

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, 28th May 2026 7.30 pm, Kemnay Village Hall, with Teams link available

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

Apologies: Margaret Basley; Suzanne Bunton; Claire Stewart

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 April 2026 – The Minutes were previously circulated. One correction: John Whittall (Treasurer) was noted as present when he had sent in his apologies. Otherwise proposed as accurate by R Lamplugh, seconded by S Wainman.

4 POLICE MATTERS – PC Mark Barber is hoping to attend the June meeting.

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

6. KEMNAY RESILIENCE -

a) *Community Resilience Planning/Community Larder:* Unsuccessful in application to Kintore Rotary fund, however the Rotary did very kindly give a very generous donation of food items. Very grateful for the recent donation from the John Adam Trust. Two possible sources of further funding for the Larder have been identified and will be applied to.

b) *PADs:* The Dalmadilly unit was recently accessed, fortunately did not ultimately need to be used. However, the unit does require a new battery. Fundraising campaign for the PADs will be starting in the next few months.

c) *Flooding:* Water barrier update: S Wainman has circulated notes from the virtual meeting with Ann Overton and other reps from Aberdeenshire Council. Volunteers are not going to be asked to deploy the barrier, the community's task would be to raise funding and suggest possible farmers/local businesses who could take on the task of deploying the barrier, for payment. The Council would organise the training needed but any operator will have to have their own insurance. NFUS is also to be contacted for a list of local farmers. However, Aberdeenshire Council doesn't seem to be aware of what the Briggs contract fully consists of – eg no mention of the floodlights, pumps, barrier drying facilities required. Aberdeenshire Council is to find out exactly what is involved.

There is going to be another meeting, hopefully on an evening when others could join. Aberdeenshire Council is also going to do a demographic review of Kembhill Park to see which houses are still owned by the Council.

Cllr Grant and Cllr Smith will raise the issue of the barrier again at the next ward meeting. (**Action:** S Wainman to send email with all the information discussed to the Councillors.)

7. MATTERS ARISING – From previous meeting

a) **Maintenance of Green Spaces – Dalmadilly:** Victoria Graves, Environmental Planner, Aberdeenshire Council has been in touch re the hogweed at Dalmadilly ponds. She has been informed that the community does not co-manage the ponds, as she had thought, and has been given the contact at Breedons. (**Action:** Secretary also to pass on to Victoria the contact details of Gary Wills, who does maintenance work at the ponds and also inform her that there is hogweed on the island in the river.)

b) **Road, Parking and Transport Issues – Parking:** Noted that staff at family centre are using the Aquithie Road car park when the now much smaller car park at the centre is full. It was suggested they might be able to use the car park behind the library instead? Noted that the large van has gone from the Aquithie Road car park. *Bus Forum:* R Lamplugh attended this meeting. The tender for contracts is going out next month, so they could not be discussed. Time was spent discussing the issues with the No 64 (Inverurie-Methlick) route. R Lamplugh suggested improvements to the bus stop at Hilton because of poor accessibility and also suggested that the bus could stop nearer the hospital. It was noted that letting the bus company know when a bus was running late had become very difficult. *Parking:* Issues with poor and inconsiderate parking when football competitions are on at the academy, particularly at junctions. The

junction at Bremner Way is often dangerously obstructed. Participants are advised where best to park by football organisers and cones are put out, but they are often moved. *Active Travel:* Chris Menzies, Aberdeenshire Council, is to attend the June meeting to give an update. *Street Lighting:* Jim Morgan from the Scouts has been in touch with Aberdeenshire Council to see what would be involved in taking on the lighting and how the responsibility for it would be shared and with whom. *Potholes:* The sunken gulleys on Victoria Terrace have been reported again. According to Aberdeenshire Council website, they were supposed to be repaired by 12th May. (**Action:** Secretary to contact Roads Department again,)

c) **Community Noticeboard/Kemnay Stone** – The noticeboard looks very good. (**Action:** R Lamplugh to remind D Wyness to send invoice for the work to KCC Secretary.) The Kemnay place name stone is also looking so much better now that it has been cleaned, work again done by members of the Men's Shed. Question raised about payment for materials used. (**Action:** R Lamplugh to ask Graham Watson.)

d) **Kemfest:** Chair read out email from organiser, Rob Mackay: The week-long programme had the theme of Resilience and took place in the Village Hall, the Church Centre and Station83 Gym. The event culminated in an open day at the Village Hall where 10 groups set up displays of what they do and shared information about local resources and services. There will be a full report in the next Newsletter. Rob expressed his thanks and appreciation to his co-organisers, Heather McKay and Clare Nesham.

