

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall, with Zoom link available

**Present:** Gaenor Berkin (Chair); Lee Aitken (Vice Chair); Fran Patrick (Secretary); Margaret Basley; Pauline Paterson; Sue Wainman; Richard Lamplugh; Suzanne Bunton; Daniel Johnston; Gabby Stevens; Cllr Smith(via Zoom)

**Apologies:** John Whittall (Treasurer); Sasha Brydon; Kayleigh Wallace

**Attending:** Three members of the public

**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 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021** – Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by S Wainman, seconded by D Johnston

**4 POLICE MATTERS** – Police Report circulated. Incidents of crime continue to be low in Kemnay.

**5 KEMNAY RESILIENCE AND COVID RESPONSE** – a) Community Resilience Plan still to be finalised, but an inventory and check have been carried out on the resilience equipment stored in the Village Hall. The Community Larder is operating well – a reminder that anyone can use, or simply just support, the Larder by becoming a Friend for a £5 annual fee.

b) PADs: Monthly report received. Three volunteers are now regularly checking the five units. No issues, but still no reply from the resident at Benview Residential Village who requested a unit be installed there.

c) A reminder that the WaterGate barrier deployment practice by the contractor, Briggs, is to take place on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> November.

**6 OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK** – Elaine Whyte wished to raise a few issues: a swing for disabled children – there seem to be two types available, one takes a wheelchair, the other is a 'bucket' style; speed calming measures on Bogbeth Road, near the skate park, where a lot of children gather and cross the road (there have already been a few incidents at that spot) and the extension of the speed limit to Dalmadilly (supported by another member of public present via Zoom, Chris Moynagh, who suggested zig zag traffic calming rather than speed bumps); the pavement on the way to Kemnay Primary School is very narrow and very uneven, could a rail be installed? (Cllr Smith mentioned that this pavement and the one in Grove Road are due to be resurfaced); potholes on Kendall Road. C Moynagh also raised the need for a pedestrian crossing for Academy pupils and for a review of the location of the flashing speed warning sign as it seems a bit late.

(**Action:** Cllr Smith is to find out about swings for disabled children and raise the possibility of getting one installed in Kemnay at next Garioch Area meeting. **Action:** KCC Secretary to contact Aberdeenshire Council about traffic calming, the pavement and potholes. **Action:** S Wainman and R Lamplugh to raise the need for a pedestrian crossing at the Active Travel meeting on Tuesday, where the proposed cycle routes proposals are to be discussed.)

David Duthie, a resident on Paradise Road, spoke of the ongoing issue with flooding, related to the sinkhole and the drainage & sewage system which is often overwhelmed when there is heavy rain. The sinkhole appeared three years ago, when there was some debate between Aberdeenshire Council and Scottish Water over whose responsibility it was to repair. Aberdeenshire Council adopted responsibility and repaired it then. However, when AC came to repair it this time, it seems that the sewer may be leaking, making it a Scottish Water issue. It is proving very difficult to get the problem resolved and the houses involved often suffer flooded gardens and garages in heavy rain. The drainage system in Paradise Road is a combined rainwater and sewage system. Scottish Water has replied to Mr Duthie and has opened a 'new case' file, promising that a local analyst and sewage flooding & flood prevention teams would be in touch, but this was six weeks ago and there has been no contact. The broken sewer needs to be repaired, not just the surface patched up. Residents have taken actions themselves to try to mitigate the problem, but a proper, long-term repair needs to be carried out. KCC councillors suggested residents make use of social media to highlight the issue and put pressure on Scottish Water, taking photos and videos.

(**Action:** Secretary to contact Scottish Water and also AC Environmental Health. **Action:** Cllr Smith to try to find out from Roads Department what the situation is, but acknowledged that communication with public bodies such as Scottish Water is difficult at the moment.)

## 7 MATTERS ARISING:

a) **Phoenix Fund** – Waiting for a second quote for work to clean and re-letter the Kemnay stone, will then have a clearer idea of money remaining to purchase other items, such as pergolas. No progress on benches. (**Action:** S Wainman will mention the benches to those attending the Greener Kemnay AGM and meeting re Active travel Routes on Tuesday. **Action:** Secretary to contact Louise Graham for an update on the possible location of a bench at Milton meadows.)

Cllr Smith informed the meeting that a new location has been identified further along the riverside path for the memorial bench that has been removed from the path at Boat Croft. AC has agreed to install and maintain this bench. Ian Mitchell, Landscape Services, can provide maps which show possible locations for benches.

b) **Christmas Lights** – All lights now PAT tested and Gavin Adam has once again agreed to put up the motifs. The Christmas Lights Sub-committee has agreed which motifs are to be replaced with the new ones and where these are to be located (at/near the junction of High Street and Station/Aquithie Road). There are still a couple of issues with lighting the trees in the two roundels, but these will hopefully be resolved in the near future. AC has suggested that permanent displays could be installed on prominent village buildings, such as the Village Hall or the new Co-op building. This is perhaps for future discussion.

c) **Rent increases for local groups:** Still no satisfactory resolution of this issue, despite letters being sent by KCC Chair and questions raised by Cllr Smith – funding applications have been rejected, although AC's reasoning is being queried. Cllr Smith stated that she is still not happy with answers she has been given, and shares the views of KCC that the services offered by these groups are essential childcare and impact on employment opportunities for Kemnay residents. And the constant need to apply for funding adds to the burden of these largely volunteer groups. (**Action:** Cllr Smith to continue pursuing the issue.)

