

KEMNAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2016

ACTION

**Present:** Sheila Simpson (Chair), David Evans, Douglas Laing, Margaret Basley, Kate Rigby, Bob Ingram, Bill Blackwood, Janet Newberry, Rob Mackay, Sasha Bryden, Gavin Adam, Gaenor Berkin, Hazel Smith, Sue Wainman

**Attending:** 17 members of the public, Cllr. Sheena Lonchay

1. Welcome: The Chairman welcomed those present.
2. Apologies for Absence: Vaila Spencer, Cllr. Pat Oddie, Cllr. Allison Grant
3. Police Matters: A Police Scotland report was available for the period from 28 January to 25 February 2016. There was not a Police Officer present at the meeting. Three episodes of vandalism were reported, as well as thefts from cars.
4. Kemnay Academy pupil report: Sasha Bryden reported that there is to be an open community event at the Academy on 23<sup>rd</sup> March from 2 – 5 p.m. The Rector will be enforcing school uniform regulations and there is a focus on anti-bullying strategies at the present time.
5. Opportunity of the members of the public to speak: Hilda Hart spoke about the experience of Positive Steps Kemnay in running Health Walks and the importance of attracting Paths for All funding for new paths in Kemnay. She doubted that using Paths for All money to fund the building of a new car park was appropriate use of that particular fund. Mike Middler expressed concern about the reduction of funding for public bodies.
6. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved – Proposed by Hazel Smith, Seconded by Bob Ingram.
7. Matters Arising:
  - a) Tree Maintenance – there is an ongoing process with the Housing Dept. about this issue.
  - b) Factoring group – The Chair had no further information and is waiting the Minutes from the last meeting.
  - c) Defibrillators – Rob Mackay had circulated a report with information from the Mid-Deeside Project about the type of defibrillator, the costs involved and volunteer recruitment & training. Sheila Simpson had been in contact with Dr Glennie who requested to be kept informed as to developments. Sheena Lonchay informed the meeting that the Sandpiper Trust has launched the Wildcat project and is about to make appointments to 3 posts to work in this area and will co-operate with the Fire Brigade. **Sheena Lonchay to find name of contacts.**  
The meeting agreed to press ahead with this project with the aim of having an additional 2 -3 defibrillators located in the Kemnay area. Bob Ingram as the Safety representative agreed to co-ordinate our efforts and to liaise with the Mid-Deeside Project, the Sandpiper Trust and Dr Glennie.
8. Kemnay Floods  
Paul Hendy, Scottish Floods Forum, addressed the meeting as an invited speaker. He indicated that his free advice sessions have now been moved back to Thursday evenings from 6 – 8 p.m. Paul indicated he can provide a free Flood Survey. He indicated that protection is provided through community protection and/or house protection. Bulk purchase of barrier products for houses is a possibility. Paul indicated that it is very important that affected houses be thoroughly dried out and any laminate boarding needs to be removed. He suggested that it is important to involve residents to find a workable solution. The meeting was reminded that a grant of £1,500 is available to householders affected by the floods and this is administered through Aberdeenshire Council.

The question was asked as to whether there will be key holders for the local respite centre- the Chair replied that a Village Emergency Plan is to be formulated and this will include the arrangements for the opening of the respite centres in the village.

In relation to the flooding on Stewart Crescent Hamish Simpson suggested that the gullies are still blocked and he asked for an update on the actions that Doug Milne had agreed to undertake at the last meeting. Sheena Lonchay indicated that Doug Milne has submitted his report which is now part of the Garioch Flood Action Plan and this can be found on the Aberdeenshire Council website ("Council & Democracy"). This is to be considered by the Garioch Area Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> March at Gordon House.

#### 9. Kemnay Futures

Sue Wainman spoke about the open event that is to be taking place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February when it is hoped people will come to the Village Hall and share what they like about living in Kemnay and indicate areas for future development. These comments and the yellow feedback forms will be analysed and will be the basis for planning the next event. This will be more orientated to looking at action points and community development initiatives similar to what has happened in Inch (e.g. Inspiring Inch).

#### 10. Car Park & Paths Developments

- a) The Chair reported on a request by David Fyffe, Fetternear Estates for the funding of a new car park through the Community Council applying for a Paths for All grant; Sheila Simpson had checked with Paths for All and they indicated that their funding does not extend to car parks. She had advised David Fyffe of this and of possible alternative funding sources.
- b) Rob Mackay on behalf of Positive Steps Kemnay and Greener Kemnay reported on current plans to develop two paths; the first is to create a path that would connect the existing riverside path to the pavement that runs past Kemnay Academy on Bremner Way and the second is to create a path on the grass verge that runs between the turn-off to Dalmadilly and the turn-off to the Tom Forrest Quarry road. Hazel Smith, with reference to the one by Bremner Way, queried the materials to be used, as the new path would join onto a pavement. She also asked about the maintenance of these paths. David Evans wished for more precise information as to the exact routes these paths would take and suggested the use of OS Grid references. The meeting wished these proposals well.

