

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON THURSDAY 30th March 2006

AT 7.30 PM IN THE WAINMAN ROOM

KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present – Chris Hunneyball, Neil Johnson, Pat Findlater, David Evans, Mavis Wainman, Bill Blackwood, Jim Piggins, Alan Davies, Annie Ferries, Janet Newberry, Eric Pashley, Hazel Al-Kowarri, Paul Smart.

Attending – Insp. Dave Allan, PC Alec Allen

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence – none
3. Minute of Annual General Meeting held on 31st March 2005

Adoption Proposed - Janet Newberry Seconded – Jim Piggins

4. Chairman's Report - attached reports was read by the Chairman and accepted nem. con.
5. Financial Statement – Subject to an independent audit.

Adoption Proposed - Susan Milton Seconded - Janet Newberry

6. AOCB – Janet Newberry expressed thanks to Chris Hunneyball for his hard work throughout the year as Chairman.

Kemnay Community Council

A.G.M. 30th March 2006

Chairman's Report

The past year has not been as busy as some previous ones, however the Planning Appeal by Barratt's over their proposed development of Site A occupied a good deal of time and provoked some strong feelings in the village. In the event the appeal was unsuccessful, but this was on a legal technicality rather than because of the force of our arguments, and in any event became irrelevant on the publication of the inquiry into the Local Plan and, at least for Kemnay, acceptance of its recommendations even though these flew in the face of previous decisions. Nonetheless this process highlighted the inequalities of the planning system, whereby developers have access to as much professional help as they can afford and the right to challenge decisions which go against them for any virtually any reason, while communities have to rely on self help when appearing before inquiries and do not have the right to contest what they feel to be incorrect decisions. It still defies logic to understand how it can be accepted that building nearly one hundred houses can be appropriate in a community designated a Rural Service Centre, where developments of around fifteen houses only should be considered.

In the same context it was interesting that a proposed small development of four houses to replace the old chicken sheds was rejected because it was outwith the village boundary, despite our support of what we felt to be a positive way of improving the appearance of the village.

The skate board park has proved to be popular among the younger generation, although the matter of its long term maintenance has still to be resolved. Clearly it will be unsatisfactory if the Leading Edge Group has to continue to be responsible for the site without any financial help.

Litter has proved to be a bit of a headache, but we did eventually identify suitable sites for the provision of extra bins and dog waste containers, and hopefully we will see some action being taken over these before too long.

Sadly our hopes of having Christmas lights came to naught. We did establish that it would be feasible and had a ball park cost, but the absolute lack of any kind of support from the wider community meant that we could not see solutions to some of the problems, nor was it fair to ask the same few people to shoulder yet another task. The idea has therefore been dropped for the time being, although we note that the new enhancements around the Carrier include a fitting and power for an illuminated Christmas tree.

Regarding traffic problems, we had a positive result when changes to the Broomhill roundabout to improve safety were agreed, and double yellow lines on Victoria Terrace are to be extended to help overcome the need to drive on the wrong side of the road approaching a blind corner.

Dr Piggins has been promoting the case for a swimming pool in Kemnay, which can be more than justified when considering the usage of the nearest pools in Inverurie and Alford, and the rate at which Kemnay is expanding. We also thank him for the presentation of the Chairman's symbol of office - a gavel, with which to maintain order.

Although not strictly Community Council business, a number of community councillors have been active at the bus forums, and it is encouraging that the efforts of them and others have resulted in a much improved timetable for the 220 service, which should take effect next month.

The concept of Community Planning is being developed in Aberdeenshire. It is not yet clear exactly how community councils will be involved but the area forum is pressing hard for direct participation and it is an area where I feel community councils could have a lot to offer. It does not make sense to institute a parallel organisation to canvass community opinion, which has been suggested although now looks to be unlikely.

We bid farewell this meeting to Alan Davies, who has served as Vice Chairman and Treasurer, and I thank him for his work and support. We are also losing Roger Durham who has represented us ably on the Village Hall Committee. We hope we may see both return when circumstances allow.

Our thanks go to Councillors Leitch and Saluja for their support over the past year. It is impossible for a local councillor to satisfy all his constituents all of the time, but I feel that they make a pretty good stab at satisfying most people for most of the time.

