

Strathisla Community Council

Minutes of meeting – 2nd July, 2014 in Keith Community Centre

Present: Ian Ross, John Gelling, Jacob Gelling, Innes MacPherson, James Mark, Priscilla Gordon-Duff.

Apologies – Keith Comrie, Ron Shepherd.

In attendance: David Baird and Barry Corbett (Police Scotland), Dawn Brodie (Moray Council), Esther Green (minutes secretary)

Minutes: With two minor amendments, minutes of the June meeting were approved as accurate by John Gelling, seconded by Ian Ross.

BUSINESS

- 1. Police Matters:** Two officers were in attendance and presented key points from the monthly report (*copy available*). There have been 17 recorded crimes in Keith and district since the last meeting, with a break-in to a house in Rothiemay and two thefts of bikes from Keith, and no recorded crimes or assaults outside licensed premises. Both the Keith Festival and Truck and Tractor Pull events passed without any issues. Sgt Mike Mulloy has taken up a post at the custody suite in Elgin and asked that his thanks be given to the community council for its support during his time in Keith. Due to the transfer occurring at short notice, there is no replacement at present although an appointment is likely to be made soon.

Noisy motorbikes going round the streets of Newmill continue to cause annoyance, said Ian Ross, and there has been one spotted being ridden around in the village playpark which could pose a danger for park users.

Priscilla Gordon-Duff queried whether others had been affected by the theft of farm gates, and officers stressed that if this type of crime occur then it should be reported to police.

- 2. Treasurer's Report -** James Mark told members the account stands at £2727.28 with a £364 grant for the period April-September given by Moray Council. The grant funding is ring-fenced for administration costs, such as mileage claims, the website, the community action plan questionnaire, and the minutes secretary's fee.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Dawn Brodie from Moray Council's community support unit returned with a draft questionnaire for the Community Action Plan. There was lengthy discussion about

what the ultimate purpose of carrying out the survey would be, and what the Community Council's role would be after gaining the feedback of the population.

While Moray Council would support the preparatory work to get an action plan published, it would not be a council plan and Dawn Brodie stressed she was keen to work with the community council to devise the right plan for Strathisla.

Members asked for more time in order for further consideration to be given to how to take this forward in order to come up with a piece of work that would have the greatest value to each of the communities in Strathisla.

It was agreed that in order to come up with a plan which would be of most use to the communities that the community council should:

- Discuss the matter with the community council chair before moving forward
- Bring the matter back to the September meeting, given that people will be on holiday over the coming months and that there is no meeting in August. **(agenda item, next meeting)**

3. Youth Issues – A rep from Neatflix attended a meeting to discuss Drummuir's hosting of a film and this show will go ahead in the Autumn, said James Mark. As well as showing a film, the rep advised that having some form of 'attraction' in the interval may help support the success of the screening. For example in other areas they have shown a Bollywood film and served curry. The choice of film is also important in drawing in crowds, with Sunshine on Leith proving popular of late.

4. Planning – Edintore Windfarm – As the development of this windfarm is finalised, there is to be engagement with Strathisla and Keith Community Councils and Drummuir Community Association on the community benefits that will arise.

Area reports:

5. Botriphnie: Gulley Road - this is a very narrow road with no opportunities for passing places that has problems with water and is to be the subject of a feasibility study, said Priscilla Gordon-Duff.

6. Grange: No matters raised.

7. Newmill: Bags containing bedding have been found lying discarded beside the recycling point, according to Ian Ross.

8. Rothiemay: No representative present

9. Boharm: No matters raised.

10. Correspondence – Among the correspondence received in the past month was a waste collection survey from Moray Council; a new website from communityscot.org and details of the national planning framework.

11. AOCB

a) **Constitution** – This has still to be signed and returned. Members asked to read over the draft constitution and indicate whether it is suitable before it is signed and submitted to Moray Council.

b) **Flower basket money** - It was queried whether SCC had received a payment of £500 from Keith and Strathisla Regeneration Partnership towards flower displays for each of the communities that make up Strathisla. No monies had been received, so Ian Ross to investigate. **(IR to action)**

c) **Rural parliament** – Priscilla Gordon-Duff would be pleased to attend meetings of the Rural Parliament in Elgin, as a rep of SCC. Members agreed to this, with a reminder that under SCC's rules, she would not receive funding to attend meetings that occur out with Moray.

14. **Date of next meeting** – Wednesday, September 3, 2014, with a reminder that there is no meeting in August.