G Stevens repeated the offer of her accountancy expertise to the groups affected to help them devise a cash flow forecast. (**Action:** Secretary to contact Carolyn at Kiddiwinks and Vaila at the Breakfast & After School Clubs re G Stevens' offer. **Action:** Secretary to contact other Community Councils in Aberdeenshire and will also ask Alison Cummings to raise it at the next CC Forum.)

d) **Website Security & Website host:** Correspondence between David Evans and Chris Brown re the security and hosting of the village website has been circulated by the Secretary. There was a very positive response from KCC members to the proposals contained in the correspondence, provided that there is a secure back-up to the site, which it seemed there very likely would be.

**Motion:** That KCC accept the proposal that the village website be hosted by Chris Brown's server. – Agreed unanimously.

As well as Chris Brown offering to host the website free of charge, David Evans has also kindly donated the cost of the Domain name rental for the next ten years, meaning there will in effect be no charges for the website for that period of time. KCC is very grateful to both David Evans and Chris Brown for their efforts with regard to the website.

(**Action:** Secretary to write to both David Evans and Chris Brown to thank them.)

e) **Lifebelt at Shakkin' Briggie:** F Patrick has contacted AC about this, but still awaiting a reply.

## 8 TREASURER REPORT – Report from J Whittall circulated prior to meeting.

a) Still awaiting a reply from Zurich about the additional insurance premium.

## 9 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

a) **Current planning applications** – No action to be taken on

**Erection of Summerhouse (Retrospective)**

Bremner Way, Kemnay - Ref. No: APP/2021/2202

**Erection of 'Polycrub' Agricultural Translucent Building** (for information)

Leschangie Kemnay - Ref. No: APP/2021/2355

**Erection of Agricultural Machinery Store** (for information)

Fetternear Inverurie - Ref. No: APP/2021/2316

Additional, discussed at meeting

**Formation of Vehicular Access and 4 Pitches for Gypsy/traveller Site (each Pitch comprising Permanent Mobile Home Stance/Chalet Stance, Ancillary/Touring Stances, Utility building, Parking and Associated Infrastructure), Raising of ground level, Formation of bunds and Landscaping (Part Retrospective)**

Site At Quarry Wood Greatstone Wood Kemnay Aberdeenshire - Ref. No: APP/2021/2263

(**Action:** Chair to write to AC Planning Dept re the loss of trees at this site and the requirement to plant replacement trees, taking into account those planted at Uryside, Inverurie, and at the applicants' expense.)

Some disappointment and frustration expressed at the loss of trees and habitat and the retrospective nature of this application.

**Formation of a Wildlife Pond and Installation of Decking Area** (No action to be taken)

Hillhead Bungalow, Leschangie Kemnay - Ref. No: APP/2021/2398

## 10 REPORTS

- a) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – No update (**Action:** Secretary to find out if this group still operates.)
- b) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – No meeting.
- c) **Community Planning** – Next meeting is a joint meeting on Inverurie's strategic needs assessment.
- d) **Greener Kemnay** – GK is hosting the Active Travel discussion after its AGM on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
- e) **Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP)** – Very poor attendance at meeting. There is a new Chair, Michael Riley.
- f) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** – *KAPC:* F Patrick is to attend the next meeting instead of S Wainman, when the proposed cycle routes will be on the agenda as well as the academy's Improvement Plan. *KPPC:* the next meeting will be discussing fundraising at Christmas. *APPC:* No parents' council established.
- g) **Transport** – Meeting on Active Travel and proposed cycle routes to be held on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November - S Wainman has all the information.
- h) **Press Reports** – Item on Kemnay Primary P1-P4 doing an excellent fundraising event for CLAN.

**11 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS** – *Cllr Smith:* Bedding plants – same arrangement as last year (this has already been organised by S Wainman and M Basley); has poppy wreath from Aberdeenshire Council; there is a survey being done on speed limits across the whole of Aberdeenshire.

## 12 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Correspondence from the Council** - was circulated prior to the meeting.
- Community Engagement Launch on Kemnay Cycle Routes
  - Training for Suicide Prevention
  - Community testing Schedules
  - Aberdeenshire Council Trade Waste Survey
  - Road Closure - Blairdaff
  - Reply from Ann Overton re Bogbeth Park
  - Webinar places for Community Councils
  - Scottish Community Councils Facebook page
- b) **General Correspondence Received** - was circulated prior to the meeting.
- Kintore 132Kv Asset Replacement Project
- 13 **OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK** – *S Bunton:* the bell at the Parish Church is to be rung at 6.30pm on Saturday, 30th October, for half an hour for COP26 *G Stevens:* Post on All About Kemnay fb about mobility scooters (often in the dark without lights) having to use the roads because pavement surfaces on Victoria Terrace and Grove Road are so uneven (Cllr Smith stated that these are the pavements which are due to receive a slurry seal by the end of March 2022). Also, the 'No Right Turn' sign at the junction of St Brydes Road and the High Street is not maybe very prominent. *R Lamplugh:* concerns re speeding through the village, particularly Victoria Terrace/Grove Rd *D Johnston/S Wainman/F Patrick:* Concern at the lack of signage clarity and ensuing traffic issues caused by the recent roadworks on the High Street (**Action:** F Patrick to contact the sign company to remove the signs which have been left.) *M Basley:* there are now two EV charging points in the car park, so another two parking bays have been lost, with another taken up by the pile of soil; need to monitor that signs are installed. *F Patrick:* suggested that the location of the PADs units be added to the village walking maps (**Action:** R Lamplugh to add locations to Google maps.) *G Berkin:* has a poppy wreath that she is happy to lay on behalf of KCC at the Remembrance ceremony on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> November; the change of use of the former toilet block was raised by Cllr Smith (**Action:** G Berkin to check on the proposed change of use of the toilet block.)

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 25th November 2021, 7.30pm,  
at Kemnay Village Hall, with Zoom link available**