

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON THE 28th OF OCTOBER 2004 AT 7.30PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Inspector Allan of Grampian Police, Cllr Gurudeo Saluja and Douglas Edwardson of Aberdeenshire Council.

PRESENT – Chris Hunneyball, Sheila Taylor, Susan Milton, Hazel Al-Kowarri, Roger Dunham, Mavis Wainman, Alistair Thomson, Alan Davies, David Evans, Janet Newberry, Jim Piggins, Jack Rigby, Billy Ridler & Bill Blackwood

ATTENDING – Cllr Alister Leitch

Cdr Hunneyball congratulated Mavis Wainman in her day at the Palace to collect her MBE. Mavis explained she turned this into a short holiday and visited the House of Commons, went on the London Eye and the travelled to the Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Helegan.

POLICE MATTERS – Inspector Allan tendered his apologies that no police would be able to attend tonight's meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER – MR DOUGLAS EDWARDSON FROM ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL – HOUSING STRATEGY

Unfortunately due to a slight confusion on who was due to attend neither Douglas Edwardson or his assistant Elaine Stewart were available to attend tonight's meeting but they shall be along for the November meeting instead.

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 30TH OF SEPTEMBER 2004

Adoption Proposed Janet Newberry

Seconded Alistair Thompson

Subject to new passage drafted for the Question Time notes

Corrections to last minute/agenda –

New Business 5. Telephone Kiosks – it is Burnett Road not Kendal Road as stated.

**Please also note were it states that Sheila has contacted someone it is on behalf of Community Council and is either at its request or a request of a member of the community within her capacity as Secretary of Community Council.

QUESTION TIME –

(SEE ALSO QUESTION TIME ADDENDUM BELOW)

a/ Opportunity for members of the public present to address the Community Council should they wish. – No members of the public attended for tonight’s meeting.

b/ Nominate any matters to be raised under AOCB or for a future meeting to be recorded and timetabled

- **Post of Secretary**
- **17th of November Budget Briefing**
- **The ‘Increase Programme’**
- **Bonfire Night – Fireworks Display**
- **Congratulations**
- **Kemnay Network Development Group**
- **Castle Fraser Roadwork’s**
- **Safety Issue**

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTE

- 1. NHS Grampian – Out-Of-Hours Medical Services in Grampian Information & Consultation Process. NHS Consultation / G Doc Plan** – letter in pack to members. It was good to see that they had taken on board some of the concerns raised especially about the transport issue. There was a tremendous effort in Inverurie to try to save the hospital service there but unfortunately, it has been unsuccessful. The concern that you would have a long wait at A&E has been lifted, as it is not going to be that department that you will be referred too. There is to be a leaflet explaining everything for each household but as it has a fill out section about your health it would really be needed for every person in a household and we are yet to see if this is how they will be distributed. It was suggested that the passage entitled ‘What to do’ be inserted into the newsletter for quick reference and guidance to our community.
- 2. Telephone Kiosks** – We have had no complaints from members of the community about the removal of the phone box at Burnett Road, However Aberdeenshire Council have written to BT on the matter and are opposed to any of the phone boxes in Aberdeenshire being removed. Roger Dunham contacted BT to complain about the removal of the phone box at Keithhall and was directed to contact Aberdeenshire Council on this.
- 3. Skate Park** – All correspondence was enclosed in the members pack, and clearly vindicated the position taken by the Community Council at their last meeting. There had been no improper contact with the planning authorities, and no attempt to influence the outcome, apart from the letter of support for the first, and only, application considered by the Community Council. It is possible that the Pavilion Committee had some contact with Aberdeenshire Council on this matter, and that this was incorrectly assumed to be on behalf of the KCC but they are an entirely separate and independent body. It is hoped that this will bring the matter to a close, as full planning permission has now been fully granted and the young people are enjoying the new facility.

