

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 NOVEMBER 2007 AT 7.30 PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Chris Hunneyball (Chairman), Margaret Christie, David Evans, Annie Ferries, Neil Johnson, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley, Paul Smart, Mavis Wainman.

Attending: George Paterson, Ken White

1. Apologies: Bill Blackwood, Pat Findlater, Susan Milton, Jim Piggins, Alex Thomas, Cllr Sheena Lonchay, Cllr Allison Grant.
2. Welcome: Chris Hunneyball welcomed those present, and in particular Ken White of Kintore Community Council.
3. Police Matters: There was no police presence, and consequently no report.
4. The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The adoption of the minutes of the meeting held on 25 October was proposed by Janet Newberry, seconded by Paul Smart and unanimously approved.
5. Question Time: The matter of the rejection of the Donald Trump planning application was raised, but was felt to be not relevant to KCC.
6. Matters Arising from the Minutes:
 - a. Traffic calming in Paradise Road: Ian Rendell of Aberdeenshire Council wrote that the east section of Paradise Road would be added to the list of sites for assessment with a view to lowering the speed limit and possible inclusion within the 2008/2009 programme of works. A 20 mph speed limit on Fyfe Park could only be introduced if the speed limit were supplemented with physical measures such as speed cushions or ramps. The Council only had limited funding available for traffic calming schemes each year and a scheme would be drafted and prioritised for consideration within a future year's programme of works.
 - b. Skate Park Graffiti: It was agreed to ask Cllr Hazel Al-Kowarri about the progress of this complaint.
 - c. Waste Collection Containers: Nom Wright had claimed that these were left in Bogbeth Park only for the duration of one working day, but it was maintained that they were at times left overnight. Clarification was to be sought from Councillors.
7. Aberdeenshire News: There being no Aberdeenshire Councillor present, there was no report.
8. ASCC AGM: No paperwork or proxy voting papers had been received for this meeting. An ASCC working group had been set up by the Scottish Government to consider reorganisation of community councils. From the documents available on the website, the scheme proposed appeared to be highly regimented. There was some discussion of whether Kemnay Community Council should continue with its membership of this organisation, and it was established that the Community Council belonged to ASCC because Aberdeenshire Council paid its membership fee.
9. Planning Matters and Applications:
 - a. Barratt's Appeal – Aquithie Road: It was noted that the appeal had been rejected. Annie Ferries suggested that something positive might be done about encouraging commercial development on the site. After some discussion it was agreed that the Chairman would write to ask Aberdeenshire Council to approach Arnold Clark for permission to put the land on their list of available sites.

b. New Applications: There were three new applications in the Kemnay area, none of which appeared to be contentious. It was agreed that the Community Council should indicate support for the first phase of the Fetternear development, if planning permission was sought for it before the next meeting of the Community Council. This development was to consist of a small number of executive houses behind the long wall, with access directly on to the Kemnay-Fetternear road

10. Community Planning:

a. CP Executive meeting of 7 November: The meeting had spent some time considering the question of migrant workers and their impact on planning. Solutions to the problem of alcohol abuse at youth events had been discussed.

11. Christmas Lights Sub-Committee:

a. Kemnay Christmas Trees: The Forestry Commission had given permission for two trees to be removed from the woods opposite Aquythie. They would be felled by Graeme McDonald of BonAccord Landscapes who would display his chainsaw permit to the authorities. The Chairman had been in touch with the electrician and it was hoped to have the trees in place shortly.

12. Report from Safety Group representative: There being no safety representative present, there was no report.

13. Area Forum Report: The Vice-Chairman had resigned, and had not yet been replaced. Information had been sought on the future of Community Councils since the SNP manifesto had suggested they be aligned with electoral wards and given greater powers. John Swinney had said he would give more information when it was available. There would be an induction session for Community Councillors, probably in January. It was noted that Community Councils could now speak on planning matters at Area Committee meetings, providing a set of rules was followed. The implications of the freezing of Council Tax increases were not yet clear, given that normally a 2½ % increase would have been proposed.

14. Report from Community Learning and Development Representative: There being no Community Learning and Development representative present, there was no report.

15. New Business:

a. Saltire Society Award: The certificate which had been presented to the Community Council as sponsors of the Place of Origin had been framed and would be hung in the Village Hall.

16. Unfinished Business:

a. Conservation Area: The letter which was to be sent to everyone whose house was included within the proposed conservation area was approved and would be mailed to those affected.

b. Access to riverside walk: Members were still unhappy at the access available. The Chairman had been informed that the condition that access should be approved applied only to the completed project.

c. Goal Posts: Progress was still being sought on the erection of the goal posts. Aberdeenshire Council had been written to on two occasions, but had not replied. It was agreed to ask our Councillors if they could help to expedite matters.

d. School buses using the High Street: Some buses are service/school buses, others, in particular the Bain's bus from Kintore, pick up pupils in locations which necessitate their traversing High Street.

17. Correspondence:

a. Education Leisure and Learning – harmonising of charges: The Council received notice of the consultation meeting about harmonising of charges after the meeting had taken place – although the Council is not a user group and consequently would not itself have been involved in the consultation.

b. Aberdeen Forward: Aberdeen Forward had offered members a talk on home composting, but members felt they already had information on this subject.

c. Review of Polling Districts: Aberdeenshire Council were reviewing polling districts and polling places, but members saw no need to change to the status quo.

d. Valuing young People conference: This was to be held in Oldmeldrum on 11 December from 9.30 - 3.30. Some members expressed interest, but could not attend on a weekday. There were consequently no applicants.

e. Shell fund: Shell U.K Ltd provide funding to the Community Planning Partnership to help and support communities to become involved in community planning. The Small Grants Scheme is open to community groups and organisations in the Aberdeenshire area. Members thought there might be interest in this in other areas in which they were involved.

18. AOCB: It was agreed to pursue the matter of the handrail at Boat Croft.

19 Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 31 January 2008 at 7.30 pm.