

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 27th November 2025 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall, with Teams link available

Present: Lee Aitken (Chair); Fran Patrick (Secretary); John Whittall (Treasurer); Gabby Stevens; Sue Wainman; Pauline Paterson; M Basley (via Teams); Richard Lamplugh; Gaenor Berkin; Grace Dinnes; Suzanne Bunton; Brian Cowie; Cllr Grant; Cllr Smith (via Teams)

Apologies: Claire Stewart; Dan Johnston; Mary Brown

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 30th October 2025 – The Minutes were previously circulated and proposed as accurate by R Lamplugh, seconded by J Whittall.

4 POLICE MATTERS – Report circulated. No great change from previous report. Garioch police looking to review the form of these reports and are asking for any key priorities. Priorities suggested by KCC members were: local report important, with more detail and information on detected crime/follow up on previously mentioned incidents. (**Action:** Chair to respond to Sgt Macdougall.)

Alison Cumming, Garioch Area, has collated information on police reports from community councils.

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

6. KEMNAY RESILIENCE -

a) *Community Resilience Planning:* Due to an oversight after the recent generator check, power was not immediately restored to the main hall kitchen, resulting in Movie Nights having to be reimbursed for their stock of ice cream, as agreed by the Resilience Group. A learning experience for the Resilience Group and generator information notices now have the added reminder that all trip switches should be checked. The *Just in case*. . . pull out leaflet with useful resilience tips and phone numbers, etc, is in this month's Newsletter, although not in the intended format. Newsletter editor has apologised for this printing error. (**Action:** Cllr Grant to send to Chair a copy of the SSSEN-funded booklet issued by Lumsden Community Association.)

Community Larder/Festive Food Parcels: Larder numbers have increased over the past month. Fundraising is ongoing for the Festive Food Parcels; the deadline for applications has now closed.

b) *PADs:* Co-ordinator reports no issues. An email has been received from a resident asking about the procedures in place for the upkeep of the defib units. Reassurance was given that there is a weekly checking procedure in place and that the five units are maintained and batteries and pads replaced when necessary. As the cost of replacement items is quite high, fundraising will need to be carried out in the coming year.

c) *Flooding:* No major issues so far this winter.

7. MATTERS ARISING – From previous meeting

a) **Maintenance of Green Spaces – Place of Origin:** Looking fine; bulbs planted. Greenbelt has still to be contacted (**Action:** Secretary to contact Greenbelt in the spring.) A 20th anniversary celebration might be organised. Next meeting of the PoO volunteer group is 6th January 2026. *Dalmadilly Ponds:* Still no response re ownership from Breedons or the farmer. Pointed out that this will need to be known before the start of the next hogweed spraying season. (**Action:** Chair to try contacting both again.)

b) **Road and Parking Issues – Horner:** Former KCC member, David Evans, shared with KCC very interesting historical information about the road access. It seems householders were at one time offered to share the cost and then access to an alternative road but declined to do so. *20MPH Flashing Signs:* These are to be removed. Several near misses have been reported at the crossing at Kemnay Primary. Suggested that perhaps a flashing 'School' sign is needed instead. (**Action:** G Berkin to check that the school reports all such incidents to the police and Aberdeenshire Council.) *Bogbeth Rise:* An email has been received from a resident about the lack of gritting on Bogbeth Rise resulting in residents not being able to leave their homes to get to work or to appointments. Grit bins are empty. Secretary has

advised resident to report to Aberdeenshire Council and to encourage other residents to do the same. (**Action:** Secretary to contact Roads Department.)

c) **Participation in North East Convention of Community Councils** – Draft unified statement has been circulated re pylons. KCC has made no comment.

d) **Aberdeenshire Council Funding Share** – The proposed meeting was cancelled and will be re-scheduled. Cllr Grant reiterated that it is COSLA that sets the budget and the formula for sharing out the funds.

e) **Christmas Lights Event** – Motifs are going up on Saturday, 29th November. Thanks again to Rood Signs for doing this. The lights for the Green, including the Christmas tree, have been tested and batteries, etc purchased; all will be ready for the switch on event on 6th December. Disappointing to note that the lamppost connectors not working have still not been repaired by Aberdeenshire Council, despite having been reported in February. All is in place for the event.

MATTERS ARISING – New

a) **Aberdeenshire Community Benefit Strategy** – Calling for a community council rep. No-one from KCC expressed an interest; not sure if a rep has been found.

8. TREASURER REPORT

Movie Nights have now been reimbursed for their ice creams – just over £50.

9. PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

a) **Current planning applications** – No action on

Alteration and Extension to Dwellinghouse Brae Lodge, Kendal Road

Ref. No: APP/2020/1685

Retention of Dwellinghouse without Compliance with Condition 2 (Occupancy) of Planning Permission

Reference C/95/1390/1 Woodside Cottage, Greenmoss, Kemnay

Ref. No: APP/2025/1797

b) **LDP – Call for Ideas:** A smaller group of KCC members is to meet in the New year to discuss this. The deadline has been extended to 16th March 2026.

