

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 25th March 2021 7.30 pm, virtually via Zoom

Present: Bill Blackwood (Chair); Fran Patrick (Secretary); John Whittall (Treasurer); Pauline Paterson; Sue Wainman; Margaret Basley; Richard Lamplugh; Lee Aitken; Suzanne Bunton; Sasha Brydon

Apologies: Gaenor Berkin (Vice Chair); David Carlin; Kayleigh Wallace; Claire Stewart; Cllr Smith; Cllr Leslie

Attending: None

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

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/AUDIO RECORDINGS/VIRTUAL MEETING PROTOCOL – The Secretary reminded all present that anyone who wished to contribute to the discussion should raise their hand and be invited to speak by the Chair. W Blackwood declared an interest re a planning application and will remove himself from the meeting during discussion of this item.

3 MINUTES OF MEETING 27th February 2021 – Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by S Wainman, seconded by R Lamplugh.

4 POLICE MATTERS – Police Reports have been received and circulated. Sgt Denham has been contacted with concerns raised re apparent reporting inconsistencies Kemnay remains an area of low crime, with 3 reported incidents of Covid breaches/Youth disorder. However, disappointment and some anger expressed by KCC members re the situation of young people gathering and causing a nuisance that is leading to the removal of a well-used bench at the river by Boat Croft **The Police again urge that all incidents are reported to them on 101 or via Crimestoppers on 0500 555111. (Action: F Patrick to contact Sgt Denham for more input and perhaps finding a better solution to this situation.)**

5 KEMNAY RESILIENCE AND COVID RESPONSE – a) The Community Resilience Sub-committee has re-convened and had a very productive first meeting. The Community Resilience Plan has been reviewed and it was felt that the public access defibrillators (PADs) might also be better placed under the umbrella of resilience planning. The motion to move the PADs account under the Resilience Sub-committee was proposed by S Bunton and Seconded by R Lamplugh and agreed unanimously. **(Action: F Patrick to inform Karen Stewart, PADs Co-ordinator)** The CRP now takes a much wider approach to community resilience, including not only preparedness for a major event such as flooding, but also health emergencies and crises like the current Covid-19 pandemic. The CR Sub-committee also discussed the way forward for *Lend a Hand Kemnay* and the possible transition to a Community Hub. Some provisional work has been done on this, but all is dependent on funding. An application is being sent to the Scottish Government Adapt & Thrive Fund and one or two other potential funding streams have been identified.

b) Community councillors are encouraged to have a look at the courses available.

c) The recent fundraising campaign via JustGiving raised £1400, a remarkable amount. All donors have been thanked. Volunteers have come forward to check the units at Fyfe Park and the Golf Club.

d) Cllr Smith raised these issues at the recent Garioch Area Committee and asked the Secretary to pass on the outcome to KCC: Re Stuart Crescent – Aberdeenshire Council has now adopted the road, but not the drains due to ongoing issues; Re the Riverside Path – Ann Overton, Area Manager, suggests that walking groups in the village contact Susan Adams of the Garioch Partnership to see if she might be able to help with the path. There are further concerns that the path is being widened and getting muddier as people walking on either side of the damaged path, creating more damage. **(Action: F Patrick to find out if Riverside Path is on the Council's budget for the coming financial year.)**

6 OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK – None.

7 MATTERS ARISING:

a) Phoenix Fund – There has been a push from Aberdeenshire Council for some progress to be made, or for the funding to be relinquished. The deadline has been extended to December. Still quite difficult to know how to progress given the ongoing Covid-19 uncertainties. However, everyone who previously expressed an interest in the Phoenix Fund plan for Kemnay has been contacted, with the hope of getting an organising group together to push the initiative forward. L Forsyth, CLD, has suggested that some of the Fund could be used for signage around the village, matching that being considered by Greener Kemnay. **(Action: S Wainman to circulate the prototype GK is considering.)**

