

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall

**Present:** 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

Cassie Irving & Simon Ruther (Leo Group); Lorna Forsyth (CLD, Aberdeenshire Council)

**Apologies:** Claire Stewart; David Carlin; Cllr H Smith

**1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES** - The Chair welcomed those attending and gave apologies as above. Due to health issues, D Carlin will not be able to attend future meetings. He could, however, continue to contribute to KCC via email/phone. KCC was happy to accept this arrangement and wished David well in his recovery.

**2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/AUDIO RECORDINGS** - None

**3 MINUTES OF MEETING 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020** - Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by R Lamplugh, seconded by M Basley.

**4 CO-OPTION NOMINATION** - It was agreed by unanimous vote that Sasha Brydon be co-opted to KCC. (**Action:** F Patrick to inform Area Office.)

**5 POLICE MATTERS** – Police Report for February was received and circulated. In response to Inspector Hannan's request for our views on the current format of the police Report, it was felt that maybe a simple spreadsheet would suffice, particularly if it were to show each month's figures – then trends could be more easily spotted. The spreadsheet could perhaps be 'customised' for Kemnay, showing issues frequently raised by residents at KCC – eg parking, speeding – and any police action taken. The inclusion of what the Community Policing Priorities are should continue, however, as this is considered a useful insight into police work in the area. (**Action:** F Patrick to pass views on to Insp Hannan.)

PC Doug Steele is retiring and is to be replaced by PC Catriona Denham.

**6 KEMNAY ACADEMY PUPIL REPORT** – Joseph Miles, an S2 pupil who is also a member of the academy's Pupil Council, was unanimously welcomed as a Junior Member of KCC. He will be responsible for the KA Pupil Report at future meetings. Joseph explained how the Pupil Council works at the academy, how it solicits the views of pupils and the tasks it is given by senior management. (**Action:** F Patrick to inform Area Office of Joseph's membership of KCC.)

M Glendinning informed KCC of the role of Chris Dunhill, full time Business & Community Support Officer, whose post is financed through the Wood Foundation. Chris's task is to support teaching staff by providing connections with local businesses and community groups, to help create inter-disciplinary learning, giving learning a real, tangible purpose.

**7 GUEST SPEAKERS** – **Cassie Irving**, PR Manager, Leo Group – Rendering Plant, Cottown: The re-commissioning process started in October, after a fire at the group's Bradford plant made this necessary, although the site has been in use since 2008. Even when Bradford re-opens, it has been decided to retain the Cottown plant as this will lead to a reduction in the firm's carbon footprint caused by transportation. It will be operating 3-4 days a week and will employ around 15 people from the local area. It is a Category 1 plant, which means it processes fallen stock and parts of animals that cannot be put into the food chain. This process produces oil and meal, which is then used as biomass, providing heating for Leo Group's site at Penrith, but also houses in Belgium, for example. KCC asked if it would be possible for the biomass to be used locally. There is no infrastructure for this at the moment, but C Irving noted the request. Leo Group cannot guarantee that there will never be a smell coming from the plant, despite their very best efforts and investment in state-of-the-art technology. However, SEPA does set strict standards and any complaints should be made to SEPA, should the smell become an issue, or to Leo Group directly – [kintoreenvironmental@omegaproteins.co.uk](mailto:kintoreenvironmental@omegaproteins.co.uk).

**Lorna Forsyth**, CLD Worker covering Garioch Area - Presentation on Kemnay as a 'transition town', ie communities coming together to 're-imagine and rebuild their world', with a focus on local issues and building community connection. Kemnay has nearly all the attributes to be a 'transition town' as it has a wide variety of

groups and there is a lot going on in the village. However, a lot of the activities rely on volunteers who can sometimes be rather stretched. One way to strengthen/progress what is happening in the village and to give residents more autonomy would be to set up a Development Trust – a community-owned and led organisation - supported by Development Trusts Scotland. There are over 200 DTs across Scotland, including Huntly, Braemar, Udny, Aboyne. A DT would allow people to be employed to support volunteers and would also be a way to meet the needs of the community and to ‘future proof’ things for the village. However, a DT has to have a source of income, such as a wind turbine, community café or shop. Setting up a DT would be a huge undertaking for volunteer groups in the village, although one or two have already expressed an interest. KCC has been asked also to give this some consideration. (**Action:** F Patrick to add this as an item on next month’s agenda.)

L Forsyth also gave a brief presentation on Kemnay FareShare Hub, which is run by CFINE with the idea that no food should go to waste. This is not a foodbank, but a source of surplus food – from supermarkets, for example - freely available to all at six locations in the village. Posters can be seen around the village, on Facebook and in the Newsletter.

**8 KEMNAY RESILIENCE** – There is a Scottish Govt/ClimateXChangesurvey on flood resilience. The link is also available on Kemnay website - <https://tinyurl.com/ScotPFR-survey> (**Action:** F Patrick to put into Newsletter and ask that it is put on Facebook page.)

## **9 OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK – None**

### **10 MATTERS ARISING:**

**a) Parking issues** – A response has been received from a business on Station Rd re the issue of people parking illegally on the pavement, to which the KCC Chair and Secretary have replied, outlining what has been tried so far and asking for help to resolve the problem. Perhaps drivers could be informed of alternative parking options – the car park, for example, or short term on-street parking in Bridge Road and Aquithie Road. It was also agreed that other businesses on the street should be contacted to ask for their input/help. There have also been problems recently on St Bryde’s Road with people parking over driveways. The yellow lines obliterated during the re-surfacing work won’t be repainted until later in the year, although the restriction signs are still in place. Drivers are asked to park with care and respect others’ right to get in and out of their property.

