

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 25th February 2021 7.30 pm, virtually via Zoom

Present: Bill Blackwood (Chair); Gaenor Berkin (Vice Chair), Fran Patrick (Secretary); John Whittall (Treasurer); Pauline Paterson; Sue Wainman; Richard Lamplugh; Lee Aitken; Suzanne Bunton; Sasha Brydon; Cllr Smith

Apologies: David Carlin; Kayleigh Wallace; Margaret Basley; Claire Stewart

Attending: None

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES - The Chair welcomed those attending and gave apologies as above.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/AUDIO RECORDINGS/VIRTUAL MEETING PROTOCOL – The Secretary reminded all present that, in order to prevent people speaking across one another, anyone who wished to contribute to the discussion should raise their hand and be invited to speak by the Chair.

3 MINUTES OF MEETING 27th February 2020 – Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by S Wainman, seconded by R Lamplugh.

4 POLICE MATTERS – Police Reports have been received and circulated. Kemnay remains an area of low crime, although the recent police report did indicate several incidents of Covid breaches. **The Police again urge that all incidents are reported to them on 101 or via Crimestoppers on 0500 555111** – the recent fire raising at the rifle range wasn't reported at the time, for example, making detection more difficult. It does seem, however, that one or two incidents known of in the village have not appeared on the report – eg doors and sheds being tried and the deployment of the speed gun on Aquithie Road. (**Action:** F Patrick to contact Sgt Denham. **Action:** F Patrick to post numbers for reporting incidents on Facebook.)

5 KEMNAY RESILIENCE AND COVID RESPONSE – Thanks again expressed to *Lend a Hand Kemnay* for their on going efforts. F Patrick and P Paterson gave a brief update on *LaHK* and potential plans for the future, when it is hoped to transition from a Covid response initiative to a community resilience initiative, moving into more permanent premises, perhaps, and setting up a community shop/hub. If this were to remain a KCC resilience initiative, agreement from KCC would be required to proceed. This was given unanimously by KCC.

Six members of KCC have come forward to join the re-constituted resilience sub-committee, which will hold its first meeting next week. (**Action:** F Patrick to set up this meeting.)

The Garioch Food Network Map has been published and circulated. It can be found on various Aberdeenshire websites and contains details of three initiatives in Kemnay – Fareshare, Lend a Hand Kemnay and Kemnay Parish Church.

Vaccination Centre transport: Kemnay Parish Church has been in touch with the Ambulance Service and, after complying with the very strict rules and guidelines, is now set up to transport people for their vaccination. Their services have been called on twice so far. F Patrick had made an enquiry re the possible use of the community minibus, but was told that the minibus cannot be used under current Covid restrictions.

Flooding on Victoria Terrace: water had to be pumped out into tankers and the road was closed for a time. A letter has been sent to village residents by local MP offering his help, although a comprehensive history of events at Victoria Terrace available on the village website Floodwatch page (www.kemnay.info) indicates that this is a complicated, frustrating situation and one that has been much discussed over the years, but with no permanent resolution as yet. Aberdeenshire Council has still not adopted that area, although this is apparently under review. KCC felt that someone with knowledge of the situation should come to a future meeting to explain to situation more fully. (**Action:** Cllr Smith is to raise this at the next ward meeting and will see if there is an officer from AC who might be able to attend a KCC meeting.)

It was also pointed out that local residents should maybe keep an eye on the drains and gulleys near their properties.

6 OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THEPUBLIC TO SPEAK – None.

7 MATTERS ARISING:

- a) **Phoenix Fund** – No further progress as still awaiting clearer picture re the possible easing of Covid restrictions. However, it is hoped to call a meeting of interested parties in the next month or so. Nevertheless, there is quite a lot happening at Aberdeenshire Council level, with a digital business survey underway which will be used to inform training needs & help create toolkits and also to improve access to the Love Local initiative. This is an initiative designed to promote local businesses. (**Action:** F Patrick to post this on Facebook pages.)
- b) Reminder: there is a Community Development Webinar to launch the Toolkit on Wednesday, 3rd March.

8 TREASURER REPORT – Replacement items for the defibrillator units have been purchased; Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action award of funding to *Lend a Hand Kemnay* for future plans is now in the account; notification received re Zurich insurance renewal and that it has been paid on KCC's behalf by Aberdeenshire Council.

10 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

- a) **Current planning applications** - No action to be taken on
Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse
Ref. No: APP/2021/0200 – Minto Path
- b) **National Planning Framework 4 Workshop** – Concept of “20 minute” town, ie where access to work & essential services can be reached within 20 minutes sustainable travel. However, it will be interesting to see if this comes through in actual future planning and developments
For information: A96 update & correspondence circulated; deadline for responses extended; Kintore substation approval granted (noted that storage batteries are to be built at the substation in an effort to create greater resilience in the electricity grid by dealing with peaks and troughs in supply – an interesting development.)
The Circular Economy & the Planning System – Webinar attended by G Berkin and S Wainman. Stress on recycling, refurbishing & reducing waste. Planners are trying to get this into development plan. At the meeting buildings constructed were shown of recycled materials, which really helped reduce carbon footprint. Aberdeenshire Council has a recycling hub at Mintlaw.
Understanding Planning – An online meeting on **Planning & Communities – Climate Change Café** is to be held on 2nd March. A representative from Kintore Community Council is speaking on the planning process and communities, so could be interesting.

