

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 NOVEMBER 2008 in KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Bill Blackwood, Margaret Christie, David Evans, Annie Ferries, Eric Pashley, Jim Piggins, Alex Thomas, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri, Cllr Allison Grant, PC Alex Allan, Douglas Cowie, David Fyffe, Avril Heron, John Whithall.

Apologies: Susan Milton, Janet Newberry, Paul Smart.

1. Welcome: Chris Hunneyball welcomed those present. He noted that Neil Johnson had resigned his membership and a vote of thank was passed for his major contribution to the work of the Community Council. He also congratulated Kemnay Wildlife Explorers, the Bargain Box, and Kemnay Primary on their recent Green Butterfly Awards.

2. Police Matters: Constable Allan reported the final crime figures for October and the figures for November so far. Regrettably, the November figures showed a rise, although this was not a trend. Reported crime was up on last year, but down on the previous year. He informed the meeting that the police were currently targeting bad driving by young drivers, and confirmed that instances of bad driving reported by two witnesses would be investigated. In answer to a question he confirmed that although Kemnay did not have a designated traffic warden, traffic wardens did visit Kemnay. It was suggested that unauthorised parking was very apparent on Saturday morning in the High Street, and around Kemnay Primary School when children were being collected. Constable Allan took note of the complaints.

3. The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The secretary apologised that in item 2 she had failed to record apologies from Chris Hunneyball. Cllr Grant suggested that item 9a) should read "Cllr Grant had invited the Community Council to arrange a half-day seminar for the public under the auspices of Planning Aid for Scotland." Subject to these amendments, the adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 30 October 2008 was proposed by Mavis Wainman, seconded by Eric Pashley and unanimously approved.

4. Question Time: The matter of three gates which had recently been locked on the walk round Leshangie hill was raised by Mrs Avril Hern. The meeting was informed that various remedies had already been pursued, and that Aberdeenshire Council had already written to the landowner asking for the gates to be unlocked; the Community Council agreed, however, to write to the Access Forum and to Aberdeenshire Council supporting the attempts to have access made available.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

a) Road Casualty Reduction: Some Community Councillors had responded in a personal capacity to the survey, but in view of the tight timescale a Council response would not be made.

b) Hanging Baskets: The matter was to be left dormant until the beginning of next year. Cllr Al-Kowarri considered that there might be a problem finding enough people willing to take responsibility for watering the baskets, but said that she would place an article in the newsletter before the start of the season to assess the number of volunteers available.

6. Planning Matters and Applications: There were two uncontroversial applications in Kemnay. Additionally, David Fyffe addressed the meeting on the alterations to the plans for Fetternear Estate, including an increased number of houses, the re-siting of several of the elements, and the erection of a pedestrian and cycle bridge over the don. David Evans proposed that the Community Council give support in principle to the plan. The proposal was seconded by Eric Pashley and approved unanimously.

7. Community Planning:

a) Planning Aid Workshop: The hall had been provisionally booked for the afternoon of 7 February 2009. It was agreed to confirm the booking. Cllr Grant was to write an article for the newsletter, and arrangements were to be made for catering.

8. Christmas Lights Sub-Committee: The lamp post displays were to be installed on 29 November. It was decided the convenor of the subcommittee would switch them on in December, without a designated date. There was still a problem with trees, although several sources were available for exploration, and it was hoped that trees would be found or bought in early course.

9. Report from Community Learning and Development Representative: Unfortunately, no one had been able to attend the rescheduled meeting.

10. New Business:

a) Leaves: The chairman had written to Aberdeenshire Council asking that leaves be removed from Grove Road and Victoria Terrace. Nothing had been done, and initially it had been presumed that this was because of the inclement weather. As nothing had been done once the weather improved, however, he was to write again.

11. Unfinished Business:

a) ASCC concerns: A letter had been received from Mike Rumbles enclosing his reply from John Swinney. It was agreed to write a further letter since the Community Council's concerns had not been answered. Mr Swinney had stated that he was awaiting the outcome of the AGM before drawing conclusions, unaware, apparently, that one concern was the abolition of the AGM.

b) Place of Origin: It had been suggested that postcards might be made of the Place of Origin. After some discussion as to the practicalities of this, it was agreed that distribution would be an insurmountable problem.

12. Aberdeenshire News: Cllr Al-Kowarri had discussed with council officials the moving of the 30 mph limit at Craigearn. There was some concern that there might be new legislation which would affect this, but it was to be considered, as was the problem of parking on the grass at the entrance to Fyfe Park. She had also raised the matter of the lack of lowered kerbs in Bremner Way. The belief was that these had already been dealt with, and Cllr Al-Kowarri was assured that they would be lowered as soon as possible. She had also made enquiries about the classification of roads as priority for snow clearance in view of the lack of snow clearing on Bremner Way which was a bus route and a heavily-used road.

13. Correspondence:

a) Support for Steam & Vintage Fair: A letter had been written in support. The fair was to be held again this year.

b) Data Protection Act: It was reported that a Community Council was considering resigning en masse in protest at having to register under the Data Protection Act.

c) Garioch Area Committee: The Agenda had been received.

d) Garioch and North Marr Community Safety Group: The Minutes of the last meeting had been received. The Safety Group appeared to be undertaking some interesting initiatives.

e) Mill Farm: The Community Council had been asked if they had come to any agreement with Aggregate Industries over Mill Farm. They had replied that they had not.

- f) Big Lottery Fund: Information on this had been passed to appropriate groups.
- g) NHS News: This had been received. Copies were available to the public in the Hall.

14. AOCB:

- a) Kendal Green: Mavis Wainman indicated that concern had been expressed about parking close to the entrance to Kendal Green. Parked cars blocked access to people with walking aids, and to stretchers. It was agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council, requesting double yellow lines or a hatched area.
- b) Bridgend: Alex Thomas said that drivers of large vehicles had complained that the pavement at the corner of Riverside Road and Bridge Road had been widened, prohibiting access. David Evans pointed out that the widened pavement was a planning condition for the Bridgend development. It was agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council, explaining the problem.

15. Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday 29 January 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.