

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28th September 2000

7.30 PM IN THE WAINMAN ROOM KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

1. Present:-

Dr Jim Piggins, Mrs Susan Milton, Mrs Mavis Wainman, Mrs Janet Newberry, Mr David Evans, Mr Alan Davies, Mr Pat Findlater, Mr Alistair Thomson, Mr Ahmed Al-Kowarri

Attending:-

Councillor Alister Leitch, Mr Ian Fowell, Garioch Area Manager, Ms Lesley Gibb, Inverurie Herald, Mrs Heather Stewart and her daughter

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillor Gurudeo Saluja, Mr Chris Hunneyball, Secretary

2. Minute of Meeting held on 29th June 2000

The Minute of the meeting held on Thursday 29th June was approved with the following corrections:-

- a. Item 9 should read formal consultations are taking place. The matter will then go to the Area committee.
- b. Item 10 should read 22nd July

Proposed: Mr Alan Davies Seconded: Mrs Susan Milton.

3. Unfinished Business

a. Evening Bus Service from Inverurie

A letter had been received from Inspector David Allan indicating that a 13 year old had been apprehended in connection with the vandalism, and a policeman had travelled on the evening busses. Nevertheless the service has been withdrawn. The late night bus Aberdeen- Inverurie-Kemnay has also been withdrawn.

b. One to One Communications Mast

There still seemed to be an impasse on the siting of the 'One to One' mast in the area of Kemnay quarry. It is understood that farmers have been contacted by companies looking for sites for mobile phone masts as there are still 'dead' spots around Kemnay. Gordon Daniels, Aberdeenshire Council Property Department, and Mike Rumbles, MSP, had been contacted. David would telephone Alistair Bremner.

c. Victorian Lamp Post

It was suggested that Mr Youngson should be contacted regarding the painting of the lettering on the Victorian Lamp post.

4. Community Economic Development Presentation by Mr Reid G Hutchison

This did not take place as Mr Hutchison was not present at the meeting.

5. Police Matters

The police were not represented at the meeting.

Inspector David Allan had explained in a letter that it was sometimes difficult for a member of the Force to attend. Members were disappointed as it seemed that there was less police presence in Kemnay now than in the past. Members reported that it had been difficult to contact both Kemnay and Inverurie Police stations by telephone recently.

6. Report of Garioch Area Community Council Forum

Dr Piggins had attended the Community Council Forum meeting on Wednesday 20th September and reported back.

a. Draft Constitution for the Establishment of Community Councils

There was discussion on the proposed draft constitution for the establishment of Community Councils. It was hoped that a relatively simple nomination form would be accepted. On a show of hands Kemnay Community Council were not in favour of the 'single transferable' voting system if there were more nominations than places.

Members were concerned that a person was only allowed to nominate one other person, and that co-option could only take place after six months into a new session. It was also felt that the Returning Officer, not the nominee, should enter the electoral roll number on the nomination form.

b. Local Plan Consultation Exercise

There were comments on the Local Plan Consultation exercise. It was thought that the two hour workshop did not allow enough time to read and digest the policy documents provided. As there had been considerable feed back to the consultation exercise the reporting to Aberdeenshire Council would be delayed. There are only four planning officials in the team working on the document.

c. Budget Cuts

It was suggested at the Forum that Community Council members should be involved in the run up to the Budget to comment on the services which might be cut back if

finances were short. There would be a training meeting for all Community Councillors.

d. Genetically Modified Crops

It had also been suggested that an information meeting on Genetically Modified crops would be useful.

e. Aberdeenshire Council

A plan of the restructured Aberdeenshire Council services is now available.

7. Report from The Safety Group from Mr Pat Findlater

The Safety Group is looking for a secretary.

There was extended discussion on the relative effectiveness of cameras, flashing lights and sleeping policemen. Much concern was expressed on the speed in the vicinity of the primary schools. Everybody agreed that education and enforcement of the law were the only effective solutions. The possibility of lowering the limit to 20 mph near schools, as in Kintore, was favoured, but it would have to be enforced.

It was very much regretted that the Y.A.P. Youth Advice Project in Inverurie was being closed due to lack of funding. Members considered that the help on offer had been of great importance.

The Safety Group is planning a training seminar in February or March 2001. There would be a crèche and refreshments. It was also proposed that there be awards for the best safety suggestions

Mr Findlater also had support from Safety Group members for a proposal that all bicycles should be manufactured with lights shining all the time to help prevent accidents.

8. Report from the Press Scrutiniser

The Press scrutiniser was not present.

9. Aberdeenshire Council News

Councillor Leitch reported on Council events over the last three months, highlighting visits of Scottish Ministers to Aberdeenshire. He reported on the progress of the 'Large Scale Voluntary Housing Stock Transfer'. At the moment most tenants in Aberdeenshire would prefer to stay with Aberdeenshire Council as landlord. The problem is that in fifteen years time there will not be enough income to keep the stock in order. Copies of the proposed 'Housing Bill' are available for comment.

Concern was expressed on 'the Right to Buy' Housing Association stock.

A seminar had been held on child/mental health and the diagnosis being undertaken.

A meeting of T.R.A.K had been held to discuss the all weather surface play areas in Alehousewells. There would be a further meeting after discussion with the teenagers.

More members are required to serve on the 'Children's Panel'. Application Forms may be obtained from the Social Work Department.

There was discussion on the redundant Police Station in Inverurie. It is understood that it will be used for offices.

It was noted that the building of flats in Station Road had commenced. This will provide affordable rented accommodation and be run by the Bennachie Co-operative. Problems with peaty ground had been overcome. Completion date is June 2001

10. Planning Applications

An application for change of use of amenity ground to private garden at Kembhill Park had been refused as being against policy. An application to build a house at Paddockhurst had also been refused. There was discussion on an application for a house at Craigeearn Croft, Craigeearn. It was decided to circulate a document submitted in support of the application for members information, and to put the matter on the agenda for the next meeting.

11. Correspondence Received.

A leaflet on 'Living Life to the Full' for the over 50s.

A leaflet on historic Churchyards in Aberdeenshire

A notification on Millennium Beacons to be lit from Shetland to Jersey at 8.0pm on 31st December 2000.

12. A.O.C.B.

It was noted that three areas of ground in the centre of the village were in an awful state, the garden ground opposite the Village Hall, the garden of the new Family Centre and the partly built estate in the grounds of the Burnett Arms Hotel.

It was requested that a note be put in the Newsletter asking dog owners to clear up after their dogs.

It was reported that some of the play equipment in the Pleasure Park needed repair, and that Fyfe Park was attracting speeding motorists.

It was reported that there had been unruly behaviour and vandalism in Wilson Place. If this sort of thing happens the police should be informed.

It was reported that there were holes in High Street pavement by the bank premises where downpipes and drains are below pavement level due to resurfacing of the pavement over the years.

Mr Ian Fowell, Garioch Area Manager took note of all these points.

13. Date of next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 26th October at 7.30pm in The Wainman Room at Kemnay Village Hall.