POSITIVE STEPS KEMNAY - approved

Minutes of meeting

Held on 26th Sept 2026

1) **Welcome:-**
Mhairi welcomed all to the meeting
In attendance – Mel Brown, Dorothy Mitchell, Rob MacKay, Ian Booth, John Halkett, Mhairi Moynagh, Hilda Hart, Karen Simpson.

2) **Apologies:–** Sandra Collet, Hamish Simpson, Karen E Simpson

3) **Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting held on 19th July 2025** :-
The volunteer policy had been updated; the next review would be in 2008. John to circulate the document to committee members.

4) **Approval of previous minutes:-** proposed by Dorothy Mitchell and seconded by Mel Brown

5) **Finance:-** Ian reported that the current bank balance is £6527. 26 and includes the £450 donation from Aged Scotland. This donation will be used for walk leaders' first aid training, as we are required to report its usage.
All the necessary information required, trustee details etc., has been sent to OSCAR.
The change from "Paths for All" to Walking Scotland" was discussed, primarily that there now seems to be an emphasis on fund raising and asking for donations from the affiliated groups rather than supporting them.

6) **Walking groups – report:-** Rob had pointed on a previous Friday morning at the start of the walks that we are now at capacity and that we cannot accommodate any new walkers due to the current high numbers and the strain that that places on walk leaders. Current members are asked not to introduce new people but at the same time there may be new people in the village who might benefit from the group. Ian stated that for three walk leaders a group of 20 walkers is maximum. We cannot stop people from joining but need to keep an eye on the situation.
Walking Scotland are asking all groups to do a "hands-up" count of members next weekend. This also applies to the "Strength and Balance" and buggy walk groups.

7) **Volunteer walk leaders:-** (list of associate walk leaders attached.)
Rob reported that after his appeal at a previous Friday morning meeting, Joyce Stamp had volunteered to be an associate walk leader and then a walk leader after training. As previously intimated Claire Neishman had stood down as buggy walk leader. Rob had tried advertising for a new leader with no success. However he approached Morag Tawse who has taken on the roll. After a lengthy discussion on the merits of advertising for leaders outwith the respective groups it was felt that ideally recruitment should come from within the group.

8) **Village hall update:-** There is slow progress on the take over of the hall. Currently there is a 5-year lease with Aberdeenshire Council with the trustees responsible for the maintenance of the building. There is also a problem with the Public Liability insurance in relation to the surrounding area of the hall and the car parking area.

9) **Publicity/promotion:-** The next village newsletter will cover two months – November/December – so we need to ensure that our stop/start dates over the Festive period are included.
The current leaflets advertising the groups also need to be updated. It was also proposed that we put leaflets on the Community café tables asking for walk leaders next week.

10) **Kemnay Paths Development group:-** There had been a recent work party of 19 people clearing the paths at the Place of Origin and Mavis' benches with great success. There is to be another work party on the 5th October followed by family activities as part of Climate week. More information can be found at

"Discover Kemnay's Hidden Treasures at The Place of Origin" – Climate Week North East

11) **Any other Business:-** The organising of the Christmas meal is in hand.
There is a bus organised to take the Strength and Balance group to the Bennachie centre on the 22nd October.

12) **Date of next meeting:-** 28th November 2025.

the meeting closed at 12.20pm.