#### 11. Planning Developments

- a) Bogbeth Road development – KCC objection was withdrawn on the basis that the applicant has now conceded that Bogbeth Road will be the main access to the site and has submitted revised plans proposing that Bogbeth Road will be widened to 5.5 mtrs. with the addition of a 2.0 mtr. wide footpath on the east side of the road. There will also be a pedestrian crossing at the Skatepark that will link with the path through Bogbeth Park, which leads to Kemnay Primary School and High Street. Concerns about possible drainage issues have also been addressed. Lack of road widening and footpath provision formed the main basis of KCC objection. It is understood that a site visit is to be undertaken and that the Garioch Area Committee will make a decision on this application at its March meeting.
- b) Milton Farm – the applicant has withdrawn the application for 3 houses on this site. KCC had previously objected to this application.
- c) Bennachie Lodge – 8 town houses. There was a concern re the lack of neighbour notification and so David Evans had produced and delivered information to 20 houses. It was understood that there have been 15 objections to this development. The meeting took note of the recent flooding problems on the area between Kirkstyle Garage and the Bennachie Lodge and concern was expressed that the proposed drainage and sewage capacity may be insufficient. The meeting considered the design to be out of character with the surrounding area. The meeting took the decision to OBJECT to this application.

12. Arrangements for A.G.M. on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

It was agreed that the A.G.M. would be advertised through the use of flyers and postings on the Website page and the Facebook page. Additional members can be co-opted onto the Community Council.

13. 'Save Bennachie Campaign'

This relates to the consultation being conducted by Transport Scotland on plans to dual the A96. The current consultation is concerned with potential route selection and the 'Save Bennachie Campaign' is unhappy that Option C would infringe on Bennachie to its great detriment. The meeting agreed that the Community Council would add their support to this campaign and agreed to join. **Sheila Simpson to offer support on behalf of the Community Council.**

14. Reports

- a) Safety - Promoting Road Safety in Schools. £100 donated by Westhill & Skene Lions Club to be used to buy pencils, pens and rulers with Police Scotland logos on them. These items will be handed out during talks on road safety. Public Access Defibrillators (PADS). 18 members of Monymusk community have received training from the Mid Deeside First Responders and the external cabinet and power supply has been fitted. The Garioch Community Planning Group time was spent discussing the flooding damage, future flooding response and flood prevention issues.
- b) GACF meets next week when it will be discussing the integration of the Police and Fire services.
- c) Community Planning – an updated report by Jill Sowden was considered. The Chair asked for a nomination to replace her on this group.
- d) Press Report – noted that Foundation Scotland has published details of how both individuals affected by flooding and also organisations who are providing assistance may apply to them for grants. Aberdeenshire Council have published the proposed Local Development Plan Supplementary Guidance; this includes recommended practice for Developer Obligations and Local Nature Conservation Sites.

15. Aberdeenshire Council

Sheena Lonchay reported that the Council's budget has been set. She anticipates that this won't involve losing staff but probably vacant posts will not be filled. Sheena stated that the interviews for the Head Teacher post at Alehousewells Primary School are coming up shortly.

16. Correspondence – there was no item to report.

17. AOCB – **Chair's Report:** Sheila Simpson reminded the meeting that she is demitting office after the AGM and that a new Chair will need to be appointed; a £1,000 has been donated by a member of the public to be used only for the purchase of a defibrillator; the Public Liability insurance policy is being renewed; she complained about the poor level of service offered by BT Openreach based on a recent personal experience; on the issue of housing developers not always adhering to the undertakings they make during the planning process, the chair had written to the Scottish Govt. on this point, as well as to Aberdeenshire council and this letter is now on the Scottish Government website (<https://ideas.scotland.gov.uk/independent-review-of-planning>) ; the chair also suggested that the Community Council should keep the practice of inviting speakers to our monthly meetings.

**Community Councillors' comments** – Margaret Basley referred to the erection of a large steel structure located on the back road to Kintore, the meeting were unsure as to whether this would be within the boundary of this Community Council; Gavin Adams referred again to an overhanging tree at Burnhervie and wondered why it had not been removed, he agreed to e-mail Sheena Lonchay with details; David Evans suggested that a SEPA representative should be invited to a future meeting of KCC; Bob Ingram reported he had observed vehicles on the Dalmadilly Road clearing the ditches; Sue Wainman suggested another potential speaker could be Doug Milne, Area Manager on the progress of Flood Protection measures – Sue also reported on the ongoing efforts of Greener Kemnay to secure

Agreement with Aberdeenshire Council on the establishment of community allotments on the Birley Bush site; Rob Mackay expressed regret that Aberdeenshire Council have decided to withdraw their financial support for the Gordon Way and indicated his intention to resign as Secretary at the A.G.M.

18. Date of A.G.M. & Next Meeting     **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016**