4. **Calor Gas Awards – TV programme scheduling** – programmes starting tonight (Thursday 28th of October) ‘Rising to the Challenge’ at 7.30pm on Grampian TV and will run for 6 consecutive weeks.
- Programme One (28/10/04)** is on Pulteney Peoples’ Project Wick & the Isle of Tiree.
- Programme Two (04/11/04)** is on Beith in Ayrshire & the island community of Gigha off the Kintyre peninsula.
- Programme Three (11/11/04)** is on Thurso, a community-run radio station in Gairloch & the Isle of Whithorn in Wigtownshire.
- Programme Four (18/11/04)** is on Tyndrum & Crianlarich, **Kemnay** & the Isle of Arran
- Programme Five (25/11/04)** is on Meigle in Perthshire, Tain in Easter Ross & North Berwick
- Programme Six (02/12/04)** Sees the 13 finalists in Edinburgh to meet each other and attend the special awards celebration and who the winners are of this year’s contest.

Alister Leitch suggested that Cdr Hunneyball contact Ian Fowell of Aberdeenshire Council to get a grant to cover the costs of the trip for those attending the awards presentation in Edinburgh. As yet, we have not received the tickets for the 6 people who are to attend on Kemnay’s behalf.

ABERDEENSHIRE NEWS by Cllr Alister Leitch

Currently busy recruiting for the Children’s Panel. There is to be a study of delinquency, which anyone will be able to attend, Sat the reporter’s office in Albyn, covering restorative justice. There was a training day on anti social behaviour and it highlighted a problem where if you exclude a youngster from a particular area what happens if their school is within that location? This new policy on anti social behaviour will be tackled through the children’s panel and this will have an effect on the way it works. Currently they look at the child’s needs and what can be done to help now it will focus at lot more on the deed. This may have an affect on not only the new members taking up posts but on the existing members of the panel. The executive is putting a lot of funding into the new policy on anti social behaviour and teams to tackle this.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS – in the last month there have been no planning applications for Kemnay or immediate surrounding area.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Toilet Facilities at Bogbeth Pleasure Park Update** – nothing new to report at present. KCC have written to the council on what could be done on this matter and at this moment in time, we have had no reply. Previously we have been advised that

there are no funds to provide this facility at this moment in time and we do have a facility in the village opposite the village hall. Aberdeenshire Council policy permits one facility per location due to running costs of these public toilets. However, Cllr Leitch undertook to see if there had been any progress on the request to investigate if it would be feasible to provide direct access from outside to the pavilion toilets.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Garioch Area Community Forum - Next meeting will be November**
- 2. GACCF Joint Planning Workshop 14th of October 2004 –**

This was an interesting session, which covered a number of topics.

Planning Gain

Planning gain is effectively a contribution made from the sale of the land to enhance community amenities. Planning gain requirements in settlements are identified in the local plan, and so it does not follow that the benefit will necessarily accrue to the affected community, although it could benefit from development elsewhere.

Affordable Housing

Ideally, affordable housing should be contained within the development site, although sometimes this is impracticable. For instance, in a small low-density development of, say, half a dozen houses, it might not be easy to include affordable housing, and in this case, it would be provided elsewhere. There is also the problem of buyers selling on and making a large profit - and the affordable housing is no longer affordable. Rental housing is preferable, but the Council then has to prove that the demand exists, and this is not always possible in rural areas.

Access to Plans

Although plans can be inspected at the Council offices, this is not convenient, and the Council is nervous about copyright when taking copies. Community Councils can borrow plans overnight, but this means collecting and returning them. Work is going ahead to make all plans available on the Internet, which should solve many problems, and this should be in effect in the new year.

Third Party Right of Appeal

This was discussed at our last CC meeting, and little seems to have changed. Who to appeal to? Who has the right of appeal? What grounds should there be? Too free a system could completely clog up the system, with applications dragging on for years, but on the other hand, unnecessary barriers should not be erected. No conclusions reached.

