

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 28th April 2022 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall, with Zoom link available

Present: Gaenor Berkin (Chair); Lee Aitken (Vice Chair); Fran Patrick (Secretary); John Whittall (Treasurer); Margaret Basley; Claire Stewart (via Zoom); Pauline Paterson; Sue Wainman (via Zoom); Richard Lamplugh; Gabby Stevens; Suzanne Bunton; Cllr Smith

Apologies: Sasha Brydon; Dan Johnston

Attending: None

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

2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/AUDIO RECORDINGS/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.

3 MINUTES OF MEETING 31st March 2022 – Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by R Lamplugh, seconded by J Whittall.

4 POLICE MATTERS – Police Report circulated. No major issues. Concerns re speeding have been noted; a recent speed check has been done on Aquithie Road.

5 KEMNAY RESILIENCE AND COVID RESPONSE – a) Aberdeenshire Council has responded to request for help with identifying correct size/type of generator but is unable to offer practical support in the form of an electrical contractor who could carry out a survey of the Village Hall. Disappointing, as it means that all communities are on their own and each will need to find a local electrical contractor to do the survey for them, probably at a cost. SSEN has also been contacted, awaiting a call back. (**Actions:** Secretary to contact a local tradesman to carry out a survey of the Hall. Secretary to ask Alison Cummings to put this on the next CC Forum agenda, to find out what other communities are doing. Cllr Smith is to make enquiries across the Shire.)

Funding will also be an issue. The Kemnay Co-op has applied for and been awarded some funding on behalf of KCC's resilience efforts which can be used to help purchase a generator. The KCC Resilience Group is very grateful to the Co-op for this.

It was suggested that the Director of Infrastructure at Aberdeenshire Council be contacted to clarify the support being offered to communities at the frontline of resilience efforts as it was felt that AC must/should have information at hand re the power requirements of premises they are responsible for. (**Action:** Secretary to contact Head of Infrastructure Services.)

AES Solar has also been contracted and asked to give advice/a quote to install PV panels with battery storage.

Community Larder – time to have another food drive now that numbers using the Larder are increasing and it is running low on certain items. Lists of what is currently needed are posted on the Village Hall noticeboard and in the Co-op. F Patrick to look at the Arnold Clark Community Fund for additional financial support.

b) No issues.

c) S Wainman has contacted people in Stuart Crescent and has passed on information on tree planting, with the aim to alleviate any potential flooding from further up the hill. Briggs is still to have the contract for the Watergate deployment for another year – at an annual cost of £9000.

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

7 MATTERS ARISING:

a) **Speeding & Parking** – The police now have the information on speeding hotspots gained from the recent Facebook survey, and also issues raised on dangerous parking. Aberdeenshire Council has also been contacted re the possibility of getting a pedestrian crossing on Aquithie Road.

b) **Swing for Disabled Children** – Another type of 'basket' swing was proposed, which doesn't require straps (there has been an issue with straps going missing at other playparks). (**Action:** Secretary to find out more about this type of swing and possible sources of funding.)

c) **Twinning Request** – Decision that KCC not apply for this – it seemed more appropriate for a community with a closer link to John Stewart of Buchan, d 1424.

d) **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** – The Jubilee Trail is progressing. (**Action:** S Bunton to contact Louise Graham.)
Lamppost – after site visit, it was felt that it was not feasible to put metal band on the lamppost or get an inscription put on the granite plinth. However, the proposal to pursue the suggestion that an inscription be put on a small block of donated Kemnay granite, which could then be put in the flower bed by the lamppost, was unanimously agreed. The bed would also be planted up with appropriate flowers. (**Actions:** Secretary to find out if some funding might be available via the Garioch Area Committee and to inform Aberdeenshire Council of plans. Secretary to contact Fyfe Glenrock to accept quote.)

8 TREASURER REPORT

Accounts are being checked by J Newberry and will then need to be approved at KCC AGM in June. All accounts have healthy balances at the moment.