KCC members who attended added that the main hall looked great and the groups had a great opportunity to network. However, attendance from the wider community was a little disappointing. Maybe the format needs to be reconsidered.

NEW BUSINESS

a) **Aberdeenshire Community Council Networking Event** – Reminder of the deadline for responses - 30th May.

b) **Victoria Terrace/Fyfe Park entrance to Village (email received from resident)** – Several issues with this entrance to the village, spoiling its appearance – eg bus stop leaning, 20MPH sign leaning, unofficial 'lay-by'. It was noted that the bus stop has in fact now been repaired and that it is very unlikely that Aberdeenshire Council will fill in the 'lay-by', which has been there for a very long time. It will, however, probably disappear when the active travel route is finally constructed. (**Action:** Secretary to contact Roads Dept re 20MPH sign.)

c) **Pharmacy Bench** - Looking for the owners of the memorial bench outside the pharmacy as it is in poor condition. It is currently being repaired by a High Street resident but probably needs replacing. (**Action:** S Wainman to put item in Newsletter and to send details to P Paterson to post on All About Kemnay.

d) **KCC AGM** – It was agreed to start the AGM at 7pm.

8. TREASURER REPORT

Several donations have come in this month: From the John Adam Trust - £100 to PADs; £150 to planters; £300 to Larder

From Kintore Rotary - £100 for Christmas Lights From local resident - £253 for PADs

Accounts Status: Planters - £1700 PADs - £2100 Christmas Lights - £1800

Larder - £4700 Resilience - £3000 General - £2300

The annual allocation (probably around £1133) from Aberdeenshire Council will be received after the AGM and relevant documentation has been submitted to Alison Cumming at Aberdeenshire Council.

9. PLANNING MATTERS & APPLICATIONS –

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

Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse Templar Croft, Aquithie Ref No, APP/2026/0689

Alterations and Extension to Industrial Unit S G Subsea Ltd, Kemnay Ref No. APP/2026/0747

Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse, Erection of garage, Retaining Swalls and External Steps
Kirkville, Victoria Terrace Ref No APP/2026/0817.

10. REPORTS - Aberdeenshire Council and General

a) **Garioch (& North Marr) Safety Group (GNMS)** – Cancelled.

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

c) **Community Planning** – Meeting next week.

d) **Garioch Area Local Learning Partnership (GALLP)/Garioch Health Improvement Network** – Meeting next week.

Reminder of the coffee & chat sessions being held at the Inverurie Campus on Friday mornings.

e) **KA/KP/AP** – KA – (G Dinnes) Last week of exams; a fundraising walk held; sports day, Fri 29th May; HT keen to know if there has been any change to amount of litter dropped in recent weeks (those present felt that there has been no real change and there have also been issues on Paradise Road with poor behaviour – all reported to the Academy.) Noted that some shops put pupils' names on boxes, which are then often dropped – HT is aware of this and does stress the idea of accountability with pupils. Proposed re-zoning for Kinellar School probably won't affect Kemnay Academy

much.) *KP* – No meeting but bulletin has been circulated to all KCC members. *AP* - Duck Race fast approaching; still looking for parent council members.

REPORTS – Local Groups

a) Positive Steps and Strength & Balance – Report sent in by Rob Mackay: Positive Steps has continued to be very busy, with all groups (Strength & Balance, Buggy Walks, Health Walks) very well attended. Recent attendee from the Grove, a very welcome development. Two of the oldest members have sadly now passed away and will be greatly missed, however a baby boy was introduced to the recent buggy walk. Proving that ‘walking side by side is for all generations’. And Kemnay is fortunate in having such a variety of attractive, pleasant walks.

b) Greener Kemnay – Community Garden: Community Garden looking good; plants are growing in the polytunnel; fence has been straightened, now looking for donations of fence paint; hoping to organise a fence painting session, with bacon butties as an incentive. *Paths:* Still working on Place of Origin; think some funding will be coming from Breedons for the event in September. Squirrel feeders and cameras installed. *Energy Group:* Meeting a representative from NESCAN.

c) Kemnay Village Hall – New side path is being put in, funded from developer monies; alarm will probably now be fixed on Wednesday, 3rd June. Looking for other projects which could be funded by the remaining developer monies.

d) Community Credit Group (Community Trust) – Community Event to be held on 30th May in association with NESCAN. The Community Trust presentation is at midday. Hoping to get groups as members as main aim of Trust is to get groups more connected, to make the village more connected and to be able to access funding.

e) It's Your Neighbourhood – Some plants now in planters, which should be colourful. The boxes of pansies at the Village Hall are looking good due to being well watered. Railings at the war memorial still not repaired by Aberdeenshire Council (this was first reported to the Council in 2019). Weeding is ongoing. More help would be useful, particularly if anyone was able to take on an area or flower bed. (**Action:** S Wainman to put item in Newsletter.)

