

MINUTE OF MEETING OF KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER, 2015 AT

7.30 PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Sheila Simpson (Chair), Margaret Basley, Sasha Brydon, David Evans, Gaenor Berkin, Bob Ingram, Douglas Laing, Kate Rigby, Vaila Spencer

In Attendance: Sue Wainman, Councillor Patricia Oddie

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed those present.

2. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Hazel Smith, Janet Newberry, Rob Mackay, Bill Blackwood, Gavin Adam, Mathew Palin, Graeme Wood and Councillor Sheena Lonchay.

3. Kemnay Academy Pupil Report

Sasha advised that the Pupil Council is now back into full swing and this will mean that he will be able to take forward more information to future meetings. Sasha was thanked for his input and thereafter left the meeting.

4. Police Matters

The Chair advised that no police report has been received. Concern was expressed since it is some months that a report has been received. Councillor Oddie suggested that the Community Council email Douglas Milne, Area Manager, indicating their concerns, copying in the local Councillors, so that they are kept aware of the situation. The Chair will also write to Inspector Millar and seek support.

Vaila raised the issue of the corner between Kemnay and Inverurie just past the Auto Centre where she understands there have been a good deal of accidents, especially recently, with cars leaving the road and crashing into the trees. After her calling the Council and also an article in the Evening Express, chevrons have been placed near the site and bollards along the road edge. Vaila is of the opinion that these measures are not adequate. It was agreed that the Community Council would wish to have the Council engineers explain their actions and how they feel this should help prevent further accidents. Vaila agreed to contact the Council Roads Engineers on behalf of the Community Council and also request a Freedom of Information from Police Scotland to find out how many accidents have been recorded at this site.

5. Aberdeenshire Council Matters

Councillor Oddie advised that she is still pursuing the matter of public toilets at the north of the village and she will keep the Community Council updated if progress is made.

Councillor Oddie is part of a working group which has been set up to look at the problem of giant hogweed along with other partners such as SEPA, the River Board Trust, etc.

With regard to Shannoch Path and the issue of antisocial behaviour raised at the last meeting of the Community Council, Councillor Oddie advised that the Council are unwilling to close off any pedestrian links within the housing development as the development had been designed in this way to encourage walking for residents. However, the antisocial behaviour will continue to be monitored.

Sheila Simpson raised the issue of the lack of cleaning of roadside guttering which gives the village an overall unkempt look. Councillor Oddie agreed to pursue this.

6. Minute of Meeting of 25 June, 2015

The Minute was taken as a true record of proceedings, proposed by Douglas Laing and seconded by Margaret Basley.

7. Matters Arising from Minute

- (a) Hazel Smith had attended the village hall where there were concerns raised about the lack of tree cutting on Council owned land. Councillor Oddie agreed to pursue this after getting some more information from Hazel.
- (b) With regard to factoring arrangements in private housing developments, Sheila Simpson advised that Jill Sowden, Local Community Planning Officer, is arranging a further meeting and the Community Council will be invited to attend.
- (c) With regard to the Craig Grant Fund, it was noted that the money had now been returned to the family and Sheila Simpson advised that she had spoken to the family and offered apologies for the length of time taken to deal with this.
- (d) The Mavis Wainman bench has now been delivered and will be in place very soon.
- (e) With regard to Community Engagement, Sheila advised that meetings are still being held around this and she will report on progress when she is advised.
- (f) Vaila advised that the Project Sub Group have had one meeting with no significant progress made to date. It was agreed that this Group will report under the Reports section at future meetings.

8. Kemnay Action Planning

It was noted that Anne Simpson of the Garioch Partnership had spoken to the Community Council meeting in June and advised that she has been able to facilitate communities so that they can get things done within their own communities. An initial meeting was arranged where Rob Mackay represented KCC. It is proposed to have a meeting on 4 November and invite local groups to be represented. Sheila Simpson asked members to let her know of local groups they are aware of and contact details. Sheila also agreed to send Margaret Basley details of the meeting for inclusion in the Newsletter and to send to David for the website, and to Vaila for the KCC Facebook page.

9. Veterans Resource

Gaenor Berkin advised that she had not been able to get any further information on this to date. Sheila Simpson suggested that Gaenor should contact Jill Sowden who may be able to help.

