

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall, with Teams link available

**Present:** Lee Aitken (Chair); Fran Patrick (Secretary); Gabby Stevens; Sue Wainman; Pauline Paterson; Richard Lamplugh; Mary Brown; Gaenor Berkin; Grace Dinnes; Dan Johnston; Brian Cowie; Cllr Grant;

**Apologies:** John Whittall (Treasurer); Claire Stewart; Suzanne Bunton; Margaret Basley; Cllr Smith

**Attending:** None

**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 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025** – The Minutes were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by R Lamplugh, seconded by S Wainman.

**4 POLICE MATTERS** – Report circulated covers two months. No real change from previous months, only a noted increase in road traffic incidents. Inspector Heather McEwen is new Inspector for area.

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

### 6. KEMNAY RESILIENCE -

a) *Community Resilience Planning:* S Wainman: Recent Resilience Conference was very useful. There were presentations on cyber security, wildfires and the setting up of a Rest Centre. All Aberdeenshire Resilience Groups present were given a free Ecoflow Delta 2 power station, designed to be a backup power source for routers and chargers rather than any piece of equipment that draws quite a lot of power, such as a kettle. These may have been purchased with SSEN funding; KCC Resilience Group appreciates this extra piece of equipment.

The generator will be serviced tomorrow (Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> October). The updated pull-out **Just in case** . . . leaflet will appear in the next Newsletter. Noted that in news today O2 are apparently starting to roll out satellite connection for emergency use, positive progress for resilience efforts.

*Community Larder/Festive Food Parcels:* Larder numbers are very steady, with income currently covering around 54% of expenditure. Will have to consider applying for additional funding in the next few months. There is an application form this year for a Festive Food Parcel. These are available from the Larder. A JustGiving fundraising page has been set up but donations can also be handed in to the Larder.

b) *PADs:* No issues reported. (**Action:** Secretary to contact PADs Co-ordinator for a report.)

c) *Flooding:* The Flood Report information boards will be on display at the Greener Kemnay AGM. Cllrs Grant and Smith have raised the issue of the barrier, doing their best to get the decision to cancel the Briggs contract overturned.

### 7. MATTERS ARISING – From previous meeting

a) **Maintenance of Green Spaces – Place of Origin:** Quite a lot of work has been done by Paths Group and volunteers – paths have been cleared and widened; daffodils are to be planted on 15<sup>th</sup> November around the car park area; the stone at the car park has been re-aligned. Want to name all the paths as this would make maintenance management easier, named after prominent local people – any suggestions should be passed on to Paths Group. Would also like to have a tools store and display board, but will need to do fundraising. KCC Secretary has contacted Greenbelt (with Garioch Area office and Landscape Services cc'd for information) and informed them of maintenance work they have still to carry out and of the work being done by volunteers and of the need for co-ordination, but no response as yet.

(**Action:** Secretary to contact Greenbelt again.) *Dalriadilly Ponds:* Volunteers have tidied the paths down to the ponds. Still no progress on finding out the ownership of the smaller pond. The local farmer who originally leased the land to Breedon's (Aggregate Industries at the time) is to check his paperwork again. (**Actions:** Chair to contact Kris Bremner again at Breedon's. S Wainman to send over the Land Registry maps to Chair.) Issue with overspill parking on the side of the road near the ponds, which have become very popular for wild swimming, paddle boarding, etc.

*Litter picking:* Some discussion around whether they might want to become a KCC umbrella group. However, this would require risk assessments, etc to fulfil Zurich insurance requirements.

