

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2009

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Gavin Adam, Bill Blackwood, Margaret Christie, David Evans, Annie Ferries, John Hern, Bob Irvine, Ian Murray, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley, Jim Piggins, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri.

1. Apologies: Malcolm Edwards, Alex Thomas.
2. Welcome: The Chairman welcomed those present.
3. Police matters: There being no police presence, there was no report. It was requested that parking in Station Road be checked as visitors to Littlewood Court were being inconvenienced.
4. The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 30 April 2009 was proposed by Ian Murray, seconded by Janet Newberry and unanimously approved.
5. Question Time: There were no members of the public present.
6. Matters Arising from Minutes:
 - a) Christmas Trees: Gavin Adam stated that these would be made available, but that he had not yet established exactly what was to be offered in return.
 - b) Waste Bins: There had been no response to the request for more wastebins in Bogbeth Park or by the bus stop nearest to Milton Meadows.
 - c) Parking Sign for Hall Car Park: There had been no response to the request for a parking sign directing drivers on High Street to the car park behind the Village Hall.
 - d) Toilets in Bogbeth Park: Chris Hunneyball, David Evans and Margaret Christie had met with Bill Cassie, Head of Consumer Protection & Support Services. He had agreed that there was a possibility of refurbishing the old granite toilets. He had subsequently informed the Chairman that the approximate cost would be £40,000. The group who are currently using the toilets for storage would be consulted.
7. Planning Matters and Applications:
 - a) New Applications: There was nothing controversial.
 - b) Amendments to Planning Applications: David Evans had written to Raymond Reid, Head of Development Management and Building Standards, commenting adversely on the fact that there was no necessary neighbour notification of amendments to plans which had already been passed. He was informed that these were assessed by the planning officer, who decided the appropriateness of neighbour notification. There was some discontent with this response and it was decided that the matter would be pursued at the Area Forum meeting and at the Communication Forum. It might also be possible to make some comment on the matter in the response to the Local Development Plan consultation.
 - c) Main Issues Report of the Local Development Plan: Members were advised to read pages 1-40 of the Local Development Plan, available on the Aberdeenshire website, and the page relating to Kemnay. Arrangements were made for the Open Day on June 13 from 10am to 4pm in the Village Hall. Developers had been invited to attend, and David Fyfe and Barrats had indicated that they would do so. Residents were encouraged to come and express their views. Eric Pashley, Mavis Wainman, David Evans, Jim Piggins,

Janet Newberry and Chris Hunneyball volunteered to be present for all or part of the time. The Garioch Area Forum would respond to the introductory policies.

d) City and Shire Structure Plan Timetable: This had been received, but was not found particularly helpful.

8. GACCF: It had been noted that in future developers would have to have a pre-application consultation with communities, and inform Community Councils of the arrangements.

9. Formartine LDP Briefing: Community Councils might have an extension to the period for consultation if they applied individually for it.

10. Christmas Lights Sub-Committee: This was to be removed from the Agenda until September.

11. Report from Safety Group Representative: Adult driver assessments by the Institute of Advanced Motorists were being promoted by Aberdeenshire Community Safety Group. Schools were being encouraged to enter a competition to design road safety posters. The Message in a Bottle scheme was commended, and the Text-a-Vandal initiative was to be further publicised. The number of probation officers was to rise as they complete their training course. A large number of foreign visitors to the "Guide to Working in the North-East of Scotland" page of the Community Safety Group's website was reported. Applications were invited for finance for safety projects. The clearance of ditches on the Aquythie/Dalmeadilly road is now 70% complete.

12. Report from Community Learning and Development Representative: Notwithstanding a reorganisation three years ago, a paper had been presented at the meeting suggesting that Community Groups were "not working", and that they should be abolished and their responsibilities allocated to wider area forums. The Area Committee, however, has recommended that the status quo be retained. Minibus drivers will require to undergo a two-day training and sit a new test if they wish to continue driving after 1 October 2009. Several existing drivers have indicated their unwillingness to do so. This may mean that there will be fewer drivers available.

13. New Business:

a) Community Council Handbook Update: Members were asked to note the changes, which had little effect on the way in which KCC would have operated.

14. Unfinished Business:

a) Flyers for LDP Meeting: These had been distributed to shops in Kemnay. Remaining flyers were to be made available in the Hall.

15. Aberdeenshire News: This year Kemnay is once again to have a Village Orderly.

16. Correspondence:

a) Kintore Plant Liaison Group: The Company which now owns the rendering plant at Kintore has created a liaison group of interested local parties. Kemnay Community Council is now on that liaison group.

b) Bremner Way Car Park: The planners are to give this further consideration.

c) ASCC re FOI Act: Community Councils are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act despite a mistaken statement by the Information Commissioner's Office that they were.

- d) Isabel Page (Formartine) – Structure Plan Objections: Ms Page had made a strong protest about the conduct of the consultation, which appeared to pay lip service to local concerns.
- e) Kemnay Primary School Homecoming Event 26 September: Members were asked to publicise this event.
- f) Road Closure 20 & 27 June: The closure of the Kemnay-Inverurie road between the end of the Aquythie road and the roundabout on the A96 was discussed in conjunction with the closure of the B977 at Dunecht. A letter of protest was to be written.
- g) Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland: It was decided not to join.
- h) Aberdeenshire Rural Housing Enabler: It was decided that this was not relevant to Kemnay.
- i) SEPA View: This had been received.
- j) Health Improvement Fund Application: This was to be forwarded to the Youth Café.
- k) Grampian Society for the Blind: An invitation had been received to their open day on 4 June from 10am to 2pm at Grampian Opportunities, 1 High Street, Inverurie. All are welcome.

17. AOCB: The question of preventing travelling people from encamping in the area was raised. It was agreed that there were probably no areas around the village which might attract such travelling people. The revision of Scottish Parliamentary constituency boundaries was discussed and it was agreed to write reiterating the concerns which had been expressed over the previous revision.

18. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 25 June 2009 at 7.30 pm in Kemnay Village Hall.