



## Keith Community Council

### Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at Keith Community Centre.

1. **Members in attendance** Neil Kidd (Acting Chair), Susan Hutcheon, Marguerite Cruickshank, Dave Carson, Catherine Sinclair

**Also in attendance:** Cllr Cree, Cllr Coull, Sandra Clark, Rob Barsby, independent candidate for Keith and Cullen, PC Spracklen and PC Forbes

2. **Welcome and Apologies:** Neil welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Fiona Addison, Sandy Dickson, and Shelley Nicol.

3. **Approval of minutes from last meeting:** The minutes were approved as accurate by Neil Kidd and seconded by Susan Hutcheon.

4. **Police Matters:** Neil passed a letter to the Police from a member of the public covering various issues: Circuit drivers – Police are aware of the issue and pursue anti-social drivers including those with noisy exhausts and take action

Parking issues are a matter for Moray Council or BEAR Scotland where double yellow lines would be required for enforcement. Moray Council Roads department has advised that installing double yellow lines is not a simple matter. It costs approx. £1000 in planning stage and is subject to consultation so it can take months to progress. Parking in the junctions does not require double yellow lines for enforcement. Where parking on pavements is causing obstruction, Police will enforce when they see it and have manpower to deal with it.

Houses being egged – persons responsible have been dealt with. Police also try and intervene and talk with young people in an effort to prevent anti-social behaviour developing.

Abandoned vehicles – work by Police and Moray Council is ongoing. One reported vehicle has been removed and the Police will check the status of the other. It is possible to check tax and MOT status of vehicles online by registration number and make.

Further matters raised included: Parking too close to lanes on Land Street. If a vehicle is obstructing a lane and it is not possible to enter, contact the Police. If it is possible to enter, even if it is difficult, it is not obstruction so Police cannot enforce this.

Speeding in Land Street is also an issues. Police will pass this on and aim to carry out speed checks and educate drivers.

Speeding and use of mobile phones are causing near misses at the lollipop crossing at Longmore Hall. Police were requested to patrol the area when possible. Civilians can report registration number of vehicles if the driver is using a mobile phone and a letter of warning can be issued. Cars are stopping in the lollipop crossing causing difficulty getting across the road.

**ACTION: Cllr Cree to ask BEAR Scotland about flashing lights and 20 mile an hour signs on eastbound A96 heading towards Banff Road. Request keep clear markings at the crossing.**

**ACTION: Cllr Coull to investigate if CCTV in this area is working**

### **Excerpt from Community Safety Report March 2017 - Keith, Strathisla, Dufftown & District and Speyside**

*During the early hours on Sunday 5 February, a male was assaulted on Mid Street, Keith. Specialist officers from our Divisional Alcohol and Violence Reduction team are investigating this crime and are appealing for anyone who may have information or who witnessed the crime to*

*contact them. They can be contacted by calling Police Scotland on 101 or by calling at a local police station.*

*Around 7.30 am on Sunday 19 February, a caravan was stolen from the lorry park at Edindiach Road, Keith. Constable Graeme Forbes is carrying out enquiries into the theft and again if anyone has information as to the theft or the whereabouts of the caravan they are asked to contact Constable Forbes at Keith.*

**5. Treasurer's Report:**

Keith Community Council £1,562.66

Christmas Lights £4,862.23

Scots Toun £3340.27

The accounts have been audited and were circulated at the meeting. Marguerite will email to Jane Martin once she receives an electronic copy. All agreed the auditor will be paid £100 this year and £25 in future years.

The thanks and £50 donation for Christmas Lights from Barclay Muir are appreciated.

**6. Matters arising from the last minutes:**

**Squash Court:** Reported by Cllr Cree and repaired

**Litter Pick:** One Brownie pack has confirmed, Cubs TBC. Neil has organised delivery and return of litter pickers from Moray Council.

**Turner Steps bench:** Has been removed. **ACTION: Neil to contact Nicola Moss to see if Moray Council removed it and if it will be reinstated.**

**Item 4. Scots language competition:** The shields were circulated at the meeting and all agreed they look very smart. Marguerite will be one of the judges of the competition on March 17th, Dave or Neil to be the other.