- b) **Road and Parking Issues – Horner:** Response received from Aberdeenshire Council and the Police about the dangers of exiting the access road on to the main road. The Roads Safety Team have advised that there is little they can do as this is a private access, but did point out a possible alternate access at the southern end that could be used, also that cutting back bushes on top of the boundary wall might improve visibility. The Safety Team also shared traffic speed data. Police patrols are going to monitor the situation and carry out speed checks. **(Action:** Cllr Grant to find out if flashing 20MPH signs are now redundant and should be removed.)  
**Bogbeth Park Parking:** Inconsiderate and illegal parking during busy sporting events is causing a real issue for residents in the area. Aberdeenshire Council has already been informed and have said that the double yellow lines on Bogbeth Road could be re-painted. Kemnay Football has been made aware of the situation and has let parents know and requested they park legally and don't obstruct traffic. **(Action:** The situation is to be monitored.)  
 Cllr Grant reminded everyone that from 4<sup>th</sup> November fines to be charged for illegal pavement parking; wardens will be checking and issuing the fines.
- c) **Participation in North East Convention of Community Councils** – Initial meeting has taken place and a Short Life Working Group established to draw up a draft Unified Statement, which will then be shared with all community councils for comment. **(Action:** KCC to consider the statement when circulated and decide on further participation.)

#### MATTERS ARISING – New

- a) **Adoption of Grit Bin** – Updated FAQs sheet has been issued by Aberdeenshire Council. The costs involved and the lack of support from Aberdeenshire Council make this not a viable option for KCC. Of the current 43 bins, only 12 will remain. It was unanimously agreed not to 'adopt' a bin.
- b) **Christmas Lights & Event** – Four new motifs have been purchased. Rood Signs are kindly putting up the motifs on 29<sup>th</sup> November. **(Action:** Secretary to pass on thanks to Rood Signs.) Planning for the switch on event on 6<sup>th</sup> December is well underway by Vicky Mackie and her team. R Lamplugh and L Aitken have checked the battery run lights and packs for the trees on the Green and will be purchasing any replacements required. This is likely to be the last time Vicky will be organising the event, it was agreed that she had done a great job. **(Action:** Cllr Grant to chase up the repairs needed to a couple of lamppost connectors, first reported to Aberdeenshire Council back in February.)

#### 8. TREASURER REPORT –

Treasurer not present but has sent a report on the Larder's accounts to F Patrick. S Wainman has passed on the invoices for expenditure incurred for It's Your Neighbourhood.

#### 9. PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

- a) **Current planning applications** – No action on  
[Erection of Garage](#) Cairnton Cottage, Fetternear **Ref. No: APP/2020/1676**  
[Change of Use of Agricultural Land to Domestic](#) Woodend Farmhouse **Ref. No: APP/2025/1655**  
[Alteration and Extension to Dwellinghouse](#) Blairdaff **Ref. No: APP/2025/1698**
- b) **Ref.No: APP/2020/1502 ([Erection of Garden Room](#))** – KCC has been informed that a neighbour has lodged an objection.
- c) **LDP – Call for Ideas:** KCC members asked to share ideas/thoughts with Secretary who will then collate and send on.
- d) **Additional item** – For information: A request from a resident to convey their objection to pylons. Was informed of KCC's stance on this after discussion at a previous meeting and advised to lodge own objection and was given the link.

#### 10. REPORTS - Aberdeenshire Council and General

- a) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – No meeting.
- b) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – Well attended and a wide range of topics covered. Police attending next month.
- c) **Community Planning** – S Wainman has shared the Powerpoint of the Local Place plan for Inverurie presented at the meeting, with an explanation of the terminology around this. Also some discussion on the apparently effective outcome of intervention work with youth in the village, but the rates of persistent absence from school are rising and causing concern.
- d) **Garioch Area Local Learning Partnership (GALLP)/Garioch Health Improvement Network** – No KCC rep present.
- e) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** – **KAPC** – G Dinnes – Had a speaker on 'county lines', considered very effective. Next month, Douglas Lumsden MSP is coming to talk to senior Politics class. For Remembrance Day, a wreath is to be laid by reps from the Academy. **KPPC** – No meeting but latest newsletter circulated. **APPC** – Hogmanay fundraiser being organised again.

**f) Press Reports**– Several references to Kemnay in various, not very positive items this month.

## **REPORTS – Local Groups**

**a) Positive Steps and Strength & Balance** – Five walking groups, led by enthusiastic band of volunteers (15 trained Walk Leaders and 9 Associate Walk Leaders). The Friday Health Walks regularly attract 40-50 walkers. The Strength and Balance group attracts 25-30 participants per session. From November, will be meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month.

