



Keith Community Council

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 8th April at Keith Community Centre

1. Members in attendance: Neil Kidd (Chair), Susan Hutcheon, Sandy Dickson, Marguerite Cruickshank, Steve Hickin and Catherine Sinclair

Also in attendance: Councillor Coull, Sgt Michael Irwine, Alastair Whitfield (Northern Scot), 2 members of the public

Welcome and Apologies: Neil welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Fiona Addison, Sandra Clark, Dave Carson, Councillor Shepherd and Councillor Gatt

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting:

The minutes were approved as accurate by Susan Hutcheon and seconded by Marguerite Cruickshank.

3. Police Matters:

The Community Safety Report was circulated by email and discussed at the meeting and included the following:

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, VIOLENCE AND DISORDER

On 2 March, a 52 year old man was issued with a fixed penalty notice after failing to leave the Royal Hotel on Church Road when instructed to do so by Police. A 30 year old man was also issued a fixed penalty for refusing to leave the same pub the following night (3 March).

On 25 March an elderly male was walking on Nelson Brae when he was verbally abused and threatened by another male. A positive line of enquiry is being pursued.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

Overnight on 5 March a quantity of diesel was stolen from a lorry at the Balloch Road council depot. Power tools were stolen from a locked shipping container at Aultmore overnight on 16 March.

On 20 March, a resident on Station Road was alerted to a male in the garden of her house. The male ran off prior to Police arrival and enquiry is ongoing. (*Information about a similar incident was passed on to Police.*)

ROAD SAFETY

On 16 March a 40 year old male was charged with drink driving after being stopped by Police near Blackhillock on the A96.

On 16 March a 34 year old woman was charged with various road traffic offences after driving the wrong way down a one way street (off Mid Street) and colliding with another car.

People who are causing problems in pubs can be issued with a fixed penalty notice rather than going to court. Patrolling licensed premises is part of the weekend policing plan and Police are consultees on licensing applications.

Neil, Sandy and Steve had a very useful and productive meeting with Inspector Campbell.

Traffic on Bridge Street and parking on Hay Crescent were discussed.

Some businesses are leaving wheelie bins in lanes all week. **ACTION: Cllr Coull will advise Moray Council Waste Team, who will decide on best course of action**

There has been some noise disturbance from young people congregating behind Keith Library, possibly accessing the free Wi-Fi. **ACTION: Cllr Coull to follow up**

4. Treasurer's Report:

KCC - £1,092.70

Christmas Lights - £3,848.01

Scots Toun - £3,041.53

5. Matters arising from the last minutes

Keith Institute – has now been sold. Repair and maintenance of the clock was not possible while the Institute was for sale. It is a condition of sale that the clock is repaired and maintained. It should be noted that Keith Community Council did their utmost to support and pay for repair and servicing of the clock previously.

Litter - Littering in Keith, including in St Rufus Park was discussed at Keith Grammar Parent Council and the Head Teacher advised that prefects could patrol this area as well as the school. This is welcomed but relying on volunteers is not a good long-term solution.

Litter pick – the provisional date of the litter pick is Sunday 28th April 10am till noon depending on availability of volunteers and litter picking equipment. The Scouts are happy to do Cottage Wood and Fife Park as previously. **ACTION: Sandy to invite Men's Shed**

St Rufus Park Equipment – was discussed. It seems that those who attended the public meeting have not been kept informed of developments as promised. **ACTION: Neil to follow up**
There was further discussion including the consultation process, reviewing the park layout, ground assessment as well as continuing to assess levels of anti-social behaviour as days lengthen. There is concern that drug paraphernalia left in the park could present a risk to children, particularly with reduce litter picking and grass cutting.

Crossing Patrollers – Following on from our request for pedestrian crossings, Transport Scotland has asked BEAR to undertake a survey of pedestrian movements in Keith and assess the impact of losing School Crossing Patrollers.

Site Visit to A96 - Steve will attend Friday 12th April. He will ask about road resurfacing but we believe gas works are to be carried out soon so it may be delayed until after then.

Grass cutting – The Chair has been told Fife Park and Seafield Park will only be partly cut but Cuthill Park and St Rufus Park will be completely cut. **ACTION: Cllr Coull will find out why this is**
There is some good news in that Keith Bandstand and the Matthew Stewart Garden (St Rufus Church) will be cut.

Joint Community Councils Subgroup – the group was advised destination parks will be cut till 2020. Other means of continuing to cut grass will be investigated but if funding cannot be secured, they will also only have a border strip cut. The Group is also exploring possible options re School Crossing Patrollers.

Keith Health Centre – George McLean and Susan Pellegrom will attend the May meeting to give an update on progress

Edintore Community Benefit Fund – Fiona and Neil stepped down. Neil was reappointed to the Panel and Steve joined the Panel. Date of next meeting is 22nd April.

Longmore Hall – the transfer to community ownership is still with Moray Council legal department.

Moray Town Centre Funds – there is discussion on how best to take this fund forward but it has not yet been before full Council. Information will go out for consultation to assess what priorities are in each area.

Keith Swimming Pool – it is hoped a supporters' group will form to look at future funding and sustainability and emails are being sent to recent campaigners first.

6. Correspondence

Planning training – a 2 part training session has been arranged for 17th & 23rd April and places should be booked via Eventbrite

Community Councils Insurance – has been renewed

Energising Communities Conference – 3rd May, booking essential

There are a number of consultations and a local road networks survey.

We have shared information on fundraising and training etc. to Facebook

7. Community Councillors' Update:

Planning & Licensing – no updates

Roads and rights of way – visit to A96 bridge as per correspondence

Signs, Street Furniture and Marketing – no update

Environment and General Issues – no report

Councillor Coull – as per matters arising

8. External Group Updates:

Keith & Strathisla Regeneration Partnership – will be applying to Beatrice for funds for the sculptures.

Christmas Lights Committee – have purchased a cherry picker for fitting lights and have set up a Facebook page. We think they need to acknowledge Keith Community Council there but we will check with our CCLO.

The Committee is applying to Tesco Bags of Help for funding. Most lights in Mid Street need to be replaced as they are no longer as bright as they should be. They are meeting with Keith Charity Ladies Night organisers as the night will be on the same day as the Extravaganza so there could be some shared opportunities.

9. AOCB:

Community Council members – Steve Hickin will take over as Keith Community Council Secretary after the May meeting.

Fiona Addison is to resign as a Councillor but will still be available to support the Community Council. A Community Councillor will be needed to sit on Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Community Benefit Fund Panel in Fiona's place. **ACTION: All to consider**

Ideas for a recruitment drive were discussed including posters and an advert in the newspaper

10. Date of next meeting: Monday 13th May at 7pm, Keith Community Centre **NB Change of date**