9 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

- a) **Current planning applications** – No action to be taken on
Alterations to Dwelling House
Bogbeth Brae Ref. No: APP/2022/0907
- b) Development Plan Scheme 2022 – there is to be an online meeting about this at the end of the month, but the plan is just in the process of going through. Already beginning to look at next Development Plan.
- c) In response to letter from KCC Chair, Aberdeenshire Council has confirmed that the 30MPH sign is to be moved further out of the village to Milton Farm. No reply yet to the query on the lack of pavement, which was a planning condition.
- d) Scheme of Governance Vote on Increase of Delegated Powers – For information. It was passed, with an amendment on the number of area councillor objections needed to trigger a referral, at the last full council meeting of the session.

10 REPORTS

- a) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – No update.
- b) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – No meeting.
- c) **Community Planning** – Discussion on NHS; discussion on next part of strategic needs assessment.
- d) **Greener Kemnay** – Posters going up about the meeting on energy issues to be held on Wednesday, 11th May in the Friendship Room. Hoping then to establish an energy sub-group. The Open Day at Birley Bush is on 14th May when there will be lots of activities to show people what is happening at Birley Bush. The GK leaflet is being revised. GK meetings now to be held at the Golf Club, at 7pm but may be held at Birley Bush in the summer. Radio Scotland presenter, Mark Stephens, paid a visit to Birley Bush – it is hoped that the piece on BB will go out on the 14th to coincide with the Open Day.
- e) **Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP)** – Good attendance at meeting. Proposal that the partnership move to have one per council area. Work going on the issues of loneliness and healthy eating.
- f) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** – **KAPC:** Cllr Smith gave an update on the Academy building work, being done to accommodate a rising roll and to provide more flexible accommodation. There will be an increase in practical work areas, an additional drama studio and workshop, replacement classrooms. Dining provision and bus parking are also to be considered. **KPPC** - meeting next week **APPC** – still to be contacted about possibility of a KCC representative. (**Action:** Secretary to contact APPC.)
- g) **Press Reports** – none
- h) **Additional Item – Christmas Lights:** Update given by L Aitken. The Christmas Lights group has met and looked at possible replacement motifs and discussed fundraising. There could be matched grant funding available from Aberdeenshire Council. R Lamplugh has contacted Aberdeenshire Council re the possibility of getting an electric connection to the trees on the Green as this would prevent the use – and disposal – of so many batteries. (**Action:** R Lamplugh to contact energy supplier to the Green.)

11 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS –

Cllr Smith: the foliage blocking sight lines at the Port Elphinstone roundabout has been reported and Bear Scotland is to deal with it. The Area Committee budget has been set at just over £50 000, with energy saving initiatives a priority. The deadlines for applications to this fund are 31st May and 31st October.
Money is available for tree planting. Scottish Water has contacted Cllr Smith with a survey, which she is going to answer fully, reporting all the issues with drains in the village. Attended a meeting where there was a presentation by the defibrillator charity Keiran's Legacy. (**Action:** Secretary to pass on this information to KCC PADs Co-ordinator.)
People being urged to follow Gulls Strategy guidelines and not throw out food for birds as this will attract gulls.
This potentially Cllr Smith's last meeting with KCC as councillor; she was thanked for her help and support over the past few years.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Car parking payments changes
- Community Test & Collect Locations Information
- Survey and Informal Chats with Rural and Islands Community Councillors
- Town Twinning Request

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

- Trading Standards Updates
- Healthcare Improvement Scotland Updates
- Response from Rosie Nicol, Belhelvie Community Trust, on types and cost of swings for disabled children
- Email received from a resident on Aquithie Rd about speeding issues
- Email received from a Monymusk resident about the use of solar panels (*KCC member has been in touch with Aberdeenshire Council and someone may attend a future meeting*)

13 **OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK** – *G Stevens*: questionnaire on online access will appear again in the Newsletter, people encouraged to respond; potholes at entrance to cemetery have been filled in again; could 'No Entry' be painted on the road on High Street at the middle junction? (**Action:** Secretary to contact Roads Dept.) *M Basley* – many damaged or rotted benches at Dalmadilly Ponds and also the gate at the smaller pond, the planter at the entrance to the big pond is also in disrepair. (**Action:** Chair is to contact Kris Bremner, Estates Manager at Breedon's.) *S Wainman*: Ian Mitchell, Landscape Services, has agreed that a couple of red-leaved apple trees could be planted at top of Bremner Way. *R Lamplugh* – Query on use and storage of community mobility scooter. (**Action:** R Lamplugh to pass details to Secretary who will find out about this.)

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 28th May 2022, 7.30pm,
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