

**KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2012**

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

Attending: Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri, PC Mike Purdie, Margaret Basley, Sheila Simpson, Steven Law.

Apologies: Gavin Adam, John Hern, Cllr Allison Grant.

1. Welcome: The chairman welcomed those present, particularly the forthcoming members of the Community Council, and the representative of the football club.

2. Police matters: Eight crimes had been reported in Kemnay since January's meeting: of two incidents of vandalism, one had been detected and there was a positive line of enquiry for the other, which may also be linked to a vandalism in January; three Road Traffic Offences had been detected, along with an incident involving drunk and disorderly behaviour which had further resulted in a drugs offence being detected; a theft of a mobile phone was being investigated from Kemnay Academy, as was a fire-raising to a combine harvester in the Cluny area; there had been an attempted break-in to a shed at the rear of the pavilion in Bogbeth park which was also being investigated. PC Duncan had undertaken foot patrols on High Street in relation to parking issues by school/nursery parents and further along High Street at the shops, with a number of drivers dealt with. Operation Hotspur within Garioch had led to a quantity of controlled drugs being recovered and persons reported. The recent increase in car thefts was a timely reminder not to leave cars or houses insecure, or keys within view or reach of windows or doors.

3. Kemnay Football Pitches: Steven Law of Kemnay Football Club gave a presentation on the club's aspirations towards acquiring new football pitches on Fetternear Estate. He pointed out that the pitch in Bogbeth Park was over-used, and said that the club had approached various landowners in the hope of getting permission to build new pitches. Land had been offered beyond Milton Meadows, but it was liable to flooding, and Aberdeenshire Council was not willing to authorise flood prevention measures. David Fyffe had offered to provide a 20-year lease on land suitable for two football pitches and temporary accommodation. This would be the subject of a planning application. The long-term aspiration would be to provide one all-weather pitch. It was hoped that funding might be available to support the plan.

4. The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: Adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2012 was proposed by Bob Ingram, seconded by Jim Piggins, and unanimously approved.

5. Matters Arising from Minutes:

a) **Community Council Flyer:** There had been little take-up of these. There was some discussion of the fact that Westhill had distributed theirs with their newsletter, but it was decided to do nothing until the new Community Council had been established.

b) **Glebe Access:** The reply from the Council had not been satisfactory; it had dealt with the matter of parking, but not with the possibility of erecting information signs. Cllr Al-Kowarri was to pursue the matter.

c) **Saltire Society Plaque for the Place of Origin:** The plaque had yet to be cast, but this was in train. There was some discussion of where it should be sited with mounting on the flat face of a stone facing the Place of Origin being the favoured option.

d) **Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2011 Draft Planning Advice "Housing land drawdown":** A letter of justification had been received from the Council. This answered none of the points which had been made in the Community Council's response to the original information.

e) **War Memorials Officer:** War Memorials in Aberdeenshire are maintained by the Landscape Services section of Aberdeenshire Council. Graham Wall is the *de facto* War Memorials Officer.

i) **War Memorial floodlighting:** Bob Rose was congratulated on the appropriateness and execution of this.

f) **Academy Stakeholders Meeting:** A meeting had been held just prior to the Community Council Meeting. There had been a number of small changes to the design of the extension, some prompted by comments at the last meeting, and some following the highly constructive involvement of the pupils. There will be a major internal access problem during the last phase, when work will effectively split the building in two. With the possibility of there being up to around 950 pupils in 2018 there are also concerns about such issues as bus parking and traffic in Bremner Way. The starting date, which was always unrealistic, has slipped to February 2013, but completion is still planned for March 2015. The price has gone up by £100k, and the process of getting financial approval for the build is on track. A suggestion that the plans should be

made public was rejected on the grounds that no matter how clearly it was stated that the plans were merely indicative, some people would be bound to treat them as definitive and complain if they were later altered.

6. Planning matters and applications: There were no new applications, but some discussion of the rejection of the Fetternear Estate application.

7. Reports:

a) Safety Group: A DVD had been produced by Aberdeen College showing what should be done by those who are first on the scene where people have become ill under the influence of alcohol. This was to be made available to academics. Other "First on the Scene" DVDs were to follow.

Pass Plus had had fewer candidates since subsidies were reduced, but had been popular with participants. At least two insurance companies offer a discount to young drivers who have completed the training.

Concerns had been raised by pupils in Strathdon and Huntly about the quality of school transport. An action party had been identified to raise these concerns with the head of Service Transportation and the Chief Executive.

Aberdeenshire Community Safety Awards: No nominations were made.

b) Community Learning and Development: The gym club is running well and it is hoped to purchase more equipment if an application for Planning Gain money is successful. Adult Learning classes are popular, and new classes start later this month. The Kintore Youth Forum had given a presentation on their work in trying to create a youth café in the village. The Forum hopes that work will start on "The Bothie" this summer. Concerns were expressed that Kintore School is to take over the Community Rooms and that this would involve groups in paying for alternative accommodation. The matter was to be investigated by the Director of Education.

c) Garioch Community Planning: The Community Planning Update had been distributed.

8. Venue for March Meeting: The March meeting would be held in the Academy.

9. Affordable Rented Housing Questionnaire: This was to be completed by interested Community Councillors individually.

10. Aberdeenshire news: Cllr Al-Kowarri was to meet Alan Burns to discuss the problem of congestion outside Alehousewells School. It was felt that a pedestrian crossing was warranted.

11. Correspondence: Correspondence had been received, and circulated on:

The National network of Community Councils Forum, Aberdeenshire Council Community Engagement Event, Review of Community Planning – COSLA – 27 January 2012, Can We Cope with Zero Waste? PAS Conference 1 March, CVSA Newsletter Jan-Feb 2012, Commission on Rural Education: Local Evidence Gathering Visit, Garioch Area Bus Forum 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm on Thursday 1st March 2012, Parking at Foresterhill Health Campus, Viewpoint, Young Driver Risk, Scottish Water, Community Car Clubs, Grampian Communities Drop-in, Scottish National Heritage Drop-in, Street-lighting Reporting, The Energy-saving Trust, and the ASCC.

12. AOCB: Bill Blackwood brought greetings from the Bridge of Don Community Council. Mavis Wainman voiced concern about the wall beside the pavement on the corner of High Street and Victoria Terrace; Sheila Simpson volunteered on behalf of her husband to investigate. Jim Piggins pointed out that there were a great many small stones scattered on Victoria Terrace. He was reassured that these were the aftermath of pothole-filling activity on the part of the Council, and would be swept up. He also commended the Scottish Railways online questionnaire.

13. Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting would be on 29 March 2012 following the AGM. It would be held in Kemnay Academy.