- a. An invitation had been received to attend a meeting on GM crops.
- b. A Scottish Environmental Protection Agency Newsletter had been received and was circulated to members.
- c. A Scottish Executive Community Safety booklet had also been received, and was being circulated.
- d. Aberdeenshire Council, Housing and Social Work Department, had written to ask for help or advice on funding the Kemnay Lunch Club. About £170 per annum was required to meet accommodation and insurance costs. Unfortunately the Community Council does not have funds and so was unable to help directly, and could offer no suggestions for funding apart from requests to local churches.
- e. The Garioch Bus Forum meeting was being held concurrently with Kemnay Community Council's meeting. Apologies had been extended.
- f. Aberdeen University had written to ask if the Council could suggest suitable projects for post-graduate geography students to study. It was considered that the wet area beside the Academy could be suitable, and a reply along those lines would be sent.
- g. A questionnaire on Aberdeenshire Countryside Access Strategy Evaluation had been received, and would be completed and returned by Mr Caney.
- h. The Draft Integrated Sustainable Waste Management Strategy Paper, and a paper giving proposals by the Scottish Executive had been received and would be circulated.

13. A.O.C.B.

Mrs Wainman had attended the Fuel Poverty and Sustainability Conference, and said that money for central heating installations was available for needy persons.

13. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th January 2001 at 7.30pm in the Wainman Room at Kemnay Village Hall.