**b) Greener Kemnay** – Still waiting for outcome of application for retrofit surveys. (**Action:** Cllr Grant to pursue this.) S Wainman will circulate the link to the Participatory Budgeting voting process for the Birley Bush fence replacement project. IBCs now moved and on new concrete bases. This was a real community effort, with funding award from Bargain Box and help from local people and businesses. AGM: 11<sup>th</sup> November, 7pm. Theme is River Don and climate change.

**c) Kemnay Village Hall** – New leased printer installed, volunteers to be trained on its use. New doors to be installed now that grant funding has come through. Looking at potential projects which fulfil criteria for Developer Monies. KVH reps attended a demonstration of a lighting system at Monymusk Hall. Fireworks – still thinking about possible fundraising events; taking a year off to fundraise for next year.

**d) Community Credit Group/Kemnay Community Trust** – Steering Group has been working on drafting Constitution. Geographical area to be same as Community Council. At initial stages of increasing awareness on how the Community Trust will contribute to the wellbeing and resilience of the community. A Facebook page has been set up and posts are put on All About Kemnay to encourage individuals, groups and businesses to contact and share their views. Email to be sent to known groups and businesses inviting them to attend next meeting on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 3pm, Village Hall.

**e) It's your Neighbourhood** – Back area of Littlewood Court now planted up with bulbs, some kindly donated by Gavin Adam. Group is always happy to accept plant or bulb donations. Bulbs ordered for the bed at top of High Street. Looking to organise a work party in spring to paint the railings at War Memorial. Leaves have been cleared in certain places. Group happy to help anyone who wants to take on the maintenance of a particular bed or area. The group needs more volunteers to carry out all the work that needs to be done to enhance the village.

KCC expressed its thanks again to S Wainman who, due to the indisposition of other group members, is currently doing a lot of this work on her own.

## **11. ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS -**

*Cllr Grant:* Been on recess. Ward 10 meeting yesterday; various meetings ahead. Case work has been relatively quiet.

## **12. CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- For Information: Temporary Rolling Road Closure - Lauchentilly
- Nestrans Sustainable Travel Grant Scheme: Open for Applications
- Trading Standards Scams Bulletin No. 122
- Aberdeenshire LDP Call for Ideas – Additional Information
- Aberdeenshire Community Transport Forum Meeting
- Adopt a Grit Bin Scheme
- Aberdeenshire Restaurant Week: Final release
- Adopt a Grit Bin Scheme – Updated FAQ
- LDP Newsletter – October 2025
- Trading Standards Scams bulleting no. 123

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

- Email from resident re Parking at Bogbeth
- Aberdeenshire Council Funding Share
- North East Convention of Community Councils
- Email from resident re SSENs TKUP ECU00005525
- Funding Socials Event – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October
- NESCAN Event: Unlocking Shared Ownership and Community Benefits in the North East
- Request for Input: CYCJ Stakeholder Engagement 2025
- Summary of NES Community Councils' Meeting 11/10 and proposed way forward
- Community Hospital Engagement Event

## **13. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK –**

*M Brown:* Successful Youth Club Hallowe'en session. *G Berkin:* Showed the wreath she has donated and will lay on behalf of KCC at the War Memorial. *B Cowie:* Noted that many motorists not obeying the 20MPH signs. *G Dinnes:* Spoke about community councils at recent European Rural Parliament. Provost spoke with her about her involvement

and how could encourage more young people to get involved. (**Action:** G Dinnes to see if a successor for her as representative for the Academy on KCC can be found.) G Stevens: Query re progress of replacement Scout Hut. (Plans may have stalled?) S Wainman: She and G Stevens attended the European Rural Parliament session in Huntly. Kemnay and Huntly were the two settlements displayed. Nineteen different countries were represented at this event.

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
7.30pm at Kemnay Village Hall, with Teams link available**