Finally my thanks to those who have worked so hard for the village as well as the community Council. David Evans, for his time, his many visits to Gordon House and his skill in presenting our case in planning matters, Pat Findlater for representing us on the Safety Group, Jim Piggins for being on the Community Learning and Development Committee and running the Swimming Pool Committee and, of course, to Mavis Wainman for the enormous amount she does in Kemnay. Finally to Neil Johnson for his very considerable work as Secretary. I well know how much work is required in the background, which he does so well and efficiently.

This is the last meeting of this particular group of members, and so to finish I should like to thank all who have contributed to our meetings and business over the past three years.

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF THE MEETING ON THE

30th March 2006 AT 7.30PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

PRESESENT - Chris Hunneyball, Neil Johnson, Jim Piggins, Mavis Wainman, David Evans, Bill Blackwood, Susan Milton, Pat Findlater, Hazel Al-Kowarri, Eric Pashley, Paul Smart, Annie Ferries and Janet Newberry.

ATTENDING - Alan Davies, Insp Dave Allan, PC Alec Allen.

- 1) Welcome - Chris welcomed members of the Community Council, in particular new members present.
- 2) Apologies for absence - Alexandra Burnett, Ian Wakely, Cllr Alastair Leitch and Cllr Gurudeo Saluja
- 3) Election of Office Bearers:

Position

Nominee

Proposed

Seconded
Chairman

Chris Hunneyball

Mavis

Jim
Vice Chairman

Bill Blackwood,

Mavis

Susan
Treasurer

Al-Kowarri

Eric

Jim
Secretary

Neil Johnson

Susan

Janet
Planning Scrutiniser

David Evans

Chris

Mavis
Community Safety Group Representative

Pat Findlater

Susan

Community Learning and Development Representative

Jim Piggins

Neil

Mavis
Park and Pavilion Committee Representative

Vacant

Community Council Forum Representative

Mavis Wainman

Jim

Bill
Village Hall Committee

Chris Hunneyball

Neil

David

position that such charges should be rescinded. Mavis described the “People’s Millions” program which she had suggested to the steering committee as a possible source of funding.

13) Garioch Area Community Council Forum - Chris outlined the new waste collection arrangements which would come into force in May. One wheelie bin collection per fortnight, with an intervening collection of boxed recyclables. Annie explained that a similar service had already begun in rural areas – although a weekly wheelie-bin collection was still underway. Alan Davies raised the issue of disposable nappies and the huge contribution to landfill these made. Paul said that a pressure group was in existence on this topic and that alternatives are being pursued by several groups. The Garioch Area Partnership is developing a new, interactive website aimed at young people. The Forum is continuing to push Aberdeenshire Council on the maintenance of communal areas in newer developments. The involvement of Community Councils in Area Committees is under review.

14) New Business

a) Landscaping on Bremner way/Aquithie Road junction - The provision of a raised bed and bench was discussed. Original objections to a bench raised at previous meetings on the grounds that it would act as a ‘hang-out’ for Academy pupils were countered by the need for a resting point for the less able. Chris would discuss this with Bob Rose.

15) Unfinished Business

a) Swimming Pool - Jim mentioned that AGM of the Swimming pool group is on 6th April in the Village Hall at 7.30pm to continue to apply pressure for this provision. Janet has raised this as a possible add-on for the extension to the Academy.

b) Airport Consultation – Chris has responded on our behalf

c) Bogbeth toilets - The cricket club are in the process of having a reinforced door made to secure the old toilet block.

d) Kirklands to Glebe road path - suggestions for this and a new path between Station Road alongside Littlewood Court following an existing desire –line were agreed and would be passed on to Bob Rose

e) Victoria Terrace double yellow lines - these are in the process of being installed

16) Correspondence

a) Letter from Bob Rose re Village improvements – discussed with reference to item 14a and AOCB

b) Consultation – “engagement with older people” – Chris will look at this

17) AOCB - Pressure will be applied to Aberdeenshire Council to extend provision of Village orderly out with the summer holidays. Chris had been approached by Mr Souter about possible storage and help for Xmas lights. Eric suggested that as a start we should look to provide Christmas trees at the Carrier and at site of the flower bed on Aquithie Road/Bremner Way junctions.

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 27th April 2006