

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall, with Zoom link available

**Present:** Gaenor Berkin(Chair); Lee Aitken (Vice Chair); John Whittall (Treasurer); Fran Patrick (Secretary); Margaret Basley(via Zoom); Pauline Paterson; Richard Lamplugh; Brian Cowie; Dan Johnston; Cllr Grant; Cllr Smith(via Zoom)

**Apologies:** Sue Wainman; Gabby Stevens; Suzanne Bunton; Claire Stewart **Attending:** Cllr Glen Reynolds

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

**2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST/AUDIO RECORDINGS/MEETING PROTOCOL** – All present reminded that anyone who wished to contribute to the discussion should raise their hand and be invited to speak by the Chair. Only record will be the minutes taken by the Secretary.

**3 MINUTES OF MEETING 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023** – Minutes of meeting were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by D Johnston seconded by R Lamplugh.

**4 POLICE MATTERS** – Report received and circulated. Low crime numbers again reported for past month. Reminder about the 'full investigation only with evidence' approach currently being trialled in this area. It was emphasised that incidents should still be reported so that police can have a picture of what is happening in the village.

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

**6. KEMNAY RESILIENCE AND COVID RESPONSE** – a) *Community Resilience Planning:* In process of expanding number of Zone Contacts. Some discussion about whether ZC details should be publicised, but this can only happen with the agreement of each ZC, in line with GDPR requirements. (**Action:** F Patrick to send out a reminder to Zone Contacts about their areas and what is expected of them.) *Community Larder:* Number of regular users is increasing; P Paterson and F Patrick attended the recent funds handover event at Kemnay Co-op, along with representatives of Greener Kemnay and Spectrum Singers. **Lend a Hand Kemnay** is now fundraising for the Festive Food Parcels. Requests for these are up from last year; donations are coming in - if a little more slowly than in past years - and money is being given by Monymusk Thrift Shop and Kemnay Bargain Box. **LaHK** is very grateful for this and the continuing support of so many in the community.

b) *PADs:* monthly report has not been received. Secretary was contacted by a Kemnay resident who might be able to help source batteries; awaiting update. (**Action:** Secretary to ask Co-ordinator about report & replacement batteries.) G Berkin is still pursuing potential sources of funding for the defibrillators. It was suggested that this could be a possible 'Local Good Cause' for the next round of the Co-op's Community Fund. And the Garioch Area Initiative Fund could be another potential source of funding.

c) *Flooding:* The poor-quality hessian sandbags in the container have still not been replaced by Aberdeenshire Council. (**Action:** Secretary to chase this up.) It was noted that more drainage work seems to have been carried out opposite the house of the resident at Blairdaff to whom the Resilience Group offered assistance during Storm Babet.

## 7. MATTERS ARISING:

a) **Roads & Transport Issues** – Disappointing that there has been another report (with accompanying photo of skip being delivered) of contractors using the Waterside Court car park during school drop off times. It seems that the contractors' vans are generally arriving at the car park before the agreed time but workers don't usually open the area and containers until the agreed time. The consequence of this is, however, that spaces are taken in the car park that should be available for school parking. Correspondence has been received about work vans parking for prolonged periods of time on the High Street whilst building work is being carried out on a property. This situation will hopefully be resolved in the near future, when the work is complete. However, inconsiderate, dangerous - and illegal - parking at the top of the High Street during pupil drop off and collection times is, once again, becoming a serious issue. There was a 'near miss' incident a few weeks ago involving a primary pupil. (**Action:** Secretary to inform the police of the situation.) Planning permission for the bus park at Kemnay Academy has finally been submitted. Thanks expressed to all local Councillors who have helped get this finally done.

b) **Democracy Matters Consultation** – All community councillors are urged to complete this survey.

c) **Comfort Partnership** – Better signage is required for the toilets available for public use at Bennachie Lodge, with opening times shown. It was suggested that there should be another ‘comfort partnership’ in the centre of the village. (**Action:** Cllrs Grant and Smith to raise this at next Garioch Area Committee.)

## 9. TREASURER REPORT

No major activity on any of the accounts. The funding from the Co-op fundraising initiative has now come in; the PADs account does need to be topped up if replacement batteries are to be purchased for all five units as these cost over £300 each, and other items (pads at £90, starter kits at £12, etc) also have to be replaced after use or when out of date. KCC agreed unanimously that £250 be made available to the Festive Food Parcels, should additional funding be required.

## 10. PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

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

**Installation of Replacement Sludge tank, Inlet and Outlet Pipework and Associated Apparatus**

Kemnay Wastewater Treatment Works

Ref. No: APP/2023/2034

**Creation of 12 Bus Parking Bays, Alteration to Existing Layby Bus Parking and Repositioning of Existing Public Bus Stop and Shelter**

Kemnay Academy, Bremner Way

Ref. No: APP/2023/2120

**Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse and Formation of Balcony**

Victoria Terrace

Ref. No: APP/2023/191

**Alterations to Dwellinghouse**

Bogbeth Rise, Kemnay

Ref. No: APP/2023/2170

Feeling that more applications for this type of garage conversion will probably be coming in; Roads Department are expressing concerns re knock on effect on parking. KCC agreed by majority vote to retain a neutral stance, leaving it to Roads Dept. to comment.

