

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 30TH OF OCTOBER 2003 AT 7.30PM IN KEMNAY VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cdr C. Hunneyball, Miss S. Taylor, Mrs S. Milton, Mrs M. Wainman,
Dr R. Dunham, Dr J. Piggins, Mr I. Morgan, Mr B. Blackwood & Mrs J. Newberry

Attending: Inspector D. Allan, Cllr G. Saluja, Cllr A. Leitch & Mr J. Sorrie (Inverurie Herald)

1. Welcome – Chairman’s opening comments
2. Apologies for absence – Mr P. Findlater, Mr A. Hinton, Mr D. Evans, Mr A. Thomson,
Mr A. Davies & Ms H. Al-Kowarri.
3. **Police Matters** – Inspector Allan updated us on matters on Kemnay over the previous 4 months (11 reported crimes in September and 22 in October) which there have been very few but unfortunately have included a couple of serious crimes in Kemnay. The Police office has been targeted on several occasions and 2 people have been arrested in connection with the garage and car arson and 2 further people arrested for the office break-in. Of all the reported crimes over this time about 50% of them were acts of vandalism. There have been no further developments on the handbag snatch on the High Street at this time. Regarding the incident in which an older woman was knocked over by some children, the children involved did stay with her whilst she recovered but she later discovered that her purse was missing, at this time nothing more to report. The accident on Bremner Way where a child was knocked down the driver was not found at fault so no charge made. The Indian takeaway – Tandoori Uno, on Station Road has had its front door smashed. A man was arrested in this vicinity around the time in possession of a baseball bat but at this time, Inspector Allan has no more information to give. This is the second time in 18 months that they have had an act of Vandalism on their premises the first being a very serious incident that lead to their tandoori ovens being vandalised. On a brighter note – the police will be holding another event in conjunction with the safety group for ‘lights on bikes’, which proved very successful at the start of the year. The police will be stamping peoples bikes and giving away £5 vouchers for either lighting or better security for your bike, around 30 – 40 bikes are stolen a year so prevention is very important. Our local foot patrol officer has been introducing himself to people around the village and this seems to be going very well.
4. Minute of Meeting held on 29th of September 2003

Adoption Proposed – Mrs Susan Milton
Seconded – Mr Bill Blackwood

5. Matters Arising from the Minute

- a. Toilet Facilities at Bogbeth Park update - no further developments on this. Aberdeenshire Council are looking into funding for this. It has been agreed in principle but no budget, this could be a long drawn out process whilst funds are found to provide this facility.
- b. Induction Day for New Community Council Members - Very informative event and found to be beneficial to all who attended. Cdr Hunneyball explained that it was not only extremely good but that tremendous thought and effort had been put into the evening. It covered everything a community councillor would want to know. The next evening training session is organised for the 18th of November on the planning process, names for this to be submitted to Sheila as soon as possible.
- c. Kemnay Village Sports Day 2004 - Nothing new to report on this at this time and as yet no date has been set for the event. This is to be left open and Janet Newberry will report to us on any further developments once her work on the bonfire event is over.
- d. Water Consultation Panel - Huntly 14th October - No-one was free to attend for Kemnay Community Council however Cllr Saluja was there and informed us that it was mostly attended by Councillors and council officials with a few members of the public. As a watchdog of the water industry and not the water authority itself ran it, it was mostly to air peoples concerns and ask questions rather than a question and answer session. Most concerns were regarding the suitability of the private water supply and as Aberdeenshire is one of the largest suppliers the question of the level of quality of water supplied. Another issue that was discussed was the rates charged to charitable organisations for their water supply,
- e. Website Update - The website is now updated and the members names has been put on the site. Only Cdr Hunneyball as Chairman and Miss Taylor as secretary have contact details on the site but it was discussed whether everyone should have their details displayed as a community contact. Sheila is to ask all the members what information they would allow to be put on the website and get their consent.
- f. Scottish Rural Partnership Fund - This is a very complicated three-part document on funding a particular project. However, it also requires that however much you ask them to grant you for your project, you must raise 50% of the total cost of the project yourself. As yet we have not identified a suitable project for this funding, we will continue to look into this with the input of other local groups but will remove it from the agenda until the March meeting. It was also suggested that information on this fund be publicised in the newsletter in either December or January to highlight it to members of the community.
- g. Bus Forum meeting 29/09/03 - Report from Cdr Hunneyball follows -

220 Service

There have been problems with the 1615 and 1800 services from Aberdeen, being so overcrowded that some passengers have been unable to board. Particular concern was expressed about children being unable to travel. Stagecoach will look at putting on double

decker now, and possibly an extra service, but the lead-time required means this could not be implemented until after Christmas. Stagecoach claimed to be unaware of the problem; although their ticketing machines could provide usage data, there were so many services that they did not examine them unless there was a particular reason. They had no data about passengers unable to board, as this relied upon reports from drivers.