Previous Performance of Developers

There was a feeling that developers were starting second or third phases of a development without properly finishing the first, mainly landscaping and roads. Perhaps a bond should be put down before a second phase was begun if the first had not been completed?

REPORT FROM THE SAFETY GROUP REPRESENTATIVE

Unfortunately, Pat Findlater was unable to be present at tonight's meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE -

All are in circulation to members or in the pack provided.

A.O.C.B –

As timetabled earlier

- **Post of Secretary** – To be re-advertised as got no response to the initial newsletter advert. However, both Mavis and Chris have phoned round all other possible helpers they could think of and some names that people had suggested but to no avail. It was suggested to approach a senior pupil for the task but it was thought to be unfair at times of exams and other education commitments. Community Education was also suggested but have no resources to do this on an ongoing basis. It was also suggested that Aberdeenshire Council be contacted to see if someone could come from Gordon House to help on this. Hazel Al-Kowarri then very kindly offered to act as secretary, but as she is a very busy lady she will take the minutes and compose the newsletter report and Chris will put together the agenda and handle all other correspondence. The constitution does not allow him to be Secretary as well as Chairman but he can offer support to the elected Secretary. Sheila is willing to still do copying of documents for the packs and hand to Chris. There was a formal vote amongst the members to elect Hazel to the position which was carried unanimously - Proposed Chris Hunneyball Seconded Susan Milton. Bill Blackwood proposed a vote of thanks for Sheila and was seconded by Susan Milton.
- **17th of November Budget Briefing** – Mavis and Chris to attend on behalf of KCC.
- **The ‘Increase Programme’ – details in the pack to members.** Chris is to investigate further on what exactly this is all about.
- **Bonfire Night – Fireworks Display** – Janet Newberry is looking for volunteers to shake a bucket on the night and come along for support on the night. Jim Piggins and Roger Dunham offered their assistance.
- **Congratulations** to Billy Ridler who has been appointed Head Boy and Jack Rigby Deputy Head Boy at Kemnay Academy. Billy also advised me for reference that the New Rector is called Dr Charles Hunter and the deputy is Ms Murison.
- **Kemnay Network Development Group**

Community Lounge at the Academy – decorated, new flooring & seating
Youth Projects – Pleased to report there seems to be funding currently available for youth schemes which Community Education are applying for to go towards several schemes. Isobel Kendrick attended with some young people an Anti Social Behaviour seminar in Edinburgh, which they found very interesting. Two young people were able to go on the Ocean Youth Trust scheme from Peterhead to Edinburgh when places and funds became available at quite short notice. Doug Mortimer running active day courses for 3rd years. These are design for pupils who do not find it easy to fit into purely academic courses. Linked with the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Skate Park Competition – sadly cancelled on 25th due to the weather will be rescheduled.

