

Keith Community Council

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 2nd November 2015 at Keith Community Centre.

Members in attendance: Jane Martin (Chair), Susan Hutcheon, Marguerite Cruickshank, Neil Kidd, Sandy Dickson, Catherine Sinclair (Assoc. member)

Also in attendance: Councillor Gary Coull, Councillor Stewart Cree, Fiona (Tesco Community Champion), Pam Gowans (Chief Officer Moray Health & Social Care Partnership), Barry Corbett (Police Scotland)

1. Apologies: Dave Carson

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting: Approved as accurate by Susan Hutcheon and seconded by Neil Kidd.

3. Police update

Report circulated to Community Council. No updates on actions from last meeting.

Further discussion on staffing levels at Keith and demands on Police time. Reported crimes will be dealt with but there can be a delay. Increased reporting of crimes is not likely to lead to increased staffing. It was agreed staffing levels in Keith remains a concern for Keith Community Council.

**ACTIONS: Jane to contact Inspector Armit with case reference number relating to theft of a trailer
Jane to ask Inspector Armit to attend the next meeting to update Keith Community Council on actions from previous meeting**

Catherine to draft a letter to Inspector Armit re concerns about levels of vandalism in the last two monthly reports and the lack of a Police presence in Keith

4. Pam Gowans, Chief Officer Moray Health & Social Care Partnership

An overview of Moray's integration of health and adult social care was given (see also Moray Integration newsletter email 9th October). A local board will be responsible for the Moray budget from April 2016 (£112 million for 93,000 people in Moray). The aim is to deliver services that best meet the needs of communities and to improve joint working where it is not already occurring. Integration aims to best support people to live independently, avoiding hospitalisation unless necessary, and to improve patient 'journeys' e.g. avoiding delayed discharge.

Pam is keen to engage with communities and local groups to get feedback on what is needed locally. Keith may have potential for a new Health Centre (subject to budgetary constraints) and work has started on scoping what facilities it may need, reinstatement of training centre status etc. Pam will report to Community Council approx. 6 monthly on integration progress. There will be a public engagement event along with a Community Partnership Planning event on 19th November at Keith Grammar School at 7pm. As many people as possible should be encouraged to attend to express their views and find out more.

Wider information is also available in Moray 2023: A Plan for the Future. This also covers the likely increased roles and responsibilities of Community Councils in future, such as the potential for participatory budgeting.

ACTION: Jane to phone CSU and request event posters for Keith

5. Treasurer's Report:

Community Council Account Balance is £1711

Keith Christmas Lights account balance is £5937 – toys have been paid for. £1000 is committed to lights at Reidhaven Square.

Scots Toun Account Balance is £4250

It was agreed both banners be replaced and the eastern banner be placed behind the paling to see if that will protect it from wind damage. Banners to be paid for from KCC balance (promotion)

Jane agreed Keith Community Council can meet the costs of hall hire and refreshments for the St Rufus Park Group meeting on November 9th at St Rufus Hall. No objections.

6. Matters arising from the last minutes

Drainage St Rufus Park: Email received from Grant Speed, The Moray Council outlining work carried out. There are concerns that the drainage problem further down the park has not been dealt with.

ACTION: Cllr Coull to ask Grant Speed to phone Neil Kidd to discuss. Neil will also ask what paths maintenance schedule is for Keith

Tesco grant scheme: Fiona shared details of the new scheme, funded by the plastic bag levy. Grants of £8000, £10000 or £12000 are available for work on green community spaces.

ACTION: Cllr Coull to pass information to Gail Smith

ACTION: Catherine to look at grant for possible funding of Keith in Flower for plants and work on paths.

Rabbits at garden of remembrance in cemetery. There was general consensus that the memorial garden heather should not be removed.

Dunnyduff Woods – The Moray Council will repair as part of winter maintenance of core paths. Reports received that steps have now been repaired.

7. Correspondence:

JCC 12th November – Jane to showcase Keith Community Council events

Community Engagement event 19th November 2015, Keith Grammar School – Community Planning and Health & Social Care Integration – as above. Other dates and locations circulated.

8. Community Councillors' Update:

- **Planning & Licensing.** Retrospective planning permission is sought for the outbuilding at 102 Mid Street. Application has been made to renew planning permission for 97 houses at Banff Road (lapsed after 5 years). Keith Community Council made representation on grounds of infrastructure and roads – planning conditions were applied.
ACTION: Neil to find out if conditions applied still stand if application is renewed.

An application has been submitted for change of existing private shed to a commercial workshop at The Grange, Banff Road. This is a departure from the local plan as it is in a residential zone.

Community Councils have 14 days to object to planning after the wards list is received.

- **Signs, street furniture and marketing.** As above re banners
- **Roads and rights of way.** No update

- **Keith in flower.** Keith in Flower would like to adopt Scotsraig Gardens for flowers next year. **ACTION: Jane to ask Ken Kennedy if The Moray Council could clean up and prepare land ahead of this.**

A grant of £1,500 was awarded from Hill of Towie Community Benefit Fund. New plants will be ordered this month and the fruit trees are to be removed from the bandstand.

- **Environment and Cleansing.** At KSRP weeds in the lanes was raised. The Moray Council spray twice yearly. Previously residents and businesses on the lane took care of weeds themselves and could go back to doing so.

Trade waste bin on toll road and gas cylinders on nearby site.

ACTION: Cllr Cree to request uplift

9. External Group Updates:

- KSRP – AGM last week. The marketing group is working with Strathisla distillery to cross-promote tourism with the town. Footprints on the pavement will sign the way to a warm welcome, shops, pubs, financial facilities and have some Scots words. The Roads department have no objection so long as done to a high quality. Marguerite is to translate the Strathisla Distillery tour information into Scots.

KSRP members will go to Aberdeen airport to promote opportunities in Keith to business travellers. They also plan to attend the Tourism Scotland convention in Edinburgh. Half the places have been booked on the social media for business training.

- Christmas Lights – meeting 3rd November. Motifs for square to be despatched next week. Blackhillock has offered to help with lights. Cllr Cree has asked for BEAR's help re A96 and will follow up again. Volunteers will be needed to help with the switch on as last year.

ACTION: Cllr Cree will email a Christmas Lights poster for KCC Facebook

- Scots Toun – Banner as above. A Scots Toun event is planned for next spring. The Community Council could sponsor something for TMSA in return for help with event planning. Applications are not yet open for the Scots Toun award. Discussion was held on the previous gala event.

8. AOCB:

Edintore Community Benefit Fund Working Party

The meeting on 26th October went very well. It was agreed to pay Catherine £30 for expenses for minuting the meeting.

Expenses

Community Councillors were reminded to claim expenses for meetings outwith Keith. Jane to claim £30.60 for JCC attendance and Digital Engagement attendance

Remembrance Day Wreath

To be laid by Dave Carson or Neil Kidd

Community Council Liaison Officer

Jane Martin has been appointed to the post. She will have to stand down from Keith Community Council due to conflict of interest. She will be able to support the Community Council through her new role and is able to take part in community events. She thanked Community Councillors for their support over the last 10 years. The Community Councillors thanked her and wished her well in her new post.

Date of next meeting: Monday 7th December at 19:00 in the Community Centre.