



Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ending
31st December 2008

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Current Management Committee

Convener	Mrs Isabella Williamson	Arbuthnott Community Council
Vice Convener	Vacant	
Secretary	Norah Wiseman	Aberdeenshire South Access Panel
Treasurer	Vacant	
	Lenny Lawrence	K & Community Safety Group
	Robert Flann	St Cyrus Community Council
	Bill Pirie	Mearns Community Council
	Avril MacDonald	Aberdeenshire Disability Action
	Karelia Wright	Community Planning Officer

Contact Address

The Grassic Gibbon Centre, Arbuthnott, Laurencekirk AB30 1PB

Recruitment and appointment of Management Committee

All of the management committee are appointed or reappointed by the members at our annual general meeting, which is held in April each year.

Governing Document

The Kincardine & Mearns Area Partnership is a charitable unincorporated association and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in our constitution.

Purposes

Our purposes, as recorded in our constitution, are the promotion and support of community development, the advancement of education, the furtherance of health and the promotion of benefit for persons who are resident in the Kincardine & Mearns area.

Membership

Membership currently stands at forty five.

	Members
1	Aberdeenshire Disability Action
2	Arbuthnott Community Association
3	Arbuthnott Community Council
4	Auchenblae and District Community Association
5	Auchenblae Messenger Group
6	Benholm & Johnshaven Community Council
7	Fettercairn Public Properties Committee
8	Fordoun Memorial Hall
9	Glenbervie and District Community Association
10	Inverbervie Burgh Hall
11	K&D Befriending
12	K&M Community Safety Group
13	Kincardine and Deeside Arts Forum
14	Kinneff Village Hall
15	Kirkton Hall Durris
16	Laurencekirk Villages in Control
17	Laurencekirk Youth and Community Venture
18	Luthermuir Hall and Park Committee
19	Marykirk Village Hall Management Committee
25	Mearns & Coastal Healthy Living Network
20	Mearns Academy Duke of Edinburgh Award Unit
21	Mearns Area Partnership
22	Mearns Community Council
23	Mearns FM
24	Mearns Youth Forum
26	Mill of Benholm Project
27	Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council
28	PAMIS
29	Portlethen & District Community Ambulance
30	Portlethen and Newtonhill Advice Centre
31	Portlethen Moss Conservation Group
32	Skateraw Hall Committee
33	South Aberdeenshire Tenant Residents Association
34	St Cyrus Community Council
35	St Cyrus Gala Day Committee
36	St Cyrus Newsletter Group
37	St Cyrus Public Hall Committee of Management
38	St Cyrus Recreation Association
39	Stonehaven & District Community Council
40	Stonehaven Business Association
41	Stonehaven Horizon Project
42	Stonehaven It's Special Tourism Group
43	Stonehaven Skatepark Committee
44	The Grassic Gibbon Centre
45	Woodview Enterprise

Activities and achievements

Appointment of Development Worker

The main activity during 2008 was the employment of a development worker for the partnership. It was agreed to make the post part-time (20 hours a week) on an annual contract. Interviews were conducted in October 2008 and the worker appointed on 1st December 2008. A base was established at the Grassic Gibbon Centre, Arbuthnott. Over the past few months the worker has been setting up the office, meeting with representatives of member organisations and familiarising herself generally with the work of the partnership.

Planning for Real

A two day Planning For Real training event was held on 4/5th October 2008. Run by the Neighbourhood Initiative. Unfortunately this event was not particularly well attended although four different communities were represented over the weekend.

The issue of how essential it was for everyone involved in PfR to undertake the full training and the cost implication of having people attend a two day training course was explored. As was who community activists should approach for support in undertaking a PfR exercise. Subsequently it was agreed by CLD staff, Community Planning Officers and KMAP that a general structure should be drawn up. This has been done and although things can be flexible it gives a general route and direction for everyone involved. KMAP has a clearly identified remit for the support of PfR exercises. A further half day PfR information day was organised for CLD staff in February. This format was felt to be very beneficial and could be a way forward for 'training' those with an interest in PfR without the two day time commitment.

Newtonhill are currently undertaking PfR with an event organized for the 9th May. KMAP are supporting this through our Development Worker and also financially including the provision of a climbing wall to help attract young people. Glenbervie are still deciding if/when they will undertake PfR. They have the expectation of funding in the future through a windfarm development in their area and this is partly their reason for considering undertaking a community consultation exercise. There is still ongoing support for Auchenclosh, St Cyrus and Arbuthnott in the implementation of activities highlighted through their PfR exercises.