10. Supporting Communities Events

Sheila Simpson encouraged all Community Council members to attend training sessions which are being arranged by the Area Manager's office, the next being on 7th November in Kemnay.

11. Integrated Travel Event

Douglas Laing advised that he had attended one meeting regarding transport links and to date has not received minutes of the meeting. The meeting looked at links such as cycle paths to the train station, etc. Sheila Simpson requested that Douglas make efforts to get minutes of the meetings so that he can report to future meetings.

12. Planning Matters and Applications

David Evans advised that there had been 9 planning applications since the previous meeting.

APP2015/2043 Erection of house and garage adjacent to Moss-side, Fetternear, Kemnay – Refused

APP2015/269 Change of use from farm office to form residential accommodation at The Bothy, Wreaton Farm, Kemnay – Approved

APP2015/1842 Erection of general purpose agricultural shed at Burnside of Braco Frmhouse, Chapel of Garioch – Approved

APP2015/2256 Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and erection of garage at Woodside Cottage, Fetternear - Approved

APP2015/2332 Formation of vehicular access at Petersfield, Inverurie Road, Kemnay – Approved

APP2015/2356 Erection of 49 Houses on Site North of Cairn View, Kemnay – KCC formally requested to be consulted on this application and letter of objection was sent. The current situation is that the application is not supported by Planning Officers.

APP2105/2360 Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and erection of garage at Littlewood Cottage, Craigearn.

APP2015/2453 Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse to form entrance porch at Craigearn Farmhouse, Craigearn

APP2105/2678 Erection of dwellinghouse and garage adjacent to Lindward Pines, Braco, Pitcaple.

13. St. John's Church Access Site Visit

It was noted that access to the old church in Fetternear has been blocked with the use of barbed wire. This is currently being looked at by the Council's Access Officer. It was agreed that Sheila Simpson would write to the Access Officer, Linda Matheson, requesting an explanation and that the access be restored.

14. Community Learning Report

Sheila Simpson advised Kevin McDermot had given a presentation to the Community Council Forum meeting on Community Learning and explaining current developments and how they are still being progressed.

15. Reports

(a) Christmas Lights – Gavin Adam has advised that the Christmas Lights are now housed by RIM Fabrications.

(b) Safety Group – Bob Ingram advised that Monymusk community have purchased a defibrillator to be housed in the Monymusk Village Hall; the lack of disabled access to Inch Railway station is being looked at; the message in a bottle scheme is being extended; and the Community Safety Group is also concerned by the lack of police reports.

(c) GACCF – See item 14 above; Douglas Milne spoke about Community Engagement and how Community Councils can engage with their communities; training being arranged for Community Councils.

16. Secretary's Report

Rob Mackay has advised that he has been in touch with Bob Gray in the Roads Service regarding the lack of white lines in the village. Bob Gray advised that because there is a speed limit within the village it is considered that the lack of white lines indicates to drivers that they should drive more carefully. There are therefore no plans to re-instate the white lines.

17. Chair's Report

Sheila Simpson advised that representation was made by the Community Council regarding the Bogbeth housing development. She understands that amended plans have been submitted. These are yet to be discussed at the Garioch Area Committee. The local press have been supportive of the KCC efforts.

Sheila Simpson also reported on the efforts made by the KCC with regard to opposition to the Deveron Homes application. Letters had been distributed to the homes in the current development and to those in Fyfe Park. The result of the application is awaited.

Leaflets about the work of Community Councils have now been received and Sheila Simpson thanked Bob Ingram for facilitating this. It was agreed that further copies should be requested so that they could be distributed with the Newsletter.

The developments at Craigmyle are still being monitored.

Sheila Simpson advised that Ken Manson, Chemist, had recently had the frontage of his shop decorated and had also had the notice board painted and repaired. Thanks have been expressed to Ken for his generosity.

18. Opportunity for Community Councillors to Speak

Douglas Laing asked if broadband was still being developed and when all the village would benefit. Sheila Simpson undertook to speak to her contact about this and report back.

Gaenor Berkin advised that she had recently come across an organisation called Footprintsconnect which is facilitating those over 55 to use the internet – www.footprintsconnect.org.uk.

Sheila Simpson advised that Graeme Wood has sent in his resignation from the Community Council due to family and work commitments. Sheila suggested that Sue Wainman be co-opted on the Council until the next election and this was agreed.

19. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Thursday, 29 October, 2015.