

Strathisla Community Council
Draft Minutes - 6:00pm - Wednesday 4 February 2026
Keith Community & Sports Centre, Banff Road, Keith

Attendees:

Strathisla Community Councillors: John Taylor (JT), Geraldine McKillop (GM), Tina Murphy (TM), George Gartly (GG), Lesley Gartly (LG), Rachael McCutcheon (RM)

Moray Councillors: Donald Gatt (DG), Theresa Coull (ThC)

Others: Debbie Herron – Foundation Scotland, Drew Wagar

1. **Welcome & Apologies** – JT welcomed all to the meeting, Apology from James Mark, Karen Pryce Iddon, Tracy Colyer
2. **Zenoba Microgrant Fund** - Debbie Herron update on current position, funds due to Foundation Scotland from Zenobe by end of February. £25,000 index linked, shared equally between Keith CC and Strathisla CC for next 5 years. Web details and press release ready along with letters and Terms & Conditions. Memorandum of Understanding may be reviewed if required, it is a working document rather than a limitation. In first year funds will be paid in two blocks of £6,250. First report on spend due at 6 months, then 12 months. Screen grabs, facebook etc may be used to evidence community benefit being made. Reports are essentially who, what for, where and how much. Will review how scheme working after 1 year. Year runs from date funds received. Debbie will provide electronic copy of poster. John thanked Debbie for the update.
3. **Minutes of last meeting** – Weds 3rd December - **Minutes Approved** - Proposed GM, seconded RM
4. **Matters arising not on Agenda:**
 - Defibrillators – letter to be sent to halls to fund raise for maintenance – TM to draft up
 - Rothiemay Benches – KPI to report
 - Newmill Low Road – remains in a terrible state but with recent bad weather and lying snow it was not possible to address this
 - Kincairn Bridge – work continues on the drainage around the bridge, off the road to either side and is scheduled to continue until April
 - Rothiemay Resilience – query was received from new Rothiemay resident asking of one existed – not known – KPI to confirm
 - Rothiemay Generator – KPI to update at next meeting
5. **Resilience Project** – TM - Rhona Patterson has still not submitted the information required. CCLO aware the information provided to date is inadequate. Item to remain on Agenda
6. **Newmill Bus Shelter** – DG will provide a map, GG to indicate possible site for a bus shelter. May possibly be something that Zenobe or another local funder will assist with
7. **Treasurers Report** – TM on behalf of JM - No movement in bank account, balance £11,229.76 of which £8,712.20 is resilience fund, unrestricted funds are £2,517.56
8. **Planning / Weekly wards**
 - Planning Application - land between Braecroft & Gillymule, Grange - Drew Wagar addressed the meeting on his concerns over this application. Following lengthy discussion meeting decided to vote. For 0, Against 3, Neutral 4. TM to respond to MC that SCC are neutral on this application
 - Retrospective Planning Application - 74 Main St, Newmill meeting decided that SCC have no objection to the garage extension and that it seemed to be a very tidy job. TM instructed to write to Development Control regarding the container element of the application, to request they be moved back from the boundary, lowered, painted or screened
 - Caley Casks, Viewfield Farm, Craigellachie – POAN – no comments
9. **Reports, Events Attended** – Police Scotland bi monthly report circulated and included some information on local crimes
10. **Councillor Reports** – usual committees etcetera being held and attended, slow down in these over the Christmas / New year. Full council meeting held last Wednesday, Police, Fire & Rescue tomorrow. Lots of work being done on budget ready for the end of the month.
11. **Strathisla Updates:**
 - a. **Boharm / Mulben** – vacant – no report

- b. **Botriphnie / Drummuir – JM** – via TM – a new water pipe has been installed to the 12 houses at Towiemore, this has improved the water pressure, pipe will be dug in over the summer.
- c. **Grange** – JT / GM – nothing
- d. **Newmill** – GG / LG - cones to cover potholes on the Low Road also blocked off passing spaces, lots of vehicles still using Newmill as a rat run
Graig Lane – DG as Newmill Estate no longer exists it would be for the houses with frontages to upgrade the road to the council standard and maintain it for a year before it could be adopted. DG will email a pdf which shows the adopted and unadopted roads in Newmill
- e. **Rothiemay / Knock** – KPI – no report
- f. **Rural Keith** – TM – lots of mud on roads from tractors but unavoidable with the wet weather. Local farmers had done great job with snow ploughing in the first two weeks of the year
- 12. **Correspondence:** no comments
- 13. **JCC** – JT attended December meeting at Lhanbryde, meeting was well attended and decided there was a lack of a joined up plan on planning – sub committee formed to draft one up of the various sites. Steve Hickin from KCC organising meeting of this sub group which JT will be on. Next JCC meeting to Thursday 12th February, 7pm
- 14. **AOCB** – RM commented it would be good to have an OS map of the Strathisla CC area to refer to
Apologies: GG & LG for 04-03-26, RM for 04-03-26 and 01-04-26, TM for 01-06-26

JT thanked everyone for attending

Meeting closed at 7:25pm

Date of next meeting ~ Wednesday 4th March 2026

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