

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 31st October 2019 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall

Present: Bill Blackwood (Chair); Gaenor Berkin (Vice Chair), Sue Wainman; Margaret Basley; Claire Stewart(Acting Secretary); Lee Aitken; William Irvine

Attending: Rob Mackay, Kemnay Futures; Lorna Forsyth, CLD; Richard Lamplugh

Apologies: Fran Patrick; John Whittall; David Carlin; Marie Glendinning; Suzanne Bunton; Cllr H Smith;

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES - The Chair welcomed those attending and gave apologies as above.

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/AUDIO RECORDINGS - W Blackwood and C Stewart declared an interest in one of the planning applications (Ref. No: APP/2019/2341).

3 MINUTES OF MEETING 26th September 2019 - Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by S Wainman, seconded by L Aitken.

4 CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER - Richard Lamplugh was unanimously voted on to Kemnay Community Council as a co-opted member.

5 POLICE MATTERS – Police Report for October was received and circulated. Crime remains low in the village, although mention was made of several crimes relating to theft from insecure vehicles and entering insecure dwellings in neighbouring beats. Police Scotland would like to remind all members of the public the importance of ensuring that your property (including vehicles) are locked when not being used or unoccupied.

6 KEMNAY ACADEMY PUPIL REPORT – None.

7 GUEST SPEAKER – Lorna Forsyth, CLD Organisational Health Check and Action plan circulated by Lorna, who offered 2 and half hour workshop with other organisations in a skills programme to reach out to the community and gain new members to join the community council and to network with other organisations. The Christmas lights switch on was also an opportunity to advertise the community organisations and the council, which will take place on the 29th of November at 3.45pm at the Village hall, everyone welcome.

8 KEMNAY RESILIENCE – There will be a practice on Wednesday, the 6th of November, at 10am at the bus stop beside Kembhill Park. Equipment will be set up and people are allowed to observe from afar but must not speak to the team or touch equipment while it is being set up.

9 OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK – none.

10 MATTERS ARISING:

a) **Kemnay Community Action Plan** – Rob Mackay spoke to KCC about the Kemnay Futures project, which was initiated in 2015 by Aberdeenshire Council. After consultation across the community, a wide range of issues and concerns was identified and are being looked at by the Kemnay Futures Steering Group, with support provided by Dawn Brown of Garioch Partnership. The Kemnay Community Action Plan was first published in March 2017. The current Community Action Plan has 23 Actions, 12 of which have either been achieved or made progress (eg. KVH now a SCIO, the development of maps for Kemnay, the establishment of Gym 83). There are a further 10 Actions which come under Future Opportunities (eg. Kemnay's Men's Shed; pedestrian crossing at the academy). The accessibility and maintenance of the Place of Origin was one Action where there has been a decline in standards, so it is felt that more energetic action is required.

Rob pointed out that the Kemnay Futures project and its Plan of Action offer a process whereby individual concerns and problems are identified and remedies sought, usually with the assistance of a number of agencies. He commended the Plan of Action to KCC and expressed the hope that the Community Council would support the actions identified and help achieve them.

b) **Parking issues** – no feedback yet from newsletter page. Nothing new on social media and no change so far in behaviour of pavement parkers. The cycle rack is still not in place in the Aquithie Road Car Park. Residents are still concerned at parking on the pavement outside the Co-op (Station Road) and have spoken to community PC. Drivers will be seriously at risk of Police action. Residents encouraged to take photos of cars parked on pavements and to send them into the police. Also, school transport seems to be an issue in terms of safety and KCC will contact Aberdeenshire council to clarify the routes the buses should be taking. The speed of school transport around Bremner way and along Aquithie Road is also cause for concern.

c) **Place of Origin** – W Blackwood and S Wainman met with John Maine, one of the artists who designed PoO. John was clear that the site features were meant to be seen and talked about by those visiting the site, the trees species were chosen to give the paths tree edges and not bushes/nettles/willowherb/sticky willy to be fought through and that the tree species were planted to reflect the layers found in a natural mountain range. Steep and gentle gradients options were deliberately included. His first recommendation is the removal of all broom so the stones and paths can be seen, with the beech also being trimmed to the trunk to a height of 7 foot. This is a huge amount of work and 2023 would be a good target year to have the work complete and a continuing maintenance programme started as work on site started in 1998. The main barrier to volunteer effort is the disposal of the broom so as to not create a fire hazard. W Blackwood suggested that perhaps a quad bike could be used to move the broom to the car park. Not yet discussed within Friends of the Place of Origin, but KCC likely to be asked to help with securing Greenbelt/Aberdeenshire Council support. (**Action:** S.Wainman, in conjunction with the Secretary, to write to Aberdeenshire Council and the Greenbelt Company informing them of the Artist's vision.)

e) **Remembrance Day** - C Stewart will lay the wreath on behalf of Aberdeenshire Council in the place of Cllr Smith.

