

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF THE MEETING ON THE 28th April 2005 AT 7.30PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chair), Hazel Al-Kowarri, Mavis Wainman, Susan Milton, Sheila Taylor, Roger Durham, David Evans, Bill Blackwood, Neil Johnson.

Attending: Robert Ingram, Cllr Leitch

- 1) Introduction – CH opened the meeting and welcomed Council members and visitors
- 2) Apologies - Cllr Saluja, Jim Piggins, Alan Davies, Janet Newberry and Roger Dunham.
 - a) CH announced that Sheila Taylor had resigned from Kemnay Community Council (KCC) due to a move overseas. Her loss was in addition to others in the recent past leaving KCC being rather diminished. He proposed the co-opting of Neil Johnson onto KCC, seconded MW *nem. con.*
- 3) Police Matters – No police presence, carried forwards.
- 4) Minute of Meeting held on 27th January 2005. Recipients are asked to amend their minutes as follows:
 - a) AL corrected 8c to replace “of both Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire” with “of Aberdeen City”.
 - b) HA-K corrected 10d to replace “policy” with “strategy”
 - c) AL asked for the addition of “Cllr Leitch had asked the objectors to the Leading Edge’s financial arrangements to contact him in writing with their complaints. This had not been done meaning that he was unable to proceed with investigating their complaints” to item 12a.

Adoption Proposed- H-AK

Seconded – SM

- 5) Question Time – no matters were raised from the floor.
- 6) Any matters to be raised under AOCB or at a future meeting to be tabled:
 - a) Scottish Cooperative Communities Forum (CH)
 - b) Garioch Area Committee (CH)
- 7) Matters arising from Minute:
 - a) Christmas Lights - HA-K has sent for application forms for Lottery funding. A contact at Longside Gala had suggested a source for 2nd hand lights. Costs for fitting sockets on lampposts would be c. £60 per lamp. Costs for 2nd hand lights would be c. £300 per lamppost. MW asked where they would be stored when not in use – members asked for ideas. NJ asked what the situation would be regarding insurance? HA-K will ask what arrangements Longside make for this.

- b) Lunches for lunchtime assistants – MW apprised KCC that she had pursued this matter and that all school staff are now classified in the same way, and so lunchtime assistants were no longer entitled to free school, lunch (in the same way that cleaners and teaching staff are not entitled to a free lunch).

8) Aberdeenshire News:

- a) AL has spoken to Gordon Davidson at Gordon House re 1st aiders for 'event's'. He confirmed that 1st aiders would only be required where 'entertainment' or 'activities' were being provided and that meetings etc would have no requirement for 1st aid cover.
- b) H A-K had raised with AL the presence of salesmen from a finance company in the village, approaching council tenants with offers of mortgages to buy their homes. She was very concerned that a) tenants were being mis-informed by the salesmen that a future labour government would rescind the right to buy (this was not the case) and b) once they had signed the paperwork asking for a valuation, no further repairs would be carried out by the Council on their homes. AL explained that he had spoken to the Council's legal department and that these activities are not illegal providing the company does not misrepresent the situation (as in a) and that they inform the tenant of the consequences of their requesting a valuation. HA-K agreed to provide the newsletter with a summary of the incident to ensure people were aware of the situation.
- c) AL had attended a site visit with Bob Rose to look at plans to refurbish the area around the Carrier statue opposite the War Memorial.
- d) Ian Rendell had informed AL that the representations made by him and the Community Council had led him to set in place an audit of traffic flow at the new Gauchhill Roundabout at the Kintore/Dunecht crossroads. This would probably lead to kerbs being moved although one intention of the roundabout was to slow down traffic.
- e) Life-saving equipment has now been placed along the river path. AL was questioned as to who decided that they should be installed and why these locations had been picked. HAK was concerned that the one behind Kembhill Park was very badly sited – there being a very large reed-bed between the belt and the river. AL will investigate.
- f) MW raised the problem encountered by residents trying to use the amenity site at Souterford Road, which now closed at lunchtime. NJ pointed out that Westhill's tip was also closed at lunchtime– although at a different time. As the Council were trying to encourage people to dispose of waste more effectively, this is making it more difficult. AL was aware of this problem and will look into it.
- g) AL spoke about a meeting of full council with regard to single-status in employment with local authorities. Under this employees are entitled to seek a review of their remuneration with regard to other employees whose work is of equal value to the community. This has the potential to cause a great deal of work and expense for Aberdeenshire (and other) councils.

9) DE reviewed the planning applications received since the last meeting. None were deemed contentious although the building of a house off Kendal Road had already been subject to an objection by the Community Council on the grounds that access was very restricted. Outline permission had however been granted and the plans for the dwelling were deemed in keeping with the village. AL raised the issue of inconsistency in the planning process, where permission to divide gardens for building was given in some circumstances but not in other, often less intrusive, cases.

10) New Business

- a) Aberdeenshire 21st Century Schools Improvement Programme (JN) – carried forwards.
- b) Local Plan - Planning Application Site A. Letters have been written to Mike Rumbles and list MSP's re: the impasse over which report will have precedence here. Matter has been passed on to Malcolm Chisolm.
- c) Anti-Social Behaviour Awards. Isobel Kendrick has been nominated for her work to reduce ASB.
- d) A96 roundabout. Letter from Nora Radcliffe written to BEAR Scotland tabled. BEAR's response was that the roundabout met with current safety requirements and that the reduction in approach visibility was desirable. CH responded that this was fine providing that all approaches had equally reduced visibility – but fast traffic travelling East had better visibility across the roundabout and could therefore approach at speed. CH had provided photographs of the approaches and would continue to pursue the matter.
- e) Police/Drugs response – Insp Allan had responded with details of when and how all reported incidents had been dealt with. Approaches were often low-profile to increase the likelihood of catching offenders and therefore may not be noticed by residents. He also added that the lack of a community PC was due to shortages elsewhere but that this situation may soon be resolved. AL reported that at a recent meeting Colin McKerracher (Chief Constable) had announced that he was recruiting more cadets and was re-introducing more local PC's.
- f) Dundas Brothers Knackery - CH reported the receipt of an anonymous letter that the knackery was to re-open. He had contacted Snowie group who confirmed that a partial re-opening was possible and that he was welcome to attend a site visit to discuss this. General agreement that providing the facility was well run, this may be a positive thing for the community by introducing more employment.

11) Report from Safety Group Representative – PF was not present

12) Unfinished Business – all matters had been covered under item 10.

13) Correspondence

- a) Bob Smith re: buses – tabled and taken as read
- b) Next meeting 16th June.

14) AOCB

- a) Garioch Area Community Council Forum. CH announced that he had been asked to accept nomination to Chair this committee. He expressed the desire to let someone else have a go due to pressure of time. MW expressed the view that he should do this as he would be an asset. SM agreed and the general consensus was that he should allow his name to go forward.
- b) Scottish Co-operative Community Forum – NJ would write again asking for more information.

15) Date of Next Meeting – 26th May 2005