10. REPORTS - Aberdeenshire Council and General

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

b) **Garioch Area Community Council Forum (GACCF)** – Meeting next week.

c) **Community Planning** – Updates mainly on ongoing initiatives.

d) **Garioch Area Local Learning Partnership (GALLP)/Garioch Health Improvement Network** – Very pleased with the event in September when 48 partners attended and various initiatives were raised. Emphasis still on keeping young people in education or employment. Discussion on Port Elphinstone and its lack of a suitable meeting place; extra input to PECH and its larder. Non-attendance at school becoming more of a problem.

e) **KAPC/KPPC/APPC** – **KAPC** – G Dinnes – Careers Fair being held tonight, with 60 local employers and universities from across Scotland; prelim timetable is now out; there was a snow closure last Thursday; litter picks are still taking place – Headteacher is working with Aberdeenshire Council to try to get litter bins with the Kemnay Academy logo on them; benches have been installed in memory of Emily; Xmas Concert to be held on 10th December. Headteacher also wants to know what the Academy can do for the community – in the first instance, it was suggested that all pupils be asked to vote in the participatory budgeting scheme for the Birley Bush Community Garden. (**Action:** G Dinnes to pass on request re participatory budgeting proposal.) **KPPC** - Issues with traffic/crossing; some anti-social behaviour again at night, which the school has reported to the police; Xmas Fair to be held on 6th December. **APPC** - Parent Council meeting has been held; Xmas Fair on 6th December; a trip to the panto has been organised.

f) **Press Reports**– Unanimously agreed not to continue with this as a standing item on the agenda.

REPORTS – Local Groups

a) **Positive Steps and Strength & Balance** – No report.

b) **Greener Kemnay** – Participatory Budgeting Scheme voting now open, so doing a lot of publicising to encourage people to vote for funds to repair the fence at Birley Bush. Energy Group has finally received approval to do the fifteen house surveys. Now have to complete the surveys within the budget; still looking for volunteers who would like their house surveyed. It has been suggested they produce a series of short videos as part of the retrofit project, explaining the process and aims, which would then be posted on social media. Planning to apply to NESCAN for funding for this; hoping to involve pupils for Kemnay Academy or university students. (**Action:** G Berkin to ask if her daughter might be interested in doing this as a part of her university coursework.) AGM went very well – the flood survey boards were displayed and soil samples discussed. Quite good attendance. No change to the committee but still looking for trustees. Greener Kemnay is doing well, with positive initiatives in the pipeline for all three strands.

c) **Kemnay Village Hall** – Still a few teething issues with the printer, not helped by all training and troubleshooting being done either by telephone or online. New doors project is ongoing and looking at possible projects to use developer

monies, but it is proving quite difficult to meet the criteria set by Aberdeenshire Council. Drone footage of the roof has revealed a few repairs needed, which should be carried out by Aberdeenshire Council. Lights are being upgraded with LEDs.

d) Community Credit Group – No update. Meeting on 14th December at 3pm – all welcome to attend.

e) It's Your Neighbourhood - More bulbs have been planted; failing plants collected from Morrisons, some of which have been revived and planted. The saplings have finally been cleared from under the trees on the Green by Aberdeenshire Council.

11. ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS -

Cllr Smith: Policy Committee – mainly updates and annual reports. Some casework but it will probably get busier as winter goes on. The Bennachie Centre is looking for interested persons to become trustees. (Aberdeenshire Council is responsible for the exterior of the building, the trustees for the interior and all activities.) No major issues currently re Ward 10. *Cllr Grant:* Lots of meetings. Full Council: discussion on sponsorship policy and the motor rally. New Chief Inspector. Area Committee on Tuesday, then IJB audit on Wednesday. Budget season begins soon, outcomes decided in February.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

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

- LDP Newsletter - October 2025
- Trading Standards Scams Bulletin No. 123
- Garioch Area Committee Meeting Agenda Papers - 11 November 2025
- Aberdeenshire Council Pavement Parking Enforcement
- Aberdeenshire Community Benefit Strategy – Reference Group Invitation (Garioch)
- Aberdeenshire Council Property Matchmaker Scheme 6.11.25
- Garioch Community Planning E-Bulletin
- Small Grants
- Media Release: Drainage Investigations on A96
- Garioch Area Committee Meeting Agenda Papers – 02 December 2025
- Complimentary places for forthcoming conferences for community councillors
- Garioch Community Council Forum – 3 December 2025
- Adjustments to textile recycling bank network in Aberdeenshire
- Recent Fireworks Test Purchase Operations
- LE Strategy – Phase 3 Infographic and Survey
- Trading Standards Scam Bulletin No 124
- News Release: Council thanks Aberdeenshire residents for recycling 1,800 tonnes more in 2024
- Call for Ideas and Sites for the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan
- For Information: Temporary Road Closure – C109c Woodend

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

- NHS Grampian Annual Review 2025 – Public Session
- Email from D Evans about history of Horner road access
- Email from resident re snow & ice on Bogbeth
- Poll: New Powers for community councils
- NHS Grampian – Hope Conference Invitation
- Aberdeenshire Social Enterprise Network Update November 2025
- Engage: Stakeholder Edition Scottish Water Autumn/Winter
- Media Release: Woodland management on A96
- Just transition Participatory Budgeting Vote – Now Open
- NESCCC Meeting 13.12.25

13. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK –

S Wainman: Issues with orange bins not being collected and being left out, although will not be collected until next due collection date. Major issues in Paradise Rd due to broken sewage pipe, with 'Road Closed' signs left up after work finished, so bin lorry didn't go down street. People advised to get rid of as much glass waste before Christmas as possible as glass bins always fill to overflowing after Christmas/New Year. *G.Dinnes:* Has asked about a replacement Academy KCC rep, but they may not be from Kemnay. (**Action:** Secretary will check the constitution.) *G Stevens:* Any update on the Fetternear distillery development? (It seems some planning permission has been granted but an application for an enabling development still has to be submitted. This funding is needed to make the building wind- and water-tight.) *S Burton:* Reiterated the issues on Paradise Rd; expressed some concern at the speed the local bus is sometimes driven at. (Advised to contact the bus company.) *R Lamplugh:* Real issue with delays on the 220 bus leaving Aberdeen at 4.20pm and 5.20pm. Traffic jam at Hutcheon Street for no apparent reason. Will be contacting the operator, Stagecoach, again.

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 29th January 2026
7.30pm at Kemnay Village Hall, with Teams link available**