

Record of Activity

Jun/Jul/Aug 2020

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, KCC is unable to conduct its regular monthly meetings in the Village Hall. KCC is, however, continuing to conduct business via e-mail.

KCC can be contacted via the Secretary at dfpatrick@tiscali.co.uk

KCC members: Bill Blackwood (Chair); Gaenor Berkin (Vice Chair), Fran Patrick (Secretary); John Whittall (Treasurer); Sue Wainman; Margaret Basley; Lee Aitken; Richard Lamplugh; William Irvine; Suzanne Bunton; Marie Glendinning; Claire Stewart; David Carlin; Sasha Brydon; Joseph Myles (Junior Member) Associate members: Kayleigh Wallace; Pauline Paterson

1 KCC RESPONSE TO COVID-19 CRISIS – KCC has continued to support the efforts of *Lend a Hand Kemnay* and, through it, the fortnightly *Garioch Kitchen* food box deliveries. Due to a change in volunteer circumstances, the DVD & book sharing scheme did not take place, although items donated are now being offered to others free of charge. K Wallace, P Paterson and F Patrick took part in a fund-raising and awareness-raising event outside the High Street Co-op on Saturday, 4th July. They were very grateful for the help and support offered by Co-op staff and received many donations of food and also £133.51 in cash donations. *LaHK* is still supplying 20-25 food boxes per month and supplements the tinned and packet items with fresh produce, bought with the funds raised from various sources, including Aberdeenshire Council Resilience funding and the SSEN Resilient Communities Fund, as well as donations from village residents. F Patrick is investigating other possible sources of funding, such as the Co-op Communities Fund, although *LaHK* was not eligible for the AVA Supporting Communities Fund.

(Action: F Patrick to pursue further funding avenues, perhaps from the Supporting Communities Fund via the Garioch Partnership.)

The efforts of KCC and *Lend a Hand Kemnay* have been recognised by Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action and have been awarded Community Spirit Awards.

As lockdown restrictions have been lifted and, most recently, shielding restrictions also, *LaHK* has started to wind down one or two of the services it has been offering. For example, from the end of August it will no longer be offering certain prescription/shopping delivery services, etc. Information about this is available on the *Lend a Hand Kemnay* Facebook page or by contacting K Wallace or P Paterson.

These changes in the Covid-19 situation have also led to discussions about the ongoing future of the Community Larder. The supply of food boxes is going to continue as long as needed, with a potential spike in demand being anticipated for October when the furlough scheme comes to an end. However, the CL will eventually need to move from its current premises and the system for offering emergency food supplies will need to be reviewed. Lorna Forsyth, CLD Development Officer, has led virtual meetings, attended by F Patrick on behalf of *LaHK* and KCC, about the possible future of FareShare and the CL and is making enquiries about potential alternative premises in the village.

F Patrick also attended a virtual Community Impact Assessment - Ward 10 Forum on 18th August with officers from Aberdeenshire Council and representatives of other community resilience groups operating in this ward, which covers Kemnay, but also Inch, Clatt, Auchleven. The introduction to the meeting was given by Cllr Harper. This was a fact-finding, information-sharing event but future needs and community response were also discussed.

KCC Chair proposes a special vote of thanks to the Secretary and the volunteers of Lend A Hand Kemnay for their excellent work over the last few months. Thanks also to S Wainman for her work and to J Whittall for keeping the finances straight in all this.

Phoenix Fund: KCC applied for funding from this fund on behalf of the village and its business community. £5000 has been earmarked for Kemnay to help the village and its economy recover from the consequences of lockdown. A small group, consisting of KCC members and Emma Gough of Kiddiwinks Playgroup, contacted all businesses and groups in the village asking for their input and ideas, the idea behind the fund being that this initiative should ideally be led by local businesses. Unfortunately, to date only one reply has been received. An action plan has to be drawn by the end of September. It has been suggested that various key landmarks in the village (eg the lamp standards on the Don Bridge, the war memorial, the flower beds, the Fyfe bench on Aquithie Road, street flower boxes, etc) could be refurbished.