(**Action:** Aberdeenshire Councillors present to raise the issue of the railings at the next ward meeting.) Councillors acknowledged the efforts of S Wainman.

f) Youth Club – Going really well, with a good group of helpers; had 41 children one night. Trips out have been planned; been making things for the Duck Race. Applying for charitable status, to be agreed at AGM in June.

g) Men's Shed – Has been very busy – painted fence at the Grove and several other jobs around the village. Have done some work for the Bee Group and going to help put polytunnel up at the Grove. Now have charitable status and will soon have bank account. Still looking for permanent premises. All very positive.

11. ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/COUNCILLOR NEWS -

Cllr Smith: Just back from sick leave, so still catching up with things.

Cllr Grant: Busy week for meetings. Area Committee next week; new GP walk-in centre is to be based at Inverurie. The next ward meeting is 16th June.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Aberdeen City Schools rezoning – Impact on Kinellar School & Kemnay Academy
- Trading Standards Scams Bulletin No 134
- WaterGate Way Forward – Kemnay Community Council Reps
- Garioch Area Committee Agenda Papers – 12 May 2026
- Aberdeenshire Council Local Development Plan Bid Assessment Forthcoming Engagement
- Aberdeenshire Council Heart of the High Street Campaign 13.5.26
- Rescheduled Date: Free Webinar for Community Councils – Overview of Community Wealth Building plus a community-led approach to care at home in rural Scotland – Wed 10th June 6pm-7.30pm
- News Release: Giant hogweed warning issued for Aberdeenshire
- Aberdeenshire Council surface dressing release 18.5.26
- Place Based Investment Programme Celebration 18.5.26
- Aberdeenshire Community Council Networking Event
- Coastal Communities Challenge Fund Round 8
- Aberdeenshire Rural Communities Challenge Fund 2026-27
- For Information: Temporary Road Closure – C109c Woodend, AB51 7JT
- A96/A947/B999 Hybrid Bus Forum
- Water Safety Scotland Advice Document
- Garioch Community Planning E-Bulletin
- Aberdeenshire Communities Challenge Funds releases 19.5.26
- For Information: Information about the dangers of giant hogweed will be issued
- A93/A944 Hybrid Bus Forum – 28 May 2026
- Trading Standards Scams Bulletin No 135
- Just Transition Participatory Budgeting Fund – Now Open

- Aberdeenshire Rural Communities Challenge Fund 2026-27
- Garioch Area Committee Meeting Agenda papers – 2nd June 2026

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

- May to July roadworks on North East Trunk Road Network
- Shaping the Future of Scotland's Forests: A Survey for Your Community
- Funds4U Application
- Email from resident re Fyfe Park entrance to village
- Whisky Story: Scotland's true single-estate distillery opens Fetternear Estate on World Whisky Day
- Scottish Water: Engage: Stakeholder Edition
- Kemnay PS Bulletin
- Scottish Youth Parliament Motions Survey 2026 – Aberdeenshire
- NHS Taxi Spend, includes NHSG and is up to date
- Agenda Papers for Garioch Community Council Forum – Wednesday, 3 June 2026
- Kemnay PS Bulletin
- Our Government-funded programme needs your council's help (Gulab Sorkh Foundation)

13. OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS TO SPEAK –

G Stevens: One of the disabled access swings has gone, straps still missing. (**Action:** Secretary to contact Aberdeenshire Council.) *J Whittall:* Coffee mornings at St Annes the 1st Monday of the month (10am-11.30am) have proved popular. Produce grown by people is also on offer. *R Lamplugh:* Pollution issue at Birley Bush, coming from the depot. Salt and grit washing down from the depot has killed all the trees there, really sad to see. This water drains under Milton Meadows and then in to the River Don. Has been reported to SEPA. Councillors present advised that Aberdeenshire Council should also be informed. (**Action:** Councillors to raise this with relevant departments at Aberdeenshire Council.) *Kemnay Talks* is going ahead – R Lamplugh on 11th June, M Brown on 20th October, G Berkin in November, Kemnay House in February. If anyone has a topic they'd like to give a talk on, they should contact R Lamplugh. *F Patrick:* Asked whether there should be a Community Page in the Newsletter where information that comes KCC's way could be shared with the wider public. Question of how this would be paid for, so agreed that items to be inserted to Newsletter as required. *L Aitken:* Crumbling wall at Station Road – Aberdeenshire Council is now looking for quotes for the repair. No progress with the walls at Wood Gardens, however.

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 25th June 2026
AGM 7.00pm followed by monthly meeting, at Kemnay Village Hall, with Teams link available