

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 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 (via Zoom); Pauline Paterson; Sue Wainman; Richard Lamplugh; Gabby Stevens; Suzanne Bunton; Daniel Johnston; Sasha Brydon; Cllr Smith (via Zoom)

**Apologies:** None

**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. G Stevens declared an interest in Item 9a (planning application for High Meadows, Parkhill).

**3 MINUTES OF MEETING 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022** – Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by S Wainman, seconded by R Lamplugh.

**4 POLICE MATTERS** – Police Report circulated. No major concerns. Good to see that the issue of speeding is being followed up and has also been raised and discussed by the police at other meetings and forums.

**5 KEMNAY RESILIENCE AND COVID RESPONSE** – a) F Patrick, D Patrick and S Wainman went on a site visit to Kintore Public Hall to see their set up. They have purchased a generator which can be set to kick in automatically when the power goes off. However, it cost the best part of £20 000 and there are ongoing maintenance costs. Kintore Community Council applied for and received funding from SEN to buy their generator, but they also have a fairly regular income stream from events held in the village through the year. Careful consideration will need to be given to this as it would be a big commitment for the Community Council. It was also felt that other approaches to power resilience should be explored – solar panels and battery storage, for example. However, expertise would need to be sought. Ann Overton, Garioch Area Officer, has been contacted re getting advice on the best way forward.

Numbers using the Community Larder are rising steadily. Lend a Hand Kemnay is very grateful for the continued support of the village with this initiative, particularly this month the generous donation from the Quiz Nights at the Bennachie Lodge.

b) PADs: Report received, no issues. However, contact has finally been made with the residents' association at Benview Retirement Village to explore the possibility of installing a unit there.

(**Action:** Secretary to ask the PADs Co-ordinator about replacing the batteries on the units and potential costs.)

c) Flooding: S Wainman has agreed to keep an eye on flooding issues on behalf of KCC.

(**Action:** Secretary to inform K Ledingham of the change of KCC contact.)

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

## 7 MATTERS ARISING:

a) **Speeding** – P Paterson asked for feedback re speeding in the village via the All About Kemnay fb page and has collated the responses. Aquithie Road was mentioned most often, followed by Fyfe Park, then Bremner Way/Victoria Terrace.

(**Action:** P Paterson to send full list to the Secretary.)

The police have said at various meetings that they are doing more checks as this is an issue being raised by nearly every community

Concerns have also been expressed about cars parking close to junctions, creating difficulties for drivers turning in to/out of these roads. It causes frustration but is also potentially very dangerous. And an email has come in from a resident about an incident on Aquithie Rd when a primary school child was nearly knocked down while crossing the road near McColls. Question asked about a possible pedestrian crossing, although the location might make this unlikely.

(**Actions:** Secretary to send information on speeding to Sgt Denham; Secretary to put reminder in the Newsletter about dangerous parking and speeding and taking care when crossing the road; Secretary to ask AC Roads Department about the possibility of getting a crossing.)

b) **KCC membership** – K Wallace no longer resides in the village, so can no longer be a full member of the Community Council. Uncertain whether she might want to continue her involvement in KCC resilience as an associate member.

(Action: Secretary to find out K Wallace's intentions.)

c) **Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils** – Changes to be discussed at AGM in order to confirm officially any amendments required to KCC's constitution – eg on second home owners being allowed to be community councillors.

(Action: Chair will draft any possible amendments for the AGM.)

d) **Urban Gulls Strategy** – This has now been published by Aberdeenshire Council.

e) **Inspiring Aberdeenshire Nominations deadline** -

f) **Queen's Platinum Jubilee** – A site visit has been carried out at the Victorian lamppost in the High Street and a couple of options for an engraved band around the lamppost or on the granite plinth are being considered. (Action: F Patrick and S Wainman to continue researching this.)

Initial discussion has been held about the Jubilee Jaunt and a notice had been put in the Newsletter. It is intended the trail will run throughout the summer, starting on 29<sup>th</sup> May. There will also be the opportunity to do some jubilee crafts and activities, perhaps involving the Scouts and Knit & Natter.

Disabled Swing – update: Aberdeenshire Council would pay for the installation and maintenance. Suppliers & quotes are still being sought. (Action: Secretary to ask Susan Adams of Aberdeenshire Council for the installation costs.)

## 8 TREASURER REPORT

a) Insurance renewal – this has now come in. Still no refund. (Action: Secretary will contact Zurich to check that there has been no additional premium taken and to pursue last year's refund again.)

b) It is the end of the financial year and the annual report has been prepared. All bills have been paid and Janet Newberry has agreed to check the accounts.

G Berkin has signed the documents to become a bank signatory. (Assuming this has gone through, although no acknowledgement from the bank.) Virgin Money is now starting to charge for paying in/out, if over 10 transactions per month. Still an issue if large bills have to be paid as the transaction limit is still £500.

