

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER AT 7.30 PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Gavin Adam, Margaret Christie, Malcolm Edwards, David Evans, Annie Ferries, John Hern, Bob Ingram, Ian Murray, Eric Pashley, Jim Piggins, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri, Jill Sowden, David Fyffe, Victoria Paterson, Claire Martin.

1. Welcome: The chairman welcomed those present, particularly Jill Sowden and David Fyffe.
2. Apologies for absence: Bill Blackwood, Janet Newberry, Cllr Allison Grant.
3. Police matters: PC Sandra Duncan was unable to be present, but tabled a report which revealed that there had been one Breach of the Peace, one Road Traffic Offence, one drug offence, two miscellaneous offences and two thefts of motor bikes from locked sheds. She mentioned that this last offence had been fairly frequent throughout Aberdeenshire in the recent past.
4. Community Planning: Jill Sowden, the Garioch Community Planning Officer, gave an insight into the scope of Community Planning in the Garioch. She emphasised that Community Planning is a way of working which co-ordinates the work of statutory and voluntary services.
5. Fetternear: David Fyffe gave an update on progress on his Fetternear planning application in advance of the 90-day consultation to begin in January 2010. He made the suggestion that the swimming pool with its associated car park might be built on the piece of land, which is currently zoned for community use, on the corner of Aquithie Road and Bremner Way.
6. The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 29 October 2009 was proposed by Jim Piggins, seconded by Mavis Wainman and unanimously approved.
7. Question Time: Ms Paterson complained about the lack of dog bins in Craigearn Park for dog walkers returning from the river path by that route. Cllr Al-Kowarri agreed to make representations to Aberdeenshire Council. She also pointed out that dog waste, properly wrapped and tied, could be placed in other bins. Ms Paterson also suggested that shopkeepers might write the names of schoolchildren purchasing carry-outs on their polystyrene cartons, so that culprits who dropped litter could be identified.
8. Matters Arising from Minutes:
 - a) Place of Origin: The Chairman and others had met with Mr Middleton from Greenbelt. It appeared that little could be done about the problem of path clearing, as Greenbelt did not see this as part of its remit. Mr Middleton contended that Greenbelt's responsibility had ended with its planting of the trees which would develop into a community woodland. As no member of the Community Council had seen the terms of the agreement with Greenbelt, it was impossible to know whether or not this was the case. Ian Fowell was trying to produce a copy of the agreement.
 - b) Shaping Aberdeenshire: This had been a successful meeting.
 - c) Bus timetable feedback meeting: There was as yet no date for this.
 - d) Greenbelt: See item 8. a).
 - e) Parking in High Street: Wardens would visit once the lines had been repainted as, in the current situation, parking tickets could be contested.

f) Fyffe Park Kerbs: These pavements had not been adopted by the Council, a fact which had caused some delay, but work was now in train to have the kerb lowering undertaken.

g) ASCC Conference: A place had not been available for Kemnay, but a report by a Community Councillor from another Community Council had been tabled. The reporter had found the conference generally interesting and informative.

h) Flood Warning Scheme meeting: No response had been received from SEPA. They were to be contacted again.

9. Planning matters and applications:

a) New Applications: There were two new applications, neither controversial.

10. GACCF: Members were reminded of the mini-grill on 3 December in Gordon House. In response to requests, there was to be a training session for Community Councillors on the new Planning Rules on 12 January at 6.45pm in Gordon House.

11. Christmas Lights Sub-Committee: The lights were all in place. The electrician who had installed the new holders had kindly erected all the lights at the same time. It was agreed to switch them on on Advent Sunday. The trees would be erected on 3 December. Volunteers to assist with this were sought. Donations had been received towards the Christmas Lights from the Downie family and from the Football Club.

12. Report from Safety Group Representative: During the last week of term, P4-7 pupils in the area were given a presentation relating to vandalism in schools. A new fire-raising awareness programme aimed at schools is also being launched. There was a presentation and discussion on improving the safety of school pupils around school buses. ROSPA home safety booklets were to be distributed to all S1 and S2 pupils in the area. The new retail alert system in Inverurie has gone live.

13. Report from Community Learning and Development Representative: The group had heard a presentation from the teenage disc jockeys – their fee was to be raised to £16 per hour. P7 pupils had reported on their activities. The qualifications of the successful applicant for the position of supervisor of the fitness suite had to be checked. It was hoped to open the fitness suite early in the New Year. A volunteer was required for regular maintenance of the mini-bus. It was suggested that a request be put in the Newsletter.

14. New Business:

a) Remembrance Day: It was suggested by the Chairman that the Community Council should lay a wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. Ian Murray pointed out that this was done by other Community Councils, and the proposal was unanimously adopted. The Chairman agreed to make enquiries about procuring a wreath in advance of next November.

15. Aberdeenshire News: A piece of granite has been donated for a sign at the entrance to the village. It was agreed that it should be engraved with the words “Welcome to Kemnay”, rather than just the name of the village. The river path has been renovated, re-fenced and re-opened after the flooding of last month. Cllr Al-Kowarri had received a FAQ leaflet about the knackery from SEPA and agreed to pass this on for distribution to Community Councillors.

16. Correspondence:

a) Budget Briefing: Aberdeenshire’s Budget Briefing papers 5 and 6 had been previously circulated. It was agreed that they proved depressing reading.

b) Northern Community Justice Authority Newsletter: This had been received.

- c) Digital Television Switchover Pack: The information contained in this had already been widely circulated.
- d) Robert Smith – Parliamentary Report: This had been received.
- e) NHS - A questionnaire had been received from the NHS seeking endorsement of future goals. There was little opportunity to make constructive comment and it was agreed that those members who wished could complete it

17. AOCB: Jim Piggins pointed out that Kemnay Primary and Nursery Schools had been given an excellent HMIe report. Congratulations were extended to them.

Mavis Wainman reported that voluntary litter-pickers had filled five black plastic sacks with rubbish dropped in the village. It was agreed that an article in the Newsletter pointing this out could do no harm and might discourage people from dropping litter.

Gavin Adam reported that the problem of flooding in houses on Bogbeth Road had been attributed to the developers having diverted water from the site into the ditch. It was pointed out that the diversion of water from the well in the field into the ditch was longstanding. It appeared that the flooding had not been caused by the recent developments.

18. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 28 January 2010.