Milton Farm housing development update: a response has finally been received from Planning re the pavement which should have been installed as per planning condition. Apology given for the delay, Planning has been in contact with the agent of the developer and letters have been sent to the residents.

Re the retrospective planning application discussed at October’s meeting: response from Planning noted KCC’s concerns re the retrospective aspect; the application is still under consideration. No update on the compensatory planting.

- b) Update re Planning Ref No: APP/2023/1064 – Consideration of this has been deferred due to possible discrepancy in the plans.
- c) Garioch Community Planning Joint Meeting – has been re-scheduled for early in the New year.
- d) Local Development Plan Evidence Report – Topic Papers – Climate Crisis and Digital Communication: comments invited.
- e) East Coast 400kV Phase 2 – all community councillors invited to briefing re the infrastructure from Kintore substation (pylons).

## 11. REPORTS

a) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – No meeting

b) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF) / c) Community Planning** – No update available.

d) **Greener Kemnay** – AGM has taken place; many of the objectives set for the year have been achieved. A website has been set up, thanks to the efforts of John Berkin. Interesting talk on heat loss and use of thermal imaging equipment. The use of this equipment is a little more complicated, but also how to advise on next steps. GK want to train up people and then put householders in touch with appropriate trained advisers.

Birley Bush community garden will be decorated for Christmas; going to look at tidying up the woods behind the community garden in the new year.

Paths – trying to get this side of things up and running. Looking to take on a major project, ideally the Kemnay-Kintore path which has long been in the pipeline.

e) **Garioch Area Local Learning Partnership (GALLP)** – No update available.

f) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** – **KAPC:** Headteacher, Ms Paul, has resigned; interviews for the post will be held in January.

**KPPC:** Kemnay Primary has applied to Planning to get some money from the developers’ obligations fund to improve the back field, which is in a terrible state, muddy and uneven. KP is also trying to fundraise for this project (costed at £10 000 - £15 000). (**Action:** Cllrs Grant and Smith to raise this at next Area Committee and will ask Ann Overton for advice.

**APPC:** F Patrick hopes to attend next meeting.

*Noted that a Youth Club has been established in the Village Hall on Wednesdays, 6.30pm-9pm, largely organised and run by the youngsters themselves (age group 13+). Well done to B Cowie for getting this off the ground, but more adult volunteers are needed.*

g) **Press Reports**– P&J article on the Kemnay Academy bus park.

## 12. ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS –

*Cllr Smith:* Kemnay Academy Headteacher resignation – will be on the interview panel. Dealing with fewer issues currently on bin collections. Attended a 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary celebration at Littlewood Court, which was a lovely event. *Cllr Grant:* Will also be on the interview panel for the new Headteacher. Area Committee is in two weeks, which is going to be an informal session with Police and Fire Service, so residents are invited to get in touch with any issues they might want raised. Will also be attending the upcoming Bus Forum.

## 13. CORRESPONDENCE (including from the previous month)

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

- New Ready Scotland Documents - now available
- Garioch Community Planning E-Bulletin November
- Aberdeenshire Transport Forum Minutes
- P&J Charity Partner Vote
- Low Demand Properties Notification
- Digital Engagement Newsletter
- Scams Bulletin No 78
- Aberdeenshire Defibrillator Policy
- Notification of Sheltered housing Vacancy
- North East Crime Alert – December
- Bus Forum Winter 2023
- Grant Funding Opportunity
- Local Development Plan Evidence Report – Topic Papers – Climate Crisis and Digital Communication
- Nightstop in your Ward
- Climate Conversations Facilitators Training
- Health & Transport Action Plan Review Workshop
- Cancellation of Garioch Community Planning Joint Meeting
- Trading Standards Scams Bulletin No 79
- Aberdeenshire Wellbeing Day
- Democracy Matters Consultation

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

- Ongoing issues with unsafe contractor use of Alehousewells Car Park
- Climate Conversations Facilitator Training, 14<sup>th</sup> December (Scottish Communities Climate Action Network)
- East Coast 400kV Phase 2 – Reports on Consultation – Community Council Briefing Call
- Democracy Matters Consultation
- Work vans parking on High Street
- CYCJ's annual stakeholder survey – community councils

**14. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK –** *P Paterson:* The Chair of Kemnay Football Club wants to talk to a Councillor about the Astro turf. *L Aitken:* Has had a query re Christmas Lights Switch-on Event, responded that volunteers needed to put on an event. (Secretary received a message from Ruby Mackay offering a group of her music pupils, many of whom attend Kemnay Academy, to provide entertainment at a switch-on event. Ruby was thanked for her kind offer but was informed about the lack of volunteers to organise an event this year, maybe next.) *J Whittall:* Question to Councillors re the inadequate recycling bins provision at Netherton Business Centre, also used by the houses nearby. (**Action:** J Whittall to pass on details to Cllr Grant.) *R Lamplugh:* The Christmas lights to go up on lamp posts this weekend (1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Dec). *F Patrick:* Village Hall Christmas decorations are up and will be switched on in time for the panto, the lights at the roundels and at the Green will be switched on at the end of the following week. Sends apologies for the January meeting, L Aitken kindly agreed to take minutes. *G Berkin:* Thanked R Lamplugh for laying the Remembrance Day wreath and **wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**



**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
7.30pm at Kemnay Village Hall, with Zoom link available**