

# The Keith Community Council

Minutes from the Meeting of Monday 06<sup>th</sup> February 2023 @ 19.00hrs

Venue: Keith Community Fire Station

**Members in Attendance:** Neil Kidd (Chair), Steve Hickin (Secretary), Dave Carson, Dawn Borland, Callum Stuart, Amy Inglis Marguerite Cruickshank (Treasurer).

**Others in Attendance:** Cllr T. Coull, Cllr D. Gatt, Kevin Mitchell, (Watch Commander Keith Fire Station), Sgt K. Macconachie (Keith Police Station).

**Chair Neil Kidd opened the meeting at 19.06hrs and welcomed the attendees**

**Apologies received from:** Cllr. T. Colyer

**Proposal and adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting;**

The Minutes of the January 2023 meeting were approved and adopted as Drafted; Proposed by A. Inglis, Seconded by C. Stuart.

**Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting;**

*Benches removed from Fife Park;* Cllr Coull advised she is still awaiting a reply to her enquiry.

*Dangerous Tree corner of Police Lane;* Chair Neil Kidd confirmed that the upper part of the tree had been taken down leaving a section of trunk.

*Collapsing wall adjacent to Keith Bandstand;* Dave Carson advised that following his initial site meeting he is still awaiting arrangements for a further site meeting with W. Clarke of Moray Council Environmental Protection department. Action - The Secretary was instructed to invite Mr Clark to the next Community Council meeting.

*Parking on Turner Street at the junction with Land Street;* Sgt Macconachie advised that the vehicle parking at the location in question is legally parked so no police action is possible.

*Duff Street Parking;* The vehicle in question is now parking at a different location.

**Police Matters;** Sgt Macconachie introduced himself to the meeting; he was posted to Keith 6 months ago and has introduced a plan to raise the profile of the local officers in the community. Sgt Macconachie went through the Community Policing report for Keith and took questions from the meeting.

*Cllr Gatt asked what kind of weapon had been reported in the incidents of a person carrying a weapon?* Sgt Macconachie advised it was an offensive weapon, not a firearm.

*Cllr Gatt also asked in the case of the internet fraud, what kind of support is available?* Sgt Macconachie advised that there is a Cyber Crime Department and a Fraud Unit available for support.

*Dave Carson raised the matter of parking on Mid Street and that the Area Commander has pictures of the state of parking there.* The Sgt said he would follow this up.

*Neil Kidd raised the issue of cars speeding while entering and passing through Keith on the A96.* The Sgt advised he could commit some officers to monitor speeding.

**Fire Service;** Watch Commander Kevin Mitchell advised the meeting that Keith Fire Crew had taken part in the memorial to the Edinburgh Fire Fighter who was killed while attending the fire at the old Jenner's building.

The Watch Commander reported that Keith Fire Crews had attended 11 call outs in January including a house fire in Forres, a house fire in Huntley, 2 rescues in Keith and an RTC in Drummur. The crews also carried out 2 house safety visits in Keith and they now have fire resistant bedding for people who are smoking in bed. The Watch Commander will be giving a talk about the hazards of 'joy riding' to KGS pupils and there is a Fire

# The Keith Community Council

Station open day planned for March. The Watch Commander also advised that the crews at Keith Fire Station will not participate in strike action.

## **Correspondence;**

Correspondence received by email is generally forwarded to KCC members by email.

The following correspondence was covered:

*Davie Rough* advised that he had received a reply from the Church of Scotland confirming their ownership of the Glebe Land adjacent to Auld Brig and the river Isla. Davie also raised the matter of Giant Hogweed growing along the riverbank and said he would look into what spraying of the Hogweed could be done, he is willing to be trained as a Hogweed sprayer as necessary.

## **Treasurer's Report;** The Treasurer gave their report:

*Keith Community Council* - £3210.80

*Christmas Lights* – £4117.57

*Scots Toun* - £2570.59

## **Reports;**

*Cllr Gatt* – January has been a quiet month for council business and the normal committee cycle is ongoing, there was a full council meeting last week.

Davie Rough asked if the money spent by Moray Council on the unsuccessful bid for Levelling Up Funds was worth it? There was a brief discussion on the matter and Davie was asked if he would consider submitting a Freedom of Information request to Moray Council on the costs of the Levelling Up application.

*Cllr Coull* – reported that she had been invited to an event at Elgin Museum for the setting up of the Statkraft funding Board; Callum Stuart is a member of this board.

D. Rough advised that there are pieces of stonework falling off of the old Post Office building in Mid Street and causing a hazard to passersby. Cllr Coull said she will raise this matter with the relevant department.

D. Rough also advised that he was aware that businesses in Mid Street were concerned that customers would be prevented from accessing the shops due to the poor state of the car parks which was caused by the bad weather and accumulation of rubbish.

## **Sub Groups;**

*Christmas Lights;* Callum Stuart advised that the 2022 Tulloch Aird Christmas light display raised £7000 for charity.

## **AOCB;**

The problems with the TESCO traffic lights, the Yellow Box junction at the junction of Banff Road and the A96 and the 'Keep Clear' box at the junction of Drum Road and the A96 were discussed.

Action - The Secretary was instructed to invite a representative from the roads contractor AMEY to the next meeting.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.00hrs

## **Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting:**

**Monday 06<sup>th</sup> March 2023 @ 19.00hrs in the Meeting Room of Keith Community Fire Station**