11 TREASURER REPORT - Report previously circulated by J Whittall.

12 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

a) **Current planning applications** - 2 applications submitted - Ref. No: APP/2019/2341; Ref. No: APP/2019/2249. No comment was submitted on either.

b) **Local Development Plan** - It would appear that the Depot Strategy is stalled due to issues with the Thainstone expansion, so Birley Bush Depot is likely to remain until 2026 at least.

13 REPORTS

a) **Public Access Defibrillators (PADs)** - New pads are being ordered for all the defibrillators because they have expired. Karen and John are working together to have these ordered and restocked as soon as possible

b) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** - No update

c) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – No meeting

d) **Community Planning** – first meeting for the 'Westhill Strategic Needs Assessment' has been held. There were 30 people discussing the topics and feeding back with local knowledge and ideas. Concerning information on the uptake of free school meals and related eligibility for clothing grants, etc. from primary to secondary school. Information and possible solutions gathered.

e) **Greener Kemnay** - Lots of bulbs planted. No youth shed yet. Kemnay Public Art Project – James Winnett, our Public Artist, has attended several more groups and is to go out with the Buggy Walk. He will be giving a talk and showing video of his previous work at Greener Kemnay AGM, 12th November, 7.30pm in Kemnay Village Hall. He will be using a large map and small stones to find out where people would like to have the way makers placed and work these into layers of interpretation; site lines in the landscape are important to him, as well as the history of the area. Purple for Polio Rotary crocus bulbs will be planted on Sat, 1st November at the quarry gate.

f) **Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP)** - No meeting

g) **KAPC** - The School Estates Team has offered to meet the Parent Council - the school roll stands at 930 and is still expected to reach 1100 by 2021, Kinellar's current P7 will be able to choose Inverurie or Kemnay next year. Bus reliability is still a concern and creating an increase in workload for KA staff; there is concern at the congestion on Bremner Way caused by so many school buses at the end of the school day – fears that an accident could happen.

Kemnay Academy has been selected along with 3 other Aberdeenshire Schools to receive support from The Wood Foundation - this is practical cooperation between school and all sections of business, with a dedicated liaison person employed to work on this project with Kemnay Academy for 32 months.

h) Press Reports – Report on an incident at the Burnett Arms; Report on the Kintore Knackery re-commissioning; Agile Energy Recovery has submitted a proposal of application for a site at Kirkwood Commercial Park to build a low carbon facility (consultations to be held at Kintore primary, Dec 3 6.30-9pm, Port Elphinstone Community house, Dec 4 4.40-8.30pm and Acorn Centre, Dec 5 4.30-8.30pm). Will this affect the Tullos project the shire is committed to?

14 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS – No AC Councillors present, but C Stewart will lay the wreath supplied by Aberdeenshire Council to KCC in place of Cllr Smith and G Berkin will also donate and lay an additional one on behalf of the Community Council. There was a query by a community councillor that if Aberdeenshire Council is providing one for Kemnay, why is Kemnay providing its own wreath? Both wreathes will be laid at the war memorial on Sunday the 10th of November at 11 o'clock.

15 CORRESPONDENCE

a) Correspondence from the Council - was circulated prior to the meeting.

- Kemnay Community Council Action Plan
- Community Engagement
- Community Council Scheme of Establishment, Light Touch Review
- Reply to e-mail sent about parking situation on Station Road from Scott Walker, Principal Roads Engineer

b) General Correspondence Received - was circulated prior to the meeting.

16 OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK

L Aitken mentioned that Alehousewells primary school is struggling for parents to volunteer and help with the parent council. The Halloween disco had to be cancelled because they had no one to help run it. Urgent appeal to keep the parent council going and they need parents to take part.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 28th November, 7.30pm, Kemnay Village Hall