**7. Correspondence:**

**As per Gmail.**

**Broomhill Cemetery** – messages were received about the very upsetting devastation to flowers by rabbits. Moray Council have been in contact to advise they are providing wire mesh via funeral directors with immediate effect. Although a fence may be more attractive, the wire will be more effective. Moray Council would like to remove the heather and replace with bulbs and a flowering cherry. As it is a memorial garden there are concerns that ashes may have been scattered over the heather. There is also rabbit habitat near the cemetery. Discussion was held and it was agreed to try and canvass the community for views on removing the heather so we can give as informed a response as possible.

**ACTION: Catherine to contact Banffshire Herald**

**Letter from member of the public:** As well as Police matters, the letter covered the state of pavements, flooding at Brig of Haughs and manhole covers on Moss Street at Bankers Lane and throughout Keith as many are sunken or clicking. **ACTION: Forward these concerns to Bear and letter to Bear and Transport Scotland.**

Lampost no. 11 has not worked for months. Neil has passed this information to Moray Council Placement of 'No Through Road' signs at the top of Laundry Brae. **ACTION: Cllr Coull to look into** Lack of signs at new development i.e. Sellar Street. **ACTION: Cllr Coull to contact developer**

Weeds, litter and street cleaning of lanes. Neil asked Moray Council re weed-killing and they plan to spray for weeds twice this year, around May and August, weather dependent. Keith in Flower may be able to spray a 3<sup>rd</sup> time in co-ordination with this.

**Misquoting by Press and Journal.** Comments were attributed to Neil which he did not make. No apology for this was given. Community Councillors are advised not to answer questions from the press no matter how persistent.

**Bus service changes.** Information received via Gmail about proposed service changes. Change to early morning service Huntly to Keith is potentially of concern.

**Beatrice Panel Members.** Community members have come forward to sit on the panel.

**8. Community Councillors' Update:**

- **Planning & Licensing.** Nobody is able to attend the hearing date re late licensing of Sunset takeaway. **ACTION: Catherine to reply**
- **Signs, street furniture and marketing.** As per KSRP
- **Roads and rights of way.**  
Ponding at bench at bottom of Mid Street/A96 has caused a slip hazard and has resulted in at least one fall. Sandra has reported it to Moray Council. Cllr Cree will also report and ascertain if BEAR and/or Moray Council is responsible for repair.
- **Environment and Cleansing.** No updates
- **Cllr Cree.** The bump on A96 has been repaired.
- **Cllr Coull.** No updates

**9. External Group Updates:**

- **KSRP** – A road marking specialist is coming to the area and will hopefully be available to discuss thermoplastic markings for footprints and cost it. Coopers Lane is in poor condition and would not be good poor surface for marking. **ACTION: Cllr Coull to investigate if resurfacing is possible**  
Two members will attend the Visit Scotland expo in Edinburgh this year.  
Discussion has been held about the possibility of placing map boards and promotional materials in laybys.  
Neil attended the last KSRP meeting.
- **Christmas Lights** – one new member has been recruited as a result of the showcase event but more are needed. **ACTION: Catherine to ask Shelley about article to recruit more members**  
Two lights are still on and may need to be unplugged until SSE can deal with them. **ACTION: Cllr Cree will liaise with Sandy and will email again.**
- **Scots Toun – Gateway signs** – still ongoing  
**Loons and Quines signs** – Marguerite circulated amended signs and all approved.  
**ACTION: Cllr Coull to find out how many signs will be needed throughout Keith**

- **Keith in Flower** - It is estimated there will be an additional 21 baskets next year. Clark and Sutherland are supplying a bowser and building a container with pole for hanging baskets. Linda and Peter will water the baskets. The collapsed wall in the bandstand is ongoing.

#### **10. AOCB:**

**Rob Barsby** – attended the meeting as he is standing as an independent candidate for Keith and Cullen. He introduced himself and explained he wished to find out what the issues were in each area. He is based in Portknockie.

**Eligibility for Keith Community Council Membership. Cllrs Coull and Cree to check electoral roll**

**Keep Moray Beautiful.** Sandy was unable to attend today's meeting

**Men's Shed.** It was agreed Keith Community Council could hold funds until the Men's Shed got a bank account if necessary, but ideally, they will open their own account.

**Gie's a Haun.** Leaflets from 2013 in GP waiting room.

**ACTION: Marguerite will check if contents still in date**

**Dates of next meeting.** Due to holiday commitments, it was agreed to move April and May's meetings back a week to 10<sup>th</sup> April and 8<sup>th</sup> May

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 19:00 in the Community Centre.