- b) Cllr Smith also raised the state of Leschangie Road with the Area Manager – an engineer is to do a full assessment of the road, but it was stressed that potholes will be repaired on a priority basis.
- c) The Christmas Lights Committee met recently and looked at various possible replacement (ex-hire) motifs, although the choice is limited due to the specifications set by Aberdeenshire Council. It is intended to have a rolling programme of motif replacement. An email is to be sent to all local businesses asking if they want to donate to the Christmas Lights Fund by ‘sponsoring’ a motif, in return the name of their business would be displayed on the relevant lamppost.
- d) Community Councillors are encouraged to comment on the amendments to the Scheme of Establishment highlighted in the email circulated prior to this meeting by the Secretary. (**Action:** F Patrick to add this item to next month’s agenda.)
- e) An update on the timeline for the Community Council elections has been circulated. The Secretary has not received the nomination forms yet, but the vacancy & nominations details are:

Vacancies	14
Nominations open	13 May 2021
Nominations close	3 June 2021
Date of Ballot (if required)	Week commencing 10 June 2021
Date of AGM	24 June 2021

8 TREASURER REPORT – No financial statement presented this month as this is the end of the financial year and the accounts are being prepared for audit. However, there have only been the usual, regular transactions and those associated with the operation of *Lend a hand Kemnay*.

9 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

- a) **Current planning applications** - No action to be taken on
- Erection of Garage**
Ref. No: APP/2021/0476 – Pitmunie Place
 - Erection of Dwellinghouse, Log Store and Alterations to Steading**
Ref. No: APP/2021/0410 – Burnside of Braco, Pitcaple
 - Demolition of Dwellinghouse and Erection of Replacement Dwellinghouse and Garage**
Ref. No: APP/2021/0527 – Leschangie, Kintore
- b) Understanding Planning – *Planning & Communities – Climate Change Café*
The presentations & discussion can be viewed at: <https://www.aberdeencimateaction.org>
The follow up meeting – *A Reporter’s Guide to Planning Appeals and Development Plans* is to be held on 30th March. W Blackwood is to attend.

10 REPORTS

- a) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – Although it has now no representative on this, KCC will still get agendas and minutes.
- b) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – No update available.
- c) **Community Planning** – Next week the community planning meeting is a joint one with AC Councillors and is to consider whether mental health and wellbeing has impacted groups/organisations and what needs to be done going forward. (**Action:** Any input on this should be shared with S Wainman prior to the meeting on 30th March.)
- d) **Greener Kemnay** – The Youth Shed at Birley Bush is being fixed and ten members of that group have been back in the garden, planting potatoes, etc. It is hoped to have an open Day later in the year. The green waste collections at Birley Bush depot will recommence on Saturday, 10th April, 8am-11am. (**Action:** F Patrick to post on Facebook.) Kemnay Primary has new raised beds and GK is going to give them some plants, although they are looking for more. Anyone with any plants to spare should contact Colin Ironside, janitor.
- e) **Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP)** - No meeting
- f) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** – The Academy is very concerned about accommodation as the academy is soon to be over 1000 pupils, which is well over its capacity. Many parents are not happy with the situation and a meeting has been called with officers from Aberdeenshire Council. Parent also want an update on the Kemnay-Kintore cycle route.
- g) **Press Reports** – The Bon-accord Steam Fair has been cancelled again this year; a report mentioned that the Edward vii statue in Aberdeen is made from Kemnay granite; Alex Still from Kemnay is doing very well in the indoor pentathlon.

11 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS – No councillors present.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Complimentary Places for online conference – ‘Scotland’s Housing to 2040’
- Scottish Community Councils Winter Newsletter
- Opportunity to work as a Poll Clerk
- Local Governance Review Update
- Community Council Elections 2021
- Community Council Scheme Forum – 15th March

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

- Email received from Connie Robertson, Oxfordshire, daughter of a former resident, seeking information on Kemnay School, circa 1922 (Passed on to Duncan Downie, who got in touch with her.)

13 OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK - *S Bunton*- noted that there is a lot of litter in certain places around the village, especially on the path down from the academy and at the metal shelter on the Green. When restrictions ease further, maybe there needs to be a litter picking event involving the schools (this had been on the cards prior to lockdown). It was pointed out that the village orderly had just started, so maybe a difference would be seen. *R Lamplugh* – The Place of origin is also bad for litter, should KCC purchase ‘litter picking kits’? If a litter picking event is to take place, it would ideally need to be done before the end of April. *J Whittall* – proposed an increase in the Secretary’s monthly stipend, to reflect the increase in workload. The Secretary expressed her thanks, but preferred that there should be no change.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 29th April, 2021, 7.30pm, virtually via Zoom