



Keith Community Council

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 5th September 2016 at Keith Community Centre.

Members in attendance Neil Kidd (Acting Chair), Sandy Dickson, Marguerite Cruickshank, Susan Hutcheon and Catherine Sinclair

Also in attendance: Dave Malpas, The Moray Council, PC Taggart, Police Scotland, Cllr Coull, Cllr Cree (from 7.40pm), Shelley Nicol, members of the public.

- 1. Welcome and Apologies:** Neil welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Fiona Addison
- 2. Approval of minutes from last meeting:** The minutes were approved as accurate by Marguerite Cruickshank and seconded by Sandy Dickson.

- 3. Police Matters:** There has been increased reporting of anti-social behaviour in Keith. PC Taggart stressed the importance of reporting incidents and encouraged people to do so for every incident as this is important to help build a picture of issues and direct action by the Police.

Reports were made to Police of vehicles habitually parking on pavements at various locations, and on corners and too close to junctions. They are causing congestion and a risk to pedestrians who either have to cross the street or step into the road to pass the vehicles. In some cases they could block the access of emergency vehicles.

There was discussion on anti-social driving. More reports have been received by the Police and the Roads unit has been requested to target problem areas and marked cars have been parked in problem areas when possible. Anti-social behaviour orders have been issued to drivers and cars have been stopped for e.g. noisy exhausts. There must be sufficient proof to bring a prosecution. Driving circuits of the town is not an offense.

There was further discussion on use of plain clothes officers in some situations, foot patrols, limitations of CCTV, Union Terrace, anti-social behaviour at Turner Street steps, aggression against a shop owner using a lane to unload, and vandalism at Keith skatepark.

ACTION: PC Taggart to look into unsafe parking, arrange visit to shop owner to advise him of his legal position, and act on other information

A report was made of congestion at Banff Road junction with A96 where the location of the lollipop crossing can lead to longer vehicles being backed up onto A96. It was suggested the crossing be moved nearer Broomhill Road to a safer location, giving a longer line of sight and preventing vehicles backing up. The lollipop lady was almost been hit by a vehicle last week.

ACTION: Dave Malpas will raise this issue and report back

Concerns were also raised about pupils running across the A96 in the morning break when no crossing patrol is present. The school is not able to keep pupils in the grounds at break time.

Discussion on the pros and cons of making the entrance to Tesco from Balloch Road into a two-way road. Putting a filter lane on the A96 at Tesco lights would be the responsibility of BEAR/Transport Scotland. Cars queuing to turn right are causing traffic to back up.

- 4. Bench on Turner Street Steps** – Dave Malpas explained the bench was installed following best practice guidance because an all abilities/wheelchair access path could not be put in on this hill. Following discussion with anti-social behaviour experts, The Moray Council would now like to remove the bench. This could leave them open to an Equalities challenge so it is important to have feedback from the community to establish whether removal of the bench would

disadvantage people with disabilities who rely on it. If there is no strong feeling, the bench would be removed temporarily and the situation monitored for further feedback. He was advised the bench is not fixed securely and may need removed on safety grounds.

ACTION: Dave Malpas to arrange safety inspection of bench

5. Treasurer's Report:

Keith Community Council £1675.49

Christmas Lights £4850.16

Scots Toun £3340.27

6. Matters arising from the last minutes:

Item 5. SSE – Noel Cummins from SSE provisionally attending October meeting with update on progress, community benefit etc.

Item 5. St Rufus Park Regeneration Group Fun Day – will be invited to attend November meeting to give an update on plans. They have requested use of Keith Community Council insurance for Tesco bag packing.

Item 9. Union Terrace – Anti-social behaviour has increased again. Sandy attended a meeting last week with residents, senior school staff, Police Liaison Officer, Wellbeing Officer, and the Anti-social behaviour team. Actions were agreed to identify individuals causing problems. A follow-up meeting is planned. There has been no further action on the request for temporary CCTV cameras, however civil liberties legislation may make it difficult to use them. One bin has been moved. Gates may be reinstated at the rear of Union Terrace. There was some criticism of the Community Council for lack of action on this matter, however, there is limited action a Community Council can take in this type of issue. Keith Community Council we will continue to facilitate communication and request action until a satisfactory outcome is reached.

