

**Strathisla Community Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**7:30pm, Wednesday 6 September 2023**  
**Meeting Room, Keith Community Centre**

**Attendees:**

Strathisla Community Councillors: Priscilla Gordon-Duff (PGD), James Mark (JM), Tina Murphy (TM), Rhona Patterson (RP), Karen Pryce-Iddon (KPI)

Moray Council Councillors: Tracy Colyer, Theresa Coull, Donald Gatt

Debra Duke- Community Council Liaison Officer 'CCLO' (Moray Council)

Bryony Beck – Local Community Development Officer 'LCDO' (InKeith, KSRP)

One member of the public

**1. To receive apologies**

Apologies received from Councillor Juli Harris

Membership update: It was noted that Martin Greenhalgh had resigned from the community council. This meant that the community council was back to minimum membership.

The CCLO had confirmed that as the maximum number of members had been co-opted at the meeting on 17 May no more co-options were possible until the December meeting. The meeting scheduled for November was before six months had passed since the last co-options.

**2. To Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2023 were approved as a correct record.

The secretary confirmed that the website had been closed. The Facebook account and email had been transferred.

It was noted that the Facebook post about the forestry planning matter had been seen by 50 people and no comments had been made.

The LCDO said that she should be able to attend Strathisla CC and was aiming to visit all community groups.

The Newmill Memorial Anniversary had been a success. An article about it was in the Lifestyle magazine. The model that the children had made of the memorial would be shown in the pop up shop in Keith.

**3. Report from Police**

Not in attendance. August Report had been circulated. It was suggested that if there was a specific issue that police be invited to attend.

**4. Update on recruitment of minutes secretary**

Not managed to recruit a minutes secretary. CCLO would not be available on 4 October to assist Strathisla CC.

Advertising would be undertaken: on InKeith website and Facebook pages.

**5. Correspondence received**

TM had circulated a list of all correspondence received and action taken.

**Aultmore windfarm**- early consultation had taken place but not planning application yet. Due to the size of the windfarm, over 50MW, the application would be considered by the Scottish Government. Moray Council would also be a statutory consultee.

RP had attended a workshop which gathered ideas for how a community scheme should be run and what the benefits should be. Feedback from the meeting would be shared.

The LCDO will monitor developments and keep local groups up to date.

**Community resilience**- The LCDO and RP would be attending event in Lhanbryde on 21 September.

Update on SSEN Resilient Communities funding-

- Waiting for response from Rothiemay hall committee about generator.
- Need to discuss ongoing costs

RP to meet with person who had provided quotes for generators.

Funding from Beatrice fund had provided a box of equipment and useful items to each village / community hall within Strathisla. Each community had been encouraged to use the boxes to help advertise what a household resilience pack could include and to ensure residents knew that the hall had some supplies if required. Resilience bags had also been printed.

JM reported that Drummur was meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> September to discuss resilience.

**Planning matters:** none

## **6. Feedback from meeting with Strategic Planning and Development Officers-**

- Meeting to discuss draft framework to guide future proposals for infrastructure associated with green energy to the most suitable locations around Keith.

TM had attended a meeting about the draft framework on Keith Green Energy. Strathisla CC regularly discuss these issues at their meetings.

Points to note:

- Look at long term benefits
- Some employment opportunities during construction
- Plan how green infrastructure was developed and its visual impact
- Possible community benefits from developments

Response due by 16 October. To be considered at October meeting.

## **7. To confirm appointment of independent examiner and approve fees (if required)**

Confirmed use of independent examiner as previous years, Graeme Christie. No fee required.

## **8. To receive a report from the treasurer**

- **End of Community Council financial year is 30 September**

Repayment had been made by Moray West.

First part of admin grant for 2023/24 had been received: £365.42

Total in bank account: £53835.31

Breakdown of monies remaining in the Beatrice fund would be provided at the next meeting.

Following expenditure had been made following approval at earlier meetings:

- Jacob for website

Approved the following expenditure:

- ICO for GDPR
- Reimburse Theresa Coull for expenses for Newmill Memorial Anniversary Flowers - £30

Members asked for clarification on what was required to ensure GDPR compliance.

## **9. AOCB.**

JM reported that the road between Keith and Dufftown was closed for three weeks. It was felt by residents that the diversion was not suitable.

Email had been sent to Moray Council about cutting verges. Not heard back.

RP said that a fence on Back Street in Newmill had been reported to Moray Council a number of months ago. The fence, which bordered a ditch, had not yet been repaired. It was part of the flood scheme. Cllr Gatt to take action.

Also reported that the traffic lights on Alexandra Road remained red for a long time if approaching from Newmill. Cllr Gatt had taken note.

Newmill Estate was also in the process of being put up for sale.

TM asked about the path near Falls of Tarnash as it become very narrow. Contact the Access Officer at Moray Council. Not sure if it was a promoted path but Access Officer might be able to speak to the landowner.

PGD reported that a bridge over the Keith-Dufftown railway had not been repaired as ownership of the bridge could not be confirmed.

Cllr Colyer provided an update that the landslip on the A95 at Meikle Cantley had been repaired.

Batteries from defibrillators had been removed due to recall by the manufacturer. Keirans Legacy was hoping that they would all be replaced by Friday. TM would check the process for checking the defibrillators.

Also noted that Crossroads School, Grange was now mothballed.

Cllr Coull reported that a road through Glen of Newmill had been closed for maintenance. The railway crossing from Rosarie / Mulben would be shut permanently. This affected 6 properties.

## **10. Date of next meeting:**

- **Wednesday 4 October 2023**