

The Keith Community Council

Minutes from the Meeting on Monday 04th December 2023

@ 19.00hrs

Venue: Keith Community Fire Station

Members in Attendance: Neil Kidd (Chair), Steve Hickin (Secretary), Callum Stuart (Vice Chair), Dawn Borland, Davie Rough, Phil Eckford, Les Innes.

Ex-Officio Members: Cllr T. Coull, Cllr D. Gatt,

Others in Attendance:

Kevin Mitchell – Watch Commander Keith Fire Station, Linda Gorn - United Keith, Ryan Davidson SSEN, Tony Gill SSEN, Chris Gardener SSEN, Fiona Addison Keith TESCO Community Liaison, Mike Dawson Keith TESCO Store Manager, Police Sgt Scott Mackay.

Chair Neil Kidd welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting at 19:04hrs

Apologies were received from: Cllr Colyer, Amy Inglis, Marguerite Cruickshank.

Proposal and Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the October meeting were adopted as drafted, Proposed D. Rough, Seconded D. Borland.

Police Matters: Sgt Mackay gave a report for the Keith Town area.

The following matters for Police attention were raised:

Keith TESCO Store Manager M. Dawson raised the problem of anti social behaviour outside the entrance to the store, despite the removal of the bench adjacent to the entrance of the store youths were still gathering to drink alcohol and possibly use the stores Wifi and were threatening to customers and staff. Another problem was a shoplifting gang was using the A96 corridor to target TESCO stores.

Sgt Mackay advised that he would ask local police patrols to pass through the TESCO car park to keep a watch out for the anti social behaviour.

Mr Dawson also mentioned that the Bottle Bank in the car park was overflowing and if an additional Bottle Bank could be supplied by Moray Council. Cllr Gatt advised he would look into the matter.

(With their business completed Mr Dawson and Ms Addison left the meeting at 19.21hrs)

Linda Gorn raised the ongoing parking issues on Mid Street – Sgt Mackay advised he will arrange for officers to follow this up.

Watch Commander Mitchell raised the issue of Balloch Road being obstructed by large vans that were reversed up against the loading bay of the Keith laundry were causing a blockage on the road which would prevent the Fire Engine. – Cllr Coull advise she would look for CCTV.

SSEN Presentation on the Proposal to SITE a New Substation on the Edge of Keith

Ryan Davidson, Tony Gill and Chris Gardener gave the presentation which confirmed that the Substation proposed to be built on the site adjacent to Keith Grammar School and the Community would now not go ahead, the Sub Station would now be sited adjacent to the existing Blackhillock site. Further consultations were to follow on the new 50m high pylons carrying the 400Kv cables for the project.

At the end of the presentation the SSEN group left the meeting at 20.14hrs.

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Police Sgt Mackay also left the meeting at 20.14hrs.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting:

The Chair advised that on Saturday 02nd December he had attended the Flag Raising ceremony for the new Banffshire Flag in Keith Square.

Davie Rough advised he had written to SEPA and they had advised him to contact Scottish Water about the build up of rubbish in the River Isla at Union Bridge. He had written to Scottish Water but had not yet received a reply.

Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Watch Commander Kevin Mitchell

Watch Commander Mitchell gave his report, During October Keith crews attended; 6 False Alarms, 5 House Fires, 2 Chimney Fires and 1 Car fire. They also attended an incident to assist Paramedics to lift a woman who was in distress after falling down an embankment. The Watch Commander carried out some talks with partner agencies about car accidents using the VR Goggles as a teaching aid. He also attended Keith Grammar school to give a talk about the hazards of riding cars with older friends to 180 pupils from S4 and S6.

Correspondence:

Correspondence is normally forwarded by email to KCC members for their attention.

The following items of correspondence were discussed:

Foul Smell in St Rufus Park, Balloch Road White lining, Patient Stakeholder Group GRAMPIAN General Practice, Moray Council Budget, Community Council Admin Grant.

Treasurer's Report:

Keith Community Council - £3998:80

Christmas Lights - £4877:61

Scots Toun - £2570:59

Keith Defibrillators - £297.27

Keith in Flower - £4393:56

Councillor's Reports:

Cllr Gatt – Attended Licensing Cttee, Appraisal process for the Chief Executive, gave a Presentation at the Long Service Awards ceremony, attended a Budget meeting.

Cllr Coull – Had carried out constituency work, attended the Long Service Awards, there will be a full Council Meeting next week.

Matters for Councillor's Attention

Davie Rough raised the matter of masonry falling from the buildings in Mid Street; can Moray Council put pressure on the owners to carryout repairs? – Cllr GATT asked Davie to forward him the details and he will follow this up.

Linda Gorn advised that the Electric car Charger in Keith Square is not working – Cllr Gatt advised he would follow this up.

Davie Rough asked if the Ogilvy Road sign had been repaired. – Cllr Coull advised it had been done. He also asked why Balloch Court was not being gritted.and why the Institute Lane street lights were currently on 24hrs a day – Cllr Coull advised Balloch Court was not adopted by Moray Council and the Institute Lane lights were under investigation.

Sub Groups:

The Keith Community Council

Christmas Lights – Callum Stuart reported that the Christmas Lights were all in place and switched on.

Keith in Flower

Dawn Borland reported that the planters and towers around the town have now been cleared of plants ready for the winter.

Keith Defibrillators – Callum Stuart advised that responsibility for the Defib at the Keith Community & Sports Centre had been transferred to Kieiran's Legacy.

AOCB;

Iron works on the A96 in Keith – Phil Eckford advised that he had received an email from AMEY Engagement Manager Billy Gordon advising that all contractors working on the A96 are to install Iron Works to the standard required.

Remembrance Day Parade – Chair Neil Kidd had laid the Community Council Wreath at the ceremony, he advised there were issues with the traffic continuing to pass the memorial during the service, the Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire is writing to the RBL on this matter.

Davie Rough advised that he had spoken to the Church of Scotland regarding the renting of the Glebe to REAP, the proposed rent is £300pa and he will be contacting REAP accordingly.

There being no further relevant business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21.17hrs.

Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting:

(Please Note, there is no meeting scheduled in January 2024)

Monday 05th February 2024 @ 19.00hrs in the Meeting Room of Keith Community Fire Station