Mr Bain (Stagecoach) agreed that it was unacceptable for passengers to have to stand all the way from Kemnay to Aberdeen, as routinely happened on the 0715 service.

Following comments at the last meeting, the late bus from Aberdeen to Kemnay was being retained.

Mr Bain suggested that any complaints be made to Stagecoach on Aberdeen 591381.

Disability Access

There were no plans at present to provide disabled access to buses on the route, although this would happen in due course. Obviously, all buses on the route had to be changed at the same time, as otherwise the disabled might find themselves unable to take the return bus. Aberdeenshire Council was raising kerbs at bus stops, but had no authority to dictate that the bus company change buses, as it would be financially impossible to change them all together.

Multi Operator Ticketing

Plans for this were progressing, but would have little impact on Kemnay residents, as the relevant only interchange would be at Inverurie. It could be useful for anyone travelling west from Inverurie, but it would probably be quicker to wait for a direct (?) bus to Aberdeen.

- h. Tipping of rubbish at Aquithie Road – As this appears to be the Council and in particular, the roads department Ian Rendall has been contacted regarding this. As yet it has not been established who owns the land that this is on. Sheila is to contact the local farmer to see if this is on his ground or if the council own this stretch.
- i. Red Car in car park – now removed by the owner along with another car they also had there.
- j. Petrol Station update – Robbie Dow has bought it but as yet, no one is sure what his plans for development are here.
- k. Wood Gardens / Kendal Road – wall – Ian Fowell has looked into this and the long and short of it all is that they do not own the road nor have they adopted it so if we want it repaired we will have to do so ourselves by applying for CC Project Grant Fund Form. Cdr Hunneyball is to get the 3 quotes and submit the form on the Community Council's behalf. See below a summary of the email received from Mr Fowell

I have looked into the matter of the wall at Kendall Road/Wood Gardens, which is in need of repair. The path in question (like a number of paths in that area, and many more across Aberdeenshire) has not been adopted by the Council as a public footpath and so is not due to be maintained by the Roads Service. Repair of the damaged wall is therefore the responsibility of the owners. You might recall that I said I would explore whether repairing

the wall and bringing the path up to adoptable standard might provide a permanent solution, as the Council could then be asked to adopt it and maintain it in future. I have looked into this option and discovered that unfortunately the path could not be adopted after repair as it is not constructed to an adequate specification and turning circle is inadequate. The only other suggestion I can make is for the Community Council to consider arranging for the repair of the wall themselves, and applying for a Community Council Project Grant. Clearly the Community Council (like Aberdeenshire Council) would not want to set a precedent which opens the flood gates to become responsible for every private or unadopted path or road in your area, but I have the impression you feel there is a particular set of circumstances in this case which might merit you taking on the repair as a Community Council project. Any application for a CC project grant would need to be considered by the Area Committee, and I cannot guarantee the outcome. I am sure they will have concerns about precedent, so a clear statement of the reasons why these circumstances are special (eg, the level of public use, if the wall is dangerous or particularly unsightly, etc) will be very important. They would also want to know what steps have been taken to contact the owners and, of course, have the standard 3 estimates for the work. I attach an application form for use if you want to go down the grant route and, if an application were to reach me by 18 November then I could take it to the Area Committee on 4 December (the following meeting being into January)

6. Unfinished Business

- a. Youth Café plans / update – Funding is now all in place however the tenders are still being looked at as it is understood that they are higher than anticipated. The hope was that the work would all be completed by Christmas. Hopefully we will know more at our next meeting.
- b. Glebe Obstruction – It is still there almost a year on. Ian Fowell is still looking into this but Cllr Saluja suggested we also contact Torquil MacLeod (Enforcement Officer) to get involved in this matter.
- c. Aberdeenshire Local Plan – The date has been set for Kemnay Community Council to put its case on the 3rd of February 2004. We have also been asked to voice our support on three items for which we had submitted our agreement on already. More details on this matter will follow at the next meeting.
- d. Broadband for the Village Update – Nothing much more to report here other than the registrations have reached 350.
- e. Community Council Constitution Update – A copy of the revised community council constitution has been circulated to each member and any comments/suggestions/amendments are to be submitted to Cdr Hunneyball by the 14th of November. It then has to go to Aberdeenshire Council to endorse it and Cdr Hunneyball would like this all to be concluded by our AGM in March.
- f. Swimming Pool Association update – nothing new to report awaited date of their next meeting.

