

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30th MAY 2002

7.30 PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

1. Present:-

Mr A. Davies, Mr D. Evans, Mr P. Findlater, Mr C. Hunneyball, Dr J. Piggins, Mr A. Thomson, Mrs M. Wainman

Attending:-

Inspector D. Allan, Mr D. Duncan (Inverurie Herald), G. Henderson, Ms L. McKay, Councillor A. Leitch, Mr G. Paterson, Ms L. Robertson, J. Service, Ms L. Sneddon, Mrs S. Taylor

Apologies:-

Mr D. Caney, Mr T. McKay, Mrs M. Michie, Mrs S. Milton, Councillor G. Saluja

2. Police Matters

Dr Piggins welcomed Inspector Allan to the meeting, and thanked him for hosting the last meeting at Inverurie Police HQ.

Inspector Allan said that the reduction in crime was continuing, with only 20 incidents reported in May. The police were looking at crime prevention measures, such as small modifications to buildings, and changing bus parking arrangements at the Academy. More foot patrolling was being done, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights. The Deputy Chief Constable had also accompanied Inspector Allan for a couple of hours on patrol.

Mr Davies said that there was a problem with young lads driving golf balls near houses, which had resulted in one of his neighbours' windows being broken. Although the perpetrators were known, there was a fear of intimidation if they were confronted. Inspector Allan said that the Council could put up a sign prohibiting ball games, but contravention would be a civil matter, as the police could not interfere directly. Intent to cause damage would have to be proved before they could take action. It was suggested that the boys could use the new golf driving range, or perhaps the Academy sports field. Ms Robertson said that there was a bid in for funds from the New Opportunities Fund to provide better recreational facilities, but most money was being allocated to the central belt. She did not wish to present Kemnay as a problem area, although most money seemed to go to those areas that did stress this.

3. Presentation - The Eye of Youth

Three pupils from Kemnay gave a very professional presentation, in the form of a 9 minute video, on their view of the facilities in Kemnay. They had interviewed a number of people in the 16-17 and 18-23 age groups, with the aim of raising awareness of the lack of facilities. Their conclusions were that there was little for the young to do, and activity centred around the fish and chip shop.

It was pointed out that there was a good deal going on in the Academy, and the Community Council had pressed for more sports facilities, a swimming pool, and better public transport. The village hall could also be used, as could the pavilion, for activities, although adult supervision would be required and there would be a small charge.

4. Minute of Last Meeting

The Minute of meeting held on Thursday 31st January was adopted.

Proposed: Mrs M. Wainman Seconded: Mr A. Thomson

5. Matters Arising from Last Minute

a. Station Road Pavement

It was noted that the Laird's Throat was placing a sign on the pavement opposite the bar. This often caused an obstruction for the elderly, and made the passage of a zimmer frame impossible. It was agreed to write and ask that the sign be removed.

b. Renewing Local Democracy

The consultation paper on renewing local democracy, which would be discussed at the next meeting, was available on the internet at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/library5/localgov/rldm.pdf>.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils

There was nothing further to report.

b. Aberdeenshire Local Plan

There had been a meeting in early May to discuss the local plan, but it had not reached any conclusions, and a further meeting had been held on 30th May.

c. Jubilee Celebrations

As previously reported, it was intended to have a party in the Pleasure Park on Sunday 9th June, from 1.00 to 6.00 pm. There would be various entertainments, including a jazz band, and teas and burgers would be served.

7. New Business

a. Lawrence of Kemnay

The move of Lawrence's to Inverurie was noted with regret. The future of the site and the filling station was not known.

b. Calor Gas Community Council Awards

It was agreed to submit an application for a Calor Gas Community Council Award. There were various sections, so Mr Evans would cover Environment, Mr Davies Business, Dr Piggins Young People, and Mrs Wainman would co-ordinate the Community Life and Older People entries. The closing date for applications was 23rd August, and co-ordinators were asked to have their entries, on one side of A4 paper, to Dr Piggins by the end of June.

8. Report from the Safety Group

Mr Findlater circulated copies of the Safety Group Action Plan, which he had just received.

The problems of the Midmill roundabout had been represented to the Area Manager.

The approach to litter reduction in Inverurie seemed to be having an effect. There was a problem with the use of alcohol by young children in the old Tesco car park.

Home Safety Booklets were going to be given to all 1st Year Academy pupils, and Mr Findlater agreed to speak to Mr McKay to arrange distribution.

The emergency information refrigerator pots for the elderly would be

distributed in June/July.

9. Report from the Press Scrutiniser

It had been noted by several members that there had been a good deal of publicity over the £500 donation from Aggregate Industries following the involvement of the Community Council in the planning process for the One2One telephone mast. It was hoped to use the money to buy trolleys for the tables in the village hall.

10. Aberdeenshire News

Cllr Leitch said that the street lighting columns in Bremner Way were to be replaced.

Bain's Coaches are to take over the Kemnay-Inverurie-Oldmeldrum service.

He also commented on the drug testing centre in Gallowgate, the young runaways protocol, the victim support AGM, and the need to tie in housing support with the care package.

The Health and Social Services Partnership for Aberdeen and Moray had held talks with the Minister on delayed discharges from hospitals.

An anti-bullying strategy for mentally handicapped people is being developed and a meeting was held in Macduff.

He had attended a discussion of the Cairngorm Housing Forum concerned with the new National Park taking over the responsibility for planning in the Cairngorm area.

Two SNP councillors have resigned and so there will be by-elections in their seats.

A nursery is being opened in Kemnay Primary School.

11. Planning Applications

There were no contentious planning applications. Mr Evans had been unable to see what alterations were planned for the medical centre, but thought they were minor. Alterations to the Old Schoolhouse, a listed building, were mostly interior.

The application for a house at Dalmadilly, discussed last month, had been rejected. It was noted that there had been an application for a four bedroom house on the derelict site opposite the village hall.

12. Correspondence

Various circulars had been distributed. A letter had been received from the Area Manager noting the Community Council's support of the skatepark project, and the possibility of erecting youth shelters.

The village hall AGM was to be held on 1st July. Mrs Wainman would represent the Community Council's views.

A draft paper on Aberdeenshire Sports Strategy 2002 - 2005 had been received, and can be found on the internet at www.aberdeenshire-sports-council.org.uk. A public meeting will be held on 18th June at 7.30 pm in Inverurie Town Hall Small Hall.

Nominations for the positions of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Garioch Area Community Council had been invited. It was agreed to support Professor Bridges' nomination should he be prepared to stand for re-election.

A questionnaire on the effect of fireworks on animals had been received from the SSPCA. Although it specifically asked whether complaints had been received, and there had been none as such, there were a number of comments made at the meeting and it was agreed that a response should be made.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 27th June 2002 at 7.30 pm in the Wainman Room, Kemnay Village Hall.