The highest recorded issues highlighted at PfR events are discussed at the Local Community Planning Group and included where appropriate in the LCPG Action Plan and the Local Area Plan. It is by having issues included in the Local Plan and in the LCPG Action Plan that we should see a tangible difference happening with them. This is Community Planning in action.

The results from the Dynamic Drop In held in Stonehaven have now been compiled in a written report and circulated. A further DDI day is proposed for Portlethen during 2009.

Small Grant Award

The Small Grant Award Scheme had originally allowed for grants to community groups up to the value of £200. There were very few applicants for this amount and it was agreed to increase the level to £1000. We also agreed to award up to £5000 worth of grants in any one year. Since we increased the level we have received a good number of applications and have recently awarded grants to groups in Stonehaven, St Cyrus, Edzell, Arbuthnott and Laurencekirk. We have also agreed to rollover the sum not utilized in 2008 to add to the pot for 2009. If applications continue to be received it may be necessary, as funds allow, to increase the annual amount allocated to the Award Scheme. As well as being of great benefit to our member organizations the Awards help publicise the Partnership and attract new members.

Entrust Membership

We are now registered as an Environment Body with Entrust which gives the additional benefit of allowing our members, who are in the correct geographical area, to access Landfill Tax funding. We have yet to have an application made to us by our membership although Arbuthnott Community Association was recently awarded £10,000 from Aberdeenshire Communities Landfill Fund Grant Scheme towards work on their Car Park through SATRA's membership to Entrust.

Service Level Agreement

At the end of January 2009 KMAP signed a Service Level Agreement with Aberdeenshire Council. Although this agreement expires on 31st March 2009 it is envisaged that a new agreement will be agreed for 2009/10. The agreement particularly commits KMAP to:

- Promoting Community Economic Development.
- Providing advice to groups seeking to develop community assets.
- Developing and supporting Planning For Real events.
- Providing business and administrative advice.
- Acting as an intermediary to ensure the two-way flow of information on the Local Community Planning Group.

In line with KMAP's commitment to its Service Level Agreement with Aberdeenshire Council's it is felt necessary to undertake a degree of research to establish the level of Social Enterprises in the area and where KMAP's can best support and develop new ones in the future. In order to do this it is proposed to employ a research worker for a one year contract.

During 2008 Kincardine & Mearns Area Partnership further developed its Action and Budgeting plan to take into account previous plans, current activities and the new Service Level Agreement.

Creative Waste Exchange

We have membership to the Creative Waste Exchange in Aberdeen. Access is open to all our members you just need the membership number.

AC Forum and ARPF

Throughout the year we have had representation at the joint meetings of the Aberdeenshire Co-coordinators Forum and Aberdeenshire Rural Partnership Federation. Having representation at these meetings allows us to keep up to date with everything that is currently happening with other partnerships throughout Aberdeenshire. Issues are reported back to the management committee. As well as contact with the Chairs and Development Workers for the other Partnerships these meetings allow us a direct link to a variety of committees that the Federation is represented on including the Community Planning Board and Executive, NESTOURS, SINE, the Environmental Forum and currently Homecoming 2009. The theory being that any issue relating to these bodies that is raised by our members can be fed directly to them through KMAP.

KMAP has been actively involved with ARPF in a project for Smart Metering to the Climate Challenge Fund. Although it was ultimately decided not to proceed with the project it has led to the partnerships looking at another project regarding Carbon Reduction/fuel efficiency. It also has stimulated discussion with the ARPF regarding its own structure.

Local Community Planning Group

Likewise we are represented on the Local Community Planning Group. Again members can bring issues to KMAP to be brought up at the LCPG. For a second year the LCPG managed the Shell Grant Scheme which resulted in a number of groups in the area making applications for funding.

KMAP has achieved a great deal this year and are making steady progress in establishing ourselves as a valuable Partnership in the area. We updated our business plan which will help us with our development over the coming year and help keep us focused on the future.

Management Committee remuneration and expenses

Members of the management committee did not receive any remuneration during the year. They did receive out of pocket expenses incurred in carrying out the business of the partnership and which are reflected in the annual accounts.

Reserves

Within the surplus for the year of £14,518.46 a sum of £814.56 is committed for paying for community engagement activities. The committee considers the general unrestricted funds of £36,359.61 will enable us to continue promoting and running activities throughout the coming year.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on their behalf

Mrs Isabella Williamson

Date: