

KEITH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Monday, 1st March 2021

Attendance: Neil Kidd (chair), Esther Green (interim secretary), Steve Hickin, Susan Hutcheon, Amy Inglis, Callum Stuart, Sandy Dickson. **Present:** Cllrs Donald Gatt, and Theresa Coull; guest speakers Emma Bathgate and Rob Collin. **Apologies** – Marguerite Cruickshank and Cllr Laura Powell.

2. Adoption of minutes of the previous meeting 1st February 2021

Minutes were approved as printed, proposed by Sandy Dickson, seconded by Susan Hutcheon.

3. Guest speakers Emma Bathgate and Rob Collin, Edintore 11 Windfarm

This is a development of the existing scheme and the speakers provided the background to the potential extension of seven turbines at Cairds Wood, south of Keith, which would have the capacity to power up to 18000 homes depending on the final design.

The community benefit fund could be worth up to £150,500 per annum, and KCC agreed that this could be run in a similar way to the current Edintore windfarm fund.

A timeline outlined the likely next stages in the planning of the project.

After questions, it was agreed to share the slideshow and to provide email updates with the opportunity to return to provide more details to KCC at a later date.

4. Matters arising

- a. **Cottage Woods and Dunnyduff rubbish** – Discarded rubbish is still in both locations. **DG to action**
- b. **Full fibre roll out** – Susan H had been unable to find out details in time for meeting so matter to undergo further investigation and reported back at next meeting. **SH to action**
- c. **Furniture from the Linn Home** – There has been no further contact so no action to be taken.

5. Correspondence

- a. **Swift Project** – Details of bird boxes available for small donation to Huntly Swift Project published on KCC social media. There is a declining population and efforts are being made to protect the birds. The group has asked for future support of the community council.
- b. **KGS Flower Planters** – Linda Bhattachajee contacted the community council to seek help with a flower box project for the school. She was invited to cost the project and consider submitting an application for KCC's microgrant scheme, and her details were passed on to Sandy Dickson, who is also on the Men's Shed.
- c. **Active Schools Grant** – Amanda Walker sought permission to roll over microgrant funds for a year given Covid meant the planned event could not happen. This was agreed. **EG to action**

- d. Insurance documents – approval given to the new documentation from Zurich. **EG to action**
 - e. Community Resilience Plan – NK and Steve H agreed to be involved in further discussions around the proposals. **EG to inform CCLO**
 - f. Speeding in Communities – Moray wide approach - NK and Steve H to represent KCC. **EG to inform CCLO**
- 6. Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer was not present but provided the latest account details to the chair as follows:**
- KCC Current Account Balance: £8016.49
 - Christmas Lights - £3795.38
 - Scots Toun £2603.59
- 7. Reports**
- **Roads and rights of way** – The amount of potholes along the A96 in Keith, and in other parts of the town, continues to cause concern. DG reminded members of Moray Council online faults reporting service. **SD and SH to source contact point for BEAR Scotland**
 - **Councillors’ update** – much focus has been on the upcoming Budget meeting on Wednesday 3 March for both councillors present.
- 8. Planning** – Noted, no actions.
- 9. AOCB:**
- a. **Snow clearance** – There was much discussion around the recent extreme conditions with snow and drifts and the problems created for road and street clearance across the town. Some members of the public had verbally complained about the standard of clearance, but the general consensus was that the roads clearance service deserved credit for what they did in extreme weather and challenging circumstances, with resources impacted by Covid.
 - b. **Microgrants** – Applications to be sought for the latest round of microgrants with 10 grants of £250 available for projects in Keith. Applications to be invited by Facebook. **EG to action**
 - c. **Recording of meetings** – Zoom meetings are not currently recorded but if they are in the future this is to be made clear at the start of the meeting to all present.
 - d. **Auld Brig** – Diageo has not yet been contacted about water damage to the Auld Brig. **NK to action.**

Date and time of the next meeting: - Monday 5th April 2021 7pm. By Zoom