## 9 PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

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

**Alterations and Extension of Dwelling House**

High Meadow, Parkhill Ref. No: APP/2022/0299

**Alterations and Extension of Dwelling House and Garage**

Kendal Road, Kemnay Ref. No: APP/2022/0429

**Erection of 4 Dwelling Houses (change of plot and layout)**

Milton, Kemnay Ref. No: APP/2019/0490

In response to a query re the Milton development, there is to be a dropped kerb, no crossing. Another query was raised about the location of the 30MPH sign and whether it should be placed further along the road.

(Action: Chair is to contact the Roads Dept about this and the Planning Dept about the lack of a pavement, which was a planning condition.)

b) Crichton housing development, Inverurie APP/2019/1489 – Response to query received: if the Kemnay road is to be closed at any time, it will be for a very short period.

c) Harthills Forest Consultation – No action.

## 10 REPORTS

a) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – D Johnston has emailed the chair of this group.

b) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – Meeting covered community resilience.

c) **Community Planning** – Speeding was widely discussed; information shared on 'pump tracks', like the one in Torry – these are seen to be a good intervention for youngsters (Live, Life Aberdeenshire has a portable track). There was also discussion about BT and phone network resilience and also the recent spate of thefts of catalytic converters.

d) **Greener Kemnay** – Now turning their attention to energy, so are trying to establish an energy sub-group. There will be an open meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> May at the Village Hall to canvass the views of the village. Lots of elements to this – conservation, production, etc. The Birley Bush Open Day is on 14<sup>th</sup> May, when the barbecue will be lit, there will be a treasure hunt, boules, teas/coffees. There will be posters around the village and an article in the Newsletter. GK is giving the Angling Club some offshore decking to improve the riverbank path. There has also been some discussion re

the creation of a 'bike sculpture' at Birley Bush to encourage cyclists to make a stop there. (**Action:** G Berkin to pass the name of a possible sculptor to S Wainman.)

**e) Kemnay Local Learning Community Partnership (LLCP)** – Meeting to be held in April, which will be the first since December.

**f) KAPC/KPPC/APPC** – *KAPC:* Academy has ongoing issues because of the effects of Covid; no further information been received about the extension; the Roads Dept still hasn't replied re the possibility of a crossing on Bremner Way; very pleased with the art display at the Golf Club and Littlewood Court; action taken on the 'cost of the school day'; some discussion on the dinner time arrangements; a group of pupils has collected over 100 Easter eggs, some of which have been given to Littlewood Court, the others to LaHK/Community Larder for distribution. LaHK has thanked the pupils for this very generous and thoughtful donation.

**g) Press Reports**– Article on a driver stopped in Kemnay for drug driving, although not a Kemnay resident. Positive and heart-warming article about a 4-year-old pupil at Alehousewells Nursery who has started a tree planting campaign post-Storm Arwen. The school was given trees from the Woodland Trust and an apple tree, and they are aiming to plant more.

## 11 ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS –

*Cllr Smith:* Is to attend a meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> April for an update on the school estate, so will probably get details on Kemnay Academy then; the current council session is winding down and is now in recess until the 18<sup>th</sup> April, with the final full council meeting before the elections then being held on 28<sup>th</sup> April. Has had a positive discussion with Kiddiwinks. The surfacing work on the pavements is out to the contractor and will be happening in the near future.

## 12 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- 2023 Review of UK Parliament Constituencies
- Council Elections on 5<sup>th</sup> May and Scotland's Census
- A96 Multi-modal Transport Study
- Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils
- Urban Gulls Strategy Release
- Coastal Communities Challenge Fund
- Doors Open Days 2022 – Save the Date
- Aberdeenshire Council fly-tipping Consultation Release
- Inspiring Aberdeenshire 2022 Nominations
- Community Councils – Reminder – Pre-election Guidance
- Fly-tipping Bill – members are encouraged to make individual responses to this consultation document (Aberdeenshire Council wants to insist that people use registered green waste carriers, but this is not really practical/possible?)
- Community Test & Collect Locations Information

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

- Enquiry from Echt and Skene CC about roll out of smart metering
- Enquiry from Wurtle Village Hall about the installation and maintenance, etc of a defib unit
- Network for Net Zero – Update
- Email re possibility of getting a zebra crossing on Aquithie Road
- Consultation email on the East Coast 400kV OHL
- Trading Standards Updates

**13 OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK** – *P Paterson:* Well done to the pupils at Kemnay Academy for the Easter eggs donation to Lend a Hand Kemnay. *G Stevens:* a couple of responses have come in to the questionnaire on digital, access, which led to a discussion on the best way to reach people. (**Action:** G Stevens to put a follow-up article in the Newsletter.) *L Aitken:* a query from a resident about a drain at the Academy end of Heron Way which constantly overflows. AC does clear it when informed, but concerns that the water may start to cause damage to property. *D Johnston:* concerned at the appearance of apparently racist graffiti in the village. *S Wainman:* the Local Development Plan has gone to the Scottish Reporter, isn't formally in place until August; AC still discussing how information on vulnerable residents can be legally shared with resilience groups. *G Berkin:* drains on road between Kemnay and Inverurie have been repaired after being reported by several people, perhaps proving that the more people who report something, the greater the likelihood action will be taken?

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 7.30pm,**

**at Kemnay Village Hall, with Zoom link available**