11 REPORTS

- a) **Public Access Defibrillators (PADs)** – The defibrillator located at the village hall has been accessed twice in the past month. As the pads can only be used once and have a fairly short shelf-life and the batteries need replacing fairly regularly, the need to raise more funds to maintain the units in the village was discussed. Initially, funding was received from SSE as well as many donations from local residents and businesses. (**Action:** F Patrick will co-ordinate with G Berkin and K Stewart to publicise the need for renewed funding and will also set up a Go-Fund-Me page for donations.)
K Stewart has been in touch again with Mr Irvine at Benview re the installation of a unit there.
- b) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – Although it has now no representative on this, KCC will still get agendas and minutes.
- c) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – No update available.
- d) **Community Planning** – meeting postponed, but still discussing priorities, still dominated by Covid-19.
- e) **Greener Kemnay** – The Youth Shed at Birley Bush was damaged beyond repair in the recent snowstorm, but a replacement wooden shed has been sourced. Luckily the contents were undamaged.
- f) **Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP)** - Meeting next week, still concerned re the increased level of poverty in the area. Nicola Stuart is the new Academy rep on KLLCP
- g) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** - No Update
- h) **Press Reports** – None

11 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS – Cllr Smith – The two trees now ready to be planted; KCC encouraged to nominate individuals/groups for the Inspire Aberdeenshire Awards, deadline 5th April. The Council's budget has been delayed as some additional funding has recently come from the Scottish Government, which needs to be incorporated into AC's budget. Cllr Smith was asked to request that the pavement gritter also cover the pavement at Wellpark as pedestrians are often forced on to the road in icy weather and the sharp corner by the skatepark makes this particularly dangerous.

13 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Impact of amber weather warning on waste services
- Cybersafe Scotland Events
- Citizens' Rights Project
- Community Development Webinar – Aberdeenshire Town Centre Toolkit
- Online Safety Webinar
- Update and Guidance on Snow melt Works
- Minute of Agreement PADS
- Citizens' Assembly
- CC Scheme of Establishment – Phase 2 review
- Information on the Employment Support Team
- Garioch Network Food Map
- Strategic Transport Projects review
- Scam Bulletin No. 15
- Business Watch Bulletin
- Garioch Local Planning E-Bulletin
- Scotland Loves Local Aberdeenshire
- Understanding Planning – Planning & Communities, Climate Change
- Inspiring 2021 – Open for nominations
- Further Guidance for Community Councils during Lockdown
- Consultation on the possible introduction of Demand Responsive Transport

b) General Correspondence Received - was circulated prior to the meeting.

- Health Improvement Scotland – regular updates
- Clarification by Aberdeenshire Council on A96 Dualling, Orange Route – from Bennachie Community Council
- Inquiry re use of community minibus for transport to vaccination centres.
- Letter received re concerns about people on the frozen ponds at Dalmadilly. The Water Safety Officer at Aberdeenshire Council was contacted for advice, but no reply received. (**Action:** F Patrick to write again to the Water Safety Officer.)
- Letter and photos received about the poor state of Leschangie Road. Cllr Smith has also received a letter about this section of road, which was resurfaced by Barratt's when they finished the development at Wellpark. Cllr Smith is to raise this with the Area Manager at the ward meeting next week. (**Action:** KCC to await outcome of Cllr Smith's meeting with the Area Manager before deciding on further action.)

14 OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK - *R Lamplugh*- the next meeting of the Christmas Lights committee will be held on 24th March and will be looking at ex-rental motifs to replace current ones. (**Action:** F Patrick to circulate the brochure so other KCC members can help choose the replacements.)

L Aitken – a lot of praise was heard in the village for the efforts of the tractor drivers who kept the roads cleared (these efforts are supported & paid for by Aberdeenshire Council); there was a good community effort in many places around the village, although still perhaps some frustration and concern that many pavements deemed low priority were not being cleared & gritted. *P Paterson* – applying in March for the licence for the Fireworks Display and is confident that it will take place this year. *S Wainman* – noted that many other Community Councils post current planning applications on Facebook. (**Action:** F Patrick to post future planning applications on relevant Facebook pages.) *W Blackwood* – notification has been received from Aberdeenshire Council re Community Council elections due in June. Current KCC members asked to be aware of this. (**Action:** F Patrick to post information on the CC elections on Facebook, inviting nominations.)

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 25th March, 2021, 7.30pm, virtually via Zoom