(Action: The group to try contacting businesses again and the initiative to be publicised more widely.)

2 POLICE MATTERS – Police Report for June was received from Acting Sgt Denham and circulated. A **Business Watch** notice from Police Scotland Business Advice was also circulated.

The **Independent Advisory Group** is seeking the experiences and views of the public in relation to the policing of the pandemic since the start of lockdown. Link to the feedback survey: <https://covid19iag.citizenspace.com/>

(Action: S Wainman/F Patrick to put link on Kemnay Futures/KCC FB pages.)

Crime Reduction Unit, North East Division – Information on Covid-19 related scams

Website: www.scotland.police.uk / Twitter: [www.twitter.com/NorthEPolice](https://twitter.com/NorthEPolice)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision

3 MATTERS ARISING:

a) Virtual Meeting Options – KCC members were asked their views on this and it was agreed that KCC should continue to communicate via email until the start of the new session in September. If restrictions on indoor group meetings are still in place, then some form of virtual meeting is to be used. A recent update (26th August) from J Newberry has intimated that the hall will not in fact be available for September. **(Action:** F Patrick to find out options for virtual meeting in September.)

b) Community Council Elections 2020 – Relaxations to the Scheme are being put in place until elections take place in April/May next year:

- No elections will take place for Community Councils for the year 2020/21;
- Those Community Councillors who were due to reach the end of their 3 year term, can continue until the next election as a full elected Community Councillors if they wish to do so;
- The percentage of co-options available to Community Councils will be raised to 40% (from 25%) of the maximum number, but the number of co-opted members of the Community Council should not exceed the number of full elected members by more than 1;
- Community Councils should hold their AGM in October (if not already done so);

The election process for 2021 will commence in spring 2021.

c) Anti-litter campaign with Kintore Community Council – Kintore CC has been in touch to ask if KCC would be interested in a combined ant-litter/dumping campaign. KCC agreed this would be a good initiative and a response was sent to Kintore CC on 28th July, highlighting what is already happening in the village. **(Action:** F Patrick to find out if anyone from KCC has agreed to liaise with Kintore CC.)

- d) **Scottish Tech Army and Improvement Service Pilot** – website and social media support pilot. KCC thought this was a good initiative, but many felt that D Evans was doing a good job running the website.
- e) **BT Payphone removal** – Kendall Rd phone box to be removed. Comments to garioch@aberdeenshire.gov.uk by Tuesday 1 September 2020.
- f) **Nestrans draft Regional transport Strategy 2040** – this is now open for consultation on 9th August for 10 weeks. The virtual exhibition can be accessed through our consultation website: www.nestrans2040.org.uk
- g) **KCC Action Plan** – Lorna Forsyth suggest this might be a useful item on agenda of KCC's meeting in September as a reminder of the goals which emerged from the 'health check'
- h) **CC Scheme of Establishment** – Community Councils are encouraged to consider the content of the consultation on the first phase (boundaries and membership numbers). Any comments can be reported back in the following ways: Completing the feedback form on <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schemeOfEstablishmentReviewCC>; or E-mailing your comments to ccschemeofestablishment@aberdeenshire.gov.uk; or Writing to the Head of Legal and Governance, Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB16 5GB