7. New Business

- a. Aberdeenshire Design Awards – Correspondence received and circulated to each member. This award consists of 6 categories: housing, business, conservation, rural landscape development, craftsmanship and sustainability. Projects entered for the landscape category must have been completed within the past 5 years and in the other categories within the last 2 years. Nominations for this must be submitted by the 20th of February 2004. As no ideas for nominations could be thought of at this time it was suggested that members think about this and we discuss it at our meeting in November.

8. Report from Mr P. Findlater on the Safety Group – although Mr Findlater could not attend this meeting he put in a report which was kindly read by Cdr Hunneyball as follows:

Safety Group Report

1. Drugs and Alcohol Abuse - Corporate Action Plan

A lot of work is being done on countering the effects of drug and alcohol abuse, and a Corporate Action Plan has been produced. This contains details of the ongoing initiatives.

There are three aims:

- a. Young People

There are listed all the agencies and plans to counter drug abuse by the young, which includes such obvious measures as education in schools, as well as many other initiatives. Kemnay Youth Centre gets a mention, and has been awarded a grant of £10,500 from Aberdeenshire Drugs Forum. It would seem from the figures given that all funding required is now in place.

- b. Communities

The intentions are, inter alia, to strengthen and protect communities from drug related crime, support partnerships between professionals and local people, promote drug awareness in the workplace, develop constructive alternatives to prosecution and imprisonment of offenders, and ensure drug misuse is addressed within the wider context of area regeneration and social inclusion.

- c. Treatment

Here the aims are to reduce health risks to individuals and communities, reduce the number of drug users, reduce the incidence of injecting, and reduce number of drug related deaths, improve the access to appropriate treatment, and increase the proportion of those in contact with the services.

2. Childline Scotland

A new centre is opening in Aberdeen, and badly needs funds and support. They have also produced an information sheet on bullying for the benefit of teachers and others working with young people.

3. Car Security
A selection of labels to hang on rear view mirrors has been proposed, with the intention of deterring car thieves.
4. Unsolicited Callers
Grampian Police have produced a notepad for people to record details of unsolicited callers, with the telephone number to ring in the event of one appearing. It is not known what is intended regarding distribution.
5. Emergency Name Tags
A sample of a wrist strap, on which could be written contact details of the wearer, was shown. It was said to be extremely strong and unlikely to come off, and could be a useful identification feature for anyone who indulged in
 9. Press Reports – unfortunately focusing on the crime and vandalism in Kemnay and by Kemnay residents.
10. Aberdeenshire News – Cllr Leitch informed us of several items throughout the course of our meeting and he mentioned a healthy eating campaign for schools. He is also involved now with the Youth Festival Committee. He also updated us on the outline plans for a new medical centre to be situated on the Village green, this is merely a proposal at this stage and by no means is a firm plan. As it is still very much in the early days. No point in discussing this further he assures us that a lot more dialogue will follow as this proposal develops.
11. Planning Applications – 6 planning applications but none are contentious and we have no objections to any of them.
13. Correspondence- All in circulation.
14. A.O.C.B – The sign for the Loaves & Fishes is still not up yet – Cllr Leitch advised us it is in a queue and will be done shortly, there is a backlog of signs to be done. The doggy bin at Fyfe Park which was set alight (when full) is still to be tidied up over a week since the incident; this has been reported to Aberdeenshire Council. The Car Park opposite the Village Hall – the trees appear to have been badly hacked down instead of pruned, who is responsible for this devastation? They are in a shocking mess – Mr Rose to be asked if he is aware who did this. Light Pollution from the driving range – is there a reason for this much light or are the lights just badly positioned? A letter to the owner is to be done. Cllr Leitch was informed of the hole in Kendal Road and the missing signs on both the High Street and on Riverside Road beside the bridge have been reported.
15. Date of Next Meeting 27th of November 2003