The cycle rack is now in the car park, but questions have been raised as to its position as it would seem difficult to get bikes in if cars are parked at either side. (**Action:** F Patrick to contact Aberdeenshire Council for clarification.)

**b) Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places** – Question was raised about the composition of Ward 10, as Kemnay has no real connection with Insch. (**Action:** F Patrick to pass this on via the online survey.)

**c) National Planning Framework 4** – This is ‘a long term plan for Scotland that sets out where development and infrastructure is needed to support sustainable and inclusive growth’. Meetings are being held throughout Scotland so communities can share ideas. (**Action:** S Wainman is to attend the Aberdeen meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> March on behalf of KCC.)

**d) FTTP deployment in Kemnay** – Information on access to this (Fibre To The Premises) superfast broadband service is available on the village website. (**Action:** F Patrick to write article for Newsletter.)

**e) Place of origin and Riverside Path** – Chivas Regal supported volunteers will not be coming to Kemnay and there has been no further update on PoO from Ian Walsh at Aberdeenshire Council. It seems quite a few trees have been affected by the recent windy weather and are bent over, blocking the main footpaths. (**Action:** F Patrick to contact I Walsh about these issues.)

An update has been received from Aberdeenshire Council re the Riverside Path. It was originally part of the open space provision associated with the development of Boat Croft. A land registry check has not identified the owner and a detailed sasine check has been requested. A neighbouring homeowner has been maintaining the grass for a number of years and has erected the temporary fence to protect the grass. It is his intention to take down the fence during the summer months and, once the sasine check has been completed, he will be approached the Aberdeenshire Council to establish the future maintenance of the land.

**f) VE events** – The Academy is planning a variety of activities, including readings from contemporary memoirs, food and dress from the era, etc. Some pupils will also be making bunting for the Village Hall, which is hoping to run an afternoon of film, reminiscence and refreshments. Birley Bush Open Day on the Saturday will be loosely WW2 themed and as will the Kemnay House Open Day on the Sunday. (**Action:** M Basley to ask for information

on any other events via the Newsletter. **Action:** F Patrick will contact the journalist who has requested information on planned village events.)

**11 TREASURER REPORT** – All bills paid from the general account; no change to other accounts.

## **12 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –**

a) **Current planning applications** - None

## **13 REPORTS**

a) **Public Access Defibrillators (PADs)** – K Stewart now has the key for the KVH unit. (**Action:** F Patrick to get further updates from K Stewart.)

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)** – Will be meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

d) **Community Planning** – Focus on Westhill coming to an end. There was a drug and alcohol update and discussion on how clients should be approached by staff – ie ‘be kind’.

e) **Greener Kemnay** – Will be meeting to discuss input to next stage of LDP; Birley Bush group has set out programme for the year; Birley Bush open Day will be on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> May and is looking for suitable ‘eco’ demonstrations/activities to enhance the event; the greenhouse should be up shortly and the youth shed should also be completed shortly; a gate off Grove Road is to be installed – funds have been donated by the Golf Club Quiz Night, for which the Birley Bush committee is very grateful. GK is to look into the Development Trust.

f) **Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP)** - Training day on the ‘Cost of the School Day’ and presentation on ‘What is learning?’ There is to be an awards ceremony for volunteers, which will be held in May in KVH. Nominations will be sought before then.

g) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** - **KAPC:** S1 pupils are going to talk to canteen staff about changing to compostable disposable items or perhaps invest in more china crockery, although that comes with additional staff costs. **KPPC:** Is going for the eco Schools Scheme, attempting to get a Green Award. Pupils have started to audit the school and are to focus first on litter. They would be keen to take part in a litter pick and have been in touch with Kemnay Academy about this. There was also a Burns poetry competition held at the school and G Berkin of KCC acted as a judge.

h) **Press Reports** – Article on the proposed second roundabout at Midmill; report on scooter stolen from Paradise Road; report on the altercation at the Burnett Arms in October.

**14 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS** – No AC Councillors present.

## **15 CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- Review of Polling Districts and Places
- Link to Core Paths
- Sports Awards nominations
- Webinar on Health & Wellbeing
- National Planning Framework 4
- Questionnaire on flood resilience
- Supply of bedding plants

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

- Email received from director of local business re parking issues.
- Planning application for overhead lines
- EU & Citizens’ Rights briefing sessions
- Scottish Health Council Grampian Newsletter

**16 OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK** - SB has reported water flooding onto the Green from Paradise Road due to a blocked drain; MB is querying the projected cost of Kemnay’s community planting and the request for a financial contribution, particularly as the village already subsidise the cost of planting the plants, all of which are planted by volunteers; LA noted that there seems to have been an increase in targeted vandalism, with eggs being thrown at houses and fire raising on PoO. A reminder that anyone who is affected/witnesses such an incident should contact the Police on 101; FP reported that Central Coaches are still doing the school run via the High Street (**Action:** M Glendinning to pass this on to the Support Services Co-ordinator.)

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2020, 7.30pm, Kemnay Village Hall**