

KEITH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Monday 8th September 2020, 7-9pm

Attendance Neil Kidd (chair), Esther Green (secretary), Steve Hickin, Marguerite Cruickshank (Treasurer), Susan Hutcheon, Amy Inglis. **Present:** Cllrs Theresa Coull, Laura Powell and Donald Gatt; Jane Martin, Moray CCLO.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Callum Stuart, David Carson, Sandy Dickson and Sandra Clark.

2. Adoption of minutes of the previous meeting – 5th March 2020:

Minutes were approved as printed proposed by Susan Hutcheon, seconded by Neil Kidd.

3. Matters arising:

- a. **Litter pick** – on hold due to Covid 19 situation.
- b. **Harmora bins** – issue resolved, Councillor Coull thanked for her intervention.
- c. **Defibrillator** – Steve Hickin carried out checks and said it did not appear to have been used. He had re-established it on the database. **An update to be sought from Callum Stuart at next meeting.**
- d. **Micro grants** – a separate meeting to be called to consider allocation of 2019 Beatrice funding monies ahead of the October monthly meeting.
- e. **A96 traffic issues** – a resident from Regent Square had been in touch complaining about the issue of late-night noise and the concern that the matter was not being taken seriously by police. A letter has been placed through the letter boxes of households along the A96 to the same effect. Agreed to invite the resident to address a future meeting to present points.

4. Correspondence:

- a. Draft climate change strategy and action plan in Moray – deadline October 30. **To be completed at next meeting.**
- b. Searching for Sam Thompson – Belgian researcher in touch for family details of Sam Thompson who stayed in UIKHOVEN during WW2. Marguerite Cruickshank knows the family and will respond.
- c. Complaint from Collette McAra, resident of 84 Den Crescent, about property being egged and banging on windows. Jane Martin to advise community warden, police to be advised and Cllr Coull willing to provide additional help if sought.
- d. Moray Council Recovery and Renewal Questionnaire – unable to do a collective submission using supplied link. Members requested to respond individually ahead of deadline 25 Sept.
- e. Keith Woods land management review – contact Euan Stewart to seek further time to consider and **to review at October meeting.**
- f. Rachel Alban Moray Council - Public bins in Keith: the emptying programme was impacted by staff shortages and changes that had to be implemented during Covid 19. Going forward, as Covid restrictions are relaxed, bin emptying will return to a more regular service.

- g. Reidhaven Square payphone – community council to call for this payphone’s retention for emergency use because of: its prominent position off the A96 is in a it close proximity to the No 10 bus stop; there being a shop, cafés and bar in the area, easy parking and electric charging points. Should be kept for emergency use eg when individuals do not have mobiles, phone is lost or battery is flat.
- h. Details of Cottage Woods encampment site visit – Members requested further update and will request Moray Council reinstates concrete blocks back to prevent others coming back
- i. Accounts Commission review on Moray Council – noted
- j. Community Safety Partnership Report for Moray - noted
- k. Scottish Drugs Forum Free Online training and Gaming and gambling webinars - noted

5. Treasurer’s Report:

- KCC Current Account Balance: £3254.73 which includes £2500 Beatrice Microgrant Fund monies, leaving KCC with a balance of £754.73
- Christmas lights: £3130.66
- Scots Toun: £2603.59

Jane Martin thanked the community council for its support in holding the Covid 19 funding drawn down for the local community

6. Reports

- *Elected members* – councillors summarised how Covid 19 had impacted on operating procedures across different areas of the council
- *Planning and Licensing - Susan Hutcheon:* Change of use 138-140 Mid Street from shop to takeaway noted
- *Roads and Rights of way - Problem of drivers using A96 as circuit discussed earlier*
- *Signs, Street Furniture and Marketing - Mrs Marguerite Cruickshank* - Nothing to report
- *Environment & General Enquiries* – Complaint received from resident of Nelson Terrace. Part of a three-piece suite dumped in a former playpark area opposite Lindsay’s Sheds and has been there since March. Cooker and fridge freezer also dumped near the caravan in Cottage Woods. **Councillor Coull to action.**
- *CCLO and Keith Covid 19 - Jane Martin* – 590 care packages given out from March to May and support continues in the form of the community larder which operates from the Longmore Hall. Plans are to continue the larder until March next year as footfall is expected to increase, in a joint effort between Keith and Strathisla volunteers. Plans are being discussed for a community soup and sweet lunch to build confidence to returning to socialising when the time is right.

7. Planning

- Community council reminded that comments on applications should be registered within 7 days of notification. An extension to this time could be allowed, but this must be requested.

8. Joint Community Council of Moray

Meetings are being held monthly by Zoom, the next on 10th September at 7pm with Rhona Gunn as guest speaker on the Moray Growth Deal. Agenda sent to all, Steve hoped to attend.

9. External Group Updates:

- Christmas Lights – The Christmas Extravaganza will not be going ahead this year, given Covid 19 restrictions. Lights and trees to be erected, may be slightly less trees in Fife Keith. SSE helped replace lights. A bill was received for £500 from Moray Council for 2019 Christmas lights, this to be checked with Sandy Dickson before payment.
- Scots Toun – Keith Community Council agreed to join the Oor Vyce campaign to raise the status of Scots on a par to the support given to Gaelic.

10. AOCB:

- a. Keith Town flag may be in storage at Keith FC. **TC to investigate**
- b. Beatrice Microgrants – Final call to be made for applications and these will be determined at a separate meeting of the community council. Forms can be downloaded from REAP website. There is funding to award 10 grants of £250 each.
- c. Elected councillors had attended the ground cutting of the new Keith Nursery, next to Keith Community Centre. This is due to open in summer 2021 with the nursery currently operating from the Longmore Hall.
- d. Community council agreed to get its own Zoom licence at a cost of £119.90 plus VAT ahead of its next meeting to enable future meetings to be conducted remotely. If any members of the public wish to attend they could be sent an invite. Jane happy to support any members to use Zoom.
- e. Black boxes have appeared on lamp posts on Mid Street.
- f. Members reminded to log in and check correspondence in the community council's own gmail account.
- g. Community Council elections to take place in October 2021. Jane Martin encouraged Keith members to play an active part in campaigning ahead of that date.
- h. Amy Inglis welcomed as new member and Jane Martin advised of resources to support her in the role
- i. Esther Green introduced as secretary, a short term arrangement to support the community council for the next 3-6 months.

Date and Time of the next Meeting: Monday 5th October at 7pm. Venue: By Zoom