4 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

- a) **Current planning applications** - All discussed via email; no action to be taken on any
 - Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse and Erection of Garage**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1018
 - Installation of Covered Decking Area**
Ref. No: APP/2020/0992
 - Erection of Agricultural Shed (Retrospective)**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1084
 - Alterations to Dwellinghouse**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1181 Last date for comment 12th July
 - Alterations and Extension to Building (Amended Design of Planning Permission APP/2019/0225)**
Public Convenience Aquithie Road Kemnay Aberdeenshire
Ref. No: APP/2020/1172 Last date for comment 23 July
 - Alterations and Extensions to Dwellinghouse and Change of use from Agricultural to Domestic Garden Ground**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1257
 - Change of Use From Agricultural Land to Equestrian, Erection of Shelter and Formation of New Access (Retrospective)**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1067
 - Erection of Garage**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1503
 - Extension to Domestic Garage**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1380
 - Erection of Replacement Dwellinghouse**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1412
 - Erection of Boundary Wall (Retrospective)**
Ref. No: APP/2020/1587
- b) Consultation paper on '**Proposed Changes to Pre-Application Consultation Requirements in Planning**'. A number of events are to held with different interest groups from the middle to the end of September. This follows on from the review of Planning, the report *Empowering Planning to Deliver Great Places, Places, People and Planning* consultations, and new powers at section 18 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. Information about the planning reform programme and the 2019 Act is available at: www.transformingplanning.scot/planning-reform/
The deadline for consultation responses is **6 November 2020**.

- c) Consultation on **Aberdeenshire Council's Sexual Entertainment Venues Policy** – deadline for comments **21st September**.

5 GROUPS & COMMITTEES

- Community Council Forum AGM and Business Meeting – 2nd September, to be held virtually
- Garioch Community Planning Covid-19 E-Bulletin - issued regularly, link on village website; Local Community Resilience Plans – information gathering
- Garioch Area Committee – Agendas for virtual meetings on 23/6 and 25/8 circulated
- Greener Kemnay – Birley Bush gates are now in place; the *Kemnay Steens* project is progressing (27th Aug – S Wainman circulated a further update: *BBCG can not have a full Open Day but have just agreed to have a session on Saturday 12th where villagers are invited to have a wander in the gardens - various collected seeds and some plants will be available, the tattie crop will be lifted. James will do some video of the Steens and stories before they leave Glasgow and we hope he will do some more in situ. KPAP do have a small budget for the launch and Greener Kemnay Trustees would look kindly on any proposal for a bigger event involving outdoors next year. Suggestion that the Phoenix Fund, with the involvement of local business – particularly those offering food and therefore potential toilet facilities – could be used to promote the Steens as a visitor attraction.*)
- Safety Group – Scottish Community Safety Network: Community Council Chair Covid-19 Survey on the impact of CV-19 on community safety was circulated, with a deadline of 24th July

6 CORRESPONDENCE

a) Correspondence from the Council - was circulated via email.

- Trading Standards Newsletter – now being received weekly
- Easing of restrictions at recycling centres
- Planning procedures and Covid-19
- Information and Guidance for Community Councils
- Webinar on Digital Engagement in Planning
- CFine Survey
- Webinar on post lockdown business support
- Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland Annual Report
- Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme
- Health and Transport survey
- ACTF – minutes and invitation to meeting
- Macmillan Project – Mapping Aberdeenshire Community Resources for Cancer Patients
- Health Transport Action Plan: Invite to Q&A
- Webinar on the Re-opening of Community Facilities and Village Halls
- Notifications of road works and temporary road closures
- Academy re-opening
- Street Lighting – Christmas display notification
- Connecting Communities Digitally

b) General Correspondence Received -

- Request for Scoping Opinion for Proposed Section 37 Application for East coast 400kv overhead line upgrade
- Agile Energy – Submission of application

5 OTHER BUSINESS: Kemnay Community Council has received with regret notice that one of our former members, John Hern, has passed away. He was one of the very early members of the Kemnay Community Council, serving two stints. He was first elected in 1977 and stepped down in 1982 and became Planning Reporter during that time. He rejoined the council in 2009 and stepped down again in 2015. He was always an enthusiastic member of the council, making valuable contributions to our deliberations.

The Press and Journal has produced a tribute to John at

<https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberdeen/2371583/rich-tributes-paid-to-dr-john-hern-former-ari-medical-director-farmer-and-jp/>

Circulated and agreed via email.

F Patrick

Secretary

28th August 2020