- **Castle Fraser Roadwork's** – Due to either bad timing or lack of planning when you take the road to Castle Fraser you are diverted to Sauchen for a 2 week period starting 25th of October however you then find that contractors are digging up Sauchen. Surely, this should not be happening at the same time. In Sauchen, they are digging trenches across the road and it is a very tight squeeze for a car to pass never mind a lorry or a bus. Sheila is to write to the roads department to ask what is the policy and draw their attention to this for future. Alister Leitch confirmed Sheila's question as to why the Roads department when carrying out work close a road, is it health and safety. It is now council policy that whenever possible the road is to be closed and diversions put in place rather than operate single lane traffic when work is being carried out. Also to draw the roads department to the situation about to arise when travelling from Kemnay to the A96 via Kintore (formally known as Midmill). There is a new roundabout being built at the crossroads of Kintore, which is a good thing, and we support this. However once you pass this new roundabout you then have a traffic island to slow you down then the junction to join the Kintore road then a roundabout which appears to be in the wrong place and then you have to lack of visibility to join the A96 via yet another roundabout. In the mornings due to the number of houses currently being built in Kintore and its outskirts, this whole area is grinding to a gridlock with cars queuing past Sandy Thain's garage waiting to get on to the A96. This should be looked into as a matter of urgency.
- **Safety Issue** – Alan Davies wanted to draw our attention to a very worrying subject. He recently learnt of a 7 year boy who had found and picked up a needle in Kemnay and unfortunately has had to undergo tests as he had a scratch to his arm and it was unclear whether he could have come into contact with any infection. It is a worrying and lengthy wait for his parents to get the results back however, needles are being found all around Kemnay and at the back of Alehousewells Primary School. What can be done? What is the procedure when you have this happen or you find a needle? Sheila is to do some discreet research into this and report back to KCC on her findings. We do not want to have a panic or bad publicity on the village but it is worth investigating and think what we can do.
- **Swimming Pool** – The village desperately need this facility as the waiting list for Inverurie is currently closed Kemnay Academy did run some swimming lessons for 1st & 2nd years when it found that some could not swim. Kemnay was given the opportunity to go swimming free on a Sunday morning at Inverurie previously however the timings did not suit someone who did not have a car as there were no buses running that would suit this. Inverurie pool has its family time on a Sunday morning but still we have no buses to get us there. Inverurie Toddler pool is still closed Alister Leitch is to look into this. The Swimming Pool Association is due to meet for the AGM but this will now be in the New Year, details will be provided nearer the time.
- **Walks around Kemnay** – Mavis is looking for helpers to put together a book on walks around the village. The book would detail what you can see where

covering wildlife to flora and fauna, where to go and how long it will take and what you will find along the way. Unfortunately, there was no one in KCC able to help at this time.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING **MONDAY 22nd OF NOVEMBER**

QUESTION TIME ADDENDUM

a/ Opportunity for the members of the public present to address the Community Council should they wish.

Several members of the public were present, one of whom wished to discuss the skate park.

Points raised were:

- Claim that the Community Council had recommended the location in preference to a site near Victoria Terrace.
- Why did the Community Council not consult the community about the proposed site, as the previous proposed location at Alehousewells had been well publicised?
- Claim that neighbour notification was not given with regard to the exact location of the facility.
- Concerns that the allocated site was an old refuse tip.
- The parking of cars was causing an obstruction to homes and businesses.
- Residents not opposed to the skate park.

Cllr Leitch gave a brief history of the reasons for not using Alehousewells, namely that the Council did not own the land, and that for that reason planning permission had never been progressed. He continued by explaining the planning process, and assured all attending that this had been dealt with according to policies and procedures.

The Secretary of KCC gave an account of her dealings with residents of Leshangie:

Points raised were:

- Did KCC act in everyone's best interest when discussing the skate park?
- How many members had seen the plans and understood the implications?
- Thought KCC had misrepresented the community.
- Had any KCC member made contact with the Planning Department over the matter?
- Denied contacting the Planning Department to choose the site.

The Secretary felt unable to carry on in her present role without all the facts of every issue being fully discussed openly at our monthly meetings, and not by certain people alone without full support and knowledge of all members. With the benefit of hindsight she did not think that the Community Council had represented the community.

The Secretary tendered her resignation, but said that she would stay in post until a successor could be found.

The Chairman re-enforced the role and responsibilities of community councils and encouraged members of the public to stand for election to the Community Council if they wished to play a more active part in village matters. He agreed to go over previous minutes in the event KCC had been remiss in its responsibilities with regard to planning application and notification to the public.

ACTION THE CHAIR

Various members of KCC questioned the views of the members of the public, and when challenged further it became apparent there was a concern about the skate park being used late at night.

Other salient points were:

- The youngsters feel caught in the middle and in some cases persecuted.
- Residents felt let down.
- Concerns about the gas terminal.
- Toilet facilities.

AGREED To consider displaying planning applications in notice boards in the village.

To ensure that Community Council Agendas were displayed on the village notice boards.

To support the provision of toilet facilities at Bogbeth Park.