7. Edintore Windfarm – the constitution is almost finalised and will be reviewed by vento ludens, the developer. The Community Benefit Fund is expected to be available from January 2017.

8. Correspondence:

Moray Litter Summit - Letter from R Lochhead MSP regarding a meeting on 19th September in Lhanbryde Community Centre at noon. Sandy may be able to attend.

The Moray Council Budget Consultation – feedback is being sought from the public and organisations on how best to meet required savings.

Community Councillor Training – CLO would like 2-3 Community Councillors to attend.

Community Learning and Development event – 9th September

Chivas – thanks to Chivas for the prompt action to tidy the edges of the little wood at the bond.

Overgrown paths – Corsairty Farm path is no longer a right of way but privately owned so it will not be possible to clear it. The path at the back of the golf course at Regent Court and the wee wood are due to be cleared by The Moray Council.

Police and Community Councillor meeting on Police reporting – Neil to attend if possible

9. Community Councillors' Update:

- **Planning & Licensing.** No updates

- **Signs, street furniture and marketing.**

- **Scotland's First Scots Toun sign** – after 7 months of correspondence, it seems there is again confusion about what is being requested. Will clarify again what is wanted and give examples of similar sign arrangements in Moray. **ACTION: Cllr Cree**

Welcome to Keith signs – ACTION: Cllr Cree will request regular cleaning from his contact
Black signs – possibly belong to The Moray Council. ACTION: Susan will investigate and request they are painted

- **Roads and rights of way.** No updates
- **Keith in flower.** No report. The hanging baskets and bandstand garden look very good and have attracted lots of positive comments. Thanks were noted to Peter Watt and Linda Harper for their hard work.
- **Environment and Cleansing.** No updates.
- **Cllr Cree. Fife Park Pavilion** – Council officers are suggesting the pavilion is removed because of the state of the roof. It is still sometimes used e.g. by boys league football and Fife Keith Picnic. It would be a shame to lose an asset, built using the Common Good Fund that could be put to more uses. Could a Community Asset Transfer be undertaken?
Squash court – club has disbanded and facilities have been handed back to The Moray Council. A Community Asset Transfer of this could also be considered.
ACTION: Cllr Cree will investigate ownership
- **Cllr Coull.** Fife Park Pavilion as above

10. External Group Updates:

- **KSRP** – met last week. There are plans to ask the wider membership for ideas, update the website and consider Tourism Expo in Edinburgh next year. Tesco are to be approached about having a display to promote Keith on their boundary.
- **Christmas Lights** – no meeting in August.
- **Scots Toun** – the plan for footprints is being firmed up and routes will be walked to finalise plans. Footsteps will be 2x3ft and different colours – probably amber for Chivas and 2 shades of green for Keith & Fife Keith. Maps the square could show the routes and the footsteps could be added to the tear of map pads in future.

11. AOCB:

A96 hump – letter to be sent to Transport Scotland about bump in the road about the culvert.

ACTION: Cllr Cree to draft

Percy Watt Building – the sign is no longer there. Is the building still in Council ownership?

ACTION: Cllr Coull to find out

Laundry Brae – there is not a ‘no through road’ sign on this route and at least one driver has been directed down it by satnav only to be stuck at the bottom. **ACTION: Cllr Coull**

Weeds in lanes – visitors to the town have commented on the poor state. Spraying has been reduced due to budget cuts and manpower. **ACTION: Cllr Coull to pass on comments**

BEAR street furniture – lights on pedestrian refuges need cleaned and safety railings at old school need painted. **ACTION: Cllr Coull**

Date of next meeting: Monday 3rd October at 19:00 in the Community Centre.