

The Keith Community Council

Minutes from the Meeting of Monday 05th June 2023 @ 19.00hrs

Venue: Keith Community Fire Station

Members in Attendance: Neil Kidd (Chair), Steve Hickin (Secretary), Marguerite Cruickshank (Treasurer), Dawn Borland, Callum Stuart, Davie Rough, Les Innes.

Others in Attendance: Cllr T. Coull, Cllr D. Gatt, Kevin Mitchell-(Watch Commander Keith Fire Station), Linda Gorn-(Rotary Club of Keith).

Chair Neil Kidd opened the meeting at 19.08hrs and welcomed the attendees.

Apologies were received from: Cllr. T. Colyer and Amy Inglis

Proposal and adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting;

The minutes of the May meeting were adopted as Drafted, proposed by C. Stuart, Seconded by D. Borland

Police Matters;

There were no representatives from police Scotland in attendance. The Chair read out the relevant sections of the April and May Community Safety reports.

The following matters of concern were discussed and will be raised with the Police;

- The ongoing issue of the residents of Reidhaven Square being subject to anti social behaviour.
- The issue of a motorcycle with no number plate being ridden along Balloch Road.
- The issue of the Keith Kebab Shop in Mid Street not adhering to License conditions and continuing to serve after the licensed closing time via the rear of the premises. The Police have been informed of this breach but apparently did not check the lane and the rear of the premises. Youths attracted to the afterhours sales congregate in the lane and commit antisocial behaviour and abuse the residents.

Fire Service; Watch Commander Mitchell advised the meeting that during May there had been 14 callouts some of which had been false alarms.

There is an initiative for members at Keith Community Fire Station to be given training so they can give presentations on fire safety etc at schools in the area.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting;

Metal Benches; D.Rough advised that he had identified a total of nine of these unique metal benches in and around Keith. Most were in reasonable condition and only needed repainting, one or two needed some repair work. All had been shot blasted to remove the old paint and rust, the shot blaster, (Matthew Stuart), had refused payment for the work and asked that KCC make a charitable donation to a nominated charity. A motion to make a donation of £100 was proposed by D. Rough and seconded by D.Borland and passed unanimously by the meeting.

CCTV in Keith; Cllr Gatt advised the meeting that apparently there is insufficient Broadband in Keith at the moment to support the connection to the monitoring centre.

Blackhillock2 Electricity Substation Development; The Secretary reported that, as tasked at the May meeting, he had emailed the Scottish Hydro Community Liaison Manager to express KCC's views and objections to the development and a reply had been received from Ryan Davidson the Community Liaison Manager for Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission. With regard to the feedback received from the Keith community he is

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proposing the early formation of a Community Liaison Group to further gather community opinion and feedback.

Correspondence;

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

Proposed Blackhillock 2 development adjacent to Keith, See 'matters Arising from the Previous Minutes'.

Treasurer's Report; Treasurer M. Cruickshank gave the following report on account balances;

Keith Community Council - £3728.73

Christmas Lights – £770.03

Scots Toun - £2570.59, (No Change from previous report).

Defibrillators - £530.01

Keith in Flower - £1157.61

The Treasurer reported that the £250 micro grant awarded to Keith Litter Pickers had not been collected and the organisation appears to have folded and the £250 has been returned to KCC funds. After a brief discussion it was unanimously agreed that the £250 would be donated toward the cost of the Memorial bench for former KCC member D. Carson.

Reports;

Cllr Gatt had forwarded a written report by email which had been circulated to members accordingly. A copy of the report is appended to these minutes.

Sub Groups;

Keith in Flower; D. Borland advised that the Hanging Baskets for Fife Keith were now in place, the Towers and Planters had all been refilled, at the Bandstand the flower beds had been replanted and sponsors had been secured for two of the flower beds, the Hanging Baskets in Keith will be put up on Wednesday coming, the Planters at the Stage Stars site are awaiting sponsors, the base for the D.Carson memorial Bench will be laid at the Bandstand next week.

The Chair thanked Keith in Flower for all their hard work with the flower displays around our town.

Defibrillators; C. Stuart advised that all the Keith Community Council Defibrillators now had sponsors.

Christmas Lights; C. Stuart advised they were still awaiting the Hill of Towie funding Panel Meeting to see if they would be awarded a grant for the new lights for Mid Street.

AOCB;

The Chair raised the issue of the state of the Parks in Keith and the lack of grass cutting.

Cllr Coull advised that Moray Lands & Parks department had issues with long term sickness and difficulties in recruiting seasonal staff, there were also problems with machinery.

Comments were made on the difference between the standard of the Parks in Elgin compared to those in Keith. Cllr Coull advised that the Keith Team were separate from the Elgin and there should be no difference in standards.

D. Rough advised the meeting that he had not received any further contact from the Church of Scotland regarding the Hogweed on the Glebe Land adjacent to the River Isla and he would be contacting them again. He also advised that he was contacting Diageo about their clearing of the riverbank they owned.

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Linda Gorn advised that the Fishwives Walk will be on Sunday 17th September and the Keith Rotary Coffee Morning would be on Saturday 23rd September.

There being no further business the Chair thanked the attendees for the participation and closed the meeting at 21:12hrs

Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting:

Monday 03rd July 2023 @ 19.00hrs in the Meeting Room of Keith Community Fire Station

Cllr Gatt's report is appended below:

5 Jun 2023

COUNCILLOR MONTHLY REPORT FOR COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Some Recent Events attended

- 17 May 2023 – Scrutiny Training for Elected Members.
- 23 May 2023 – Political Group Leaders meeting.
- 30 May 2023 – Planning and Regulatory Services Committee.
- 31 May 2023 – DYW Jobs Fair in Elgin Town Hall.
- 1 Jun 2023 – Accounts Commission Local Government Overview Report Meeting (online).
- 1 Jun 2023 – Hydrogen Stakeholder Event at Moray Collage.

General Points

- Keith CCTV – No broadband capacity in Keith and there is a long queue waiting for it.
- Cuthil Park - I've asked if there are any plans to deal with the rusty set of goal posts and the broken fence by the skate park area.
- St Rufus Park – Litter cleared, and grass cut a week last Friday. Daffodils shouldn't be cut until after the flowers have died as this prevents them from flowering again. The department is short staffed due to sickness and is trying to catch up on work.

Forthcoming Events

- 6 Jun 2023 – Political Group Leaders meeting.
- 12 Jun 2023 – Budget Briefing Workshop.
- 14 Jun 2023 – Workshop on Attainment.
- 15 Jun 2023 – Visit to 39 Engineering Regiment, Kinloss Barracks.
- 20 Jun 2023 – Keith Grammar School Awards Ceremony.
- 21 Jun 2023 – Licensing Committee.

Online Reporting Forms / Call Centre.

Use of the Moray Council Online Reporting Forms or Call Centre is encouraged to speed up the reporting of problems and save the Council money. Web link below.

http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_88163.html

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