The Keith Community Council
Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 06th April 2026
Time & Venue: 19.00hrs in Keith Community Fire Station

Those in Attendance:
Community Councillors: Neil Kidd NK (Chair), Steve Hickin SH (Secretary), Amy Inglis (Treasurer), Stuart Chapman SC, Linda Gorn LG, Sam Hunt

Associate Member: Kevin Mitchell, (KM), Watch Commander SFRS,

Ward Councillors: Cllr T. Coull, Cllr D. Gatt.

Others Present: N/A

1. **Welcome & Apologies**

The Meeting opened at 19:00hrs and Chair N. Kidd welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from: C. Stuart, B. Cruickshank, Cllr T. Colyer and Kim Hay - Community Development Officer for InKeith & Strathisla – **Action = Apologies accepted and noted.**

2. **Proposal and Adoption of the Minutes of the March 2026 Meeting**

Proposed by: S. Chapman - seconded by: L. Gorn that the minutes of the March 2026 meeting be adopted as drafted. **Action = Adopted as Drafted.**

3. **Kim Hay – InKeith & Strathisla Community Development Officer**

Unfortunately Kim Hay is unable to attend tonight's meeting and has sent her apologies.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the March 2026 Meeting**

Flowers in Regent Street & Fife Keith Square (Fife Keith Action Group)
The Secretary has replied to the Fie Keith Action Group in response to their letter of February 2026.
Action – Noted

Co-Opting of Mr D. Rough onto Keith Community Council
The Chair welcomed Davie Rough as a co-opted member of the community council. **Action - Noted**

M.connect Bus at Keith Railway Station
The Chair thanked Councillor Coull for the issue of the missed connections between the bus and the late running 17.25hrs train from Aberdeen, (18.29hrs arrival at Keith), with the M.connect team. **Action - Noted**

Zenobe Blackhillock Community Benefit Fund
Keith Community Council is awaiting the fund deposit in their bank account. **Action - Noted**

Community Council Website
A website for Keith Community Council has been mocked up for Community Councillors to consider, this item to be deferred to next month's meeting while the Secretary asks the CCLO for advice.
Action - Noted for consideration at the next meeting

InKeith & Strathisla Membership
It has been confirmed by email from the new InKeith & Strathisla Community Development Officer that Keith Community Council is not assumed by them to be a member of that organisation. **Action - Noted**

Leisure & Culture Service – Keith User Group
Sam Hunt advised that no further information was available since the meeting on 18/02/2026. **Action - Noted**

5. **Correspondence**

Auld Brig

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D. Rough advised he had received an email from Mr Nuno Antunes, the site manager of the Strathmill Distillery in Keith with regard to a previously agreed inspection of Auld Brig and

Correspondence continued

Auld Brig - continued

landscaping works to the river banks. It should be noted that these works were delayed by the issues and remedial works at the adjacent Union Bridge. **Action = Noted awaiting further updates**

6. **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer advised the meeting that she is still awaiting the Bank, Virgin Money, to confirm he full access to the KCC account.

Bank account balances:

Keith Community Council - £883.47
Payment out = £50 Honorarium to the Secretary

Keith Christmas Lights - £11,412.29

KCC Defibrillators - £1644.41

Keith Scots Toun - £2560.59
No change from previous month.
There was a query asking what the Scots Toun funds can be used for, the Chair will ask former KCC member and Treasurer M. Cruickshank for clarification.

Keith in Flower - £953.19

Action = Treasurer's report noted

7. **Community Reports**

Kevin Mitchell, Watch Commander SFRS

Report for March 2026 – Keith Community Fire Station Crews attended the following incidents:
We attended 15 fire calls:
2 Special Services = 1 Assist Ambulance to gain Entry in Keith, Assist with a cat stuck in a tree in Grange.
7 Fires = Small Kitchen Fire in Keith, Fire In Open at Strathmill Distillery, Pavilion at Newmill, Controlled Burning in Keith, Car Fire on Buckie Road, Car was not found, Chimney Fire, Grange, Bushes on fire, Seafield Ave, Wilful
4 False Alarms = 1 Smoke Alarm, Huntly, 1 Smoke Alarm, Care home Huntly, 1 Controlled Burning, 1 Smoke Alarm in Keith.
1 RTC = 2 vehicle RTC at Huntley
1 Standby = 1 Standby station in Buckie.

Charity Work = Our Christmas Collection raised £1049 which we have donated to the Fire-fighters Charity. Last year we raised £6049, with the following receiving: £4049.00 to The Fire-fighters Charity, £1000 to Prostate Cancer, £1000.00 going to SCA Helicopter.

Parliament Visit = WC Mitchell was down to Scottish Parliament to meet with Sharon Dowey Shadow Minister for Victims and Community Safety and Siobhian Brown Minister for Victims and Community Safety.
End of Report. **Action = Report Noted**

Planning

SC has attended Planning training organised by the CCLO.
submitted a report of planning applications as shown on the Moray Council website, he also commented that the weekly wards list did not appear to contain some of these applications.

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Action = Noted.

Community Reports continued

Police Matters

A letter to community councils from the Superintendent Operational Policing Northeast Division of Police Scotland regarding Community Council Engagement was received via email. This was in response to community councils concerns about the changes to police attendance at Community Council meetings and the new style bi-monthly police report for community councils. The Superintendent has carried out a review of the current arrangements and as a result has committed the local area Commanders to ensure:

1) A police officer to attend Community Council meetings at least once every six months. (Operational demands may influence attendance).
2) Creation and distribution of a localised police report specific to their Community Council area once a quarter.

The Superintendent's letter is circulated for reference.

Action = Noted & monitor developments.

Roads

Edindiach Road – Where Edindiach Road is being constantly used by tanker lorries going to Herricks WTW the road surface is becoming worn away.

Action – Secretary to write to Scottish Water and Moray Council Highways dept.

A96 Through Keith – Road markings still need remarking throughout Keith, manhole cover Church Road adjacent to Ugie House Hotel is rattling again, road surface on Church Road is cracked and sinking adjacent to the North Church and approaching the Railway Bridge over the K&DR and Union Bridge.

20mph speed limit signs on A96 through Keith, Land Street, Seafield Avenue, Banff Road etc why has this speed limit been introduced in Keith?

Action = Secretary to raise these questions with the relevant responsible authorities

Ward Councillors

Cllr Coull:

Has attended a special planning meeting, the Banffshire Twinning Tombola and Ward meetings.

Action = Noted

Cllr Gatt:

Has conducted Ward activities, Build up to the Scottish Elections in May..

Action = Noted

KCC Sub Groups

Christmas Lights:

Funding has been received from the Edintore CBF for repair of fittings.

Action = Noted

KCC Defibrillators

All KCC Defibrillators are working and available for use.

Action = Noted

8. AOCB

Local NHS Contact

The local NHS contact has transferred to another location and is no longer available to attend our meetings

Action = Secretary to remove this contact from our list.

Keith Community Council would like to congratulate Keith FC for its performance during this football season.

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There being no other relevant business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21.15hrs.
Date, Time & Venue of the next meeting: Monday 04th May 2026 @19.00hrs in Keith Community Fire Station*(Note: KCC does not hold meetings in January or August)*

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